



RNOSC & RWANDA CGA END OF THE YEAR 2021 NEWSLETTER



**THEO UWAYO ELECTED NEW
PRESIDENT OF THE RNOSC
FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.**



**RWANDA AT TOKYO
2020 OLYMPIC
GAMES**



**BIRMINGHAM 2022
QUEEN'S BATON RELAY
IN RWANDA**

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O. Foreword by the RNO SC & Rwanda CGA President

Dear Readers,

We are delighted to release the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee end of the year 2021 newsletter.

This platform is a source of information for you covering every activity of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic the world is still facing, the RNO SC managed to implement a bunch of sports projects in a virtual way and in person where it was possible such as the Olympic Day 2021 celebrations, meetings, Genocide Memorial Tournaments 2021, participating at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Queen's Baton Relay 2022 just to name few.

On behalf of the Rwanda Olympic Movement, I would like to thank the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA), the Government of Rwanda through the Ministry of Sports, National Sports Federations, partners and Olympic Family for their support and partnership while promoting sport even during these unpredictable hard times caused by Covid-19.

Once again, special congratulations to the IOC President Thomas Bach and Olympic Movement for successfully hosting Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games after its postponement due to pandemic.

I also take this opportunity to wish everyone especially Rwanda Sport Movement a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year 2022.

I hope that you find this newsletter most useful and inspires you to integrate the Olympic Values into your daily lives.

Sincerely,

**Theo UWAYO,
President**

Theo UWAYO was unanimously elected as the new President of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) for the next four years. UWAYO who is also the President of the Rwanda Karate Federation and member of the Executive Board of UFAK (Union of African Karate Federation), was the sole candidate on this position, garnered 56/56 votes during the RNOSC Elective General Assembly which took place on 08 May 2021.

The date of elections for the new RNOSC Executive Committee, Internal Audit and Conflicts Resolution Committees, was approved in an Extraordinary General Assembly held on 17 April 2021.

In her remarks, the RNOSC Acting President and IOC Member Félicité RWEMARIKA thanked the outgoing Executive Committee for serving with commitment and work done over the past four years in office. She congratulated the incoming Executive Committee upon their election and urged them to serve

the Rwanda Sport Movement while respecting the Olympic Charter.

In his acceptance speech, the new President of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee commended the outgoing Executive Committee for the achievements registered over the last four years. Theo UWAYO promised to promote efficiency and good governance during his tenure.

“We are grateful for the faith that you have entrusted with us. We pledge to work tirelessly to deliver during our term in office. We will start from where the outgoing committee had reached.” – **RNOSC President Theo UWAYO**

I. Theo UWAYO elected new President of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee for the next four years.



The RNOSC newly elected President Mr. Theo UWAYO giving his acceptance speech after the elections, 08 May 2021.



IOC Member Félicité RWEMARIKA giving her remarks after the elections.

the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee, replacing IOC Member Mrs. Félicité RWEMARIKA. Umulinga garnered 54/57 votes. She is a former player of the National Women's Volleyball team and Kigali Volleyball Club (KVC).



I. 1. Other Executive Committee members elected

Alice UMULINGA from Rwanda Volleyball Federation has been elected as the 1st Vice President of

Salama UMUTONI from Rwanda Basketball Federation has been elected as the 2nd Vice President of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee. She garnered 56/57 votes. Umutoni is the former Captain of the National Women's Basketball Team and Second Assistant Coach for both National Women's Basketball Team and Ubumwe Basketball Club.



Christian GAKWAYA, the President of Rwanda Automobile Club, has been elected as the Treasurer General of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee. Gakwaya who was elected by 55/55 votes, also represents Africa in FIA (Federation Internationale de l'Automobile) Rally Commission.



Renowned Sports Journalist **Jean BUTOYI** who is also the President of AJSPOR (Rwanda Sports Journalists Association), has been elected as the Advisor of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee after garnering 55/55 votes. He served as the Head of the Media Commission in the outgoing Executive Committee of RNOSC.



Joseph KAJANGWE from Rwanda Football Federation, has been elected as the Secretary General of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee, replacing Sharangabo Alexis, OLY. He occupied several positions at the local football governing body since 2012. Kajangwe who heads the Appeals Commission at FERWAFa, got 57/57 votes.



Pamela GIRIMBAZI RUGABIRA has been elected as the Advisor of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee, with 54/55 votes. She is currently the President of the Rwanda Swimming Federation and Secretary General of the Rwanda Olympians Association. GIRIMBAZI is a three-time Olympian in swimming (2000, 2004, 2008).



I. 2. The RNOSC Internal Audit and Conflicts Resolution Committees have also the newly elected members as follows:

Newly elected members of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Internal Audit Committee: **Alice IRIBAGIZA** from Rwanda Triathlon Federation (53/55 votes), **Furaha Pascal** from Rwanda Tennis Federation (53/55 votes) and **Nzeyimana Celestin** from National Paralympic Rwanda (55/55 votes)

Newly elected members of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Conflicts Resolution Committee: **Placide BAGABO** from Rwanda Taekwondo Federation (55/55 votes), **Rwabuhihi Innocent** from ARPST/Sport au Travail (55/55 votes) and **Kagarama Clementine** from FRSS/Sport Scolaire (54/55 votes).



II. Officially hand-over between the incoming and outgoing RNOSC Executive Committees.



The IOC Member Mrs. Félicité RWEMARIKA (left) and RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO (right), 11 May 2021.

On 11 May 2021, the outgoing RNOSC Executive Committee had officially handed over to the newly elected members in the ceremony which took place at the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) headquarters.

The IOC Member Mrs. Félicité RWEMARIKA who was the RNOSC Acting President wished good luck

to the new Executive Committee and congratulated them again: "I wish incoming team great success and we will be there for you, congratulations again!"

The newly elected President Mr. Theo UWAYO in his speech: "You have contributed a lot to the development of Rwanda Sport Movement during your tenure in the office and this is

a good way of starting to do what we have been elected for."

The new RNOSC Executive Committee was elected at the RNOSC Elective General Assembly 2021 which took place on the 08th May 2021.



Sports Minister Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU speaking to the RNOSC newly elected Executive Committee, 03 June 2021

III. The Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU received the RNOSC newly elected Executive Board 2021-2024

The Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU received the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee newly elected Executive Board led by the President Theo UWAYO, on 03 June 2021, to discuss further partnership of both institutions in order to maximize the resources that could boost the development of sports sector in the next 4 years. "Our door is always open and you have our full support, all the best." - Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU.

The RNOSC newly elected Executive Board was elected on 08 May 2021 at its Elective General Assembly.



RNOSC Newly Executive Committee posing with Sports Minister Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU after the meeting, 03 June 2021.



