



# ANOCA NEWSLETTER



A publication of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa

JULY 2020

## Confidence and serenity

**TOGETHER**  
we stand stronger,  
together we shall overcome,  
**OLYMPISM** and African Sport  
**ARE ONE** and **INDIVISIBLE**



## Confidence and serenity

**I**dare hope, dear brothers and sisters, that this message will reach your hearts and further help you to overcome, humility and warmth of heart, the dreadful ordeal that we are still going through.

This message is not intended to whip up any emotions in you; I just wish to confirm what makes us Olympians of the highest order, invigorated by our solidarity and fraternity that have projected the image of our association, ANOCA, at the highest level.

ANOCA is doing well and its new mode of operation offers brighter prospects that will certainly confirm the ideas conveyed by the authentic champions, the men and women who bring joy and happiness to our people who dream of a team that will implement the policy and strategies for the development and structuring of African Sport. Together, we will make it happen.

The Executive Committee of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa and all the 54 NOCs have taken up their common

mission, to raise Africa to the summit of Sport and Olympism and provide its athletes with the means to assert themselves.

There is no getting away from facts, they are sacred and speak for us all. The continent is bracing for an outstanding participation in the Tokyo Summer Olympic Games to be held in Japan in 2021, and is confident that it will be able to organise the African Youth Games in 2022, the All Africa Games in Ghana in 2023 and the Youth Olympic Games in Senegal in 2026.

Some of these events had to be postponed due to the terrible Covid-19 pandemic.

This global health crisis has, however, also helped us display our enduring sense of solidarity. In recent months, we have taken up the cause of our athletes whose daily lives have been disrupted by the ravaging pandemic. We have decided to provide them funding to enable them prepare for upcoming sports events with a cool head. The IOC has lent us assistance in this regard, and we are grateful for this.

It is our bounden duty, we discharge it with love and passion just like the forebears of our glorious continent did.

Together we are strong, together we will overcome! We have said it repeatedly, and are saying it today without mincing.

**LONG LIVE THE AFRICAN OLYMPIC MOVEMENT, LONG LIVE ANOCA, LONG LIVE THE IOC !**

Fraternally,



**MUSTHAPHA BERRAF**  
IOC MEMBER  
PRESIDENT OF ANOCA





## INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

## Dr Thomas Bach to run for re-election

**D**r Thomas Bach has been IOC President since September 2013. On 17 July 2020, during the 136th IOC Session, he announced that he will be running for re-election. The announcement comes as no surprise to Olympic Movement actors, given that the Olympic family has always applauded Dr Thomas Bach's actions.

Now an officially declared candidate, Thomas Bach, if elected next year, will begin his second tenure after the first one that placed him at the helm of the Olympic Movement for a period of eight years. According to the Charter, the second mandate cannot exceed four years.

*«If you the IOC members want, I am ready*

*to run for a second term as IOC president and to continue to serve you and this Olympic movement, which we all love so much, for another four years,»* Thomas Bach announced on Friday 17 July at the opening of the session.

Following this announcement made by videoconference, IOC members successively took time to hail the achievements and vision of this great friend of Africa. In response, the IOC steward said he was moved and touched by such a display of absolute confidence. And he probably expected nothing less.

He joined the IOC at the age of 27 on the Athletes' Commission and has since risen through the ranks up to the helm.



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Olympism and African Sport are one and indivisible. »**



IOC ELECTIONS

## Africa's Unconditional Support for Thomas Bach

Prominent among the many supporters of the candidature of the current IOC President is ANOCA President and thus all of Africa. Mustapha Berraf hailed Dr Thomas Bach's vision and actions, which will have to continue if he is re-elected.

The ANOCA President especially lauded the President for his management of the coronavirus pandemic. In a joint declaration, African Olympic Movement actors noted that Africa is satisfied with the actions and policy promoted by Dr Thomas Bach since his election at the helm of the Governing Body of the Olympic Movement on 10 September 2013. His contribution to the development of African sport is an indelible mark of his

commitment to a continent that believes in itself and its capacity to build a reliable, lasting and prosperous Olympic universe for Africa and the world. The African Olympic Movement officials further noted that in 2026, Africa will for the first time host the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal. According to them, this is a major event to be written in golden letters in the relationship that Africa has entertained with the tenure of Dr Thomas Bach. They deemed it an honour for Africa, and thus urged all the continent's sports, Olympic, cultural or political actors to act in solidarity and work relentlessly as one man to support Dr Thomas Bach. His presence at the helm of the International Olympic Committee is a driving force for our desire to make Africa the cradle of Sport and hence of Olympism.



