



MOC Connect

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MAURITIUS OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Issue 01 - July 2026



23 July - 2 August

TEAM MAURITIUS SET FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH GAMES



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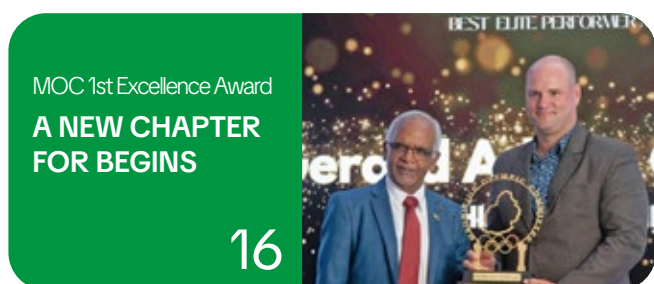
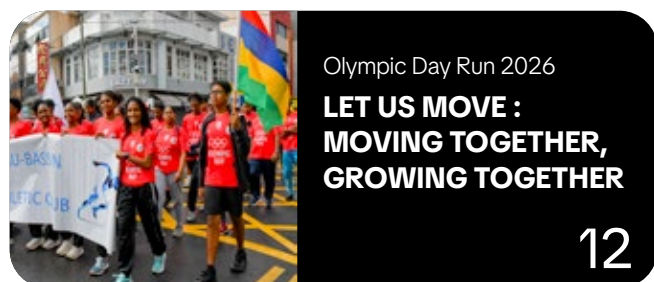
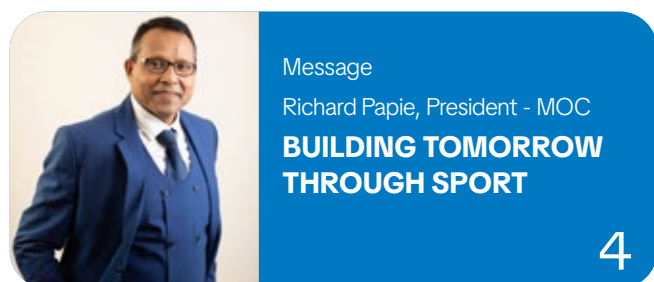
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EXTRAORDINARY HAPPENS





- Glasgow 2026
- 6 **TEAM MAURITIUS - SNAPSHOT
FROM GLASGOW**
- 9 **ATHLETE ENTRIES AND COMPETITION
START DATES**
- 10 **OUTFIT, FLAG BEARER, CAPTAINS AND
BATON BEARER ANNOUNCED**
- 11 **BRIEFING SESSION**
- Advanced Sports Management Course
- 22 **END OF THE 12TH COHORT AND LAUNCH
OF THE ALUMNI NETWORK**
- Strengthen partnership
- 24 **MINISTER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS
VISITS MOC HEADQUARTERS**
- Olympic Youth Day 2026
- 25 **SAY NO TO DRUGS, SAY YES TO SPORT**
- Coaching and Technical Expertise
- 26 **INVESTING IN PEOPLE WHO
BUILD CHAMPIONS**
- IOA, Ancient Olympia
- 27 **IRFAAN BUNDHUN PARTICIPATED IN THE
OLYMPIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME**
- Building from the Ground Up
- 28 **THREE COACHING COURSES TO
STRENGTHEN THE FUTURE OF OUR SPORT!**
- Road to LA28, Nairobi
- 30 **MOC STRENGTHENS
AFRICAN PARTNERSHIPS**
- Countdown to Comoros
- 31 **CIJ PLENARY SETS THE STAGE FOR
JIOI 2027**
- Leadership
- 32 **MOC INVESTS THROUGH
OLYMPIC SOLIDARITY**
- MOC Team Building
- 33 **WHEN SPIRIT SHINES**

BUILDING TOMORROW THROUGH SPORT



RICHARD PAPIÉ

President
Mauritius Olympic Committee

The launch of the first edition of MOC Connect marks another milestone in the journey of MOC 2.0. It reflects our determination to build a stronger, more dynamic and more inclusive Mauritius Olympic Committee – one that places athletes, young people and the values of Olympism at the core of everything we do.

Since the inception of this new chapter, we have left no stone unturned in our quest to transform our vision into concrete action. The organisation of the First Excellence Awards, the MOC Strategic Planning Workshop 2026-2030, the Olympic Youth Day, and the Olympic Day Run are merely some of the initiatives that demonstrate our commitment to developing sport while inspiring future generations. Collectively, these actions are laying the foundations for a sustainable Olympic Movement that creates opportunities, encourages excellence and brings people together.

It is particularly meaningful that this inaugural issue is being published when 39 athletes of Team Mauritius are proudly representing our nation at the 23rd Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, from 23 July to 2 August 2026. Their dedication, perseverance and ambition embody the spirit of our country. As role models for our youth, they are a reminder that sport has the power to



unite, inspire and transform lives. On behalf of the Mauritius Olympic Committee, I extend my best wishes to Team Mauritius. May every one of its members compete with pride, confidence and respect for the Olympic values.

