

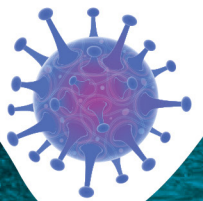
RNOSC

Newsletter

RNOSC NEWSLETTER | JANUARY - MARCH 2020

**STOP
COVID-19**

**#WashHands
#StayHome
#SocialDistancing
#StayActive**



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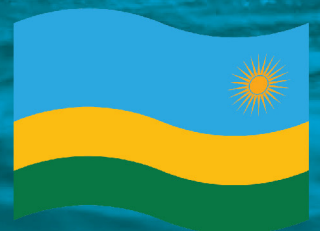
Rwanda at Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

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Training session on Journalism's Ethics Code and Olympic Values.

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Sports For All Activities



RWANDA



"Building a better World through Sport"

Editorial Message



Dear our Rwandan Sport Family,

We are delighted to release the first quarterly newsletter of year 2020, which covers three months of January to March.

This platform is a trustworthy and inspiring source for you of every activity of Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee and its Member National Sports Federations, as well as another opportunity to keep promoting the Olympism.

Though we are working from home due to this pandemic, we are really glad to publish this newsletter as a sign that life goes on, a hope that we will finally win this battle very soon and be reunited by sport.

As the whole world is fighting against the COVID-19, I am encouraging everybody to respect the measures put in place to prevent its outbreak. Up today, the best way to stop the spread of this pandemic is to stay at home. Thus I urge everyone to do so but also stay active by doing different home workouts, especially for our athletes in order to keep their dreams alive of being part of the Tokyo 2020, which was postponed and will take place from 23rd July until 08th August 2021.

On behalf of the entire team of RNOSC, I take this opportunity to commend the IOC President Thomas Bach for the right decision taken during this difficult and challenging time aimed at safeguarding the health of the athletes and all people involved in the Olympic Games.

I would like also to thank our Ministry of Sports for its continuous support to the Olympic movement and its efforts to the development of sports in Rwanda.

We are all in this global health crisis, together and united by our Olympic values, we will overcome it.

Sincerely,

Amb. Valens Munyabagisha

President.



Message of Sports Minister



Dear All Athletes, Officials from All Sports Federations and Members of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee,

On this 2nd April 2020, we hope that you and your families are in good health and safe during this difficult period as the whole world and our country is fighting the New Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

It comes as one of the most dramatic periods of this century and this pandemic not only affects the global society but has also impacted negatively the sports sector due to preventive measures taken which implied cancellation, postponement of sports calendars across the world and lockdown measures taken by Governments including ours, to keep its citizen safe and stop the spread of the COVID-19.

National Leagues, International Championships as well as the Olympic Games qualifiers have not been spared. The current circumstances have compelled the set preventive measures to also refrain from practicing individual outdoor sports activities which have been traditionally helping men and women of all ages to maintain a healthy life.

The Ministry of Sports encourages all athletes to practice and maintain self-conditioning and remain healthy so as to be prepared for whenever the postponed games will resume. The Government of Rwanda commends the decision made by All International Sports Federations to prioritize the health and security of athletes by postponing or cancelling planned sports events to avoid the spread of COVID-19 infections. We appreciate and acknowledge the decision by both the Government of Japan and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to postpone the “2020 Tokyo Olympic Games” until July next year (2021).

Dear All Athletes,

While you Stay Safe at Home, we believe this is an opportunity for those who have already qualified for the Olympic Games to keep preparing and training hard and for those who are not yet qualified to prepare for the qualification.

As we await confidently for the National leagues to resume, we exhort you to continue practicing individually and follow the instructions of your trainers during this period. We encourage you to remain good examples of responsible behavior by respecting the measures taken by the Government of Rwanda to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Stay at Home, Stay Safe and Stay Active!

I thank you for all your efforts to make Rwanda proud through sports.
Yours in sports,

MUNYANGAJU Aurore Mimosa
Minister of Sports.

0. INTRODUCTION

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee has put in place this quarterly newsletter as one of its communication strategies to share its activities with the Rwanda Sport Movement and to increase its visibility in Rwanda and abroad.

Even if the whole world is experiencing one of the toughest moments of its history due to the coronavirus pandemic, we are delighted to publish the new edition of our newsletter which highlights the activities of the RNOSC, as well as other sports activities in Rwanda and around the world. It will cover the period from January to March 2020; putting emphasis not only on how sport is affected by the coronavirus pandemic but also what is being done to fight the Covid-19.

Sport has played a very big role in the past to fight many other tragic things against the society and now is the time for us all sportsmen and women to get together and implement all the guidelines and measures set by the Government of Rwanda to fight coronavirus and **WE** should be the good examples to the entire community.

“STAY AT HOME and BE ACTIVE” Together we will win against COVID-19.

I. COVID-19 AND RWANDAN SPORTS

The coronavirus pandemic is the current global human tragedy and it is affecting hundreds of thousands of people. It is also having a growing negative impact on different sectors including sport.

