



ANOCA NEWSLETTER



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

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MONTHLY REVIEW OF AFRICAN OLYMPISM



ANOCA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**“THE AFRICAN OLYMPIC AND
SPORTS MOVEMENT WILL
REMAIN STRONG, UNITED AND
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ANOCA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mustapha Berraf

ANOCA President / IOC Member

“THE AFRICAN OLYMPIC AND SPORTS MOVEMENT WILL REMAIN STRONG, UNITED AND FORWARD LOOKING IN 2024”

If anything, we must adopt a positive attitude moving into 2024. Together, we have laid the foundations for results-driven sports governance. We are now, together, implementing the vision of making Olympism and Sport a youth development platform in Africa.

We are getting there at a steady pace. We will always be forward looking, because our success depends on it.

African States are fully committed, and we THANK them for that. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Sports Federations and the 54 NOCs of Africa. Their commitment is legendary. Our joint action reinforces the role of Sport as a real driver of peace and prosperity. This unprecedented solidarity is healthy for the African Olympic and Sports Movement.

Our athletes are filled with extraordinary vitality. They are our true ambassadors on every tartan, lawn, floor, clay track, our stars who shine at every competition. They deserve our deepest appreciation and



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utmost respect. We reiterated this at the 2023 Athletes' Forum in Algiers. Our athletes are our wealth.

Having notched up a string of successes in the past, they will do same in the future.

Up ahead are the Olympic Games Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028, the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026, the 2025



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Our appeal remains constant: all stakeholders should work to foster SOLIDARITY in 2024.

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African Beach Games in Equatorial Guinea, and the 2027 African Games.

Let's set our goals for these sports events, which call for proper preparation at all levels: sporting, technical and administrative levels.

We should start preparing for the future now. For the Olympic Games Paris 2024, we have taken all necessary measures and mapped out strategies for optimal preparation for a top-notch participation in sports events by African athletes. IOC's Olympic Solidarity has been quite supportive, and we do appreciate.

We sincerely hope that this will also be the case for all future international and continental events.

Our appeal remains constant: all stakeholders should work to foster SOLIDARITY in 2024.

We will make an evaluation of our 2020 - 2024 Strategic Plan. However, we can applaud its efficient implementation, which has produced the outcomes we are all lauding today.

We have been the driving force behind this upturn. Together, we will continue on this path.

2024 is certainly a transformational year for our goals, which are predicated on the Olympic values of performance, fair play, sharing, solidarity and peace. This year, the African Olympic and Sports Movement will remain strong, united and forward looking.



ANOCA IN ACTION

ANOCA ZONE 2 HOLDS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN BAMAKO

ANOCA Zone 2 held its Ordinary General Assembly (OGA) on 16 December 2023 in Bamako, attended by delegates from the eight member NOCs. Presided at by the Minister of Youth and Sports (in charge of Civic Education and Citizenship), Mr Abdoul Kassim Ibrahim Fomba, the opening ceremony was attended by a host of dignitaries, including

former First Lady Mrs Keita Aminata Maïga, President of the National Olympic Academy of Mali. Speaking on the occasion, the Zone 2 President, Mr Habib Sissoko, reminded the participants that this session aims to “live up to our organisation’s commitment to meet regularly” in compliance with statutory provisions. Above all, it will help consolidate the decisions taken at the 2021 Elective



For the ANOCA Zone 2 President, the presence of the Minister of Youth and Sports “expresses Mali’s unwavering commitment to everything that affects our region and Africa.



General Assembly, to “pave the way” for the February 2025 meeting.

From the outset, President SISSOKO again thanked the Transitional Head of State, Colonel Assimi GOÏTA, for “his commitment to sporting youth,” before adding that *“In these special moments and relying on the sovereign will of the people, we need to join him in hailing all those who bear a historic responsibility in the face of new challenges...”* For the ANOCA Zone 2 President, the presence of the Minister of Youth and Sports *“expresses Mali’s unwavering commitment to everything that affects our region and Africa.”*

According to Minister Abdoul Kassim Issa Fomba, “Mali is still fully determined to assert its sovereignty



and drive progress through the values inherent in sport. Our country subscribes fully to the goals pursued by your organisation, which is seeking to consolidate its position within the African Olympic Movement.” The Government official also hailed the *“outstanding work”* constantly carried out with the National Sports Federations (NFs) to make *“sport and Olympic values the inevitable path to*



overall harmonious development of our communities.”

During deliberations, delegates reviewed and adopted the 2021-2023 activity and financial reports. They also discussed extensively and planned for the future.

At the end of deliberations, NOC delegates from the 8 countries

expressed their satisfaction with the managerial skills of Habib SISSOKO and his team. They warmly congratulated and thanked the Government of Mali for *“the invaluable support given to the Zone.”* It is worth noting that the eight member countries of ANOCA Zone 2 are Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone are.



ANOCA ZONE 2 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PRESIDENT HABIB SISSOKO'S MESSAGE

Following is the message by the President in office of ANOCA Zone 2, Habib Sissoko, during the General Assembly held on 16 December 2023 in Bamako,



Mr Minister, we appreciate your innovative ideas for strengthening the role of sport in society and fostering the patriotic spirit among youths. We acknowledge the great strides made in all these areas.



need to join him in hailing all those who bear a historic responsibility in the face of new challenges in Zone 2 and Africa as a whole. Mali's football team has qualified for the "Paris 2024" Olympic Games.

Mr President, you will forever be given credit for this.

