



ACNOA - ANOCA

ANOCA NEWSLETTER

Association
of National
Olympic
Committees
of Africa



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REVIEW OF AFRICAN OLYMPISM

NOVEMBER 2024



Africa Station, Olympic Games Paris 2024

HUB OF PRIDE AND UNITY FOR AFRICA

ANOCA President Mustapha BERRAF hails the positive impact, noting that it is the continent's pride, a strong symbol of what Africa can achieve when we join forces.

SUCCESS OF AFRICA STATION
AT PARIS 2024

PRIDE OF THE CONTINENT!





Dear colleagues, friends of sport and African culture,

I am very proud and deeply delighted to address you to celebrate the success of Africa Station at the Olympic Games Paris 2024, an unprecedented initiative that has helped spotlight our continent's sport, culture and unity on the world stage. This project, which was championed by ANOCA, in partnership with the city of Ile-Saint-Denis and developed by Mayor Mohamed GNABALY, is a powerful symbol of what Africa can achieve when we join forces to showcase to the world our potential, diversity and cohesion.

Africa Station was much more than just a meeting point. It was a platform for sharing and discussion, where Africa was able to reveal its best, blending tradition and modernity, local cultures and universal values. Thanks to support from Africa House, we succeeded in creating a meeting point we took pride in, and which captured the attention and hearts of visitors from across the globe.



**Thanks to support from
Africa House, we succeeded
in creating a meeting point
we took pride in, and which
captured the attention and
hearts of visitors from across
the globe.**



ANOCA President

IOC Member

Vice President of ANOC



Africa Station opens

**“WE OWE YOU
MUCH RESPECT AND
ADMIRATION!”**

In his opening address, ANOCA President Mustapha BERRAF paid a glowing tribute to the French authorities and Mr Emmanuel Macron for the wonderful and exceptional work they carried out. He congratulated the Mayor of Ile-Saint-Denis and his teams for their civic commitment and hard work to see through the joint project, in concert with ANOCA.



“**Y**our presence here today is a great honour for us. But, above all, it reassures us of the good intentions of all (national and local authorities, associations, sports movements and civic movements), towards young people of these constituencies who are sports enthusiasts and love to share in fraternity and in love with others.

I avail myself of this wonderful opportunity to pay a glowing tribute to French authorities, prominent among them Mr Emmanuel Macron, for the wonderful and outstanding carried out to organise the Olympic Games in the dream city of Paris, Urban Games, Games that consider the overriding issues of sustainability, and above all, are open to all civilisations. I would also like to pay special tribute to the Minister for all her efforts, her exceptional availability and her exemplary friendliness.



Thank you, you are in our hearts. Thanks for everything. We also wish to congratulate the Paris 2024 Organising Committee, our Olympic champion, Mr ESTANGUET and all members. You made it! You honoured the global Olympic Movement and France.

I will be remiss not to congratulate the Mayor and his teams for their civic commitment and hard work to see through this joint project, in concert with ANOCA. Africa Station is specifically targeted at young people, to give them some joy and shine a light on the Olympic Games that are taking place in their country, in their city Paris and in their neighbourhoods.

You are wonderful men and women, dedicated and fully committed to your country and your origins.

We owe you much respect and admiration!

Thank you all for heeding the call of the youths who, thanks to you, will have the opportunity to experience the most

Thank you all for heeding the call of the youths who, thanks to you, will have the opportunity to experience the most exciting Games ever, in an inclusive manner and with greater passion for their heroes.

exciting Games ever, in an inclusive manner and with greater passion for their heroes.”

Athletes, cultures, craftsmen and artists will be celebrated here for 23 days, from 20 July to 11 August 2024. Among the musicians was Senegal’s Youssou NDOUR, who performed at Africa Station on Sunday, 4 August 2024 alongside rapper Dip Doundou GUISS, during a gala night dedicated to his country.



Senegal will host the Youth Olympic Games in 2026, and intends to create a similar atmosphere in Dakar, where a special area will be dedicated to Africa Station, dubbed “*Club Dakar 2026*” to secure the link between Paris 2024 and Dakar 2026.

In Paris, sporting and cultural Africa showcased its talent in an open-air space.

