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Echoes games

Special Edition

Algeria 2025

الألعاب الإفريقية المدرسية
AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES
ALGERIA 2025

MAIDEN AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES 2025

ALGERIA, CRADLE OF SPORTS DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA!



ANOCA



الألعاب الإفريقية المدرسية

AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES

ALGERIA 2025

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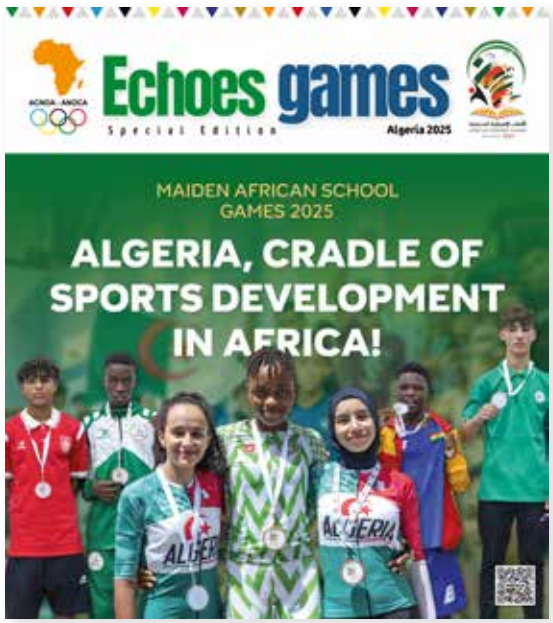

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YOUTH HORIZONS

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF AFRICAN SPORTS

Dear friends of African sports,

History will remember 5 August 2025 as a milestone. The maiden African School Games, which concluded recently, mark a pivotal moment for the future of sports in Africa. As ANOCA President, I'm proud to acknowledge the event's historic significance, which will be forever etched in the annals of the African Olympic and Sports Movement.

The Games showcased the remarkable talent of our youths to the world. On the tracks, in the pools, and on the pitches, our young athletes penned



inspiring stories of courage, determination, and sportsmanship. Their outstanding performances highlight the vast potential waiting to be tapped in every school, neighbourhood, and village across our continent.

Every move was a display of excellence. Be it the sprinters who thrilled spectators, the swimmers who smashed their personal best, or the gymnasts who charmed the audience with their grace, all the athletes demonstrated that Africa is blessed with a golden generation ready to fly the colours of the continent on the international stage.

Every encounter was a celebration of friendship. Beyond the competitions, I witnessed moments of unique beauty: young athletes encouraging each other, delegations interacting spontaneously, and shared smiles that transcended borders. This African fraternity, a cherished value of our identity, flowed naturally from the hearts of our youths.

Every action was guided by respect: respect for opponents, adherence to rules, deference to officials, and appreciation for the rich cultural diversity of our African heritage. Our young athletes proved themselves worthy ambassadors of our cherished Olympic values. These maiden Games also showcased the exceptional quality of our sports organisation.

I would like to pay a special tribute to all the young participants. Every single one of you, whether you made it onto the podium or not, played a vital role in writing this new chapter in our sports history.

My gratitude also goes to the coaches and trainers who nurture these talents, to the teachers, parents who back their children, and to all our partners who support us in this noble mission.



You are the silent architects of these victories, the driving force behind youth training and development.

On behalf of the African Olympic Movement, I also extend heartfelt thanks to IOC Honorary President for Life, Thomas Bach and IOC President, Kirsty Coventry. We also appreciate the support of national and local authorities, particularly President Abdelmadjid Tebboune,



whose backing was instrumental in the success of these inaugural Games.

> *The impact of these Games extends far beyond sports, serving as a powerful catalyst for school sports development in Africa. By providing them a continental platform, we are empowering our youths to chase their dreams and ambitions.*

The impact of these Games extends far beyond sports, serving as a powerful catalyst for school sports development in Africa. By providing them a continental platform, we are empowering our youths to chase their dreams and ambitions. We are fostering an ecosystem that nurtures not just future Olympic champions, but also well-rounded citizens who embody the values of excellence and self-improvement through sports.

This inaugural edition marks just the beginning of an extraordinary journey. ANOCA commits to making the African School Games a permanent feature of the African sports calendar. We will work resolutely to ensure each successive edition surpasses the last in beauty, inclusivity, and educational value.

The future is ours. The young athletes who shone on the field embody the hope of a thriving African sports landscape. They are living proof that our continent has the talent, potential, and everything needed to excel on the world stage.

Dear stakeholders in African school sports,

Let's continue to build this promising future together! Every action counts, every initiative contributes to this collective effort. ANOCA stands with you, committed to supporting these outstanding young people achieve excellence.

Long live school sports in Africa! Long live Olympic values! Long live African unity!

Together, let's write the most beautiful pages of African sports history!

Mustapha Berraf

ANOCA President
IOC Member
ANOC Vice President
President of the Olympafrica Foundation



Maiden African School Games

ALGERIA, CRADLE OF SPORTS DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA!

Algeria was the ideal choice to host the maiden African School Games, thanks to the country's impressive infrastructure and the commitment of its authorities to a successful organisation.





Hats off to Algeria for hosting the maiden edition of the African School Games, the biggest continental sports event ever organised for this category of young athletes. Four legendary cities in east Algeria - Annaba, Constantine, Skikda and Sétif – showcased the country's capabilities, hosting the event, which ANOCA and President Mustapha BERRAF, count very much on to push their sports development efforts.

The choice of Algeria to launch this forward - looking continental project was not by chance. The country's huge infrastructural capacity to host major international sports competitions, the unprecedented public enthusiasm for events of this magnitude, and the commitment of national authorities at the highest level, especially Algeria's Head of State, to organising successful international events all played a big part in this decision.

This inaugural edition, which lays the groundwork for a new sports promotion and development policy





in Africa, was placed under the most distinguished patronage of the President of the Republic, H.E. Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, underscoring the importance Algeria attaches to this continental event, which was fully supported by virtually all African countries.

Suffice it to note that the event, an ANOCA-ISF initiative, was sealed by a memorandum of understanding last summer, during the Olympic Games Paris 2024. This novel initiative in the world of sports is a godsend for the continent's young talents.

It is meant for African athletes aged 14 to 17, with the aim of encouraging them to take up sports, identifying and supporting future African champions and, of course, promoting Olympic values and solidarity among nations. In addition to preparing athletes for Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 2032, these maiden African School Games also served as a trial run for the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026, the first-ever Olympic event to be held on African soil.



Kick-off of the Games

ALGERIA WELCOMES AFRICAN YOUTHS

It was a spectacular opening ceremony for the competition, combining sports, culture and Algerian traditions, with a blend of music from the national repertoire, both modern and traditional.


جنوب إفريقيا
South Africa
Afrique du Sud
جنوب السودان
South Sudan
Soudan du Sud
السودان
Sudan
Soudan
تنزانيا
Tanzania
Tanzanie



All eyes were on the charming city of Annaba for the opening ceremony of the African Youth Games, held under the most distinguished patronage of President Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, and which kicked off in the presence of a government delegation led by Sports Minister, Walid SADI, accompanied by the Minister of Youth Affairs, Mustapha HIDAOUI, ANOCA President, Mustapha BERRAF, the Organising Committee Chair, Amar BRAHMIA, ANOCA members and IOC members in Africa.

They are the first of a forward-looking project aimed at developing and promoting African sports through careful talent identification, coaching, effective training and better career management. Algeria, a key African development hub across all sectors, thus served as the launch pad for a programme with a bright future for talented young African athletes.

It was a spectacular ceremony, combining sports, culture and Algerian traditions, blending music from the national repertoire, both modern and traditional.

The show featured sports and artistic performances by various entertainment groups, including singers Chemsou Freeklane, Salim Chaoui, and rapper Hippone AZZOU. Overall, it was a highly





> *Today, we shoulder a historic responsibility: that of laying the foundations for a new tradition within the African Olympic and Sports Movement; that of a continental event dedicated to academic and sports excellence.*

colourful, vibrant, warm and enjoyable celebration, to which residents of the charming city of Annaba were invited.

The procession of official delegations with their national emblems, the oaths taken by various participants, such as athletes' representatives and judges, and the speeches given by officials were the highlights of the official opening ceremony.

This major event will serve as a springboard for young talents on the continent, paving the way for successful international careers. "*Today, we shoulder a historic*





responsibility: that of laying the foundations for a new tradition within the African Olympic and Sports Movement; that of a continental event dedicated to academic and sports excellence; That of a forum for sharing ideas, friendly competition, peace and fraternity for the continent's young people … Together, let us make these maiden African School Games a benchmark, a model, a powerful symbol of what Africa can achieve and succeed at when it is united," insisted the ANOCA President, Mustapha BERRAF, in Algiers a day before the Games' opening. To bring this project to fruition, top sports authorities on the African continent placed their trust in Algeria, known for its ability to host major sports events.

With overly tight deadlines, only Algeria was able to rise to the challenge in less than five months. It is worth noting that Algerian authorities honoured their commitments by providing the organisers with all the financial, logistical and infrastructural resources necessary for success.

Some 3,500 athletes representing 51 countries took part in this maiden edition held in five cities, namely Annaba, Skikda, Constantine, Sétif and Algiers, for the tennis events. A hard record to beat.

School Games

A PLATFORM TO DEVELOP YOUTH POTENTIAL

This continental event affords students the opportunity to develop their talents, build self-confidence and embrace essential values such as discipline, teamwork and perseverance.





According to ANOCA, the inaugural edition of the African School Games (ASG 2025), hosted by Algeria from 26 July to 5 August in four cities, offered "*a platform to develop the potential of young students, both in Algeria and across Africa.*"

"*We consider that the initiative of the President of the Republic, H.E. Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, to sponsor this maiden edition of the ASG is an essential vehicle for sports development,*" said ANOCA, the initiator of the event officialised following the signing of a memorandum of understanding with ISF.

ANOCA emphasised that school sports is a fundamental part of youth development in Africa.

The event also provides "*a platform for students to develop their talents, build their self-confidence and learn to uphold essential values like discipline, teamwork and perseverance,*" explained the ANOCA President, Mustapha BERRAF.

"*We are confident that this event will help reveal new talents and prepare young African athletes for future international competitions*," he added.

ANOCA believes that practising school sports comes with many benefits: it helps students discover and develop their sports abilities, which can guide them towards professional careers; it also contributes to improving their physical and mental health by encouraging them to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

In addition, practising school sports helps develop confidence and self-esteem, qualities that positively impact the lives of young people both in and out of school.

Finally, practising school sports helps promote Olympic values such as friendship, solidarity and fair play, which are considered essential for the harmonious development of young people.

The IOC also supports the initiative, which aims to prepare young African athletes for major international sports events, including the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 2032.





We consider that the initiative of the President of the Republic, H.E. Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, to sponsor this maiden edition of the ASG is an essential vehicle for sports development.



Constantine, El-Bouni, Annaba...

OLYMPIC VILLAGES, CONVIVIAL SETTINGS FOR ATHLETES

Like all the other accommodation sites that hosted participants in the maiden African School Games, the festive atmosphere in these Olympic villages and the amenities offered young athletes from various countries across the continent in this legendary pan-African setting were an indication of the meticulous organisation of the event.




ALGERIA 2025
2025 الجزائر



Like other sites that hosted the Maiden African School Games, "*Hostel 07*" of the University of Constantine 3, witnessed exceptional moments. Transformed into a pan-African village, it hosted the young school sports stars from countries across the continent in a festive and fraternal atmosphere that embodied the African Olympic spirit.

No less than 192 young athletes from 15 African countries, including Nigeria, Tunisia, Ghana, Zimbabwe, and Egypt, arrived at the site, accompanied by 18 coaches. They were accorded a warm and meticulously organised reception, which was unanimously hailed by the delegations present.

With a hosting capacity of 500, the campus offered comprehensive services: suitable lodging, quality catering, and substantial logistics, with a university transport fleet that provided daily shuttles between the Games village and the competition venues. The enthusiasm of participants confirmed the success of this organisation. Mr Oweifie EBIDOWE THOMPSON, coach of the Nigerian football team, praised the overall quality of the university campus facilities, which he described as absolutely perfect for athletes and coaches.

PARTICIPANTS HAIL ORGANISATION

The catering, environment and security services lived up to expectations. The Nigerian technician also highlighted the historical importance of a competition organised with rigour and professionalism. He expressed Nigeria's pride in contributing to school sports development in Africa, noting that the competition raises the level of athletes and promotes sports in schools.