Since the beginning of March 2020, The Rwanda Sport Movement has been the victim of this pandemic where all activities were cancelled or postponed in observing the current measures to stop the spread of COVID-19:

- All local and international sports events which were supposed to take place in Rwanda, were postponed until further notice such as football national league, Commonwealth Day 2020 which was sup-

posed to be celebrated on 11th March and the CAVB (“Confederation Africaine de Volleyball”) Women Continental Cup, 2nd Round Phase that would be hosted by Rwanda from 25th to 29th March 2020 in Rubavu district to name few.

- The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) hosts its Annual General Assembly at the end of March; it was supposed to take place from the 4th to the 5th April 2020 but due to measures taken by the Government of Rwanda to stop the spread of the COVID-19 measures, the RNOSC General Assembly 2020 is postponed to new dates to be communicated.

- Under the Olympic

Solidarity Programme, Female Volleyball Coach Marie Chantal Kabila was supposed to attend the Sports Academy Lausanne Training Session reserved for the elite coaches from 17th April to 15th June 2020 but the session is rescheduled and will be from 07th August to 04th October 2020 in Lausanne while the high level training courses for French-speaking coaches that is organized by the Association of Francophone National Olympic Committees (AFCNO) in Dakar that was planned to take place from 13th to 17th April 2020 – was delayed to an unconfirmed date and cycling coach Felix Sempoma has been selected to participate to the course.



II. ATHLETES PROGRAMS AND SPORT COMPETITIONS

Athletes are at the center of all sport activities and part of our sport family. During this global situation of COVID-19 that the world is facing, all our athletes are locked at their homes too. As they are at the heart of the Olympic Movement, the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee will continue to support them and to encourage them to stay active and strong during this global lockdown. The Olympic Solidarity athlete programmes for Tokyo 2020 are extended until 2021 as per the IOC agreement.

1. ATHLETES PROGRAMS

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee has received through the Olympic Solidarity different programs for athletes as follows:

a. Olympic scholarships

This is the program benefited by the top athletes displaying the ability to qualify for the Olympic Games. From 2018, 5 athletes benefited this program in Athletics and Cycling. Those athletes are Mr. Sugira James (Athletics), Ms. Marthe Yankurije (Athletics), Mr. Areruya Joseph (Cycling), Mr. Mugisha Samuel (Cycling) and Mr. Munyaneza Didier (Cycling).

b. Continental athlete support program (scholarships)

This is the program benefited by the middle level athletes displaying the ability to compete at the regional level and promising for the top level in the future. The program is being benefited by the following ten athletes since 2017.

ISHIMWE Alice (Athletics), HITIMANA Noel (Athletics), NKURUNZIZA Yves (Cycling), UWIZEYE Jean Claude (Cycling), SEKANYAMBO Jean Paul (Taekwondo), NDACYAYISENGA Aline (Taekwondo), RUKUNDO Consolee (Para-Taekwondo), NIYIRINGIYIMANA Jean Claude (Para-Taekwondo), NDUTIYE SHYAKA Maic Roger (Karate), NIYITANGA Halifa (Karate)

c. Team Support Grant program

This program is designed for a team sport with the high chances to qualify to the Olympic Games. Following the current ranking in 2017, Beach Volleyball team was ranked number 1 in Africa, and was chosen as a beneficiary of the program. This program is underway from 2017 until 2020 and the women's beach volleyball team has qualified to the 2nd round of the continental cup acting as the qualifiers to the Olympic Games.

2 more rounds will need to be played to qualify. Munezero Valentine and Nzeyimana Charlotte are the athletes who compose the women beach volleyball team benefiting this program.

d. Youth Olympic Games talent detection program

This program is designed for the potential youth from different national sports federations displaying the hope to become the potential athletes who can participate at the Youth Olympic Games. 10 sports were proposed as potential beneficiaries of the program from 2020 until 2022 as follows: Athletics, Basket 3x3, Beach Volleyball, Cycling, Karate, Swimming, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Tennis and Wushu.

e. Creation of RNOSC Athlete commission

As per the IOC recommendation, each NOC must put in place an athlete commission run by athletes themselves and representing their peers at all level. It is in that regard on the 7th February 2020, the RNOSC has put in place an athlete commission composed by 4 members elected by their peers and 1 appointed by the RNOSC Executive Committee as per the RNOSC athlete commission guidelines.



The commission is composed as follow:

Given Name	Last name	Position
Olivier	NTAGENGWA	President
Liliane	MUKOBWANKAWE	Vice President
Clarisse	UWAYO	Secretary
Joseph	ARERUYA	Advisor
Tbc	Tbc	Advisor



Rwandan International Beach and Indoor Volleyball Player Olivier Ntagengwa elected the RNOSC Athlete Commission President.

The family photo after the elections

2. Sport Competitions

a. Tour du Rwanda 2020

From the 23rd February to the 1st March 2020, the "Fédération Rwandaise de Cyclisme" FERWACY hosted the annual Tour du Rwanda, one of the biggest Cycling racing events in Africa.

