



**FIRST ANOCA
BEACH GAMES**
14 – 23 JUNE
2019 ISLAND
OF SAL – CAPE
VERDE

**12TH AFRICAN
GAMES**

19 – 31

**AUGUST 2019
RABAT AND
CASABLANCA
KINGDOM OF
MOROCCO**



ANOCA IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF RWANDA

ANOCA joined in the commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the Rwandan genocide as the President, Mr Mustapha Berraf accompanied by the Secretary General; Mr Ahmed Abou Elgasim Hashim took part in the Games organized by ANOCA Zone V in the District of Huye in the southern province. The Games which were staged under the theme

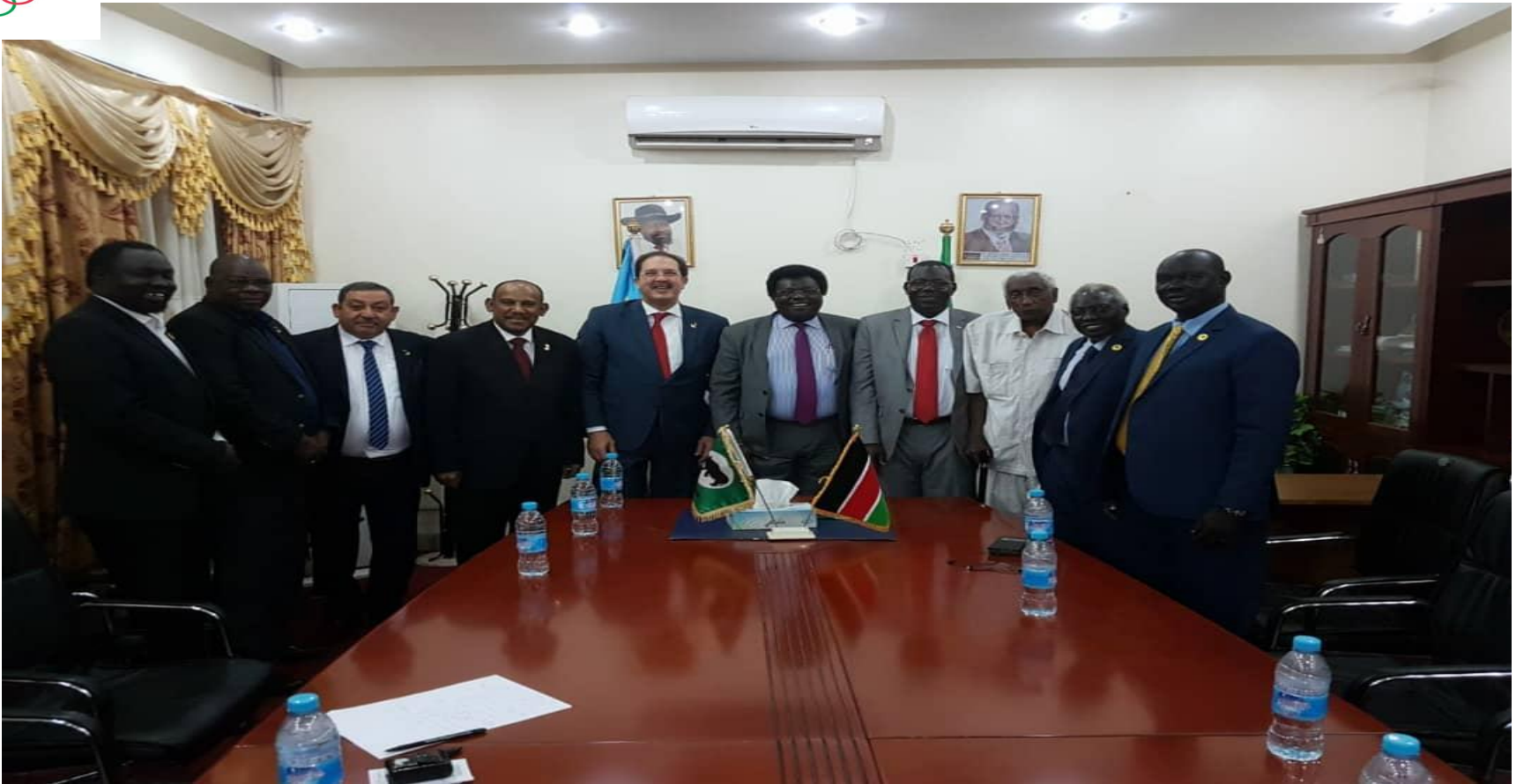


"Peace, Unity and Social Cohesion" saw the participation of teams from the 11 countries in zone 5, a team of refugees as well as the French taekwondo team made up the 400 Athletes who competed in 5 sports



