



Press Release – Sal 2019 African Beach Games – 1 Year to Go

On Thursday June 14, the Sal 2019 Organising Committee (COJAP) in the presence of his Excellency, José Ulisses de Pina Correia e Silva, Prime Minister of the Republic of Cabo Verde held a fun-packed day to celebrate 1 year to go until the island of Sal welcomes the best African athletes to its shores for the 1st African Beach Games.

The celebrations began with over 150 children taking part in sports and dance demonstrations to display the best of Cabo Verdean dance and music and to provide a glimpse of some of the sports scheduled to take place during the Games in 1 years' time.

The Sal 2019 Mascot, Kretxeu, (pronounced Kret-cho in the local Creole dialect and meaning “loved one”) made a surprise appearance. The children and the gathered crowd rushed to the seashore to greet the mascot as he arrived by boat. Kretxeu, is a loggerhead turtle which Cabo Verde is famous for and which has recently been protected by law, joined in the fun and games and showed off his spectacular dance moves.

Following the activities at the beach, the CEO of the Organising Committee, Yann Craven, presented to members of government, prominent local and international business leaders and the media an overview of the plans for the Games.

During the presentation, the sport programme for the Sal 2019 African Beach Games was unveiled. 11 Sports have been determined to take place in 4 arenas over 9 days of competition including, Beach Soccer, Beach Handball, Beach Volleyball, Beach Tennis, 3x3 Basketball, Karate Kata, Freestyle Football, Kiteboarding, Coastal Rowing , Open Water Swimming and Athletics.

The Acting-President of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA), Mr Mustapha Berraf, made a brief speech expressing his happiness with the preparations for the Games at this stage.

The event concluded with a closing speech by his Excellency the Prime Minister, reiterating his and the governments full support for the Games and highlighting the importance that they hold for Cabo Verde.

The COJAP wants to thank the event partners – The Municipal Council of Sal, The Armed Forces, The Hilton Cabo Verde Sal Resort, TUI, Masterfruits, Emicela and Aguas Noa for their support in making the event a great success.

For further information, please contact info@sal2019.com