*in 2026, Africa will for the first time host the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar*

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## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUMMER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

# Postponed to 2026

The IOC, in agreement with the Senegalese authorities, recently announced the postponement of the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) to 2026. Initially billed for 2022 in Dakar, Senegal, this world event had to be rescheduled following the postponement of the Tokyo OG to 2021, and the incidence of COVID-19 on Olympic Movement finances.

The IOC and Senegal have both appealed to young athletes across the world to try to understand this move, noting that the postponement of Dakar 2022 allows the IOC, NOCs and IFs to better plan their activities, which have been strongly affected by the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, the subsequent postponement of major international sports competitions as well as the operational and financial consequences of the global health crisis. This also gives Senegal the opportunity

to continue the excellent preparations for the Youth Olympic Games, the joint release stated.

While welcoming the progress made so far, the IOC and the Senegalese government unanimously renewed their confidence in IOC member Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye, Chair of the Dakar 2022 Organising Committee. They further stated their resolve to make these Youth Olympic Games, the first Olympic event in Africa, a complete success.

President Bach: **«I am confident that together we will organise a brilliant Youth Olympic Games in Dakar 2026 for Senegal, the entire African continent and all the young athletes of the world.»**

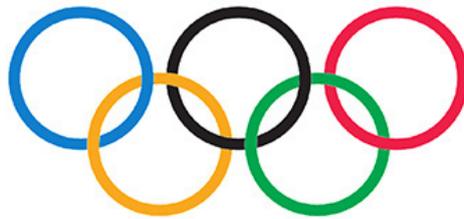
**« Together, we stand stronger, together we shall overcome. Olympism and African Sport are one and indivisible. »**





## 136<sup>TH</sup> IOC SESSION

# AFRICANS HONOURED



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

The 136<sup>th</sup> IOC Session met by videoconference on Friday 17 July 2020. Major highlights included election of new members, change of status for some members and the renewal of mandates for others.

Among the three members re-elected for an eight-year term is an African, Aïcha Garad Ali, President of NOC Djibouti.

William Frederick Blick, for his part, moved from the status of a NOC representative (as President of NOC Uganda) to that of individual member.

As for Mrs Beatrice Allen, whose mandate will expire at the end of 2020 by virtue of her age, she became an honorary member in recognition of her 14 years of dedicated service.

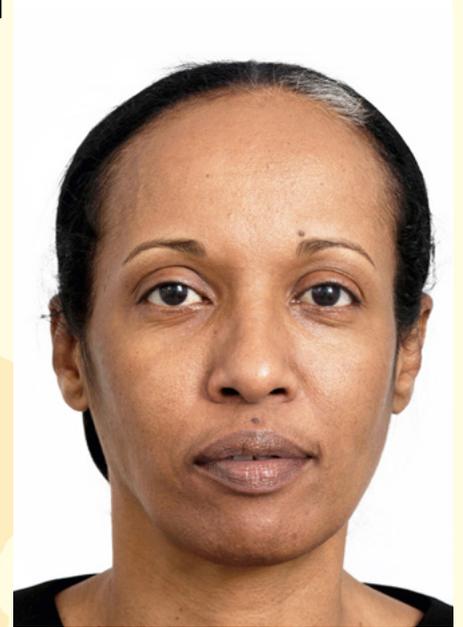
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## PROMOTION

## ANOCA President congratulates William Blick, Aïcha Garad Ali and Beatrice Allen



**A**fter William Blick, Aïcha Garad Ali and Beatrice Allen were honoured by the 136th IOC Session, President Mustapha Berraf sent them congratulatory messages on behalf of ANOCA.

