

**LETESENBET  
GIDEY**



**JOSHUA  
CHEPTEGEI**



## HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE



**HUGUES FABRICE  
ZANGO**

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## Welcome to <http://www.caaweb.org>

Welcome to the Confederation of African Athletics website which has been revamped to provide better services. It offers new features and more information on events, statistics. Our concern is to improve the organization of the content.

If you have comments on the website, please let us know.

Contact : [ourmaba2@outlook.com](mailto:ourmaba2@outlook.com)

CAA's new email address is : [caa@caaweb.org](mailto:caa@caaweb.org)

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*By Hamad Kalkaba  
Malboum*



## Africa keeps the course

2020 has been a special year due to the global Covid-19 pandemic. A health crisis which affected all sectors of life. And sport was no exception. However the Confederation of African Athletics managed to keep the course though no activity on the African calendar could be organized due to health measures enacted by the governments of the various countries.

Thus, faced with this alarming situation, the CAA undertook several salutary actions including the holding of two Board meetings by videoconference, online training for AADCs, the presentation of the 2021-2025 strategic plan and the reorganization of the calendar further to the postponement of the 2020 competitions.

May be, it is a year which many people prefer to forget, but 2020

has nonetheless produced historic performances by athletes from the African continent, many of which were celebrated at the World Athletics 2020 virtual gala.

And, there is plenty of reason to be optimistic for 2021 which is an Olympic year, even as the threat of covid-19 hangs over the Japanese date. African athletes have always brilliantly honored the Olympic Games, which remain one of the great highlights of world sport. Africa, despite the postponement of its two major competitions (6<sup>th</sup> African Cross Country Championships and 22<sup>nd</sup> African Senior Championships), intends to shine brightly in Tokyo.

No doubt there will be challenges along the way as well, but with the resilience demonstrated in 2020, African athletics will find ways not only to survive, but also to thrive.

# Council Members 2019 – 2023



**Hamad Kalkaba  
MALBOUM**

President  
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**Jackson Kiprono  
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1<sup>er</sup> Vice-président  
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**Hilmy ABOUD SAID**

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**Tendai TAGARA**

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Tchad



**Norolalao  
RAMANANTSOA**

Member  
Madagascar



**Abalo Viérin DEGON**

Member  
Benin



**Hala Abdelreheem  
AHMED**

Member  
Egypt



**Nawal EL  
MOUTAWAKEL**

World Athletics  
representative  
Morocco



**Beatrice AYIKURO**

World Athletics  
representative  
Uganda



**David RUDISHA**

Athlete Representative  
Kenya



**Lamine FATY**

Managing Director /  
CEO  
Senegal

## Honorary members for life

- 1 Lamine DIACK
- 2 Alaa GHEITA
- 3 Khaled AMARA
- 4 Idrissa BAH
- 5 Mme Giovanna ROUSSEAU
- 6 Belaid ABDERRAHMANE
- 7 Sarifa Abdul MAGIDE FAGILDE
- 8 Komyaba Pascal SAWADOGO

- President Senegal
- Member Egypt
- Member Tunisia
- Member Mali
- Member Seychelles
- Member Algeria
- Member Mozambique
- Member Burkina Faso

# The 22<sup>nd</sup> Africa senior championships cancelled

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Africa senior championships have been cancelled by the Confederation of African Athletics for lack of host country.**

« It is with regret that I announce the cancellation of the Africa senior championships which were planned to take place in Lagos from June 23 to 27, 2021. Indeed, after the Algeria's desire to postpone the championships, and realizing the need to offer competition to our athletes, the Confederation decided to find a host country so as to save the championships. Unfortunately, Nigeria, which committed to host the competition has just informed CAA that the Scientific Commission had not allowed to host such a big competition.»

Through this circular letter, the CAA expressed its regret for this new hard blow to African athletics. President Kalkaba and his main collaborators did everything to save the competition and provide opportunities for athletes looking for qualification to the Tokyo Olympics. It was also the main concern of Nigeria whose Minister of Youth and Sport, Sunday Dare, had confirmed, on May 24 in Cairo and following his meeting with the CAA president that the Championships were going to take place in Lagos. However, the health situation in the country has not improved, which certainly urged the Nigerian authorities to review their decision.