Our vision for MOC 2.0 is anchored in inclusion, collaboration and collective progress. We believe that the strength of our Olympic Movement lies in its ability to unite athletes, national federations, institutions, partners and the wider community around a common purpose.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Youth and Sports for its close collaboration and unwavering support, as well as to all our partners who continue to believe in and contribute to our mission.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt thanks to my fellow Executive Committee members for their dedication, commitment and willingness to embrace change. The future of our institution depends on our ability to work together, always placing collective interest above individual ambitions. By remaining united, we will continue to strengthen the Mauritius Olympic Committee and create lasting opportunities for Mauritian sport.

One Dream, One Team, One Goal.

Editorial

A NEW VOICE FOR MAURITIAN SPORT!

*"Life is the art of drawing
without an eraser."*

— John W. Gardner

Every institution writes its own history, decision by decision, programme by programme. It is important that this journey be faithfully recorded.

Welcome to the inaugural issue of MOC Connect, the official publication of the Mauritius Olympic Committee, launched as we embark on an exciting new chapter under MOC 2.0.

We are aware that the MOC has, at times, been reproached for not communicating enough. While we remain active on social media and report on events as they unfold, these channels cannot capture the full depth of our vision, policies and programmes. MOC Connect is our answer to that gap — a space to inform, educate, and strengthen the bonds within our Olympic family, while promoting Olympism, good governance and excellence.

Its format will evolve; our commitment will not - for the strength of an institution lies not only in what it does, but in how faithfully it records and shares its journey.

Nundkishor Fakun

MOC Connect

The Official Publication of the
Mauritius Olympic Committee

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📌 Mauritius Olympic





As Team Mauritius was getting ready to make its debuts at the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games, Hon Junior Minister Karen Foo Kune-Bacha, High Commissioner of Mauritius to the United Kingdom, H.E. Dr. Rajesh Jeetah, together with the President and Secretary General of the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) and the Commonwealth Games Association (CGA) Mauritius respectively Richard Papie and Aarti Desscann, met with the Mauritian delegation ahead of the Games.

The meeting provided an opportunity to extend the nation's encouragement to the athletes and officials as they prepare to proudly represent Mauritius on the Commonwealth stage. It also reflected the shared commitment of the Government of Mauritius, the High Commission and the MOC - CGA Mauritius to stand alongside Team Mauritius throughout this important international campaign.



TEAM MAURITIUS SET FOR THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

From 23 July to 2 August 2026, Team Mauritius will proudly represent the nation at the XXIII Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland. Recognised as the second largest multi-sport event in the world after the Olympic Games, the Commonwealth Games will bring together approximately 3,000 athletes from across 74 nations and territories of the Commonwealth for ten days of world-class competition.

Silver Medalist in Birmingham in 2022, the judoka Rémi Feuillet will try to win another Medal in Glasgow.

Led by Chef de Mission, Fayzal Bundhun, First Vice-President of the Mauritius Olympic Committee, Team Mauritius will compete in six disciplines: Athletics & Para-Athletics, Boxing, Judo, Swimming, and Weightlifting.

Glasgow becomes the host city for the second time after the highly acclaimed 2014 Games. Under the inspiring theme "Sport is the Hero," this edition promises to celebrate sporting excellence, diversity and inclusion. More than 200 medals will be contested, while the opening medal event will be in para sport, reaffirming the Commonwealth Games' commitment to equality and opportunity for all athletes.

Mauritius arrives in Glasgow inspired by a proud Commonwealth Games tradition. In Kuala Lumpur in 1998, Richard Sunee etched his name in Mauritian sporting history by becoming the country's first Commonwealth Games gold medalist. This achievement remains a source of inspiration for today's generation of Mauritian athletes.

The participation of Team Mauritius has been made possible through the close collaboration of the Mauritius Olympic Committee, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Commonwealth Games Association Mauritius, the National Sports Federations and the MOC's valued partners. The British High Commission has also worked closely with the MOC in the lead-up to the Games, reflecting the longstanding friendship between Mauritius and the United Kingdom.

As the countdown enters its final days, the entire nation stands proudly behind Team Mauritius. We wish our athletes every success as they carry the Mauritian flag with honour, determination and the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect on one of the world's greatest sporting stages.