It was an unprecedented programme that spotlighted several African countries on these exceptional days that, each time, instilled the joy of living in Paris 2024. On 21 July, for example, there was a special Mali Day during which the country showcased its sporting and cultural potentials. 25 other African countries were also involved in the Fan Zone dubbed Africa Station.



Africa Station Paris 2024

ILE-SAINT-DENIS, A HUB FOR AFRICAN CULTURE AND SPORT

For the ANOCA President, the success of Africa Station is a glaring example of Africa's ability to unite, inspire and build bridges among nations.



Set up in Ile-Saint-Denis, Africa Station transformed the area into a melting pot of African culture and sport. Thanks to this unique project, Africa was able to showcase itself to the world, not just as a participant, but as a key influential actor.

This place of cultural convergence brought together representatives from over twenty African nations, each with

their own history, talents and enthusiasm, to echo the voice of a united continent proud of its origins.

This initiative was guided by the vision of a continent rising up to assert its identity, share its traditions and values, while promoting the core ideals of Olympism namely peace, fraternity and unity. Africa Station was a shining example of Africa's ability to unite, inspire and build bridges among nations.

Success of Africa Station

EMBRACING A MESSAGE OF FRATERNITY AND PEACE

ANOCA President pays tribute to and celebrates the Mayor of Ile-Saint-Denis, Mohamed GNABALY, whose leadership and vision were decisive in achieving this project on the sidelines of the Olympic Games Paris 2024.





**Bring everybody together
around a message of
fraternity and peace,
especially through culture
and sport.**

One of the most beautiful messages conveyed by Africa Station is that of fraternity and peace. In a world frequently fraught with divisions, this space was a reminder that sport and culture have the power to bring people together and create lasting bonds. The Mayor of Ile-Saint-Denis, Mohamed GNABALY, whose leadership and vision were critical in achieving this project, expressed this objective with inspiring humility: *“bring everybody together around a message of fraternity and peace, especially through culture and sport.”*

This simple but powerful message resonated with visitors and participants at Africa Station. Every exhibition, every meeting, every event organised onsite helped to convey this message tangibly, and underscored that sport is a universal language that transcends borders and cultural differences.



Africa Station Paris 2024

FRUIT OF THE SYNERGY BETWEEN NOCS AND ILE-SAINT-DENIS MUNICIPALITY

In his message, Mustapha BERRAF personally thanked African NOC Presidents who, by their dedication and commitment transformed Africa Station into a true celebration of the continent's contribution to the Olympic Movement and global culture.



I would like to commend the invaluable collaboration between ANOCA, the municipality of Ile-Saint-Denis and Africa House. This synergy has been instrumental to the success of Africa Station, and demonstrates what we can achieve by working together towards a common goal.

African NOC Presidents, whom I would like to thank personally for their dedication and commitment, have played a key role in this venture. Thanks to their support, Africa Station has been much more than just a space dedicated to Africa; it has become a true celebration of the continent's contribution to the Olympic Movement and to global culture.





Africa Station OG 2024

SHOWCASE FOR CULTURE AND SPORT

ANOCA President commends an initiative thanks to which African athletes felt that they are represented and supported by an entire continent, giving them a motivational sense of pride and belonging, a solid foundation to overcome the hurdles of Olympic competition.

Africa Station afforded a unique platform for showcasing Africa's sporting and cultural assets. Visitors were treated to exhibitions of African art, sports demonstrations and interactive workshops, which gave them a closer feel of African cultures. Africa Station was an opportunity to show that Africa is a melting pot of cultures, with a rich ancient history and youths looking forward to the future.

Similarly, it was place where African delegations could assemble in a spirit of solidarity and mutual support. Thanks to Africa Station, African athletes felt represented and supported by an entire continent. It gave them a motivational sense of pride and belonging, a solid foundation to overcome the hurdles of Olympic competition.







Africa Station, the Fan Zone

A MODEL FOR THE FUTURE OLYMPIC GAMES

President Mustapha BERRAF hopes that this space will serve as an inspiration and become a tradition, an illustration of the fact that the Olympic Games are not just a competition, but a place where all cultures have their place and can shine in the global spotlight.





We hope that this initiative will inspire other countries and continents to follow this example, by creating “Stations” at future Olympic Games to celebrate cultural diversity and the unity of sport.

