



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



October to December 2020



120 athletes gathered for a 3-day **RNOSC Athletes' Commission Forum**



The **RNOSC Annual Ordinary General Assembly 2020** was a success despite the COVID-19 pandemic.



Awareness campaign to fight **COVID-19 pandemic** through sports

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	Editorial Message from the RNOSC President	3
II.	Training Sessions and Forums	4
II.1.	28 Sports Journalists completed a 2–day training session about the rules of the games (Basketball, Cycling and Volleyball).	4
II.2.	9 sports administrators and 1 person have officially received their degrees	8
II.3.	120 athletes gathered for a 3-day RNOSC Athletes’ Commission Forum.	10
II.4.	3 Rwandan Sports Leaders successfully completed “The Keys to a Successful Sports Organization” Program.	12
III.	Meetings and International Relations	13
III.1.	The RNOSC Annual Ordinary General Assembly 2020 was a success despite the COVID-19 pandemic.	13
III.2.	The French Development Agency delegation paid a courtesy visit to the RNOSC	13
III.3.	The RNOSC Secretary General attended the 37th ANOCA Secretaries General Seminar.	14
III.4.	The General Assembly of the Commonwealth Games Federation	15
III.5.	2020 ANOCA Extraordinary General Assembly	15
III.6.	The RNOSC and the University of Tsukuba signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Exchange Program.	16
IV.	RNOSC Award Ceremony 2020	17
V.	Awareness campaign to fight COVID-19 pandemic through sports	19
V.1.	Training on COVID-19 prevention measures to become the abajyanama b’ubuzima and donating equipment to fight COVID-19 pandemic to National Sports Federations.	19
V.2.	Campaign through Sports-Talks Shows on Radio/TV, Digital Platforms and Street Billboards.	21
VI.	RNOSC and RCGA Christmas and Happy New Year 2021 Card	23

I. EDITORIAL MESSAGE FROM THE RNOSC PRESIDENT



Dear Members of Rwanda Sports Movement,

We are delighted to release the quarterly newsletter of year 2020, which covers three months from October to December.

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

This newsletter is also one of the RNOSC communication strategies to share its activities with the Rwanda Sport Movement and to increase its visibility in Rwanda and abroad.

As the COVID-19 is still out there, this newsletter will give you insights about the activities done by the RNOSC during these last three months of 2020 to fight this pandemic including a 10-day awareness campaign in partnership with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany but we also managed to host the RNOSC General Assembly 2020, RNOSC Athletes' Commission Forum 2020 and training session for sports journalists to name few.

Happy reading!

I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas, stay healthy and safe as the toughest year is coming to the end and Happy New Year 2021!

Sincerely,

**Amb. Valens Munyabagisha,
President
Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee.**

II. TRAINING SESSIONS AND FORUMS

II.1. 28 SPORTS JOURNALISTS COMPLETED A 2-DAY TRAINING SESSION ABOUT THE RULES OF THE GAMES (BASKETBALL, CYCLING AND VOLLEYBALL).



Group photo of some participants after the closing ceremony.

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee in partnership with the Basketball, Cycling and Volleyball Federations hosted a training session for Rwandan Sports Journalists about the Rules of the Games.

The 2-day workshop which focused on Basketball, Cycling and Volleyball Rules was sponsored by the Olympic Solidarity and took place from the 28th to the 29th of October 2020 at Olympic Hotel – Kigali.

During these 2 days, the participants learned from a group of experts from the National Sports Federations mentioned above as follows:

Day 01 of 28 October:

- **Session 01:** Cycling Rules by the Cycling Federation National Technical Director Mr. Murenzi Emmanuel and the Commissaire Mr. Ntiyamira Jean Sauveur.

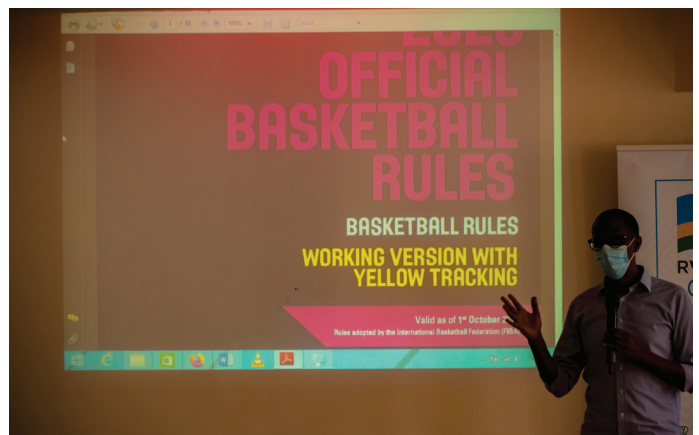


The Cycling Federation National Technical Director Mr. Murenzi Emmanuel.