IV. RNOSC celebrated the Olympic Day 2021 despite the COVID-19

IV.1. Training sessions on the Olympic values as part of the Olympic Day 2021 celebrations

As part of the Olympic Day 2021 celebrations, the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee (RNOSC) hosted training sessions on the Olympic values for 20 teachers from selected primary and high schools based in Kigali city.

These 1-day sessions took place at the RNOSC headquarters on 28 May 2021 and on 4 June 2021.

The RNOSC Secretary General Mr. Joseph KAJANGWE in his closing remarks: “I urge you to go back in your schools and share with your students what you have learnt during these sessions and the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee will always remain committed to assist you. As it is few days to go until Tokyo 2020 Olympics, this is also the right time to be the ambassadors of both the Olympic values and this historic event in your communities.”



The RNOSC Secretary General Joseph KAJANGWE addressing the participants who attended the training sessions on Olympic Values, 04 June 2021.



IV.2. Pre – Olympic Day 2021 Press Conference



Local Sports Journalists interacting with the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO at the Pre-Olympic Day 2021 Press

On June 23 of every year we celebrate the Olympic Day and to raise awareness about the importance of this event, the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee organized a press conference on the eve of the Olympic Day 2021, to detail this year's activities and share some updates about the Rwanda Olympic Team's preparations ahead of the Tokyo 2020 with the local media

houses.

The event was chaired by the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO and the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 was represented by Alphonsine AGAHOZO, OLY and John Hakizimana who competed in Swimming (50m Freestyle event) and in Athletics (Men's Marathon) respectively at Tokyo 2020.

“During this COVID-19 pandemic period, the RNOSC has been much emphasizing on the use of social media platforms and media, however, throughout the Olympic week, we were also able to train 20 sports teachers from 5 different schools in Kigali on the Olympic values.” - RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO

FOREWORD

by IOC Member
Félicité RWEMARIKA



When we celebrate the Olympic Day:

It is a special moment to celebrate what our communities have achieved through sport but also a reminder that the **Olympic values** and the habit of doing sport particularly among our youngsters are the pillars of the better world we all need.

I encourage all the youth especially young girls to **learn, move and discover** during the celebration of the **2021 Olympic day**.

Happy Olympic Day 2021 to you all especially to the Rwandan Sport Movement.

Highlights Videos of Olympic Day 2021:

- Pre-Olympic Day 2021 Press Conference:
<https://youtu.be/kZeAyjS6CFw>
- Remarks by the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO:
<https://youtu.be/ULONOeadn7c>

Message about the Olympic Day 2021 from the IOC Member Mrs. Félicité RWEMARIKA.



RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO (left) and H.E Masahiro IMAI, Ambassador of Japan to Rwanda (right), 15 June 2021.

V. The RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Mr. Masahiro IMAI, Ambassador of Japan to Rwanda.

On 15 June 2021, the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Mr. Masahiro IMAI, Ambassador of Japan to Rwanda.

August 2021 in Tokyo, Japan.

Both dignitaries commended the existing excellent sports cooperation and agreed to keep working together for the Rwanda Olympic Team's preparations ahead of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, which were held from 23 July to 8



kwibuka27
remember-unite-renew

**GENOCIDE
MEMORIAL
TOURNAMENT 2021**

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) #Kwibuka27 #GMT2021

VI. Kwibuka 27 by Rwanda Sport Movement

Each year on April 7, Rwanda begins 100 days of commemorating the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi that claimed lives of over one million victims.

As other Rwandans, every year, the Rwanda Sport Movement organize the following commemoration activities:

- A walk to remember and discussions for the fight against Genocide ideology.

- Financially supporting the vulnerable survivors of 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi by Rwanda Sport Movement (Ministry of Sports, Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee and National Sports Federations).

- Genocide Memorial Tournament organized by all 33 National Sports Federations and

coordinated by the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee in partnership with the Ministry of Sports.

Due to COVID-19 countermeasures taken by the Rwandan government, the Ministry of Sports and Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee with National Sports Federations were able to organize the following activities:

VI.1. Visit to Nyanza-Kicukiro Genocide Memorial



Officials laying wreaths at the Nyanza Genocide Memorial, 18 June 2021.

The Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU, the Minister of State at the Ministry of Youth and Culture Hon. Bamporiki Edouard and the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO visited the Nyanza-Kicukiro Genocide Memorial, on 18 June 2021, in remembering and honouring the victims of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

The Rwanda Sport Movement has also donated Rwf 500,000 to Nyanza Genocide Memorial Site to support its wide range of activities.



Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU signing in the memorial guest book, 18 June 2021.



The RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO signing in the memorial guest book, 18 June 2021

VI.2. Genocide Memorial Tournaments 2021 (GMT 2021)

Every month of June is a special period for Rwanda Sport Movement to join forces with the world to remember and pay respect to the Rwandans especially the sportsmen and women killed in 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi by organizing different competitions at national and international levels.

This year of 2021, 7 National Sports Federations

managed to organize the Genocide Memorial Tournaments (GMT 2021) as follows; the Rwanda Cricket Association has successfully hosted an international competition known as "Kwibuka T20 Tournament" with the event that attracted five countries namely Namibia, Botswana, Nigeria, Kenya and Rwanda as the host.

Other 6 federations including Rwanda Chess Federation, Rwanda Handball Federation, Rwanda Volleyball Federation, National Paralympic Committee of Rwanda and Rwanda Table Tennis Federation hosted national tournaments.



VII. Rwanda at Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

Rwanda marked its 10th appearance in the Olympics since 1984 by participating in the Games of the XXXII Olympiad, branded as Tokyo 2020.

This international multi-sport event held from 23 July to 8 August 2021 in Tokyo, Japan, with some preliminary events that began on 21 July.

The Rwandan delegation to Tokyo 2020 Olympics was made up of 13 delegates including 5 athletes who represented Rwanda in 3 sports as follows:

TOKYO 2020

RWANDAN DELEGATION TO TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

ATHLETICS

- YANKURIJE Marthe**
Athletics/Women's 5000m
- HAKIZIMANA John**
Athletics/Men's Marathon
- RWABUHIHI Innocent**
National Team Coach

#RwandaOlympicTeam2020 #Tokyo2020

MINISTRY OF SPORTS

TOKYO 2020

RWANDAN DELEGATION TO TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

CYCLING

- MUGISHA Moïse**
Cycling/Men's Road Race
- SEMPOMA Félix**
National Team Coach
- MANIRIHO Eric**
Mechanic

#RwandaOlympicTeam2020 #Tokyo2020

MINISTRY OF SPORTS

TOKYO 2020

RWANDAN DELEGATION TO TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

SWIMMING

- AGAZOZO Alphonsine OLY**
Swimming/Women's 50m Freestyle
- MANIRAGUHA Eloi OLY**
Swimming/Men's 50m Freestyle
- BAZATSINDA James**
National Team Coach

#RwandaOlympicTeam2020 #Tokyo2020

MINISTRY OF SPORTS

TOKYO 2020

RWANDAN DELEGATION TO TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

MANAGEMENT TEAM

- MUKUNDIYUKURI Jean De Dieu**
Chef de Mission
- MUGISHA Jean Jacques**
Team Manager
- RUGIGANA Jean Claude**
Press Attaché
- SIBOMANA R. Emmanuel**
Physiotherapist

#RwandaOlympicTeam2020 #Tokyo2020

MINISTRY OF SPORTS

And before entering the Olympic Village, the team had two consecutive residential camps.

