

***NAIROBI, Kenya, September 7 (Infosplusgabon) - National Olympic Committee of Kenya (NOCK) chairman Kipchoge Keino says he will not stand for re-election during the General Assembly in Nairobi on 29 September.***

The former middle distance runner, is a double Olympic gold medallist. He has been at the helm of NOCK since 1999 when he took over from Charles Mukora, who resigned following the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics bribery scandal.

Keino, 77, and generally known as Kip, told the press during the committee's extraordinary meeting in Nairobi on Thursday that he believes it is time to hand over the baton to someone else.

Keino, one of the most respected sports administrators in the country, is however, bowing out at time when his image is tainted by the 2016 Olympic scandal which saw four NOCK officials arrested and charged in court with stealing uniforms and mismanaging Kenyan sportsmen in Rio.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) also suspended funding for sport in Kenya earlier in the year after NOCK failed to hold their elections on 5 May.

With Keino opting out, former world marathon record holder Paul Tergat becomes the sole candidate for the chairman's seat.

Tergat, a former five-time World Cross Country champion, a Major in the Kenya Air Force, is also chairman of the Kenya Academy of Sports.

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