“The success of Africa Station also bears hope for the future. The initiative has shown that it is possible to create spaces dedicated to specific cultures at the Olympic Games, bringing together countries and continents around shared values, while showcasing their cultural and sporting diversity.

We hope that this initiative will inspire other countries and continents to follow this example, by creating “Stations” at future Olympic Games to celebrate cultural diversity and the unity of sport. Our wish is for Africa Station to become a model, a tradition, a way of showing that the Olympic Games are not just a competition, but a place where all cultures have their place and can shine in the global spotlight.”

Africa Station

BEYOND THE OLYMPIC GAMES PARIS 2024

For the ANOCA President, Africa has demonstrated that it has the means, the potential and is determined to organise major sports events, particularly the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, with sights set on hosting the Olympic Games 2036.

This project goes far beyond the Paris 2024 Games. Africa Station will leave a lasting legacy for the African continent. It has consolidated ties between African NOCs, spotlighted African culture and values on the international stage, and shown that Africa is united in pursuing its sporting and cultural dreams.

Africa Station also contributed to enhancing the continent's sporting identity, while demonstrating that Africa is ready to play a leading role in world sport. As it prepares for the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 and considering a bid for the 2036 Olympic Games, Africa has proven that it has the means, the potential and is determined to organise major sports events.







Celebrating Africa Station

ANOCA HAILS LAUNCH OF A GREAT VENTURE

In his message, President Mustapha BERRAF paid a glowing tribute to and thanked all those whose work, passion and commitment made Africa Station a resounding success.

“ I would like to express my gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of Africa Station. I wish to thank Mohamed GNABALY and his Ile-Saint-Denis municipal team, Africa House, Presidents of African NOCs, artists, athletes, and all the volunteers who devoted their time and energy to make this space a meeting point, a place of celebration.





I'm proud to see our continent celebrated in this way, and I'm convinced that this success is just the beginning of a great journey.

Thanks to your work, passion and commitment, Africa Station was a resounding success. It will be remembered as a milestone in the history of African sport and culture.

I'm proud to see our continent celebrated in this way, and I'm convinced that this success is just the beginning of a great journey. Together, we have shown what Africa can achieve and what we can offer to the world.

Let's unite to stay on course and make Africa shine across the world."

Mustapha Berraf

ANOCA President

IOC Member

Vice President of ANOC





Olympic Games Paris 2024

AFRICA STATION, A HISTORIC FIRST

This visionary initiative, which is the brainchild of ANOCA, in partnership with the City of Île-Saint-Denis and Africa House, afforded Africa a unique opportunity to be in the spotlight at this global event.



The Olympic Games Paris 2024 marked a decisive turning point for African representation on the world stage. Much more than just an exhibition area, Africa Station established itself as a highly symbolic site, celebrating the continent's sport, culture and unity.

This visionary project, championed by ANOCA, in partnership with the City of Île-Saint-Denis and Africa House, afforded Africa a unique opportunity to be in the spotlight at this global event. Set up in Île-Saint-Denis, Africa Station became a “*hub for African culture and sport*”, hosting more than twenty African countries, each revealing its unique identity to the world while asserting the continent's unity.



Île-Saint-Denis MELTING POT OF AFRICAN CULTURES AND SPORT

The close collaboration between ANOCA and Mayor Mohamed GNABALY contributed in transforming Ile-Saint-Denis into a melting pot of African cultures during the OG, bringing together representatives from more than twenty African nations to share their cultural and sports potentials with the world.



The Africa Station initiative came to life thanks to Mohamed GNABALY, Mayor of Ile-Saint-Denis, and his team, who worked closely with ANOCA and Africa House to create a welcoming venue to celebrate African aspirations. This unprecedented project transformed Ile-Saint-Denis into a melting pot of African cultures, bringing together representatives of more than twenty African countries to showcase their cultural wealth and sports potential to the whole world.

“This is a unique project” said Mohamed GNABALY, proud to see Ile-Saint-Denis become a hub of sharing and celebration. *“Our goal is simple: bring everyone together under the banner of fraternity and peace, especially through culture and sport.”* Far from being anecdotal, this message was heard and embraced by visitors to Africa Station, who got a true sense of African diversity and unity at the same time.

