

The Maldives Olympic Committee (MOC) is a non-profit organization founded in 1985, dedicated to advancing sports in the Maldives. In line with the principles set forth in the Olympic Charter and the laws of the Republic of Maldives, MOC holds the primary responsibility for overseeing the development of elite athletes. It plays a pivotal role in preparing Maldivian athletes for major international competitions, including the Olympic Games, the Commonwealth Games, the Asian Games, and other regional events. Through its leadership, MOC ensures the representation of the Maldives on the global sporting stage while fostering growth and excellence in national sports.



ANNUAL REPORT OF MALDIVES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (MOC)



is with immense lt pride and enthusiasm that I present the MOC's (MOC) Annual Report for 2024. This year has been a remarkable chapter in our history, marked by groundbreaking achievements, strategic initiatives, and inspiring reaffirm our moments that commitment to the Olympic Values of Friendship, Respect, and Excellence.

One of the standout moments of 2024 was Fathimath Dheema Ali's direct qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympics in Table Tennis—a groundbreaking achievement for Maldivian sports. This milestone reflects the relentless efforts of our athletes, the guidance of their coaches, and the improved training provided opportunities by the Maldives Olympic Committee. Dheema, Alongside four other Athletics, competed athletes in Badminton, and Swimming, making this the largest number of sports in which the Maldives has been represented at an Olympics.

Throughout the year, the MOC remained steadfast in its mission to empower athletes and build their capabilities. This was achieved through initiatives such as the continuation of the Paris 2024 Olympic Scholarship and partnerships with esteemed institutions like the Bank of Maldives (BML). Furthermore, programs like the International Coaching Enrichment Certificate Program (ICECP), International Coaching Course (ICC), and the Executive Master's in Sport Organizations Management (MEMOS) provided unparalleled opportunities for coaches and administrators to enhance their technical expertise and contribute to the long-term development of Maldivian sports.

In 2024, we also prioritized community engagement through the promotion of Olympic Values. Nationwide Olympic Day celebrations, conducted across multiple islands, united communities in the spirit of sportsmanship while encouraging active and healthy lifestyles. Additionally, the successful hosting of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) Regional Meeting in the Maldives was a moment of pride, showcasing our capacity to organize events of international significance. Although the meeting focused primarily on strengthening regional sports collaboration, it underscored the Maldives' strategic role in fostering partnerships across the Commonwealth Games family.



As we reflect on this year of unprecedented achievements, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Ministry of Sports, Fitness and Recreation, our partners, sponsors, athletes, and the Maldivian community for their continued support. Together, we are laying the foundation for a brighter future, driven by the enduring values of sportsmanship, unity, and excellence. The MOC remains resolute in its commitment to inspire future generations and elevate Maldivian sports to even greater heights.



### STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

### Vision

The mission of the MOC is to ensure that the Olympic Movement is developed, established, expanded and carried out in the Maldives in accordance with the Olympic Charter.

### Mission

It is the vision of the MOC to be an organization that is recognized locally, regionally, continentally and globally as one which promotes and develops sports.

## OBJECTIVES OF MOC

The Objectives of the MOC, as listed in the MOC statutes, have been approved by the IOC under the Olympic Charter which regulates IOC recognition of all National Olympic Committees. Chapter 4 of the Charter explicitly sets out the mission and role of National Olympic Committees as well as their composition and structure. The Objectives are in effect our strategic aims, providing MOC with clarity of role and mission. The challenge and focus for the MOC is to ensure we successfully achieve and improve on this mission year on year.

- To encourage, promote, organize control, and safeguard Olympism in the Republic of Maldives. In addition, promote the fundamental to principles and values of Olympism in the Maldives in the fields of sport and education, by promoting Olympic educational programs in all levels of schools, sports and physical institutions education and universities, as well as by encouraging the creation of institutions dedicated to Olympic education, such as a National Olympic Academy, an Olympic Museum, and other programs, including cultural, related to the Olympic Movement.
- To ensure the observance of the Olympic Charter in the Maldives
- To promote the spirit of "Sport for All" and assist, encourage and facilitate the development of elite sports
- To conduct, facilitate and promote training programs for the development of Sport Personnel

- To condemn and eradicate discrimination and racism from the arena of sport and penalize those who break the barrier;
- To eradicate violence from the sport arena and sanction those who fail to adhere to this cause;
- To adopt and implement the World Anti-Doping Code, thereby ensuring that the MOC's anti-doping policies and rules, membership and-or funding requirements and results management procedures conform with the World Anti-Doping Code and respect all the roles and responsibilities for MOCs that are listed within the World Anti-Doping Code;
- To encourage and support the measures relating to the medical care and health of athletes.
- To assist the associations to promote their sport within the framework of the Olympic Charter;
- To find ways to promote, develop and sustain the traditional sports of the country.

## STRUCTURE OF MOC

### INTRODUCTION

At the forefront of the global Olympic Movement is the International Olympic Committee (IOC), a non-profit organization established under Swiss law, enjoying recognition within international legal frameworks. The IOC entrusts each country's NOC with the critical responsibility of selecting athletes to represent their nations at the prestigious Olympic Games. In alignment with this mandate, the Maldives established its NOC, the MOC (MOC), in 1983.

### **HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

During its early years, the MOC primarily operated as a membership-based organization, lacking a defined hierarchy or a formalized coordinating structure. However, the enactment of the Maldives Sports Act 30/2015 marked a transformative milestone for the Committee, transitioning it into an independent non-governmental organization eligible for government funding. A substantial portion of the MOC's financial resources now comes from partnerships with esteemed international entities, including Olympic Solidarity, the Olympic Council of Asia, and the Commonwealth Games Federation.

### LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The MOC operates within a strict legal framework that prohibits profit-driven commercial activities, the issuance of stocks, or engagement in political ventures. Instead, the Committee is authorized to perform activities essential to fulfilling its mission, such as entering into contracts, acquiring and transferring property, securing funds through borrowing, publishing materials, approving or revoking memberships, and undertaking other necessary actions to achieve its objectives.



## STRUCTURE OF MOC



### **ROLE IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES**

The MOC plays a pivotal role in the Maldives' participation in the Olympic Games, serving as the official representative of the country in dealings with the IOC. The Committee is responsible for resolving disputes related to athlete participation and providing financial support to National Sports Associations (NSA), ensuring alignment with its overarching mission of promoting sports development and Olympic Values.



### **ANNUAL REPORTING OBLIGATION**

Upholding its commitment to transparency and accountability, the MOC is required to submit a comprehensive Annual Report to the Annual General Assembly. This Report details the Committee's financial receipts and expenditures, alongside a thorough account of its accomplishments and activities over the preceding year, ensuring stakeholders are informed of its operations and progress.



### ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMIITEE

Over time, the composition of the MOC's Executive Committee evolves, often influenced by the resignation of members who step down due to their departure from their respective NSAs. Reflecting these changes, the Executive Committee underwent notable adjustments during the year:

## STRUCTURE OF MOC



- Vice President: Following the resignation of elected Vice President Mr. Mohamed Tholal, applications were opened for the vacant position. Mr. Ahmed Munthaqim was the sole applicant and was subsequently elected as Vice President, ensuring the continuation of strong leadership within the Committee.
- Olympic Sport Member: Olympic Sport Member Ms. Murushidha Abdul Manan also tendered her resignation, leaving this position vacant. Efforts to identify a suitable candidate to fill this role remain ongoing.

## MEMBER SPORT ASSOCIATIONS















### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

The year 2024 was a transformative period for the MOC, marked by groundbreaking achievements and impactful initiatives. Among the most significant milestones was Fathimath Dheema Ali's historic qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympics, becoming the first-ever Maldivian athlete to achieve direct qualification. Her success was complemented by the participation of four other athletes across Athletics, Badminton, and Swimming, representing the Maldives in the most number of sports at an Olympics to date. These accomplishments were made possible through sustained efforts in athlete training and development, including the continuation of the Paris 2024 Olympic Scholarship program and strategic partnerships, such as the one with the Bank of Maldives (BML).

Technical development also remained at the forefront of the MOC's agenda.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

Coaches and administrators were provided opportunities to enhance their skills through programs like the International Coaching Enrichment Certificate Program (ICECP), the International Coaching Course (ICC), and the Executive Master's in Sport Organizations Management (MEMOS). These initiatives not only strengthened the technical expertise of sports personnel but also laid the foundation for long-term organizational growth and improved management practices across all levels. In line with its mission to promote the Olympic Values of Friendship, Respect, and Excellence, the MOC organized Olympic Day celebrations across multiple islands, including Malé, Guraidhoo, Kulhudhuffushi, and Naifaru. These events engaged communities through diverse sports and recreational activities, fostering unity and encouraging active lifestyles.

The celebrations culminated in Malé with a vibrant Olympic Day Run and a series of inclusive sports activities, drawing participation from individuals of all ages and abilities.



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## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024



A major highlight of the year was the successful hosting of the Commonwealth Games Federation's Regional Meeting in the Maldives, held at Crossroads Maldives. This prestigious gathering brought together representatives from Commonwealth nations to discuss regional sports development and collaboration. Hosting this event demonstrated the Maldives' capability to organize international events of significant scale while fostering meaningful dialogue on regional sports strategies.

Despite challenges such as the cancellation of some major events and logistical hurdles, the MOC showcased resilience and adaptability. Initiatives like the BML Sports Scholarship and participation in key forums, including the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and the CGF, further underscored the MOC's commitment to enhancing its role on the regional and international stage.

As the MOC reflects on these accomplishments, it reaffirms its commitment to fostering excellence, transparency, and ethical practices in sports, paving the way for continued growth and success in the years to come.

## TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT



### International Coaching Enrichment Certificate Program (ICECP) 2023-2024

Mr. Hussain Haleem, affiliated with the Athletics Association of Maldives, had the opportunity to participate in the ICECP 2023-2024 session. By December 2023, Mr. Haleem had already completed the first three modules of the ICECP course. These modules provided him with a strong foundation in essential coaching principles and practices, focusing on areas such as coaching leadership, sport sciences, talent identification, and athlete development. Through interactive workshops, lectures, and hands-on experiences, Mr. Haleem gained valuable insights and practical knowledge that he could apply directly to his coaching role within the Athletics Association of Maldives.



### TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT



In addition to Mr. Haleem's participation in the ICECP 2023-2024 session, Ms. Khadeeja Easa, a coach from swimming was selected for the ICECP 2024-2025 course. The program, known for its rigorous focus on advanced coaching principles and practices, offered an exceptional opportunity to enhance expertise in areas such as sports science, coaching leadership, and athlete development. Unfortunately, Ms. Easa was unable to participate in the program due to challenges in securing a U.S. visa, despite her efforts to obtain the necessary support.

## TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT



HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITY OF SPORTS SCIENCE

### **International Coaching Course**

Mr. Guraish Afrah, representing the sport of basketball, participated in the spring session of the International Coaching Course (ICC), held in Budapest, Hungary, from April 1 to May 31, 2024. The ICC is a comprehensive three-month, full-time program delivered in English by the Hungarian University of Sports Science (HUSS), in partnership with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and supported by Olympic Solidarity (OS). This program is designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of coaches worldwide, focusing on improving coaching quality through structured advancements in theoretical knowledge, technical expertise, and practical training.



## ATHLETES TRAINING

The MOC is dedicated to comprehensive training programs for national athletes, enhancing their skills and enabling them to compete globally. MOC emphasizes athlete training's importance, fortifying their abilities and fostering mental resilience. Through investment in training development, MOC aims to cultivate exceptional athletes who bring honor to the nation. MOC takes pride in athletes' remarkable progress, recognizing their dedication and relentless pursuit of excellence.

### BML / MOC Sports Scholarship Award

On 22 January 2023, the Bank of Maldives (BML) partnered with the MOC to launch a sports scholarship program designed to support exceptional athletes. This initiative aims to provide both financial assistance and further motivation for athletes who have shown outstanding commitment and potential in their respective fields.



## ATHLETES TRAINING

In 2023, multiple athletes were selected to receive one-year scholarships, offering them the resources and opportunities to enhance their skills. For the year 2024, Aishath Himna Hassan, an emerging talent in athletics, was chosen as the sole recipient of the scholarship. She will undertake a year-long training program at the prestigious SprinTec Track Club in Jamaica, a renowned facility known for developing top-tier athletes. This opportunity is expected to significantly impact her athletic career, enabling her to compete at an international level and contribute to the future success of Maldivian athletics.



### Paris 2024 Olympic Scholarship



In 2021, the Paris 2024 Olympic Scholarships were granted to athletes to support their preparation and qualification for the XXXIII Olympiad in Paris. These scholarships were specifically targeted at athletes and NOCs with the greatest needs. From the seven applications received by MOC, the scholarship was awarded to Aishath Himna Hassan (Athletics), Nibal Ahmed (Badminton), Ziyan Ziyau (Shooting), Ismail Rasheed (Surfing), and Fathimath Dheema Ali (Table Tennis). The scholarship provided a monthly grant to each athlete, supporting their training by covering the costs of access to training facilities, specialized coaching, medical and scientific support, as well as travel expenses to attend Olympic qualification events. The program continued throughout 2024, ensuring the athletes were adequately prepared for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

### **Olympic Day**



Olympic Day, a globally recognized event celebrated annually on June 23, is organized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) with the purpose of promoting the core Olympic Values of Friendship, Respect, and Excellence. The IOC underscores the importance of Olympic Day celebrations for all National Olympic Committees (NOCs), with the IOC President delivering a special message to mark the occasion.

In the year 2023, the MOC undertook the task of orchestrating Olympic Day celebrations across three distinct islands in the Maldives: N. Velidhoo, M. Muli, and R. Ungoofaaru. The overarching goal of this endeavor was to extend the Olympic spirit and its enduring principles to diverse communities within the Maldives, fostering unity and encouraging active participation in sports.

Olympic Day, celebrated annually on June 23, is a global event organized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to promote the core values of Friendship, Respect, and Excellence. Each year, the IOC highlights the importance of Olympic Day for NOCs through a special message from the IOC President.

In 2024, the MOC (MOC) extended the Olympic spirit by organizing celebrations in the capital, Malé, and the islands of Th. Guraidhoo, Hd. Kulhudhuffushi, and Lh. Naifaru. These activities were designed to foster unity and encourage community participation in sports while aligning with the 2024 theme, "Let's Move," which promotes an active and healthy lifestyle.





Although Olympic Day officially falls on June 23, the Maldives held its main celebrations on July 6, 2024. In Malé, the day was inaugurated by the Honorable Minister of Sports, Fittness and Recreation, Abdulla Rafiu, alongside the MOC President, Mohamed Abdul Sattar. The festivities began with the Olympic Day Run, a 1.2 km course from Artificial Beach to the National Football Grounds, where participants were greeted with a colorful and festive reception, symbolizing unity and celebration.

President Mohamed Abdul Sattar delivered the Olympic Day message from IOC President Thomas Bach, emphasizing the unifying power of sports, followed by a speech from Minister Rafiu, who highlighted the role of sports in promoting community spirit and healthy lifestyles.

In addition to the Olympic Day Run, the event in Malé featured an engaging Zumba session and various sports activities organized by NSAs, ensuring inclusivity for individuals of all ages and abilities.

Following the main event in Malé, the MOC extended the Olympic spirit to islands, including several Th. Guraidhoo, Hd. Kulhudhuffushi, and Lh. Naifaru. These island celebrations included a variety of sports such as Futsal, Beach Basketball, Beach Handball, Beach Volleyball, Netball, and the Olympic Day Run, providing an opportunity for participants to engage in physical activity while experiencing the Olympic values in their local communities. Through these activities, the MOC successfully promoted community participation in sports and highlighted the benefits of an active and healthy leading lifestyle.



hrough these nationwide activities, the MOC successfully promoted the Olympic values across the Maldives, fostering community connections and encouraging active participation in sports and physical fitness.







The MOC serves as the central coordinating body for the Maldivian delegation's participation in a wide array of multisport events, including global platforms like the Olympic Games, continental multisport events such as the Asian Games and Commonwealth Games, and regional multisport event, such as the South Asia Games and Indian Ocean Island Games.

The MOC's role encompasses careful planning and logistical coordination to ensure optimal preparation and performance for the Maldivian athletes. These efforts include facilitating access to training facilities, arranging travel and accommodation, managing accreditation processes, and providing financial and technical support.