VII.1. Training Camp in Nyamata ahead of Tokyo 2020

From 23 June 2021 to 05 July 2021, the Rwanda Olympic Team started a training camp at La Palisse Hotel Nyamata ahead of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, which held from 23 July to 08 Aug 2021 in Tokyo-Japan.

The following athletes were part of the Nyamata camp:

Athletics:

- 1. Muhitira Felicien: Athletics/ Marathon
 - 2. Hakizimana John: Athletics/ Marathon
 - 3. Yankurije Marthe: Athletics/5,000 m
- National Team Coach: RWABUHIHI Innocent

Hakizimana John and Yankurije Marthe during the training session with Coach Rwabuhahi Innocent at Bugesera stadium, 30 June 2021.



Hakizimana John and Yankurije Marthe during the training session with Coach Rwabuhahi Innocent at Bugesera stadium, 30 June 2021.

Cycling/Road Race:

- 1. Mugisha Moise
 - 2. Areruya Joseph
 - 3. Munyaneza Didier
- National Team Coach: Sempoma Felix



Mugisha Moise (left), Munyaneza Didier (center) and Areruya Joseph (right), photo taken at La Palisse Hotel Nyamata on 02 July 2021.

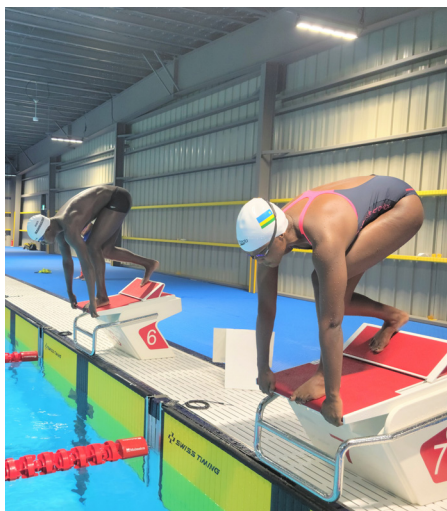
Swimming/50m Freestyle:

- 1. Agahozo Alphonsine, OLY
 - 2. Maniraguha Eloi, OLY
- National Team Coach: Bazatsinda James



You can find the highlights videos of the training camp here:

- Cycling Team: <https://youtu.be/XPtrwIID6TA>
- Athletics Team: <https://youtu.be/JbrIhYLRBIA>
- Swimming Team: <https://youtu.be/1-bOOHMzfcS>, <https://youtu.be/sX8rImv-KMo>





VII.1.1. Ministry of Sports flagged off the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020

Before departing for Japan, on 05 July 2021, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Sports, Mr. SHEMA-MABOKO Didier flagged off the Rwandan delegation to this year's Olympic Games, which held in Tokyo Japan from July 23 to August 8.

The ceremony was also attended by officials of Rwanda National Olympic and Sports committee (RNOSC).

On behalf of the Minister of Sports,

the Permanent Secretary wished the athletes good luck and encouraged them to work collectively as a team and make Rwanda proud in Tokyo.

“Children of Rwanda, we wish you safety in the battle you have gone to. You have gone to showcase Rwanda as you compete with other nations. Compete heroically, we wish you success as you make your motherland proud. You have gone in difficult

times, protect yourselves, don't stop practising preventive measures against Covid-19. Come back in peace”.

The Rwandan delegation departed for Japan on Monday, July 05, for another residential training camp in Hachimantai–Japan ahead of the Tokyo 2020.

XII.2. Training Camp in Hachimantai – Japan

From 07-19 July 2021, the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 started a second training camp in Hachimantai City, Japan ahead of the Tokyo 2020. Five athletes including Hakizimana John (Athletics/Marathon), Yankurije Marthe (Athletics/5,000 m), Mugisha Moise (Cycling road), Agahozo Alphonsine, OLY (Swimming/50m Freestyle) and Maniraguha Eloi, OLY (Swimming/50m Freestyle), benefited from sports facilities of Hachimantai city in Iwate prefecture

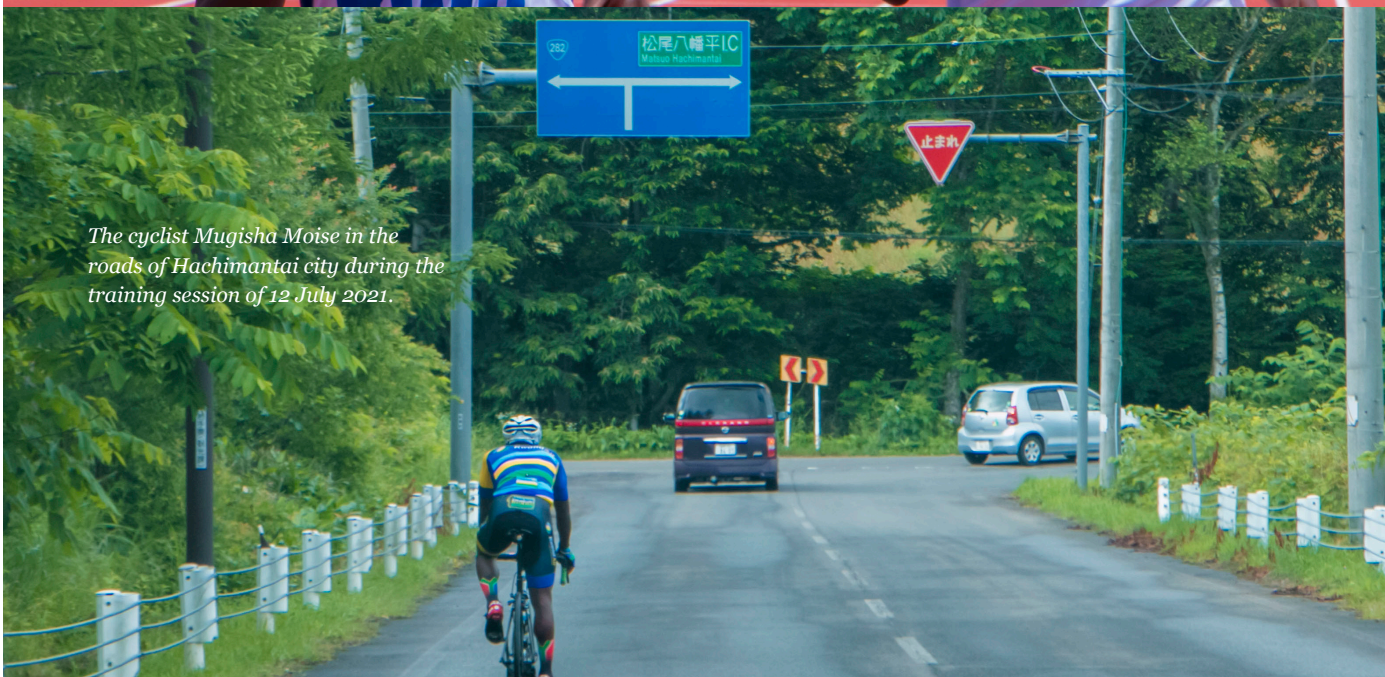
while staying at Hotel Appi Grand during the 2-week training camp before the Olympics.