The Commissaire Mr. Ntiyamira Jean Sauveur.

- **Session 02:** 2020 Official Basketball Rules by the person in charge of development at the Rwanda Basketball Federation and National Coach Mr. MUTO-KAMBALI Moise and the Vice President of National Basketball Referee Association Mr. Gilbert BIRORI





The Rwanda Basketball Federation and National Coach Mr. MUTO-KAMBALI Moise (Left) and the Vice President of National Basketball Referee Association Mr. Gilbert BIRORI (Right)

- **Highlights Video of Day 01 :** <https://youtu.be/8KLN28AEd8s>

Day 02 of 29 October:

- **Session 01:** Beach Volleyball Rules by the International Beach Volleyball Referee Mr. NTANTETERI Védaste



The International Beach Volleyball Referee Mr. NTANTETERI Védaste

- **Session 02:** Volleyball Rules by the International Volleyball Referee Mr. NDAYISABA Alphonse.



The International Volleyball Referee Mr. NDAYISABA Alphonse

- **Highlights Video of Day 02:** <https://youtu.be/G6GubqCyfwc>

On behalf of the RNOSC Media and Communications Commission, Mr. Peter Kamasa who is also a sports journalist at the The New Times thanked the RNOSC for the continued support as this is the second training in 2020.



The RNOSC Media and Communications Commission Member Mr. Peter Kamasa.

“I would like to thank the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee for the continued support as this is the 2nd training in this year and I believe that these opportunities will improve our career standard. I also encourage my fellow sports journalists to put in action what we are learning.” – The RNOSC Media and Communication Commissions Member Mr. Peter Kamasa.



The RNOSC Secretary General Alexis SHARANGABO OLY giving his opening remarks

The RNOSC Secretary General Alexis SHARANGABO OLY who was the guest of honor at the opening ceremony, he said in his remarks:

“Allow me to praise the Olympic Solidarity for always backing us in our activities and the RNOSC will continue providing the capacity building courses to our stakeholders as possible as we can.”

“Our solid partnership will surely accelerate the development of both sides (Rwanda Sport Movement and Media Sector).” Alexis added.

Speaking on behalf of participants, the founder of Half Time media house Saddam Mihigo:



The founder and Journalist at the Half Time media house Mr. Saddam Mihigo speaking on behalf of other participants.

“We need workshops like these at least once or twice a year to be updated about the Rules of the Games as they are changing with time and the skills gained during these intensive sessions will enable us to be a reliable source of Rwandan sports news.”

One of the trainers, the International Volleyball Referee Mr. Alphonse NDAYISABA has said that to put in action what they learnt that’s what will make Rwanda sports popular and developed.

The RNOSC President Amb. Valens MUNYABAGISHA in his closing remarks:

“I would like to say thank you to everyone who attended this training session and I am delighted to inform you that the RNOSC has so far trained 70% of women who work in Rwandan media sector. Sports Journalists have the power to build or destroy our sports industry, this is why to learn the Rules of the Games is very important for them.”



The RNOSC President Amb. Valens MUNYABAGISHA giving his closing remarks.

28 RWANDAN SPORTS JOURNALISTS INCLUDING 8 WOMEN WHO DEDICATED THEIR TIME FOR THESE 2 DAYS HAVE BEEN GIVEN CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION.

