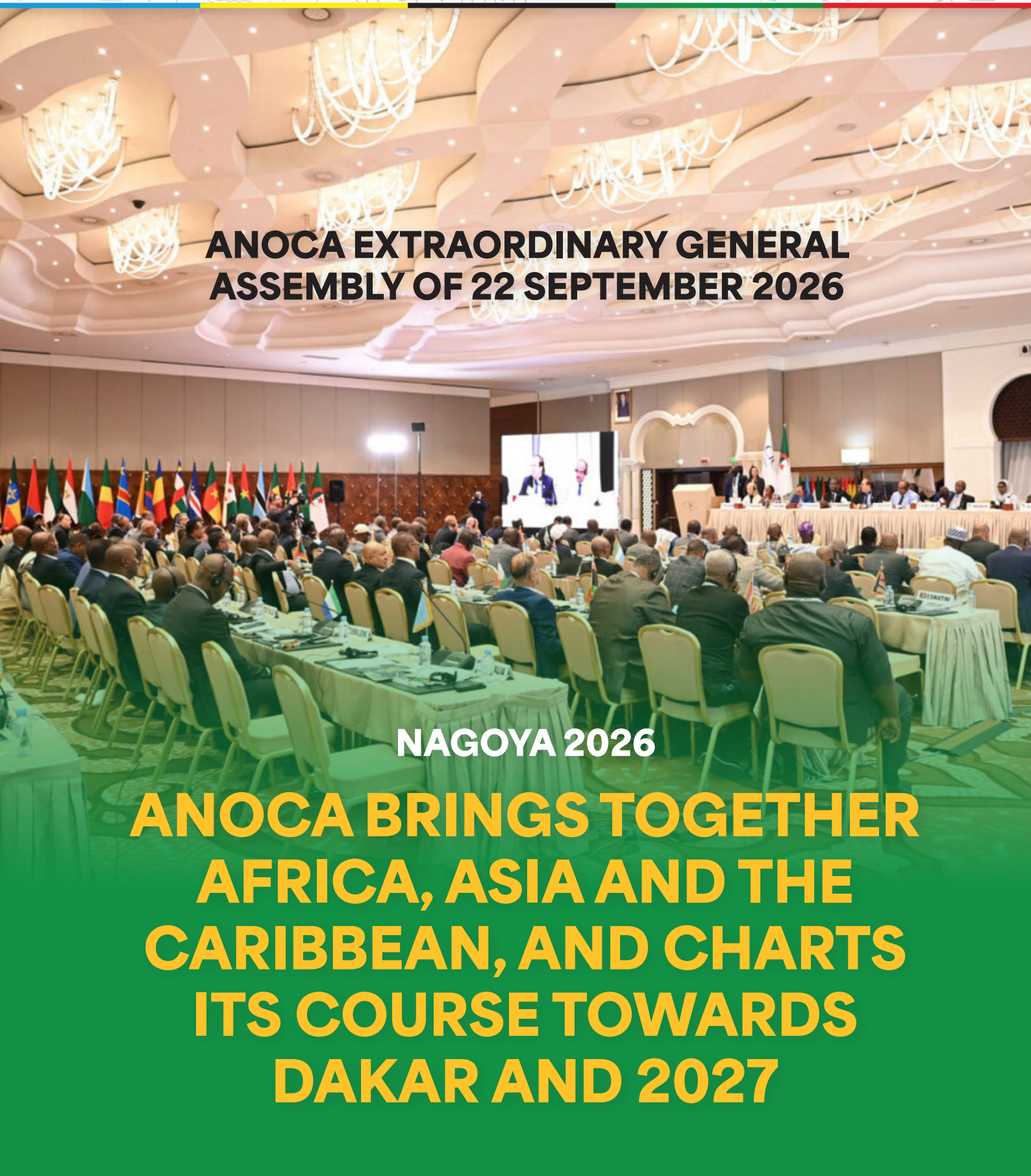
ACNOA - ANOCA

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# Press Release

ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES OF AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE



## ANOCA EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

### NAGOYA 2026

# ANOCA BRINGS TOGETHER AFRICA, ASIA AND THE CARIBBEAN, AND CHARTS ITS COURSE TOWARDS DAKAR AND 2027




Meeting in Nagoya on the sidelines of the 20th Asian Games, ANOCA's Extraordinary General Assembly brought together 47 of the 54 African National Olympic Committees, alongside leaders of the global Olympic Movement. On the agenda: the signing of two agreements, USD 10,000 in support of each NOC for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, progress reports on Africa's four major events scheduled for 2027, and a shared drive to make the All Africa Games a qualifying event for the Olympic Games.