DELEGATION - LEADERSHIP

Chef de délégation
Richard Papie, **MOC President**

Chef de mission
Fayzal Bundhun, **MOC 1st Vice-President**

Adjoint Chef de mission
Josian Valère, **MOC Coopted Member**

Secretary General
Aarti Desscann

REPRESENTATIVES - MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS

Junior Minister
Karen Foo Kune-Bacha

Sports Director
Indiressen Desscann

ATHLETICS			
	Athlete	Event(s)	Competition Starts
	Noa Bibi	Men's 200m / 4x100m Relay	Wed 29 July
	Orphée Topize	Men's 100m / 4x100m Relay	Mon 27 July
	Joshan Vencatasamy	Men's 100m / 200m / 4x100m Relay	Mon 27 July
	Jérémie Lararaudeuse	Men's 110m Hurdles / 4x100m Relay	Mon 27 July
	Adel Cupidon	Men's Long Jump / Triple Jump	Thu 30 July
	Juliane Clair	Women's Hammer Throw	Mon 27 July
	Dezardin Prosper	Men's High Jump	Mon 27 July
	Bernard Baptiste	Men's Shot Put	Wed 29 July
	Christopher Sophie	Men's Discus Throw	Sat 1 August
	Rachel Klopfenstein	Women's 400m / 800m / One Mile	Mon 27 July
PARA ATHLETICS			
	Anais Angéline	Women's Long Jump T38	Fri 31 July
	Eddy Capdor	Men's Long Jump T20	Tue 28 July
	Denovan Rabaye	Men's Long Jump T20	Tue 28 July
	Noemi Alphonse	Women's 1500m T54 / 400m T54	Wed 29 July
	Brandy Perrine	Women's 400m T54	Fri 31 July
	Cédric Bernard	Men's Shot Put F57 / Discus F57	Sat 1 August
	Cédric Ravet	Men's 1500m T54	Sat 1 August
BOXING			
	Marie Marine Gabriel	Women's Bantamweight 54 kg	Sun 26 July
	Fabrice Valérie	Men's Bantamweight 55 kg	Fri 24 July
	Ziggy Agahe	Men's Welterweight 65 kg	Fri 24 July
	Mervén Clair	Men's Light-Middleweight 70 kg	Mon 27 July
	Niven Chemben	Men's Lightweight 60 kg	Mon 27 July
JUDO			
	Marie Illana Thomas	Women -48 kg	Fri 31 July
	Sarah Sylva Rioux	Women -52 kg	Fri 31 July
	Marie Onorine Begue	Women -57 kg	Fri 31 July
	Winsley Gangaya	Men -60 kg	Fri 31 July
	Louis Michael Flora	Men -66 kg	Fri 31 July
	Noemie Evenor	Women -70 kg	Sat 1 August
	Rémi Feuillet	Men -90 kg	Sat 1 August
	Lindsay Keliana Joseph	Women -78 kg	Sun 2 August
	Tracy Durhone	Women +78 kg	Sun 2 August
	Lucas Rohan David	Men -100 kg	Sun 2 August
SWIMMING			
	Alicia Kok Shun	100m / 50m Freestyle, 100m / 50m / 200m Breaststroke	Sat 25 July
	Anishta Teeluck	200m / 100m / 50m Backstroke	Fri 24 July
	Gregory Anodin	Men's 50m / 100m Freestyle	Fri 24 July
	Hans Li Ying Pin	100m / 50m / 200m Breaststroke	Fri 24 July
	Bradley Vincent	Men's 50m / 100m Freestyle / 50m Butterfly	Sat 25 July
WEIGHTLIFTING			
	Dinesh Jevin Pandoo	Men's 88 kg	Tue 28 July
	Ketty Lent	Women's 69 kg	Tue 28 July



THE TEAM'S OUTFIT DISPLAYED, FLAG BEARER, CAPTAINS AND KING'S BATON BEARER **ANNOUNCED**

As excitement builds towards the XXIII Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2026, the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) organised a Team Building and Official Presentation Day on 27 June 2026 at Chassée les Mares, Piton Savanne. The event brought together athletes, coaches, officials and partners in a spirit of unity and national pride ahead of the Games.

The day began with a series of team-building activities designed to strengthen friendship, trust and solidarity within Team Mauritius. Through fun challenges and group exercises, athletes and officials forged stronger bonds, reinforcing the team spirit that will accompany them to Glasgow.

A special highlight was the unveiling of the official Team Mauritius outfits, including the Opening Ceremony attire. Proudly reflecting the colours and identity of Mauritius, the uniforms were warmly received and generated great enthusiasm among the delegation.

The ceremony also featured the announcement of the team's honorary appointments:



FLAG BEARER :

Fabrice Valérie (Boxing)

MALE CAPTAIN:

Winsley Gangaya (Judo)

FEMALE CAPTAIN:

Noemi Alphonse (Para-Athletics)

KING'S BATON BEARER:

Anishta Teeluck (Swimming)

These athletes will embody the values of leadership, discipline, excellence and unity throughout the Games.

Addressing the delegation, MOC President Richard Papie reminded the athletes that they would be ambassadors of Mauritius and an inspiration to the nation. British High Commissioner Paul Brummell encouraged the team to seize the opportunity to perform on one of the Commonwealth's greatest sporting stages, while Director of Sports Indriessen Desscann, speaking on behalf of the Minister of Youth and Sports, reaffirmed the Government's full support and urged the athletes to compete with pride, discipline and fair play.

The ceremony was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Commonwealth Games Association, MOC partners, and sponsors, all united in wishing Team Mauritius every success as it prepares to represent the nation in Glasgow.

BRIEFING SESSION

As part of the preparations for the XXIII Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2026, the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, organised a comprehensive briefing session for Team Mauritius on 18 June 2026 at Le Magellan, Trianon.

The session brought together athletes, coaches and officials to familiarise them with the organisational, medical and ethical aspects of their participation in the Games.

In his address, MOC President Richard Papie reminded the athletes of the honour and responsibility of representing Mauritius on the international stage. While congratulating them on their selection, he urged them to compete with pride, discipline and determination as worthy ambassadors of the nation.