namely Athletics, basketball 3x3, Beach volleyball, taekwondo and cycling. The ANOCA president gave a message of support and encouragement in his address at the opening ceremony of the Games; the same was echoed during the closing ceremony by the ANOCA Secretary General. The President and the Secretary General of ANOCA also attended the General Assembly of Zone 5, while the ANOCA president paid a courtesy visit to the Rwandan Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture. As the government and people of Rwanda pledged through the voice of President Kagame that *"Nothing has the power to turn Rwandans against each other, ever again, this history will not repeat. That is our firm commitment"*, the Games organized by ANOCA Zone V helped to affirm that sport could be used as one of the tools the country can explore to keep its people together, and achieve social cohesion and lasting peace. These games were the good time to educate the youth of the zone 5 about the impact of sport in building Peace, Unity and reconciliation in the society The next edition of the Games scheduled to hold in 2021 has been awarded to Egypt.





ANOCA REMAINS CLOSE TO ITS NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

As part of the core objectives of ANOCA to build stronger relations with its National Olympic Committees for the ultimate and exclusive benefit of athletes in the Continent, the President of ANOCA on was on a working visit to the NOCs of Sudan and South Sudan in the month of March to discuss sports development and have an understanding of their operating environment. Mr Mustapha Berraf who was accompanied by the ANOCA Secretary General, Mr Ahmed Abou Elgasim Hashim, held talks with the leadership of both countries on an array of topics relating to sports development and youth



empowerment. The ANOCA delegation further visited the land allotted to the NOC by the Government of South Sudan for the building of their Headquarters. Speaking at the end of the visit, the President of ANOCA stated that *“There is no gainsaying that the visit afforded us the opportunity to understand the workings of both NOCs while also appreciating their commitment, determination and drive to put in the necessary effort toward continued development of sport and the propagation of Olympic ideals in their countries while providing constant support to their athletes”*. He further assured them of ANOCA’s support in ensuring that they achieve their objectives *“The NOCs of Sudan and South Sudan can rest assured that ANOCA will continue to contribute its quota in ensuring that they have the wherewithal to achieve their set objectives”*.



THE WELL-BEING OF OUR NOCs OUR PRIORITY

ANOCA closely followed events in the Southern Hemisphere, where the Tropical Cyclone Idai, the worst to have hit the African Continent caused great devastation and loss of lives especially in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. The President of ANOCA in his condolence and solidarity messages to the sports leaders of the three countries, stated that ANOCA was not indifferent to the plight of their people, *“Permit us therefore on behalf of the ANOCA Executive Board and the African Olympic Family as a whole, to use this medium to extend to you personally and through you to the government and people of your country our deepest sympathies and sincere condolences for the lives lost and the challenging moments your country is currently passing through. Rest assured that ANOCA stands in solidarity with you in this period of trial and our thoughts and prayers are with you”*. Steps have also been taken by the leadership of ANOCA within the framework of its Humanitarian Response Policy and Social Responsibility to provide assistance to the three NOCs to enable them contribute in the rehabilitation of those affected by the Cyclone in their respective countries.



MEETING OF ANOCA AND AASC PRESIDENTS



In keeping with the cooperation ties between the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) and the Association of African Sports Confederations (AASC), the President of ANOCA, Mr Mustapha Berraf met with the President of AASC, Gen. Ahmed Nasser at the headquarters of the AASC in Cairo, Egypt to discuss issues of mutual interest. Both entities are directly involved with the organisation, management and technicalities of the African Games following the tripartite agreement signed with the African Union. Preparations for the 12th edition of the African Games are on-going and both men are working very hard to ensure that the games are a resounding success and a pride for the African continent.