This international event was upgraded to the UCI 2.1 category last year.

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee is the sponsor of the Tour du Rwanda since 2018.

Three Rwandan riders namely ARERUYA Joseph, MUGISHA Samuel and MUNYANEZA Didier are the beneficiaries of the Olympic scholarships given by the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee since 2019 and were among the worldwide riders who competed at Tour du Rwanda 2020. They finished on position 12th, 15th and 40th respectively.

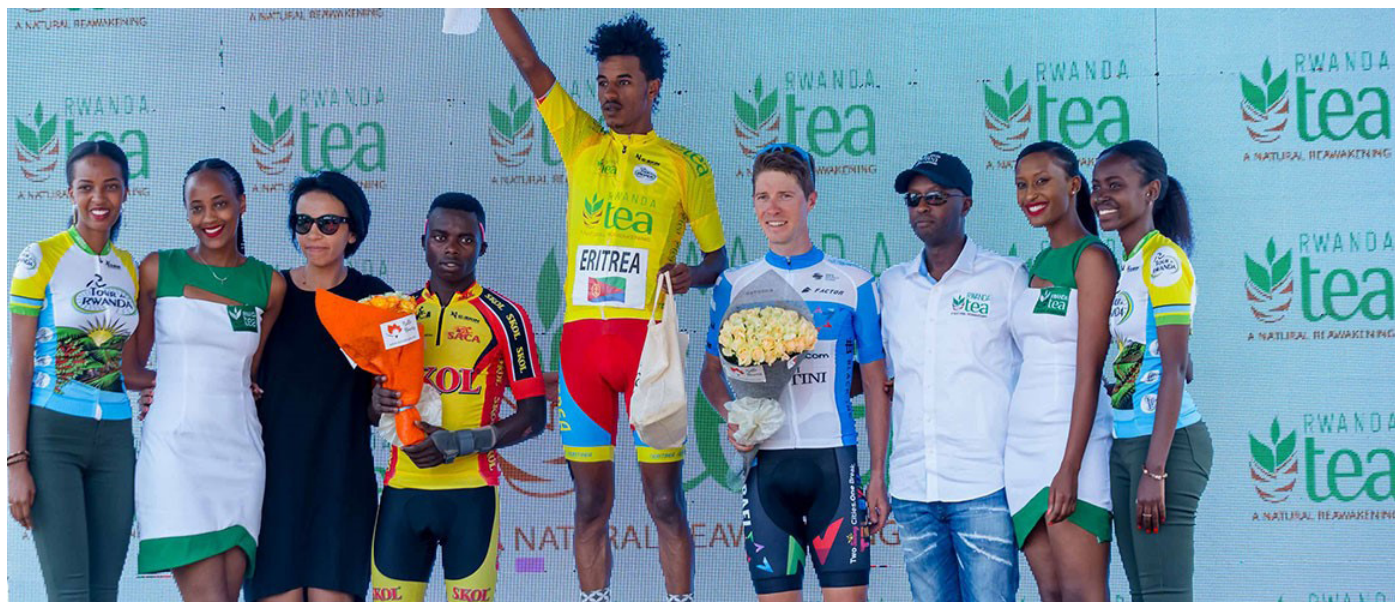
20-year old Eritrean Natnael Tesfazion was the 2020 Tour du Rwanda winner with the full race distance of 889 km

distance divided into eight stages.

The young rider becomes the third Eritrean to win Tour du Rwanda after Daniel Teklehaimanot in 2010 and Merhawi Kudus in 2019.

Tesfazion emerged the fastest rider of the 2020 edition after covering the 889km of the eight-stage race in 23 hours, 13 minutes and 1 second, beating Rwandan Moise Mugisha from Skol Adrien Cycling Academy by 54 seconds after he posted 23 hours,





Eritrean Natnael Tesfazion, the winner of Tour du Rwanda 2020 on the podium

13 minutes and 55 seconds while Patrick Schelling of Israel Start-Up nation finished in the third place after clocking 23 hours, 14 minutes and 33 seconds.

b. National Taekwondo Team at the African Qualification Tournament for Tokyo 2020

The National Taekwondo Team participated at the African Qualification Tournament for Tokyo 2020 which took place in Morocco from the 22nd to the 23rd February 2020. Mr. Niringiyimana Jean Claude took home silver medal after losing to the Egyptian athlete on the final match at the Africa qualification Tournaments for Paralym-

pic Games 2020 but he didn't manage to book a ticket for this event.

- **Delegation Team:** Sekanyambo Jean Paul (-58Kg), Ndacyayisenga Aline (-57Kg), Niringiyimana Jean Claude (Para-Taekwondo K44, -61Kg), Bagire Allain Irene (Coach), Mbonigaba Boniface (Head of Delegation).

c. 2021 Trinidad and Tobago Commonwealth Youth Games

Trinidad and Tobago are set to host the 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games, the seventh edition of the competition, from the 1st to the 7th of August 2021.