Highlights video of Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 journey from Narita International Airport to Hachimantai city for a training camp:

<https://youtu.be/ZVjG-AyotEk>



Yankurije Marthe (left) and Hakizimana John (right), training session of 15 July 2021 at Iwate Prefecture Athletic Park.



The cyclist Mugisha Moise in the roads of Hachimantai city during the training session of 12 July 2021.



Swimmers Agahozo Alphonsine, OLY and Maniraguha Eloi, OLY at Iwate Prefectural Indoor Swimming Pool during the training session of 09 July 2021.

You can find the highlights videos of the Hachimantai training camp here:

- Cycling Team: <https://youtu.be/osVhQh0hvKE>
- Athletics Team: <https://youtu.be/xbg1yMR7M2c>
- Swimming Team: <https://youtu.be/Y81Qlc6mtzI>

VII.2.1. Visit of Mayor of Hachimantai City to Rwanda Olympic Team 2020



Mayor of Hachimantai city Mr. Masahiko Tamura addressing the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020, 08 July 2021.

The Mayor of Hachimantai city Mr. Masahiko Tamura together with the Deputy Mayor Yasuhiko Tamura paid a courtesy visit, on 08 July 2021, to the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 during its residential camp in Hachimantai city.

Olympic Games 2020.” – Mayor Masahiko Tamura.

Highlights video of the visit of Mayor of Hachimantai city to the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020: https://youtu.be/VFHjfNu6_jE

“It is an honour to welcome you to Hachimantai city following the visit of the Ambassador of Rwanda to Japan H.E RWAMUCYO Ernest.

I wish you a successful training camp and the best results at the



VII.2.2. Virtual Exchange Event with Tairadate High School Students



Mayor of Hachimantai city Mr. Masahiko Tamura receiving a gift from Rwandan delegation, 08 July 2021.

On 15 July 2021, the Rwandan delegation to Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games attended a Virtual Exchange Event together with Tairadate High School Students.

With the Tokyo 2020 Olympics as an opportunity, the host town, Hachimantai entertained the athletes through the food tasting and questions for the purpose of cultural exchange between Japan and Rwanda.

The Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 left the Hachimantai camp on 19 July

2021 to enter the Olympic Village in Tokyo.

Highlights video of the Virtual Exchange Event between Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 and Tairadate High School Students:

<https://youtu.be/co77c6E2JeI>



VII.3. Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 at the Olympic Village

The Rwanda Olympic Team entered the Olympic Village on 19 July 2021 and continued its preparation ahead of the Games.

Athletics Team used the Olympic Stadium and Makomanai Stadium for the training sessions, Swimming Teams' training sessions were held at Tokyo Aquatics Centre while the Cycling Team moved to Fuji.



VII.4. The RNOSC President virtually met with the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020

On 22 July 2021, the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO had a virtual meeting with the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 ahead of the Tokyo 2020 Opening Ceremony.

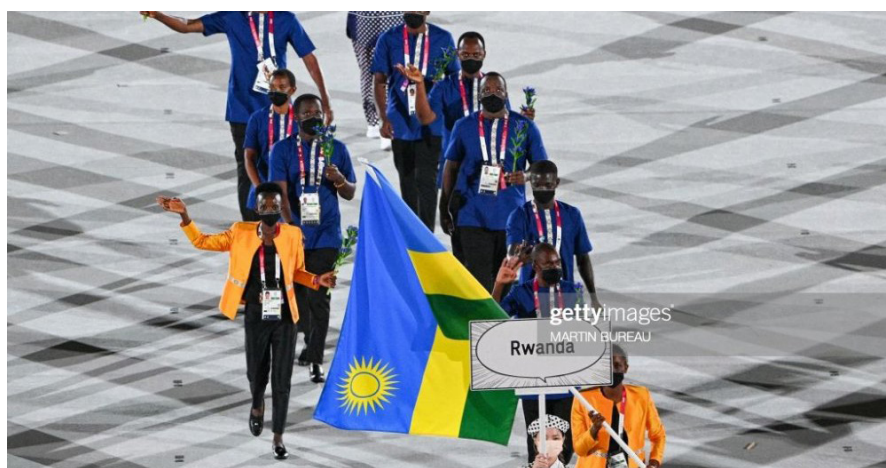
“You have worked so hard to be qualified for the Tokyo 2020, you deserve to belong here that is why all Rwandans are behind you and urge you to do your best to make Rwanda proud.

Always keep in mind the Rwandan values such as discipline, integrity and respect wherever you are - If you do so, this will positively affect your performance and

stay safe from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Rwanda was represented in 3 sports as follows: YANKURIJE Marthe and HAKIZIMANA John in athletics 5000m and marathon respectively, MUGISHA Moise in Cycling road while AGAHOZO Alphonsine and MANIRAGUHA Eloi will compete in swimming 50m freestyle.

VII.5.Tokyo 2020 Opening Ceremony



Entering in order of the host nations language, some of the 11,289 athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees, including the IOC Olympic Refugee Team, who competed at the Games, were welcomed into the Olympic Stadium as part of the Tokyo 2020 Opening Ceremony.

The swimmer AGAHOZO Alphonsine, OLY and Marathon runner HAKIZIMANA John were the flag-bearers for the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020 at this historic event.

On 23 July 2021, the Rwandan delegation to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games joined other delegations to march at the Parade of Nations wearing Made-In-Rwanda attire with a Gentian in hand.



VII.6. IOC Member Mrs. Félicité RWEMARIKA together with the RNOSC Secretary General Mr. Joseph KAJANGWE paid a visit to the Rwanda Olympic Team at the Olympic Village.

On 25 July 2021, the IOC Member Mrs. Félicité RWEMARIKA together with the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Secretary General Mr. Joseph KAJANGWE paid a visit to the Rwanda Olympic Team at the Olympic Village.