We are delighted to see the Minister of Youth and Sports presiding at the opening ceremony of our meeting. This expresses Mali's unwavering commitment to everything that affects our region and Africa.

I am once again delighted to warmly welcome you to Bamako, on behalf of the ANOCA Zone 2 Executive Committee and NOC Mali. Allow me use this opportunity to restate our association's gratitude to His Excellency, President Assimi Goïta, for his commitment to sporting youths.

In these special moments and relying on the sovereign will of the people, we



Mr Minister, we appreciate your innovative ideas for strengthening the role of sport in society and fostering the patriotic spirit among youths. We acknowledge the great strides made in all these areas.

Mr Minister, ANOCA Zone 2 extends its congratulations and support to you on these commendable initiatives.

Here on the banks of the majestic Djoliba River, you are at home, and the occasion that has brought us together, ahead of the end-of-year celebrations, is indeed a happy one.

As a matter of fact the aim is to live up to our organisation's commitment to meet regularly in compliance with statutory provisions. This meeting will consolidate the decisions taken at the 2021 Elective General Assembly, to pave the way for the February 2025 meeting, and I hope that, like previous meetings, it will be a forum to jointly brainstorm ways to make our Zone outstanding within the African Sports and Olympic Movement.

We have usually carried out most of our planned activities successfully.



We have usually carried out most of our planned activities successfully.

Unfortunately, the recent past has been a tough period for us. As such:

- As well-informed managers, we have kept our ambitions in check.

I wish to congratulate and thank NOC Guinea and its “Women and Sport” Commission for organising such a successful seminar in Conakry. We were delighted by the presence of 3 (three) honourable ladies at this meeting, thus confirming our Zone’s commitment to gender mainstreaming in our policy to promote sport and Olympism.

It is worth recalling that our creed is, and remains, to live up to our commitments by following through on deliberated decisions. Each NOC is therefore responsible for organising its own activities.

The credibility of the Zone depends this, as is our resolve to effectively meet the expectations of our athletes in terms of training and competitions. We can only claim to have succeeded if we can manage our programme monitoring activities more efficiently in future. To do this, we must be ready to dare, following the leader’s teaching, and I quote: “It is better to be a lion for a day than to be a sheep all your life.” Today, together, we have a responsibility at sub-regional level towards:

- Our countries and our NOCs, for whom sport is a powerful social indicator.
- Ourselves and our athletes, for whom our commitment is critical to the future and fate of sport in ANOCA Zone 2.

Let’s make this other meeting a benchmark for our contribution to the development and progress of sport and Olympism in our Zone.

Thank you for coming. I wish you all a successful meeting.”







YOG DAKAR 2026

**UPDATE ON PREPARATIONS
PRESENTED TO HEAD OF
STATE, MACKY SALL**



Government involved in the project, including Ministers Matar Cisse (Head The President's Director of Cabinet), Mamadou Moustapha Ba (Finance and Budget), Lat Diop (Sports), Barrister Oumar Youm (Armed Forces), Pape Malick Ndour (Youth), among others.

During this working session, a report on preparations for this major sports event by both the Organising Committee and the Government was presented to the President of the Republic. Discussions centred on the timely availability of sports facilities, accommodation sites, means of transport and security.

Commitments were made and assurances given to the President of the Republic and the NOC President, Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye. Satisfied with the work accomplished by President Diagna Ndiaye's team and by the Government, The President of the Republic commended the foresight with which the work is done and the overall mobilisation. He also called for the involvement of all the local authorities that will be hosting the YOG events. He gave clear directives outlining ten key measures to be taken by his government to expedite the entire process and avoid any delays.

1,040 days away from the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026, Chairman Diagna Ndiaye and his staff presented a progress report on the Dakar 2026 project to the Head of State, Macky Sall, on 27 December 2023. The President of the Republic was accompanied on the occasion by all the members of



**PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL MEETS TO EVALUATE
PREPARATIONS FOR DAKAR 2026**

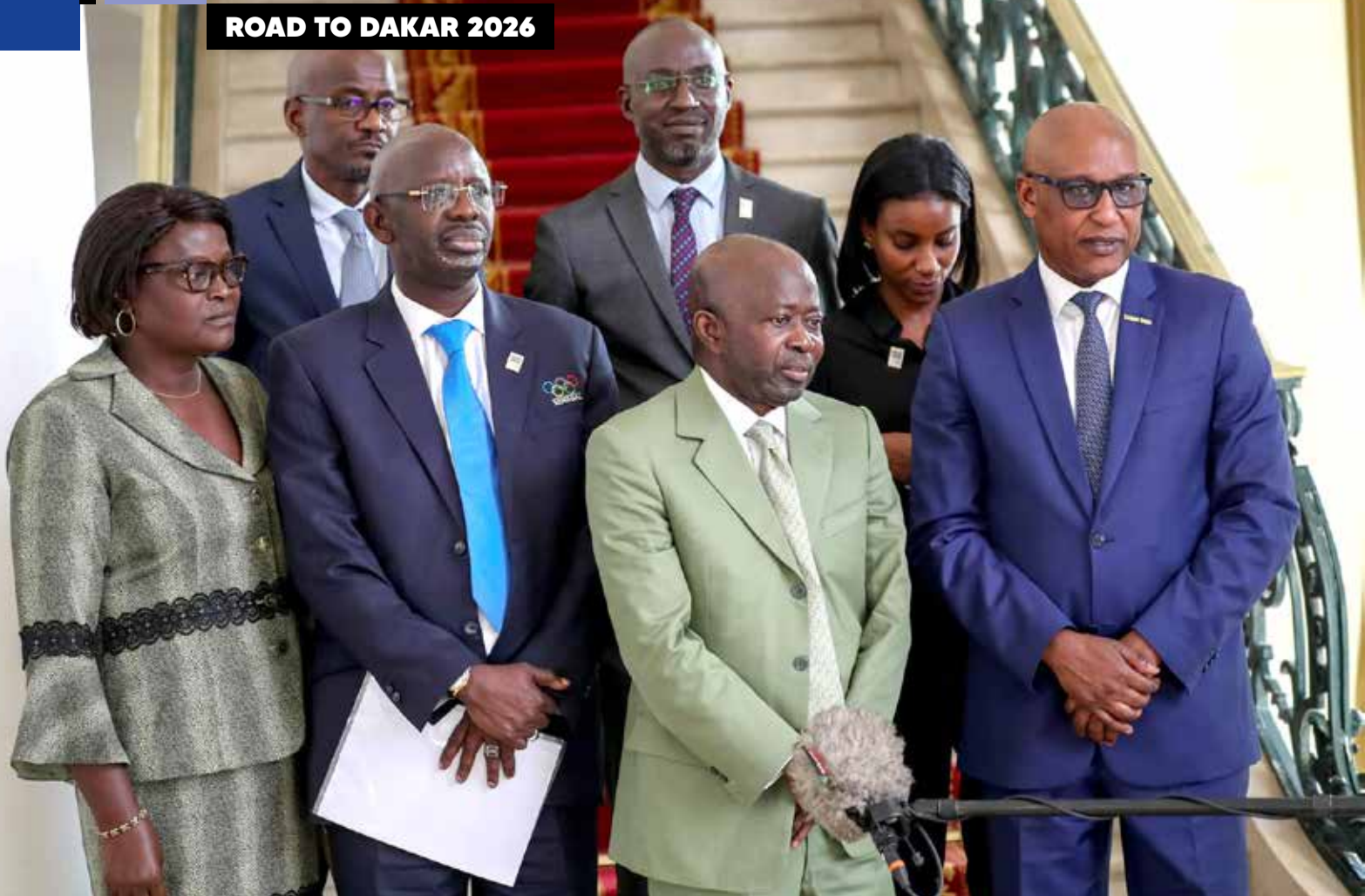
INTRODUCTORY PAPER BY THE DAKAR 2026 YOGOC CHAIR, MAMADOU DIAGNA NDIAYE

Following is the full paper presented by the Dakar 2026 YOGOC Chair, Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye, on 27 December 2023 during the Presidential Council meeting on preparations for the 4th edition of the YOG Dakar 2026.

“Thank you for this Presidential Council meeting, which affords an opportunity to update you on preparations for the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026. This event, a first in Africa, will forever be marked by your indelible imprint, after you led the Senegalese delegation to Buenos Aires in October 2018. Since you returned from Argentina, you have been following up preparations and I have kept you regularly informed of developments in the project and also sought your guidance. On several occasions, during meetings with IOC President Thomas Bach in Dakar, Lausanne and New York, you jointly assessed the progress of preparations, and harmonized your views on major Olympic issues. After the Games were postponed consequent on the Covid-19 pandemic, we engaged in sustained activities, and regularly presented progress reports to the sports and Olympic family on preparations for the Games as seen below:

This event, a first in Africa, will forever be marked by your indelible imprint, after you led the Senegalese delegation to Buenos Aires in October 2018.

- In July 2021 at the 138th IOC session in Tokyo;
- In October 2022 at the 4th meeting of the IOC Coordination Committee for the Dakar 2026 YOG, through videoconference;
- In December 2022 in Lausanne with IOC Executive Board members;



- In September 2023 at the 5th meeting of the IOC Coordination Committee for the Dakar 2026 YOG, through videoconference;
- On 16 October 2023 at the 141st IOC Session in Mumbai, India;
- And most recently, on 30 November 2023 in Paris, with IOC Executive Board members.

The various IOC bodies appreciated the work that had been done and noted the important strides made, particularly with regard to:

- Updating the Editing Plan;
- Optimising the Sports Programme;

- Construction/renovation of Sites and Infrastructure intended to host the Games;
- Local youth involvement.

The Dakar 2026 YOG are in line with the Vision that places Youth and Sport at the heart of every action. To succeed, Dakar 2026 and the IOC must work together.

It is based on this principle that the following activities are carried out:

- The continued involvement of all stakeholders in Senegal;
- Consolidation of partnerships with members of the Olympic

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family, ANOC, ANOCA, ASOIF, International Federations, other Organising Committees, etc.

Collaborations with Beijing 2022, Paris 2024, Milano Cortina 2026, France, the People's Republic of China and the European Union are solid guarantees of success and legacy.

In January 2024, in response to invitations from Presidents of Olympic Committees, I will be visiting Japan, Korea and China, to consolidate our agreements, particularly with the Chinese, who have been giving us significant support for the opening ceremony in 2026.

Mr President,

The opening ceremony of the Dakar 2026 YOG is 1040 days away. If we have been successful at each stage, it is because, thanks to your guidance, we received support from the Prime Minister and other Ministers, particularly those whose ministries are at the forefront:

- The Minister of Sports, whose services actively participate in Management Committee meetings and other field activities through the Secretariat General, the Elite Sports Department, the Department of Physical and Sports Activities and the Training Department;
- The Minister of Finance and the Budget, who has given all the necessary instructions to ensure that commitments made to the IOC are respected;
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Senegalese Diaspora, with the mobilisation and involvement of the entire diplomatic and consular network for the promotion of the YOG Dakar 2026, with whom we reviewed our partnership a few days ago;
- The Minister of Infrastructure, Land Transport and Improvement of Inaccessible Areas, who:



Through the company Ageroute, is in charge of the Delegated Project Management for construction/ renovation of sports sites funded by the French Development Agency, which has already started work on the ground;

Through the structures CETUD and SENTER, is in charge of the YOG Dakar 2026 Transport and Mobility Plan.