A significant part of the MOC's mission is to support the NSAs in preparing their athletes for international competitions. Each NSA is responsible for devising specific strategies for their athletes, taking into account the unique demands of each competition, the strengths of the athletes, and the goals of their respective sports. The MOC plays a vital role in facilitating this process by providing essential support, including training opportunities, financial assistance, and any other resources requested by the associations. This collaborative approach ensures that Maldivian athletes are fully equipped to perform at their best and represent the country with distinction on the international stage.

### **Participation and Challenges in 2024**

The year 2024 presented both opportunities and challenges for the MOC's efforts to engage in multisport events. While plans were in place for Maldives to participate in several significant competitions, unforeseen cancellations and rescheduling affected the delegation's ability to compete in key events:

- Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games (AIMAG): Initially scheduled to be held in Thailand in 2024, this event was canceled due to logistical challenges and organizational issues. This cancellation prevented Maldivian athletes from participating in a competition that offers valuable opportunities to compete at an international level and gain exposure against elite athletes from across Asia.
- South Asian Games (SAG): Originally planned for 2021, the South Asian Games faced multiple delays, eventually being rescheduled to February 2025.

This delay highlights the impact of external factors on sports planning and underscores the need for adaptive strategies in an unpredictable global sports environment.

Despite these setbacks, the MOC maintained its commitment to the preparation and development of athletes, ensuring they remained equipped to excel in future events. The focus on building long-term resilience and readiness for delayed competitions like the South Asian Games highlights the importance of maintaining the momentum of Maldivian sports on regional and international platforms.



### Paris 2024 Olympic Scholarship

The Paris 2024 Olympics marked a significant milestone for the Maldives, as the nation participated with five athletes representing four different sports. The athletes competed in Table Tennis, Athletics, Badminton, and Swimming.



### Maldives at the Olympics

For the first time in history, the Maldives had an athlete who qualified directly for the Olympics. Fathimath Dheema Ali, a Table Tennis player, made history as the first Maldivian athlete to secure qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympics. This achievement reflected the growing dedication to training and sports development in the country. Alongside Dheema, the Maldives sent four other athletes who participated with the assistance of Universality Places and Tripartite invitations.





### **Athletes and their Qualifications**

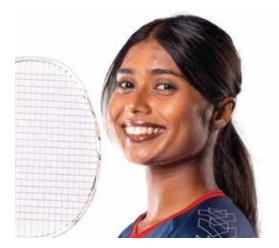
The following athletes represented the Maldives at the Paris 2024 Olympics:



Fathimath Dheema Ali (Table Tennis) Dheema made history by becoming the first Maldivian athlete to qualify for an Olympics



Ibadulla Adam (Athletics, Men's 100m) Ibadulla received a Universality Place to the Olympics



Fathimath Nabaha (Badminton) Nabaha participated through a Tripartite invitation, which is a selection process that allows countries to send athletes to the Olympics when they do not meet the usual qualification standards



Mohamed Aan Hussain (Swimming) – Aan was granted a Universality Place for swimming

### **Athletes and their Qualifications**

The following athletes represented the Maldives at the Paris 2024 Olympics:



Aishath Ulya Shaaiq (Swimming) – Ulya also received a Universality place

### Leadership

The leadership of the Maldivian Olympic delegation played an important role in ensuring smooth participation at the Paris 2024 Olympics. Chef de Mission Mr. Ali Rasheed, President of the Table Tennis Association of Maldives, managed the delegation's operations, including logistical arrangements and coordination with National Sports Associations. His efforts ensured that athletes received the necessary support and guidance throughout the Games, contributing to a well-organized and focused representation of the Maldives on the global stage.'







#### Accomplishment

The major accomplishment for the Maldives at the Paris 2024 Olympics was Fathimath Dheema Ali's qualification. She became the first-ever Maldivian athlete to qualify for an Olympics, marking a historical achievement for the nation. This accomplishment serves as a powerful testament to the growing focus on athlete development and sports excellence in the Maldives. Her qualification has inspired a new generation of athletes in the country, showcasing what can be achieved through dedication and hard work on the international stage.

### CPR/AED Training Program: Jan 16, 2024, Malé, Maldives

In partnership with the Ministry of Sports, Fitness, and Recreation and the Maldives National Defense Force, the MOC organized a CPR/AED training program to enhance life-saving skills. Held under the supervision of the College of Defense and Security, participants were certified in CPR and AED, meeting the standards set by the American Heart Association. This initiative aimed to prepare medical personnel for national competitions and ensure the safety of athletes during pre-determined events.



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### CPTM Sports Enterprise Stakeholder Meetings: Feb 1-8, 2024, Malé, Maldives

From February 1 to 8, 2024, the CPTM Sports Enterprise, led by Dr. Mathew J Robinson and Mr. Steven Mark Roush, conducted a series of stakeholder meetings across the The meetings aimed Maldives. at improving sports programs, tackling infrastructure challenges, and enhancing ecosystem. sports the local Key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Sports, Fitness and Recreation, MOC, National Sports Council, and other relevant organizations, actively participated.



Workshops with community sports centers and NSAs (National Sports Associations) addressed current issues, solutions, and sports development strategies. In addition to assessments of key sports venues such as Ekuveni Sports Complex and Galolhu National Football Stadium, the team traveled to H.Dh. Kulhudhuffushi to visit the venues there and gain a deeper understanding of the infrastructures available in the Maldives. The sessions concluded with meetings involving the Minister of Sports, Fitness and Recreation and other dignitaries, reinforcing CPTM's commitment to the long-term development of sports in the Maldives.



