



## CHEFS DE MISSION MEETING AG -2019

*The meeting of Chefs de Mission is scheduled to take place from 27 to 28 February 2019 in Rabat. Chefs de Mission from the 54 African countries have already been officially invited by both ANOCA and COJAR. The said meeting will be followed by a meeting of the Games Coordination Commission for the AG 2019, on 1 March 2019.*



### AU-ANOCA-AASC-COJAR JOINT MEETING

Since announcing Morocco as the host country for the 2019 African Games in July 2018, various activities have taken place and actions carried out including technical meetings held in Cairo (Egypt), and in Rabat (Morocco), a consultation meeting held in Addis Ababa, to ensure a hitch-free organisation of the continental event.

It is in this same vein that a joint meeting held from 28 to 30 January 2019, bringing together the African Union, the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa, the Association of African Sports Confederations, the Organizing Committee for the Rabat African Games (COJAR) and the various African confederations whose sports are included in the Games program. The goal was to ratify engagements for the African Games, review and revise the general regulations, and assess the various sports facilities for this 12<sup>th</sup> edition.

The meeting was attended by members of the ANOCA Games Coordination Commission, officials of the African Union Sports Council, representatives of the AASC, Presidents and representatives of 19 African Sports Confederations as well as representatives of Moroccan sports federations.

The meeting opening ceremony was marked by speeches by the Minister of Youth and Sports of Morocco, Mr. Rachid Talbi Alami, the African Union Director of Social Affairs, Mrs. Cisse Mariama Mohamed, the President of ANOCA Mr. Mustapha Berraf, the President of AASC Mr. Ahmed Nasser, and Vice President of the Moroccan Olympic Committee, Mr. Kamal Lahlou.

The speakers took turns to talk about different aspects of the organisation of the Games, while emphasizing their commitment to their respective areas of responsibilities. They expressed confidence and optimism as to the success of the 12th African Games.

The meeting proper was presided over by the Chairman of the ANOCA Games Coordination Commission, Mr. Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre Afonso, assisted by the Chairman of the Steering Committee for the 12th African Games, Mr. Obbad Abdelatif, Mrs. Cisse Mariama Mohamed, and Mr. Ahmed Nasser. Discussions focused mainly on the review of the Games general regulations, various organizational aspects of the Games –accommodation, competition venues, communication system, accreditations etc. – developing a road map with specific timelines, as well as the setting up of the Games Coordination Commission.

The amended General Regulations for the Games as well as the proposed roadmap were approved by the Joint Meeting.



Inspections of various competition, training and accommodation venues were undertaken by teams according to their areas of responsibilities with a view to determining the level of preparedness and propose improvements where necessary. The visits were followed by a debriefing session which would allow COJAR to take into consideration the various observations to ensure a brilliant organisation of the AG-2019.

While closing the Joint Meeting, the ANOCA President, the AU Director of Social Affairs and the President of the AASC all lauded the state of mind, the level of commitment as well as the harmonious relationship between the entities involved in organising the Games.

The Morocco Games, which are scheduled to take place from 19 to 31 August 2019 in Rabat and Casablanca, are expected to be a springboard for the Tokyo-2020 Olympic Games, with a total of 29 sports codes; 18 of which are qualifiers.

The Minister of Youth and Sports, the AU Director of Social Affairs, the Presidents of ANOCA and AASC, and the Vice-President of the Moroccan National Olympic Committee also fielded questions from journalists during a press conference organized on 29 January with the aim of shedding light on the state of preparedness for the Games. Emphasis was further laid on organizational and technical aspects of this edition, which is expected to attract about 5,000 athletes from around 50 countries.



M. Rachid Talbi Alami stressed that a new page was opening in the history of the African Games, given the number of qualifying sports for the 2020 Olympic Games. He also stressed that this novelty constitutes a good opportunity to "bring many high level champions who want to stamp their passes for the biggest sports mass in the world"

Morocco has already started working on the upgrade of its main sports facilities such as the Prince Moulay Abdellah Sports Complex in Rabat and the Sports Complex Mohammed V of Casablanca. A cultural program is also being developed, given that the 2019 African Games will coincide with the Youth Day celebration in Morocco.