Other ministries such as the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Armed

Forces, the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, the Ministry of Youth, Entrepreneurship and Employment, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Culture and Historical Heritage, etc., are also playing a decisive role in the implementation of the project.

Mr President,

The Dakar 2026 project hinges on the Vision: “Youth and Sports: contributing to the transformation of Senegal and inspiring Africa.”



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It is based on this vision that the Editing Plan was updated, a plan which, beyond being a contractual commitment, was an opportunity

to adapt the Dakar 2026 project to developments in recent years, to optimise the Games delivery plan and to align with the IOC and other stakeholders of the Olympic movement. As soon as he took office, the Prime Minister who doubles as Minister of Sports, granted us audience to take stock of the situation with his teams. I have had regular discussions with civil society actors and with various segments of the Clergy.

This approach, which is in keeping with the Olympic spirit, is designed to ensure that all segments of the Senegalese society support this historic project and unifying event.

Mr President,

Before I conclude, I wish to remind you of the invitation of Presidents Thomas Bach and Emmanuel Macron, who have made you their “*Special Guest*” for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, which will be held from 26 July to 8 August 2024. I also wish to extend the warmest regards of Sheikh Ahmad al Fahd al Sabbah, who reminded me of the idea he put to you during his visit to Dakar, to make Gorée a special place for all members of the Olympic family to visit and discover in 2026.

For a detailed presentation of progress made, I wish to give the floor to the General Coordinator Ibrahima Wade.”



PROGRESS OF DAKAR 2026

YOGOC MEETS THE PRESS

Following the meeting at the Presidency of the Republic to present progress made regarding Dakar 2026, CNOSS, in collaboration with YOGOC and ANPS (Sports Press Association of Senegal), organised an information-sharing seminar in Dakar.

Speaking about the working session with the Head of State and members of Government, CNOSS President Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye said: *“It was a constructive meeting at which the President of the Republic and the Ministers concerned congratulated us on the tremendous amount of work that has been done. The feedback is that everything is positive in terms of reception, accommodation, protocol and security... The President called on the Ministers*

concerned to support us as effectively and concretely as possible, while bearing in mind that he reserves the right to revisit or question the ministries that are lagging behind, if there are any.”

In the document shared with the press, YOGOC gave feedback to the Head of State on the numerous presentations made to the IOC, the most recent of which took place on 30 November 2023 in Paris before the members of the IOC Executive Committee. The document

notes that: *“Various IOC bodies were able to appreciate the work that has been done and noted the important milestones that have been reached, particularly with regard to updating the Editing Plan, optimising the Sports Programme, the construction/renovation of sites and infrastructure intended to host the Games, and local youth involvement.”*

The CNOSS President and YOGOC Chair said: *“We have worked to specifications, with nothing lacking. Better still, we’re even ahead of schedule,”* he told the press, underscoring progress in the construction of sports facilities, hotels and transport.

The meeting, which was held as part of preparations for the forthcoming Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026, also aimed to inform journalists of the stakes, challenges and prospects of this global event. Ibrahima Wade, YOGOC General Coordinator, said *“Our work is no easy task (...) We are all in a learning process that requires regular training.”* Beyond YOG coverage, the training session aims to involve all actors, particularly those from the media, for the success of the event. *“It is the collective responsibility of all Senegalese and all Africans to show, the first time that the organisation of the Youth Olympic Games has been entrusted to Senegal, that the engine never stops, it will only operate better in Africa.”*

Recalling the choice of Senegal as host country of the YOG 2026, Abdoulaye



The President called on the Ministers concerned to support us as effectively and concretely as possible, while bearing in mind that he reserves the right to revisit or question the ministries that are lagging behind, if there are any.”



Thiam, President of the National Sports Press Association, seized the opportunity to pay tribute to the great architects of sport, saying: *“Senegal is certainly small in terms of its surface area, 194,722 km². This makes our country the 35th out of 54 States, but it also boasts men and women of value who are constantly inscribing the name of the country on the marble of prosperity in the likes of Abdoulaye Mbaye, Judges Keba Mbaye and Youssoupha Ndiaye and Presidents Lamine Diack, Abdoulaye Seye Moro and Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye, all of whom have become immortals, having been IOC members.”*



DAKAR 2026

1000 DAYS TO GO

Dakar is preparing to welcome the cream of world's young athletes, with the aim of creating a positive impact for young people across the host country and the African continent. To this end, the Dakar 2026 Organising Committee (YOGOC) was keen to celebrate the 1,000-day

milestone that separates us from the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026. This will be the first Olympic event to be held on African soil.

IOC President Thomas Bach said: *"We cannot wait for the moment to enjoy the first Olympic event ever on African soil, an event for Africa, with Africa, that*



DAKAR 2026



(...) Thanks to the collaborative efforts between the YOGOC and IOC teams, we have seen how engagement initiatives like the Dakar en Jeux festival are reaching thousands of young people in Senegal and building the legacy that the YOG will bring to local communities." She further said, "We look forward to working closely with the Dakar 2026 team over the next 1,000 days to deliver a transformative and inspiring YOG, showcasing the unifying power of sport and the rich cultural heritage of Africa."

will welcome the youth of the world in Senegal."