### Indian Ocean Island Games (CIJ) meeting: Feb 14, Comoros



At the CIJ meeting held in Comoros, Mohamed Abdul Sattar, President of the MOC (MOC), was re-elected for his second term as the 2nd Vice President for the Indian Ocean Island Games Organizing Committee. The meeting provided an opportunity for constructive discussions on the future editions of the Games, with a focus on enhancing the sporting standards across the Indian Ocean region. Thamooh Ahmed Saeed, Secretary General of the MOC, and Ibrahim Eman, CWG Officer, participated in the session as representatives from the Maldives.

### CGF eqUIP Internship Program: February 21-23, 2024, Fiji

Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed and Ibrahim Eman from the CGA Maldives participated in the eqUIP Internship program held in Fiji. Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed attended the eqUIP Internship program in Fiji in the capacity of a supervisor, where he oversaw the intern's progress, facilitated discussions, and contributed to the program's overall objective of equipping young leaders with the skills and knowledge needed to drive positive change through sport. The eqUIP Internship program, a flagship initiative by the Commonwealth Sport Foundation (CSF), is designed to provide youth across the Commonwealth with unique opportunities to enhance their skills and gain employment experience. The program specifically aims at strengthening Commonwealth Games Associations (CGAs), empowering young leaders by equipping them with the tools necessary to make a positive impact in both sport and their communities. This year's workshop offered valuable insights into the strategic importance of these internships and their role in nurturing the next generation of leaders.



### AIMAG CDM Meeting: 4-5 March 2024, Bangkok, Thailand



The Maldives participated in the Chef de Mission (CDM) meeting for the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games (AIMAG), held from March 4–5 in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting focused on finalizing preparations for the Games, including delegation logistics, athlete selection processes, and operational coordination. President Mohamed Abdul Sattar attended the meeting in his capacity as a Coordination Committee member. Additionally, Vice President Ahmed Ismail, Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed, and Finance Director Ibrahim Azoor were part of the Maldives delegation



#### MOC Annual General Assembly: Mar 16, 2024, Malé, Maldives

On March 16, 2024, the MOC successfully held its Annual General Assembly (AGA), with 16 out of 15 member associations in attendance. The event was honored by the presence of the Honorable Minister of Sports, Fitness, and Recreation, Abdulla Rafiu, who graced the Assembly as the chief guest.

In line with statutory requirements, a series of essential documents were presented and approved, including the Agenda, the Minutes from the 2023 AGA, the Annual Report of 2023, the Expenditure Report of 2023, and the Budget for 2024. These documents were crucial in ensuring transparency and effective governance within the MOC.

During the meeting, significant organizational changes were implemented, such as the establishment of a Safeguarding Commission and the renaming of the Women's Commission to the Gender Equity Commission. To enhance operational efficiency, member associations were instructed to submit General Assembly documents directly to the MOC by April 15 each year, in the same manner as they submit the originals to the Commissioner of Sports.



The Assembly also recognized several individuals and organizations for their outstanding contributions. Special recognition was given to those who played pivotal roles in overseeing the 2023 Games, alongside sponsors who significantly supported the Committee's initiatives. Notably, Bank of Maldives, which awarded seven scholarships to athletes, and Dhiraagu, State Trading Organisation, Housing Development Corporation, and Ell Mobile, all of which sponsored the "MOC Talks" television show, were acknowledged for their dedication to advancing sports development and community engagement.

In addition, awards were presented to the medical team who supported athletes during the 2023 Games, as well as the media team for their essential role in broadcasting athletes' achievements nationwide. To provide further insights, notable figures from previous games delivered presentations, including Mr. Abdul Nafiu Thaufeeg, the Chef de Mission of the Indian Ocean Island Games, who gave a detailed overview of the event.





Additionally, Mr. Ahmed Zabeer, the Chair of the Athletes Commission, shared a comprehensive report on the commission's progress and outlined future plans, offering valuable guidance for the MOC's continued initiatives.



#### Strength and Conditioning Course: Apr 14-20, 2024, Malé, Maldives

From April 14 to 20, 2024, the MOC, in collaboration with the Ministry of Sports, Fitness, and Recreation, hosted a comprehensive Strength and Conditioning Course. The course, conducted by Mr. Amir Issam from Lebanon, aimed at enhancing the athletic performance and injury prevention skills of coaches. With 42 participants from the NSAs, the course covered topics such as Performance Assessment, Biomechanics, Nutrition, Training Techniques, and Advanced Programming. The initiative represents a significant step in developing stronger, more resilient athletes in the Maldives.







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#### OCA General Assembly: 11 May 2024, Bangkok, Thailand



At the 2024 OCA General Assembly in Bangkok, Maldives was represented by President Mohamed Abdul Sattar and Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed. Key topics of conversation included the promotion of regional collaboration, ensuring that NOCs work cohesively to elevate sports across Asia, and exploring strategies for the inclusion of emerging sports within the Olympic movement. The assembly also focused on strengthening the role of NOCs in driving positive change, fostering a unified approach to sports development, and ensuring that athletes from all backgrounds have access to opportunities that can propel them to international success. Additionally, discussions on the inclusion of new sports into the Olympic program were pivotal, reflecting a broader trend of adapting the Games to evolving interests and ensuring that the Olympic movement stays relevant to younger generations.