“On behalf of the NOC RWANDA President and myself, I would like to let you know that we really appreciate your commitment and all Rwandans’ eyes are on you, that is why you have to always aim high and do the best you can at this competition. Good luck to next athletes to compete.” – IOC Member Félicité RWEMARIKA

The visit took place after the cyclist Mugisha Moise failed to finish the race on 24 July in cycling road due to the accident while swimmers AGAHOZO Alphonsine, OLY and MANIRAGUHA Eloi, OLY and 5000m runner YANKURIJE Marthe were supposed to compete on July 30 and HAKIZIMANA John on August 08 in men’s marathon.



VII.7. Minister Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU virtually addressed the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020.



On 29 July 2021, the Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa MUNYANGAJU virtually met the Rwanda Olympic Team at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games to encourage the delegation and

mostly motivate the athletes before the athletics and swimming competitions.

“Tomorrow is a big day! 3 Rwandan athletes will compete in athletics and swimming, I urge them to do their best they can to well represent all Rwandans whether they are here in Rwanda or abroad. “

“When you compete, remember that you wear Rwandan flag and you have to protect its dignity by well performing on field. All the best!” – Hon. Min. Aurore Mimosa Munyangaju

“Our athlete Mugisha Moise did not finish his race after getting involved in a car accident but we still believe in him and hope he will do better next time. we wish him a quick recovery.” – Minister added

The event was also attended by the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Sports Mr. SHEMA-MABOKO Didier, the RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO and his board members including the IOC Member Mrs. RWEMARIKA Félicité, Acting Sports Director at Ministry of Sports Mr. RURANGAYIRE Guy Didier and the Rwanda Athletics Federation President Mr. Fidèle Mubiligi.

VII.8. Performance of Rwandan athletes at Tokyo 2020



RWANDA OLYMPIC TEAM 2020

Competitions Schedule for Rwandan Athletes at #Tokyo2020



MUGISHA Moise

Men's Road Race
July 24, 2021, 4:00 AM (Kigali Time)
FUJI International Speedway



YANKURIJE Marthe

Athletics/Women's 5000m
July 30, 2021, 12:00 PM (Kigali Time)
Olympic Stadium



AGAHOZO Alphonsine OLY

Swimming/Women's 50m Freestyle
July 30, 2021, 12:00 PM (Kigali Time)
Tokyo Aquatics Center



MANIRAGUHA Eloi OLY

Swimming/Men's 50m Freestyle
July 30, 2021, 12:00 PM (Kigali Time)
Tokyo Aquatics Center



HAKIZIMANA John

Men's Marathon Final
August 08, 2021, 0:00 AM (Kigali Time)
Sapporo Odori Park

Twitter Instagram Facebook #RwandaOlympicTeam2020 #Tokyo2020



MINISTRY OF SPORTS

Rwanda was represented by 5 athletes in 3 sports and unfortunately no medal taken back home.

XII.8.1. Cycling/Road Race

On 24 July 2021, the cyclist Mugisha Moise made his Olympic debut in Japan by competing in men's road race (234KM) but unfortunately, he

had an accident and did not finish. 126 riders represented 57 nations, 85 ranked, 2 did not start and 41 did not finish.

Medallists of the Men's Road Race at Tokyo 2020:

1. CARAPAZ Richard from Ecuador
2. van AERT Wout from Belgium
3. POGACAR Tadej from Slovenia





RNOSC Secretary General KAJANGWE Joseph (left), cyclist MUGISHA Moise (center) and Mechanic MANIRIHO Eric (right), 24 July 2021.

Mugisha Moise met with the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee Secretary General Mr. KAJANGWE Joseph accompanied by Chef de Mission Mr. MUKUNDIYUKURI Jean De Dieu and Team Manager Mr. MUGISHA Jean Jacques before the race.

VII.8.2. Athletics/Women’s 5000m event

YANKURIJE Marthe made her Olympic debut by competing in Athletics/Women’s 5000m event at the Olympic Stadium and finished 17th with 15:55.94 secs in Heat 2.

Women’s 5000m event had 2 heats and first 5 in each heat and the next 5 fastest advanced to the Final.

Top 3 winners of athletics women’s

5000m final at Tokyo Olympics

- Sifan Hassan, Netherlands, 14:36.79
- Hellen Obiri, Kenya, 14:38.36
- Gudaf Tsegay, Ethiopia, 14:38.87



VII.8.3. Swimming/50m Freestyle



AGAHOZO Alphonsine, OLY after finishing on the first place in swimming/women’s 50m Freestyle/Heat 2 at Tokyo 2020, 30 July 2021.

Rwanda was represented by 2 swimmers in both women and men’s 50m Freestyle; AGAHOZO Alphonsine, OLY finished 1st in women’s 50m Freestyle with 30.50secs in Heat 2 but she did not manage to progress to the semi-finals as she was not qualified among best 16 athletes considering 11 Heats of the event – While MANIRAGUHA Eloi, OLY finished 7th in Men’s 50m Freestyle/Heat 4 with 25.38 secs and he was not qualified for the semi-finals as he was not among best 16 athletes to progress to the semi-finals considering 10 heats of the event.



MANIRAGUHA Eloi, OLY finished 7th in swimming men’s 50m Freestyle/Heat 4 at Tokyo 2020, 30 July 2021.

Top 3 winners in Swimming/Women’s 50m Freestyle

1. McKEON Emma from Australia with 23.81secs
2. SJOESTROEM Sarah from Sweden with 24.07secs

3. BLUME Pernille from Denmark with 24.21 secs

Top 3 winners in Swimming/Men’s 50m Freestyle

1. DRESSEL Caeleb from United States with 21.07secs

2. MANAUDOU Florent from France with 21.55secs

3. FRATUS Bruno from Brazil with 21.57secs

VII.8.4. Athletics/Men's Marathon event

For his first appearance at the Olympics, On 08 August 2021, Rwandan athlete HAKIZIMANA John competed in Tokyo 2020 men's marathon event Which took place at Sapporo Odori Park, unfortunately he did not finish the race.

1. KIPCHOGE Eliud from Kenya with 2:08:38
2. NAGEEYE Abdi from Netherlands with 2:09:58
3. ABDI Bashir from Belgium with 2:10:00



Medallists of Tokyo 2020 Men's Marathon:

VII.9. Visit of Ambassador of Rwanda to Japan to the Rwanda Olympic Team 2020



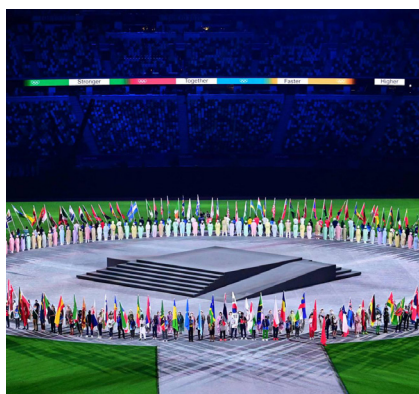
On 30 July 2021, the Ambassador of Rwanda to Japan H.E Ernest RWAMUCYO attended the

Athletics/Women's 5000m event where the Rwandan athlete YANKURIJE Marthe competed in

at the Olympic Stadium.