In a message to William Frederick Blick, President of NOC Uganda, who moved from the status of member representing an NOC to that of individual member the President of ANOCA wrote: *«I am highly honoured to extend to you our sincere and warm congratulations on your election as an individual member of the International Olympic Committee. This is eloquent testimony to the quality of your contribution to the development of sport and Olympism in Africa and the world at large.»*

It is in this same spirit that the President Berraf congratulated Djibouti's Aïcha Garad Ali on her reappointment for an eight-year term. *«A well-deserved mark of confidence for this African woman, who is the pride of the entire continent.»*

As for Beatrice Allen appointed Honorary IOC Member, ANOCA acknowledges with great admiration the services she has rendered to the Olympic movement as a whole and to the African sports movement in particular through her long-standing commitment to sport development: *«On behalf of the ANOCA family, we are pleased with your continued service to sport and wish you success in your new role as an Honorary Member of the IOC,»* Berraf said.

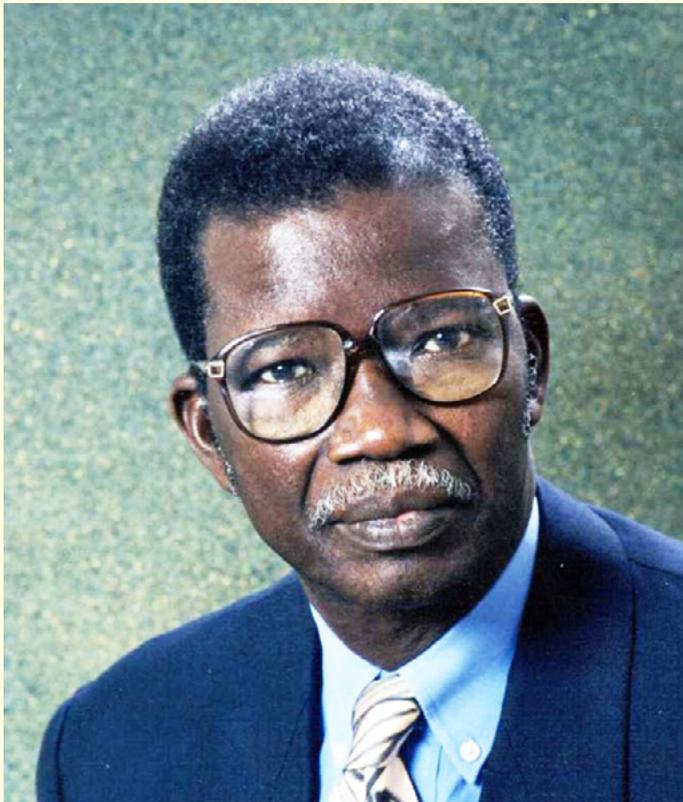
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OBITUARY

# ANOCA saddened by the passing of Abdoulaye Seye Moreau



*are in tears. The death of Abdoulaye Seye Moreau, former President of FIBA-World, at age 91, is a huge loss for us. The Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa hereby extends its heartfelt condolences to you and all the Senegalese people. Abdoulaye Seye Moreau was an outstanding leader in African and world sport. He climbed the rungs of the Olympic and sports movement one after the other without ever losing sight of the Olympic values that underpin our common actions... We also extend our sincere condolences to the family of the deceased. Like the Olympic and sports family, it is the anchor and inspiration of our late brother Abdoulaye Seye Moreau. Mr President, Dear Brother, our compassion is equalled only by our sadness in this painful circumstance, receive our support, that of the ANOCA Executive Committee and all the NOCs of the continent.»* Mustapha Berraf wrote.

**I**t is with profound sadness that ANOCA recently learned of the death of former FIBA President and Honorary President of FIBA Africa Abdoulaye Seye Moreau. The deceased was the 8th President of FIBA (1998-2002), after serving four years as Vice President. The former player and referee, who officiated at the 1975 FIBA Women's World Cup in Colombia, served as President of FIBA Africa for five years until 1998.