NO	NOMS	MEDIA HOUSE
1	NDAYISABA LEON	FLASH FM
2	SIKUBWABO DAMAS	THE NEW TIMES
3	BAHIZI CRAISH	THE NEW TMIES
4	UKURIKIYIMFURA ERIC	IGIHE LTD
5	NDABATEZE JEAN BOSCO	RADIO UMUCYO FM
6	BUGINGO FIDELE	IMVAHO NSHYA
7	KANYAMAHANGA JEAN CLAUDE	CITY RADIO
8	MIHIGO SADAM	HALFTIME.RW
9	MUKESHIMANA ASSOUMPTA	RADIO/TV1
10	IRADUKUNDA YVONNE	B&B FM - UMWEZI
11	NSENGIYUMVA ABUBAKAR SADIKI	B&B FM - UMWEZI
12	UWASE ANTOINETTE	FUNCLUB.RW
13	UWIHANGANYE HARDI	FUNCLUB.RW
14	KURADUSENGE ISAAC	KT RADIO
15	NKOMEJE GUILLAUME	KIGALILIVE.RW
16	KAGABO CANISIUS	ISIMBI.RW
17	KWIZERA JEAN CLAUDE	RBA
18	NYAMINANI ISABELLE	RBA
19	HITIMANA JEAN CLAUDE	ROYAL FM
20	SIFAKWAMUNGU ANICET	IZUBA RADIO/TV
21	KAMUKAMA ANNET	RADIO/TV10
22	TUMUKUNDE JOSELYNE	AUTHENTIC RADIO/TV
23	IRAGUHA EDMOND	RADIO SALUS FM
24	UWINGABIYE AIMABLE	LIFE RADIO
25	NIYONSENGA AIME AUGUSTIN	RADIO HUGUKA
26	RIGOGA RUTH	RNOSC MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION/RBA
27	KAMASA PETER	RNOSC MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION/THE NEW TIMES
28	UWIZERA ESTHER FIFI	RNOSC MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION/RADIO&TV10



II.2. 9 SPORTS ADMINISTRATORS AND 1 PERSON HAVE OFFICIALLY RECEIVED THEIR DEGREES IN MANAGING OLYMPIC SPORT ORGANISATIONS AND MEMOS PROGRAMME RESPECTIVELY.

Throughout the year of 2018, 18 sports administrators from national sports federations/associations attended the advanced sport management course and only 9 persons have successfully completed the course.

The course was composed of six chapters covering the following key competencies expected from an Olympic Sport Organisation (OSO) manager:

- a. Organising an OSO by understanding its environment, internal structure and operation.
- b. Managing an OSO strategically by preparing, carrying out and evaluating a strategic plan.
- c. Managing human resources in an OSO through the development of rules and regulations and recruiting, motivating and training human resources.
- d. Managing finances in an OSO using appropriate and transparent procedures.
- e. Managing marketing in an OSO in line with the global strategy of the organisation, stakeholders' require-

ments and sponsorship opportunities.

- f. Organising major sport events when appropriate for the organisation's strategy and when compatible with available human resources and facilities.

The degree hand-over ceremony took place on the 29th of October 2020 at the Olympic Hotel.

The representative of the graduates, Mrs. Isabelle Nizeyimana who is also the President of "Association Nationale pour la Promotion du Sport Féminin" said:

"On behalf of my fellow graduates, I would like to thank the Olympic Solidarity, Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee, Sports Federations/Associations we are representing here, the Programme Director Mr. Tharcisse Harerimana for their support and assistance.

In summary, we have learned about leadership and good governance, finance management and how to organize major sports events. We encourage other sports leaders to also take this course as it is very important to our career."



The representative of the graduates, Mrs. Isabelle Nizeyimana who is the President of “Association Nationale pour la Promotion du Sport Féminin”

In his speech, the President of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Amb. Valens Munyabagisha commended the graduates for their courage and commitment that enabled them to finish the course.

He also urged the sports organizations they came from to give them a platform where they can put what they have learned into practice.

Jean Pierre Kwizera from the “Fédération Rwandaise du Sport Universitaire (FRSU)” has also graduated in Executive Masters in Sport Organisations Management last year.



Jean Pierre Kwizera posing with the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha after receiving his master’s degree.