The Director of Sports, Indriessen Desscann, reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to Team Mauritius, highlighting the support provided through specialised equipment and training camps to ensure that athletes are fully prepared for competition.

Chef de Mission Fayzal Bundhun, First Vice-President of the MOC, briefed the delegation on the practical arrangements for the Games, while Josian Valère was introduced as Deputy Chef de Mission.

The programme also included important awareness sessions on anti-doping, presented by Dr. Koomaraisen Kistnareddy, medical support by Dr. Youven Naiken Gopalla, and safeguarding by Sanjaye Goboodun, reinforcing the MOC's commitment to clean, safe and ethical sport.



LET US MOVE : MOVING TOGETHER, **GROWING TOGETHER**

Celebrated worldwide each year on 23 June, Olympic Day is much more than a sporting event. It is undeniably a global celebration of the Olympic values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect, encouraging people of all ages and abilities to embrace physical activity and healthier lifestyles. Guided by the international theme “Let’s Move” - a movement launched jointly by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2024—Olympic Day 2026 in Mauritius brought these values vividly to life.





More than 1,500 people from different regions participated in the Olympic Day 2026.



The police band precedes the marchers.



The public benefited from introductory sports sessions during the event.



That spirit came alive on Sunday 12 July 2026, when more than 1,500 Mauritians gathered in Rose Hill to celebrate Olympic Day. Starting simultaneously from four locations- the Municipalities of Port Louis and Curepipe, Palma SSS and Kendra Mall, St Pierre—the four groups converged in complete unison, headed by the Police Band, towards the Plaza, where the celebration continued with sports demonstrations and initiation sessions organised by National Sports Federations. Young and old alike were invited to discover Olympic sports in an atmosphere where participation, inclusion and enjoyment took precedence over competition.

For the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC), the event reflected a simple conviction: when people move together, communities become stronger. Alongside the global “Let’s Move” campaign, the MOC also carried the messages “Say No To Drugs” and “You Can Do This”, highlighting sport as a powerful tool for promoting healthy lifestyles, self-confidence and social cohesion.

In her Olympic Day message, IOC President Kirsty Coventry called on people around the world to make movement part of their daily lives, reminding the Olympic family that every step taken contributes to healthier and stronger communities. Echoing this message, MOC President Richard Papie declared:

"When we move together, we encourage one another. Today, we saw Mauritians of all ages and backgrounds sharing the values of respect, unity, discipline, brotherhood and excellence. That is the spirit we want to promote every day."

Looking beyond the day's celebrations, the MOC reaffirmed its commitment to expanding opportunities for young people through initiatives such as the re-launch of the OlympAfrica Programme, while continuing to work closely with public authorities and National Sports Federations to make sport accessible to all.

Addressing the gathering, Minister of Youth and Sports, Hon. Darmarajen Nagalingum, underlined the Government's commitment to developing sport throughout the country through the "Anou Transform Nou Lendrwa" programme. He expressed satisfaction at the encouraging progress already being achieved in empowering young people through sport and community-based initiatives.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports was the principal partner of Olympic



The Junior Minister, Karen Foo Kune-Bacha, the Minister of Youth and Sports, Darmarajen Nagalingum, and the MOC President, Richard Papie, during the official ceremony at Plaza.

Day 2026, with the valued support of Crystal (table water), Olympia, Lottotech and NRJ Radio. Together, they helped make the celebration a success and reaffirmed a shared belief that sport has the power to unite people, improve lives and build a healthier Mauritius. As Nelson

Mandela, former President of South Africa once said: "Sports has the power to change the World."

For the MOC, Olympic Day is not simply an annual event - it is a reminder that the Olympic Movement begins with one simple invitation: Let's Move.



Featuring a dance and song performance after the official ceremony.



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A NEW CHAPTER FOR BEGINS

On a memorable Saturday 31 January 2026 evening in Port Louis, the heart of Mauritius beat in unison for its sporting heroes. Beneath the warm lights of the Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel, the Mauritius Olympic Committee opened a new and inspiring chapter in the history of Mauritian sport with the inaugural edition of its *Excellence Award*.



This was far more than a ceremony. It was a tribute to courage, sacrifice, perseverance, and the indomitable Mauritian spirit that lives within every athlete who dares to dream under the colours of the nation. Behind every medal lies years of silent struggle — early mornings, painful defeats, moments of doubt, and the unwavering determination to rise again. On this remarkable evening Mauritius paused to honour not only victories, but the human journey behind them.



Olivier Le Court de Billot represented his sister Kimberley elected, Best Elite Performer ladies. He is flanked by Krislene Liong Tip, PR and Communications Manager at Lottotech, the President of the Republic, Dharambeer Gokhool, Aarti Desscann and Richard Papie, respectively Secretary General and President of the MOC.

The vision for this historic event was stemmed by the newly elected President of the MOC, who aspired to begin the new Olympic year with an initiative that would leave a lasting mark on the sporting landscape of the country. Inspired by a profound desire to place athletes, coaches, and sporting contributors at the very centre of national recognition, the idea of the Excellence Award was born.