#### OCA-OS Regional Forum: 4-6 June 2024, Bahrain

The OCA-OS Regional Forum, held in Bahrain, gathered key stakeholders Olympic sports to discuss in anti-doping measures, athlete and well-being, governance improvements. Maldives was represented by President Mohamed Abdul Sattar, Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed, and Ibrahim Shifaz. Thev actively participated in discussions focused on enhancing collaboration among countries. improving Asian infrastructure, and integrating advanced sports science into training programs to elevate athletic performance across the region.



#### 64th International Session for Young Olympic Ambassadors: Jun 8-21, 2024, Olympia, Greece

From June 8 to 21, 2024, Eama Abdul Sattar from the Netball Association of Maldives represented the country at the 64th International Session for Young Olympic Ambassadors in Olympia, Greece. This session, which has been a key part of the International Olympic Academy since 1961, brought together young delegates to discuss the role of athletes in society. The focus was on "The Athlete in Modern Society: Inspiring & Unity," participants Fostering with encouraged to promote Olympic Values and apply the knowledge gained to become effective ambassadors of Olympism upon returning to their home countries.



### Webinar – Safeguarding of Athletes: 11 June 2024, Online

Maldives participated in the Webinar on Safeguarding of Athletes, which focused on athlete protection, including mental health, abuse prevention, and creating safe environments for training and competition. The online session provided valuable resources and guidance for ensuring that athletes are supported in all aspects of their careers.

#### Extraordinary General Assembly: Jun 25, 2024, Malé, Maldives



The Maldives Olympic Committee (MOC) convened an Extraordinary General Assembly on June 25, 2024, to address the vacancy in the Vice President position, which had been open since March 2024. During the Assembly, Ahmed Munthaqim, the sole candidate for the role, was elected as the new Vice President. The Assembly also served as a platform to reaffirm the MOC's commitment to fostering sports development across the nation, emphasizing collaborative efforts to advance the Olympic Movement in the Maldives. The proceedings concluded with the national anthem, symbolizing unity and marking the start of a new chapter under Munthaqim's vice presidency, as the MOC continues to build on its mission of promoting excellence in sports.

### Certificate 1 in Sports Media and Marketing: 30 Jun to 4 July 2024, Malè, Maldives

The Certificate 1 in Sports Media and Marketing, conducted from June 30 to July 4 in collaboration with the Ministry of Sports, Fitness and Recreation, provided foundational training for 14 participants from NSAs. The course covered key areas such as Introduction to Sports Communication, Basics of Sports Writing, Characteristics of Media (with focus on emerging trends like mobile journalism and digital Media), Basics of Audio Production, and Sports Communication and Marketing, highlighting the application of content creation in marketing. The program featured insights from Nashon Owana, a Kenyan sports researcher based in Seoul, South Korea, with a Master's in Global Sports Management from Seoul National University and bachelor's in Broadcast Journalism from United States International University in Africa.

#### OCA Elective General Assembly 8 September 2024, New Delhi, India

On 8 September 2024, President Mohamed Abdul Sattar represented the Maldives at the OCA Elective General Assembly in New Delhi, India. The Assembly was a pivotal event in which leadership elections for the OCA took place, determining key positions for the future direction of the OCA. In addition to the elections, the Assembly featured important discussions on governance within Olympic Sports, which focused enhancing on transparency, accountability, and best practices across NOCs. strengthening Another key theme was relationships between NOCs, fostering greater cooperation among Asian countries, and ensuring a unified approach to promoting Olympic Values. The assembly also addressed strategies for promoting and spreading Olympic ideals throughout Asia, with a focus on increasing participation in sports and creating opportunities for athletes across the continent.



#### CGF Asia/Oceania Regional Meeting 22-23 September 2024, Crossroads, Maldives



The CGF Asia/Oceania Regional Meeting, held at Crossroads in the Maldives on 22-23 September 2024, brought together representatives from Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) member countries across Asia and Oceania. The meeting provided a platform for in-depth discussions on regional sports development, with a focus on improving sports infrastructure, enhancing collaboration between member nations, and preparing for upcoming Commonwealth Games.



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Delegates explored strategies to overcome shared challenges and create opportunities for greater cooperation within the region, aiming to raise the standards of sports across the Asia/Oceania region. The event was also a significant opportunity for networking, allowing countries to share best practices, align priorities, and develop a unified vision for future sporting initiatives.

The meeting also highlighted the Maldives as a capable host for such significant regional gatherings. Hosting this important event allowed the country to contribute to the regional dialogue on sports development and foster connections among Commonwealth nations. The setting at Crossroads provided an ideal environment for meaningful discussions, further affirming the Maldives' growing role in facilitating global and regional sports initiatives.

### Seoul Olympic Legacy Forum 21-24 October 2024, Seoul, South Korea

Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed participated in the Seoul Olympic Legacy Forum, held from 21-24 October 2024 in Seoul, South Korea. The forum focused on the long-term impacts that hosting the Olympic Games can have on a city and its region. With a focus on sustainable development, the discussions delved into how cities can effectively leverage Olympic infrastructure and legacy projects to boost not only sports but also tourism, economic growth, and social cohesion. Key topics included the strategic use of Olympic facilities post-Games, ways to ensure continued community engagement, and how to maintain the momentum of the Games through long-term urban planning. Participants also explored how the Olympic legacy can be used to foster youth engagement, improve access to sports, and drive economic revitalization in host cities. The insights shared at this forum offered valuable lessons on creating lasting benefits for future Olympic hosts, ensuring that the impact of the Games extends well beyond the immediate post-event period.