This appraisal was confirmed by Ridha EL GHARBI, coach of the Tunisian table tennis team: "*We came to this sister country to participate in this maiden edition of the African School Games. The lodging facilities in this African village are of high quality; the organisation is excellent and transportation is fluid.*"

CONSTANTINE, SYMBOL OF AN AFRICA UNITED BY SPORTS

Beyond sports achievements, these Games revealed the richness of intercultural exchanges. The Games Village was a cultural melting pot where languages blended, a place where there was contagious laughter and where friendships were forged, illustrating the sort of African fraternity that transcends national borders. The management team carefully tended to every participant's welfare, while





We came to this sister country to participate in this maiden edition of the African School Games. The lodging facilities in this African village are of high quality; the organisation is excellent and transportation is fluid.

security services discreetly kept the peace needed for competitors to concentrate.

With a combination of high-level athletic performances and moments of conviviality, Hostel 07, like all the other sites dedicated to hosting delegations, perfectly embodied the African Olympic ideal.

The same festive atmosphere prevailed in El-Bouni, another accommodation site whose inauguration was marked by the arrival of the delegations participating in these Games: a special moment.

Upon leaving the Olympic Village, young athletes from Tunisia, Mauritania and Egypt expressed their satisfaction with the warm welcome. Algeria provided all amenities needed to ensure that guests had a pleasant stay.

With a population of 2,000, the accommodation site, located within the university hostel with a capacity of 3,000 beds, was like a small town just a stone's throw from Annaba. It officially opened its doors on 27 July, a day after the kick-off of the maiden edition of the African School Games Algeria 2025. From the moment it opened, the Olympic Village was filled with more than 980 young athletes of both sexes, aged between 14 and 17, and their staff.


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TEAM GHANA
AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES
ALGERIA 2025



The priority of the organisers and public authorities was to provide all necessary human and material resources. To this end, athletes and their coaches were literally spoiled, as they were provided with all amenities necessary for their stay at the El-Bouni Olympic Village. Thanks to this, the Olympic Village functioned like a real small city.

There were three ATMs and cash dispensers for guests in Annaba. A polyclinic and a civil protection centre, with four ambulances on standby for medical emergencies, were set up for the duration of the Games. A police station was also opened to ensure the safety and tranquillity of inhabitants.



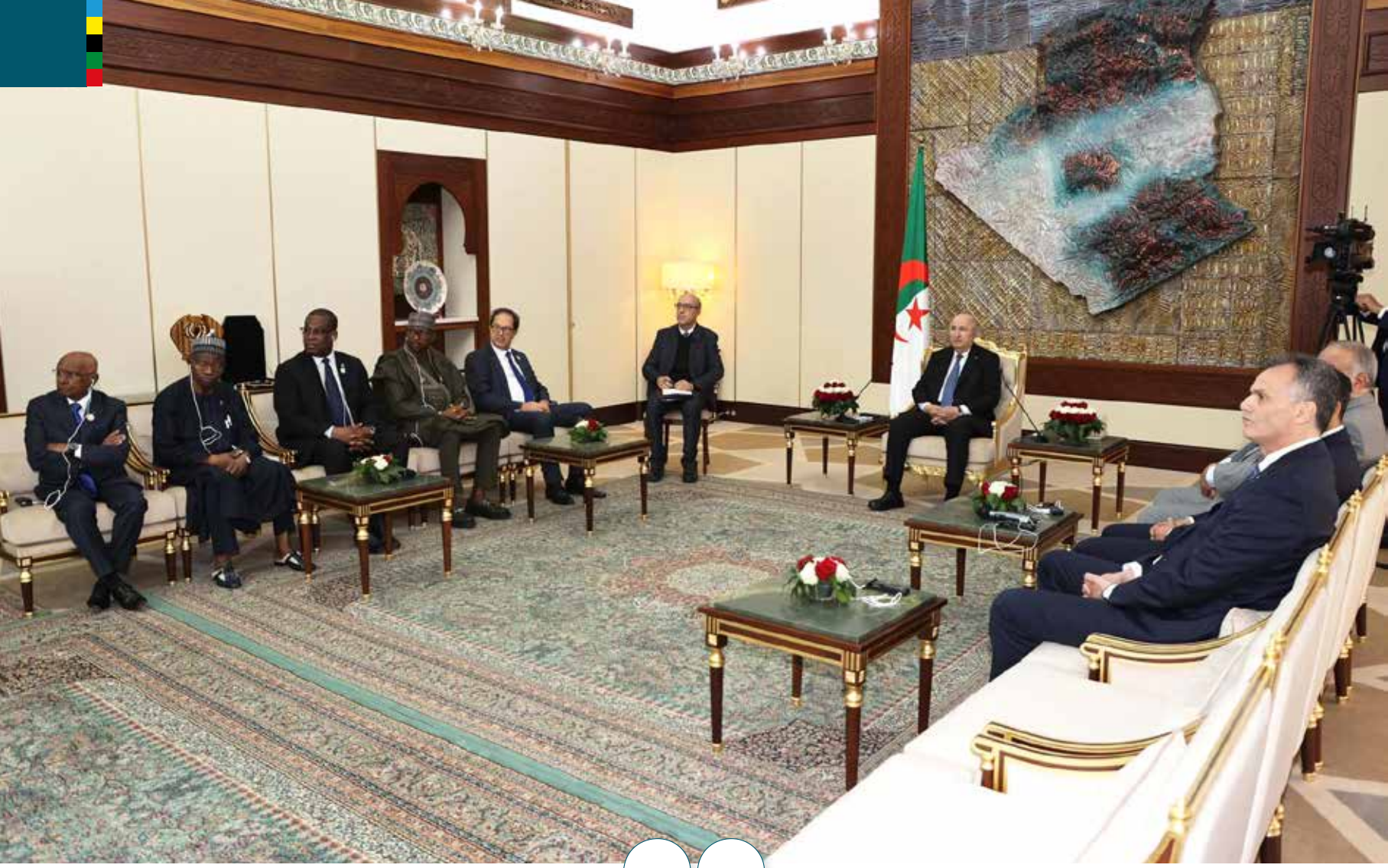


Living together the African way

VISIONARY LEADERSHIP SPEARHEADED BY PRESIDENT ABDELMADJID TEBBOUNE

In a show of strong support, the President of Algeria responded promptly to Africa's call, placing the event under his most distinguished patronage.





After six days of intense and lively competition, at the various competition venues in the four host cities, Algeria expressed satisfaction for having risen to the challenge of bringing together Africa and its budding sports talents, the stars of tomorrow, to commune and share the values of friendship and fraternity.

Neither language nor cultural barriers dampened the fantastic atmosphere that permeated this historic reunion from start to finish. At the African Village, competition venues or during shared cultural evenings, there were unmistakable signs that are already shaping the contours of a continent that is one and united, a continent capable of hosting major events.

> ***Gratitude to Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, President of the Republic, for his unwavering support and enlightened vision, which have greatly contributed to the successful hosting of this event.***

This strategic approach, thanks to which Algeria was able to host so many African countries, was based on the strong sense of solidarity with Africa and the visionary leadership of President Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, who did not hesitate for a moment to respond to Africa's call, organising

under his most distinguished patronage this maiden edition, which he said he was honoured to host.

These strong decisions, which reflect well on the Algerian Head of State, aroused a deep sense of satisfaction within ANOCA, and elicited praise from figures such as Kalkaba MALBOUM, President of the Confederation of African Athletics and President of the African Olympic Sports Confederation (CASOL). He expressed his "*gratitude to Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, President of the Republic, for his unwavering support and enlightened vision, which have greatly contributed to the successful hosting of this event.*"

At the end of his fifth visit to the city of Ain Fouara, accompanied by a large delegation, the Organising Committee Chair, Amar BRAHMIA, expressed his pride in every aspect and especially the success of the maiden edition of the African School Games. He expressed the hope that all the young athletes would cherish fond memories and one day, as they hone their skills and commit to achieving high performances, say to themselves: "*I took part in and I am a product of the maiden Games held in Algeria, having emerged from school sports to become a champion.*"







At the heart of the Games

AFRICAN FRATERNITY SHINES AT THE GAMES

Beyond the thrill of competition, the Games fostered a spirit of African camaraderie in Constantine, thanks to the city's warm and welcoming inhabitants.


ALGERIA 2022
الإتحادية
FEDERATION



Despite the summer heat and the holiday season, the inhabitants of Constantine attended events of the African School Games in their numbers. From the Berchache Hall to the Ali Mendjeli Hall and the city's stadiums, spectators mostly young athletes, sports club members, and football fans watched with enthusiasm the various events, including table tennis, artistic gymnastics, and football matches.

Public feedback revealed that residents of Constantine were thrilled, as they hosted this major continental event with pride and enthusiasm.

Ms Arabit Thoria, athlete and manager of the Thoria gymnastics club, beamed with joy and pride after attending all the artistic gymnastics events at Berchache Hall. She lauded the city of Constantine for hosting such a prestigious event and thanked the President of the Republic for spearheading the inaugural African School Games. "*It's a wonderful opportunity for the local sports community,*" she said.

Asmaa ELAYED, an international artistic gymnastics judge from Tunisia, commended the Constantine crowd for their exceptional warmth, noting that they were simply amazing, cheering on every African athlete with infectious enthusiasm: "*I really appreciated the hospitality of the people of Constantine, the city's environment, its beauty and the warmth of its inhabitants.*" Beyond the thrill of sports performances, the African School Games in Constantine blossomed into a vibrant celebration of African unity, fuelled by the city's warm hospitality, youthful enthusiasm, and a contagious spirit of friendship that united hearts and transcended borders.

I really appreciated the hospitality of the people of Constantine, the city's environment, its beauty and the warmth of its inhabitants.



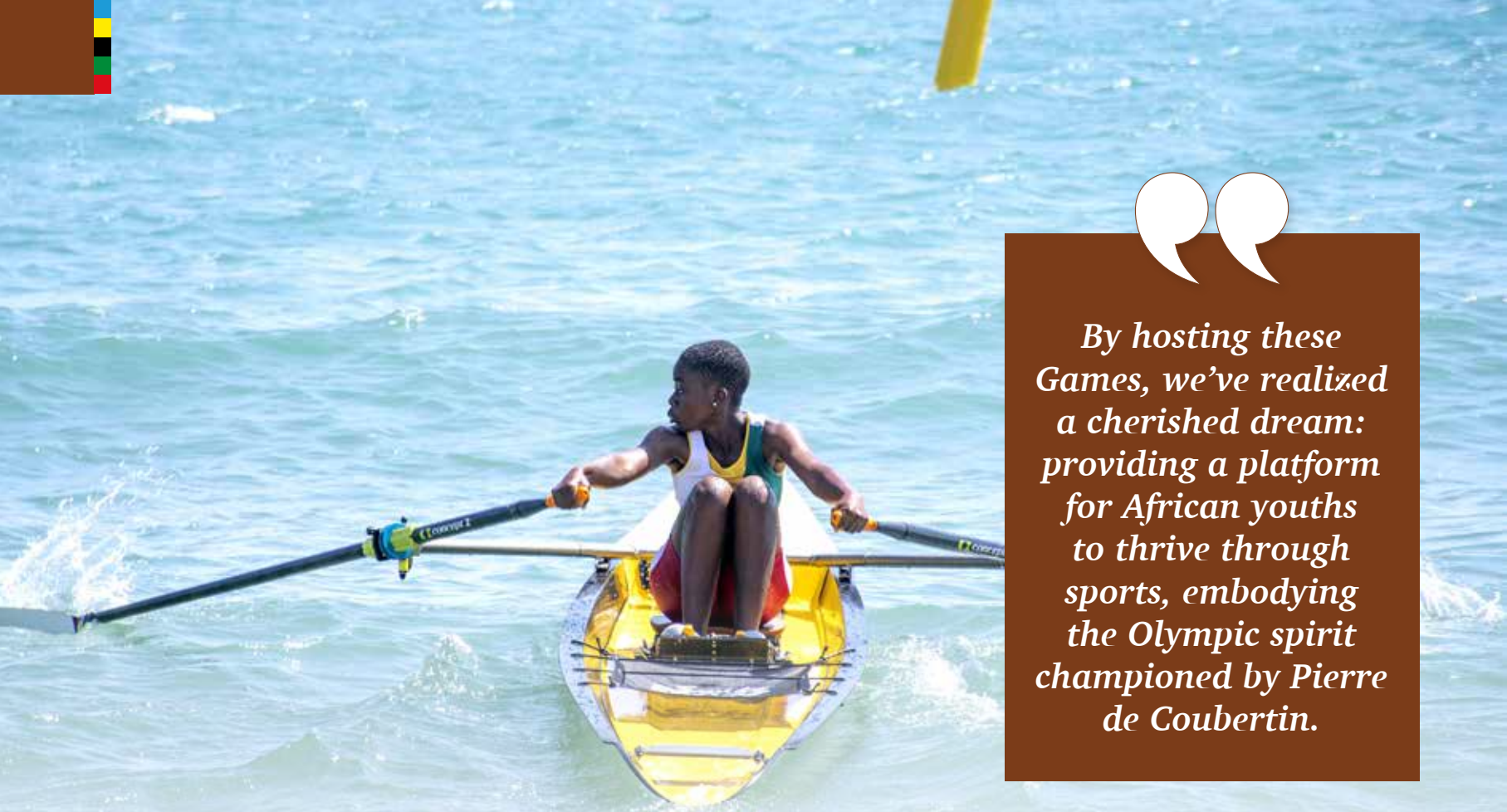
Maiden African School Games

A COLLECTIVE DREAM COME TRUE

Born from a partnership signed in 2024 with ISF, the African School Games open up new prospects for African sports.







