



United Nations Games Opening Ceremony

April 2, 2025

Conference Room 4 | 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

RSVP here [bit.ly/UN Games Opening](https://bit.ly/UN_Games_Opening)

4:00 PM – Arrival & Seating

- Guests, dignitaries, and athletes take their seats.
- Video presentation showcasing highlights from the 2024 Games.

4:10 PM – Welcome Address

- **Master of Ceremonies:** Representative of the United Nations Games Secretariat Mr. Graciano Gaillard.
- **Opening Remarks:**
 - **H.E. Ms. Rosemarie McClean, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General, UNJSPF;**
 - **H.E. Mrs. Aksoltan Ataeva, Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations** (Chair of the UN Games Organizing Committee).

4:30 PM – Keynote Speeches (Theme: "*Sports Diplomacy for Peace, Trust & Unity*").

Co-Chair of the Group of Friends of Sport for Sustainable Development

- **H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Qatar to the United Nations.**

Special Guests

- Remarks by **Mr. Albert Pujols**, professional baseball manager and sports legend, Ambassador of the United Nations Games.
- Remarks by **Mr. Manny Pacquiao**, one of the greatest boxing champions in history, the Philippines' sporting hero.
- Remarks by **Mr. Tunde Onakoya**, Nigerian chess player, Guinness World Record holder, founder of the Founder of Chess in the Slums Africa and Global Ambassador for The Gift of Chess.

Organizing Committee Members (*ordered alphabetically and by the level, time limit: 2-3 minutes*)

- **H.E. Mr. Parvathaneni Harish**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations;
- **H.E. Mr. Kairat Umarov**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations;
- **H.E. Mr. Antonio Manuel Revilla Lagdameo**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations;
- **H.E. Dr. Fatumanava-o-Upolu III Pa'olelei Luteru**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Samoa to the United Nations;
- **H.E. Mr. Jonibek Hikmat**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations;
- **H.E. Mr. Dmitry S. Chumakov**, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations.

United Nations Member States

- **H.E. Mr. Abakar Mouctar**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Chad to the United Nations;
- **H.E. Mr. Jaime Hermida Castillo**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations;
- **H.E. Mr. Sidi Mohamed Laghdaf**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to the United Nations
- **H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations;
- **H.E. Mr. Hari Prabowo**, Chargé d'affaires, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations.

FLOOR WOULD BE OPEN FOR FURTHER STATEMENTS

5:05 PM – Athlete's Oath

- **Athlete's Oath** to be read out by Milana Yarashuk, Junior Tennis Champion, UN Games 2024.

5:20 PM – Closing Remarks & Official Opening

- Closing message by moderator.
- Official declaration: *"The United Nations Games 2025 are officially open!"*

Special Guests Biographies

Mr. Albert Pujols

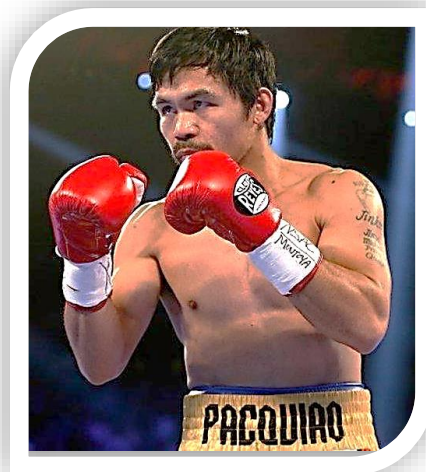
José Alberto Pujols Alcántara is a Dominican professional baseball manager and former first baseman and designated hitter who is the manager of the Leones del Escogido of the Dominican Professional Baseball League. He played 22 seasons in Major League Baseball (MLB) for the St. Louis Cardinals, Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim / Los Angeles Angels, and Los Angeles Dodgers. Nicknamed "the Machine" (Spanish: La Máquina), Pujols is considered to be one of the greatest baseball players of all time.



Mr. Manny Pacquiao (by VTC)

Emmanuel Dapidran Pacquiao Sr. is a politician, businessman, and former professional boxer from Philippines. Nicknamed "PacMan", he is widely regarded as one of the greatest professional boxers of all time. He previously served as a senator of the Philippines from 2016 to 2022.

Pacquiao is the only eight-division world champion in the history of boxing and has won twelve major world titles. He won the lineal championship in four different weight classes (flyweight, featherweight, super featherweight, super lightweight), the first boxer to win major world titles in four of the eight "glamour divisions" (flyweight, featherweight, lightweight, and welterweight), and is the only boxer to hold world championships across four decades (1990s, 2000s, 2010s, and 2020s).



Mr. Tunde Onakoya

Nigerian chess player and coach, who holds the Guinness World Records for the longest marathon chess game. As the founder of Chess in Slums Africa, he has organised a number of interventions for children across slums in Lagos state including Majidun (Ikorodu), Makoko and recently, Oshodi.

