



ACNOA NEWSLETTER



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

JUNE 2024

MONTHLY REVIEW OF AFRICAN OLYMPISM




AFRICAN NOCS POISED TO TAKE UP MAJOR CHALLENGES

- ▶ OLYMPIC GAMES PARIS 2024
**IVORIAN GOVERNMENT
GRANTS CFA F 450
MILLION TO ATHLETES**
- ▶ GENDER EQUALITY FORUM
**ANOCA ZONE 7 ALL-OUT
FOR BEST PRACTICES**

- ▶ SPECIAL MESSAGE OLYMPIC
GAMES PARIS 2024
**OUR ATHLETES
TO FACE THE
DAUNTING
CHALLENGE
SOON!**





OUR ATHLETES TO FACE THE DAUNTING CHALLENGE SOON!

No more time for pondering or procrastination. On this day, 26 June, we launch into the final lap heading to the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

The tartan track, the Olympic pools, the tatamis, the lawns and other floors are all set. It is now up to our valiant athletes to put them to good use, to turn their talents into medals.

We will need to bag every precious metal in every discipline in which we will be competing. This is our goal, the mission the entire African continent has entrusted to its brilliant athletes.

There is no doubt that they will live up to expectations. Their preparation was meticulous, perfectly timed like clockwork by the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa, ANOCA, with support from IOC's Olympic Solidarity

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and, above all, our friend Dr Thomas BACH who, at every opportunity, has demonstrated his total commitment to supporting the African Olympic and Sports Movement. Paris 2024 once again confirms this solidarity with our athletes and Africa.

From 26 July to 11 August 2024, the world's biggest multisport event will once again live up to its majestic reputation. The Summer Olympic Games will hold

global audiences spellbound, especially those in Africa. Thousands of Africans will either attend as visitors or competitors.

The athletes will be on the front line. We will support them, cheer them, applaud them, promote them and, in a nutshell, exalt them.

This will mainly depend on our ability to speak with one voice, to rally the Olympic Movement behind its sons and daughters



who will be deploying their talents and skills in the service of sport, Olympism, and the development of Africa.

Sport is a tool for sustainable peace and development, and our role is to work to make this a reality.

ANOCA is there to unite, not divide. We are committed to working hand in glove with all Olympic and sports movement

stakeholders for total youth development in Africa. Our ability to work in unity will transform today's dreams into tomorrow's realities. African sport is rock-solid against any attempt to destabilise its governance. Sport development in Africa hinges on a sacred union.

Athletes are the heart of our Olympic community. They are at the centre of all our concerns. We must ensure they are in

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We are excited and ready to live unforgettable moments, and to cheer our athletes to the highest rungs of the final podium. The pressure mounts with our eagerness, at barely a month to the Games.

the best possible state of mind, and show them by example that the solution lies in promoting and practising Olympic values. We should be driven by love, sharing, humility, and fair play so that Paris 2024 does not go wrong for Africa. Sport has always been a universal language for nations, thanks to its spirit and values.

The fighting spirit, which will be one of the performance elements of our athletes

in Paris, will be powered by the energy generated by our ability to be alert, foresighted, and attentive to their needs.

For example, they will have to be reminded of the need to comply with the anti-doping system. This is a fight to which they must contribute. Paris 2024 will tighten anti-doping measures for the good of sport and Olympism.

We are excited and ready to live unforgettable moments, and to cheer our athletes to the highest rungs of the final podium. The pressure mounts with our eagerness, at barely a month to the Games.

African delegations are on the starting blocks, set, just waiting for the starter pistol to trigger off.

It is now just a matter of days. Together, we will soar higher and stand stronger than in Tokyo 2020.

To our athletes, remain focused, while demonstrating abnegation, integrity and seriousness. It is not about winning at all costs and at any price, but about winning medals in a genuine synergy of hearts and minds. That is what it will take us to rise to the daunting challenge.

Mustapha BERRAF

IOC member
ANOCA President
Holder of the African Olympic Order
Holder of the ANOC Olympic Order
Holder of the IOC Olympic Order.