For her part, Mrs Cisse Mariama reiterated her gratitude to Morocco for agreeing to host the Games in such a short time, while expressing confidence in their experience and expertise when it comes to organizing major sporting events. "We have no doubts about Morocco's ability to deliver major events, such as the African Games, whose organization was awarded to them with very limited time," she stated.

The ANOCA President further informed the audience about the various subsidies that ANOCA would be making available to the National Olympic Committees of Africa for their participation in the Morocco Games, as well as the assistance that will be provided to COJAR.

It should be recalled that ANOCA is responsible for the organization, management and marketing of the 12th African Games, while AASC is in charge of the technical part.

Lagardère Sports was officially selected to market the AG-2019, following discussions between officials of both institutions.





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## ANOCA AT THE SERVICE OF ITS NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

As part of the beefing up of its staff strength at the Association's Headquarters in Abuja, the recruitment of a Technical Director is underway following a notice published on 23 January 2019. The ANOCA Secretary General M. Ahmed Abou Elgasim Hashim stated shortly after the announcement that *"Our desire is to hire competent individuals with the best talents which are required for growth and achieving desired results"*.

The ANOCA Secretariat also continues to monitor various activities and provide necessary 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

## FIRST AFRICAN BEACH GAMES

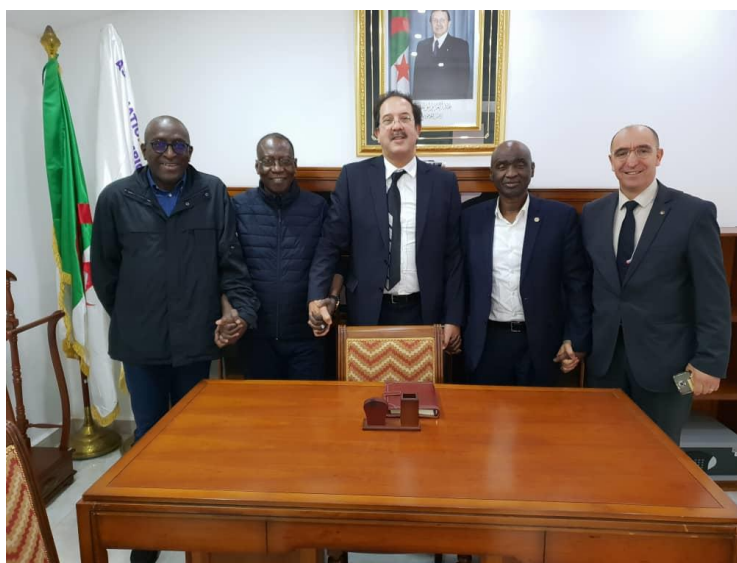
Preparations are well underway for the African Beach Games, whose first edition will be held in Sal in Cape Verde from 14 to 23 June 2018. The ANOCA Games Commission continues to work closely with the COJAP to ensure the success of these ANOCA Games. African NOCs have officially been invited to this great gathering of the African Olympic Family and its water sports athletes.



## REPRESENTING AFRICA: THE DUTY OF THE ANOCA LEADERSHIP

ANOCA Representatives led by the ANOCA President and ANOC Vice President, Mustapha Berraf took part in the first meeting of the ANOC Executive Council for the new quadrennial held in Lausanne, Switzerland in January 2019. A progress report for Africa was presented on the occasion.

The President of ANOCA, accompanied by the Secretary General and the Treasurer General further paid a courtesy call on the President of the IOC, Dr Thomas Bach at the IOC Headquarters to discuss various issues for the benefit and well-being of ANOCA, African athletes and sports development on the Continent.



