

at **PARIS**
2024 The Games
Newsletter

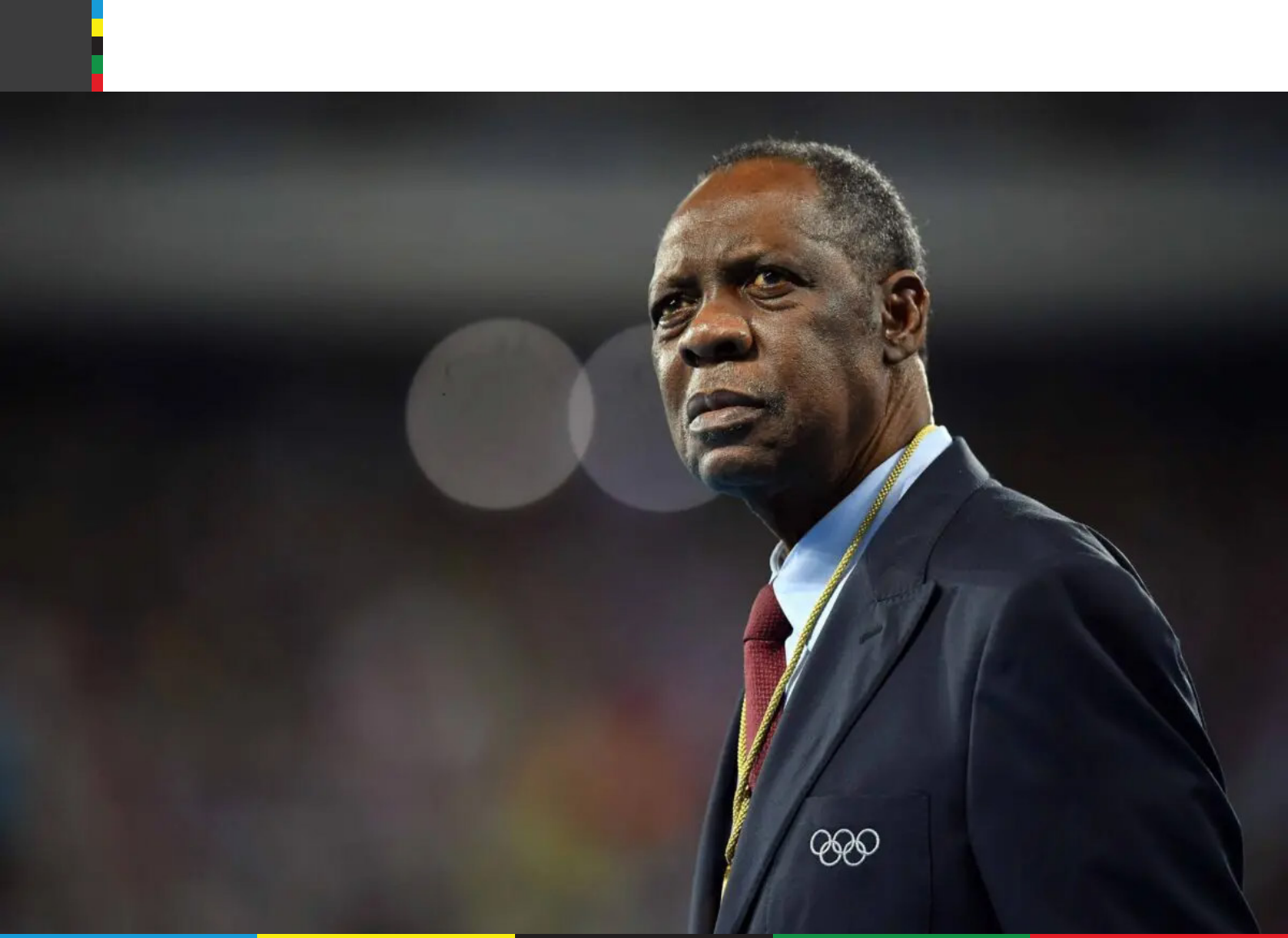


NEWSLETTER ON AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES



PRESS RELEASE

TRIBUTE TO ISSA HAYATOU



The former President of the Confederation of African Football (CAF), Issa HAYATOU, died on Thursday 8 August 2024 in Paris, France, following an illness at the age of 77.

In these sad circumstances, the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa, ANOCA, wishes to express its sadness and grief at this great loss for the African Olympic and sports movement, and world sport in general.

Born on 9 August 1946 in Garoua, Cameroon, Issa HAYATOU leaves a lasting legacy that speaks volumes about the illustrious sportsman he was from 1964 to 1971 in Cameroon, and the manager he later became during his rich and prestigious career, which began in 1986 and ended in 1988.

President of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) for three decades from 1988 to 2017, he was interim FIFA President (2015-2016) in very peculiar circumstances.

He was at the heart of the promotion of football in the Olympic arena, serving as an IOC member in Africa from 2001 to 2016 and later as an honorary IOC member. For Africa, Issa HAYATOU chaired several IOC commissions and coordinated the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

ANOCA President, the Honourable Mustapha BERRAF, has this to say of him:

“ From a very young age, Issa HAYATOU was a prolific and passionate sportsman. From athletics to football and basketball, he performed in an outstanding manner and became a seasoned and experienced sports administrator. We learned with sadness to that he is no more. The entire Olympic and sports movement is stunned and dismayed. He will be remembered as a great professional. Africa and ANOCA pay him a deserved tribute. He made history in African football in particular and sport in general. What an honour it was to have known him. We call on everyone, wherever they may be, to observe a minute’s silence in his memory.

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During his career, Issa HAYATOU was involved in the organisation of several sports events on African soil, and promoted Olympic values incessantly. He chaired the organising committees for the FIFA World Cup in South Africa and the Confederations Cup, as well as the Olympic Football Tournaments from 1992 to 2006. He was a FIFA Board member from 1990 to 2017.

He played a major role in increasing the number FIFA World Cup places reserved for African teams, and in the success of the first FIFA World Cup in South Africa in 2010. His contributions to the development of African football and sport will always be remembered.

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