ANOCA AT THE SERVICE OF ITS NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

The Recruitment of a Technical Director in ANOCA is underway following the notice published on 23 January 2019. A 4-man panel was set up by the ANOCA Executive Committee, saddled with the responsibility of ensuring that the very best candidate is selected in line with the objectives and vision of the organisation.

The Tokyo 2020 Commission has commenced examination of applications from National Olympic Committees for the award of grants to African Athletes in preparation for their participation in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The Commission was set up by ANOCA to oversee the Athletes' Support Fund which was launched with the aim of providing financial aid to those athletes who are not beneficiaries of Olympic Solidarity Scholarships, but have the potential for winning medals during the 2020 Olympic Games.

The ANOCA Secretariat has continued to provide support to African National Olympic Committees in the utilisation of the NOCs activities and other programs made available to them and their athletes by Olympic Solidarity and the IOC.



ANOCA REPRESENTED AT THE ISSF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF) held in Saudi Arabia's Jeddah to nominate a new president for the period between 2019 and 2021. The gathering which saw the appointment of Prince Abdul Aziz Alfaisal was attended by ANOCA President, Mr Mustapha Berraf, bearer of a message of friendship and solidarity from ANOCA to the Sports body.



THE RABAT 2019 GAMES AT THE CENTER OF DISCUSSIONS AT AIPS MEETING

The sixth International Sports Press Association (AIPS) Africa Congress held in Accra with delegates converging from 19 countries of the continent to brainstorm on an array of topics aimed at further equipping African sports journalists with the necessary tools in what seems an increasingly challenging operating environment for journalism. Participants deliberated extensively on the 12th African Games to hold in Rabat, following a comprehensive presentation by representatives from the Local Organizing Committee. Expectations from sports journalists are high regarding the coverage of the Rabat 2019 games, as it is the first ever to be managed and organised by ANOCA. It is in that perspective that the President of ANOCA in his message of support and encouragement to the President of AIPS Mr Mitchell Obi, also given the excellent working relationships which both Institutions have maintained over the years, reiterated ANOCA's readiness to work with the



output and solutions offered in the course of discussions and presentations made while looking forward to receiving the report of the 6th congress. Ghana Olympic Committee President Ben Nunoo Mensah who spoke during the Congress on funding and branding of sports, and the role that journalists play in the development of sports in Africa, also used the opportunity to laud ANOCA for its plans to support elite athletes as they prepare for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR SUCCESSFUL AFRICAN GAMES



The African Games Coordination Commission composed of representatives from the African Union Sport Commission, ANOCA, AASC and COJAR held their second meeting from 31 March to 2 April 2019 in the city of Rabat, Morocco. The meeting which was chaired by Mr Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre Afonso, was aimed at examining the level of preparedness for the 12th African Games and exchange with the Local Organizing Committee on all the components of the organisation of the Games. The 3-day meeting started with a technical Workshop which saw the participation of all COJAR departmental



heads. Anchored by Mr. Diamil Faye, assisted by the Commission Members, participants were taken through various practical exercises which were both educative and enriching as they exchanged on their individual areas of responsibilities. Speaking on the impact of the workshop on the overall games outcome, Mr Diamil Faye declared *“I am very satisfied with the Games Planning workshop. From my experience, this is the first time, in the continent that I see such a serious and structured organizing committee with a real desire to learn and move forward. With this workshop, everyone has understood the principle of operational planning, the notions of clients services, optimization of resources and the integration of teams to deliver top quality Games. Also, given the quality of COJAR's human resources, the implementation of the guidelines of this workshop should be effective and efficient without any concern”*.