LIST OF GRADUATES

In Managing Olympic Sport Organisations		
NO	NAMES	INSTITUTION
1	Isabelle Nizeyimana	Association Nationale pour la Promotion du Sport Féminin
2	Joel Niyokwizerwa	Rwanda Federation Handball
3	Gertrude Kubwimana	Rwanda Federation Volleyball
4	Jean Marie Vianney Nsengiyumva	National Paralympic Committee of Rwanda
5	Jean De Dieu Mukundiyukuri	Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee
6	Eugene Nzabanterura	Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee
7	Clarisse Ingabire	Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee
8	Placide Bagabo	Rwanda Federation Taekwondo
9	Diane Tumutoneshe	Dream Team Football Academy
Memos Programme		
NO	NAMES	INSTITUTION
1	Jean Pierre Kwizera	Fédération Rwandaise du Sport Universitaire



II.3. 120 ATHLETES GATHERED FOR A 3-DAY RNOSC ATHLETES' COMMISSION FORUM.

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee through the Athletes Commission has hosted its first ever athletes forum which took place at Olympic Hotel from the 19th to the 21st of November 2020.

120 participants from 25 National Sports Federations, 4 Olympic scholarship holders, 4 athletes benefiting team support grant program, 6 athletes benefiting RNOSC Special Grant for the preparations and qualifying tournaments ahead of Tokyo 2020, 16 Olympians and 25 representatives of the National Sports Federations, had an opportunity to learn about the Olympic Values Education, entrepreneurship skills, Anti-doping and fight against COVID-19 pandemic.

The forum was proposed following the approval of the RNOSC Athletes Commission by the RNOSC General Assembly held on the 11th of November 2020.

“First of all, we are so happy for this platform (RNOSC Athletes Commission) and we have learned about different important things during these 3 days including the Olympic values and Athlete365 Career+ to name few, and we are hop-

ing more in the future as everyone is committed to the development of our athletes.” – The RNOSC Athletes' Commission President Mr. Olivier Ntagengwa.



The RNOSC Athletes Commission President Mr. Olivier Ntagengwa.

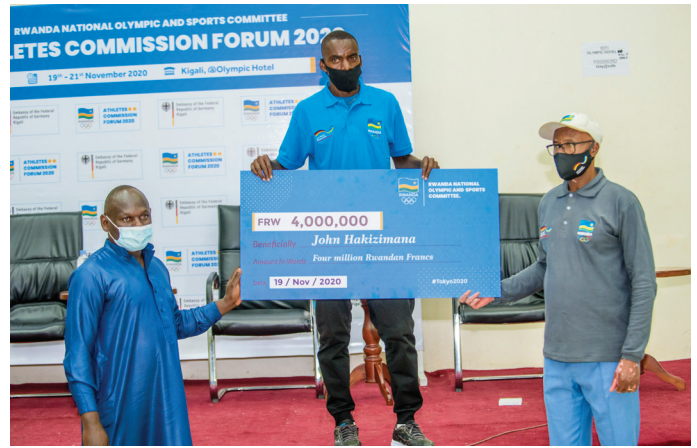
In his closing remarks, the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha urged the athletes to go forward and be proactive:

“The athletes must be at the heart of the sports movement but they also have to play their part in preparation and implementation of their projects, they have to help us to know what is good for them and for their career and this is the main goal of this commission. This forum should be an annual event to make sure that our athletes are safe and connected therefore we are encouraging each Federation to have an Athletes’ Commission.”



The RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha speaking at the closing ceremony of the RNOSC Athletes’ Commission Forum 2020.

On sidelines of this forum, the qualified athletes in marathon for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games namely **Félicien Muhitira** and **John Hakizimana**, and the duos of **Olivier Ntagengwa/Akumuntu Kavalo Patrick** and **Gatsinzi Vénuste/Fils Habintwali**, also received their special support grant for the preparations and qualifying tournaments ahead of Tokyo 2020.



John Hakizimana receiving his cheque of Rfw 4M from the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha and the Secretary General of Rwanda Athletics Federation Mr. Olivier Mutangana



Felicien Muhitira receiving his cheque of Rfw 4M from the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha and the Secretary General of Rwanda Athletics Federation Mr. Olivier Mutangana



The duos of Olivier Ntagengwa/Akumuntu Kavalo Patrick and Gatsinzi Vénuste/Fils Habintwali, also received their special support grant that will help them to participate at the qualifying tournaments ahead of Tokyo 2020.

II.4. 3 RWANDAN SPORTS LEADERS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED “THE KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL SPORTS ORGANIZATION” PROGRAM.

From September to December 2020, 3 Rwandan have successfully completed a 3-month program titled “**The Keys to a Successful Sports Organization**”, organized by the INUKSUIT International Academy and supported by the Olympic Solidarity.