2026 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

EU SUPPORTS SENEGAL

The “*Olympic Café*”, hosted on 4 June 2024 at the residence of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to Dakar, set the seal on the collaboration between NOC Senegal (CNOSS) and the European Union ahead of the organisation of the 2026 Youth Olympic Games.

The countdown to the Youth Olympic Games was launched at Place de la Nation, Dakar, on D-1000. The President of the Republic of Senegal, Bassirou DIOMAYE DIAKHAR FAYE, made one last push for the Paris Olympic Games billed for 26 July to 11 August 2024, and for the Youth Olympic Games scheduled from 31 October to 13 November 2026.



After Philippe LALLIOT, French Ambassador to Senegal, CNOSS presented its project to the European Union, represented by Mrs Helene DE BOCK, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium. The “*Olympic Café*”, hosted by Mrs DE BOCK, provided an opportunity to review the various steps in the build-up to the historic event which, for the first time

on African soil, will bring together 4,000 young athletes aged 15 to 17, with a 50/0 gender parity.

The Ambassadors present, representing Belgium, Portugal, Spain, Germany and other European countries, reiterated their commitment to support Senegal through bilateral cooperation and signed agreements. They also requested CNOSS to provide a detailed needs assessment for the success of the event, and updates on ongoing projects.

The Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee mentioned the renovation of the Ibar Mar Diop stadium, the Samba Diéry Diallo barracks, as well as the University of Amadou Mactar Mbow, proposed to host the Olympic Village. It is highly expected that this will impact these sports facilities and create job opportunities for young people.

“We needed an update on progress of preparations for the YOG. We are both members of the public and fans, and are also interested in young people,” stated Mrs DE BOCK, the Belgian Ambassador.

“Having listened to the YOGOC, the European Union now has a clearer picture of the ground covered so far, which will help guide partnerships,” she added.

Rising to the hosting challenge is the motivation force of this cooperation, which is buttressed by a range of partnerships. The “*Olympic Café*” therefore set out to guide the collaboration strategy for a better organisation of the YOG.



SENEGAL WORKING ON A NEW SPORTS POLICY

President Bassirou DIOMAYE FAYE has instructed the Government to review the Sports Charter.

He expressed the need to recast the overall legal framework of sport in Senegal and requested that the Sports Ministe, Khady Diène GAYE, evaluate the Sports Charter, among other measures.

The President of the Republic wrote on the need to:

“Review Law No. 84-59 of 23 March 1984 to lay down the Sports Charter, forty years after it entered into force, and prepare a consensual draft law codifying national sport at every level: school, university, elite, grassroots, training, management and funding.”

The Head of State reminded members of Government of:

“The vital role that young people, a huge segment of the population, must play in sport development in Senegal, in the spirit of active citizenship Take measures to encourage sports in all schools and universities in Senegal, and to revive school and university sports competitions nationwide.”

President FAYE urged the Prime Minister:

“To implement an innovative and controlled framework for funding sports disciplines and national and international elite sports competitions.”

In addition, the Head of State urged the Minister of Sports,

“To propose, by the end of July 2024, under the supervision of the Prime Minister, a new effective and efficient policy for the construction, renovation, maintenance and management of all sports facilities in Senegal, overhaul the system for running and coordinating holiday activities in line with the active and constructive citizenship promotion policy... Take appropriate measures in conjunction with CNOSS to better prepare for Senegal’s participation in the Olympic Games Paris 2024, as well as the hosting of the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 by Senegal, and report regularly on monitoring.”



To implement an innovative and controlled framework for funding sports disciplines and national and international elite sports competitions.



ANTI-DOPING

EDUCATING IVORIAN ATHLETES

During a training workshop on doping organised on Wednesday, 2 June 2024, at the headquarters of NOC Côte d'Ivoire (CNO-CIV), Ivorian athletes, including athletes qualified for the 2024 Olympic Games, other athletes from Olympic sports federations, coaches and doctors, were trained in the fight against doping. The workshop brought together a total of 33 participants.