> ***By hosting these Games, we've realized a cherished dream: providing a platform for African youths to thrive through sports, embodying the Olympic spirit championed by Pierre de Coubertin.***

"*We are witnessing an exceptional moment.*" This comment, made by Mustapha BERRAF at the kick-off of the maiden African School Games in Algeria, is laden with meaning. Born of an ANOCA- ISF partnership, the event opens up new prospects for African sports. Some 3,500 athletes from 51 countries competed, communed, mutually enriched each other and gained invaluable experience, an important step for sports development in Africa.

SUPPORTING YOUTHS AND PROMOTING OLYMPISM

ANOCA has set three objectives: identifying and training future African sports talents; building the capacity of young African athletes; and promoting Olympic values. To ensure the success of this maiden edition and increase the number of countries and athletes represented, the Algerian government took a firm commitment to waive participation fees.

"*This powerful gesture guarantees access for all young people, regardless of their country's resources, to this great celebration of African school sports,*" declared ANOCA, highlighting "*Africa's capacity to promote a model of strong cooperation ties, where equity and youth are priorities.*"

Access to grandstands at the Annaba stadium was also free for the opening and closing ceremonies to enable inhabitants share in the festivities. The programme featured twenty-five

disciplines, which took place in four wilayas in East Algeria. It was a trial run for the Olympic Games, with 23 Olympic disciplines, including athletics, swimming, 3×3 basketball, wrestling, horse racing, beach volleyball, BMX, table tennis and gymnastics. These make the event more significant ahead of the African Youth Games Angola 2025 and the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026.

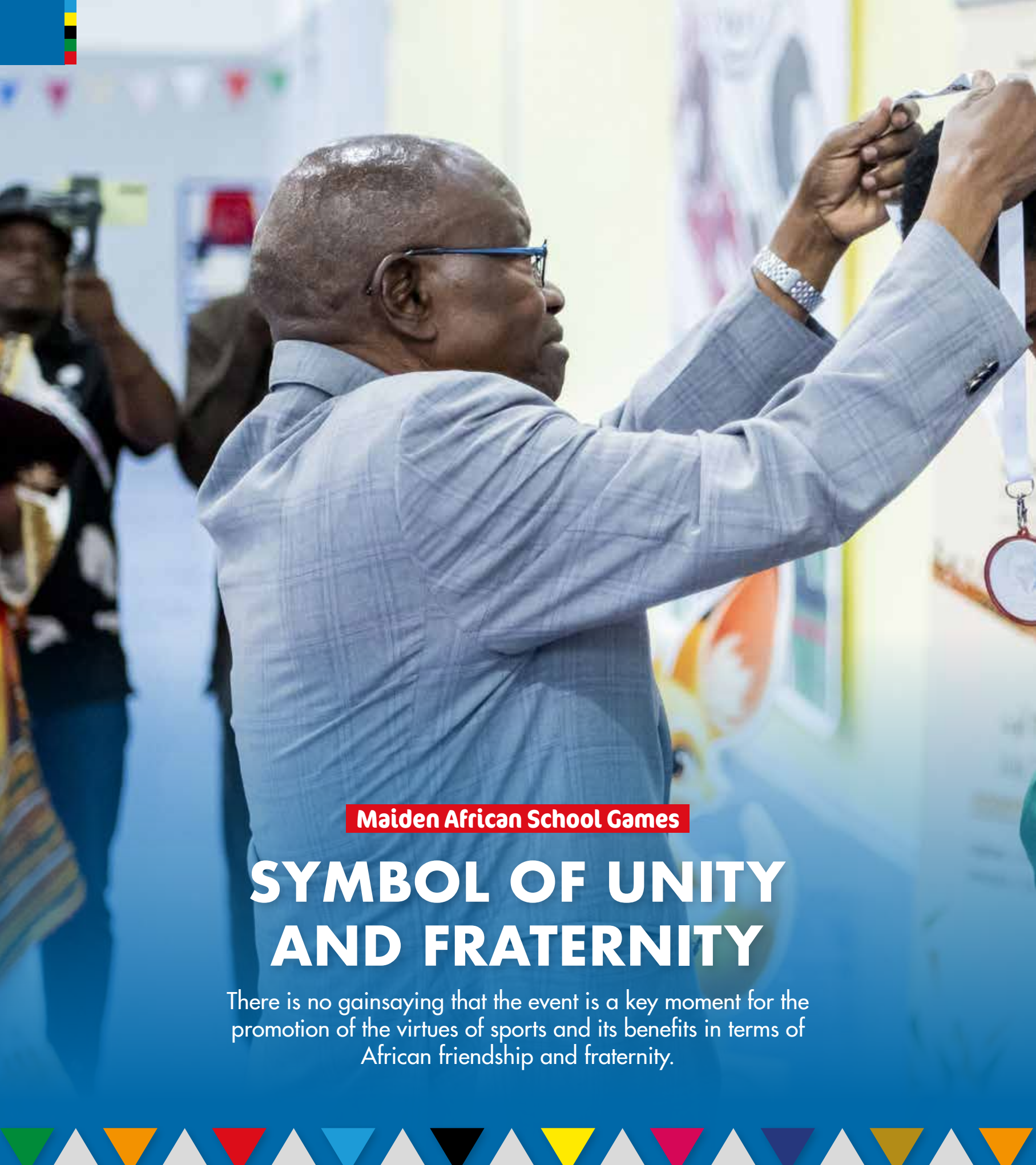
"*One of ANOCA's most cherished dreams*"

ANOCA is proud to bring the African School Games to life, fostering Olympic values, nurturing budding talents, and uniting African nations. "*By hosting these Games, we've realized a cherished dream: providing a platform for African youths to thrive through sports, embodying the Olympic spirit championed by Pierre de Coubertin*," said Mustapha Berraf.

These Games are a concrete response to the shared ambition to make sports a pillar of the continent's transformation. They are the promise of a future where every African student can dream, excel and embody Olympic values. Africa has finally established a continental event dedicated to academic and sports excellence. "*These Games are more than just a competition; they are a pioneering initiative.*"



They are a key milestone in the ongoing development of the African Sports Movement. By focusing on youths, these Games are inaugurating "*a tradition that is set to live on and grow from one edition to another*" and contribute to build "*an Africa united by sports and driven by excellence.*"



Maiden African School Games

SYMBOL OF UNITY AND FRATERNITY

There is no gainsaying that the event is a key moment for the promotion of the virtues of sports and its benefits in terms of African friendship and fraternity.


anep
AIR ALGÉRIE



By hosting the competitions of the maiden edition of the African School Games under the most distinguished patronage of President Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, Algeria further demonstrated its commitment to school sports, opening its doors to more than 3,500 budding talents and their coaches from 51 countries.

Expressing his support for the event, which is a key moment for the promotion of the virtues of sports and its benefits in terms of African friendship and fraternity, with proven educational values, the President of the Republic, who had already instructed the government to revive school sports, emphasised that "*Algeria was honoured to host such a prestigious event, which does not only give youths priority, but*



also serves as a vehicle for peace and sustainable development in Africa."

These are all strong arguments that underscore Algeria's unwavering commitment, as ANOCA President, the Honourable Mustapha BERRAF says: «These Games fulfil a collective dream. They embody an ambitious vision: to offer African youths a platform for sports excellence, unprecedented cultural exchanges and a springboard for the champions of tomorrow." He went on to say that "*By hosting these Games, Algeria demonstrated the strategic importance attached to school sports development on the continent.*"

Heading a large delegation during his visit to the various sports facilities and infrastructure spread across competition venues, the Chair of the Games Organising Committee, Amar BRAHMIA, noted with deep satisfaction that all the conditions were in place for a successful organisation of these Games of Friendship and Fraternity." He further stated that the government's policy and guidelines set out by the President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, on school sports and solidarity with Africa will be implemented during the Games.



Behind the scenes

IN THE HEART OF THE AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES 2025

During the African School Games, the men and women working behind the scenes were hailed for their active contribution and dedication to the success of the continental event.


ALGERIA 2025
AFRICAN GAMES



As the competitions thrived at various sports facilities, a dedicated team worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure seamless execution, safety, and comfort for the hundreds of young African athletes and officials.

At Games villages like Ain Fouara City, they ensured that everything was top-notch and went on hitch-free, underscoring Algeria's organisational expertise and the quality of sports facilities, some of which were brand new and others completely renovated, to provide these budding talents with all the necessary amenities.

These were the security services, police and National Gendarmerie, who were strategically deployed to safeguard all venues, escort athletes and ensure a smooth



celebration, ultimately contributing to the much heralded success of the Games.

With an iron fist in a velvet glove, police officers and gendarmes, present at all venues, depending on their territorial jurisdiction, kept a watchful eye on every detail, both on the roads leading to the African village and in the opposite direction, on the main roads.

They escorted each bus to ensure smooth traffic flow within venues and were constantly on alert, always close to athletes and locals, in a supportive spirit worthy of security forces, thus consolidating the country's excellent reputation.

"*As with the warm welcome and the wonderful organisation at the competition, accommodation and catering venues, security services were always on hand to ensure the safety of all participants.*"

Similarly, health and civil protection services worked efficiently behind the scenes to provide prompt care when needed, as they mobilised their resources and equipment to address any emergencies.



Organisation of the Games

PARTICIPANTS HAIL RESOUNDING SUCCESS

The curtains were drawn on the maiden edition of the African School Games in Constantine with a memorable and festive atmosphere, showcasing the exemplary organisation and infectious enthusiasm of local authorities and the sports community.


الإفريقية المدرسية الأولى
1st AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES
1ers JEUX AFRICAINS SCOLAIRES
ALGERIA
ALGERIA
101
42

Disciplines like table tennis, horse racing and gymnastics held participants spellbound, and drew huge crowds that attended the events.

Table tennis matches at Ali Mendjeli sports hall brought together 25 athletes from 15 African countries, delivering thrilling matches, showcasing fair play, and highlighting top-notch facilities that earned rounds of applause. Meanwhile, equestrian events at the Bordj M'hiris club featured 49 riders from eight nations, adding to the Games' excitement.

The gymnastics competitions unfolded in a natural setting, blending technical mastery with elegance, and holding spectators spellbound with stunning performances. The Mohamed Belkacem Brechache Hall resonated with cheers as 28 young athletes from eight countries showcased agility, precision, and creativity.

Host city of four disciplines, Constantine rose to the challenge with panache. Thanks to renovated infrastructure, including the Ali Mendjeli sports halls and Étoile de l'Est tourist complex, the city played a key role in ensuring seamless logistical coordination, facilitating the success of the event. The organisation was commended by all the delegations.







Throughout the competitions, the atmosphere was festive and cordial. Participants were treated, on a daily basis, to cheers, cultural displays, parades, and theme nights. The opening ceremony, which held at the Ben Abdelmalek Ramdane Stadium, was a special moment, featuring artistic performances inspired by Algerian and other African cultures, symbolising the continent's unity and rich diversity.

Beyond sports performances, the Games were also an opportunity for cultural exchanges. Young athletes discovered Constantine's heritage treasures through organised visits to the Suspended Bridges, the War Monument, the Bey Palace and the Cirta Museum.

Vibrant musical nights featuring Malouf, Aïssaoua, and Chaâbi rhythms, alongside thrilling robotics competitions, created unforgettable moments and forged lasting bonds among delegations. The maiden edition in Constantine was a triumph, succeeding on both sporting and human levels, and laying the groundwork for a lasting legacy that will inspire future generations of African athletes.



Vote of Thanks

HEADS OF DELEGATION EXPRESS SATISFACTION

Sports ministers, chefs de mission, coaches and delegation members from various participating countries unanimously hailed the quality of facilities and thanked Algerian authorities for their warm welcome.

Benoît Marcel Dato
Benin's Minister of Sports

"A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG ATHLETES"

"*We witnessed a spectacular opening ceremony. These Games are a great opportunity for young athletes from across the continent to showcase their talents in various sports disciplines,*" said Benin's Minister of Sports, Benoît Marcel DATO.