Minister Sunday Dare also praised the CAA's confidence in Nigeria's potential



as a country to host a major sporting event, even on a particularly short notice. But, correspondences and meetings with competent government institutions and particularly with the Presidential scientific Committee (PSC) on COVID-19 have revealed serious health risks relating to the organization of the African Championships in Lagos, due to emerging data on COVID-19 infection in Nigeria. Faced with this new situation, Nigeria was no longer able to host the CAA African Championships scheduled for June 23-28, 2021 in Lagos.

Despite this blow of fate, the Confederation of African Athletics will continue its policy of diversifying its competitions which now covers all parts of the continent. The organization of the main African events is no longer the exclusive prerogative of major athletics countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa, Nigeria, Algeria, Morocco, etc, but "small athletics countries" if they may be called so, intend to play their part by taking up the challenge. There is no doubt that this vision will expand to other horizons to the delight of African athletics.

# African Athletics Championships editions

N°	Edition	City	Country	Date	Stadium
1	1979	Dakar	 Senegal	2 - 5 august	Demba-Diop Stadium
2	1982	Cairo	 Egypt	25 - 28 august	Cairo International Stadium
3	1984	Rabat	 Morocco	12 - 15 July	Moulay-Abdallah Stadium
4	1985	Cairo	 Egypt	15 - 18 august	Cairo International Stadium
5	1988	Annaba	 Algeria	29 august - 2 september	Stadium of 19-May-1956
6	1989	Lagos	 Nigeria	4 - 8 august	Lagos National Stadium
7	1990	Cairo	 Egypt	3 - 6 october	Cairo International Stadium
8	1992	Belle Vue Maurel	 Mauritius	25 - 28 june	Anjalay Stadium
9	1993	Durban	 South Africa	23 - 27 june	Moses Mabhida Stadium
10	1996	Yaounde	 Cameroon	13 - 16 june	Ahmadou-Ahidjo Stadium
11	1998	Dakar	 Senegal	18 - 22 august	Léopold-Sédar-Senghor Stadium
12	2000	Alger	 Algeria	12 - 15 July	Stadium 5-July
13	2002	Tunis	 Tunisia	6 - 10 august	November 7th Stadium
14	2004	Brazzaville	 Republic of Congo	14 - 18 July	Alphonse-Massamba-Débat Stadium
15	2006	Bambous	 Maurice	9 - 13 august	Germain-Cormarmond Stadium
16	2008	Addis-Abeba	 Ethiopia	30 April - 4 may	Addis Ababa Stadium
17	2010	Nairobi	 Kenya	28 July - 1 <sup>st</sup> august	Nyayo National Stadium
18	2012	Porto-Novo	 Benin	29 june - 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Charles-de-Gaulle Stadium
19	2014	Marrakech	 Morocco	10 - 14 august	Marrakech Grand Stadium
20	2016	Durban	 South Africa	22 - 26 june	Kings Park Stadium
21	2018	Asaba	 Nigeria	1 - 5 august	Stephen Keshi Stadium
22	2020	Alger	 Algeria		REPORT

22 2021 Lagos NIGERIA 23 – 27 june TESLIM BALOGUN STADIUM

## PERFORMANCES AND COVID-19

# These « stars » who shone with a thousand lights

*African athletics have performed exceptionally well, despite the challenges presented by the global Covid-19 pandemic. The monumental performances by Ethiopia's Letesenbet Gidey and Uganda's Joshua Cheptegei's to break two of the sport's most revered world records were set in Valencia on October 7, 2020 in the span of a glorious hour. First, it was Gidey who achieved a superb performance, cutting off more than four seconds from the previous record set by his compatriot Tirunesh Dibaba 12 years earlier. A few minutes later, Cheptegei completed 25 laps in less than 63 seconds each on average to improve by more than six seconds the 15-year-old record by Ethiopia's Kenenisa Bekele*

*In the same vein, Burkina's Hugues-Fabrice Zango became, on January 16, 2021 in Aubière, France, the first man to exceed 18 m indoors in the Triple jump, breaking the world record established by his trainer, the French Teddy Tamgho (17.92m). After a 2020 sports calendar disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic and in particular the postponement of the Tokyo Olympics, the 2021 program promises to be very rich.*

## Joshua Cheptegei and Letesenbet Gidey dethrone Bekele and Dibaba

Ugandan Joshua Cheptegei (24 years old) and Ethiopian Letesenbet Gidey (22 years old) made athletic history by seizing respectively the world records in the men's 10,000m and the women's 5,000m in Valencia ( Spain) on Wednesday October 7, 2020.

