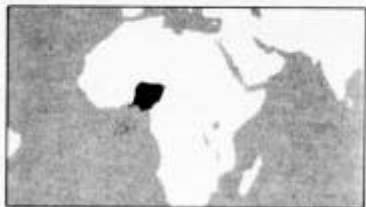


Nigeria and Olympism

NIGERIA

924,000 sq. km.

80,000,000 inhabitants.



NIGERIA OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (NOC)

Recognised by the IOC in 1951.

President in office: Dr. Lateef O. Adegbite *.

Secretary General in office: Abraham A. Ordia *.

Address : P.O. Box 3156, Lagos.

Telephone: 84 96 45 - 84 66 45 - ext. 290 and 301.

Telex: 21 598.

Telegrams : Olymcom Lagos.

Role of the NOC

- To make known the ideals and aims of the Olympic movement.
- To ensure the representation of Nigeria at international sports events.
- To guarantee the harmonious development of sport in Nigeria by excluding all political, racial, religious or tribal discrimination and all commercialisation.
- To convince the public of the importance of physical education for the moral health of the population.

Creation of the NOC

The Nigeria Olympic Committee was founded on the 26th May 1951. Originally known as the Nigeria Olympic British Empire and Commonwealth Games Association (NOBECGA), it was founded by voluntary sports officials in order to allow Nigeria to take part in international sports events. Until 1959, the funds required to enable teams to participate in international competitions were collected solely by means of appeals to commercial firms and the general public. The new President, Sir Adetokunbo Ademola*, succeeded however in securing government aid. In 1966, the NOBECGA became the NOC. Exactly one year later, under the presidency of Brigadier Adefope, it took the name of Nigeria Olympic Association, which it kept until 1975 when it became the NOC and its present constitution was approved. The NOC obtained the recognition of the IOC in 1951 and was thus officially admitted as a member of the international Olympic movement.

* See biographical notes

Member of the IOC for Nigeria

1. Sir Adetokunbo Ademola*, since 1963 member of the Executive Board from 1969 to 1973.



Sir Adetokunbo Ademola

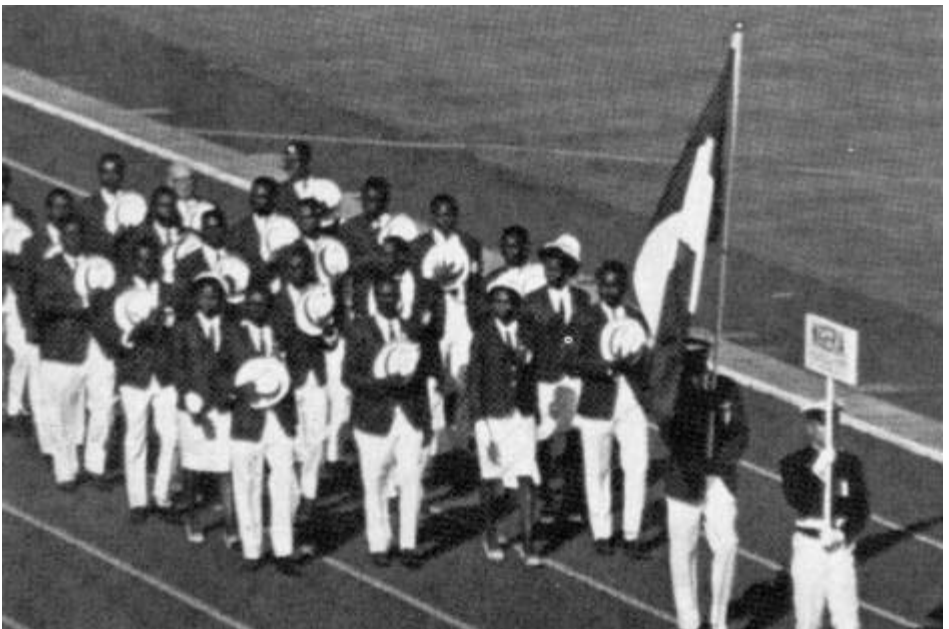
Successive Presidents of the NOC

- 1951-1953 : C. E. Newham.
1953-1962 : P. H. Cook.
1962-1966 : Sir Adetokunbo Ademola *.
1966-1967 : Lt.-Col. N. M. Okwechime.
1967-1976 : Brigadier H. E. O. Adefope.
1976-1978 : Major-General Olufemi Olu-
toye.
Since 1978 : Lateef O. Adegbite *.



Lateef O. Adegbite

NIGERIA AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES



1964 - Tokyo : The Nigerian delegation.



Abraham A. Ordia



1964 - Nojim Maiyegun, the NOC's first Olympic medal-winner.

• **Date of first participation : 1952.**

However it should be noted that prior to this date, several Nigerians participated in the Olympic Games under the British flag.

Since 1952, a Nigerian delegation has taken part in every celebration of an Olympiad, except however for the Games of the 21 st Olympiad in Montreal in 1976. The delegation, which had already arrived at the Olympic village, withdrew before the opening ceremony.

Representation of Nigeria at the Olympic Games from 1952 to 1980 ¹

	Athletics	Boxing	Football	Weightlifting	Wrestling	Total
1952	9	-	-	-	-	9
1956	10	-	-	-	-	10
1960	8	4	-	-	-	12
1964	12(2)	4	-	-	-	16(2)
1968	10(5)	5	15	-	-	30(5)
1972	22(6)	6	-	-	-	28(6)
1976	-	-	-	-	-	0
1980	22(8)	8	19	2	1	52(8)

¹ The figures in brackets represent the number of women included in the first figure.