Interviewed immediately after the opening ceremony of the Games, the Minister could not conceal his satisfaction: "*The opening ceremony was a thriller, as we had anticipated. We strongly encourage this type of competitions, given that sport is of great importance to African youths*," he said.

Regarding his country's participation in this maiden edition of the AGs, the Minister emphasised that Benin's youths are motivated and therefore determined to do their country proud. "*Benin is participating with a strong delegation of 87 young athletes competing in eight different sports. Their main objective is to make their mark in the various competitions on schedule,*" he said.

Moreover, the presence of Benin's Minister of Sports at the Games, and the huge sports delegation that participated in various competitions, demonstrates the country's support and commitment not only to further promoting sports, but above all, to giving Benin's youths the opportunity to excel on the continental stage.



Mohamed
Djiboutian coach

"AS AN AFRICAN, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART IN THESE GAMES"



Mohamed, coach from Djiboutian, said he was happy to be in Algeria and delighted with the warm welcome accorded them, the superb lodging and catering facilities, with state-of-the-art infrastructure. He congratulated all who took part in the reunion, which he believes is very important for future generations and, above all, for the future of the Africa. He further stated that, "*placing these maiden African School Games under the most distinguished patronage of the Algerian President Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, is most certainly contributing to building a strong, united, and by extension, an ever stronger, ever higher and ever untied Africa.*"

Aness Yousef el Abed
Coach and delegation member

"FINALLY, THANK YOU TO ALL OUR ALGERIAN BROTHERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!"

For the Libyans, the atmosphere in the grandstands was remarkable, and they were delighted to be in Algeria, as expressed by Aness Yousef EL ABED, coach and member of the delegation: "*From the border to the moment we arrived at our accommodation site, we had everything we needed, and I wish to thank our Algerian brothers for this heartfelt gesture. The competitions are taking place in top-notch facilities; it is this kind of come together that helps consolidate ties between Arab and African countries. We must continue to work in this direction, knowing that it is through school sports that the African elite of tomorrow, the elite of challenges, will emerge. We must therefore work together, hand in glove, to build the Africa we desire and promote our sport to the position it deserves.*"



Gratitude de Abdoukarim Sey
Chef de mission

"EXPRESSES GRATITUDE ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA"

Our delegation to the maiden African School Games in Algeria would like to express its deep gratitude to the African School Games Organising Committee (COJAS), the President and the Algerian government for the hospitality accorded to Team Gambia and all other African nations during these School Games.

As CdM, I wish to apologise sincerely on behalf of the team for any unusual incidents, whether intentional or unintentional, that may have occurred during this period. Algeria has demonstrated its love and concern for the people of the continent through these Games.

May God bless COJAS and the Algerian people!



ANGOLA CONGRATULATES ANOCA FOR EXCEPTIONAL ORGANISATION

The Angolan delegation thanks the Algerian government for its initiative in organising the maiden African School Games. "*We are very grateful for the excellent organisation achieved in such a short time. Congratulations to ANOCA for its support! We look forward to seeing you again in December in Luanda. One, two, three: LONG LIVE ALGERIA! We are together, thank you!*'



Chef de Mission of the Cameroon delegation

HELLO, EVERYONE! HELLO, ALGERIA!



On a personal note, I am deeply impressed with the level of organisation of this maiden edition of the African School Games. It takes the bravery of a bull to dare to organise such an event in a short period. Algeria and ANOCA did it, to the surprise of the whole world. Thank you, Algeria! The Games will make history ... In fact, Algeria has engraved its name in the annals of time as the host nation of this inaugural edition of the African School Games.

A well-known English adage says, "The first jump is a no-jump", meaning that any mistakes or shortcomings observed during this event should not be considered a failure, but rather a foundation for improving future editions. Truly, the organisation was a great success. There are three key areas in the organisation of any major sports or any other event: transport, accommodation and catering. I sincerely believe that these areas were all properly managed.

Though the meals were not really diverse, I'm sure that with the passion and determination demonstrated by COJAS 2025, if they had more time, they would have taken the appropriate measures to address the issue. Brothers and sisters of Mother Africa, on behalf of the Cameroon delegation, I would like to express our deep gratitude for the warm reception and attention we received from ANOCA, COJAS 2025 and the government of Algeria before, during and after the Games. The security detail, escorts and daily nutritional checks were highly commendable.

One, two, three... Long live Algeria!

Paul Puk Kun Nyak

Chef de Mission South Sudan



A friend of Algeria and a great son of Africa, Nelson Rolihlahla MANDELA, once said, "Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that few other things can."

"The government and people of South Sudan are grateful to the brotherly people and government of Algeria. South Sudan is participating in these Games thanks to the sacrifices of the government and people of Algeria. Many thanks to the Head of State, Mr Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE.

"We wish to express our sincere thanks and deep gratitude to the ANOCA President, Honourable Mustapha BERRAF, ANOCA First Vice President and Coordinator of the African School Games (ASG 2025), Mr Joao Manuel Da Costa ALEGRE AFONSO, and the entire team that contributed to the success of this event. The delegation from South Sudan commends your efforts and interventions on several issues that concern us. We thank you!"

"A big thank you to the Organising Committee! In a very short time, you deployed all the necessary resources to ensure the hosting of these Games. We are fully aware that you spent sleepless nights and exhausting days, just to ensure that all the countries present here are safe and well fed.

"The venues, cities, and hosts were exceptional. For all these, we are grateful. Ties between our two nations have been further consolidated thanks to the Games. Existing friendships have been strengthened. We have also forged new friendships and met brothers and sisters we didn't know in the past."

"The South Sudan delegation recognises the mistakes we have made, whether intentionally or unintentionally, and asks for forgiveness. As our delegation returns home, we take with us unforgettable memories, and the love of our Algerian brothers and sisters whom we have known during these Games.

"We are impatiently looking forward to the 2nd edition of the ANOCA School Games. For those who won at all costs, remember that these Games seek to develop our young athletes. Shame on you if you cheated in one way or another!

Thank you, Algeria!"

Chef de Mission of the delegation from Uganda

"On behalf of Team Uganda, I would like to thank ANOCA and COJAS for successfully organising the maiden School Games. What an experience!

"Athletes returned home full of experience, enthusiasm and made new friends. With this great start, we look forward to Nigeria 2027 and Kenya 2029.



We deeply appreciate @Amar BRAHMIA and your team for helping Africa excel in sports. Thank you, Algeria. May God bless you!

"To my colleagues, you have been wonderful and worthy!"

Elh Ide Issaka

President African Taekwondo Union

"WELL DONE, ALGERIA!"

In this interview, the President of the African Taekwondo Union, Mr Elh Ide ISSAKA, said he marvelled at Algeria's sports infrastructure and the warm reception received upon his arrival. He was also impressed with the level of young talents, who performed well on the first day of the finals.

How did you find the Algerian sports facilities and the warm welcome from the population of Setif?

First, it is important to point out that Algeria is renowned for its hospitality, and this is not new for this great country.

As concerns Algerian sports infrastructure, I was really surprised by the high standard set

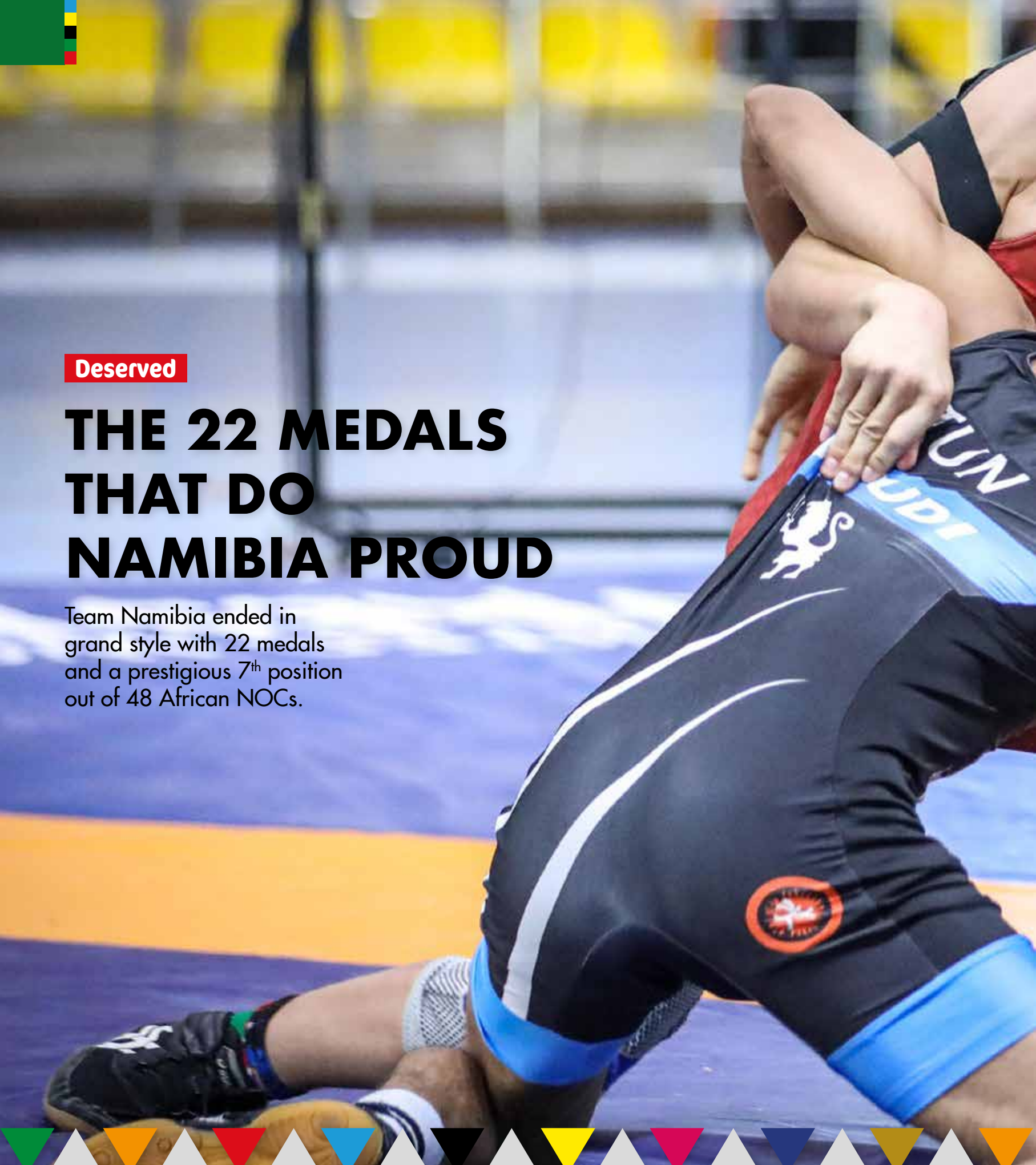


by the organisers, nothing was left to chance, particularly at the El Bez sports complex. This sports facility plays an important role in enhancing athletes' physical and mental preparation.

Algeria never failed to display its organisational skills throughout its various deadlines. What is your take on this?

Suffice it to note that Algeria has always attached great importance to sports. That is why it has been making huge strides in terms of sports, cultural and touristic infrastructure in line with President Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE's strategic vision.


A.L.G
adidas



Deserved

THE 22 MEDALS THAT DO NAMIBIA PROUD

Team Namibia ended in grand style with 22 medals and a prestigious 7th position out of 48 African NOCs.





The maiden African School Games were more than just a competition they laid the foundations of the African Youth Games Angola 2025 and the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026, offering an invaluable platform to foster Olympic Values, sustainability and African unity through sports.

Heartfelt thanks to the friendly Algerian hosts! Your hospitality, spirit and kindness made the Games truly memorable.

Our thanks also go to ANOCA for its vision and to the Namibian Ministry of Education Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture for its financial support towards Team Namibia's participation.

The future of African sports is bright, and Team Namibia is fully ready!



GHANA COMMENDS HISTORIC EVENT

On behalf of our brave people of Ghana, we wish to express our deep gratitude to the host country, the Organising Committee and ANOCA for the success of the maiden African School Games.

This historic event did not only promote unity and healthy competition among African youths. It also laid a strong foundation for the development of sports and education across the continent.

The meticulous planning, warm hospitality and commitment to excellence by the organisers made these Games truly memorable.

Ghana is proud to have been part of this remarkable journey and we look forward to an even stronger collaboration in future editions.

Once again, thank you and congratulations on a job well done.



Amar Brahmia
Organising Committee Chair

''POSITIVE OUTCOMES ACROSS THE BOARD''

ASG Organising Committee Chair, Amar BRAHMIA, gave a press briefing on the Games at the Annaba public library. He began by describing the level of competition as satisfactory, emphasising the smooth running of the event and the joy and happiness of young Africans.