What began as a luminous idea soon evolved into a carefully crafted project through intense reflection and collaboration. A technical committee composed of Yovin Gyadin, Vishal Sawaram, Kathy Fookune, Rajessen Desscann and Soureindra Seebaluck was entrusted with the delicate responsibility of establishing the criteria upon which the awards would be based. Their work demanded fairness, objectivity,

and deep respect for the values of Olympism. After in-depth scrutiny the Executive Committee approved their recommendations with gratitude and appreciation for the professionalism and dedication with which they carried out this important mission.

Thus, the first edition of the MOC Excellence Award became a reality. Athletes, coaches, sports administrators, federation leaders,



The Rising Star Award in the men's category was presented to Tristan Hardy. The cyclist is pictured with Richard Papie, President of the MOC, Rajessen Desscann, 2nd Vice-President of the MOC, and Fayzal Bundhun, 1st Vice-President of the MOC.

SPEECHES & KEY MESSAGES

"Recognising effort is a powerful lever to inspire the next generation and build trust between athletes, coaches and administrators."

Richard Papie
President of the Mauritius Olympic Committee

"Athletes must be valued beyond their results alone - taking into account their well-being, their dignity, and their future beyond competition."

H.E. Dharambeer Gokhool, G.C.S.K.,
President of the Republic of Mauritius

institutional partners, and distinguished guests gathered in an atmosphere filled with pride, emotion, and hope for the future of Mauritian sport.

The occasion was further elevated by the gracious presence of the Guest of Honour, H.E. Dharambeer Gokhool, President of the Republic of Mauritius, G.C.S.K., who attended his first major sporting event in his capacity as Head of State. His presence gave the ceremony exceptional national significance and symbolised the recognition of sport as a powerful pillar of national unity, youth development, and international prestige.

The Excellence Award was conceived not as a one-off celebration, but as a lasting platform for recognition within the Mauritian sporting calendar — an annual rendezvous where the nation reflects upon its sporting journey, honours those who inspire it, and rekindles the dreams of future generations.

That evening, the Mauritius Olympic Committee did bestow awards. It sent a message to every young Mauritian athlete: your sacrifices matter, your dreams matter, and your country sees you and honours you.



Archer Adrien Charoux receives his Best Elite Performer male trophy from the President of the Republic, Dharambeer Gokhool.



Badminton player Elsa How Hong, accompanied by the president of the MOC, was elected Rising Star in the women's category.

AWARDEES 2025

Best Elite Performer

Male: **Adrien Charoux** - Archery

Female: **Kimberley Le Court de Billot-Pienaar** - Cycling

Rising Star Award

Male: **Tristan Hardy** - Cycling

Female: **Elsa How Hong** - Badminton

Recognition Award Former Champions

Bruno Julie

Bronze Medalist - Olympic Games,
Beijing 2008, Boxing

Terence Saramandif

Gold Medalist - Youth Olympic Games,
Buenos Aires 2018, Slalom Canoe

Richard Sune

Gold Medalist - Commonwealth Games,
Kuala Lumpur 1998, Boxing



Former boxer Richard Sune, in the presence of the President of the Republic, Dharambeer Gokhool, and the CEO of TFES, Rama Ersapah, has received a recognition for his gold medal obtained at the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in 1998. He is the only Mauritian athlete so far to have won gold at the Commonwealth Games.

A UNIFIED VISION FOR MAURITIAN SPORTS



The workshop was facilitated by renowned Zimbabwean sports governance expert, Robert Mutsuaki.

The Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) held a two-day Strategic Planning Workshop on 11–12 April 2026 at The Docks, Caudan, Port Louis, thereby marking the first major initiative of the newly elected Executive Committee. Hence, MOC 2.0, was coined by the participants, describing a renewed, modern and forward-looking Olympic Movement for Mauritius

Driven by the vision of MOC President Richard Papie, the workshop aimed to define the organisation's strategic direction for 2026–2030 and lay the foundations for a stronger, more inclusive and dynamic Olympic Movement.

Nearly 40 participants representing National Olympic Sports Federations, athletes, MOC and Ministry of Youth and Sports officials, educators, sports journalists and other stakeholders took part in the discussions. Their diverse backgrounds enriched the exchanges and reflected a shared determination to strengthen Mauritian sport through collaboration, innovation and good governance.

The workshop was facilitated by renowned Zimbabwean sports governance expert Robert Mutsuaki, whose extensive experience in strategic planning and



■ Nearly 40 participants representing different sectors took part in the workshop.

organisational development guided participants through a series of interactive sessions. Thus encouraging open discussion on current challenges and future opportunities for the Olympic Movement in Mauritius.

Participants examined key areas including governance, athlete development and welfare, Olympic education, communication, sustainability, partnerships, organisational effectiveness and capacity-building. A strong consensus emerged that the MOC must become a more transparent, service-oriented and people-centred organisation while remaining firmly anchored in the values of Olympism.

Special emphasis was placed on investing in athletes, coaches, administrators, young leaders and volunteers, recognising that sustainable sporting success depends as much on leadership and education as on competitive performance.

