



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Memo

Dear fellow Athletes,

Many thanks for joining the call with the IOC Athletes' Commission on 13 September. I am happy to confirm that on this call, we had about 40 representatives from Athletes' Commissions of the IFs, NOCs and WADA. Your participation to these regular calls is very important to us and highlights the importance of the direct engagement among us.

Additionally, on this call we had Kit McConnell, IOC Sports Director, and Kaveh Mehrabi, IOC Head of Athletes Programmes.

I am happy to share with you the summary of the discussion and updates provided on the call.

1- Athlete Charter of Rights and Responsibilities

The first point discussed was about the progress of the Athlete Charter of Rights and Responsibilities. The development of the project is well underway, and [the survey will close on 24 September](#).

Please encourage your fellow athletes to take the survey and make them aware of the importance of making their voice heard.

The Steering Committee has met by conference call on an almost monthly basis to continue the strong progress made so far. In parallel, there has been consultations with stakeholders, to collect all feedback.

I am also happy to report that we continue to have constructive discussions with the WADA Athlete Committee regarding the anti-doping Athlete Charter. The ambition is to refer to this in the Athlete Charter when it has been completed.

The Steering Committee will work hard after the closing of the survey to analyse the results and present the final document to the IOC Executive Board for approval in October (3-4) before showcasing it at the Olympism in Action Forum in Argentina on 5 and 6 October.

Finally, we will be presenting the document at the IOC Session for approval as well, which is a massive milestone and recognition for the work that has been done by the Steering Committee and all athletes and athlete representatives across the globe.

2- Continental Athletes' Forums

The ANOCA Athletes' Commission held the 2nd ANOCA Athlete Forum last week in Zimbabwe. The Forum was attended by over 100 participants, including 76 athlete representatives from 34 countries.

Acknowledging the fundamental role that Olympic Solidarity plays in both the development of sport and supporting athletes around the world, the participants also highlighted the significant role of Olympic Solidarity in the organisation of these Forums by fully funding the Continental Athletes' Forums.

These Forums give us, the athlete representatives, the platform to have open and direct discussions on the most important issues, encouraging athletes' representation and the exchange of information.

The objectives of the 2nd ANOCA Athlete Forum were for participants to:

- Be **informed** about the Olympic Movement and resources available to them
- Find ways to **communicate effectively** with each other as a network
- Understand the needs of African athletes and what **support** is currently available
- Be confident and feel **empowered** to effectively run an Athletes' Commission



At the end of the Forum the participants agreed on the following recommendations:

- All African NOCs must have an active Athletes' Commission in place before the end of 2020 and ensure that a representative of the Athletes' Commission has a seat and full voting rights on the NOC Executive Board.
- The ANOCA AC should hold its elections at the next edition of the ANOCA Athletes' Forum. Only NOCs with an active Athletes' Commission will be able to put forward a candidate and vote in this election.
- The African NOC Athletes' Commissions should proactively engage with their NOC to lead the implementation of the Athlete Career Programme (Career+) at the local level.
- ANOCA is to provide administrative support and dedicate a specific budget (minimum of 50,000 USD annually) for the operation and activities of the ANOCA Athletes' Commission.
- NOCs should dedicate a minimum of 10,000 USD from their annual activity budget (allocated through the Olympic Solidarity continental programmes for Africa) in order to support the activities of their ACs.

Other Continental Forums to come:

- The Panam Sports Athletes' Forum will take place in Miami at the end of October and the Olympic Council of Asia Athletes' Forum will be in November in Tokyo.
- The next edition of the European and Oceanian Athletes' Forums are in 2019.

3- The IOC International Athletes' Forum:

I am happy to inform you that we will also have the next IOC International Athletes' Forum in 2019, where we will discuss the most important topics for athletes. We would love to hear from you about any suggestions that you may have on the topics that you would like to see in the programme.

4- Meeting with German Athletes' Commission

As mentioned in the call, the IOC President Thomas Bach has invited the German Athletes' Commission to Lausanne on 19 September. I will be attending the meeting, as well as the President and the Secretary General of the German NOC.

During this meeting, athlete representation, athlete support, the funding system in place for athletes and sports, as well as the Olympic Movement Solidarity Principles will be discussed.

As you are aware, the IOC has several programmes in place to support athletes directly and indirectly, thanks to 90% of the IOC's revenues being redistributed every year to the Olympic Movement to secure the development of sports globally.

I look forward to this meeting as well as updating you on the conversations that will take place.

Finally, the IOC Athletes' Commission will have an informal meeting next month in Argentina during the Youth Olympic Games and a formal meeting in January. I will also attend the IOC Executive Board meeting on 3 and 4 of October.

Please do let us know if there are any points that you would like us to discuss within the IOC Athletes' Commission or raise with the IOC, IOC Executive Board or Olympic Movement stakeholders.

Thank you.

Kirsty Coventry