As for Kirsty Coventry, Chair of the IOC Coordination Commission for Dakar 2026, "Dakar 2026 represents a unique opportunity to spread the Olympic spirit throughout Africa and inspire not only young athletes, but also local youth.

Ibrahima Wade, YOGOC General Coordinator, said that "1,000 days separate us from the Opening Ceremony. It's a symbolic date for us because we are little by little getting closer to welcoming the world and celebrating with the youth of the world - the African youth, Senegalese youth - the first African Olympic event."



1000 DAYS TO DAKAR 2026

PREPARATIONS GEAR UP

With 1,000 days to go to the first major Olympic celebration on African soil, planning and preparations are well underway. Renovation works on the Iba Mar Diop stadium began recently, marking an important stage in infrastructure development for the Games. This renovation is part of a wider project to ensure state-of-the-art facilities for Dakar 2026, which will rely primarily on existing modernized venues, thus ensuring a lasting YOG legacy.

Recent efforts have included a comprehensive review of the sports programme, focusing on disciplines, events and athlete quotas. The Games Master Plan was subsequently adapted to optimise the use of the Youth Olympic Village and prioritise elite athletes' development pathways. A valuable contribution from

the International Olympic Sports Federations to complete works on competition venues was part of the process. The IOC Executive Board is expected to soon confirm the final sports programme and athlete quotas.

Moreover, in December, YOGOC organised a training seminar for Senegalese sports journalists to provide the local media with comprehensive knowledge of the plans for Dakar 2026. Infrastructural plans, the principle of co-construction with the IOC, spreading the Olympic values and the Dakar en Jeux festival were the main themes addressed at this seminar, which aimed at fostering greater public engagement and awareness of the YOG. It is worth noting that the Dakar YOG will take place from 31 October to 13 November 2026. They will be held at three venues, namely Dakar, Diamniadio and Saly.





YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES DAKAR 2026

THE NOCS OF SENEGAL AND ITALY STRENGTHEN COOPERATION TIES

A new agreement was signed to this end on 19 January 2024 in GANGWON, South Korea, ahead of the Milano CORTINA 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026.

Presidents Giovanni MALAGO of NOC Italy (CONI) and Mamadou DIAGNA NDIAYE of the Senegalese National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSS), both signed the agreement on the sidelines of the GANGWON 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games.



It aligns with the IOC's 2020+5 Agenda which seeks to implement a new Games organisation model to ensure they are more efficient and innovative. It is aimed at fully leveraging the preparation and organisation of the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Games and the YOG Dakar 2026 looking forward.

The agreement focuses mainly on welcoming Senegalese and Italian athletes, dispatching Italian technical experts to build the capacity of Senegalese coaches, providing sports equipment, training officials, sharing information on sports facilities and enhancing the training of young athletes.

CONI President Giovanni MALAGO stated:

"We are very proud that this friendship between our two Olympic Committees has been strengthened and made stronger ahead of Milano Cortina 2026 and Dakar 2026. We stand ready for a very meaningful collaboration and exchange of knowledge."

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”**

For his part, CNOSS President Mamadou DIAGNA NDIAYE, commended the agreement, saying, *"It strengthens the already strong partnership between our two National Olympic Committees."*

Both NOCs are a perfect example of rigour in the area of sports cooperation, building on Olympic values.



PARIS 2024 GAMES

NOC CÔTE D'IVOIRE EXPLAINS ACCREDITATION PROCESS TO SPORTS FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES

On 9 January 2024, National Olympic Sports Federations of Côte d'Ivoire attended a seminar on athletes' participation in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Convened by the National Olympic Committee of Côte d'Ivoire (CNO-CIV), it was held at the headquarters of the said Institution. The aim was to school the Federations on the Paris 2024 accreditation process. During the seminar, the Paris 2024 Chef de Mission for Côte d'Ivoire, Jeannot Kouadio Kouamé and CNO-CIV Executive Director Naminata Fofana, provided further details on this relevant process.

Taking the floor, Jeannot Kouadio Kouamé urged Olympic federations and delegations likely to be at the Games to get ready, stating that *"Time is not on our side. AFCON will close on 11 February. And, things will become further difficult for us if we do not work in parallel with AFCON."* Regarding the media, it should be noted that the deadline for submitting applications for accreditations has been set for 9 February. As for other delegations, they have until March to do so.

Also speaking on the occasion, Naminata Fofana reiterated the appeal of the Chef de Mission, while dwelling on the meticulous organisation of the Olympic Games.

Dr Allah Kouamé, CNO-CIV first Vice-President, was also in attendance. He



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reassured federations that CNO-CIV is properly organising the travel and stay of Ivorian delegations in Paris.

Attending focal points and federation officials raised a series of questions for clarity. Their concerns were considered and grey areas addressed.

It should be noted that to date, five Ivorians have qualified (2 for Taekwondo and 3 for athletics). This number could increase, since qualifiers are still going on for several disciplines.



NOC GUINEA

INFORMATION WORKSHOP ON 2ND ANOCA GENDER EQUALITY FORUM ORGANISED IN CONAKRY

The Gender Equality and Inclusion Commission of the National Olympic and Sports Committee of Guinea recently organised an Information Workshop on the 2nd ANOCA Gender Equality Forum at the COCAN headquarters under the distinguished patronage of

the Minister of Youth and Sports, on the theme: 'From the Board Room to the Field of Play.'