This program allows leaders to develop their knowledge and expertise, but also to define and build the contours of the structural and strategic transformation of their organization.

Rwandan participants:

1. Alexis SHARANGABO/ Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee
2. Chantal UMUTESI/ Rwanda Tennis Federation
3. Alexis MBARAGA/ Rwanda Triathlon Federation

III. MEETINGS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

III.1. THE RNOSC ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020 WAS A SUCCESS DESPITE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

On the 11th of October 2020, the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) has successfully hosted its Annual General Assembly 2020 while respecting the government measures to contain spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This 1-day assembly which took place in Kigali at Lemigo Hotel was attended by all RNOSC members’ representatives from the National Sports Federations/Associations and the Ministry of Sports was represented by the Acting Director of Sports Mr. RURANGAYIRE Guy Didier.



Group photos of the RNOSC Members at its Ordinary General Assembly 2020 held on the 11th of October.



The RNOSC General Assembly has also particularly welcomed the new Presidents of Rwanda Cycling Federation Mr. Abdallah Murenzi, Rwanda Swimming Federation Mrs. GIRIMBABAZI RUGABIRA Pamela, Rwanda Chess Federation Mr. Zimurinda Ben Tom and Rwanda Fencing Federation Mr. Ogaa Paul Moday Arima Baradiya who were attending this annual meeting for their first time.

Key resolutions of the RNOSC General Assembly 2020:

1. The RNOSC General Assembly has approved the establishment of RNOSC Athletes Commission and its board which is composed of 5 members namely: NTAGENGWA Olivier (President) from Rwanda Volleyball Federation, MUKOBWANKAWA Liliane (Vice President) from National Paralympic Committee, UWAYO Clarisse (Member) from Taekwondo Federation, ARERUYA Joseph (Member) from Rwanda Cycling Federation, SHYAKA Olivier (Member) from Rwanda Basketball Federation – And the President joins the RNOSC Executive Board Committee while both the President and Vice President represent athletes at the General Assembly according to the Olympic Charter.



Olivier Ntagengwa approved by the RNOSC General Assembly 2020 as the President of the RNOSC Athletes' Commission.



The Vice-President of the RNOSC Athletes' Commission Mrs. MUKOBWANKAWA Liliane

2. All National Sports Federation have committed to put in place the Athletes' Commissions in their structures within the quadrennial 2021-2024.

3. The RNOSC General Assembly 2020 has also approved the creation of the National Olympic Academy with the following Committee Members: NZABANTERURA Eugene (President), KARAMBIZI ALEXANDRE (Vice President), NGARAMBE François Xavier (Director), MUHIMPUNDU GASHUGI Phophina (Member) and MURANGWA USENGA Sandrine (Member).



Eugene Nzabanterura, the President of National Olympic Academy.

4. Different reports including the preparation of Rwandan Team ahead of Tokyo 2020, RNOSC Activities 2019/2020, Financial, Anti-Doping and Genocide Memorial Tournament Reports were presented to the members and approved.

including the collaboration on different sports projects in the future especially the creation of the Sport and Olympic Center in Rwanda.

The Rwanda Ministry of Sports was represented by the person in charge of talent detection and development Mr. Florent HABYARIMANA.



The photo taken during the presentation of RNOSC Intern Audit Report at the General Assembly 2020.



5. The RNOSC General Assembly members have revised and adopted two projects:

- The Long Term Athlete Preparation Program For The Rwandan Athletes
- And construction of the Rwanda Olympic Sports Centre.

- You can find the RNOSC Activities Report 2019 – March 2020 here: <https://youtu.be/8c9K2cLrvWE>

Normally, this annual event happens in March every year but due to COVID-19, it has been postponed.

III.3. THE RNOSC SECRETARY GENERAL ATTENDED THE 37TH ANOCA SECRETARIES GENERAL SEMINAR.

The Secretary General of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Alexis Sharangabo OLY attended the 37th ANOCA Secretaries General virtual Seminar which took place from the 20th to the 21st of November 2020, under the theme: “Emergence of the African Olympic and Sport Movement from COVID-19: Obstacles, Safe Return to competition and Preparation of African Athletes for the Tokyo 2020 and Future Events Planning.”