The workshop produced a number of strategic recommendations, including enhanced athlete support, stronger services to National Federations, expanded education and mentoring programmes, improved communication and the development of sustainable partnerships.

Participants also finalised the principal components of the Strategic Plan, comprising the Mission, Vision, Core Values, Key Roles, Key Performance Areas, Athlete Development and Support, Organisational Effectiveness, Resource Mobilisation and Olympic Values.

Closing the workshop, Richard Papie thanked all participants for their commitment and stressed that the Strategic Plan 2026-2030 would serve as a practical roadmap for action, ensuring that MOC 2.0 becomes a lasting reality for the benefit of Mauritian sport.



■ The graduates of the 12th Cohort alongside the President and Secretary General of the MOC, as well as the ASMC Course Director.

END OF THE 12TH COHORT AND LAUNCH OF THE ALUMNI NETWORK



The Mauritius Olympic Committee organised, on Friday 27 March 2026 at the United Docks Business Park at Caudan Waterfront, an exceptional evening bringing together two landmark events: the graduation ceremony of the 12th cohort of the Advanced Sports Management Course (ASMC) and the official launch of the ASMC Alumni Network.

The evening opened with addresses by the President and Secretary General of the Mauritius Olympic Committee, respectively Richard Papie and Aarti Desscann, followed by a presentation from the ASMC Course Director, Sanjaye Goboodun, highlighting the program's evolution, achievements and future vision.

The occasion was made even more meaningful by the intergenerational dimension of the gathering. With graduates from ASMC 1 through to ASMC 12 present in the same hall, the evening became a powerful demonstration of the programme's continuity, influence and enduring spirit. The interaction between pioneers of the programme and its newest graduates illustrated the strong bonds forged through years of shared learning, service and commitment to sport.

A particularly inspiring moment came with the testimonial of Sahir Edoo, a graduate of the pioneer ASMC Batch 1. His journey from Mauritian sports administrator to senior leadership positions within African and world badminton, culminating in his current role as a Programme Director of the Badminton World Federation, demonstrated the international impact of the ASMC and the calibre of its graduates.

TWENTY GRADUATES

The ceremony then reached one of its highlights with the presentation of certificates to the twenty graduates of ASMC 12. Receiving their certificates in the presence of graduates from all previous cohorts symbolised their entry into a growing community of sports leaders committed to advancing Mauritian sport.

The formal launch of the ASMC Alumni Network marked another defining moment of the evening. More than a social network, it is intended as a platform for collaboration, mentoring, knowledge-sharing and continued service, enabling graduates to contribute collectively to sports governance and leadership in Mauritius.

The event also paid tribute to the program's continuity through the presence of Nundkishor Fakun, Advisor to the MOC President, member of the first ASMC cohort in 2009 and one of the five founding members of the Mauritius Olympic Committee in 1971.

Nundkishor Fakun paid tribute to former MOC President Philippe Hao Thyn Voon for introducing the ASMC to Mauritius and thanked current President Richard Papie for strengthening its legacy through the creation of the Alumni Network.

Looking ahead, he expressed the ambition of building links with ASMC Alumni worldwide and concluded by invoking the Olympic motto, **"Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together,"** emphasising that **"Together"** would be the guiding principle for the Alumni's future development.

MINISTER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS PAYS FIRST VISIT TO **MOC'S HEADQUARTERS AT TRIANON**



President of the MOC, Richard Papie,
and the Minister Dharmarajen Nagalingum.

The Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) welcomed the Hon. Dharmarajen Nagalingum, Minister of Youth and Sports, to its headquarters at Trianon on 17 June 2026, marking the first official visit by a Minister of Youth and Sports to the MOC's new headquarters.

Accompanied by the Director of Sports, Indiresen Desscann, and his close advisers, the Minister's presence underscored the importance of the Government attaches to its partnership with the Olympic Movement.

The Minister was received by MOC President Richard Papie and members of the Executive Committee for discussions on major initiatives shaping the future of Mauritian sport. The meeting focused on preparations for the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games, the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, the Olympic Day Run 2026, and the re-launch of the OlympAfrica Programme.

Welcoming the Minister, President Richard Papie described the occasion as "a historic moment that reflects the strengthening partnership between the MOC and the Ministry in the service of Mauritian sport."

Minister Nagalingum reaffirmed the Government's commitment to working closely with the MOC, emphasising that, despite their respective responsibilities, both institutions share a common mission: to develop sport and create greater opportunities for Mauritian athletes and young people.

The visit symbolised a renewed spirit of dialogue, cooperation and mutual respect, reinforcing the shared commitment of the Ministry and the MOC to advancing sport and empowering the youth of Mauritius.



Nearly 600 students gathered at the Islamic Cultural College on 23 April 2026 as the Mauritius Olympic Committee celebrated Olympic Youth Day under the inspiring theme “Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Sport.”

A Day for the Youth, a strong Message for a Nation.

For this Olympic Youth Day event, students enthusiastically participated in introductory sports sessions, such as archery.

SAY
NO TO
DRUGS

SAY
YES TO
SPORT

Supported by the Management of the Islamic Cultural College and National Sports Federations, the event aimed to promote sport as a positive alternative to drug abuse and a pathway to healthy living, discipline and personal development.

