

JJIF *Ju-Jitsu International Federation*

World Games Sport and Member of GAISF/AGFIS, IWGA, FISPT

The President

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To: **JJIF Member federations**
All others interested

Information from the President

New success in ju-jitsu world development!

African Union founded

Following the successful creation of our Asian federation in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in September 2005, we have now followed up by creating our JJIF Continental African federation.

In the morning of 7th January 2006 the **Ju-Jitsu African Union (JJAFU)** was formally founded at Johannesburg, South Africa, by the present JJIF African member countries. I had the honour and the pleasure of leading this historic meeting, which was conducted in a very positive atmosphere. With the help of our recently obtained sponsorship we had the possibility also here, as well as in Asia, of covering board and lodging expenses and to contribute to flight ticket costs for attending delegates, which needed support. From now on the African Union will play a very important and active role in the development of the JJIF together with our other continental unions.

The following leadership of the new JJIF Continental Union, the JJAFU, was unanimously elected:

President:	Mr Colane Tats Echidna (Cameroon)
Vice President:	Mr Sorad Mowlabucus (Mauritius)
Vice President:	Mr Ahmed Taha (Egypt)
Vice President:	Mr Peter Gernetzky (South Africa)
General Secretary:	Mrs Assomo Regine (Cameroun)
Assistant General Secretary:	Mr Tawfiq Jaunbocus (Mauritius)
Treasurer:	Mr Henry Holland (South Africa)
Public Relations Director:	Mr Mahendra Abelak (Mauritius)
Sports director:	Mr Peter Gernetzky (South Africa)

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In the afternoon of the same day, 7th January 2006, another historic event took place. In the presence of the Deputy Director of UNESCO Department for Sport and Education, Mr Marcellin Dally from the UNESCO Head Office at Paris, a sport cooperation conference was held at the Willow Park Conference Centre in Johannesburg. The conference continued also the following day.

Delegates from the five following sports were present: Beltwrestling, Jujitsu, Kurash, Sambo and Sumo. The present delegates unanimously decided to found a new sport body, the "African Confederation of Traditional Wrestling Sports (AFCTWS)". The aim of this pilot project of founding a continental confederation in Africa between combat sports is to get greater influence and a better base for obtaining future funding, support and sponsorship.

The project is strongly supported by UNESCO in line with its engagement in sport and education, especially for developing areas in the world. Certainly this will give a strong opportunity to have a broad based horizon for promoting these traditional wrestling sports and martial sports (arts) together.

Further it was decided to immediately apply for recognition from the ANOCA (Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa) by the new founded entity AFCTWS. At present the ANOCA Headquarters are located in Yaoundé, Cameroun, and as the newly elected president of our Ju-Jitsu African Union, Mr Colince Tatsa Tchinda is living in Yaoundé, he has promised to intensify his already started contacts with the ANOCA.

Mrs Suzette Bezuidenhout from Pretoria, South Africa, was unanimously elected as president of the confederation. The board also consists of a vice president from each of the five sports in the confederation. It was also taken a further initiative to work for having a possible joint first African Championships together for the five cooperating sports in the confederation under the patronage of UNESCO and also some great African personality and leader.

In my capacity as the president of the JJIF I heartily wish both the new Ju-Jitsu African Union and the African Confederation of Traditional Wrestling Sports all good luck for the future development and the greatest possible success!

Yours sincerely

JJIF

Dr Paul G Hoglund

President

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