The aim was to inform, raise awareness and educate athletes on basic doping rules barely a few weeks to the kick-off of Paris 2024 Olympic Games. CNO-CIV and the National Anti-Doping Committee (CNLAD-CIV) came together for the occasion. The workshop was facilitated by IOC official Emile N'GORAN and Professor Aisha DIAKITE, pharmacist and toxicologist. Participants were informed about the list of banned substances, dos

and don'ts, as well as the eleven anti-doping rule violations.

Dr Jean Serge KOFFI, Chair of the National Anti-Doping Committee of Côte d'Ivoire, said: **“Failure to comply with a single item in the regulations is considered an act of doping. It's important to train athletes, technical and administrative staff in the fight against doping, because the definition of doping is not limited to the detection of a substance in biological samples, but also includes non-compliance with international anti-doping regulations, which are becoming increasingly rigorous.”**

One of the two experts chosen for the workshop, Essan Emile N'GORAN, explained the importance of the training: **“It's not possible to take part in the Olympic Games without knowing the rules. There are practical measures to be taken regarding athletes' location. Once athletes are in the Olympic Village from 18 to 26 July, they will be subject to out-of-competition testing. Our athletes need to be there and know in what conditions this operation will take place. The CNO-CIV medical officer must have all the necessary information on the location of athletes. This is in case they have to undergo out-of-competition tests. From 26 July, the date of the opening ceremony, the Olympic**

Games will run up to 11 August, when in-competition testing will start. For these tests, there are also rules to know.”

Prof Aisha DIAKITE listed all the substances banned in 2024. These include anabolic steroids, hormonal and metabolic modulators, stimulants, narcotics, cannabinoids, glucocorticoids, beta-blockers and others. She specified that: «Raising awareness of and educating our athletes is very important for these Olympic Games because doping cases are legion worldwide, and an increasing number of Ivorian athletes are involved in anti-doping rule violations. There was the Gbohouno case, but there are other cases that we can't publish at the moment because they're still under scrutiny. Generally speaking, these doping cases are unintentional and therefore due to a lack of knowledge of banned substances or anti-doping rules in sport. Athletes therefore must henceforth be mindful of what they eat or drink.»

After the theoretical phase, came the practical aspect which focused on the doping control process, notification, handling urine samples, reading results and much more.

Zouleiha Dabonné ABZETTA (-57 kg) and Astan BATHILY (+67 kg) qualified for Paris in judo and taekwondo respectively. A total of 4 sports disciplines, namely athletics, taekwondo, judo and fencing, succeeded in qualifying athletes for the 33rd Olympiads.



Côte d'Ivoire's campaign for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 was officially launched on Thursday, 13 June 2024, in Abidjan by CNO-CIV during a ceremony attended by the Ivorian Minister Delegate in charge of Sports and Living Conditions, Adjé Silas METCH, four Ivorian athletes qualified for these Olympiads, and a host of dignitaries from the world of sports.

For CNO-CIV President, Business Lawyer Georges N'Goan:

“The Paris 2024 Olympic Games are a sports, political, and diplomatic challenge, given the excellent relations between Côte d'Ivoire

and France. It is for this reason that CNO-CIV sought to mark the occasion by organising a ceremony to officially launch these Games with the aim of introducing the athletes and, above all, encouraging them before the competition. NOC Côte d'Ivoire would like to thank you for attending this ceremony, which is dedicated to the athletes who have qualified for the biggest gender-equal sports event, the Olympic Games Paris 2024. This ceremony, the first of its kind, has four objectives: pay tribute to our athletes, congratulate them, encourage them and introduce them to the nation.”



For his part, the Minister Delegate in charge of Sports and Living Conditions, Adjé Silas METCH, underscored Côte d'Ivoire's ambition is to clinch at least a medal for each edition of the Games, stating that:

“(...) This ambition expresses the Head of State, Alassane OUATTARA's desire to make Côte d'Ivoire a true sports hub, reflecting its economic performance that makes it the 9th strongest economy on the continent. The very successful organisation of the AfCON leaves us with no choice. We must stay on course for excellence.”