The African School Games delivered a resounding success across the board, showcasing impressive competition levels and fostering meaningful exchanges among young athletes and officials. Visiting delegations praised the warm welcome and seamless execution of the sports events.

We believe that the ASG were a resounding success thanks to the efforts of the Organising Committee, the Minister of Sports and Wilaya authorities. He also mentioned the case of the Tabacoop sports complex in Annaba, which once unfrequented, has now become a sports venue and a place where people can comfortably relax, following its renovation.

Everything worked perfectly to enable young African athletes to express themselves and display their competitive talents. The cities of Annaba, Constantine, Skikda and Sétif were centres of attraction for young people from 26 July to 5 August during the ASG, which saw strong participation from African countries, thanks to our country's solidarity.


AIR
AIR
BENIN



Algeria 2025

ANOCA HONOURS ALGERIAN PRESIDENT ABDELMADJID TEBBOUNE

ANOCA paid a special and well-deserved tribute to Algerian President Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, in gratitude for his personal involvement in the success of the event.



ANOCA awarded a gold medal to H.E. President Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, in recognition of his invaluable contribution to the success of the maiden edition of the African School Games, held in Algeria from 26 July to 5 August, during the closing ceremony of the Games at the 19 May Stadium in Annaba.

The award was received by the Minister of Sports, Mr Walid SADI, the Minister of National Education, Mr Mohamed SEGHIR SADAOUI, and the Minister of Youth in charge of the Higher Youth Council, Mr Mustapha HIDAOUI.

ANOCA honoured President Abdelmadjid Tebboune on behalf of the African Olympic Movement, recognising his pivotal role in the "*…the success of this maiden edition and his decision to revive school sports with a view to nurturing young talents.*"

The leaders of the supreme governing body of the African Olympic Movement expressed profound gratitude for the President of the Republic's dedication to supporting African youths in sports, noting that the event has established a strong foundation in Algeria for their development and growth into future stars.



African School Games

ODE TO AFRICAN YOUTHS AND A WINNING BET FOR THE FUTURE

The curtains were drawn on the maiden edition of the African School Games on 5 August 2025, with a haul of medals, records, and, most precious of all, the promise of a bright future for the continent's youths.



This historic event, held in Algeria, could not have been such a success without the unwavering commitment of the Organising Committee, the unflinching support of the Algerian government, and the enlightened vision of ANOCA. As we take stock, it is imperative that we convey our heartfelt and sincere thanks to all of them.

By hosting and actively supporting this first edition, the Algerian government once again demonstrated its pan-African commitment and faith in youths. By investing in quality infrastructure and pooling the necessary resources, Algeria has not only provided a stage for these young talents; it has laid the groundwork for a much bigger project. The Games are indeed perceived as a first step in a long-term strategy to make sports a lever for development, education, and integration for new generations of Africans and an investment in grooming healthy and ambitious youths who are aware of their potential.

As the supreme governing body of the African Olympic Movement, ANOCA has played a crucial role in bringing this project to fruition. The vision to place school sports at the heart of sports development is a strategic approach that promises to bear fruits. By encouraging early





> ***By hosting and actively supporting this first edition, the Algerian government once again demonstrated its pan-African commitment and faith in youths.***

talent identification and instilling Olympic values from an early age, ANOCA is helping to build a strong foundation for the future of African sports on the international stage.

Beyond sports performances, the African School Games Algiers 2025 will be remembered as a symbol of an Africa that believes in its youths and has the means to achieve its ambitions. They embody the hope of a continent that is united, supportive, and focused on excellence.

In conclusion, a big thanks to the Organising Committee for its remarkable work, to the Algerian government for its hospitality and visionary support, and to ANOCA for its enlightened leadership. May this maiden edition be only the beginning of a long and fruitful tradition, carrying with it the dreams and aspirations of a whole generation of future African champions and citizens!



ASG 2025

SMOOTH ORGANISATION, CLEAR-CUT ALGERIAN DOMINATION, FOR A CHALLENGE MET WITH FLYING COLOURS

The host country tops the medal charts with 245 medals, including 130 gold, 81 silver, and 61 bronze.


anep
communication et signalétique
AIR ALGÉRIE
ACNOA - ANOCA

The curtains fell on the maiden edition of the African School Games, held in Algeria, where over 3,500 young athletes representing some 50 countries took part in the continent-wide sports event initiated by ANOCA and ISF. Twenty-one disciplines, with different specialties, were included in the competition programme.

Maghreb athletes, especially those from the host country, excelled in various events. Algeria topped the medal table with 245 medals (103 gold, 81 silver, and 61 bronze), followed by Egypt with 115 medals (59 gold, 33 silver, and 23 bronze), and Tunisia with 155 medals (34 gold, 69 silver, and 52 bronze), clearly demonstrating the region's dominance in the Games.

"*Algeria rose to the challenge by organising the maiden edition. This major continental sports event was marked by outstanding performances from Algerian athletes, who demonstrated clear dominance. Overall, Algerian student-athletes excelled in eight individual sports disciplines, namely wrestling, judo, boxing, athletics, beach rowing, kayaking, cycling, and fencing. Overall, their level was good in certain disciplines, such as wrestling, judo, athletics, and boxing*," said coach Driss HOUAS.





> *Algeria rose to the challenge by organising the maiden edition. This major continental sports event was marked by outstanding performances from Algerian athletes, who demonstrated clear dominance.*

The organisation was flawless, and foreign delegations were impressed with the top-notch facilities, accommodations, and logistics. Meticulous planning ensured a seamless experience, setting a high standard for future editions and potentially boosting continental sports development. Notably, the African School Games, hailed by the IOC, aim to identify and nurture budding talents. The next editions will take place in Nigeria (2027) and Kenya (2029), building on this successful launch.



African School Games - Annaba 2025

THE ACTIVE PRESENCE OF ANOCA PRESIDENT AND EXCO GALVANISES ATHLETES

During the maiden African School Games held in Algerian cities, notably Annaba, President BERRAF and EXCO members were quite active on the field.





They attended various sports events, lending their unwavering support to young athletes from across the continent. They also visited training facilities and competition venues, where they interacted with participants and their coaches.

These meetings highlighted the historic event's dual mission: promoting school sports and fostering friendship among Africa's emerging talents. The ANOCA President and Exco members demonstrated their commitment to grassroots sports development, recognising its potential to nurture the continent's future champions.

"WHAT THEY SAID"




GAM ALG
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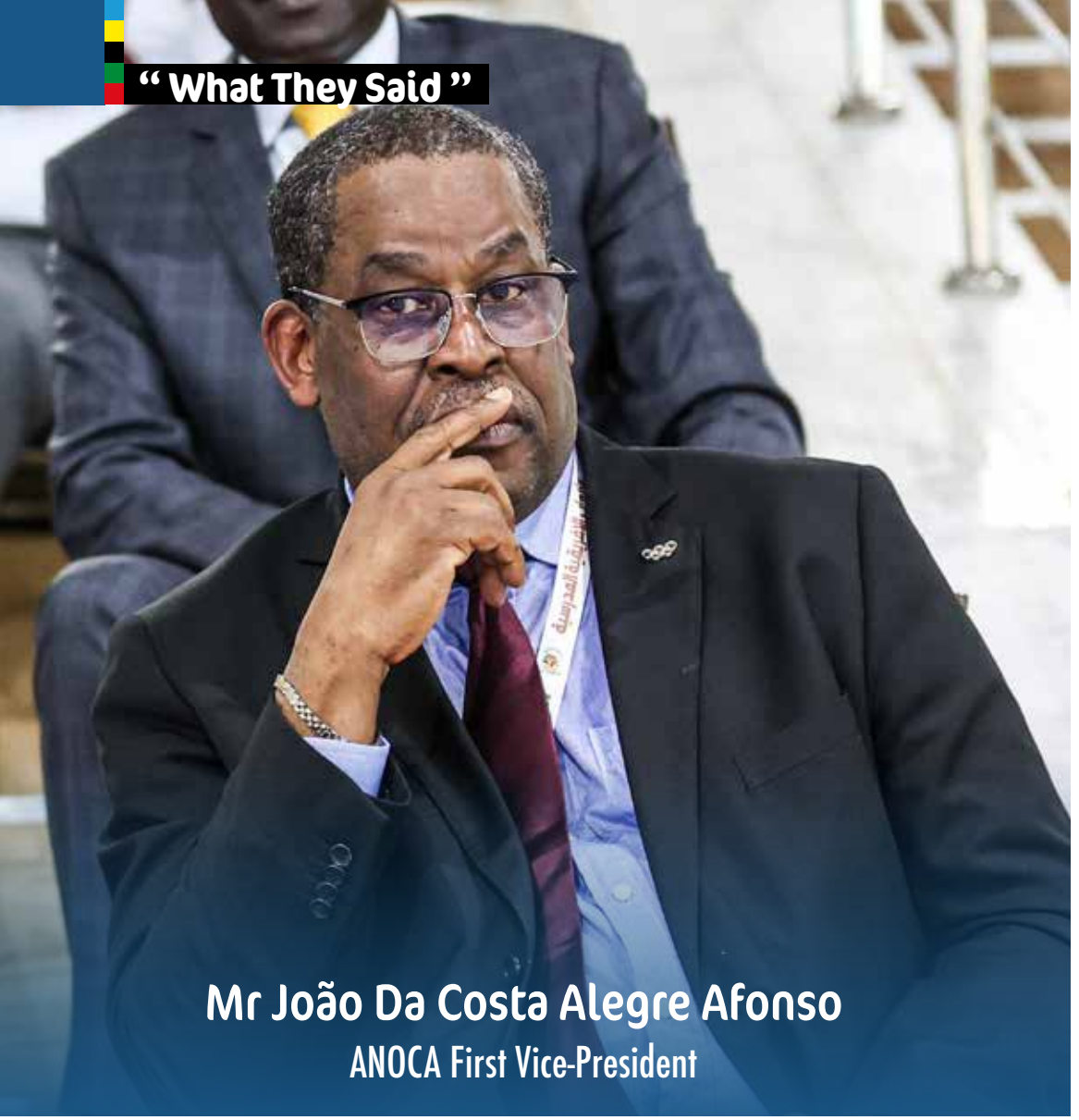


Mr João Da Costa Alegre Afonso

ANOCA First Vice-President

João Da Costa ALEGRE AFONSO: I would say without mincing words that the organisation of the Games was a success. At the end of this competition, one can say that, despite facing some challenges, it was a resounding success. We worked with the Organising Committee to address some issues, and today, everyone is satisfied. During the Chefs de Mission meeting, everyone expressed their satisfaction. Suffice it to say that this was a maiden edition and organising an event for the first time is always difficult.

We will, of course, draft our report and make recommendations. But I must acknowledge that transportation was a major challenge on the first day. Fortunately, participants ultimately understood there were constraints, and the situation was addressed. However, what we must keep in mind is that the Games did not seek to enable some athletes to clinch 100 or 50 medals. No! Their main goal was to educate our children, groom them for the future of African sports and identify future champions.

It is on this basis that we launched the Games: to instill in our young people Olympic values and the values of sports, but also to initiate an identification process for emerging talents, so we can follow them through to major events. For instance, we will soon hold the African Youth Games in Angola in December, followed by the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar. We believe these Games are a major African celebration and we must be ready to participate with our top athletes. This is the spirit in which these Games were created, and it is with this same spirit that we will continue to work towards their success.

Today, Chefs de Mission requested that the Games should be held every two years and not four. And they are right. We cannot identify talents every four years, but every two years to prepare for the future. For us, this is a crucial point and we will ensure to follow up on the request.

Another sticking point is the age of participants. The relevant commission was not here, however, we will create one to focus specifically on the issue. As a matter of fact, we will review



the profile of some athletes who mounted the podium, given that several countries raised questions about their real age. When comparing some athletes, we saw major disparities: younger faces compared to older ones. We will therefore carry out a broad harmonisation process to see what needs to be done. ANOCA's intentions are crystal clear: support the best and help them prepare for both Angola and Dakar.

Admittedly, this commission was not present here, but the idea is to appoint four officials, each representing a category of sports: water sports, combat sports, team sports and individual sports. Together, they will have to work on a clear proposal to be submitted to ANOCA, based on the results obtained here in Algeria. The aim is to continue working with the new talents identified at these Games.

> *Our vision is to win more medals at the Olympic Games. But this task does not fall solely on ANOCA. Every NOC and every country must get involved to show that Africa is capable.*

This follow-up will not only be done with ANOCA staff, but above all, with confederations, in collaboration with coordination committees to find the best way of supporting these young athletes. Today, existing commissions



ended their mandate, and as we enter a new Olympic cycle, new commissions are being created. That is why we set up this working group, which is currently preparing proposals. When the new committee is put in place, it will take over. But as of now, we are going to submit clear recommendations to ANOCA to ensure these athletes are monitored.