Reacting to the announcement of the passing of this great sports icon, ANOCA President Mustapha Berraf, in his message of condolence addressed to the President of the Senegal National Olympic and Sports Committee, said that «**African and world sport**



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## NOC CONGO

## Women and sport Commission organises seminar



The Women and Sport Commission of the Congo National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNSOC) on 11 and 12 June 2020 organized a seminar on the theme «**Sport, a tool for development and women's empowerment.**»

The various sub-themes developed on that occasion

aimed at building women's capacities in management and leadership within the Olympic movement. The paper on «**Women's Leadership in Sport**», presented by Thérèse Nsona, the Commission Chair, sought to encourage women to take care of their own lives. «**There are women who do not know how to take care of their own lives. Some women don't know how to take care of themselves, they have skills but don't know how to bring others to understand the merits of an association,**» explained Léonard Bossona, the executive director of the CNOSC.

For her part, the third Vice President of the CNOSC, Françoise Mahoungou, raised

women's awareness by speaking about «**the experience of women in the Olympic Games**». She especially cited the names of the great women who have marked the history of this competition, drawing in particular on what they have already achieved during the Olympics. The theme «**Standards of the governing bodies of the Olympic and Sports Movement**» developed by Jean Paul Ngaloua, Secretary-General of CNOSC, gave women a good understanding of the Olympic movement. «**We have women in the Olympic movement but they don't know what it means. This theme was necessary to try to restructure the Olympic movement,**» commented the executive director in the summary of the deliberations.

As for Ghislaine Kinouani, a reporter, her paper was on «**Media coverage of sports competitions**». The Chair of the Ethics Commission, Jeanne Claudette Bouesse, in her presentation, insisted on volunteerism in a bid to encourage the federation members who took part in the seminar. She shared her experience on the management of sports events, based in particular on preparations for sports competitions organised abroad, not forgetting national championships.

Desirous of more, these women, at the end of their training, requested

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the organisation of another seminar on drafting of a mission report and note taking. «I urge you to make judicious use of everything you learned during this seminar. You were able to make a good impression on the place of women in sport not only in the Congo but also in the

world», concluded André Blaise Bollé, first Vice President of CNOOC.

**NIGERIA**

## Nigeria Olympic Committee bracing for major upcoming events



**T**he Executive Committee of the Nigeria Olympic Committee met recently and, amongst other things, discussed preparations for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, postponed to 2021, and the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

The members of the Executive Committee were updated on preparations for the Commonwealth Games, which have been postponed due to the Covid-19

health crisis. They reviewed the situation of athletes in this context, as well as gender issues in sport.

Speaking on the occasion, NOC President, Habu Gumel, noted that the Nigeria Olympic Committee remains committed to supporting sports federations and athletes to achieve set goals.

He also thanked the Nigerian Ministry of Sports for its support in the preparations for the Tokyo Olympic Games rescheduled for 2021 in Japan. Habu Gumel urged all sports federations in the country to cooperate with the Government and the NOC for a synergy of action to ensure a serene and successful participation in the upcoming games. He also recalled that in the history of Nigeria's participation in the Olympic Games, the country has bagged a total of 25 medals, including three in gold. A record that will have to be improved during the Tokyo Games.

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## COTE D'IVOIRE

## Olympafrica Centre raises awareness on Covid-19



The «*Olympafrica Day of Awareness against Coronavirus Disease*» is the theme of Phase 2 of the pandemic containment programme set up by the Director Anzara Daniel's centre. This initiative aims to inform and educate the population throughout the city of Soubré on the need to respect the containment measures. Flyers are being distributed as well as masks. The prime targets are

underprivileged and vulnerable people.

The awareness campaign was supervised by the administrative and security authorities. According to the officials of the Olympafrica centre, the day was a great success. It was quite a considerable contribution made by the Soubré Olympafrica centre in the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

## CHAD

## The NOC donates 5,000 masks to the Sports Movement



The Chad Olympic and Sports Committee (COST) 7 May 2020 donated reusable cloth masks to sports federations and associations. This action is a significant support the efforts of the Chadian government in its fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

The masks are made in Chad and are intended primarily for athletes who, like all citizens, must be protected against the pandemic.

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**OBITUARY**

**ANOCA SADDENED BY THE DEATH OF ABDELMAJID SNOUSSI**

He quit the Olympic stage on 20 July 2020 at the age of 60. Abdelmajid SNOUSSI was, at the time of his death, the Sports Director at the Tunisia National Olympic



Committee.

