

5 September 2022

# SQUASH FEDERATION OF AFRICA WSF 2022 AGM REPORT

### **Executive Board Members 2021-2025**

President-Dr. Lucky Mlilo-Zimbabwe

Vice-President South-Tiego K. Rabasha-Botswana

Vice-President West and Central-Adamu Ahmed Erena-Nigeria

Vice-President East-Mrs. Ida Alexandra Humuza De Cordier-Rwanda

Secretary General-Richmond Quarcoo-Ghana

Treasurer-Mrs. Amna Ahmed Nazmy El Tarabolsy-Egypt

#### • Post Covid Pandemic

A number of countries have woken up from the Covid slumber that saw the suspension of the sport of squash. There has been a number of tournaments in most member countries with Egypt, Nigeria and South Africa taking the lead in hosting monthly tournaments, including PSA Championships.

#### • 2024 Africa Games

The Games that were scheduled for August 2023 have now been rescheduled for 8-23 March 2024. This was due to a protracted impasse between the Association for African Sports Confederations (AASC), the African Union (AU) and the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) on their roles in the organisation of the Games. The Africa Games to be hosted in August 2023 were affected by this impasse and preparations by the Local Organising Committee (LOC) were stalled. Some parties felt the 2018 Tripartite Agreement signed in Morocco was not honoured. The aggrieved parties called for a boycott of the Games until a resolution was found. The impasse was amicably resolved following a meeting in Addis Ababa that was facilitated by the Ghana's President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo and Chairman of the AU Moussa Mahamat in February 2023.

After a good presentation before the AU Committee in Accra in February 2022, squash was re-admitted into the Games. The sticking point now is that after the resolution of the impasse, the LOC is insisting on SFA and Ghana Squash to build squash courts for the 2024 Games. This is impossible from a cost and time-frame point of view. We have suggested Plan B which is the renovation of the current courts and use of a glass court for the Semis and Finals but we have not had any feedback. We have arranged to hire a glass court from Nigeria and this is a 10-hour trip to Accra. We have also enlisted help from WSF in terms of lending support to our preferred plan. All the other sports are enjoying the privilege of having facilities being built for them under the Games budget. We are having faint hopes of re-admission as time is not on our side and we are not getting any feedback from our correspondences.

#### 2023 All Africa Juniors and Senior championships

The 2022 All Africa Juniors championships could not take place in Mauritius and Nigeria volunteered to host a juniors' invitational tournament in December 2023. The sponsor is still working on the preparations. The All Africa Seniors championship that was scheduled for November 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya, has been postponed to the second quarter of 2024. The Squash Kenya Association has not received support from its Sports Ministry to enable it to host the event this year.

#### • 2023 World Juniors championships

Africa was represented at the championships by Egypt, South Africa and Zimbabwe in Melbourne, Australia in July 2023. Egypt did very well and South Africa and Zimbabwe learnt valuable lessons by participating at this premier juniors' event.

#### 2023 World Cup

Africa was represented by South Africa and Egypt at the World Cup in India.

#### • 2023 Mens World Team Championship

Africa will be represented by Egypt, South Africa and Nigeria in Tauranga, New Zealand in December 2023. We wish the participating teams all the best.

## • Membership

The membership of SFA has grown from 4 paid up members in 2019 to 23 in 2023 and are still hoping to increase the number before the end of the year. The new kid on the block is Gambia. We are still taking to Mali and Senegal for membership.

Dr. Lucky Mlilo President Squash Federation of Africa SFA

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