He added that **“The State of Côte d'Ivoire will do its utmost to create conditions for participation commensurate with the country's ambitions. Grants have been allocated to sports federations, and qualified athletes will, this Friday, 14 June 2024, at the Prime Minister's Office, receive their cheques for the Paris 2024 OG from the Prime Minister, Minister of Sports and Living Conditions himself.”**

Prior to this, Mr METCH, Cheick Sallah CISSÉ, the Ivorian Olympic champion and spokesperson of the Ivorian athletes qualified for Paris 2024, had called for support from all Ivorians:

“The fact that we are participating in the OG is already a victory. The support of Ivorians is pivotal to our success. Your support is our driver. I therefore urge all Ivorians to lend us their support.”

Cheick Sallah CISSÉ, Astan BATHILY, Zouleiha DABONNÉ and Jérémy Fafa KERYHUEL represented qualified athletes.

As at now, Côte d'Ivoire has 12 qualified athletes: 6 in athletics, 3 in taekwondo, 2 in fencing and 1 in judo. Two other disciplines, basketball and archery, may add to this list in the event of qualification.

The Basketball team is currently preparing actively in Belgium ahead of the qualifiers billed for Porto-Rico.



OLYMPIC GAMES PARIS 2024

IVORIAN GOVERNMENT GRANTS CFA F 450 MILLION TO ATHLETES

The Prime Minister, Minister of Sports and Living Conditions, Robert Beugré MAMBE, on 14 June 2024, handed cheques to the tune of CFA F 450,000,000 to Ivorian athletes qualified for the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

To support them in their preparation and help them win medals at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. The President of the Republic, Alassane OUATARRA also intends to provide maximum support to facilitate their stay at the Olympics.



This reasserts the State's commitment to make Ivorian athletes valuable flag bearers. The ceremony took place at the Prime Minister's Office in Abidjan-Plateau, and was attended by the Minister Delegate in charge of Sports and Living Conditions, Adjé Silas METCH, presidents of qualified federations, coaches and athletes.

Encouraging athletes, the Prime Minister, Head of Government of Côte d'Ivoire noted:

“You must outperform yourselves to bring home more medals from Paris,

and we assure you of the support of the State of Côte d'Ivoire.”

For his part, Adjé Silas METCH urged the Basketball team and athletes currently competing in qualifiers to do so with much devotion and determination to increase the number of Ivorian competitors.

Taekwondo athlete Cheick Sallah CISSÉ and sprinter Marie Josée TA LOU were on the occasion appointed flag bearers for the Ivorian delegation to the Olympics, and the national flag was handed to them by the Prime Minister.



GENDER EQUALITY FORUM

ANOCA ZONE 7 ALL-OUT FOR BEST PRACTICES

The Seychelles Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association (SOCGA), in partnership with the ANOCA Gender Equality Commission, successfully organised the first-ever Gender Equality Forum in Zone 7, with the objective to foster best practices among participating countries, raise awareness of progress achieved by the ANOCA Gender Equality Commission, and highlight the

roadmap drawn at the previous Forum in Cape Verde. Participants from Comoros, Djibouti, Madagascar, Mauritius, and Seychelles, as well as Delegates from the IOC Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Commission, took active part in the Forum. Mrs Matlohang MOILOA-RAMOQOPO, Chair of the ANOCA Gender Equality Commission, chaired the deliberations with participants both online and in person. The Forum was



masterfully moderated by Mrs Fatime KANTE, the representative of the ANOCA Zone 7 Gender Equality Commission, and some of its notable participants were Mr Alain ALCINDOR, SOCGA Secretary General; Mrs Fardouza MOUSSA, 4th Vice President of ANOCA from Djibouti; and Mrs Aarti DESCANN, Chair of the Gender Equality Commission of NOC Mauritius.