Africa Station at the Paris Olympic Games

SPRINGBOARD FOR AFRICA'S OLYMPIC DREAMS

Mustapha BERRAF, ANOCA President, hails the positive impact, noting that it is the continent's pride, a strong symbol of what Africa can achieve when we join forces.

More than a mere cultural showcase for African countries, Africa Station was an opportunity for African sports delegations to meet, share experiences and demonstrate solidarity. At a time when African sports is increasingly gaining traction internationally, Africa Station afforded an opportunity to showcase Africa's talents

and promote athletes as ambassadors for their respective countries.

Mustapha BERRAF, ANOCA President, hailed the positive impact of Africa Station, noting that *"this is the pride of Africa, a strong symbol of what Africa can achieve when we join forces. The Paris 2024 Games will forever be etched in our memories as a unique moment when Africa was at its best, in all its diversity and unity."* This statement highlights the role of Africa Station as a springboard for Africa's Olympic dreams.







IOC President Thomas BACH

“AFRICA STATION WONDERFULLY DEMONSTRATES THE ROLE OF SPORT IN PROMOTING UNITY AND PEACE”

The IOC President expressed his admiration for the initiative and the success of this meeting point, a place of commitment to the values of Olympism.





Africa Station was not only a meeting point, but also a place of commitment to the values of Olympism. Activities and events were organised to promote peace, fraternity and inclusion. Against the backdrop of an international environment sometimes marked by divisions, Africa Station was a reminder of the key role of sport in building bridges among cultures.

“Africa Station wonderfully demonstrates the role of sport in promoting unity and peace. It is a model for the world, reminding us that sport goes beyond performance, that it is a vehicle for shared values and cohesion,” said IOC President, Thomas BACH, who expressed admiration for the initiative. This statement bolsters the point that Africa Station succeeded in passing on a strong message, that of a united Africa, one that is forward-looking and committed to the global Olympic Movement.



Paul Tergat

“AFRICA STATION IS A REFLECTION OF THE AFRICAN SPIRIT: OPEN, WELCOMING AND GENEROUS. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HAVE SHARED IT WITH THE WORLD”

African delegations, through the President of NOC Kenya, considered as one of the most accomplished long-distance runners of all time, expressed their satisfaction at the enthusiastic response from the public that contributed to the success of the initiative.





Africa Station is a reflection of the African spirit: open, welcoming and generous. We are delighted to have been able to share this with the world.

One of the most striking things about Africa Station was the enthusiastic response it received from the Parisian and international public.

Their enthusiasm confirmed the growing interest in African culture, as well as their support and encouragement for African athletes. Visitors were treated to art exhibitions, sports performances and interactive activities, which brought them into direct contact with African culture.

African delegations also hailed the initiative, seeing it as a meeting point where they could come together in a spirit of solidarity and mutual support. *“Africa Station is a reflection of the African spirit: open, welcoming and generous. We are delighted to have been able to share this with the world,”* said Paul TERGAT. These words echo the pride of African delegates, who were delighted to be able to come together in such a special setting and showcase their culture and values.



Looking forward

AFRICA STATION, A MODEL FOR FUTURE OLYMPIC GAMES



ANOCA and President Mustapha BERRAF are convinced that Africa Station could become a reference which, according to the vision of the President of Africa House, could inspire similar projects for other continents and become an Olympic tradition.

The success of Africa Station could inspire similar initiatives at the next Olympic Games. Indeed, this project has shown that it is possible to set up special areas for specific cultures, bringing together countries that share common values, while promoting their individual identities. For ANOCA, Africa Station may well become an example to be emulated, by creating “Stations” for other continents or specific cultural groupings at future events.

The President of Africa House expressed his desire to see Africa Station become a prototype for international commitment. “We have shown that sport can be much more than a competition. It is a universal bond, a means of bringing people together and sharing our heritage. We hope that Africa Station can inspire other projects and become an Olympic tradition.” This statement reflects the intention to make Africa Station a sustainable concept, promoting diversity and inclusion at international sports events.