The celebration was honoured by the presence of Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC), President Richard Papie, Mgr. Jean-Michaël Durhône, Bishop of Port Louis, and Hon. Eshan Juman, whose participation reflected the shared commitment of the sporting, religious and civic communities to the well-being of Mauritian youth.

One of the highlights of the day was a community march through the surrounding streets, where participants carried banners advocating a drug-free society and encouraging young people to embrace sport.

Following the march, students enthusiastically participated in introductory sessions conducted by federation coaches in archery, badminton, boxing, cycling, fencing, football, handball, hockey, table tennis, volleyball and wrestling.

More than a sporting event, the Olympic Youth Day 2026 demonstrated the power of sport to inspire hope, build character and encourage young people to choose a positive future. Through this initiative, the MOC reaffirmed its commitment to placing sport at the heart of national efforts to protect and empower the youth of Mauritius.

INVESTING IN PEOPLE **WHO BUILD CHAMPIONS**

Developing sport is about more than producing talented athletes. It also requires well-trained coaches, technical officials and educators capable of leading the next generation.

Guided by this vision, the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC), through the IOC Olympic Solidarity Programme, continued its investment in human resource development by supporting three important technical courses during the first semester of 2026.

In partnership with the Mauritius Table Tennis Association, the MOC organised an Olympic Solidarity Technical Course for Coaches (14 - 18 April 2026), led by International Table Tennis Federation expert Pacinthe Osman Soliman. The programme introduced



The Table Tennis Course featured modern coaching techniques and athlete development methods.

modern coaching techniques and athlete development methods, with MOC President Richard Papie and Secretary General Aarti Desscann attending the opening ceremony.

The Mauritius Archery Federation also hosted an Olympic Solidarity Technical Course for Coaches (31 March - 6 April 2026) at the MOC headquarters in Trianon under the direction of World Archery expert Carlos Freitas, enabling participants to strengthen both their technical knowledge and practical coaching skills.

Another milestone was the organisation of Mauritius' first National Archery Judge Course Level 1 (8 - 12 April 2026),

conducted by international expert, Dr. Ahmed Koura. The course produced the country's first certified national archery judges, an important step towards enhancing Mauritius' capacity to organise competitions in accordance with international standards.

Through Olympic Solidarity, the MOC continues to invest in people, recognising that stronger coaches and technical officials are essential for building stronger athletes and stronger National Sports Federations.



Mauritius has its first certified national archery judges Level 1.



IOA, Ancient Olympia

IRFAAN BUNDHUN PARTICIPATED IN THE OLYMPIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) continues to promote Olympic education by participating actively in international programmes of the Olympic Movement. From 17 to 24 May 2026, Irfaan Bundhun, Executive Member of the MOC and President of the Rowing Federation, represented Mauritius at the 19th International Session for National Olympic Academies and National Olympic Committees, held at the International Olympic Academy (IOA) in Ancient Olympia, Greece.

Gathering more than 140 delegates from over 100 countries, the session explored the theme "Empowering Inclusion, Integrity and Responsibility for Every Athlete." Participants attended lectures and workshops on athlete safeguarding, ethical leadership, good governance and Olympic values, while also visiting the archaeological site of Ancient Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games.

Irfaan's participation reflects the MOC's commitment to strengthen Olympic education in Mauritius. Upon his return,



Irfaan brought back valuable insights, new ideas, and potential projects.

The knowledge and experience gained through such international exchanges will contribute to promoting Olympic values, good governance and excellence throughout the Mauritian sporting movement.



THREE COACHING COURSES TO STRENGTHEN THE FUTURE **OF OUR SPORT!**

The development of athletes begins with the development of coaches. Guided by this conviction, the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) organised three specialised coaching courses within a fortnight, reaffirming its commitment to build a stronger and more qualified sporting workforce across Mauritius.

In partnership with the Mauritius Roller & Skateboard Federation, the MOC organised the country's first Roller Sports Instructor Course from 6 to 10 April 2026. Around twenty participants benefited from the expertise of international instructors, Loïc Gorka and Yohan Fort, who delivered practical training in technical skills, safety and fall management.



Twenty participants attended the Roller Sports Instructor Course.

Participants of Canoe-Kayak after the coaching course at Mont Choisy.

At Mont Choisy, the MOC and the Mauritius Canoe-Kayak Federation conducted a coaching course from 13 to 17 April 2026 under the guidance of international coach educator, Pierrick Jean Septembre. Around twenty coaches took part in the programme, which was visited by MOC President Richard Papie, highlighting the Committee's strong support for coach education.

The fortnight concluded with a three-day Hockey Educator Course, from 10 to 12 April 2026, organised jointly with the Mauritius Hockey Federation and led by Fabrice Salai and Fabrice Guy from Reunion Island. Designed to accommodate working coaches, the course combined theory with intensive practical sessions.

These initiatives reflect the MOC's

long-term vision of strengthening Mauritian sport by investing in its people. Every newly trained coach represents an investment in hundreds

of future athletes, ensuring that knowledge, expertise and Olympic values continue to reach clubs and communities throughout the country.