# 서울올림픽레거시포럼 2024 SEOUL OLYMPIC LEGACY FORUM



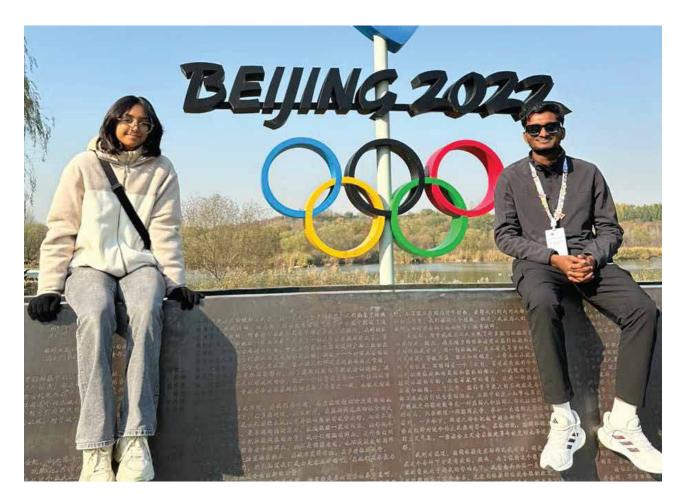


#### ANOC General Assembly 2024 28 October - 1 November 2024, Lisbon, Portugal

At the ANOC General Assembly 2024, held in Lisbon, Portugal from 28 October to I November, the Maldives was represented by President Mohamed Abdul Sattar and Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed. The Assembly focused on fostering greater collaboration among NOCs from across the globe. Specific focus was given to the future of the Games and how NOCs could leverage the growing global interest in sports for further development. The assembly also provided a platform for the Maldives to contribute to the broader conversation on strengthening the international sporting community, exploring ways in which smaller NOCs can increase their engagement with global initiatives, and benefit from emerging trends in sports governance and athlete welfare. This dialogue facilitated a deeper understanding of how sports could be more inclusive, sustainable, and accessible across regions.

#### Chinese Olympic Committee Youth Camp 3-8 November 2024, China

The Chinese Olympic Committee Youth Camp, held from 3-8 November 2024, provided Maldivian athletes Ahmed Hoodh Hassan (Athletics) and Masiha Ahmed Azeem (Badminton) with an unparalleled opportunity to develop both their athletic skills and personal growth. The camp combined expert coaching in their respective sports with an immersive educational experience focused on Olympic Values, including sportsmanship, respect, and excellence. Participants not only engaged in specialized training sessions but also took part in cultural exchange activities that allowed them to interact with young athletes from various countries. This cross-cultural exposure fostered a greater understanding of international sports communities and provided opportunities for building lasting friendships and networks.





#### Maldives Sports Development Plan Nov 28-Dec 2, 2024, Malé, Maldives

On November 28, 2024, the Maldives Ministry of Sports, Fitness, and Recreation, in collaboration with the Maldives Olympic Committee (MOC), launched the Maldives Sports Development Plan. This ambitious long-term roadmap is designed to elevate the country's sports sector, aiming to enhance both infrastructure and athlete development. The plan focuses on key areas such as inclusivity, talent nurturing, and improving sports facilities across the nation. The event was attended by various stakeholders who expressed strong support for the plan, recognizing its potential to transform the country's sports landscape. The plan includes initiatives to increase participation at all levels, train elite athletes, and build sports facilities that meet international standards. It is expected that this framework will provide a sustainable path for Maldivian athletes to compete effectively in regional and global competitions, targeting podium finishes.

#### OCA Safeguarding and PMC Seminar 4-6 December 2024, Bangko



The OCA Safeguarding and Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions (PMC) Seminar, held in Bangkok from 4–6 December 2024, addressed critical issues in athlete welfare, with a focus on safeguarding against abuse, promoting mental health, and preventing the manipulation of competitions. Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed, alongside MOC staff members Fathimath Ziyana, Mariyam Shaufa, and Ibrahim Shifaz, participated in the event.

Thamooh presented the MOC's Child Safeguarding Policy, highlighting the measures taken by the MOC to ensure the safety and well-being of young athletes. His presentation was part of the wider dialogue on creating safer environments for athletes, ensuring their protection from abuse, and addressing mental health challenges in sports. The seminar also featured a series of expert speakers, contributing to a comprehensive conversation about safeguarding practices, the importance of mental health, and the prevention of misconduct within the realm of sports. This initiative emphasized the need for sustained efforts to maintain integrity and well-being within sports organizations across Asia.

#### Athlete Career 365+ Workshop 13-14 December 2024, Male', Maldives

The Chinese Olympic Committee Youth Camp, held from 3-8 November 2024, provided Maldivian athletes Ahmed Hoodh Hassan (Athletics) and Masiha Ahmed Azeem (Badminton) with an unparalleled opportunity to develop both their athletic skills and personal growth. The camp combined expert coaching in their respective sports with an immersive educational experience focused on Olympic Values, including sportsmanship, respect, and excellence. Participants not only engaged in specialized training sessions but also took part in cultural exchange activities that allowed them to interact with young athletes from various countries. This cross-cultural exposure fostered areater a understanding of international sports communities and provided opportunities for building lasting friendships and networks.



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#### ISSA General Assembly 16-18 December 2024, Tirana, Albania

President Mohamed Abdul Sattar and Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed attended the Islamic Solidarity Sports Association (ISSA) General Assembly in Tirana, Albania. The Assembly focused on enhancing sports development across member countries of the ISSA, with particular emphasis on strengthening the competitive landscape and fostering solidarity through sports. During the Assembly, discussions revolved around expanding participation in various sports, enhancing collaboration between Islamic countries, and improving the infrastructure for sports competitions. The gathering also served as an opportunity to deepen relationships between member nations and explore ways in which the ISSA could continue to support the growth of sports across the Islamic world, fostering cooperation and sharing best practices to help elevate sports standards within the region.