VII.10. Closing Ceremony

On 08 August 2021, Rwanda joined other 204 Nations for the Tokyo 2020 Closing Ceremony and the marathon runner HAKIZIMANA John carried the Rwandan national flag at the ceremony.



VII.11. Conclusion

So far, Rwanda has 40 Olympians since 1984 including Tokyo new Olympians with no medal and this year's edition has marked the 10th consecutive appearance of Rwanda at the Olympics.

Highlights video of “Rwanda at Olympic Games” topic:

<https://youtu.be/XASSCMYIS3M>



VIII. Delegates from Karate Federation of RDC visited the RNOSC President



The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee President Mr. Theo UWAYO who is also the President of Rwanda Karate Federation and member of the Executive Board of UFAK, received in his offices, on 19 August 2021, the President of the Karate Federation of RDC (FEKACO) Mr. Freddy L'A KOMBO to discuss the partnerships ahead of the “Tournoi d’Amitié des Grands-Lacs Goma, 1ère Edition”.

The event is expected to take place from 23-26 September 2021 at CAP KIVU Hotel and the following 9 countries will participate: Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, Angola, Uganda, Burundi, Zambia, Republic of Congo and RDC as the host.



IX. Working meeting between the RNOSC Executive Committee and Permanent Staff.



On the 26th of September 2021, a working meeting was held between the RNOSC Executive Committee Members and the Permanent Staff.

through our unity and teamwork and the good thing is that everyone is capable and committed.” – RNOSC President Mr. Theo UWAYO

The purpose of the meeting was for everyone to clearly understand his/her responsibilities and the way forward but also to help the team members develop relationships with each other.

While concluding the meeting: “The mission of RNOSC will be achieved

X. ANOC General Assembly Crete 2021



The IOC President Thomas Bach officially opening the XXV ANOC General Assembly 2021.

The world's 205 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) gathered in Crete, Greece on 24-25 October 2021 for the XXV ANOC General Assembly.

For the first time ever, the General Assembly was held in a hybrid format with NOCs unable to attend in person joining the meeting virtually. The General Assembly united the Olympic Movement with NOCs joined in person and online by representatives from the IOC, International Federations and Organising Committees at the Creta Maris Beach Resort.

In addition to the General Assembly, Crete hosted the ANOC Awards 2021, which celebrated the outstanding achievements of athletes from the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020. The ceremony took place at the Creta Maris Beach Resort.

The Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee was represented by the First Vice President Mrs. Umulinga Alice.



The ANOCA President Mr. Mustapha Berraf addressing the participants of the XXV ANOC General Assembly 2021.



Kenyan double Olympic champion Eliud Kipchoge receiving the ANOC Awards 2021 from the ANOCA President Mr. Mustapha Berraf.

XI: Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay in Rwanda



XI.1. Pre-Queen's Baton Relay Media Tour

One week before the arrival of the Queen's Baton, the Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association in partnership with the Ministry of Sports and British High Commission to Rwanda organized a media tour to discuss and explain more about the Queen's Baton Relay in Rwanda and different officials were hosted by the Rwanda Broadcasting Agency (RBA) and B&B FM-Umwezi among other local stations.

– Maboko Didier|Café Sport - Rwanda Television, November 07, 2021



The Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Sports Mr. SHEMA – Maboko Didier| in Rwanda Television Studio during Café Sport Show

“The Queen's Baton symbolises hope, solidarity and collaboration but also as Rwanda, that we are committed to participate in the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022 next year. We are encouraging all Rwandans to warmly welcome this Baton as usual.” The Second Vice – President of Rwanda Commonwealth Games Mrs. Umutoni Salama | B&B FM - Umwezi, November 08, 2021



The First Vice-President of Rwanda CGA Mrs. Umulinga Alice in Rwanda Television Studio during Café Sport Show.

“As Rwanda, while celebrating the Queen's Baton from 09-12 Nov, we will be focusing on two themes which are the inclusion and environment protection, and the Team Rwanda for the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022 will be quietly an inclusive one.” The First Vice – President of Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association Mrs. Umulinga Alice|Café Sport - RBA, November 07, 2021

“Hosting the Queen's Baton is a way of cherishing the participating countries & the Games themselves. It is also an opportunity to re-think how sport should be connected with culture and development policies towards a social change across the Commonwealth countries.” The Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Sports Mr. SHEMA



The Second Vice – President of Rwanda Commonwealth Games Mrs. Umutoni Salama in B&B FM – Umwezi Studios.



RWANDA

9-12 NOV 2021



"I am absolutely delighted to see the Queen's Baton in Rwanda ahead of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games next year.

The unity that this relay represents brings together communities across the globe. Inclusion is at the heart of these Games, as Birmingham 2022 will have the biggest ever sports programme, with the largest integrated Para Sport programme in history.

The Relay underlines our shared Commonwealth values ahead of Rwanda hosting CHOGM in 2022, and to highlight the importance of the environment as the COP26 meetings are happening in Glasgow." The British High Commissioner to Rwanda H. E. Omar Daair|English News – Rwanda Television, November 08, 2021

You can watch his exclusive interview here: <https://youtu.be/5F2XMdbgulo>



The British High Commissioner to Rwanda H. E. Omar Daair during an exclusive interview with Rwanda Television.

XI.2. Queen's Baton in Rwanda



Rwandan Baton Manager Mr. Jean Jacques Mugisha receiving the Queen's Baton from Ugandan Baton Manager Mr. Njawuzi Elijah Mwebaza, November 09, 2021.

The Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association with support of the Commonwealth Sport and Government of Rwanda through the Ministry of Sports and other partner institutions successfully hosted the Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton for its 3rd time in Rwanda since 2014 and during a 4 day-visit from 09th to 12th of November 2021, the Baton visited different places in Kigali city and toured the city in general before heading to Tanzania as the next stop.

This Baton Relay globally began on October 28, 2021 at Buckingham Palace after Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II placed her message to the Commonwealth into the Baton – And it is being held around the world prior to the beginning of the Commonwealth Games that will take place in Birmingham from July 28 to August 8, 2022 and this journey will conclude at the Birmingham 2022 Opening Ceremony where the message will be read.

Since its inaugural appearance at the Cardiff 1958 Commonwealth Games, the Queen's Baton Relay has been a tradition and it is its 16th official time crossing all 72 nations and territories that make up the entirety of the Commonwealth in a 294-day epic journey.

The President of Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association Mr. Theo UWAYO warmly welcomed the Queen's Baton and encouraged the Rwandan athletes to be the ambassadors of a peace and sustainable development in their communities:

It is also another opportunity to encourage our athletes who will compete to be the ambassadors of peace, unity, sustainable development and environment protection in their communities.”