Many officials attended the workshop, including representatives of the Ministry of Sports, the Ministry of Women Empowerment, Children and



They all commended and thanked the CNOSG Gender Equality Commission for measures taken to promote the development of Female Sports in Guinea and in ANOCA Zone 2. They also pledged to support the Commission in the attainment of ANOCA's goals.



People with Disabilities, National Sports Federations, CNOSG Gender Equality and Inclusion Commission, Technical Female Directors and Coaches, members of the National Paralympic Committee of Guinea, members of the Association of Female Football Coaches, the Galaxie Football Academy, Female Sports NGOs, media outlets, female sports journalists, female sports promotion agencies and the local media and Champions, among others.

The opening ceremony was presided at by the Representative of the Minister of Youth and Sports, Salifou CAMARA, who was accompanied by members of the National Department of Sports and CNOSG President El Hadj Ben Daouda Nassoko. Three addresses were delivered, namely a welcome address by the Chairperson of the CNOSG Gender Equality and Inclusion Commission and Chair of the ANOCA Zone 2 Gender Equality Commission; CNOSG President El Hadj Ben Daouda Nassoko and another opening address by Mr Salifou CAMARA on behalf of the Minister of Youth and Sports.

They all commended and thanked the CNOSG Gender Equality Commission for measures taken to promote the development of Female Sports in Guinea and in ANOCA Zone 2. They also pledged to support the Commission in the attainment of ANOCA's goals.

Mrs MANGUET stated that the aim was not only to provide an update on the Forum, brainstorm ways of guiding sports organisation to make them more gender sensitive and bring about significant change in the area of gender equality and to focus on the relevance of equal gender representation in sports leadership, transformational male/female collaboration and increased participation of women and girls in safe sport.



The ANOCA Zone 2 GEC Chair briefly reviewed the thrust of the 2nd ANOCA Gender Equality Forum which held from 2 to 3 October 2023 in Cape Verde. She gave an account of panellists' experience, stating that their presentations were a source of

inspiration for participants, notably the paper presented by Mrs Matloang Ramoqopo, GEC Chair and 2nd Vice Chair of ANOCA on progress regarding the implementation of the ANOCA Gender Equality Action Plan by NOCs and the 7 Zones, as well



as African women's achievements in various fields such as leadership, technical and participation.

At the end of deliberations, participants at the Conakry Workshop resolved to:

“

Raise awareness on the practice of safe sport to ensure an increased participation of women and girls.

”

- Advocate equality at the highest level of their respective federations and organisations;
- Contribute to the achievement of 30% representation of women on the executive board of their federations;
- Encourage female participation in technical training camps;
- Foster work between men and women in the interest of both genders;
- Raise awareness on the practice of safe sport to ensure an increased participation of women and girls.



MALAWI OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

JAPPIE MHANGO RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT

The Malawi Olympic Committee (MOC) held an elective General Assembly in Lilongwe on Saturday, 17 February 2024, during which incumbent President Jappie Mhango was elected for another four-year term.

The incumbent ran unopposed, while Major General Francis Kakhuta Banda was elected Vice President with 36 votes against 10 for the outgoing Secretary General, Major General John Kaputa.

The newly elected MOC Board comprises the following members:

President - Jappie Mhango

Vice President - Francis Kakhuta Banda

Secretary General - Henry Sakala

Vice Secretary General - Dennis Kumwenda

Treasurer General - Andrew Mkwezalamba

Executive Members - Pyson Likagwa and James Kaunda

In his acceptance address, the re-elected President asserted his commitment to push for the empowerment of athletes and capacity building.

“We will work to ensure our athletes get the best training through sending them outside the country to access better facilities and skills.” We are geared to ensure our athletes qualify for the Paris 2024 Games.

“Qualification games are still ongoing and we are being represented. We also promise to grow MOC so that it can be well represented. We plan to have a full-time chief executive officer and also make sure our marketing department is vibrant,” he said.

Also speaking on the occasion, Jameson Ndalama, Director in the Ministry of Youth and Sports, commended MOC for organising a peaceful election in accordance the constitution.

“Elections and assemblies are part of the requirements in the constitution and you have observed that. I also commend MOC for good accountability of finances as per the audit report. The corporate world will only come in if they are convinced that their money will be used for the intended purpose and also will be accounted for. As government, we are ready to continue



We will work to ensure our athletes get the best training through sending them outside the country to access better facilities and skills.



working together with MOC to develop sports in the country.”

In his congratulatory letter to the MOC President following the election, the President of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA), the Honourable Mustapha Berraf, extended the congratulations and encouragements of all ANOCA Executive Committee members to the new Board.

He equally voiced the hope for a successful mandate, which will project a *“vision that is in keeping with the Olympic values that drive sport in Africa and the World over!”*

We wish the newly elected Board the very best of everything as they champion sports excellence in Malawi. May they *“be a source of pride for young people in Malawi and Africa as a whole,”* as is the wish of ANOCA President, Mustapha Berraf.

CFI

**DÉVELO
MÉDIAS**

OG PARIS 2024

**CANAL FRANCE
INTERNATIONAL
COMMITTS TO INNOVATIVE
MEDIA COVERAGE OF
AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION**

PPLEMENT

Canal France International intends setting up a temporary editorial team for African journalists to fully cover the Paris 2024 Games in order to provide the African public with reliable information on Africa's participation through the print and online media.

Daily news round-ups on the performance of African athletes and officials in sport will be provided.