Olympic Games

AFRICA HAS ALL IT TAKES TO BID FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES 2036

The success of Africa Station has bolstered the sports identity of Africa, which has proven its capacity to host major competitions such as the YOG in Dakar, and has indisputable assets to bid for and host the Olympic Games.

Africa Station left a lasting imprint on the history of African sport beyond Paris 2024. In bringing African delegations together, it strengthened the idea of a united Africa with common sports aspirations. Africa Station also consolidated ties between African NOCs, paving the way for future collaborations and joint initiatives.

It further bolstered Africa's sports identity, showing that Africa is not only a sport community, but also a key contributor to global cultural diversity. Here, Africa demonstrated its readiness to host major competitions, such as the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026, and its full potential to bid for the 2036 Olympic Games, a dream that is gradually taking shape thanks to initiatives such as Africa Station.



Africa Station, Paris 2024 Fan Zone

SYMBOLISING THE PRIDE AND ASPIRATIONS OF AN ENTIRE CONTINENT

The resounding success of Africa Station has shown the world that the continent is ready to play a leading role in world sport, and is a reminder that Africa is, more than ever, a driving force and a key player in the Olympic Movement.

All in all, Africa Station was a remarkable initiative and a resounding success for Africa at the Olympic Games Paris 2024. It brought together cultures, promoted the values of peace and unity, and showed the world that Africa is ready to play a leading role in world sport. It conveyed the message of fraternity, commitment and inclusion that will remain etched in people's memories, and its impact felt well beyond the Paris Olympic event.

As Africa prepares for the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 and considers, with the backing of the IOC, to bid for the Olympic Games, Africa Station stands as a symbol of the pride and aspirations of an entire continent. This hub of sport and culture is a reminder that Africa is a driving force and a key player in the Olympic Movement, and that its future in world sport is more promising than ever.



Africa Station

AFRICA CELEBRATES ITS CHAMPIONS AND CULTURAL WEALTH

More than just a cultural showcase, Africa Station highlighted the unity and pride of Africa, became a meeting point for athletes, a tribute to Africa's living heritage and Olympic values.

Africa Station, an unprecedented initiative at the Olympic Games Paris 2024, offered Africa a unique opportunity at one of the world's most prestigious sports events. Designed as a meeting point and a place of celebration, Africa Station allowed visitors from all over the world to discover the richness of African culture and the tremendous talent of its sports champions.

More than just a cultural exhibition, it highlighted the unity and pride of Africa, embodying the diversity and creativity of representatives across the continent.

Through a variety of immersive activities, Africa Station became a meeting point for athletes, artists and cultural enthusiasts, paying tribute to Africa's living heritage and its Olympic values of respect, solidarity and determination.



Africa Station Fan Zone

CELEBRATING THE VALUES OF THE AFRICAN OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

Africa Station, a meeting and discussion hub, combined cultural heritage with sports commitment, offering all participants a unique, highly thrilling experience with lots of discoveries.

Africa Station was conceived as place for sharing of experiences, where visitors could discover unknown aspects of African culture and get a feel of the diversity of its traditions. Representatives from the various fields (artists, craft workers, athletes and experts) helped to make this a vibrant and welcoming site. By combining cultural heritage and sports commitment, Africa Station offered all participants a highly thrilling experience with lots of discoveries.

For African athletes, this was an opportunity to strengthen ties with their counterparts from other countries and to celebrate their belonging to a united continent. The values of unity and solidarity, which drive the African Olympic Movement, found tangible expression here. Athletes, visitors and officials shared ideas freely, discovering together the strengths and hallmarks of each culture, in all conviviality.

Vitality of the continent

AFRICAN MUSIC EVERYWHERE AT AFRICA STATION

Musical performances helped create a warm and festive atmosphere, in tune with the energy and vitality of the continent, sparking spontaneous discussions and revealing the universal power of music to bring cultures and hearts together.





Musical and choreographic performances took centre stage at Africa Station, charming visitors and conveying the energy so typical of the continent. Groups of dancers and percussionists livened up the days with vibrant performances that blended ancestral traditions with contemporary inspirations. Visitors were enthralled by traditional and modern dance, discovering the Sabar, the Ndawrabine, the South African Gumboot and other emblematic dances of the continent.