The nine following sports have been approved by the CGF sports committee: Athletics, Beach volleyball, Boxing, Cycling, E-Sports, Netball, Rugby 7s, Swimming, and Tennis.



Mr. Niringiyimana Jean Claude with his teammates



III. TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

Following the IOC Communiqué of 30th March 2020, we are happy to provide updates on the following key areas of interest to the Rwanda Sport Movement:

1. New Plans of Tokyo 2020

a. New dates of the Games of the XXXII Olympiad:

The IOC and the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee have confirmed that the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 will be celebrated from the 23rd July to the 8th August 2021. The Paralympic games will be held from 24th August to 5th September 2021.

b. Revised qualification systems and timelines

• Confirmation of gained qualification places:

Athletes/NOCs that have already gained an Olym-

pic qualification quota place will retain this despite the postponement of the Games.

• Finalisation of the revised qualification systems by sport:

The IOC are working closely with each International Federation on the necessary revisions of the Tokyo 2020 qualification systems and updates regarding this issue will be communicated soon.

• Suspension of Olympic qualification events:

All International Federations have suspended their Olympic qualification events. As agreed with the IOC, no further qualification events will be scheduled unless International Federations can guarantee fair access and fair and appropriate prepara-

tion for the competing athletes and teams once the COVID-19 impacts are assessed and restrictions reduced, with athlete health and considerations being IOC guiding principles.

c. Olympic Solidarity support

The Solidarity programmes related to the Games of the XXXII Olympiad are extended into 2021. The programmes that will be extended until the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 are: "Olympic Scholarships for Athletes Tokyo 2020", "Team Support Grants", "Refugee Athlete Support" and "Olympic Games Subsidies".



2. Rwanda at Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

Before this global lockdown, three following Rwandan athletes have been qualified for this historical event: Muhitira Félicien and Hakizimana John both qualified to compete in Marathon in addition to one place reserved for a Rwandan male cyclist. According to the IOC, athletes/ NOCs who have secured their Olympic qualification standard (minima) will keep their qualification regardless of the postponement of the Games. Given that those

athletes were not benefiting from the Olympic scholarship, the RNOSC has decided to support them both technically and financially until the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

- The Rwandan National Women and Men Beach Volleyball Teams will compete at the CAVB Continental Cup – 2nd round which was postponed till further notice due to COVID-19: the Rwanda was supposed to host the CAVB Women Continental Cup, 2nd Round Phase from 25 to 29 March

2020 in Rubavu district while Sierra Leon would have hosted the CAVB Men Continental Cup, 2nd Round Phase in Freetown from 23 to 27 March 2020. This competition will serve as a qualifying tournament for Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

- The athletes with the highest chance to be qualified for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics are supported by the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee since 2019 under different programmes including the Olympic scholarship.



Gold medalist Shumi Leche (C) of Bahrain, silver medalist Alphonse Simbu (L) of Tanzania and bronze medalist John Hakizimana of Rwanda attend the awarding ceremony of the men's marathon individual of track and field at the 7th CISM Military World Games in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, Oct. 27, 2019. (Xinhua/Hu Huhu).



Muhitira Félicien won silver medal at the 37th Athens Marathon (Sunday, 10 Nov 2019)

IV. TECHNICAL TRAINING AND PROMOTION OF OLYMPIC VALUES

1. Technical Course for Rugby

From the 06th to the 10th of January 2020, with support of Olympic Solidarity through Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee, the Rwanda Rugby Federation hosted a level 1 technical course for coaches and development officers at Centre d'Accueil St Francois d'Assise.

30 trainees included twenty men and ten female participants and were trained by experts John Bosco Muamba from Rugby African and Dr. Joseph Kalanzi from Uganda on major aspects which included the technical difference be-

tween the 7's and 15 aside rugby, first aid, and fitness as well as strengthening and conditioning.

The President of Rwanda Rugby Federation, Mr. Tharcisse Kamanda thanked the trainers, trainees and Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) for making the training a success.

“Let me take this opportunity to thank Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee for the support offered for this training to happen and I urge the coaches, and owners of different clubs to implement and put what they have learned into action in or-

der to promote and develop the sport countrywide” Kamanda said.

In his closing remarks, the RNOSC Secretary-General, Mr. Alexis Sharangabo mentioned that the training is part of the program aimed to develop rugby in Rwanda.

Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee continues to empower and strengthen capacity-Skills for both elite sports and Sports For All as well as to uplift sports disciplines which are lagging behind by training the sports administrators/coaches.