This temporary editorial team will comprise 15 professional journalists specialised in the field of sport and Olympism, designated by French-

speaking African National Sports and Olympic Committees.

Participating countries include: Burkina Faso, Benin, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Madagascar, Niger, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo Brazzaville, Senegal, Chad, Togo and Djibouti.

The objective here is to spotlight African performances at the Games by reporting on athletes' performances per disciplines.

Selected African print and online media will give a narrative of the historic experiences of the African Olympic and Sports Movement in Paris, and their news items will serve as a database for future generations.

The team will also build the capacity and expertise of shortlisted journalists in covering major events like the Olympic Games.

This collaboration between Canal France International and French-speaking African NOCs will be pursued as part of this innovative project, a testament to a healthy professional competition that draws on the Olympic values of sharing and solidarity.

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PARIS 2024

MEDALS UNVEILED

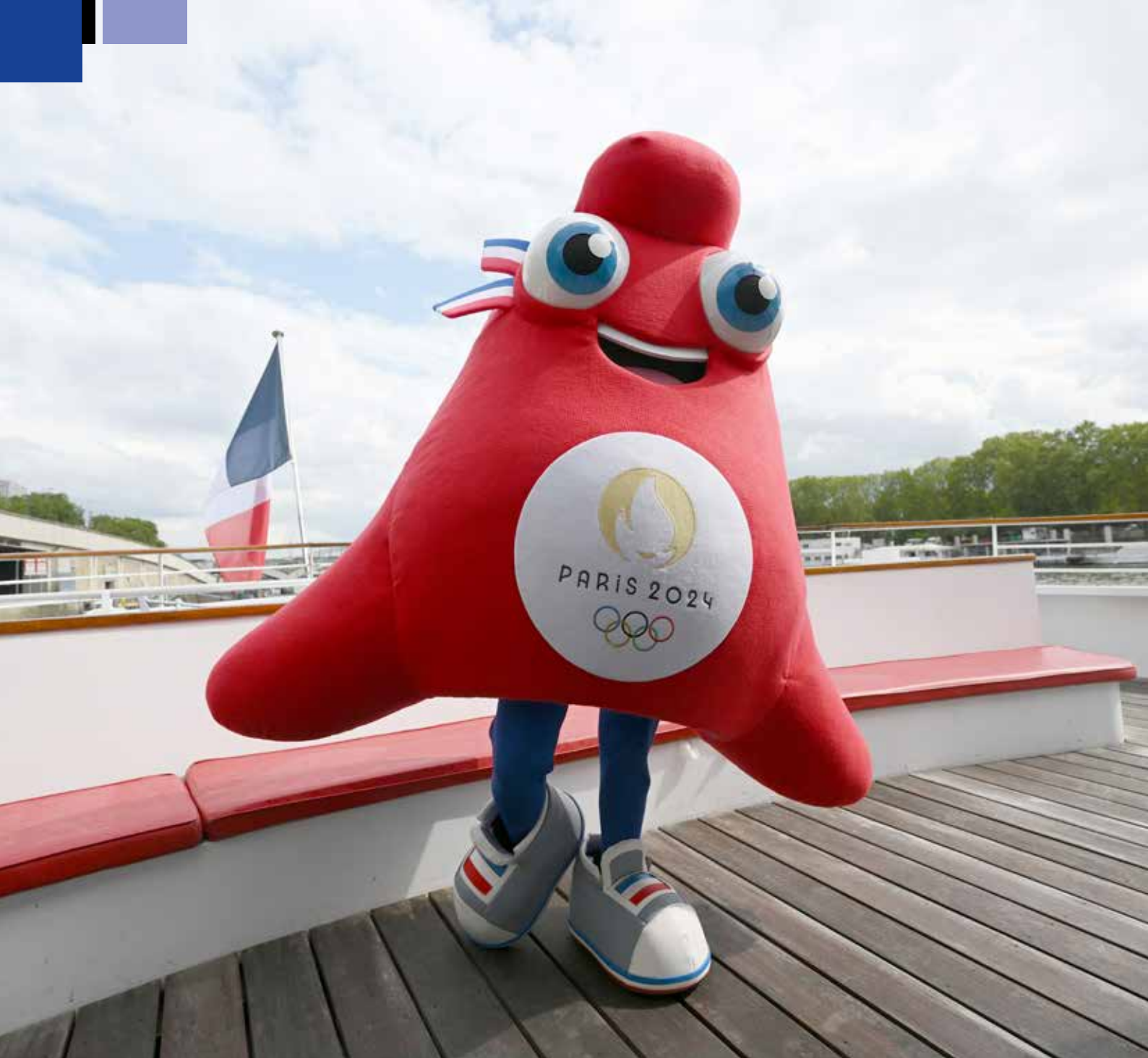


On 8 February, Paris 2024 revealed medals of the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games. Their meaning embodies the creativity of Paris 2024, with an exceptional concept: a discovery of the most coveted object of the Games and the iconic symbol of France and Paris, the Eiffel Tower. Each medallist will receive a piece of original metal from the Eiffel Tower embossed at the centre of his or her medal. Paris 2024 reached out to the Athletes' Commission and enlisted the expertise of LVMH and its Maison Chaumet, Premium Partner of the Paris 2024 Games.