Presentations were made by representatives of Djibouti, Seychelles

and Mauritius, underscoring initiatives taken for gender equality and progress made in their various countries. Some relevant ideas were shared by current MEMOS trainees, who encouraged others to avail themselves of similar opportunities. The IOC team also participated effectively online, laying down their strategies for gender equality and inclusion and presenting the funding programmes available.

SHARING BEST PRACTICES

- Djibouti was commended for having women in key positions on their NOC Board and for closing the gender gap in sports management.
- Mauritius was praised for its leadership programmes and initiatives to encourage women's participation in sport.
- Seychelles highlighted its commitment to combating harassment and abuse while fostering gender equality via a diversity of initiatives.

ANOCA ZONE 7 GENDER EQUILITY FORUM: PROGRESS AND LESSONS

Mrs Matlohang MOILOA-RAMOQOPO set out the Zone 7 action plan, noting the need for shared goals, 30% female representation in sports governance bodies, safeguarding measures, and gender equality outreach campaigns. The creation of a Zone Equality Network was proposed for the purposes of safeguarding and exposure.

In response to the call to action by the 2nd ANOCA Gender Equality Forum:

- NOC Seychelles and the representative of the ANOCA Gender Equality Commission successfully organised the Gender Equality Forum on Tuesday, 7 May, from 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Seychelles time, in parallel with the ANOCA Zone Games.
- The 50/50 female and male athlete representation was respected.
- The ANOCA Zone 7 Gender Equality Commission sought to draft a zone action plan with shared goals and clear timelines.
- NOC members were encouraged to uphold the minimum 30% women's representation at all levels of sports governance bodies.
- Emphasis was laid on prioritising safeguarding efforts and educating members on IOC guidelines and tools.
- A Zone forum was planned with a view to designing policies and strategies to bring about change and track progress.
- Gender equality outreach campaigns were organised for safeguarding and exposure, facilitated by the establishment of an active Zone



Equality Network. These initiatives attest to a proactive approach towards progress in gender equality and inclusion in Zone 7, enabling a more diversified and equal sports environment.

At the end, Mrs Fatime KANTE expressed her gratitude to all participants and assured them that a short report on the outcomes of the Forum would be sent to them soonest. On the whole, the Gender Equality Forum marked significant progress in gender empowerment and inclusion in sport in Zone 7.



WOMEN'S COMMISSION OF THE NIGERIA OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HOLDS SPORTS CAPACITY BUILDING SEMINAR

In keeping with the International Olympic Committee agenda, which is committed to having “*Gender Balance*”, the Nigeria Olympic Committee took to the six geopolitical Zones of the country to empower Women Coaches and Administrators in a seminar themed “*Capacity Building in Sports*”, BSNSports.com.ng reports.

The NOC Women’s Commission led by Prof. Florence Bola Adeyanju started with Nasarawa State on 10 June with 30 coaches and administrators of all the States in North Central in attendance. The second and third phases took place in Gombe and Jigawa respectively.

Introducing the programme to the participants, the Secretary of the NOC Women’s Commission, Mrs Kemi Obidahunsi, said the seminar was necessary and timely as it will go a long way in raising awareness of women in sports on life during and after sports.

In her speech at the seminars, the Chair of the NOC Women’s Commission, Prof. Florence Bola Adeyanju thanked the NOC executives led by Engr. Habu Gumel, for their support for the women and also reaffirmed her commitment to the cause of encouraging women in getting to the top of their career as sports women.

Prof Adeyanju said Olympic Solidarity, in collaboration with the Nigeria Olympic Committee, mandated the Nigeria Olympic Women’s Commission to organise a capacity building seminar for female sports administrators and coaches in the six geographical zones of Nigeria, hence the outreach to the zones with knowledge packed activities.



She further said the seminar is aimed at enhancing the skills of women in sports administration, coaching, and contemporary issues.

“I’m glad to let you know that success was again recorded at the capacity building in sports seminar held so far, was revealing, impactful and successful”, Professor Adeyanju noted.