## OLYMPAFRICA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION STILL ON THE MOVE

The laying of the foundation stone for the realization of the Olympafrica sports center was conducted in Tamanrasset by the Algerian Minister of Youth and Sports, Mr. Mohamed Hattab, accompanied by the President of ANOCA, Mr. Mustapha Berraf, in the presence the Executive Director of the Olympafrica International Foundation, and Presidents of the National Olympic Committees of Niger and Mali. The President of ANOCA declared on the occasion that *"Our goal as leaders of African sport is to ensure that all layers of our society are positively impacted through sport; this is the goal of this centre, which we are certain will meet the needs of young less privileged individuals in the Algerian border"*. Construction works are commencing soon with a view to completing the centre in record time. A meeting of the Executive Board of the Foundation is scheduled to hold in Rabat, Morocco on February 24, 2019 during which further discussions will be held regarding the project.



## RECENT ELECTIONS IN NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES OF AFRICA

The National Olympic Committees of Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Madagascar held elections for their office-bearers.

In the NOC of Nigeria, Mr. Habu A. Gumel retained his position as President; elected Vice Presidents are Mr. Solomon Ogba, Mr. Francis Orbih, Mr. Ishaku Tikon. The major upset occurred in the position of Secretary General, now held by Olabanji Oladapo, who previously occupied the same position for several years. Mr. Mohammed Abdullahi was elected Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Bappa Mr. Aliyu holds the position Treasurer, while Mr. Adetula Oluphemmy is now in charge of public relations.

The composition of the new Executive of the Sierra Leone NOC stands as follows:

- |                        |   |                       |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1. President           | - | Dr. Patrick E. Coker  |
| 2. Vice-president      | - | Mr. Abdul Karim Sesay |
| 3. Treasurer           | - | Mr. Prince V. Sualley |
| 4. Ex-officio Member 1 | - | Mr. Johnson           |
| 5. Ex-officio Member 2 | - | Mr. Idrissa Massaquoi |

At the NOC of Madagascar, Siteny Radianasoloniaiko and Randriamiadanarivo Alex were respectively re-elected President and Secretary General at the Ordinary General Assembly of the NOC held on January 22, 2019.



The President of ANOCA in his congratulatory message to the re-elected presidents stated *"Your re-election speaks volumes of the achievements scored by your team during the past Olympiad and augurs well for the implementation of your action programme designed to move your NOC forward"*. He also reassured them of the cooperation and availability of ANOCA to further strengthen the development of sport and the propagation of Olympic ideals not only in their countries but also across the continent.



## CALMNESS RETURNS IN THE NOC OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

The crisis which had prevailed in the National Olympic Committee of Sao Tome and Principe for almost two years came to a happy conclusion on January 16, 2019 when the NOC organized a General Assembly to elect its office-bearers. This General Assembly was held following interventions and mediation missions by the IOC and ANOCA. The new Executive Board is composed as follows: Joao Manuel da Costa Alegre Afonso – President, Antonio Menezes da Trindade – 1st Vice President, Aida Vicente Quaresma – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Bartolomeu Costa – 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Laureano Lima Ferreira Soares - Secretary General, Paquet Edgar Lima de Jesus – Deputy Secretary General, Eleuterio Noronha Fernandes – Treasurer. Other elected Membres include Filipe d'Assun ao Neto, Joao da Costa Lima Neto, Eloy Boa Marte, Isabel Silva, and Adelino Neto dos Santos Lima. ANOCA can now leverage on this newly found serenity for a more effective preparation of the country's athletes to participate in future continental and international sporting competitions, especially the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The re-elected President Mr. Joao Manuel Da Costa Afonso Alegre also expressed deep gratitude to the IOC and ANOCA for successfully bringing the warring parties back to the same table for the benefit of the country's athletes. He stated *"I'm delighted to see my brothers, colleagues and friends get back together, speak the same language and put the interests of our athletes first. We are starting afresh and will work hand in hand with all national federations to preserve this harmony and achieve a better tomorrow for the development of sport in Sao Tome and Principe"*.