#### CIJ Meeting: 21-24 December, Mauritius

Secretary General Thamooh Ahmed Saeed represented the Maldives at the CIJ (Indian Ocean Island Games Federation) meeting held in Mauritius. A key discussion during the meeting was the reform of the CIJ Constitution, with a particular focus on addressing the governance structure of the federation. Additionally, there was deliberation on granting Mayotte the status of a voting member of CIJ, which would allow the island to have a more active role in decision-making processes within the federation.

### MANAGEMENT & HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The Management & Human Resource Development programs play a vital role in building the skills and competencies of sports administrators in the Maldives. These tailored programs offer training opportunities specifically designed to address the distinct needs of sports administrators, ensuring they can meet the dynamic challenges of the sector. A critical aspect of these initiatives is the availability of Diploma programs, which allow MOC and NSA staff members to pursue specialized education in relevant fields. Over the years, these programs have contributed significantly to the professional growth of MOC and NSA personnel.

The knowledge and skills gained through these courses enable staff members to enhance their individual capabilities, which in turn improves the overall operational efficiency of their respective organizations. This ongoing development is crucial for the continued advancement of the sports sector in the Maldives, ensuring that the country's sports administrators are well-equipped to meet the evolving demands of sports governance and management. These programs also foster a culture of knowledge exchange, promoting collaboration among administrators and enabling them to share best practices, further strengthening the administrative infrastructure of sports in the Maldives.

#### Master's Degree Program in Olympic Studies

As part of the ongoing development efforts, Mr. Mohamed Waheed, a basketball coach, was selected to participate in the Master's Degree Program in Olympic Studies, Olympic Education, Organization, and Management of Olympic Events. This program, held at the University of Peloponnese in Athens, Greece, is fully funded by Olympic Solidarity. The program focuses on the pillars of Education, Sport, and Culture, which are foundational to the Olympic Movement. Mr. Waheed has successfully completed the first semester, gaining insights into topics such as the historical evolution of sports, Olympic ethics, pedagogy, and research methods. His continued participation in this program is expected to contribute significantly to sports development in the Maldives, aligning with the broader goals of the Olympic Movement.

### MANAGEMENT & HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

first module of the program, held in Olympia, Greece, and will continue through the remaining modules to fulfill the program's requirements. The insights and expertise gained from MEMOS are expected to have a positive impact on both the MOC and the wider sports community. The program's focus on strategic planning, resource management, and organizational governance will enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of sports management in the Maldives. MEMOS' strong international reputation further highlights its value in developing highly skilled sports managers and advancing the overall professionalism of the sector.

# POSTPONED GAMES



<sup>6</sup> Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games Bangkok – Chonburi

#### 4th Asian Indoor and Martial Art Games

The 2021 Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games (AIMAG), originally set to take place from 21 to 30 May 2021 in Bangkok and Chonburi, faced several delays due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The event was first postponed to November 2023, but continued challenges, including travel restrictions and health concerns, prompted further delays. Ultimately, after multiple postponements, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) made the decision to cancel the Games in 2024.

The cancellation was primarily due to the Thai Organizing Committee's failure to meet key requirements for hosting the event. These included infrastructure issues and an insufficient budget, which were not resolved by the final deadline. The OCA's Executive Committee unanimously agreed to cancel the event after the organizing committee could not meet the necessary conditions for the Games. The next edition of the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games will be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in 2025.



### Lahore 14th South Asian Games

The 14th South Asian Games, initially slated scheduled for 2021 and later rescheduled to March 2024, faced repeated delays due to challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic and logistical issues. The Games are now provisionally set to take place in Pakistan from February 1–12,on October 2025, with Lahore and Islamabad serving as the primary host cities. Additional events are expected to be held in Rawalpindi and Faisalabad. However, there remains a possibility of further rescheduling to November 2025, as proposed by the Pakistan Olympic Association (POA). This decision depends on ongoing consultations to ensure adequate preparation and seamless execution of the event.

# CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The year 2024 was a pivotal moment for the Maldives Olympic Committee, shaped by both progress and reflection. Notable milestones, such as Fathimath Dheema Ali's qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympics and the successful hosting of the Commonwealth Games Federation Regional Meeting, highlighted the continued commitment to elevating Maldivian sports on the global stage. These efforts, alongside a range of initiatives, reaffirm the ongoing focus on athlete development, governance, and fostering a competitive sports environment.

Throughout the year, challenges emerged, including the cancellation of key events and ongoing logistical complexities. However, these obstacles underscored the importance of perseverance and adaptability, as efforts were redirected toward enhancing the skills and capacity of athletes, coaches, and administrators through strategic programs like ICECP, ICC, and MEMOS. These initiatives have strengthened the foundation for the future, equipping individuals with the tools necessary for long-term success.

Community engagement remained a central focus, with programs such as Olympic Day and ongoing partnerships with organizations like the Bank of Maldives contributing to a healthier, more active nation. These collaborations were integral to ensuring that Maldivian athletes had the support they needed to excel on the international stage.

As the MOC looks toward the future, the focus will remain on refining governance structures, ensuring transparency, and laying the groundwork for sustained development in the sports sector. The lessons of 2024 will guide these efforts, keeping the commitment to growth and improvement at the forefront. The MOC extends its sincere gratitude to all partners and stakeholders for their continued support, as the spirit of Olympism continues to inspire and unite the nation.