The workshop was followed by a meeting of the AGCC aimed at reviewing the level of implementation of recommendations from the last meeting. Discussions and matters arising led to the issuance of a press release which read *“The African Games Coordination Commission (AGCC) composed of AU, ANOCA, AASC and COJAR Representatives held its second Coordination Meeting for the 12th African Games in Rabat from 31 March to 2 April 2019. The AGCC is pleased with the great achievements realized by Morocco since the meeting held in February and the significant progress in the preparation of this major sporting event. The AGCC welcomes the commitment of the Moroccan government to ensure the success of the Games. The AGCC deplores the fact that some African Sports Confederations are slow to provide essential information such as their technical regulations for the Rabat Games, the appointment of their technical officials, etc. The AGCC urges the Confederations in question to make all necessary arrangements to correct this situation, which could lead to the withdrawal of their sports from the Games program. The said Confederations are given until 15 April 2019 to provide all such necessary information”*. Countries are also encouraged to adhere to the deadlines communicated particularly regarding their participation in the games.



PREPARATIONS IN FULL SWING FOR THE 12TH AFRICAN GAMES



Members of the AGCC and the COJAR Team also held a practical session at the Moulay Abdellah Sport Complex. Presentations from the various heads of departments further highlighted the level of mobilisation, commitment and dedication of the Local Organizing Committee under the able leadership of the Minister of Youth and Sport and Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee who also joined in discussions. The Chair of the commission in his closing remarks thanked all participants for their valuable contributions to the preparation of the games in Rabat. He lauded the Chairman and the entire COJAR team for their professionalism and the speed with which they address issues that are raised. He struck a very optimistic note on the ability of Morocco to host the best-ever African Games going by the level of commitment and mobilization of the team managing the project. All entities involved in the organization of the Games were praised for giving the opportunity to the youth and women to contribute in the Games preparation. The meeting was closed by the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sport who thanked all and sundry for their effort and dedication in ensuring that the Games in Rabat boost the image of the Continent in terms of its ability to organize major sport events, while helping it to compete effectively with other Continents. The next meeting of the AGCC has been slated for April 28 to 30, 2019 in the city of Rabat.



TIME TO JOIN HANDS AND MAKE SPORT OUR PRIORITY

Following the end of the crisis which prevailed in the NOC of São Tomé and Príncipe, the commitment to a rapprochement between the National Olympic Committee and the government was again evident as an official visit was organized by the country's sport leaders to the IOC on 28 March 2019. The São Tomé and Príncipe Sports Minister Mr Vinicio Telex Xavier De Pina, NOC President Mr Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre Afonso and Secretary General Mr Laureano Lima Ferreira Soares met the IOC President in his office in Lausanne. The aim of the visit was to introduce the new leadership to the apex Olympic Organization and thank the IOC President for the role that the IOC played in resolving the crisis which had almost torn the NOC apart, and for its support for the construction of an athletics track, thanks to which the country was able to host the Lusophony Games. It goes without saying that relations between the NOC and the government are excellent, as both parties now look forward to developing a strategic plan in close cooperation with the national federations, so as to advance pending projects and develop



Sports in the country, while preparing for the next major events – the African Beach Games, the African Games and the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020. Speaking to ANOCA about the visit, Mr. Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre Afonso stated *“We have come a long way and look forward to building on the momentum achieved through our now very close cooperation with the government for the benefit of our athletes and sports development in Sao Tome”*.

EN ROUTE TO THE FIRST ANOCA BEACH GAMES



Preparations for the 1st ANOCA Beach Games are in full swing and accreditation of delegations is on-going. ANOCA is working closely with the Local Organizing Committee to ensure successful games. The Chairman of the ANOCA Games Coordination Commission, Mr Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre Afonso has been on a working visit to Sal for final assessment of the level of preparedness of Cape Verde to host the African Olympic Family and athletes of the continent who will be competing for medals in 11 nautical sport codes namely Athletics, Basketball 3 x 3, Beach Handball, Beach Soccer, Beach Tennis, Beach Volleyball, Coastal Rowing, Freestyle Football, Karate Kata, Kiteboarding, and Open Water Swimming. All 54 National Olympic Committees of Africa are expected to attend the opening ceremony of the games which is scheduled to take place a day after the 18th Ordinary Session of the ANOCA General Assembly to hold in Sal on 12 June 2019. The Games are also set to attract global viewership as they will be live-streamed via the Olympic Channel.