III.2. THE FRENCH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY DELEGATION PAID A COURTESY VISIT TO THE RNOSC PRESIDENT, AMB. VALENS MUNYABAGISHA.

On the 02nd of November 2020, the President of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Amb. Valens Munyabagisha received in his offices the French Development Agency delegation and the talks focused on strengthening bilateral relations between both institutions



ACNOA - ANOCA



III.4. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES FEDERATION

The President and Secretary General of the Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association attended the General Assembly of the Commonwealth Games Federation, chaired by the President Dame Louise Martin DBE and it was virtually held on the 26th of November 2020.

The Strategic Progress Reports of the Games, Birmingham 2022, Future Games, 2020 Audited financial statements and Transformation 2022 were among the topics covered.



This year’s CGF Africa Regional Meeting was also hosted virtually on the 20th of April 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic.

III.5. 2020 ANOCA EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On the 6th of December 2020, the Ethiopian Olympic Committee hosted the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) Extraordinary General Assembly in Addis Ababa and the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports was represented by the President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha, the IOC Member and 1st Vice President Mrs. Felicite Rwemarika and the Secretary General Mr. Alexis Sharangabo OLY.

The ANOCA General Assembly revised and adopted its Constitution and Ethics Code.

The 2022 African Youth Games which is set to be hosted by Ethiopia and the ANOCA project of creating sport training centers in the 7 ANOCA Zones were among the topics to be discussed during this 1-day General Assembly, chaired by the ANOCA President Mustapha Berraf.



The President of Ethiopia H.E Sahle-Work Zewde (Center), the ANOCA President Mustapha Berraf (Left) and the President of Ethiopian Olympic Committee Dr Ashebir Woldegiorgis Gayo (Right). (Photo Credit: Office of the President, Ethiopia).



Participants at the 2020 ANOCA Extraordinary General Assembly. (Photo Credit: Office of the President, Ethiopia).

III.6. THE RNOSC AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TSUKUBA SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

Following the exchange of ideas and consultative meetings held last year between the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee and University of Tsukuba, Japan with the aim of elaborating how both sides can partner in different sports projects;

This December 15th 2020, the **Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee** and the **Faculty of Health and Sport Sciences of University of Tsukuba, Japan** have agreed and signed a Memorandum of Understanding which is valid for a 3-year period with the purpose of facilitating the exploration of possibilities for furthering and deepening international education cooperation and exchange in the following areas: Exchange of faculty, sports officials/administrators and students, exchange and training of athletes, teams and coaches, exchange and attachment programs for sport science personnel, and infrastructure development for high performance and development of joint research projects in physical education curriculum, coach development and sport science.

On behalf of University of Tsukuba, the Dean, Faculty of Health and Sports Sciences Professor Takeshi NISHIYASU: ***“This MoU comes at a most opportune time, final year of TIAS program which had a major role in initiating this discussion through successful graduation of 3 students from Rwanda– Shema Maboko-Didier, Rurangayire Guy Didier, and Celestin Nzeyimana who are now the LEGACY of TIAS, and the two initial projects in Rwanda in 2018 and 2019. Now we are at a stage where we can share our knowledge & expertise and also understanding Rwandan/African perspectives in sport not only through***

TIAS alumni but also through extended cooperation (workshops, internships, research projects) with the RNOSC and its members at diverse levels via the TIAS 2.0 program and faculties & students in Sport and Health Sciences.”

The RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha has commended this agreement and said that this is another opportunity to develop a science-based sport in Rwanda: ***“I am so happy that we have finally agreed to officially collaborating with Tsukuba University through the Exchange Program to promote a science-based sport and sharing sports expertise. I believe that this partnership will accelerate and contribute to the implementation of the Rwanda Sports Development Policy especially the development of sports in schools. In addition to this agreement, we have also committed to closely work on different sports projects in the future including the establishment of the East Africa Sports Academy.”***

Rwanda and Japan have a good cooperation in sports; this MoU comes after another agreement signed in May 2018 between the RNOSC and the Japanese City of Hachimantai to host a training camp for the Rwandan Olympic athletes and to implement mutual and beneficial projects ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.



In May 2018, the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha visited the University of Tsukuba in Japan to strengthen the good relations and cooperation between both institutions for the mutual benefit.