*«The deceased dedicated his life to judo, sport in general and the Olympic movement»* wrote the NOC President, Mehrez BOUSSAYENE.

Abdelmajid SNOUSSI's sporting career was marked several accolades both as an athlete and as a sports official.

Reacting to this great loss, the President of the Association of National Committees of Africa, Mustapha BERRAF noted that *« ...it is an untimely exit, despite the fullness of his career in the field of sport in general and judo in particular.*

*He did the African Olympic and sports movement proud.»*

**SAO TOME**

**NOC SAO TOME STRUCK BY THE DEATH OF ITS 1ST VICE PRESIDENT**



The day of 4 August 2020 was a sad one for NOC Sao Tome and Principe, following the announcement of the passing of its 1st Vice President.

Bewildered by the sad news, ANOCA President Mustapha BERRAF, reacted spontaneously: *«Through my humble voice, the members of the Executive Committee of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa extend to you their sincere condolences. We would also like to express our gratitude to this valiant and exceptional*

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***servant of African sport and pay tribute to him for all the services rendered to the African continent. Our deepest condolences to his family as well.»***

## CONFES

### SECRETARY-GENERAL BOURAMAH ALI HAROUNA IS NO MORE



BOURAMAH ALI HAROUNA, Secretary-General of the Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports of La Francophonie passed away on Monday, 3 August 2020 in Dakar, Senegal.

The announcement of death was followed by a flood of successive condolence messages in tribute to

the man who, in 2013, became the Secretary-General of CONFES and was an active member of the Guidance Council of La Francophonie Games.

One of such messages was sent by Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary-General of the International Organisation of Francophonie (OIF): ***«On behalf of La Francophonie and on my personal behalf, I extend my most sincere condolences to his family, his loved ones and to the Minister of Youth and Sports of Morocco, who presides over CONFES.»***

BOURAMAH ALI HAROUNA was also very involved in the organization of the Francophonie Games Kinshasa 2022 in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In a message addressed to the Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports, President BERRAF wrote: ***«This is a huge loss for the African sports movement. The Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa bows in memory of this illustrious dignitary who worked tirelessly for the development of sport through his exceptional managerial qualities and capacities.»***

BOURAMAH ALI HAROUNA hailed from Niger and began his career at the Ministry of Youth Affairs in his country before rising to head the CONFES Secretariat General.

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**OLYMPIC DAY 2020**

**NOC ZAMBIA CELEBRATES OLYMPISM**

NOC Zambia joined the rest of the Olympic movement on 23 June 2020 to commemorate Olympic Day as the Covid-19 pandemic continues to ravage the country and the rest of the world. In line with the WHO containment measures, the NOC posted its message of celebration on its Facebook wall.

The NOC President, Alfred Foloko, called on sports stakeholders to remain strong and united in the face of the pandemic. He called on all to respect distancing measures in order to stay in fit mental and physical condition. **«Let's adopt the Olympic values of mutual respect, foster strong and lasting friendships and apply high level excellence to meet the challenges posed by the VIDOC-19 pandemic. Together, we can emerge victorious in these difficult times, as we always have,»** he said.

Echoing the words of IOC President, Dr Thomas Bach, Alfred Foloko acknowledged that the celebration of Olympic Day, although taking place in a different context compared to previous editions, must bring everyone to recognize the power of sport in instilling people with hope and optimism.

A video of Olympic Day messages featuring Olympians Samuel Matete and Jonathan Chipalo, athletes Tilka Paljk, Simon Zulu, Diana Dakik and Suwilanji

Mpondela and several other actors of the national Olympic movement was also projected on the NOC's Facebook page and on its Youtube channel.

In addition to the messages, an Olympic Day virtual race was organised. 294 participants from all over the country and beyond, including the NOC Vice President Hazel Kennedy, and Secretary-General Boniface Kambikambi, took part. They covered distances of 5 to 10 kilometres at their own pace.