The Hockey Education Course was led by Fabrice Salai and Fabrice Guy.

MOC STRENGTHENS AFRICAN PARTNERSHIPS

President Richard Papie and Secretary General Aarti Desscann, represented the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) at the ANOCA – NOC Games Preparation Forum, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 2 to 3 July 2026.

The Forum brought together National Olympic Committees from across Africa to prepare for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games, with discussions focusing on Games planning, logistics, Olympic Solidarity programmes, resource optimisation and cooperation among African NOCs.

On the sidelines of the Forum, the MOC delegation held productive meetings with Raul Soule, Secretary General of the Cape Verde National Olympic Committee, and Anri Parker, Chief Executive Officer of the Namibia National Olympic Committee. Discussions centred on knowledge sharing, sports administration, athlete exchanges and the possibility of organising training camps for Namibian athletes at Mauritius' world-class sports facilities at Côte d'Or.

These exchanges reinforce the MOC's commitment to strengthen international partnerships, promote cooperation within the African Olympic family and ensure that Team Mauritius is well prepared for the journey towards the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.



Representative members from the seven islands.



CIJ PLENARY SETS THE STAGE FOR JIOI 2027

The Conseil International des Jeux (CIJ) met in Moroni, Comoros, on 18-19 April 2026 to review preparations for the 12th Indian Ocean Island Games 2027. Representatives of the seven member islands attended the plenary, chaired by CIJ President from Mauritius, Philippe Hao Thyn Voon.

Mauritian delegation comprised of Richard Papie, Aarti Desscann, Fayzal Bundhun from the MOC and Indriessen Desscann from the Ministry of Sports.

The meeting ratified important amendments to the CIJ Charter, reinforcing the governance framework of the Games. It also confirmed the appointment of Richard Papie, President of the Mauritius Olympic Committee, as 5th Vice-President of the CIJ, strengthening Mauritius' role in

regional sports governance.

Delegates reviewed the sporting programme and technical regulations, with discussions focusing on the final number of disciplines, gender parity and competition regulations. National federations will now be consulted before the programme is finalised.

A memorable moment came during the official unveiling of the Games' identity. The Coelacanth, the ancient fish that has become a national symbol of the Comoros, was presented as the official mascot

of JIOI 2027, together with the Games' logo and anthem.

The Mauritian delegation also visited several competition venues, confirming that preparations are progressing steadily.

With governance decisions taken and the countdown well underway, the Mauritius Olympic Committee will continue working closely with its National Sports Federations to ensure that Team Mauritius is fully prepared to compete with distinction at the 2027 Indian Ocean Island Games.



Géraldine Bouquet André (centre) during the final residential session in Lausanne, Switzerland.

MOC INVESTS THROUGH **OLYMPIC SOLIDARITY**

Sporting success is shaped not only by the talent of athletes but also by the dedication and guidance of their coaches, administrators and technical experts.

Through the IOC Olympic Solidarity Programme, the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) continues to invest in the development of Mauritian sports leaders, equipping them with internationally recognised knowledge and expertise.

This year, Géraldine Bouquet André successfully completed the prestigious MEMOS (Executive Masters in Sports Organisation Management) programme, culminating in a final residential session in Lausanne, Switzerland, the home of the Olympic Movement. MEMOS is internationally recognised for developing sports leaders in governance, strategic management and organisational excellence.

The MOC also supported Ricardo André,

of the Mauritius Table Tennis Association, in the International Coaching Enrichment Certificate Programme (ICCEP), one of the IOC's leading coaching education initiatives, designed to strengthen coaching methodology and athlete development.

Meanwhile, Danny Ramasamy, of the Mauritius Yachting Federation, is following an Olympic Solidarity Technical Course in Sailing, enhancing technical expertise in a discipline where Mauritius enjoys outstanding natural potential.

These programmes reflect the MOC's commitment to developing people as well as athletes. Every qualification earned reinforces the capacity of our National Sports Federations and contributes to the long-term growth and excellence of Mauritian sport.



WHEN SPIRIT SHINES

Saturday 20th June, the Mauritius Olympic Committee (MOC) swapped the office for the outdoors, taking the administrative staff and executive members to Ile des Deux Cocos for a day of team building. And in a true inclusive way, even the support staff was invited along — because at the MOC, everyone counts.

Split into two teams, participants dove into a series of fun, challenge-based activities which worked beautifully when pulled together. One team went with the name Blue Label, a nod to their aim for nothing short of perfection, while the other rallied behind Spartan, channeling their fighting spirit and determination to push through every challenge.

Cheers, laughter, and a healthy dose of friendly competition filled the morning, with every task proving that teamwork really does make the dream work. The day wrapped up with a well-deserved lunch together, where stories flowed as easily as the laughter.

By the end of it, nobody left as a simple colleague - everyone left as part of one solid team.



TO OUR **PARTNERS**

THE MAURITIUS OLYMPIC COMMITTEE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE INVALUABLE SUPPORT OF OUR INSTITUTIONAL AND CORPORATE PARTNERS, WHOSE COMMITMENT CONTRIBUTES TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPORT AND THE SUCCESS OF TEAM MAURITIUS.