## NAGOYA (JAPAN), 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

## AN ASSEMBLY OPEN TO THE WORLD

Some statutory meetings are remembered for their decisions. Others, for what they say about an institution's place in the world. The Extraordinary General Assembly held in Nagoya on 22 September 2026 belongs to both categories.



In the presence of 47 out of the 54 NOCs, the quorum being comfortably met, ANOCA President Honourable Mustapha Berraf welcomed guests from each family of the Olympic Movement: H.E. Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani, President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA); Ms Baklai Temengil, President of the Oceania National Olympic Committees; Mr Keith Joseph, President of the Caribbean Association of National Olympic Committees (CANOC); and Mr James Macleod, IOC Director of NOC Relations, Olympic Solidarity and Olympism365, accompanied by his team. Also in attendance were African IOC Members and several International Federation Presidents. IOC President Ms Kirsty Coventry, who had been in Nagoya in the preceding days, sent her apologies, because she was being held back in Tokyo. Mr Macleod hailed the cooperation agreements signed between continental organizations, which symbolize, as he stressed, the «***true spirit of solidarity***» the IOC works to promote.

## TWO AGREEMENTS FOR THE FUTURE

## AFRICA-CARIBBEAN: A SPORTING ALLIANCE MADE OFFICIAL

The first highlight of the morning was the signing of a memorandum of understanding between ANOCA and CANOC. Mr Keith Joseph placed the agreement within a longer story: that of two shores of the




Atlantic ocean united by a shared heritage, and of an appeal made in Abuja in 2025 for an alliance between Africa and the Caribbean.

Recalling that the second United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent runs from 2025 to 2034, he invited both sports movements to build bridges of hope through sport, drawing inspiration from Nelson Mandela.

## POWER FOR AFRICAN NOCS

The second agreement, signed with Yude Shanghai Energy, a specialist in temporary power solutions, is in response to a very practical need: several NOCs are unable to work when mains electricity is cut.

Every African NOC will therefore receive a generator set, delivered and installed at the partner's expense. The scheme will start with ten NOCs per year, beginning with those in greatest need. President Berraf thanked the company and invited it to extend this approach to partners in Oceania and the Caribbean: «***We are a team now.***»

«***Africa is no longer waiting, it is on the move***»

ANOCA President opened his address with these words, placed under the sign of ubuntu: «***I am because we are.***» He commended the inauguration of the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games Village and paid tribute to Senegal's highest authorities and people, as well as their legendary Teranga (hospitality). He thanked the IOC and its President, «***one of ours***», and congratulated Kenya, which will host the World Athletics Championships in 2029, the first to be held on the continent.



He sent a message of recognition to NOC Presidents,: «***You are the true pillars of our common edifice.***» He also recalled that the partnership between ANOCA and OCA has been renewed and extended to 2032, with the inclusion of projects linked to artificial intelligence.

## DAKAR 2026: CONCRETE SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN DELEGATIONS

With the YOG opening just in the weeks ahead, scheduled for 31 October to 13 November, preparations for Dakar took central stage. Senegal's representative confirmed that infrastructure and temporary facilities are in place, and that the new venues have been delivered and inaugurated by the Head of State. He urged NOCs to promptly honour the hotel bookings they have signed.

To support delegations, the Assembly adopted several measures:

- **USD 10,000 for each NOC**, i.e. USD 540,000 in total, to support participation and athletes. Each NOC submits its application to the Olympic Solidarity; Treasurer General Mr Habu Gumel will send NOCs a letter setting out various modalities.
- **One accreditation** for Presidents and Secretaries General, with one accompanying guest, as clarified by Mr Macleod. The IOC will pay for athletes' air tickets and accommodation in the Youths Olympic Village; accommo-



dation for officials remains NOCs' responsibility, with ANOCA studying ways to support at least one official per NOC.