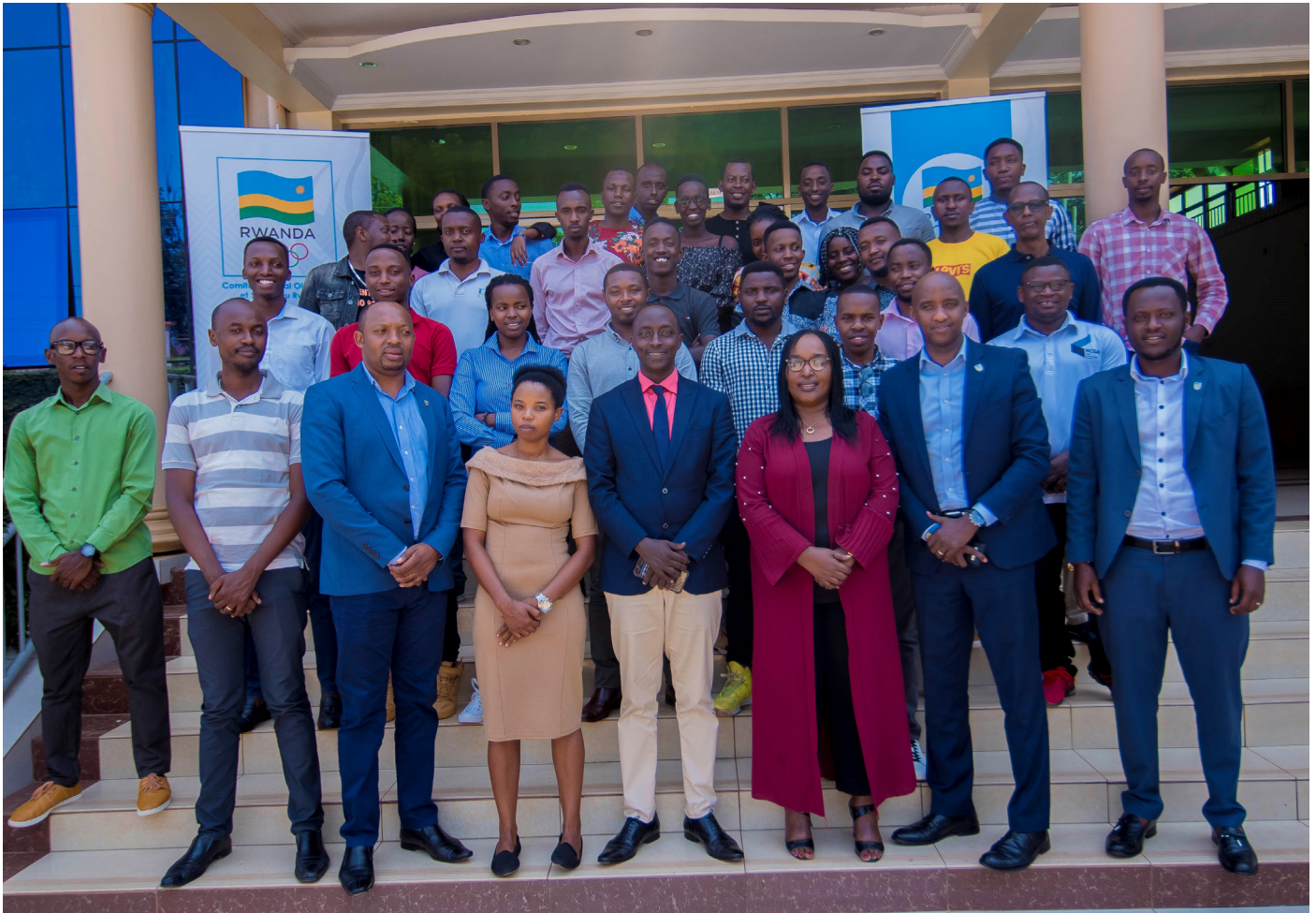
2. Training session on Journalism's Ethics Code and Olympic Values.

From the 11th to the 13th of February 2020, The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee has successfully hosted a 3-day training session on ethics in sports journalism, the Olympic values and its application to the Rwandan cultural values and history.

30 sports journalists from different local media houses had an opportunity to learn more about the ancient and modern Olympics, the philosophy



Group after the closing ceremony



Group photo after the opening ceremony.

of Olympism and following panel discussions:

- Structure and programs of International Olympic Committee.
- Background of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee, its mission, values, objectives, responsibilities and its programs.
- Code of Ethics for Journalists and Reporters, the role of the media in the development of sports in Rwanda and the content to be transmitted to their audiences, and sharing experience on sports journalism.
- Review of most cases received by the Rwanda Media Council about sports journalists.
- The roles of different stakeholders involved in the development of sport.
- The power of media in the implementation of the Rwandan sport policy.
- Relation and collaboration between Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee and the Ministry of Sports, National Sports Federations, Associations and other partners.

As practical component, the participants visited the Royal Palace which is located in Nyanza district, Southern Province with purpose of discovering how Olympic values and Rwandan traditional values are related based on the book “Traditional Games and Weapons in Rwanda” (“Imikino n’Intwaro Gakondo” for Kinyarwanda version and “Les Jeux Et Les Armes Traditionnels Au Rwanda” for French version), published by Inteko Izirikana in collaboration with the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee.



Panelists of day 01, from left: the Rwanda Sports Journalists Association and RNOSC Media Commission President, Mr. BUTOYI Jean, Rwanda Media Council Chairman, Mr. BARORE Cléophas, Mr. RUSHINGABIGWI Jean Bosco and Mr. KAMANZI Innocent.

