



**4-YEAR PLAN
2020-2023**

**COMPETITION
COMMISSION**

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4-Year Plan Summary

The Competition Commission's 4-Year plan focuses on WAS events, competition circuits and other events. In addition, this Plan also seeks to ensure the review of amongst others of the Competition Rules and Technical Rules and, as well as the related regulations, to contribute to keeping the sport relevant. This 4-Year Plan also provides the framework to coordinate work within the multiverse of athletics, which include World Athletics, Member Federations, Area Associations, athletes and many other key stakeholders of the sport.

World Athletics Strategic Plan 2020-2023

The World Athletics Strategic Plan 2020-2023 was developed and signed off by the Executive Board and approved by the Council in June 2020.

The overarching vision and the purpose of the Strategic Plan is to grow the whole of our sport. We have unique and enviable global attributes as a sport – talented and driven athletes on every continent; an operational presence in 214 countries (although it should be recognised that our Member Federations span a wide scale of operational capacity, skill and resource); knowledge, experience and connections across cultures and social groups and a product with history and tradition whose stars have become household names. We are the number one Olympic sport but also the most universally participated in sport, with equal numbers of men and woman of all ages using our sport to maintain fitness and vitality.

The Strategic Plan sets out how we will capitalise on these attributes and our assets and details our approach, vision, mission and strategic goals over the next 4 years. It is available to access [here](#).

Our Mission is to Grow, Inspire and Lead.

The Competition Commission is central in the mission to Inspire and “create globally appealing and accessible competitions, events and activities so our talented athletes can entertain and inspire the world”. The Commission plays a key role in providing Council with expertise and advice to keep the sport interesting, relevant and engaging at all levels.

Competition Commission Objectives

The objectives of the Competition Commission are to review and formulate recommendations to Council on the following, among other things:

- a. The competition programme, format and qualification system for World Athletics Series (WAS) events, and for the Athletics events at Olympic and Youth Olympic Games;
- b. The annual and multi-year global calendar for International Competitions;
- c. The programmes for World Athletics competitions, including One Day meeting circuits, Road Race Labels, and Challenges;
- d. The World Ranking system;
- e. The competition-related aspects of Bids, and once selected, of local organising committees, for WAS Competitions;
- f. The development of a policy for the education, certification and appointment of International Officials (e.g., Technical Delegates and International Technical Officials) setting

out the process for seeking persons to be appointed as International Officials and the process for deciding who it will recommend to Council.

- g. The World Athletics Certifications Programme (e.g., for **track** facilities, track surface products, competition equipment);
- h. The formats, qualifications and criteria for the Athletics competitions staged by organisations in which World Athletics holds an interest or is otherwise associated such as the Diamond League;
- i. The relationship with World Masters Athletics, World Mountain Running Association, International Association of Ultrarunners, International Trail Running Association and Association of International Marathons & Distance Races; and
- j. The Competition and Technical Rules of Athletics, as well as related regulations.

Projected Time Frames

A. Competition programme, format and qualification system for World Athletics Series (WAS) events, and for the Athletics events at Olympic and Youth Olympic Games.

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approve the quota and qualification system for XC at Olympics and Race Walking strategy - Review the qualification system for Nanjing 2021 and Oregon22 - Propose new ways to make our events more appealing (i.e. Aggregated Road Championships) - Aggregated Road resp. Off Road Championships - Review the Prize Money structure - Review the Athletes' Quota for WAS Events - Review all items that need to go to Council (Timetables, qualifications systems, officials) - Review WAS portfolio and make recommendations - Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations 	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning, Sports Services & Competition) Athletes' Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broadcasters - Partners - Brands - Athletes - IOC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brands - Broadcasters - Partners - Athletes - IOC - Athletes Reps - MFs - LOCs - All communities (Road Running, Race Walk, Technical, Cross Country)
Phase 2 – 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review WAS portfolio and make recommendations - Mass participation at all WAS events - Review timetable principles - Review all items that need to go to Council (Timetables, 	Same as above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broadcasters - Partners - Brands - Athletes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brands - Broadcasters - Partners - Athletes - Athletes Reps - MFs

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> qualifications systems, officials) -Propose new ways to make our events more appealing (i.e. Aggregated Off Road Championships) -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations 			- LOCs
Phase 3 – 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review WAS portfolio and make recommendations -Review all items that need to go to Council (Timetables, qualifications systems, officials) -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 4 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review all items that need to go to Council (Timetables, qualifications systems, officials) -Propose a programme to stay #1 at Olympic Games 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

B. Annual and multi-year global calendar for International Competitions

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure National Championships dates are respected -Monitor global calendar to ensure no clash 	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning & Sports Services) MFs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MFs - Broadcasters - Partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MFs - Other IFs - ASOIF - Broadcasters - Partners
Phase 2 – 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the overall dates of the WAS to ensure right timings -Ensure National Championships dates are respected -Monitor global calendar to ensure no clash 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 3 – 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure National Championships dates are respected -Monitor global calendar to ensure no clash 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 4 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure National Championships dates are respected -Monitor global calendar to ensure no clash 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

C. Programmes for World Athletics competitions, including One Day meeting circuits, Road Race Labels, and Challenges

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the pathway to the WAS -Review the Road Running Circuit and implement a Pro-Running Board -Label Programme 2021 -WIT structure -Review the Off Road Running Circuit -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations 	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning & Sports Services) MFs Athletes' Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DL meetings - CT Meetings - RR Labels - Marathon Majors - Challenges - MFs - Athletes Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other IFs - DL meetings - CT Meetings - RR Labels - Marathon Majors - Challenges - MFs - Athletes - All communities (Road Running, Race Walk, Technical, Cross Country)
Phase 2 – 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the Diamond League and Continental Tour structures and programmes -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 3 – 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Propose new formats for one day circuits 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 4 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Propose new formats for one day circuits 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