The Commonwealth Youth Games Bronze Medallist Valentine Munezero carrying the Queen's Baton from Kigali International Airport to Kigali Marriott Hotel, November 09, 2021.

“We are delighted and honoured to receive the Queen's Baton for the third time in Rwanda. Receiving the Queen's Baton during this period of the Covid-19 pandemic has a significant meaning as it symbolises hope, solidarity, and collaboration across our Commonwealth countries.

The Queen's Baton was carried by the captains of national teams and it was an opportunity to showcase untold stories from Batonbearers, athletes, and young people who are striving for change in their community.



Marathon runner John Hakizimana, OLY holding the queen's Baton in front of Kwibuka 27 monument at Kigali Genocide Memorial, November 09, 2021.

The following places in Kigali were specifically visited by the Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton during its stay in Rwanda:

Day 01 – November 09, 2021

1. Kigali Genocide Memorial

On the 09th of November 2021, the Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton visited the Kigali Genocide Memorial, a home to over 250,000 victims killed during the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

As the Queen's Baton symbolises hope, solidarity, and collaboration across our Commonwealth countries, the purpose of the visit was to give the whole world especially the Commonwealth another chance to honor victims and learn more about the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

The Queen's Baton Relay delegation laid wreath at the burial place in honour of victims of the Genocide against the Tutsi.

Highlights video of day 01: https://youtu.be/YRBb9SPM_oQ

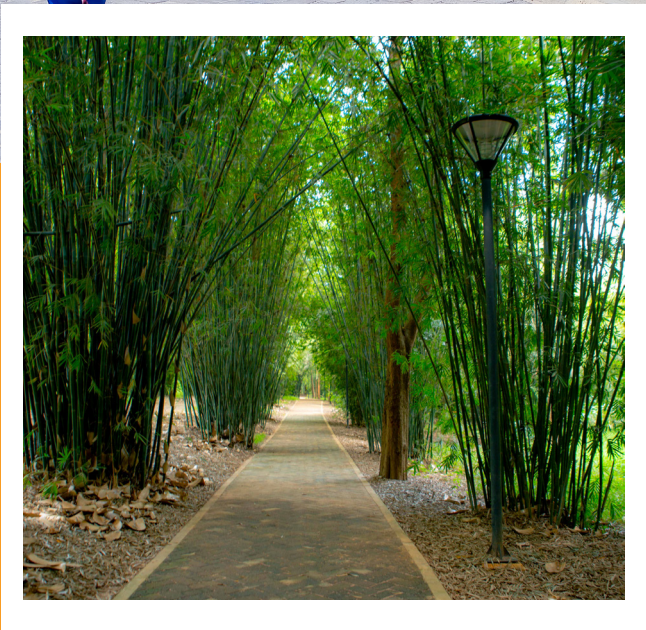


The First Vice President of Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association Mrs. Umulinga Alice laying wreath in honour of victims of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

Day 02 – November 10, 2021

2. Nyandungu Urban Wetland Ecotourism Park

On the 10th of November 2021, the Queen's Baton toured Nyandungu Urban Wetland Ecotourism Park to showcase the world that is possible to protect the environment but also to encourage the Sport Movement to play its part using sports whilst Rwanda has decided to primarily focus on the environment protection and Inclusion as themes during this global Baton Relay.



The Queen's Baton toured Nyandungu Urban Wetland Ecotourism Park to promote the beauty of Rwanda and environmental protection through sport.



The ceremony was graced by different dignitaries including the Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa Munyangaju and diplomatic representatives.

Here are quotes from keynote speakers at the event:

“Environment Protection is one of the two themes we are primarily focusing on this year, that is why we are gathered here to celebrate this environmental achievement but also to strongly inspire our athletes to be the environmental activists in their communities”. [The First Vice-President of Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association Mrs. Umulinga Alice](#)



The First Vice-President of Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association Mrs. Umulinga Alice

“The Queen’s Baton we celebrate today, we hope, is going to help us showcase to the World, and particularly to the Commonwealth countries that it is possible to protect the environment, using nature-based solutions, such as wetland protection and restoration.” [Mrs. Juliet Kabera - Director General, Rwanda Environment Management Authority](#)



Director General of Rwanda Environment Management Authority Mrs. Juliet Kabera.



*The British High Commissioner to Rwanda H.E
Omar Daair*



*Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa Munyangaju
pictured holding the Queen's Baton.*

“I am absolutely delighted to see the Queen’s Baton in Rwanda ahead of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games next year.

The unity that this relay represents brings together communities across the globe. Inclusion is at the heart of these Games, as Birmingham 2022 will have the biggest ever sports programme, with the largest integrated Para Sport programme in history.

The Relay underlines our shared Commonwealth values ahead of Rwanda hosting CHOGM in 2022, and to highlight the importance of the environment as the COP26 meetings are happening in Glasgow.”
The British High Commissioner to Rwanda **H. E. Omar Daair** | English News – Rwanda Television, November 08, 2021

You can watch his exclusive interview here:
<https://youtu.be/5F2XMdbgulo>



“Rwanda is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations since 2009. Hosting the Queen’s Baton Relay ahead of the CHOGM in 2022, is a continued recognition by the community of our commitments to the common shared vision of unity.

“From the outcomes of the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), we gather here in presence of the Queen’s Baton, in the Kigali “Nyandungu Urban Wetland Ecotourism” Park. There is no better location than this one to celebrate both the Queen’s Baton and Rwanda and the Commonwealth of Nations’ resolve to environment protection.”

Minister of Sports Hon. Aurore Mimosa Munyangaju

3. Lycée de Kigali



The Queen's Baton was warmly welcomed by a Rwandan cultural troupe of Lycée de Kigali, November 10, 2021.

On the same day, the Queen's Baton visited Lycée de Kigali as one of the partner schools of Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association with potential future talents and students played 3X3 Basketball game.



The students of "Lycée de Kigali" school playing 3X3 basketball game to celebrate the Queen's Baton, November 10.



Students of Lycée de Kigali cheering on the Queen's Baton, November 10, 2021.

The school has also been donated sports equipment as part of the Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton celebrations to support sports development program particularly for Basketball, Volleyball and Football.

Highlights video of day 02: <https://youtu.be/67CrNiBWueI>



3X3 Basketball Teams posing with officials after a handover of sports equipment donated to Lycée de Kigali, November 10, 2021.

Day 03 – November 11, 2021

4. Campaign against Genocide Museum



The Queen’s Baton were taken to the Campaign against Genocide Museum on the 11th of November 2021 and the delegation learned about Rwanda Patriotic Army (RPA)’s journey to stop the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi and post-Genocide Rwanda’s growth.