The IOC Member and First Vice President of Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee, **Mrs. Félicité Rwemarika** who was the guest of honour in her opening remarks said: "I hope that this 3-day session will be a good moment to relearn the journalism's code of ethics and about Olympic movement. You are the voice of sport and we value your contribution in development of it."

Mr. BUTOYI Jean who is the current President of both Rwanda Sports Journalists Association and RNOSC Media Commission commended the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee for the initiative and urged the journalists to take the advantage of

the workshop to boost their professional skills.

The Radio and TV 10 presenter, **Miss Iradukunda Yvonne** who attended the session said that the training challenged her mind and has contributed a lot to her career as a sports journalist while Saddam Mihigo who is the founder of halftime.rw suggested the RNOSC to organize such important workshop at least once a year.

Speaking to the participants during the closing ceremony, the RNOSC President, **Amb. Valens Munyabagisha**: "We have to work closely with media towards the Rwanda Sport Movement development and trainings like these give us an opportunity to

have the same thinking about the vision of Rwandan Sport industry."

A range of experts have contributed to this workshop including the Rwanda Sports Journalists Association and RNOSC Media Commission President, Mr. BUTOYI Jean, Rwanda Media Council Chairman, Mr. BARORE Cléophas, Sports Journalism Educators Mr. RUSHINGABIGWI Jean Bosco and Mr. KAMANZI Innocent and the President of Inteko Izirikana, Mr. MUVUNANYAMBO Apollinaire.

The 3-day training session was concluded by a friendly football match between AJSPOR Broad Media FC 4-3 AJSPOR Print Media FC which took place at Amahoro National Stadium.





Visit to the Royal Palace, Nyanza district - Rwanda



Group photo after receiving certificates



AJSPOR Broad Media FC 4-3 AJSPOR Print Media FC.



3. Sports For All Activities

a. Leading by example

Sport for all has become one of the government priorities and plays a huge role in promoting unity and reconciliation, social cohesion, good health and in protecting the environment by establishing several ini-

tiatives to encourage sport activities among its citizens namely: a bi-monthly car free day across the country for mass sports with an opportunity to be tested the non-communicable diseases for free, two hours off every Friday afternoon for public servants to do sport and regular sports competitions among government entities.



From left: The President of Rwanda **His Excellence Paul Kagame**, First Lady **Her Excellency Mrs. Jeannette Kagame** and the Minister of Sports **Hon. Aurora Mimosa Munyangaju** joined Kigali residents for the Car Free Day of 01 March 2020.



Participants being tested COVID-19 at Car Free Day of 01st March 2020.



The Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa Munyangaju together with the Governor of Northern Province Mr. Jean-Marie Vianney Gatabazi joined residents of Musanze district for the mass sports day of 10th February 2020.

b. Karongi Sports Day 2020

On the 01st March 2020, the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee joined Karongi District residents for Karongi Sports Day 2020.



The event was attended by the governor of Western Province, Mr. Alphonse Munyantwali, the RNOSC President, Amb. Valens Munyabagisha and Mayor of Karongi District, Madam Vestine Mukarutesi.



From left: The Governor of Western Province Mr. Alphonse Munyantwali, the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha and Mayor of Karongi District Madam Vestine Mukarutesi.

In the context of detecting and nurturing upcoming talents, and encouraging Rwandans to develop a culture of engaging and involving in sports, we have organized competitions in kayaking, cycling and swimming as part of Karongi Sports Day 2020 - The winners have received school materials, bikes and money as prizes.

Full results:

i. Swimming competition

★ **Boys U18 category (400m):** Dusabe Claude, Ishimwe Hertier and Muhayimana Japhet

★ **Men’s category (700m):** Iradukunda Eric, Maniraguha Eloï and Hategekimana Timamu

Girls U18 (400m): Ishimwe Claudette, Iradukunda Yvette and Izabayo Cecile

ii. Kayaking

★ **Men’s category (700m):** Ntibakunze Aphrodis and Niyonsaba Amiel, Ntahondereye J. Paul and Byaragi Celestin and Ndagijimana J. Bosco and Uwihanganye Vianney

★ **Women's category (400m):** Top 3 Teams: Mukatuyisenge Epiphanie and Nyirantirivamunda Athanasie, Yankurije Vestine and Nyirashumbusho Alphonsine, Mukagasana Odette and Nyiransangiranabo Laurence

Uwimana Jean Baptiste, Twizerimana Eugene, Turatsinze Musuhuke, Dusabimana Ernest and Mutimukeye Saidat

★ **Men's category (Pro):** Cyuzuzo Michel, Tuyishime Andre and Hategekimana Timamo.

iii. Cycling

★ **Men's category (Amateurs):** Top 7: Munyakazi Felicien, Nsabimana Damascene,



Group photo with winners



4. Establishment of the Rwanda National Olympic Academy

The Rwanda National Olympic Academy, is a Sportive Association under the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee with the mission to disseminate and promote the Olympic values in Rwanda.