Is the idea of organising the School Games every two years realistic?

Joao Da Costa ALEGRE AFONSO: I believe that anything is possible if we work together and if a country is prepared to host the event. The good news is that two countries have already come forward, expressing their availability to host the next edition: Nigeria and Kenya. This is a very encouraging sign, a testament to growing interest in the Games.

Henceforth, it is up to us at ANOCA to decide whether we want the Games to be held every two years or every four years. But as a technician, I personally don’t think four years is a good time to identify talents. Talents should be spotted every year, because some young



people arrive, others disappear, and generations change rapidly. On the other hand, organising the School Games every two years is an excellent option, as it allows us to feed into and prepare for the Youth Games, which are held every four years.

Obviously, this will also depend on how we design our strategy and the resources we have available to support countries that wish to organise the Games. The outstanding success of the Games in Algeria was directly linked to the decision of the government and the President of the Republic to bear the cost of accommodation, catering and transportation, enabling several countries to participate, even though plane tickets to Algeria were quite expensive. Many countries had not budgeted for such expenses, and without this support they would not have been able to send their delegations. This measure greatly facilitated the success of the event.

Over 50 NOCs participated, increasing the quality and visibility of the Games. We need to sustain the momentum. A first edition is always difficult, but today we have everything we need to ensure the second edition is well organised.

One last question, Mr Vice-President: are you optimistic about the future?

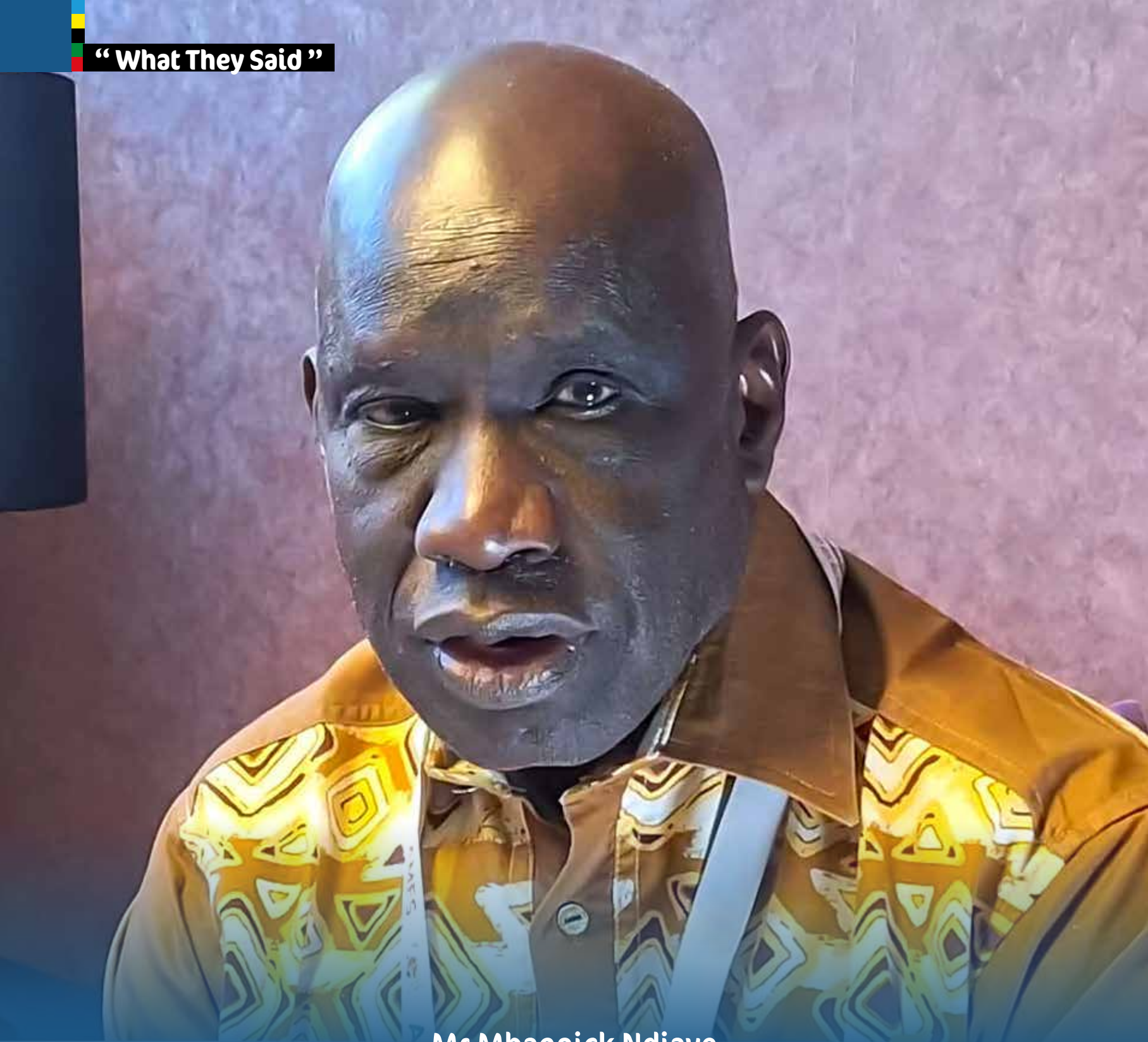
Joao Da Costa ALEGRE AFONSO: Of course! The aim of these Games is to identify talents, but also to prepare African athletes for the future, not just for the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, but also for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles and even Brisbane 2032. If we start the identification process now, we will have the time to prepare our young people in the best possible conditions, so that they can reach the very highest level and represent Africa with dignity.

Our vision is to win more medals at the Olympic Games. But this task does not fall solely on ANOCA. Every NOC and every country must get involved to show that Africa is capable. Today, all eyes are on Africa: it is the youngest continent, and also the only one that has never hosted the Olympic Games. But this must change.

We have the basic conditions in place, but we need to change our mindset. We must stop saying, “This is Africa, so it will be different. No! We must follow the rules and organise ourselves in a rigorous and professional manner. If we do that, I firmly believe that Africa can one day host the Olympic Games.

And today, we have a historic opportunity: for the first time ever, we have an African President of the IOC, and she is a woman. No one would have imagined this, and yet it is a reality. If we plan properly and change our mindset, we have a real chance of one day hosting the Olympic Games. Because Africa has the skills, it has the talent, it has a dynamic youth. What we lack is a solid organisation.

Thank you, Mr President.



Mr Mbagnick Ndiaye
President of the African Fencing Confederation



First of all, we must commend the initiative. It is a lofty initiative taken by ANOCA in association with the International School Sport Federation. The fact that the games held in Algeria is further proof that Algeria is a sporting nation. The fact that the President of the Republic agreed to be patron of this event shows that African leaders in general, and Algerian authorities in particular, pay special attention to sport, which fosters unity, cohesion and excellence.

My impression from this first experience is that it brought African youth in general together, to compete in a spirit of fraternity, in a warm atmosphere, but also to ensure that we can truly identify some young talents in the various disciplines on the programme and ensure that these very friendly competitions give us an idea of the future of our various disciplines through these competitions that took place in Annaba, Sétif and other locations. The confederations and ANOCA have been able to identify young talents who, with encouragement and guidance, can bring us great satisfaction in future international competitions.

This means that ANOCA is currently working to identify and mentor young people who, in two, three, or four years, could bring us great satisfaction. If we take the case of fencing, after applauding Benin’s achievement in coming third in the team épée event, this is work that is being done because I watched a few videos where Benin is carrying out a number of initiatives. And it is the efforts made by Benin to promote the discipline that have brought about these results. But we are also identifying talented individuals who can coach and bring us great satisfaction.

That is my impression. Beyond the camaraderie, beyond the competitions, beyond the youthful atmosphere, we must also commend the population’s support for these events because in several locations, the people came, supported and mentored the young people, and this is truly a success for ANOCA and a success for Algeria as the host country. But it is also a success for the confederations whose disciplines were on schedule.

I hope that, in the future, the programme will feature more disciplines, more athletes, and that there will also be much closer supervision of these budding talents who are about to blossom. In any case, through these events, ANOCA and the African continent are identifying young people who will bring us a lot of satisfaction in the future.



N'goan Georges Joseph

President of NOC Côte d'Ivoire

We would like to thank Algerian authorities for providing young Africans with all the resources they need. We must commend them, and Algeria is a great country. We have seen the infrastructure; it is a great country. We must applaud and thank the Algerian authorities and people, who gave a warm welcome to the young people who came to participate in the maiden African School Games.

Barbari Khireddine

Secretary General of NOC Algeria

Hello! Let me introduce myself. I am Barbari KHIREDDINE, President of the Algerian Cycling Federation and Secretary General of the Algerian Olympic and Sports Committee.

Today, we are witnessing the close of the cycling event with a 100% Algerian victory. I think today was a very tactical race, hotly contested by Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Namibia, and other teams such as Equatorial Guinea.

You know very well that a cycling race has to be managed. There were many difficulties along the way. Team Algeria managed their efforts well. They placed one athlete at the front of the race and their teammates controlled the chasing group well. They also won second and third place in the final sprint.



All in all, with such a well-organised event, I would like to thank ANOCA, the owner of the Games, for its efforts and for choosing Algeria as the host country. And I wish good luck to all the African teams that participated and demonstrated the pan-African spirit.

It is time to focus on other goals. The African Youth Games in Angola are coming up very soon. There will also be the Youth Olympic Games in 2026, and we wish the entire African community all the best.

Alexandro Martin Owono E.

President of Comitee Olympic Equatorial Guinea

Here in Equatorial Guinea, we would like to thank Algeria for taking on the responsibility of hosting the maiden edition of the African School Games. We think it’s crucial for young Africans to get experience of international competitions at this age. We can only applaud this great initiative by ANOCA and Algeria, which has ensured the organisation. We congratulate the Algerian Olympic Committee and ANOCA as well. We hope that this initiative will continue in the coming years. It is fundamentally important for us.

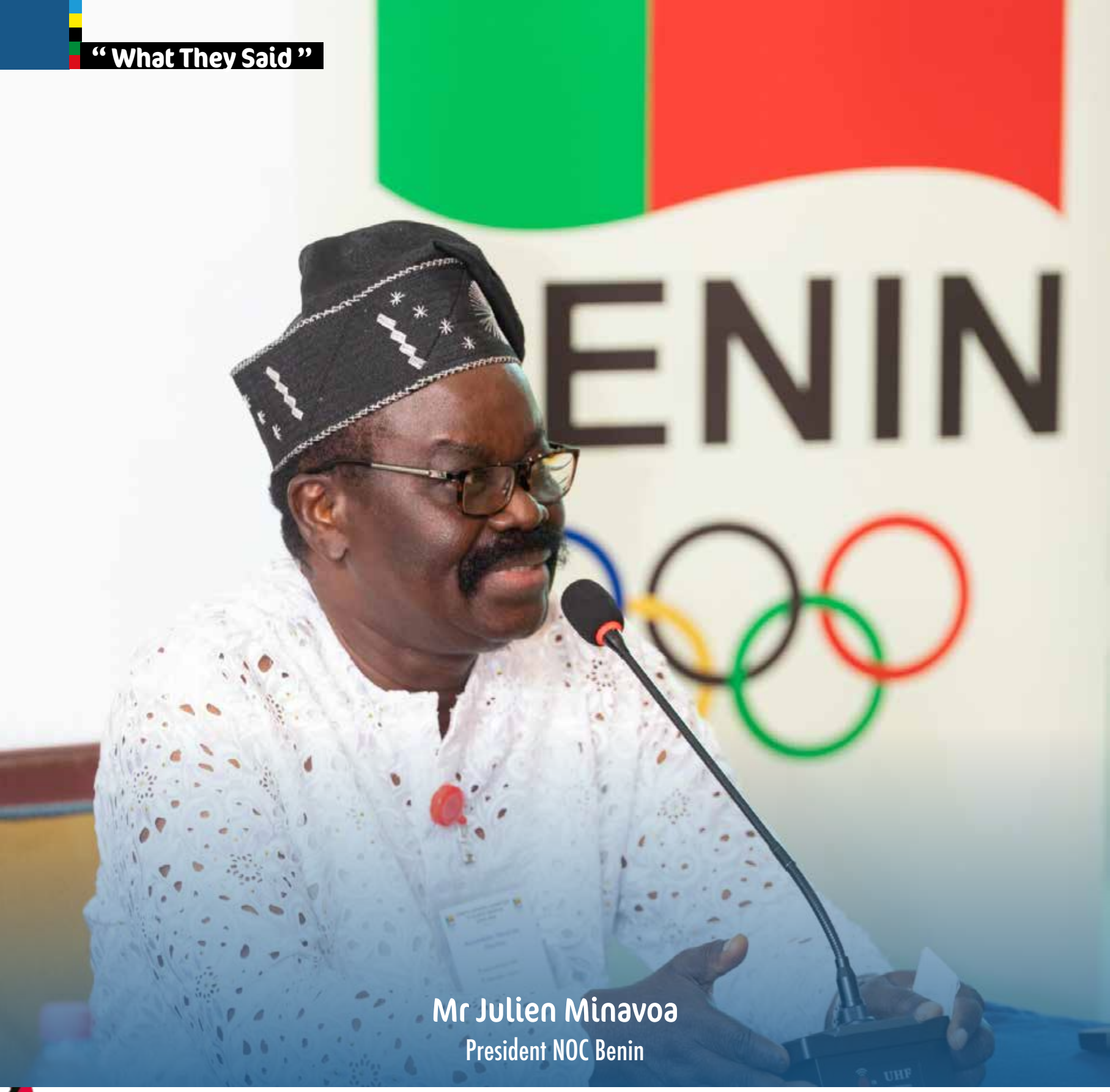


Ben Ali Meriam

Doctor, Tunisia

I think for a maiden African school final, it was a success. The organisation was good. There is always room for improvement, we must always strive to improve. But the Algerians generally did well. The important thing is that all Africans came together and that this event went hitch-free. I hope for the best, for even better things to come, and see you next time.





