



INDEPENDENT FORUM OF COMMONWEALTH ORGANISATIONS
COMMONWEALTH ORGANISATIONS WELCOME OPENING OF
COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN GLASGOW



Commonwealth Sport – image from the opening ceremony

Commonwealth Accredited Organisations today welcomed the opening of the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow by King Charles III, Head of the Commonwealth, celebrating a global community of friends and neighbours.

“The delivery of the Games is a triumph for Commonwealth Sport, the city of Glasgow and all of those involved after Melbourne pulled out 3 years ago, creating a logistical crisis”, said David N Jones, Chair of the Independent Forum of Commonwealth Organisations (IFCO).

David congratulated Commonwealth Sport and all involved, saying: “The Friendly Games will showcase the reality of a Commonwealth of peoples, with enthusiastic participation from 74 Commonwealth countries and territories. At a time of growing international tension, it is encouraging and heart-warming to welcome a festival of friendly sport and positive co-operation. This bodes well for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Antigua and Barbuda in November, when Commonwealth governments, civil society organisations and others who support the Commonwealth will gather to review progress since Samoa 2024 and plan the next stage of the Commonwealth journey.”

IFCO also welcomed the outcome of the meeting of the 12th Commonwealth Sports Ministers Meeting in Glasgow, which agreed to increase cooperation on sport and to bolster access to funding for development and peace.

The ministerial meeting concluded with the adoption of an ambitious [outcome statement](#), reaffirming ministers’ shared commitment to leverage sport to promote inclusion, sustainable development and stronger cooperation across the Commonwealth.

“In a world of increased conflict and tension”, David N Jones (IFCO Chair) concluded “let’s celebrate the power of sport to bind people in a common pursuit and a shared global endeavour, working to support peace and flourishing communities”.

ENDS



ABOUT IFCO

The Commonwealth ecosystem includes 103 [Accredited Organisations](#) (AOs) representing a wide range of professional organisations (accountants, architects, doctors, lawyers, nurses, planners, social workers, etc.), academic institutes (e.g Institute of Commonwealth Studies), civil society groups (e.g. ageing, disability, faith, human rights) and other groups. The Independent Forum of Commonwealth Organisations (IFCO) is the umbrella group for AOs. IFCO emerged around 2016 and has become increasingly formal in structure with a relaunch in 2026 including a new constitution and a new Steering Committee. IFCO is sustained on a voluntary basis, providing mutual support to Commonwealth Accredited Organisations and the Commonwealth ecosystem.

ABOUT COMMONWEALTH SPORT

[Commonwealth Sport](#), the Organising Committee for the Commonwealth Games, is a Commonwealth Accredited Organisation and active contributor to IFCO activity.

[Report of the opening ceremony](#)

CONTACT

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This press release is available on the IFCO [website](#).