**NOC ZAMBIA**

**OLYMPAFRICA CENTRE RECEIVES EQUIPMENT**

NOC Zambia on 3 May 2020 donated assorted items to the residents of the Olympafrica Centre in Lusaka. These included 400 face masks, liquid hand washing soap, 100 bars of hand washing soap and hand sanitizers. The donation worth K 10,000 was handed over to the centre's supervisors by a delegation from NOC Zambia led by its President Alfred Foloko. In his message on the occasion, Mr Foloko began by congratulating the journalists present on the work they carry out on a daily basis, as 3 May was Press Freedom Day. The NOC President further said that by this gesture, his NOC intends to contribute in its own way to the fight against the coronavirus in communities and more particularly among the residents of the centre. He

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warned that COVID-19 is real and the only action that can be taken is to ensure compliance with the Ministry of Health’s guidelines.

The President of NOCZ was quick to point out that his institution will always be ready to support the Zambian sports community in the fight against this pandemic. He urged all those present to go into communities as sports men and women and make a difference. They should all be the voice of the people in the fight against the pandemic COVID 19, he said.

Tinyiko Noombo, head of programmes at the Olympafrica Centre, in his message said that coaches and young leaders were doing their part to educate children about protective measures against the coronavirus. He thanked the NOC for the gesture and said he hoped it will continue to support the Olympafrica Centre as they move forward in the fight against coronavirus.



gender representation.

This workshop intended for officials of national sports federations was graced by CNOSD President, Aïcha Garad Ali, the Minister of Women’s Affairs and the Family, Moumina Houmed Hassan, the Secretary of State for Youth and Sports, Hassan Mohamed Kamil, the Mayor of the city of Djibouti, Fatouma Awaleh Osman, and senior government officials. Federations were given the opportunity to express their views on the proportion of women in their committees, to discuss the difficulties encountered and the solutions proposed for full inclusion of women in decision-making bodies.

In her opening address on the occasion, the CNOSD President underscored the IOC President’s desire for a 30% gender representativeness within the NOC Executive Committees. She recalled that the IOC has set an example by improving its own gender balance at institutional level in recent years, and has been encouraging the NOCs and IFs to increase the number of women in positions of responsibility. Aïcha Garad Ali stressed that it was time for all sport movement stakeholders to take their responsibilities to promote gender equality and the empowerment of

**NOC DJIBOUTI**

**THE NOC AND FEDERATIONS DISCUSS WOMEN’S REPRESENTATION**

The Djibouti National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSD) in collaboration with the Secretariat of State for Youth and Sports and national federations on 21 July 2020 organized a consultative workshop on the importance of the 30%

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women and girls in the sports movement. She also announced her intention to amend the statutes to include a key article requiring 30% of women on the CNOSD Executive Committee.

The deliberations, which were attended by the presidents of national federations and their secretaries general also afforded an opportunity for them to exchange and share. The workshop concluded with recommendations that will certainly create a better place for women in sport.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Amend the statutes of the national federations at forthcoming elective general assemblies so that there are 30% women on their executive committees and avoid appointments being made on the basis of personal relationships but on the skills and know-how of the applicants.
- Encourage national federations that have 30% women on the executive committee by giving them more funds.
- Grant funds to federations that organize championships with a 50-50 parity.
- Organize seminars on women's leadership.
- Encourage and support women to apply for leadership positions and equip them with the necessary skills to become successful sport administrators.
- Use affirmative action for management training.
- Encourage and train more girls for technical positions such as:
  - ✓ Referees,
  - ✓ Coaches,

- ✓ Judges,
- ✓ Team Officials
- ✓ Sports Reporters
- Encourage former athletes who wish to pursue administrative careers in National Sport Federations.
- Inclusion of former athletes in positions of responsibility in National Federations.

**NOC GUINEA-BISSAU**

**SEMINAR FOR NATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATION OFFICIALS**



Members of the various Federations affiliated to NOC Guinea-Bissau attended a training seminar in federation organisation, drafting of technical and financial reports, from Olympic Committee perspective.

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The two-day seminar (23 and 24 July) brought together about three dozen participants from the various national sports federations.

In his closing address, the NOC Secretary-General, Eugénio de Oliveira Lopes, said that the NOC's aim was to provide these officials with the tools necessary for the running of their structures, particularly with respect to technical and financial reporting, business plans and organisational management.

He further stated that he hoped the knowledge acquired would greatly contribute to address operational difficulties. He concluded with wish that he hoped, after the coronavirus pandemic, that the NOC will be able to implement several projects, namely, the training of coaches and referees and the «**Sport 4 Life**» project.

