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PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES OF AFRICA



2ND ANOCA SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

THE AFRICAN OLYMPIC MOVEMENT COMMITS TO SUSTAINABLE SPORT IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHALLENGES



The Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA), in collaboration with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), successfully organised the 2nd ANOCA Sustainability Forum on 15 December 2025, in Luanda, Angola.

Under the theme «***African Sport Facing Climate Challenges: Acting Together for a Sustainable Future***,» this high-level continental come together marks a major milestone in shaping an African vision of sustainable sport, adapted to the realities of the continent and aligned with international climate commitments.

A STRATEGIC FORUM AT THE HEART OF THE CONTINENT'S PRIORITIES

Bringing together representatives from over 50 African NOCs, IOC experts, renowned athletes, government officials, institutional partners, and environmental organisations, the Forum provided a pan-African platform for dialogue, experience sharing, and concrete action.



The objectives were clear:

- **Fully integrating environmental sustainability into African sports policies;**
- **Reducing the carbon footprint of sports events;**
- **Promoting responsible waste management, green infrastructure, and sustainable mobility;**
- **Engaging youths and athletes as climate change ambassadors;**
- **Positioning Africa as a credible and innovative player in the global fight against climate change.**

STRONG MESSAGE FROM THE AFRICAN OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

In his opening address, the ANOCA President, the Honorable Mustapha Berraf, made a clarion call for collective action:

«*The environment cannot wait. Let us act now for Africa, for sport, and for future generations.*»



He urged NOCs to include environmental criteria into all their programmes, to make every competition a showcase of best practices, and to encourage public and private partners to invest in sustainable African sport.

For his part, ANOCA Environment Commission Chair, Mr Botsang Tshenyego, pointed out that climate change is currently the greatest threat to humanity, underscoring the strategic role of sport as a lever for social, cultural, and environmental transformation.

IOC'S SUSTAINED COMMITMENT AND THE EXAMPLE OF PARIS 2024

The main conference, facilitated by Fabrizio D'Angelo, Head of Sustainability at the IOC, highlighted the tangible commitment of the global Olympic Movement to climate issues.



The exemplary outcomes of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games were widely presented, including:

- **A 50% reduction in carbon emissions compared to London 2012;**
- **A fully circular economy with 100% of equipment reused or recycled;**
- **Focus on existing and temporary infrastructure;**
- **A design focused on the second life of facilities and equipment.**

This progress should serve as inspiration for major upcoming African sports events, notably the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026.



RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING AFRICAN NOCS

The Forum was also marked by the presentation of Sustainability Awards to several African National Olympic Committees for their exemplary commitment.

The NOCs of Botswana, Cape Verde, Mauritius, and Uganda were recognised for signing the two main United Nations frameworks on sport and sustainability:

- **The Sport for Climate Action Framework,**
- **And the Sport for Nature Framework.**

Furthermore, ANOCA announced the award of the ANOCA Sustainable Development Trophy to the President of the Republic of Rwanda, in recognition of the stringent environmental policies implemented in the country, including the ban on plastic bags.



ATHLETES AND YOUTHS AT THE HEART OF CLIMATE ACTION

Various panels unanimously recognised the central role of African athletes as influencers and in raising awareness.

Iconic figures such as Tegla Loroupe and Paul Tergat emphasised the need for environmental education from an early age, in schools, clubs, and sports federations.

Many concrete initiatives led by African NOCs were presented:

- **National reforestation programmes,**
- **Waste collection and recycling campaigns,**
- **Elimination of single-use plastics during competitions,**
- **Use of renewable energy in sports facilities,**
- **Digitalization of processes to reduce the ecological footprint.**

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CLEAR RESOLUTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

The Forum concluded with the adoption of a series of strong recommendations, including:

- **Calling on all African NOCs that have not yet signed to join international sustainability frameworks by June 2026;**
- **Mandatory organisation of annual national seminars on the environment and sport;**
- **Deployment of sustainable infrastructure in Olympafrica Centres;**
- **Implementation of measurable environmental reporting to be presented at the 2026 Forum.**



HISTORIC TURNING POINT FOR AFRICAN SPORT

The 2nd ANOCA Sustainability Forum confirms that African sport is ready to fully take on its historic responsibility in addressing the climate emergency. More than a space for reflection, the Forum marks the decisive shift from words to action, with a clear ambition: to make Africa a global leader in sustainable sport.

As pointed out by the Vice President of ANOCA at the closing: "***Responsibility begins with us. The next forum must be one of actions taken and measurable results.***"

THANK YOU !
ANGOLA

