

***Nairobi, Kenya, February 20 (Infosplusgabon) - Rio Olympics 5000m women silver medallist Hellen Obiri is among athletes picked by Athletics Kenya (AK) to represent the country at the 17th IAAF World Indoor Championships in Birmingham, United Kingdom, next month.***

The event is set for 2-4 March 2018. Releasing the names on Monday, AK said the team comprises seven athletes and three officials.

Obiri, 28, is also the reigning 5000m World Champion. She struck gold at the 2017 IAAF World Championships in London.

Also making the team is Margaret Nyairera, a women's 800m bronze medallist at the Rio Olympic Games. Nyairera also won a bronze in 800m at the 2016 World Championship in Portland, Oregon, USA.

The men's team includes Bethwell Birgen, 29, a middle distance runner who boasts a personal best of 3:30.77 minutes for the 1500 event.

Full team: Women- Hellen Obiri, Beatrice Chepkoech and Margaret Nyairera. Men - Bethwel Birgen, Davis Kiplagat, Vincent Kibet and Emmanuel Korir.

Officials - Daniel Pyaban, William Tanui, Josephine Teeka Seneiya /

Meanwhile, Kenya's Diana Kipyokei established a Mexican all-comers' record of 1:10:00 to win the 32nd Guadalajara Half Marathon, while John Mwangangi took the men's title at the IAAF Bronze Label road race on Sunday, according to the IAAF.

With temperatures hovering at about 13C, 24-year old Kipyokei set out an aggressive pace from the beginning, covering the first part of the race at 3:20-per-kilometre pace.

Having passed through five kilometres in 16:09 and 10 kilometres in 32:19, she went on to stretch her advantage to about 700 metres by the end, eventually winning in 1:10:00. Her time is the fastest half marathon ever recorded on Mexican soil by a woman.

Ethiopia's Risper Biyaki (1:12:27) and Peru's Ines Melchor (1:12:32) were a distant second and third. Madai Perez, the fastest Latin American marathon runner in history, finished seventh in 1:13:31.

In the men's race, Mwangangi and the other leading contenders followed Mexico's 2011 Pan American Games medallist Juan Carlos Romero, who ran as a pacemaker and set the tempo at 3:00-per-kilometre for the first 10 kilometres of the race.

Mwangangi, fellow Kenyan Rhonzas Kilimo and Ethiopia's Dawit Fikadu increased the tempo and found themselves alone in front shortly after 13 kilometres.

Four kilometres later, Nwangangi briefly lost contact with the leaders, but regained his pace and bided his time to finish strong and overtake Kilimo by one second to win in 1:03:49. Fiduka finished third in 1:03:53. Jesus Armando Torres was the first Mexican home in fifth with 1:05:16.

© Copyright Infosplusgabon