D. World Ranking system

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the strategy of qualifications to create new narratives 	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Athletes - MFs - Athletes Representative - Areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other IFs - Athletes - MFs - Areas - Meet directors

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
		& Sports Services) Communications Department (Director) MFs Athletes' Commission		- Broadcasters - All communities (Road Running, Race Walk, Technical, Cross Country)
Phase 2 – 2021	-Ensure World Rankings is used as a promotional tool for the sport to gain more fans	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 3 – 2022	-Monitor the World Ranking System	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 4 – 2023	-Monitor the World Ranking System	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

E. Competition-related aspects of Bids, and once selected, of local organising committees, for WAS Competitions

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	-Review ways to better engage with bidders -Review bids and make recommendations -Review better budget monitoring of LOCs (i.e. delivery fee) -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead & Strategic Planning) International Relations & Development Department (Director) Communications Department (Director) MFs Athletes' Commission	- Broadcasters - Commercial - MFs - Athletes - Cities	- Former LOCs - Other IFs - Broadcasters - Commercial - MFs - Athletes - Cities
Phase 2 – 2021	-Review ways to better engage with LOCs -Review bids and make recommendations -Review the bidding criteria to ensure they are the right ones -Review ways to reduce budgets of LOC and WA	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
	-Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations			
Phase 3 – 2022	-Review ways to better engage with bidders -Review bids and make recommendations -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 4 – 2023	-Review ways to better engage with bidders -Review bids and make recommendations -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

F. Development of a policy for the education, certification and appointment of International Officials

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	-Review the appointment processes -Review the evaluation processes -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning & Competition) International Relations & Development Department (Director & Head) Development Commission MFs	- Development Commission - MFs	- Schools - Development Commission - MFs - Other IFs
Phase 2 – 2021	-Review the development programmes in order to grow the pool of officials -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 3 – 2022	-Review the development programmes in order to grow the pool of officials	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 4 – 2023	-Review the development programmes in order to grow the pool of officials	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

G. The World Athletics Certifications Programme

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the certification programme in order to become worldwide recognised -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations 	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning, Sports Services & Certification) MFs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surveyors - Stadium owners - Athletes - Manufacturers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surveyors - Stadium owners - Athletes - Manufacturers - MFs
Phase 2 – 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the certification system to grow WA revenues -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 3 – 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the certification system to grow WA revenues 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 4 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the certification system to grow WA revenues 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

H. Formats, qualifications and criteria for the Athletics competitions staged by organisations in which World Athletics holds an interest or is otherwise associated such as the Diamond League

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the pathways to enter international circuits from national level (i.e. World Rankings) 	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning & Sports Services) MFs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MFs - Meet directors - Broadcasters - Athletes' Commission - Brands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MFs - Meet directors - Athletes Representatives - Broadcasters - Athletes - Brands - All communities (Road Running, Race Walk, Technical, Cross Country)
Phase 2 – 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the role of the Athletes Representatives -Propose ways of working with brands to enhance representation of nationality at Circuits 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 3 – 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Propose new or revamped circuits to grow the sport 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

Phase 4 – 2023	-Propose new or revamped circuits to grow the sport	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
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I. Relationship with World Masters Athletics, World Mountain Running Association, International Association of Ultrarunners, International Trail Running Association and Association of International Marathons & Distance Races.

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	-Propose strategies with Masters, Trail and Road Running to grow the sport -Recommend a way to implement the strategies -Stakeholder relationship strategy -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning, Sports Services & Road Running)	- MFs - ITRA - WMA - WMRA - Areas - Label Races - AIU	- MFs - ITRA - WMA - WMRA - Areas - Label Races - AIU - All communities (Road Running, Race Walk, Technical, Cross Country)
Phase 2 – 2021	-Review and improve on the strategies -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 3 – 2022	-Review and improve on the strategies	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 4 – 2023	-Review and improve on the strategies	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

J The Competition and Technical Rules of Athletics, as well as related regulations.

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
Phase 1 – 2020	-Review the Rules (and related regulations) to find ways to modernise the sport -Review the use of technology to enhance and grow the sport -Proposal on continuous review of the rules by the Competition Commission -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations	Competition & Events Department (Director, Commission Lead, Strategic Planning, Sports Services & Technical) MFs	- MFs - Athletes' Commission - Broadcasters - Commercial	- MFs - Athletes - Broadcasters - Partners - All communities (Road Running, Race Walk, Technical, Cross Country)
Phase 2 – 2021	-Review the Rules (and related regulations) to find ways to modernise the sport	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

Timeline	Key Actions/ Milestones	Lead/ Contributors	Key Stakeholders	Consultation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the use of technology to enhance and grow the sport -Integrate sustainability plan in all recommendations 			
Phase 3 – 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the rule book to find ways to modernise the sport -Review the use of technology to enhance and grow the sport 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Phase 4 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the rule book to find ways to modernise the sport -Review the use of technology to enhance and grow the sport 	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above

Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting

The Competition Commission will review its progress against this Plan, as well the Plan's continued alignment with the World Athletics Strategic Plan, and, at least twice a year, report to Council at two of its meetings each year, typically in the Summer and at the November/ December meetings. The reports to Council will include the Commission's updated 4-Year Plan with any realignments against the World Athletics Strategic Plan, as well as its related appendices.

The Commission will also prepare a report on its activities to be incorporated into the Annual Council Report which is published and sent to Members for each Ordinary Congress, and in the year in between, by 31 July. This report will set out the activities of the Commission in the period covered by the Council report.



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