African music booming all over at Africa Station created a warm and festive atmosphere, in tune with the energy and vitality of the continent. Groups of musicians playing the djembe, the kora and other traditional instruments put on striking performances, fascinating visitors with their tunes. These musical performances established a deep connection with fans, sparking spontaneous discussions and revealing the universal power of music to bring cultures and hearts together.



Artistic ingenuity

AFRICAN CRAFTS AND CREATIVITY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Africa Station served as a springboard for the exhibition of works of art and crafts, testifying to the diversity and ingenuity of the continent's craft workers.



Africa Station also showcased African craftsmanship and creativity, displaying works of art and handicrafts that reflect the diversity and ingenuity of the continent's craft workers. Visitors discovered unique objects such as jewellery, traditional fabrics like bogolan, sculpted masks and pottery, each piece of art reflecting the cultural identity of a region or people.

Initiation workshops were offered, enabling visitors to learn craft techniques from the artists themselves. This transfer of knowledge strengthened the bond between African artists and spectators, while highlighting the role of crafts in preserving ancestral knowledge. Africa Station showed that African works of art are more than just beautiful; they also convey a message and transmit culture.





Interactive workshops

CHAMPIONS MEET TO CELEBRATE AFRICAN SPORT

One of the satisfactions of the promoters of Africa Station is that it strengthened the bond between athletes and their fans, offering a more humane and accessible vision of those who embody the excellence of African sport on a global scale.



Africa Station was also a place to celebrate African sport, where athletes and champions shared their passion and achievements with the public. Interactive workshops were organised to introduce visitors to the disciplines in which African athletes excel such as long-distance running, marathon, traditional wrestling and judo. These activities enabled visitors to understand the values of effort, resilience and determination championed by African sport, while generating renewed enthusiasm for these disciplines.

The athletes present interacted with visitors, sharing stories about their training, sacrifices and the highlights of their careers, and strengthening the bond between athletes and their fans. This offered a more humane and accessible vision of those who represent the excellence of African sport on a global scale and also served as a strong reminder that, behind every medal, there is a story of perseverance, a tale of stretching one's limits, and an unwavering passion for sport.





African cuisine

JOURNEYING THROUGH THE CONTINENT'S CULINARY TASTES

Talented chefs presented delicious dishes from various regions of Africa, allowing visitors to discover African culinary traditions and appreciate the diversity of ingredients and cooking techniques.

African cuisine also found its place at Africa Station, a mouth-watering experience for visitors who savoured and relished the continent's cuisine. Talented chefs from various African regions presented delicious dishes

such as mafé, yassa chicken, couscous, and desserts made from coconut or tropical fruits. These delicacies were a great way for visitors to discover the secrets of African cuisine. In addition, cookery workshops enabled the public to learn the basics of certain African recipes, with explanations of the origin of these dishes and their relevance in local culture and traditions, thus building the bond between participants and chefs, as well as making the culinary experience even more memorable and rewarding.



Public Lectures and Discussions

DISCUSSING THE BID FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The IOC President's call for an African bid for the Olympic Games attracted a great deal of attention and interest from participants.

Together with cultural displays, Africa Station provided an avenue for brainstorming, with public lectures and discussions on a wide range of topics. These discussions brought together experts, athletes, artists and representatives of sports organisations to address issues such as the impact of sports on social development in Africa, preserving traditional culture in a globalised world, and Africa's role in the global Olympic Movement.

Discussions helped visitors to better understand the challenges and opportunities on the continent, while highlighting the transformative potential of sport and culture for Africa's development and unity. They also tackled Africa's prospects regarding the Olympic Games, notably the call by IOC President Thomas BACH for Africa to bid for the 2036 Olympic Games, a topic that aroused the interest and pride of many participants.