Mr Julien Minavoa
President NOC Benin



Your question would require me to go into the history of how these games are organised. As you know, these games are essentially organised and sponsored by ANOCA (the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa). You know that we have talked about the African School Games; then you know very well how the sports movement is structured around the world, with separate entities: the civil sports movement, the school and university sports movement, and the military sports movement.

If ANOCA has ended up on this path of the school sports movement or continental school games, it is precisely in its quest to create its own products, because until now, ANOCA, like most other continental associations in the Olympic movement, has lived solely on subsidies from Olympic solidarity, i.e. from the IOC. You can therefore understand that in its quest to generate its own revenue, ANOCA may try its hand at this first competition, this first edition of the African School Games.

You have seen the conditions under which it was organised and the time it took to do so. Everything started (...), the information was announced at the Extraordinary General Assembly held during Paris 2024, and the various Olympic Committees began to scramble to be able to participate in the competition.

The Algerian government has done a great deal by providing considerable resources, namely that all participants living in the Games Village are not only provided with free accommodation but also free meals. This has led to the issue of international transport, where Algeria has made its airline, Air Algérie, available to delegations for all countries it flies to. Competitors and members of the various delegations are coming to this competition with reduced prices. That’s from a logistical and organisational point of view.

From a competitive standpoint, I think this is an innovative first edition, which should either be followed by a second edition when another country takes over, or should wake up the leaders of the international and even continental school movement.

As far as performance is concerned, obviously the very limited number of local transport options meant that not everyone was able to attend all the competitions. But from what little we saw, it’s not bad for children of this age group.

I would therefore like to conclude by thanking your media outlet, which, despite its limited resources, worked tirelessly to conduct interviews and inform the world about what happened in Algeria during this maiden edition of the African School Games.

Mr Mtheth Mveli Adam

President of NOC Eswatini



As you know, this is unprecedented. You know, we, Olympic committees, facilitate the development of athletes. And we have various federations that are responsible for the identification, and then, the development of athletes. Competitions of this nature, which I have already said, are unprecedented, the first of their kind at ANOCA level, are addressing the issue of development by the various sports federations and they give an opportunity to the young athletes, at this tender age, to be motivated to do their best so that they can compete even at the highest level possible. Our agenda aims to see our athletes performing at the highest level possible, even up to what we call podium finishes. And for us as Olympic committees, with the federations that are helping develop these athletes, this kind of competition addresses that issue. And I'm sure that all the young athletes that are here want to see themselves growing in terms of competition to the highest level possible.

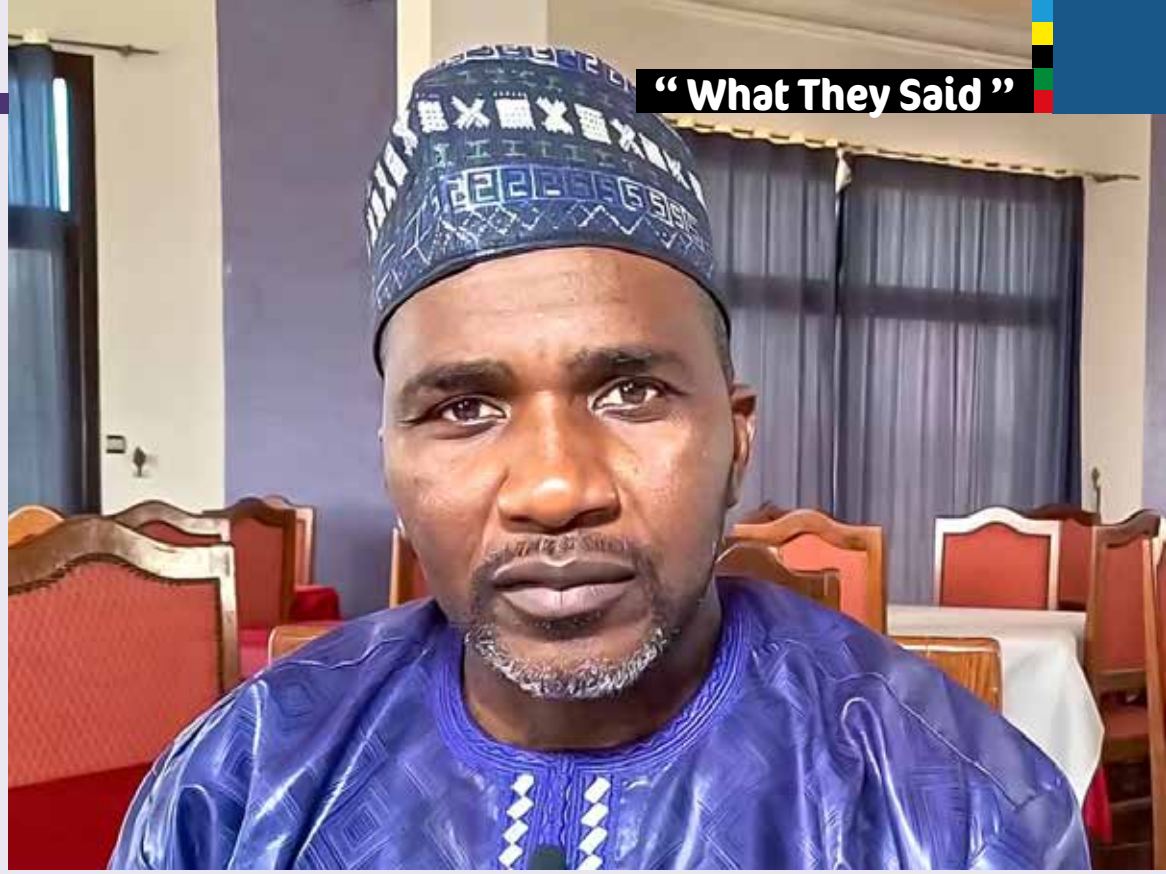
I'm really amazed that even as we talk about these being the first sort of games organised at this level, the organisation may not be perfect, but it's fantastic as far as I am concerned.

Kitili Shadrack Maluki

President NOC Kenya



First, I want to thank ANOCA for the fact that they came up with this initiative. It is only through this initiative, that we can compete with the rest of the world, because especially in the Olympics, we need to nurture the talent from a very early age, we need to develop it and then show that we compete with the rest of the world. So, the fact that the idea came from ANOCA, it's a very commendable idea. And I want to thank ANOCA for seeing this vision and ensuring that we worked a way and we nurtured the talents from our school children, so that Africa can stand at the podium in the Olympics. So, for me, it's very good, the organisation was fantastic. But since this the first time, I must admit that there are some few things here, but those can be rectified. It is understandable because it is the first time we are dealing with children, and I'm sure ANOCA will be filling these gaps and I must commend them. Thank you so much ANOCA, keep the good work you are doing, and Africa will stand on that podium in the Olympics.



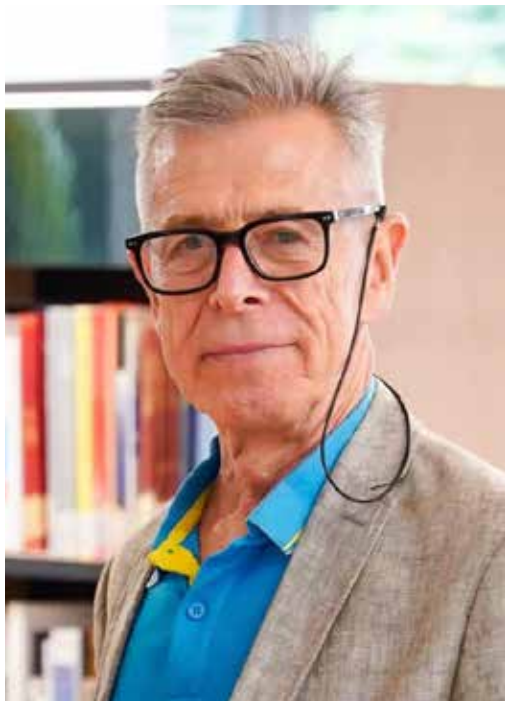
Bai Dodou Jallow

President of NOC Gambia

Thank you very much. This is the first edition of the African School Games organised by ANOCA, in collaboration with the IOC. As the President of the Gambia National Olympic Committee, this is also my first assignment to bring in the Gambian delegation to the Games. But I must say that I’m really impressed with what I‘ve seen with the organisation that has been put in place by Algeria, the Algerian people, the government of Algeria and the Algerian Olympic Committee, but also by ANOCA.

The organisation, from the reception of delegations to where all the athletes and officials were staying to the competition venues have been excellent. It has been very very good. You can see that these young boys and girls who are already in school and given this opportunity to participate in this kind of competitions are very inspired and they’ve started to take in them the spirit of Olympism, the spirit of competition, the spirit of respect, and the spirit of discipline. And really, from this competition you would expect they’ll be inspired to work harder to be Olympic champions in the future. I must say that the competition was great. I mean, ANOCA has done a fantastic job so far. All the competitions are going on very well and the competition among the athletes is great. We’ve also seen that they’ve put in place all the necessary logistics for this competition to go on successfully, and so far, everything is going on smoothly and successfully.

I’d like to thank the Algerian National Olympic Committee and the Algerian government for putting up such a platform and hosting very successful Games. But also thank the National Olympic Committees that have participated in these Games. Indeed, I’m really impressed and I think that with this kind of organisation and with these kind of activities, African sports is going to grow, and you know, it will help Africa to also compete even in the Olympic Games and the Youth Olympic Games, especially the ones that are coming in 2026 in Dakar and which are going to be held in Africa. This competition is going to serve as a big inspiration for athletes that will go on to compete in the Youth Olympic Games next year. So, I want to thank ANOCA, Algeria again, the Algerian people, and the Algerian government. They’re very wonderful, very welcoming and very nice. You know, the accommodation facilities; the food is wonderful. So, I’m really very impressed and very happy, and I want to see a lot of these activities organised in Africa.