## MALAWI

### SEVERAL SPORTS INSTITUTIONS COME TOGETHER TO FIGHT AGAINST CORONAVIRUS

The Malawi Olympic Committee (MOC) recently held a meeting in Lilongwe with athletes and coaches to discuss the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the national sport movement. Some 50 participants from several national sports federations including volleyball, archery, athletics, boxing, basketball, table tennis,



swimming, judo, wrestling, handball and netball were in attendance.

Speaking on the occasion, MOC Public Relations Officer Kythrina Phiri said that the purpose of the meeting was to examine the effects of COVID-19 on the sports community, and to find ways and means to encourage athletes not to stop sports practice altogether.

Kythrina Phiri noted that it was a very fruitful meeting during which the pandemic was discussed with athletes and coaches. The technical department is expected to consider the issues raised and rectify them in order to keep every sport going.

At the end of the meeting, the athletes present and the coaches each received a supplies of rice, sugar, salt, cooking oil and soap.

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**SPORT SECTOR REFORMS IN BENIN**  
**CNOSB PRESIDENT APPOINTED CHAIR OF**  
**THE TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



The President of the Benin National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSB), Julien Minavo, was recently appointed Chair of the Technical Committee in charge of studying a series of reforms to be implemented in the country's sport. In the coming months, Benin will have a new national sports policy, a new national sports and recreation charter and a law on sports funding. This is the mission assigned to the task force set up by the Minister of Sports, Oswald Homeky, and which was officially installed on 7 July 2020, at the Benin Royal Hotel, Cotonou. The technical committee will monitor the development and updating of national policies on sports, youth, national sports and recreation charters and the draft law on sports funding, and is chaired by the president of NOC Benin, Julien Minavo. During the installation ceremony, the Minister congratulated the members on the trust that has been placed in them to oversee the drafting and updating of the various documents. **«The government of Benin has placed total confidence**

**in each of you individually, and in this committee, collectively, to ensure that Benin is endowed with various policy documents in the sectors of sports, youth and recreation and then charters in the field of sports and recreation as well as a law on sports funding in the Republic of Benin,»** said the minister whose ambition is to see a real boom in the sports sector in Benin. This, he said, is seen through the many reforms he has undertaken on behalf of the government of President Patrice Talon. He promised that enabling conditions will be created to facilitate the smooth running of the technical committee. **«Our hope is that within 90 days, we will be able to meet again to take stock and that at the end, for the last quarter of the year 2020, (month of November 2020), we can have each of these documents»**, the minister noted, before reminding the members of the technical committee of the importance of this mission. **«It is a question of providing our country with documents that either existed but were outdated, or either did not exist and needed to be drafted in an environment where sport, recreation and youth are developing,»** he added.

**Committee members:**

**Chairman:** Julien Minavo

**Vice President:** Bellarminus Kakpovi

**Rapporteur:** Victor Lawin

**Members:**

Jean-Marie Falola, Edmond Dossa, Jean-Marc Adjovi-Boco, Okry Nonvignon, Sosthène Seflimi;

Sabin Loumèdjinnon, Gaétan Talon, and

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Julien Aplogan.

**ATHLETICS**

**TRAILING A DECEASED CHAMPION**

Ben Jipcho, vice champion of the 3000 metres steeplechase in Munich (1972) is no more. This pioneer of athletics, who is exiting the stage at the age of 77, was a world record holder in the discipline. Benjamin Jipcho was one of the first great



Kenyan champions, a contemporary of Kipcho Keino.

He had retired in 1975, after a stellar sports career. He was selected for the Olympic Games in Mexico City and took part in the 1500m event, but was consigned to the role of team-mate in order to help his compatriot Kipcho Keino, who went on to bag gold.

This anecdote actually set the pace for wonderful journey.