10,000m world champion Joshua Cheptegei is living

an exceptional 2020. After seizing the world record of 5,000 m on August 14 in Monaco in





12'35"36, the Ugandan once again erased the Ethiopian Kenenisa Bekele from the tablets by stealing the 10,000 m from him, brought to the incredible time of 26'11"00. Bekele had managed 26'17"53 in 2005 in Brussels.

Previously, the Ethiopian Letensebet Gidey had distinguished herself in a very good way by making pass from life to death the world record of 5,000 m of her compatriot Tirunesh Dibaba, established in 2008 in 14'11"15, with an astounding time of 14'06"62.

## Hugues-Fabrice Zango first athlete over 18m in the indoor triple jump

World bronze medallist Hugues Fabrice Zango produced the first standout athletics moment of 2021 by sailing to a world indoor triple jump record of 18.07m in Aubiere on Saturday (16).

The 27-year-old from Burkina Faso added 15 centimetres to the previous record, set by his coach Teddy Tamgho

back in 2011, and becomes the first man to leap beyond 18 metres indoors. He opened his series with a foul but then landed a valid 17.33m effort in round two. After another foul in round three, he improved to 17.61m and then 17.70m – just seven centimetres shy of his lifetime best. World bronze medallist Hugues Fabrice Zango produced the first standout athletics moment of 2021 by sailing to a world indoor triple jump record of 18.07m\* in Aubiere on Saturday (16).

The 27-year-old from Burkina Faso added 15 centimetres to the previous record, set by his coach Teddy Tamgho back in 2011, and becomes the first man to leap beyond 18 metres indoors. Zango becomes the first athlete from Burkina Faso to set a world record and the first African athlete to set a world record in a men's jumping event.

Hugues' previous outright best of 17.77m was also set indoors and it came in his first competition of 2020. His outdoor PB of 17.66m was set at the World Athletics Championships Doha 2019.



## Kenyan Peres Jepchirchir seizes world record in half marathon

Kenyan Peres Jepchirchir (26) greatly improved the world record for the half-marathon in an all-female race by setting the time of 1:05:16 on October 17, 2020 in Gdynia during the world championships of the event. Previously, on September 5, 2020 in Prague, she had



already erased, in 1h 05mn 34s the world record of the Ethiopian Netsanet Gudeta (1h06'11 ") successful at the Worlds of the specialty in 2018.

Recall that the women's world record for the half-marathon in a mixed race belongs to the Ethiopian Ababel Yeshaneh in 1h04'31 ".

## Ethiopian Gudaf Tsegay breaks world indoor 1500m record

The young Ethiopian Gudaf Tsegay (24) captured the best mark of all time over 1500m (indoor) in 3'53"09, during the Liévin meeting held on February 9, 2021. She subtracted more than two seconds from the time set by his compatriot Genzebe Dibaba in February 2014 in Karlsruhe (3'55"17). Over the



same distance, Tsegay notably won a bronze medal at the last World Championships in Doha.

## 5 km world record by Beatrice Chepkoech

Kenyan Béatrice Chepkoech broke the 5 km world record in Monaco on Sunday, February 14, 2021, in 14'43 «. She improved on the previous record in a mixed race of 14'48 " set by Caroline Kipkirui in 2018, and is also a second faster than Sifan Hassan's record of 14"44 for a women-only race, since the 5 km was introduced as



a world record in November 2017. Beatrice also holds the world record for the 3000 m steeplechase in 8'44"32 since 2018, also set in Monaco.

## Annette Echikunwoke (Hammer) 5<sup>th</sup> place in the world

Nigerian Annette Echikunwoke improved her African Hammer Record to 75.49m. Two days earlier, she had achieved 73.93. It occupies 5th place in the 2021 global balance sheets.



