



WOMEN AND SPORT IN AFRICA: CREATING A COMMUNICATION NETWORK

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Overview

- Communication between African sports people is almost non-existent for two main reasons:
 - Cultural issues
 - The lack of means

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Cultural issues

- African tradition favours oral communication or old methods of communication: telephone, face-to-face meetings, letters and telegrams.

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The lack of means

- The majority of women and sport commissions in Africa have neither their own premises nor computer equipment. To access the internet, they virtually have to “beg” the NOCs, which themselves add up the monthly cost.


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Seminars and conferences

- Several regional seminars and world conferences on women and sport have been held, but not followed up.

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Regional Seminar in Dakar, 2003-Recommendations concerning communication

1. Strengthen collaboration and information-sharing between sportswomen.
2. Contribute individually and collectively to develop and strengthen the African women and sport network to share information and experiences.
3. Support the ANOCA Women and Sport Commission in its activities and keep it informed of activities organised at national level.
4. Extend the collaboration networks to women from other sectors to benefit from their experience in project management and leadership.

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2003 Recommendations to ANOCA

1. Contribute to strengthening and give greater cohesion to the African women and sport network by serving as a focal point, database and relay for regional information.
2. Determine a communication and global information-gathering strategy, and produce an information bulletin (on paper and the internet) on the work of ANOCA and its various commissions.
3. Propose that ANOCA, with the support of its Communication Commission, produce an information bulletin on its activities and those of its commissions.

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Negative situation

- NO COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE ANOCA WOMEN AND SPORT COMMISSION AND THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS, AND NO COMMUNICATION WITH THE ZONES, EITHER.

RESULT:
NO COMMUNICATION
=
NO PROGRESS

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Conclusions: removing the obstacles

- ANOCA should urgently act upon the Dakar recommendations and give its Women and Sport Commission the means it needs to be able to start working, among other things to strengthen the African network for more effective communication.
- Each year, Olympic Solidarity should approve a fund devoted to the functioning of women and sport commissions, in addition to the global budget given to the NOCs and ANOCA.

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Conclusions: removing the obstacles

- The ANOCA Women and Sport Commission should have its own page on the ANOCA website, so that the women and sport commissions in the Zones and the NOCs can have access to information and in turn inform their grass roots organisations.
- ANOCA should appoint a person to be responsible for this page. One of that person's tasks would be to obtain information from all the Zones, NOCs and other sports organisations so that the information provided is up to date.

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Conclusions: removing the obstacles

- At the same time, each Zone and each NOC should select a focal point responsible for communicating with ANOCA and other international and national sports institutions.

Thank you!

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