- **A motion of solidarity to the Dakar 2026 Organising Committee** was adopted unanimously, with the Assembly thanking the President of the Republic of Senegal. ANOCA will also consider how to provide additional support to the Organizing Committee.

Senegal also proposed that future organizers of African events should recruit from among the 430 young people trained by the Dakar 2026 Learning Academy with the support of the Olympic Solidarity.

## 2027: FOUR EVENTS FOR AFRICAN YOUTHS AND SPORTS MOVEMENT

Delegates then reviewed progress on four major events scheduled for 2027.

| EVENT | HOST CITY | DATES |
|---|---|---|
| African School Games (2nd edition) | Abuja, Nigeria | 14 - 24 August 2027 |
| African Beach Games (3rd edition) | Riaba, Equatorial Guinea | 5 - 15 December 2027 |
| African Youth Games | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | Dates to be set (summer 2027) |
| All Africa Games (14th edition) | Cairo, Egypt | 20 August - 3 September 2027 |

**Abuja** presented a local organizing committee put in place since February 2026, a village planned at Baze University, 17 disciplines and free sports visas. **Riaba** unveiled a budget of USD 11.65 million, nearly two thirds of which is devoted to an Olympic Village that will remain as a legacy, alongside a mascot, the green turtle.

**Addis Ababa** invited all NOC Presidents and IOC Members to come and witness progress achieved in preparations at Ethiopia's expense; President Berraf will send two envoys there to assess conditions and propose dates. Finally, Cairo presented Egypt's Olympic City in the new administrative capital, a historic stadium and more than 2,000 volunteers, under the slogan «***One Africa, One Dream, One Extraordinary Games***».

## QUALIFYING ALL AFRICA GAMES: A SHARED PRIORITY

At the heart of the discussions was one conviction: the All Africa Games must allow our athletes to qualify for the Olympic Games from their own continent. President Berraf indicated that talks are still ongoing with the IOC and ASOIF (the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations), and that a further meeting will take place in Lausanne in October.

The Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to having the Cairo All Africa Games organized under the aegis of the Egyptian NOC, in line with the Olympic Charter. Several delegates, including Dr Donald Rukare on behalf of Zone 5, expressed their support, and diplomatic avenues were discussed with the IOC and the African Union.

In the same spirit, the President called for preserving harmony with public authorities, in compliance with the autonomy of NOCs principle.

## RECOGNITION FOR OCA AND THE ROADMAP AHEAD

The arrival of Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani was one of the warmest moments of the day. OCA President recalled the age-old ties between Asia and Africa, and expressed his wish to develop joint cultural cooperation programmes. President Berraf presented him with the ANOCA trophy, and the Assembly adopted by acclamation a **motion of thanks and solidarity** to OCA and its President.

Finally, the Treasurer General announced that delegates' allowances would be paid by bank transfer upon his return to Abuja, in line with the auditors' recommendations, and recalled the next milestone: ANOC's General Assembly in Hong Kong.

ANOCA leaves Nagoya with strengthened partnerships, tangible support for its NOCs, a 2027 calendar taking shape and a shared conviction: that of an African Olympic Movement moving forward united. As President Berraf reminded delegates, quoting an African proverb: «***Alone we move faster; together we move further.***»

### Key takeaways

- **47 out of 54 NOCs** present; quorum reached.
- **Two agreements signed**: ANOCA – CANOC and ANOCA – Yude Shanghai Energy (one generator set per NOC, 10 NOCs served per year).
- **USD 540,000**: USD 10,000 per NOC for the Dakar 2026 YOG, on application to the Olympic Solidarity.
- **ANOCA – OCA partnership** extended to 2032.
- **Four events in 2027**: Abuja, Riaba, Addis Ababa, Cairo.
- **Objective**: All Africa Games as qualifiers for the Olympic Games; meeting in Lausanne in October.

*Editorial: ANOCA Communications Department*