As a reminder, the Nigerian who lives in the United States erased from the shelves the African record held by Senegalese Amy Sene (69.70 in 2014) by succeeding

72.25m in Auburn, Alabama, on April 16.

Info: African Athletics United

## Anthony Koffi, coach and expert : « *Our athletes are suffering from lack of competitions* »

**Anthony Koffi, the coach of Ivorian sprinters, Marie Josée Ta Lou and Arthur Cissé Gué, remains a keen observer of African athletics. He talks about the next international events and on the performance of his athletes.**

### **How do you read the level of Africans on the eve of the Tokyo Olympic Games ?**

Africa in general will be ready in middle and long distance. Fabrice Zango from Burkina Faso is a Podium chance in the triple jump. Egypt and South Africa have chance on throws. South Africa, Nigeria and Ivory Coast start with equal chance in the Men's and women's sprint which remains open. But the lack of competition creates a handicap for those who train in Africa and who do not compete in the Diamond League circuit.

### **What is your assessment of Ta Lou's and Arthur Cissé Gué's preparation ?**

The current climate in Europe does not allow an assessment of the athlete's real performance. But from experience I know they are 92% of their



shape. With a technically catastrophic race, Ta Lou runs in 12.11, no comment.

### **Does Ivory Coast have any chances of medals for the Olympics ?**

For the moment Ivory Coast already has three qualified athletes. Murielle Houré, Ta Lou Marie Josée and Cissé Gué. The first two have high competition experience. For Cissé this is a first time.

Interview by Anicet ZIO

## **Olympics Games: Niyonsaba qualified in 5000m, Semenya pending, Wambui forfeit**

Burundian Francine Niyonsaba, South African Caster Semenya and Kenyan Margaret Wambui will not be on the starting line of the 800m event at the Tokyo Olympics. According to World Athletic, they are indeed affected by differences in sexual development (DSD). And only three options were available to them. Either lower their testosterone levels or run the sprint events (100m and 200m), or even align themselves with races over 1000m. It was only natural that the first two athletes turned to the 5000m. So far, only Francine Niyonsaba has managed to get her ticket by achieving 14.54.38 at the Montreuil

meeting on Tuesday June 1st. With the key, a new national record. Olympic 800m runner-up, the Burundian has shown impressive potential in a new event that she is discovering.

On the other hand, the South African Caster Semenya, is still trying to qualify for Tokyo. The two-time Olympic 800m champion has completed three 5,000m races this year. She seems to be on her way to winning her bet. Kenyan Margaret Wambui, who is no specialist in cross-country races, finally threw in the towel by forfeiting.

Source : Sportnewsafrika



## PANORAMA

### David Rudisha's 800m world record in London voted athletics moment of the decade

David Rudisha's 2012 Olympic 800m triumph has been chosen as the athletics moment of the decade. Over the past two weeks, athletics fans from around the world have been casting their votes on the World Athletics Instagram page, whittling down a long list of 32 moments.



In the final stage of voting, Rudisha was up against Eliud Kipchoge's marathon world record from Berlin in 2018. The votes were close, but Rudisha ultimately had the edge, 1151 votes to Kipchoge's 939.

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### Eliud Kipchoge breaks two-hour marathon barrier

In Vienna, the Kenyan achieved a milestone once believed to be unattainable. But his time, 1:59:40, will not be recognized as a world record.



In becoming the first person to cover the marathon distance in less than two hours, Kipchoge, 34, achieved a sports milestone granted almost mythical status in the running world, breaking through a temporal barrier that many would have deemed untouchable only a few years ago.

## OBITUARY

### Former Athletics SA president Leonard Chuene passes on

The Confederation African of Athletics has learned with dismay of the passing of Leonard Chuene, the first president of the South African Athletics Federation.

Leonard Chuene who passed away on Friday January 1, 2021, aged 68, was at the forefront with Banele Sindani and other colleagues in the unification process in the 1990s.

He was respected for the major role he played in these unity talks and transformation of athletics in the early 1990s.



He took helm of ASA in 1995 after the historic unification of South Africa Athletics Congress and South African Amateur Athletics Union and led until 2011.