He was second in the 1970 British Commonwealth Games behind Australia's Tony Manning. At the All Africa Games in Lagos, Nigeria, the Kenyan

clinched a double in the 5,000m/3,000m steeplechase, equalling the world record set by Anders Garderud of Sweden by 8 minutes 20 seconds. On 19 June 1973, he became the sole holder of the world's best mark by setting the time of 8 minutes 19 seconds 8 microns at the Helsinki meeting. On 27 June 1973, at the Helsinki Games, he improved his record to 8 minutes 14 seconds. In October of the same year he won the third edition of the «*Foulées renaises*».

He did it again in 1974 during the British Commonwealth Games in Christchurch, New Zealand. Ben Jipcho achieved the feat of winning three medals in three middle and long distance events. He won the gold medal in the 3000m steeplechase and then a bronze medal in the 1500m.

History also records that Ben Jipcho discovered athletics late in 1964 at the age of 21 after trying his hand at football.

**MALI**

**25 OFFICIALS FROM NATIONAL FEDERATIONS AND SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS TAKE SPORTS MANAGEMENT COURSES**

150 officials have already received training in advanced sports management courses. The new batch of 25 executives from National Federations and Sports Associations took part in the 6th course, which started on 2 July and will end on

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24 October 2020. This phase involves four training sessions of three days each. The first was held from 21 to 24 July 2020 and the other three will take place in August, September and October. The objective is to build the capacities of participants in Major Event Management, Marketing Management, Financial Management, Structuring a Sports Organisation, Human Resources Management, Strategic Management of Olympic Sports Organisations through the Strategic Plan, Action Plan, Development Plan, Performance Management and Change Management, among others.

The courses are facilitated by 5 experienced trainers, Tidiane Niambele, Oumarou Tamboura, Abdel Kader Sangho, Alassane Mariko, Ibrahima Traoré.

At the end of training, participants will receive a certificate from the IOC. NOC Mali organizes advanced courses in sports management every year. The courses are sponsored by Olympic solidarity programmes.

The trained staff will help in the modernization effort and capacity building in the Federations and Associations.

### **NOC TUNISIA**

## **MAKING SPORT A VECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT**



It was during a recent General Assembly that NOC Tunisia initiated discussions in this respect in the presence of the Interim Minister of Youth and Sport, Asma Shiri, and the Presidents or

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representatives of the sports federations as well as media representatives.

The meeting paid a glowing tribute was to the late Abdelmajid Senoussi, Technical Director at the Tunisia Judo Federation, coach of the national Judo team, a former African champion of the discipline.

The terrible Covid-19 pandemic also featured prominently on the agenda. The NOC, whose activities have been disrupted by the health crisis, noted that for the first time in history, there was a total cessation of all sports activities and the postponement of major competitions such as the Olympic Games.

Mehrez Boussayene, the NOC President underscored **«the importance of sport in the transformation of any crisis situation, as well as the capacity of sportsmen and women to stand stronger, more determined and more united on the road to the consecration of the Olympic Spirit and its values as a vector of harmony, health, well-being and peace.»**

He also saluted the strong sense of solidarity, altruism and responsibility of athletes, who have displayed exemplary conduct in the fight against the pandemic. He urged them to remain vigilant, strong and determined in order to be well prepared for the exceptional event of the Tokyo Olympic Games in July 2021».

The President then went on to acknowledge that «the crisis has proved

that the situation of sportsmen and women is critical». He recalled that the CNOT has devoted a large part of its resources and time to national efforts aimed at fighting against the coronavirus through the mobilization of 50 thousand dinars for the 1818 fund, awareness campaigns for protection, tributes to medical staff. The deliberations revealed that the Tunisian National Olympic Committee has made many grants to support Tunisian athletes qualified for the Tokyo Olympics to ensure that they are properly prepared. All these efforts have earned the CNOT and Tunisia special recognition, as expressed by Thomas Bach in a message to the Tunisian sports family on Olympic Day.

At the end of the General Assembly, Mehrez Boussayene called for the implementation of a strategic and global vision of sport as a vector for development. He also urged the Tunisian authorities to draw inspiration from the results of joint actions between the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee aimed at making sport a lever for development and the promotion of peace.

For Asma Shiri, Acting Minister of Youth and Sport, **«Sport is a fundamental right for everyone and everyone agrees that it contributes to development. That is why the challenge today is to put the strategy and the means to make it a real factor in the economic development of the country so that it benefits all citizens in the long term.»**

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