

PRESS RELEASE

ANOCA CONVENES GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN MAPUTO



he 14th session of the General Assembly of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa, ANOCA, held on 3 and 4 September 2011 at the Maputo International Conference Centre. Apart from the various NOC delegates who are statutory members of this body, several other dignitaries of the Olympic family graced the event, foremost among them Dr Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee.

In his policy message, ANOCA President, Intendant General Lassana Palenfo, began by thanking the Mozambican Government officials for the facilities made available for a successful hosting of

the session. After welcoming the delegates, he said: "Each of our meetings should be a major challenge. The new structure of African sport, the institution of ANOCA Games, funding of sport, the drain of African sporting talents, alignment of the All Africa Games with world events, the general overhaul of the basic texts of our association, are the major challenges we must to rise to."

Taking the floor thereafter, the President of the International Olympic Committee, Dr Jacques Rogge observed: "just like the IOC, ANOCA is keen on demonstrating that sport plays a major role in community development and I am convinced that this will continue."

The midterm progress report of the Executive Committee was then read out to Participants. Considered on the whole positive, the report was presented by ANOCA President, Intendant Ggeneral Lassana Palenfo, and it pinpointed four cardinal areas. These included the running of the Association, a highlight of which was the organisation, in Rabat, of the maiden African Youth Games from 13 to 18 July 2011; statutory sessions; NOC activities; the All Africa games as well as bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Delegates also adopted the 2009 and 2010 audit accounts, and listened to the financial report of the association presented by the Treasurer General, Engr. Habu Gumel. They went further to discuss preparations for the second edition of the African Youth games billed for Botswana in 2014.

ANOCA partners also delivered special messages during that session. These included Olympic Solidarity and IOC through its International Cooperation and Development Department, the NOC relations Department and the Medical Commission. Other papers were presented by the World Anti-Doping Agency, Olympafrica, the African Sports Medicine Association, and COJA Maputo 2011.

IOC President, Dr Jacques Rogge also held talks with stakeholders of the African Olympic Movement during the session. They especially took stock of the overall situation of Olympic Movement, the financial situation of the IOC and the major challenges of the institution at the dawn of the 21st century.

Delegates unanimously agreed that Côte d'Ivoire will host the 15th ANOCA General Assembly session scheduled to hold in 2013.

Suffice it to note that the ANOCA Executive Committee also met on the sidelines of the All Africa Games organised in Maputo. Deliberations of that meeting centred mainly on issues relating to the management of the Association and the various challenges it is faced with barely some months to the upcoming London Olympic Games in 2012.