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## ANOCA UPCOMING MEETINGS

The 54th Session of the ANOCA Executive Committee and its first since the President's election on November 29, 2019 in Tokyo, will be held in Rabat, Morocco on 25 – 26 February 2019. This venue was selected for the

purpose of allowing leaders of ANOCA to assess and appraise the level of preparation for the 12th African Games, whose management and organization are now their responsibility. It will also be an opportunity to review the activities undertaken since the 53rd Ordinary Session held in Abuja in January 2018, the financial reports, the activity reports of the different zones, the activities of the Athletes' Commission, as well as approve an action plan for the year.

The 18th Ordinary Session of the ANOCA General Assembly was convened on 6th February by the President of ANOCA, Mr. Mustapha Berraf. This will be an opportunity to take stock of the past two years and define future prospects. The various agenda items for the Session which will hold on 12 June 2019 in Sal, Cape Verde, will be decided by the Executive Committee at its 54th Session in Rabat.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ANOCA ZONE II IN BAMAKO



Zone II of the Association of National Committees of Africa (ANOCA) held its Ordinary General Assembly on Saturday 2 February 2019 at the Millenium Hotel ACI 2000 in Bamako. The opening ceremony which was chaired by the Minister of Sports, Jean-Claude Sidibé, was attended by the President of ANOCA Mr. Mustapha Berraf and Ms. Beatrice Allen, IOC Member.

Making the Zone a bright pole of the African Olympic Movement; such is the ambition of National Olympic Committees of ANOCA Zone II and the common will which was reaffirmed at this Ordinary General Meeting. An objective whose achievement is linked to a synergy of actions as underlined by its President who is also President of the National Olympic and Sports Committee of Mali (CNOSM), Mr. Habib Sissoko. The meeting agenda mainly focused on the review of activities and financial reports from 2017 to 2018.

The exercise allowed participants to evaluate the level of progress made and to examine the way forward for 2019-2020. The president of Zone II stated that *"Today we are celebrating good governance, which requires for us to be accountable. This session concludes a period and opens an even more exciting and exhilarating one, given the challenges ahead"*.

This new page Sissoko stressed, *"Is full of achievements in terms of the operation of structures and activities despite the shortcomings to be addressed, achievements which have received recognition from the leadership of ANOCA"*. He went on to state that *"In order to make objective choices, the new period requires us to examine our future actions in the light of the real capabilities of our organization and firm commitments from our NOCs. This would safeguard the credibility of our organization"*.



According to him, the *"one project, one country"* vision, which will be the priority for the next two years is part of the logic of *"sharing responsibilities and sacrifices"*. Thus, *"the realization of this vision will be advantageous in projecting our Zone in our various countries and political authorities,"* President Sissoko added.

In order to secure this project, the approval of programs must be done according to countries' interests, against the backdrop of the means of implementation. "In this regard, the Zone President advised that *"we must constantly seek close cooperation between our NOCs and the national sports bodies and the departments in charge of sports"*. Emphasis was also laid on the need to adhere to the IOC 2020 Agenda, which advocates particularly for good governance and strengthening the role of sport in society.

The President of ANOCA Zone II further expressed gratitude to the government of Mali for their support to the activities of the Zone, such as the setting up and equipping of its Executive Secretariat.

For the Minister of Sports, Jean-Claude Sidibé, the General Assembly afforded the opportunity to *"share a time of reflection and interaction with our brothers and sisters of the member countries, which we highly appreciate"*.

He also took the opportunity to urge participants to *"thoroughly examine the documents submitted to them and to implement a real strategy for the realization of the ambitions of our African Sports Institution"*.

The sports journalists seminar (in Bamako), tennis tournament (Daniel Monteiro cup) and a training seminar for tennis technical managers on the sidelines of the tournament in Cape Verde, sports medicine seminar (Senegal), boxing tournament, a Women and Sport Seminar (Senegal), basketball tournament and technical training (Mali) and, finally, a seminar for sport administrative executives are the activities already lined up for the period 2019-2020.