IV. RNOSC AWARD CEREMONY 2020

Rwandan Olympians and Athletes have been recognized by the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee for their efforts to the Rwanda Sports Movement Development.

In recognition of their outstanding contribution to the development of Rwanda Sports Movement and in order to inspire the young generation, the RNOSC has awarded all Rwandan Olympians, athletes and coaches who managed to take home medals from the International competitions in which the RNOSC was part of and the four former RNOSC Presidents.

This award ceremony took place on sidelines of both the RNOSC General Assembly 2020 held on the 11th of October 2020 and the RNOSC Athletes' Commission Forum 2020 that held from 19-21 November.



Group photo of Rwandan Olympians with the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha



Beach Volleyball, Karate and Cycling Athletes posing for a group photo after receiving their awards.



From left: The Head Coach of Karate National Team Mr. Noel Nkuryabahizi, Head Coach of Beach Volleyball National Teams Mr. Christophe Mudahinyuka, Acting Head Coach of Rwanda Cycling Team Mr. Felix Sempoma and the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha

SPEECHES HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CEREMONY:

“First of all I will thank the RNOSC for having orchestrated this event. Seeing that Olympians and us active athletes being rewarded I think this is an encouragement for any active athlete to strive to achieve big things just as Olympians and us. I thank particularly the organizers and we will continue to raise the Rwanda’s flag high.” - President of the RNOSC Athlete Commission and Beach Volleyball International Athlete Mr. Ntagengwa Olivier.

“I am grateful to you and just as the RNOSC President said it it’s a souvenir and unforgettable moments but as Olympians we want to say that this is not an easy task as some may think. It requires a lot of efforts to get to that achievement. We are also thankful for the Olympians Association that works with the NOC and the National Sports Federations. We are committed to work on many projects and some of them have already been started.” - 2X Olympian and Secretary General of the RNOSC Mr. Alexis Sharangabo.

“We are very grateful to the RNOSC for thinking about us. A coach will be paid millions of dollars or a few thousands Rwandan francs but being recognized by an assembly is very encouraging for us and will make us aim for higher. I am coming from Rubavu district and others living in Kigali but this made me very happy and I renew my thanks to the RNOSC. We will continue to strive for higher skies and promise that we will also do the same at the Olympic Games.” - The Acting Head Coach of Rwanda Cycling Team Mr. Felix Sempoma.

“On behalf of other former presidents, I would like to thank you so much for this award and May God bless the Olympic family. We are grateful.” - The Former RNOSC President Rudahunga Gedeon (1995-2000).

“To thank you as Olympians it is also a way of asking you to encourage the younger ones to strive for the same objectives that you have attained and many more.

We want also to thank the medalists who have participated in games organized and/or recognized by the IOC, NOC and ANOCA and we thank also the coaches that have trained these successful athletes.” - The RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha.

- You can watch the highlights video of the ceremony and list of awardees via this link: https://youtu.be/58_GRLFxG_Y



The Former RNOSC President Rudahunga Gedeon (1995-2000) receiving his award from the incumbent President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha.



V. AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TO FIGHT COVID-19 PANDEMIC THROUGH SPORTS

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee in partnership with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Rwanda launched a 10-day Awareness Campaign to fight COVID-19 pandemic from the 19th to the 28th of November 2020.

As part of this campaign, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany donated to all National Sports Federations equipment to fight COVID-19, athletes and coaches from different national sports federations have also contributed to this campaign by urging Rwandans to keep respecting measures taken by Rwandan government to contain spread of COVID-19 pandemic through social media videos and street boards and Rwanda Radio/TV platforms have been used to raise the awareness.

V.1. Training on COVID-19 prevention measures to become the abajyanama b'ubuzima and donating equipment to fight COVID-19 pandemic to National Sports Federations.

A group of 120 people composed by athletes, Olympians, representatives from 25 national sports federations and athletes who will represent Rwanda at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games have been trained on COVID-19 measures to become the ambassadors in their communities, “Abajyanama b'ubuzima”. This session was part of the RNOSC Athletes’ Commission Forum which took place from the 19th to the 21st of November 2020.