Xavier Jeannin

President Alumni Association of the International Olympic Academy



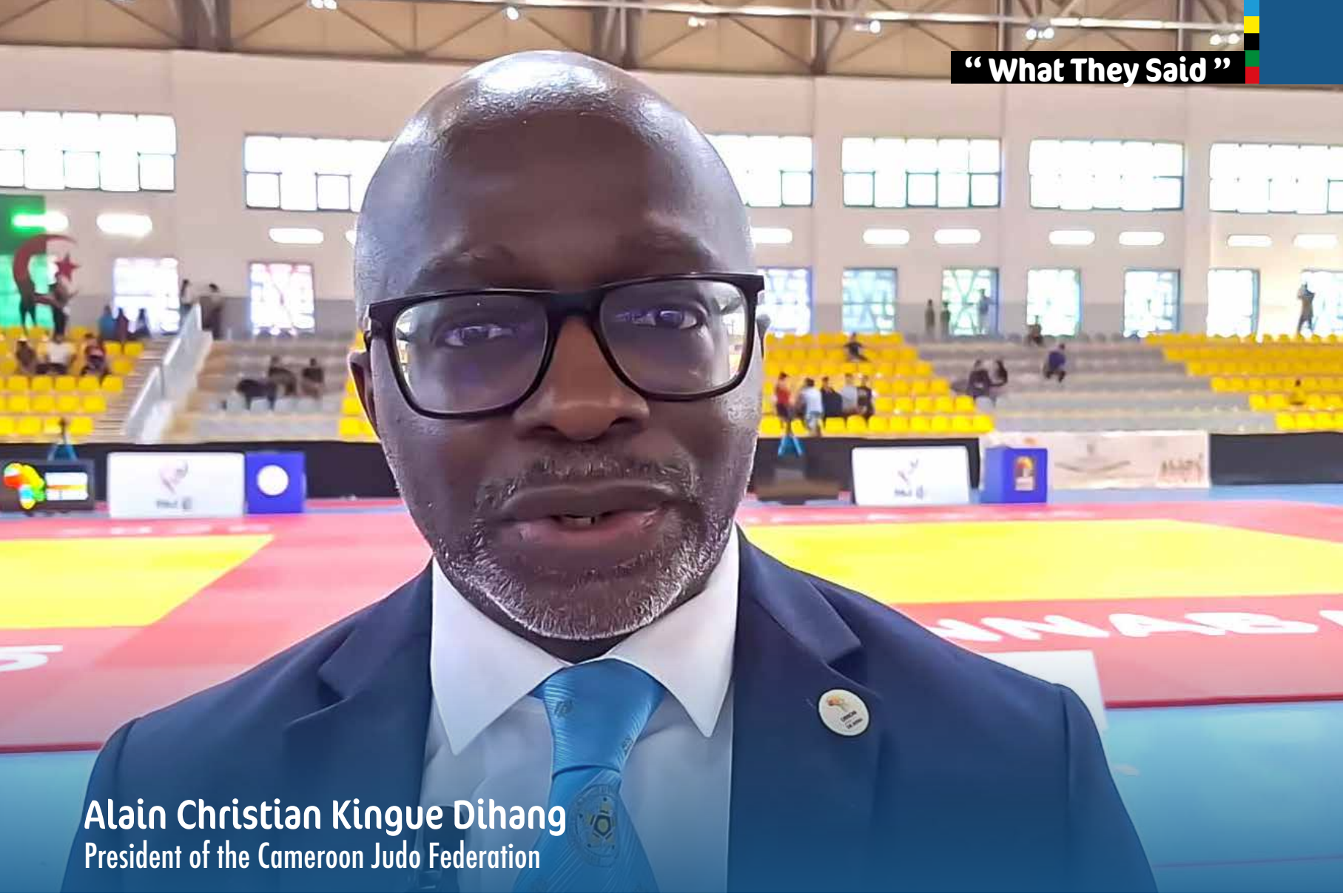
The maiden edition of the African School Games in Algeria marked a turning point for school sports on the continent.

Beyond the medals, the Games embodied a moment of African unity, as opponents exchanged warm hugs, sang together in the stands, and came together in evenings where tradition seamlessly blended with modernity. The host county, Algeria, exceeded expectations, showcasing Olympic values that shone brightly:

- **Excellence**: each athlete pushed their limits, setting new records and demonstrating that the School Games are a breeding ground for future champions.
- **Friendship**: the bonds forged among young people from diverse cultures and languages showcased the unifying power of sport as a universal language.
- **Respect**: fair play, mutual support, and discipline were on full display, underscoring that true victory is rooted in honour and integrity.

In a nutshell, this inaugural edition showed that school sports can be a powerful lever for education, unity, and peace.

Congratulations once again on the outstanding organisation, which put young people first - a resounding success!



Alain Christian Kingue Dihang
President of the Cameroon Judo Federation

Hello! I am Alain Christian KINGUE, President of the Cameroon Judo Federation and Head Sports Director of the African Judo Union. I have been appointed as technical delegate here to monitor the competition at the maiden African School Games.

I believe this is a very good initiative by ANOCA, which allows young students, young Africans and young talents to prepare for future events. And we have seen that there is a lot of enthusiasm and desire. Many countries have distinguished themselves. 21 of the 54 African countries have been involved, and this is only the maiden edition. And for a maiden edition, it has been a success because the young people were enthusiastic. We saw high-quality, well-executed fights, and we can only encourage this kind of initiative. ANOCA should repeat this initiative in the future to empower young Africans. This will allow them to rub shoulders with athletes from Western and Asian countries, who have many more competitions in this age group. So it’s a very good feeling, a feeling of success, and we hope that ANOCA will continue in this vein.

Balogoun Akim
Athletics Coach – Benin



Yes, but really, it’s a stunning feat! She’s a very, very promising athlete, so we’ll always hope for the best from her. Today, she has just proven her supremacy over all these great nations by grabbing gold [...]. History is being made, and this historic moment needs to be closely monitored.

I have always said that I am here to produce athletes for major sporting events, like the World Championships, African Championships, African Games, Francophonie Games, and why not the Olympic Games. My objective, and that of the athletes, is to compete in the 2028 Olympic Games. And if that doesn’t happen, we will switch to the 2032 Olympic Games.



Sallah Mariama
Coach (Gambia)

I can say that we really fought hard for these medals. The boys did a good job and that’s what we expected. For us, it’s no surprise, because we know what we’re capable of. That’s all there is to it. At least we excelled in all disciplines and, in the end, we got the medals. That’s all there is to it.

As for the organisation, I can say that it doesn’t follow certain rules that they use. So, these aren’t World Athletics rules, and some of them are their own rules. That’s the only problem with this competition. But I think, in all sincerity, that they did a good job.



Nwanko Chinozie Rosemary
Gold medallist 100m

My name is NWANKO CHINOZIE Rosemary from Nigeria. I won the gold medal in the youth 100m finals. And I’m so happy to have the gold because this is what I worked for. I have been praying to God, and I’m so happy and so grateful to God that today I was able to get the gold.



Sonon Rufine
Gold medallist 800m girls

I am very happy with my performance today and I am very happy because I beat my records set in Seville and Abidjan. I am very happy with this competition. I promise you that next time I will improve my performance.

Congo
(Gold and silver medallist)



I am extremely happy about the maiden African School Games. I am satisfied with my results. In the 100m, I emerged third. I am indeed happy and proud of myself, but I will work harder to improve my performance in the 100m. I intend to double my efforts […] the best is yet to come!

Abdoullah Bariam
Judoka Guinea Conakry



My name is ABDOULLAH Bariam. I’m a judoka, I represented Guinea Conakry. I won the bronze medal. The Games were well organized, and I am pleased with my performance.

The meals were good and I’m so happy for the organisers. I prayed that God should help them because they are helping us a lot. And again, I respect them.

Bosson Hillary
(Côte d’Ivoire)



Hello! I am NIAMIEN BOSSON Grecy Hillary, an athlete from Côte d’Ivoire. I am elated to be here, since this is my first time participating. Everything is going on smoothly and the organisation is excellent. […] Everyone is friendly, some participants are English-speaking, and well, given that we do not have a good mastery of English language, we are doing our best to adapt to the situation. That’s about it!


زامبيا
Zambia
Zambie

Exclusive interview

MUSTAPHA BERRAF TAKES STOCK OF THE AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES





ANOCA President Mustapha Berraf, a visionary leader, has been instrumental in driving African sports forward. Under his guidance, ANOCA has fostered greater unity and sports development across the continent. In this interview, buoyed by the event's triumph, he reflects on the successful organisation, shares his agenda, and outlines priorities.



ANOCA Magazine: How does the ANOCA President feel after the resounding success of the maiden edition of the African School Games?

Mustapha BERRAF: I am incredibly proud and satisfied with the success of the inaugural African School Games. It was a dream come true, and I am elated to see that young African athletes came together to share their passion for sports. The success of these Games is a testament to the determination and hard work of the entire ANOCA team, African NOCs and the Algerian authorities who supported this event.

I would like to pay tribute to Algerian authorities, in particular to the President of the Republic, who believed in this great project, inspired, and supported it in every way possible, including by ensuring free participation, mobilising huge human and material resources, and creating an environment conducive to this exceptional success.

I would also like to extend my warmest thanks to President Thomas BACH, who encouraged this historic initiative. I am proud of what my team and I have achieved, working in perfect harmony with the IOC members in Africa and in particular with Ms Kirsty COVENTRY, our wonderful IOC President.

How would you assess these maiden African School Games from an organisational standpoint, considering how they unfolded and concluded?

I believe the Games were an organisational success across the board. There was massive participation by young athletes from across the continent, and competitions were of a high standard. The sports facilities in Algeria were excellent, and athletes and officials received a warm and friendly welcome. The closing ceremony was a moving moment, featuring artistic and cultural performances that highlighted the rich diversity of the African continent.

What are the prospects for ANOCA and its President with regard to the future of the African Olympic Movement in general, particularly the organisation of competitions and especially upcoming African School Games?

The maiden African School Games have opened up new prospects for the African Olympic Movement. We will continue to work hard to promote sports and Olympic values in Africa, and we are already planning the next African School Games. We will also continue to support African NOCs and sports federations to help them develop their programmes and promote sports in their countries.

If you were to look back on the actions you have taken since you successfully took the helm of ANOCA, what would you say at the end of this continental event that thrilled youths of an entire continent?

I am proud of what we have achieved at ANOCA since I became President. We have worked tirelessly to promote sports and Olympic values in Africa, and we have achieved significant results. The maiden African School Games are an example of our determination to develop sports in Africa and provide opportunities for young athletes. We will continue to work to achieve our goals and make sports a tool for development and peace in Africa.

What is your immediate agenda as the curtains fall on the maiden African School Games 2025?

My immediate agenda is to continue working on ongoing projects and planning the next steps for ANOCA. We will also review the lessons learned from this maiden African School Games to improve future events.

We will make it a point of honour to work on strengthening ties with international sports organisations, such as the IOC. I will also meet with African NOCs and sports federations to discuss the next steps and opportunities for collaboration. We will continue to promote sports and Olympic values in Africa and provide opportunities for young athletes to achieve their dreams.

The maiden African School Games have opened up new prospects for the African Olympic Movement. We will continue to work hard to promote sports and Olympic values in Africa, and we are already planning the next African School Games.

As long as I lead the African Olympic Movement, I will keep a close eye on the future of our young athletes, from school children to elite athletes, always putting education and fair play in sports and in life first. They are all our children; let's love and shower them with our deepest affection. They truly deserve it.



Results

MEDAL TABLE OF THE AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES ALGERIA 2025


الألعاب الإفريقية المدرسية
AFRICAN SCHOOL GAMES
ALGERIA 2025

RANKING OF COUNTRIES BY MEDALS AT THE AFRICAN SCHOLL GAMES ALGERIA 2025

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Algeria	103	81	61	245
2	Egypt	59	33	23	115
3	Tunisia	34	69	52	155
4	Nigeria	6	10	9	25
5	Kenya	5	1	5	11
6	Chad	5	1	3	9
7	Gambia	3	5	4	12
8	Namibia	2	5	15	22
9	Democratic Republic of Congo	2	4	3	9
10	Ghana	2	3	9	14

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
11	Côte d'Ivoire	2	1	8	11
12	Benin	1	2	2	5
13	Uganda	1	1	3	5
14	Central African Republic	1	1	0	2
15	Republic of Congo	1	0	3	4
16	Angola	1	0	1	2
17	Rwanda	1	0	1	2
18	Libya	0	2	5	7
19	Madagascar	0	2	1	3
20	Gabon	0	1	8	9

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
21	Djibouti	0	1	0	1
22	Eswatini	0	0	4	4
23	Sao Tome and Principe	0	0	3	3
24	Guinea	0	0	2	2
25	South Africa	0	0	2	2
26	Togo	0	0	2	2
27	Zambia	0	0	2	2
28	Comoros	0	0	1	1
29	Lesotho	0	0	1	1
30	Mauritania	0	0	1	1

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
31	South Sudan	0	0	1	1
32	Senegal	0	0	1	1
33	Zimbabwe	0	0	1	1
34	Botswana	0	0	0	0
35	Burkina Faso	0	0	0	0
36	Cameroon	0	0	0	0
37	Cape Verde	0	0	0	0
38	Ethiopia	0	0	0	0
39	Guinea-Bissau	0	0	0	0
40	Equatorial Guinea	0	0	0	0

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
41	Liberia	0	0	0	0
42	Malawi	0	0	0	0
43	Mali	0	0	0	0
44	Mozambique	0	0	0	0
45	Mauritius	0	0	0	0
46	Niger	0	0	0	0
47	Seychelles	0	0	0	0
48	Sierra Leone	0	0	0	0
49	Sudan	0	0	0	0
50	Tanzania	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL		**229**	**223**	**237**	**689**










F.G.SOWE
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الألعاب الإفريقية
IOOL GAMES
NS SCOLAIRES
2025
من 26 جويل
ugust 05th


PRESS










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AIR ALGÉRIE




RWANDA
24
3




Senegal
Sénégal


من 26 جويلية الى 05 أوت
July 26th - August 05th
SKIKDA
SETIF
1
2
3




THANK YOU
Algeria