• **Nigerian towns having applied to stage the Olympic Games**

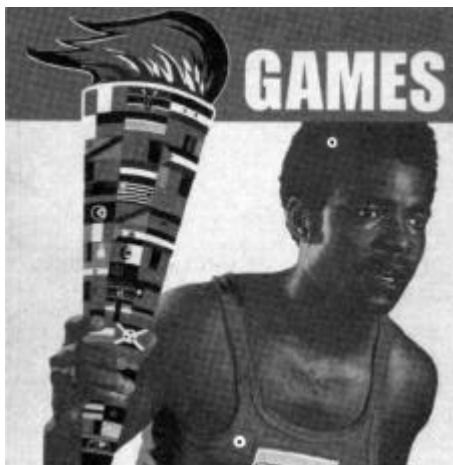
So far, no Nigerian town has expressed the wish to stage the Olympic Games. It should be noted however that Lagos organised the 2nd African Games from 7th to 18th January 1973, as well as the first edition of the West African Games from 20th to 28th August 1977.

• **Nigerian Olympic medallists**

Even though no Nigerian athlete holds an Olympic title as yet, 2 boxers did particularly well by winning bronze medals in the following categories :

1964 - light welterweight : Nojim Maiyegun.

1972 - middleweight : Isaac Ikhouria.



PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE NOC

- *The Board*, the NOC's governing body, meets once a month.
- *The General Meeting*, meets in ordinary session every February. It is convened whenever necessary at the request of at least half its members.

• Financing of the NOC

The funds needed for financing the NOC come mainly from the State. Since 1966, the National Sports Commission and a new organisation called the Club of 400, composed of 400 eminent sportsmen who pay a fixed amount to a fund for four years, have also provided financial help to the NOC.

• Federations affiliated to the NOC

	Affiliation FI	Members in 1972
Athletics	1951	12 150
Rowing	-	-
Basketball	1964	1 200
Boxing	1953	15 800
Cycling	1972	7 450
Football	1959	-
Gymnastics	1976	-
Weightlifting	1976	-
Handball	1974	109
Hockey	1964	4 000
Judo	1975	-
Wrestling	1974	-
Swimming	1964	350
Volleyball	1970	-

- **Composition of the present Board** : elected in October 1978.

Honorary Pts : Sir Adetokunbo Ademola * and Major-General H.E.O. Adefobe; *PT*: Lateef O. Adegbite * ; *VPT*: S.O. Williams ; *SG* : Abraham A. Ordia * ; *Assistant SG* : Charles Itabor ; *T*: J.L.A. Onasanya.

THE NOC AND OLYMPISM

- *The Olympic Week* was organised for the first time in October 1976 to provide a fitting celebration of the 25th anniversary of the NOC. A whole series of events planned to promote the Olympic Movement and its ideals was organised, including public lectures, film shows, radio and TV debates, and various sports discussions.

• Publication of the NOC

"The Nigerian Sportsman", published by the National Council of Sport in Nigeria, recounts the history of sports life in the country.

• International Olympic Academy

The NOC would like to take a more active part in the work of the Academy.

• Protection of the Olympic emblems

This protection is provided legally.

SPORT IN NIGERIA

• State aid for the sports movement

The State gives financial help to most sports federations or associations. It is responsible for the training of sports leaders, the setting up of a sports installation policy ; it seeks to develop medical tests for sportsmen, it gives scholarships to the best athletes and finds jobs for former sportsmen.

• Training of sports leaders

The Institute of Sports Training can take up to 250 students. The teachers are Nigerian, of course, but also German.

• Sport at school

At primary school, one hour of physical exercise and sport is included in the programme every morning. At secondary school, two hours daily are devoted to sport (from 2 to 4 p.m.). At University, various sports can be practised in the evening.

• Sports which draw the biggest crowds

Football, boxing

• Sports installations

350 sports centres.
50 50 m swimming pools.
200 other swimming pools.
40 gymnasia.

• Sport experiencing the greatest development during the last few years.

Table tennis.

A number of children from 10 to 12 years of age visited the People's Republic of China and Chinese trainers have come to Lagos.



The national stadium at Lagos.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Sir Adetokunbo Ademola

A member of the IOC since 1963, founder, former President and Honorary President of the NOC.

Born on 1st February 1906, this company director occupied the post of President of the Nigerian National Census Board. after a successful career as a lawyer, judge and then as first President of the Supreme Court of Nigeria (1958-1972).

A founder member of the NOC. he was elected a member of the IOC in 1963 and sat on the Executive Board from 1969 to 1973. He also worked on several IOC commissions. Commission of Enquiry into South Africa (1966-1968). joint Commission II (1967-1971). Commission for the IOA (1967-1969).

Lateef O. Adegbite

President of the NOC since 1978.

Born on 20th March 1933. Mr. Adegbite obtained degrees in law at King's College, Lagos, as well as at the University

of Southampton and London. While at university, he was a great sprinter and hockey player. He then took an active part in university sports administration. He became a member of the NOC in 1971 and its Vice-President in 1973. Mr. Adegbite has had an active legal career. A lecturer at the University of Lagos for over five years, he also assumed the responsibilities of Prosecutor and Attorney General there from 1973 to 1975.

Abraham A. Ordia

Secretary General of the NOC for over twenty years.

Well known internationally as President of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa. In 1976 he was also elected Vice-President of the International Council of Sport and Physical Education at UNESCO with responsibilities for the African continent. At present a member of the IOC Commission for Olympic Solidarity, he has also been a member of the IOC's Joint Commission III.