The Committee put in place by the Executive Committee of the RNOSC is as follow: **NZABANTERURA EUGENE** (President)

, **KARAMBIZI ALEXANDRE** (Vice President), **NGARAMBE François Xavier** (Director of the Academy), **MUHIMPUNDU GASHUGI PHOPHINA** (Member), **MURANGWA USENGA Sandrine** (Member).

The president of the academy already attended the first meeting of all the African Olympic academies in Mali from the 13th to 14th of March 2020.



Group photo with the first lady of Mali, **Mrs. Keita Aminata Maiga** and the ACNOA President **Mustapha Berraf**.

V. ADMINISTRATION

1. Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Internal Retreat

On 18th January 2020, the RNOSC Executive Committee and Staff gathered in Musanze district for an annu-

al retreat to both celebrate the achievements made last year, and discuss the future plans to be attained in this year of 2020.

On the occasion of this retreat, the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Commit-

tee visited the Africa Rising Cycling Center.

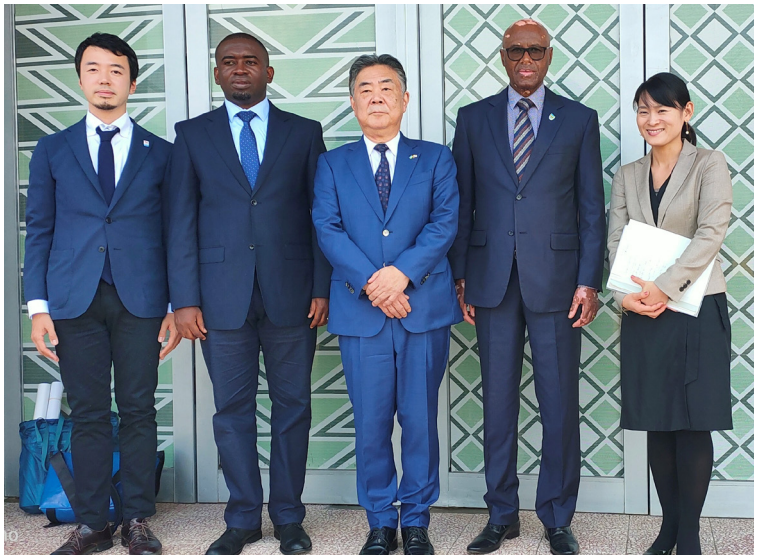
The Africa Rising Cycling Center (ARCC) is the home of Rwanda Cycling Team with aim of detecting as many talents as possible on the African continent, educating all disciplines relating to the cycling sport (Coaches, Mechanics, and Soigneurs etc.), raising the level of competition in Africa to compete on the worldwide stage as a means to illustrate excellence in the cycling sport to the world and making Rwanda and the region a cycling tourism destination.



2. International Relations

a. Visit of H.E. Ambassador of Japan to Rwanda and the Advisor of the Prime Minister of Japan to RNOSC

The designated Ambassador of Japan to Rwanda along with the Advisor of the Prime Minister of Japan visited the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee. The visit aimed at evaluating the implementation of the MoU between the City of Hachimantai in general and the cooperation between Rwanda and Japan in sport sector. After the visit to the RNOSC, they paid a courtesy call to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Sports.



b. Hachimantai City delegation visited the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee twice ahead of Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

On the 27th January 2020, the Hachimantai City – Japan delegation visited the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) as the 2nd follow-up trip regarding the Hachimantai city and RNOSC MoU signed in May 2018.

The visit aimed at preparing the second phase of training

camp which is set to take place in Hachimantai city in June 2020 as part of preparations of Rwandan athletes ahead of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

It is expected that Hachimantai city will host the Cycling, Beach Volleyball and Athletics teams for a training camp of maximum 1 month before the Tokyo 2020.

The Hachimantai delegation was composed by the Hachimantai City Vice mayor Mr. OKADA Hisashi, Hachimantai City Regional development division assistant manager

Mr. HIGASHIMOTO Shigeki and Hachimantai City Region development section staff Mr. YOSHIDA Chikara.

With a perfect guided tour by the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha accompanied by the RNOSC Executive Director Mr. Jean De Dieu Mukundi-yukuri, the delegation visited different sports facilities including Amahoro National Stadium, Kigali Arena and Africa Rising Cycling Center based in Musanze District – Northern Province.