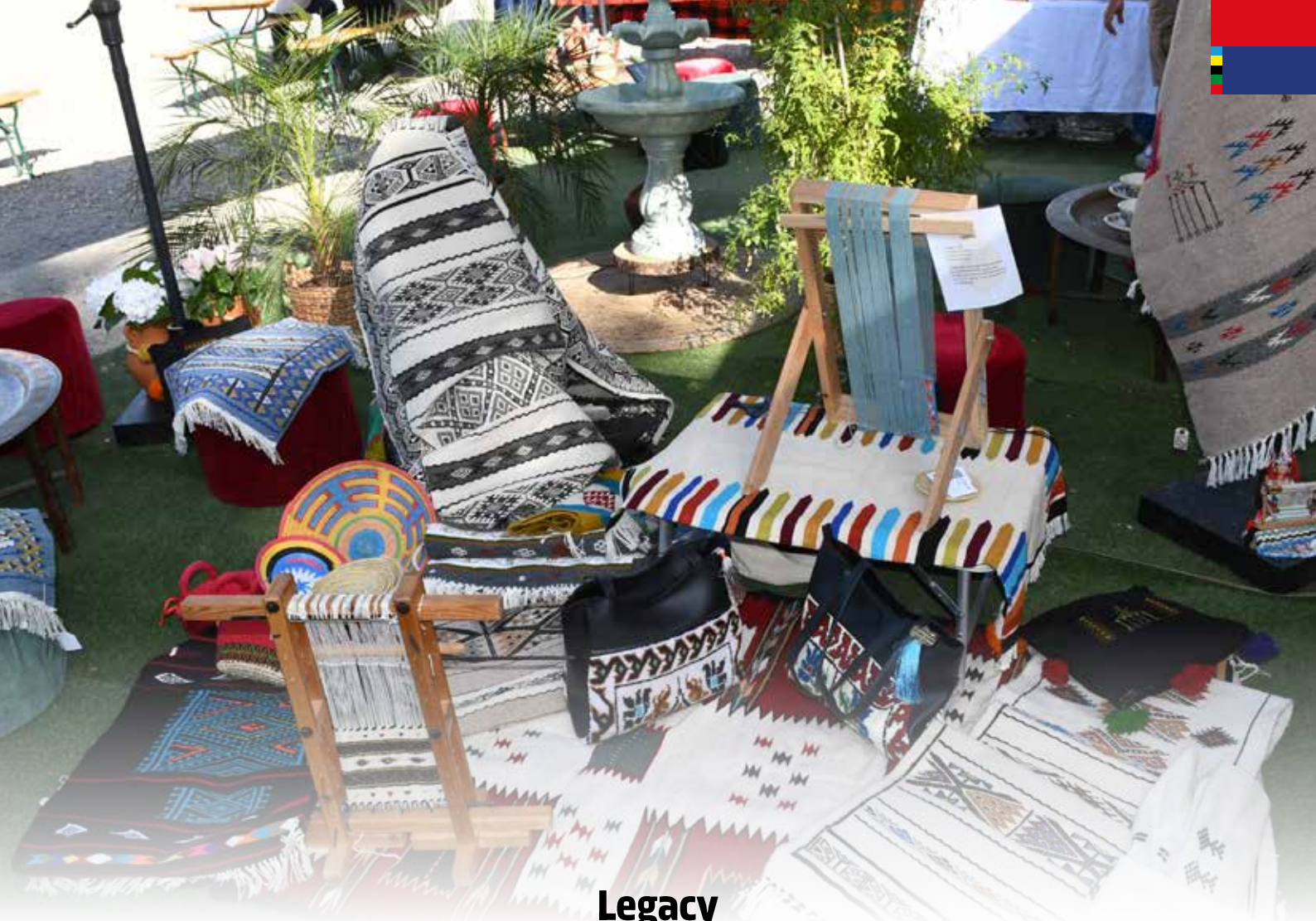
Africa Station

A MOTIVATIONAL FORCE AND HOME FOR ALL AFRICANS

In unity, with pride, this initiative provided a platform to showcase athletes' culture and celebrate their efforts and talent.

Africa Station was more than just an exhibition area. It symbolised the unity of an entire continent, bringing together nations with diverse traditions to share the love of culture and sport. By highlighting Africa's wealth, Africa Station helped to deconstruct stereotypes and showed the reality of a vibrant and creative continent that is proud of its heritage.

For African athletes at the Paris 2024 Games, Africa Station was a source of motivation and pride. It offered them a platform where their culture was showcased, and their efforts and talent were celebrated. During the Games, it became a home for all Africans, where they could feel at home far away from home.



Legacy

AFRICA, SET TO INSPIRE THE WORLD THROUGH ITS DYNAMISM

With the Dakar 2026 YOG just around the corner, Africa Station represents a milestone in terms of the continent's recognition and value within the global Olympic Movement.

