

Programme of the online conference

“Sports Governance Crisis and Sports Underdevelopment in Africa”

28 September 2021 | 03:00pm - 04:30pm (WAT, UTC+1)

PLAY!YA Nigeria in collaboration with the Premium Times Centre for Investigative Journalism (PTCIJ) and the human rights organisation HEDA Resource Centre hosts the conference “Sports Governance Crisis and Sports Underdevelopment in Africa” on 28 September 2021.

As the first of its kind, the online conference examines major structural problems of African sports. It links grassroots experiences and insights into international sports governance with broader social, political and economic realities to better understand the current challenges for sports development in Africa. It also explicitly examines the role of sports journalism in investigating and exposing systemic deficiencies.

Programme

- 03:00pm +++ **Welcome and introduction by moderator Ms Stephanie Adams-Douglas (PTCIJ)**
- 03:05pm +++ **Welcome remarks by Mr Lanre Suraju (HEDA Resource Centre) and Mr Dapo Olorunyomi (PTCIJ)**
- 03:15pm +++ **Opening remarks by Mr Sunday Akin Dare (Nigerian Minister of Youth and Sports)**
- 03:25pm +++ **Lead presentation by Mr Robert Kempe (freelance investigative sports journalist, Berlin, Germany)**
- 03:35pm +++ **Presentation by Mrs Ajayi Ruth (football coach, Lead City University Female Team, Ibadan, Nigeria)**
- 03:40pm +++ **Presentation by Mr Kayode Thomas (Editor-in-Chief, 234sportsng.com, Lagos, Nigeria)**
- 03:45pm +++ **Panel discussion with Mrs Ajayi Ruth, Mr Kayode Thomas and Mr Robert Kempe**
- 04:05pm +++ **Q&A session with online participants**
- 04:25pm +++ **Summary, outlook and closing remarks by Mr Eze Alloysius (PLAY!YA Nigeria)**

Technical details

- Venue: online (Zoom)
- Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/5arvypk4>

Note: Kindly register to receive the access information for the online conference.

This conference is a follow-up to the workshop on investigative sports reporting in Nigeria organised by HEDA Resource Centre and PLAY!YA Nigeria (Abuja, March 2020 - see [final communique](#)).

Please visit the next page for profiles of the resource persons and organisations involved.

Moderator

Mrs Stephanie Adams-Douglas

is a Programme Officer at the [Premium Times Centre for Investigative Journalism \(PTCIJ\)](#).

Resource persons

Mrs Ajayi Ruth

is the coach of the [Lead City University](#) female football team in Ibadan. Ruth worked with the Oyo State football club during her trainer education. She completed her Diploma in Educational Management at the University of Ibadan and proceeded to the Lead City University where she holds a Bachelor in Education. As ardent learner, she further holds a master's degree in Sociology and Psychology of Sports.

Mr Kayode Thomas

is the Editor-in-Chief of the Nigerian online newspaper [234sportsng.com](#). He is also a regular contributor to Premium Times, The Cable, Sahara Reporters and City Voice. Thomas began his career at The Guardian in 1996 and worked with This Day, The Comet, The Next and other Nigerian newspapers. In 2010, he was appointed SA Media & Strategies to Sports Minister Ibrahim Bio. In 2011 he set up the Investigation Desk of The Nation. From 2013 to 2017, he served as a board member of the Athletics Federation of Nigeria. Thomas is one of the most decorated reporters in Nigeria has won the prestigious CNN international African Journalist of the Year Award (for Sport Reporting) twice among other international recognition.

Mr Robert Kempe

is a freelance investigative journalist working for the German public broadcasters [ARD](#) (television) and [Deutschlandfunk](#) (radio). He frequently contributes to the weekly TV programme "[Sport Inside](#)", the first and only format in Germany concentrating solely on investigative sports reporting. Robert mainly focuses on international sports politics and governance including grand corruption within IOC, FIFA and other international sports federations. Due to his damning reports he has repeatedly been denied access to cover major sporting events in countries like Bahrain, Qatar and Russia.

Host organisations

[HEDA Resource Centre](#)

is a Lagos-based non-governmental organisation and non-partisan human rights and development league. HEDA Resource Centre conducts research, policy advocacy, training as well as citizens' awareness and mobilisation on core human development issues including agriculture, food security, climate change, human rights, public sector accountability and electoral reform process.

[PLAY!YA Nigeria](#)

is a Lagos-based non-governmental organisation supporting social development through sport, young people being the main focus and football the central tool. It works in areas like education and capacity building, peacebuilding and violence prevention, and environmental protection and sustainability.

[Premium Times Centre for Investigative Journalism \(PTCIJ\)](#)

is a non-governmental organisation, founded in 2014, to promote a truly independent media landscape that advances fundamental human rights, good governance and accountability in West Africa through investigative journalism, open data and civic technology.

Inquiries

Kindly contact Mr Eze Alloysius for any further questions: eze.alloysius@playya.org