Papers were presented by some eminent scholars among whom were Dr Hauwa Umar, Dr Ademola Are Ms Nneka Ikem and Mrs Zainab Ishaku, and participants received participation certificates.

Meanwhile the seminar has so far been held in the North Central (keffi) North East (Gombe) while preparations are in progress for the seminars in other zones.

The South South, South East and West were expected to commence from 20 to 27 June 2024.



NOCZ MARKS 2024 OLYMPIC DAY WITH INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION AND FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

The Lusaka leg of the 2024 Olympic Day Commemoration was successfully held at the OYDC – Sports Development Centre, Zambia.

Activities were organised by the National Olympic Committee of Zambia in collaboration with the Hellenic Olympic

Committee through the Orthodox Archdiocese of Zambia and OYDC Zambia. This joint effort showcased the international spirit of the Olympic Movement while strengthening ties between the participating organisations.

The day began with a warm-up session to get the participants ready. A Peace



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Relay Run from the OlympAfrica Centre to OYDC Zambia followed after Zambian Olympians Jonathan Chipalo and Carol Mokola received the Olympic Flame from Greek Olympians Athanasia Tsoumeleka and George Tzelilis, supported by National Olympic Academy Chairperson Victor Banda and Member Sitali Mayamba.

The Olympians and participants representing various sports disciplines then proceeded to OYDC Zambia for the main event, which included raising the Olympic, Greek, and Zambian flags at the sports centre.

Dances, poems, and sports demonstrations characterised the rest of the day for the approximately 350 people participating in the activities.

The 2024 Olympic Day activities are expected to move to Kabwe as NOCZ, in collaboration with Kwame Nkrumah University, will host the second leg of the commemoration on Saturday, 29 June 2024. This will be preceded by week-long activities in Kabwe Town of Central Province.



OYDC ZAMBIA WELCOMES VOLLEYBALL COACHES ATTENDING THE FIVB LEVEL ONE COURSE

The Olympic Youth Development Centre (OYDC) Zambia hosted several coaches from four countries who were at the sports facility to attend a FIVB Level One course. The coaches came

from Namibia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia the host nation.

The five-day coaching course was conducted by Namibia's FIVB Instructor Joel Mathews.

National Olympic Committee of Zambia (NOCZ) president Alfred Foloko in a speech read on his behalf by the committee's Secretary General Boniface Kambikambi disclosed that NOCZ, through the Government of the Republic of Zambia and Olympic Solidarity, is happy to have sponsored the course. He challenged all participants to pass the course, which will involve theory and physical aspects.

He added that NOCZ is grateful that Zambia was picked to host two FIVB level one and two courses, adding that he has been reliably informed that in the next few months no coaches who have attended at least one of these courses will be allowed to sit on the technical bench. He thus appealed to other local sports federations to emulate the Zambia Volleyball Association (ZAVA) by conducting similar courses.

Speaking on the occasion, Zambia Volleyball Association (ZAVA) president Nakaonga Kakoma said that, at the end of the course, all participants will learn valuable knowledge which will be beneficial to their respective nations.

She hinted that the course will not only allow coaches to have the relevant skills, but also provide an engaging learning experience, noting that volleyball has the power to bring people together and get united.

Meanwhile, FIVB Instructor Joel Mathews said that educating coaches will add more value and knowledge to grow the sport in countries. Mathews indicated that for coaches to be awarded a certificate they

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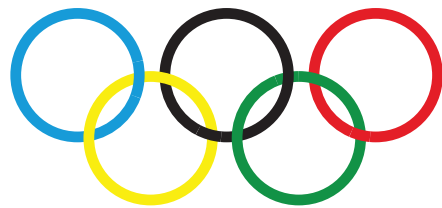
will need to pass the exam and attend all the course sessions.

FIVB Level Courses include practical and theoretical exams, and for one to receive a certificate one has to pass and attend full time. Over 20 coaches attended this FIVB Level One Coaching Course.





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