Africa Station left a lasting mark on visitors to the Olympic Games Paris 2024, proving that Africa has a unique voice to be heard and an invaluable cultural wealth to share with the world. Not only has this initiative strengthened Africa's image, it has also highlighted key values such as unity, solidarity and respect for diversity.

As Africa prepares to host the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026, Africa Station represents a milestone in terms of the continent's recognition and value within the Olympic Movement. It is a reminder that sport and culture are two powerful drivers of togetherness and understanding, and that Africa, with its heritage and dynamism, stands ready to inspire the world.



Down memory lane

AFRICA SETS UP AFRICA STATION AT THE HEART OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The Fan Zone "Africa Station," an initiative of ANOCA and the City of Ile-Saint-Denis, was set up to promote African sport and culture, a bridge between communities that sought to celebrate diversity. It opened officially on 20 July 2024, 6 days ahead of the Olympic Games Paris 2024.



The opening ceremony was graced by the Mayor of Ile-Saint-Denis, Mohammed GNABALY, the Minister of Sports and the Olympic and Paralympic Games, Amélie OUDEA-CASTERA, ANOCA President Mustapha BERRAF, the President of the African Paralympic Committee and Africa's diplomatic corps. Africa Station was set up in a special area in the Robert-César Park, a stone's throw from the Stade de France and was indeed a one-of-a kind meeting point.

During the ceremony, guests were treated to a parade of African flags borne by residents and members of city associations, showcasing the 85 nationalities of Ile-Saint-Denis, which has a population of 8,500 people.

The site hosted broadcasts, colourful performances, concerts, shows, exhibitions and meetings with athletes throughout the Olympics, and also special events during the Paralympic Games on 7 and 8 September 2024, in partnership with Africa House.



Speaking on the occasion, Sports Minister, Amélie OUDEA-CASTERA, termed it a «*wonderful place to celebrate.*»

Africa Station attracted more than 1,300 visitors daily. It was a critical meeting point for fans and lovers of the Olympic Games and their global diversity. What is more, access to the site was free for most activities. The facilities of the Robert-César stadium, which was fitted

...this project is an opportunity to instil in inhabitants pride and confidence in the future while creating lasting links with young people.



out for the occasion, also included shops and restaurants, with African cuisine and crafts fully on display. Free access meant that everyone felt invited to join in the festivities. In a nutshell, Africa Station was the inevitable meeting point for those who wanted to experience the diversity and fraternity of the Paris 2024 Olympics and Paralympics.

For Mayor Mohammed GNABALY,

«...this project is an opportunity to instil in inhabitants pride and confidence in the future while creating lasting links with young people. Let's give a round of applause to the ANOCA President, my friend Mustapha BERRAF who, for two years now and every other month, comes to work with us. We were with him in Hammamet. We presented the project, it was unanimously adopted by all the African National Olympic Committees. Thank you dear ANOCA President, thank you for your trust....»

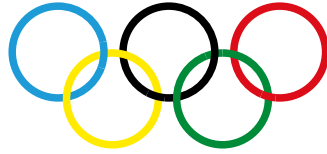
Residents and tourists were not just spectators but also active participants. African champions were on hand to present their medals and also share the spirit of Fair-play.

Speaking on the occasion, President BERRAF noted:

«We are satisfied with the work done by all parties to set up «Africa Station». All African delegations to the Olympic Games Paris 2024 should benefit greatly from this. Our athletes will benefit from it, and the benefits of diversity through sport will greatly bolster the bond of friendship and fraternity fostered by sport through Olympic values. Africa is proud of this Fan Zone. We will all be there throughout the Games to share the benefits of solidarity through Olympism.»



ACNOA - ANOCA



contact@africaolympic.com



youtube.com/channel



www.africaolympic.com



[AcnoaAnocainfos](https://facebook.com/AcnoaAnocainfos)



[AnoaAnoca](https://twitter.com/AnoaAnoca)



[acnoaanoca](https://instagram.com/acnoaanoca)



**UNITY
SOLIDARITY
FRATERNITY**

**UNITÉ
SOLIDARITÉ
FRATERNITÉ**