### Africa cross-country championships 2021 postponed

The 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Africa cross-country championships, previously planned to take place on 6 and 7 March 2021 in Lomé (Togo) is postponed to a later date. The announcement was made by the Confederation of African Athletics following

a request by the Togolese authorities who raised sanitary measures to contain the expand of the Covid-19 pandemic. As a reminder, the event had already been postponed in 2020 due to presidential elections in Togo.

# The African Athletic Development Center (AADC)

**Development Heads: Aziz Daouda & Beatrice Ayikoru**

**Area Development Centres: Cairo, Dakar, Mauritius, Nairobi, Lomé, Lusaka & Port Harcourt**

The Regional Development Centers (CRD) and High Performance Training Centers (HPTC) are now managed by the Continental Associations. It is in this context that the African Athletics Confederation (CAA), organ representing athletics at continental level and in international bodies, becomes the prime contractor for all decisions concerning the development of athletics in the African continent.

## AADC Caire

**Countries served in Arabic Speaking**

**Africa & Asia: ALG, BRN, EGY, IRQ, JOR, KUW, LBA, LBN, MAR, OMN, PLE, QAT, KSA, SUD, SYR, TUN, UAE, YEM.**

There are two 400m synthetic surfaced tracks in the stadium and a well-equipped weight lifting room available for courses. There is also a fully equipped lecturer room which is connected to a storage room.

Participants and lecturers are usually accommodated in the Sonesta Hotel which is only five minutes by car from the airport.

## AADC Dakar

**Countries served in French speaking**

**Africa: ANG, BEN, BUR, BDI, CIV, CMR, CAF, CPV, CHA, COM, CGO, COD, DJI, GAB, GBS, GUI, GEQ, MAD, MLI, MOZ, MTN, NIG, SEN, STP, TOG.**

AADC Dakar was born from the merger of the former RDC and HPTC and its mission is the training of coaches, technical officials and executives but also the training of high-level athletes from the 25 federations under its supervision.

The Centre's headquarters are in the Leopold Sedar SENGHOR Stadium, the largest stadium in Dakar. The office section contains two rooms, a library, a fully equipped lecture room for theoretical sessions and meetings.

For training and practical sessions, there is a 400m synthetic track and all the facilities needed for jumping and throwing events plus a weight room.

The participants and lecturers are accommodated at the FANA hotel, which is 10 min by car from the stadium.

## **AADC Nairobi**

**Countries served in English speaking Africa: BOT, ETH, ERI, GAM, GHA, KEN, LES, LBR, MAW, MRI, NAM, NGR, SEY, SLE, SOM, RSA, RWA, SSD, SWZ, TAN, UGA, ZAM, ZIM.**

The AADC Nairobi is situated in 'Moi International Stadium' Kasarani, Nairobi.

The Stadium has excellent facilities for the use of course participants. The office section contains one open plan office room, a gymnasium equipped with basic weight training machines, one fully equipped lecture room and one storage room.

Participants and lecturers are normally accommodated in the Hotel Sportsview. Lecture rooms are also provided at the Sportsview Hotel.

## **AADC Mauritius**

Event groups: sprints and combined events

The Centre is located on the beautiful island of Mauritius famed for its glorious weather and beaches. There is a stadium with excellent track and field facilities plus a weight lifting room and athletes are accommodated in an attractive villa.

## **AADC Lomé**

Event groups: sprints/hurdles & jumps

The Centre is located at the Olympafrica Centre Stadium as currently the main

international stadium is closed for renovation but will be open for training next season. There is also a weight lifting room.

The Centre has its own house, provided by the Togolese Government for the accommodation of athletes. The Centre is under the CAA authority, but it is also supported by CONFEJES and the Togolese Government.

## **AADC Lusaka**

The Centre is located in Lusaka and is part of the Olympic Youth Development Centre, which is a high-quality multi-purpose sports facility established between the Zambian government and NOC.

## **AADC Port Harcourt**

Event groups : sprints/hurdles, jumps, throws, middle & long distance

The Centre is located at the Sports Institute of the University of Port Harcourt. Port Harcourt is a coastal city in the Southern part of Nigeria and is well known for its beautiful gardens and warm climate.

The Centre has excellent synthetic athletics tracks, a warm-up area and facilities for field events. There are also indoor training facilities and a well-equipped strength and conditioning gymnasium.

The athletes are accommodated in a well-equipped residential hostel.