Medals were unveiled in the presence of Tony Estanguet, Paris 2024 Chair and three-time Olympic champion; Martin Fourcade, Chair of the

Paris 2024 Athletes' Commission; retired biathlete and five-time Olympic champion; Béatrice Hess, retired Paralympic swimmer with 20 Paralympic titles; Alex Portal, Paralympic swimmer and winner of gold and silver medals at the Paralympic Games and qualified for Paris 2024; Koumba Larroque, bronze medallist in the 2023 World Wrestling Championships and who has also qualified for Paris 2024, as well as Pauline Déroulède, three-time French champion and the number one female wheelchair tennis champion in France.

About 200 days to the Paralympic Games, Paris 2024 reasserted its ambition of bonding the Olympic and Paralympic Games through that 'Eiffel Tower face' that is common to medals of both Games.



AFRICAN QUALIFIERS IN TAEKWONDO

The Senegalese capital hosted the African qualifiers in Taekwondo for Paris 2024 on 10 and 11 February. 16 athletes from eight weight categories clinched the coveted qualification for the Olympic Games.

The two finalists in each weight category booked their tickets to Paris. Tunisia performed best in the tournament, qualifying 3 athletes. One of them is the 2022 World bronze medallist and two-time African champion Firas Katoussi (men's -80kg).

Another big name among the qualified athletes is Niger's Issoufou Alfaga, Rio 2016 silver medallist and 2017 World champion. Niger, Egypt and Burkina Faso have qualified two athletes each.

One of the best athletes in the non-Olympic women's 46kg category, Lesotho's Michelle Tau, made her way to Paris and reached the final of the tournament in the women's 49kg category.

Elizabet Anyanacho brought the only Olympic ticket to Nigeria. She had also qualified for Tokyo 2020 but missed out when the Games were postponed. Morocco's Fatima-Ezzahra Aboufaras was the 2018 Youth Olympic Games champion and will be making her Olympic debut.

LIST OF ATHLETES QUALIFIED THROUGH THE AFRICAN QUALIFIERS:

Men's -58kg: Bocar Diop (Senegal) and Nouriddine Issaka (Niger).

Men's -68kg: Ibrahim Maiga (Burkina Faso) and Ahmed Nassar (Egypt).

Men's -80kg: Firas Katoussi (Tunisia) and Faysal Sawadogo (Burkina Faso).

Men's +80kg: Abdoul Issoufou (Niger) and Alasan Ann (Gambia).

Women's -49kg: Ikram Dhahri (Tunisia) and Michelle Tau (Lesotho).

Women's -57kg: Emmanuella Atora (Gabon) and Chaima Toumi (Tunisia).

Women's -67kg: Aya Shehata (Egypt) and Elizabet Anyanacho (Nigeria).

Women's +67kg: Slan Katherine Feghe Bathily (Ivory Coast) and Fatima-Ezzahra Aboufaras (Morocco).



OBITUARY

THE AFRICAN OLYMPIC MOVEMENT IS BEREAVED: **KELVIN KIPTUM IS NO MORE!**

Kelvin KIPTUM, world marathon record holder, died on Sunday 11 February 2024, following a fatal road accident near Eldoret-Kaptagat, Kenya. The sad news was confirmed by the

deceased's family and Dennis MUGA, the road base commander.

His trainer, Gervais HAKIZIMANA, a Rwandan national, who was in the car, also died on the spot.

On 8 October 2023, the 24-year-old athlete won the Chicago Marathon in 2:00:35. A world record that he was preparing to beat, first on 14 April 2024 in Rotterdam and then at the upcoming Olympic Games Paris 2024.

A gloomy atmosphere looms over the African Olympic and Sports Movement, as expressed by ANOCA President, Honourable Mustapha BERRAF:

"The African Olympic and Sports Movement is deeply saddened by this

tragic loss, which has plunged the entire continent into mourning. May the brotherly and friendly people of Kenya as well as the biological family of the deceased find solace and stand strong to brave these painful circumstances," he said, before lauding the departed icon:

"His commitment and talent were a source of pride for African athletics. We are deeply moved and devastated by his sudden and tragic death."

NOC-K COMFORTS THE BEREAVED FAMILY

The NOCK executive, led by President Dr Paul Tergat, were at the Kelvin Kiptum Family home to extend heartfelt condolences and share in the grief of the bereaved family. Accompanying the President were Secretary General Francis Mutuku and Treasurer Eliud Kariuki, forming a united front in this gloomy moment. Dr Tergat, expressing empathy, assured the grieving family and the athletics community of unwavering support during this challenging time.

Acknowledging the profound sorrow of losing an esteemed athlete, Dr. Tergat emphasized the difficulty of such moments but encouraged strength amidst the emotional turbulence. With a collective spirit, he conveyed a poignant message: *"We're still grappling with the emotions of losing an athlete. It will never be easy, but we have to summon strength within ourselves. As we run in Paris, it will be a run in unity, dedicated to Kelvin's memory and the resilience of our athletics community."*



AFRICAN GAMES

A HUGE AFRICAN SPORTS GATHERING

It was Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympic Games, who launched the idea of games for the African continent.

Tribute to
PIERRE DE COUBERTIN

Pierre de Coubertin (1863-1937), who revived the Olympic Games, was also the pioneer advocate of the African Games.

As early as 1904, following the Olympic Games in Saint-Louis (USA), he predicted the emergence of great African champions. In his «Olympic Memoirs», twenty years after the first failed attempt to organise the African Games, he wrote: *“I remain convinced that, before long, Africa will get itself organised in spite of everything...”*

LIVING MEMORY

DUTY TO INFORM






**UNITY,
SOLIDARITY,
FRATERNITY**


**UNITÉ,
SOLIDARITÉ,
FRATERNITÉ**





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