This Museum which is located in the Rwandan Parliament buildings and opened officially on 13th December, 2017 by H.E Paul Kagame, depicts in details how the Campaign Against Genocide Plan was executed by RPF/A following the withdrawal of UN troops leaving the targeted Tutsi under the mercy of the Genocidaires and how only the RPF/A forces who

were in the war of liberation took the unilateral decision to stop Genocide, Rescue victims of Genocide and defeat the Genocidal forces.

This CAG Museum also has its outer part comprised of monuments including that of the 12.7mm Machine Gun that helped in containing the advancing genocidal forces.



5. Gahanga Cricket Stadium and Kigali Arena

On the 11th of November 2021, the Birmingham 2022 Queen’s Baton has also paid a courtesy visit to the Gahanga Cricket Stadium and Kigali Arena as one of the modern sports facilities which are attracting big continental tournaments.

Gahanga Cricket Stadium opened in October 2017 and consists of an ICC International standard wicket with pavilion and bar, as well as community facilities while Kigali Arena is the biggest indoor arena in East Africa.

Two Rwandan cricket players and Guinness World Record Holders Cathia Uwamahoro and Eric Dusingizimana posing next to the Queen's Baton at Gahanga Cricket Stadium.

A "Social Cricket/Quick Fire" were played at Gahanga Cricket Stadium to entertain people while also celebrating the values that the baton symbolises.



Participants played a "Social Cricket/Quick Fire" game to get entertained but also celebrating the values that the baton symbolises.

THE QUEEN'S BATON



Two Rwandan cricket players and Guinness World Record Holders Cathia Uwamahoro (Right) and Eric Dusingizimana (Left) posing next to the Queen's Baton at Gahanga Cricket Stadium.

- **A Relay from Airtel Headquarters to Kigali Arena**

The Queen's Baton's visit to Rwanda was concluded with a tour of the Kigali city and a Relay from Airtel Headquarters to Kigali Arena as a symbol of hope, solidarity and collaboration for the next generation. The Relay was attended by all Batonbearers and

other athletes from national sports federations.

Highlights video of Day 03: <https://youtu.be/284cVfi-PWM>



The Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton in the roads of Kigali city, November 11, 2021.



A walk from Airtel Headquarters – Remera to Kigali Arena was attended by all Batonbearers and Officials from different institutions.

XII.38th Seminar of Secretaries General of National Olympic Committees (NOCs) of Africa



From 26th to 28th of November 2021, the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) organized the 38th Seminar of Secretaries General of National Olympic Committees (NOCs) of Africa which took place at the Mahatma Gandhi International Conference Center in Niamey, Niger.

This year's edition was themed "Strategic planning for improved NOCs governance, athletes, coaches and officials' development, and streamlining with continental plans to facilitate Africa's excellence at international level."

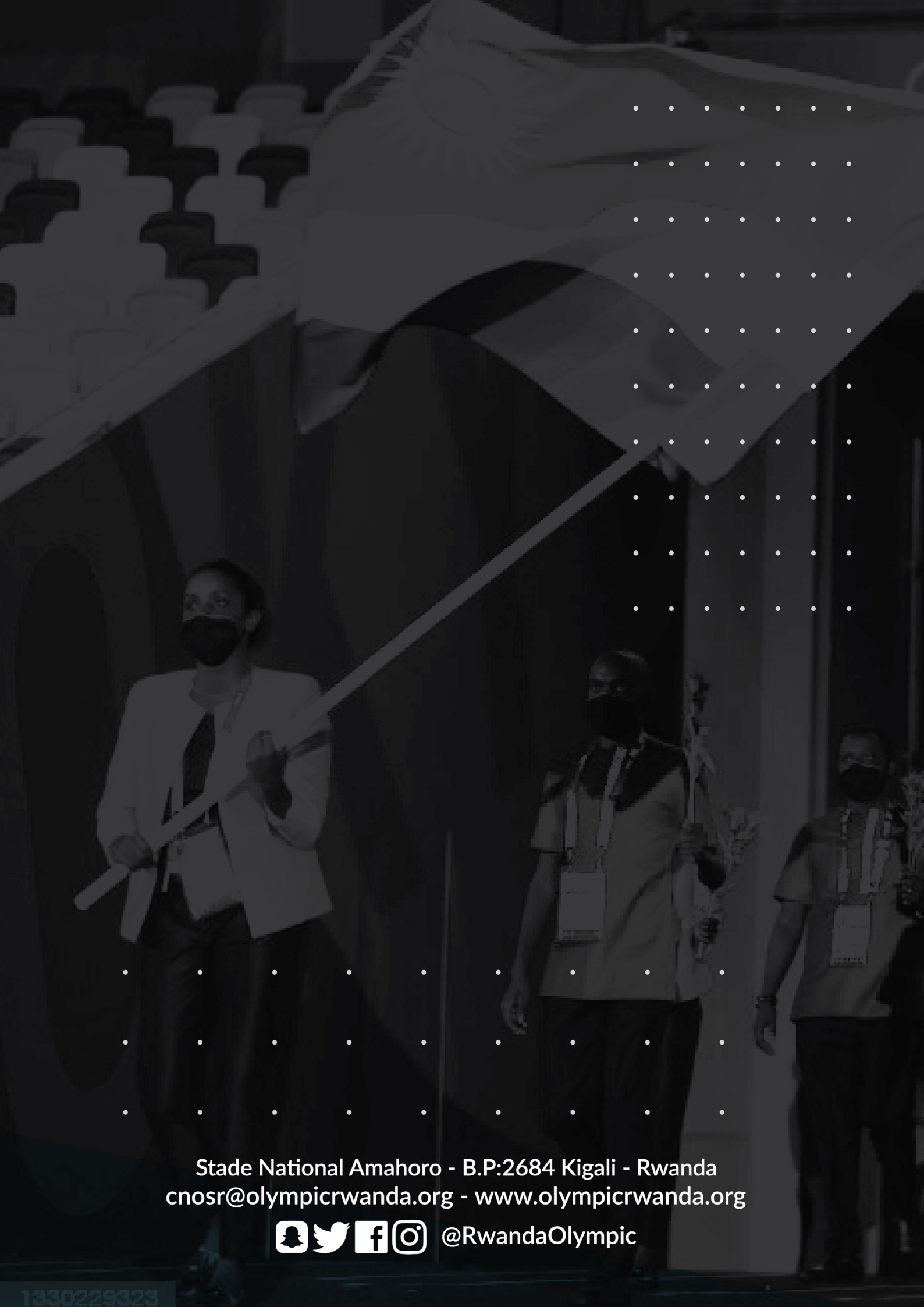
All 54 African National Olympic Committees were present and the Secretary General Mr. Joseph KAJANGWE attended this annual event on behalf of the Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee.



*Both Rwanda National Olympic and Sports Committee and Rwanda Commonwealth Games Association wish everyone especially Rwanda Sport Movement a **Merry** Christmas and a very **Happy New Year 2022**.*

Stay Safe and Healthy!





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 @RwandaOlympic