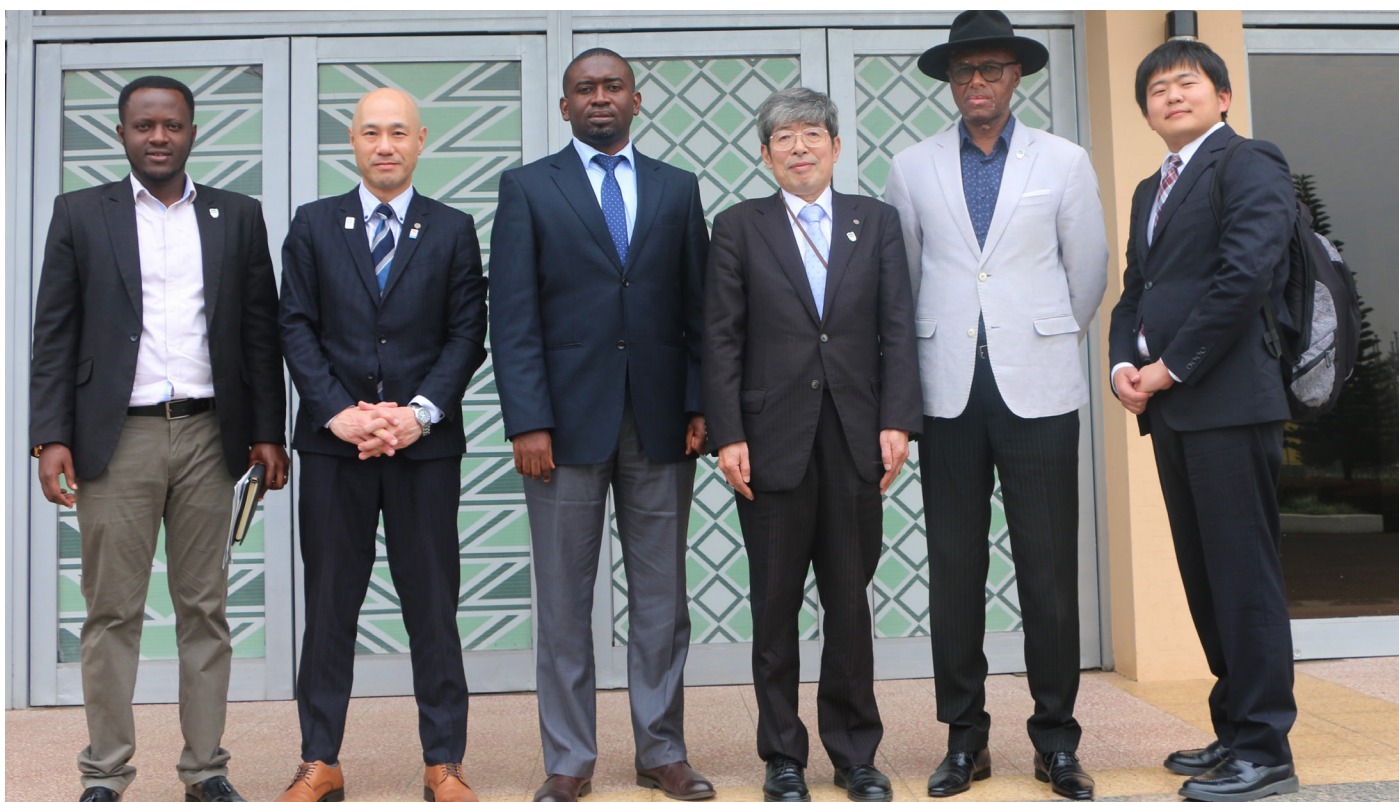
Delegation touring Amahoro National Stadium





Delegation posing with the Managing Director at Kigali Arena, Mr. John Ntigengwa.

On the same day, the guests had an opportunity to be received by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Sports, Mr. Shema Maboko Didier.



Group photo after the meeting (from left: RNOSC Executive Director, Mr. Jean De Dieu Mukundiyukuri, Hachimantai City Regional development division assistant manager Mr. HIGASHIMOTO Shigeki, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Sports, Mr. Shema Maboko Didier, Hachimantai City Vice mayor Mr. OKADA Hisashi, RNOSC President, Amb. Valens Munyabagisha and Hachimantai City Region development section staff Mr. YOSHIDA Chikara).

“I strongly commend your partnership with our National Olympic Committee and we are happy that it’s taking a high level. The Ministry of Sports is committed to support the Rwandan athletes before and during Tokyo 2020.”
 Permanent Secretary said.

In May 2018, The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee signed a memorandum of understanding with Hachimantai city of Japan ahead of preparations for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The first phase of training camp of Team Rwanda in Hachimantai as part of this agreement which took place from 21 July 2019 to the 15th August 2019 has already contributed to the good performance of Rwandan Cycling and Beach Volleyball Teams in All African Games which took place in Rabat, Morocco from 19-31 August 2019.

Both Teams won 3 bronze medals (2 cycling, 1 beach Volleyball) following an intensive training camp in Hachimantai city.

“We both expressed the hope that in the end, next year, these Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 can be a celebration of humanity, for having overcome this unprecedented crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this way, the Olympic flame can really become the light at the end of this dark tunnel the whole world is going through together at this moment, and which we do not know how long it will be.”

–IOC President Thomas Bach





Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee - RNOSC
Comité National Olympique et Sportif du Rwanda - CNOSR

GENERATION OF CHAMPIONS | GÉNÉRATION DE CHAMPIONS

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