The opening ceremony of this forum was graced by His Excellency Dr. Thomas Kurz, Ambassador of the German Embassy Kigali, Ms. Inga Klunder-Preuss, Deputy Head of Development Cooperation on the side of the Germany Embassy and the President of the RNOSC, Amb. Valens Munyabagisha, IOC member Mrs. Félicité Rwemarika and the members of the RNOSC Executive Committee on the side of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee.



Ms. Inga Klunder-Preuss, Deputy Head of Development Cooperation at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Rwanda.

IOC Member and 1st Vice President of the RNOSC Mrs. Félicité Rwemarika sharing her sports journey at the RNOSC Athletes’ Forum 2020.

In his opening remarks, the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha said:

“The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee in partnership with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Rwanda decided to join effort in fighting COVID-19 pandemic by offering some materials such as masks, hand sanitizers and thermometers which will be distributed to athletes and some federations. Together we also launch a 10-day awareness campaign to fight that pandemic through televisions, radios and socio-media”. “We choose to launch this campaign during this forum of athletes because we all know the power of sport”, he added.



The RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha speaking at the opening ceremony of the RNOSC Athletes’ Commission Forum 2020

The RNOSC President also appreciated and thanked His Excellency the Ambassador of the German Embassy Kigali and friends from the German Embassy in Rwanda, for the partnership with RNOSC to make this forum and entire campaign a success.

On the Germany Embassy side, His Excellency the Ambassador of the German Embassy in Kigali Dr. Thomas Kurz said:

“I am very grateful and thank you for this invitation to take part in today event, I have very happily accepted this invitation and we have accepted happily as well to be part of this project, we have been cooperating, We Germans and Rwandans for the last decade”.

“Sports have been in lockdown for a quite some time to my country to a big extension still are on lockdown and only if we follow certain measures , we can reopen it, we can practice sports again and I am so glad that we are in position now to do that more and more”.

“The principle is so easy just everybody has to take care of himself, has to protect himself and to take care of the one he is meeting, if we follow that rule we will be more on the safe side.”

I have been asked to do that “I officially launch this campaign against COVID-19 in the field of sports so I wish you a good seminar, a good conference and especially all participants in the Olympic games next year in Tokyo if they take place all the best and we keep our fingers crossed for you so thanks you very much”



His Excellency the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Rwanda Dr. Thomas Kurz giving his opening remarks at the opening ceremony of the RNOSC Athletes’ Commission Forum 2020.

In the same context, COVID-19 prevention equipment were distributed to all 33 national sports federations' members of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee. The equipment were composed of face masks, 3 LED thermometers and 180 hand sanitizers for each federation.



Rwanda Triathlon Federation President Alexis Mbaraga receiving the equipment from the RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha and Ambassador of Germany to Rwanda Dr. Thomas Kurz.

V.2. Campaign through Sports-Talks Shows on Radio/TV, Digital Platforms and Street Billboards.

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee in partnership with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Rwanda launched a 10-day Awareness Campaign to fight COVID-19 pandemic from the 19th to the 28th of November 2020.

This activity was designed in order to pass messages of implementing the COVID-19 prevention measures via the television, radio, social media, outdoor digital boards and billboards around Kigali city.

It was officially launched by a TV show “Café Sport” hosted by Rwanda Television on Sunday the 22nd November 2020 attended by the President of the RNOSC Amb. Valens Munyabagisha and Renate Charlotte

Lehner, Deputy Head of Mission of the German Embassy Kigali to discuss about how sports can be used to fight Covid-19.



The RNOSC President Amb. Valens Munyabagisha and the Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Mrs. Renate Charlotte Lehner in Rwanda Television studios

During the 10-day campaign different audio and video messages were posted and played at Rwanda Radio and Rwanda TV, RNOSC and German Embassy in Kigali social media accounts as well as the outdoor digital boards and billboards around Kigali city.

You can find TV spot and the social media videos featuring the athletes and coaches here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5NtDXISS-Ww&list=PL86FC8x7PA6no-iZL54qNrVBgEbmns-s9F>



Street billboard to raise awareness campaign to fight COVID-19 in front of Amahoro National Stadium main gate



Street billboard to raise awareness campaign to fight COVID-19 at Rwandex main road



MERRY CHRISTMAS

& HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) / The Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association (RCGA) wishes you a **Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year 2021!**

Happy Holidays!





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