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Story Headline: Syrian refugee Rami Anis selected for Refugee Olympic Team at Olympic Games Rio 2016

Date: 3 June 2016
Place: Ghent, Belgium
SHOT LOG & transcripts of sound bites:

Shot of Rami Anis stretching outside before training.

Wide shot of Rami Anis stretching before training.

Close up of Rami Anis stretching before training.

Shot of Rami Anis poolside putting on his goggles and swim cap.

Close up shot of Rami Anis with his swim cap and goggles on.

Shot of Rami Anis diving into the pool.

Underwater shot of Rami Anis diving into the pool.

SOUND BITE Rami Anis, refugee athlete (English language):
“I’m very excited because I will see the big swimmer Michael Phelps in there and I am very proud.”

Underwater shot of Rami Anis swimming.

Shot of Rami Anis swimming towards the camera and back the other way.

Close up shot of Rami Anis in the water.

SOUND BITE Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):
English translation: “When it comes to sport there is no difference
between a refugee or a Syrian. When it comes to sport, you just have to compete to be at the top.”

Tracking shot of Rami Anis swimming.

Underwater shot of Rami Anis swimming.

**SOUND BITE** Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):
**English translation:** “It's going to be a very strange feeling especially as it is the first time that I will compete in the Olympic Games and I know that all eyes will be focused on that team.”

Shot of Rami Anis at the end of the pool and swimming towards the camera.

Underwater shot of Rami Anis turning at the end of the pool.

**SOUND BITE** Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):
**English translation:** “I left Istanbul to Izmir and from there I took a rubber boat and crossed to Greece. From Greece we walked to Macedonia, then also we walked over the border with Serbia, and then Hungary, Austria, Germany then Belgium.”

Shot of Rami Anis jumping into the pool.

Underwater shot of Rami Anis swimming.

**SOUND BITE** Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):
**English translation:** “Of course we took a lot of bus transportation and travelled by train. The journey lasted 10 days for us to get to Izmir to Belgium. It was a very terrible experience. We could not get the right or proper food, we lived on fruits and juices. We were also not able to sleep as most of the time we had to cross the borders at night.”

Shot of Rami Anis swimming underwater.

Rami Anis speaking to his coach Carine Verbauwen.
Close up of Rami Anis in the pool.

**SOUND BITE** Carine Verbauwen, Rami Anis’ coach (English language):
“It’s a bit different than the other swimmers because he has another mentality – not better or worse, just different. He’s very stubborn, that’s good if you have a goal. So if he wants to do something he says ‘I’m going to do that’ whereas Belgians say ‘I’m going to try to do that’ and for me that’s the difference.”

Shot of Rami Anis getting out of the pool.

End

**EXTRA VIDEO CLIP**

**TITLE:** Syrian refugee, Rami Anis Extra sound bites. (Arabic Language with English Translation below)

**DURATION:** 3.47

**SOUND BITE** Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):
طブラيق الأولمبي للاجئيين فكره ميزة وواي السالة البيت يعطف مرسلاً هذا الشيء للعالم هل للاجئين؟

**QUESTION:** Is the refugee Olympic Team a good idea? What message does it send out to the World about Refugees?

**TRANSLATION:** “Of course I very much appreciate the support of the International Olympic Committee, this is very great event that I will be participate in. It gives a very good image to refugees around the world and I hope that in 2020 in Tokyo that there won't be any refugees in this world anymore, that everybody will be able to represent their own country; Syrians from Syria, Iraqis from Iraq and so forth.”

**SOUND BITE** Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):
QUESTION: Why was it difficult for you to continue training during the conflict in Syria?

In 2011 I left Syria because of the dangerous situation - there were a lot of bombings and it was very dangerous to stay there. I thought I could leave Syria for a month or two but unfortunately the war has taken quite a long time and we couldn't get back to our country.

SOUND BITE Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):

One of the ugliest things in this world is war. War is very terrible. In the beginning we did not know the meaning of this word until we got to live it. I had so many friends that I was not able to see anymore and I also had to be distant from my family. I couldn't find my friends as we got separated and everyone went to a different country so it was quite difficult for me to think about what had happened at that time and the things that I have been through.

SOUND BITE Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):

In 2011 I arrived in Turkey and I stayed in Turkey until 2015 and that's the time I left Turkey for Belgium.

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Page 4/7
QUESTION: What was life like for you in the refugee Camp did you have what you needed?

 أنا وصلت على بلجيكا سلمنا خلال 2015، افترقت على بيتي اتأت ما افترقت أتشرمر على كاسب تأمين لنا الحياة الطبيعية الطهاة المعينة الطبيعية كان متآننا ما نقتضينا شيء بين طبعا ما كنا نقدر نعمي أي شرعي حتى راجت الإقامة بعدي 3 شعور 4، أختمت الإقامة حتى قدرت على رادي ولاقته رادي الذي هو بسياني، ففي رادي معه، وتمت حيوي الطبيبي عيتأدور.

TRANSLATION: “I arrived in Belgium in October 2015. We had to then register with the commissioner and we were sent to refugee camps. We could get back to normal life during our stay in the camp, we could get proper food. I had to wait three to four months before I could finally get my papers here in Belgium and I was then looking for a club where I could continue my training. I found a club near the place where I stayed and my normal life resumed from then.”

SOUND BITE Rami Anis, refugee athlete (Arabic language):

أنت مبتعرف عن القرية الأولمبية ما هذا البلدان في هه الشريان بيني الجماعات وكلم خلفيات مختلفة للعالم عايشين سوا من سوا جام ما هي أعمية تشبيك للرياضة “حقوقة” إينافيلد، رامي الرجا، إنك تشول للعالم؟

Q. Tell us what you think about the Olympic Village is it a place where people live together in Harmony? How important is acceptance in life?

شاركت بالدورة الأسيوية بالصين كنا مستقرني بقريه قعدا بقريه رياضية طبغا شفنا 2010، أنا في ت كثير رياضيين من كنا جنسية مثل لا عيين من الصيني من اليابان كان شرو أنوبل يغبني تشبيكي رياضيي وسيا رياضيي العالم بمدد القرية راج وايمون النشاط ينضن القرية سالو رياضيي أفاضل رياضيي العالم ميتواجدين.

TRANSLATION: "In 2010 I went to China and I was in the Olympic Village and met a lot of athletes from different countries. From China, from Japan, from Thailand; it was very nice to be able to meet with these athletes because that will give you the sense of being also one of them."

End

EXTRA VIDEO CLIP
TITLE: Extra Soundbites Carine Verbauwen, Coach of Rami Anis (English Language)

DURATION: 3.31

SOUND BITE Carine Verbauwen, Rami Anis’ coach (English language):
QUESTION: How has not competing affected Rami’s training?
“and you really need competition to go forward to improve. If you don’t do meets you can not feel that you go better, you have no goal and that is very difficult to swim without a goal.”

SOUND BITE Carine Verbauwen, Rami Anis’ coach (English language):
QUESTION: What is Rami like personally?
“I see a very different Rami when he is with his family and his friends. He is there he is the joker, he is so loose he is always smiling and laughing. When he is in workouts he is always serious, he is very different he is very ambitious and i feel that.”

SOUND BITE Carine Verbauwen, Rami Anis’ coach (English language):
QUESTION: How good is Rami?
“He’s been to the World Championships and to the Asia Championships. He has done everything from his 16th and now that there is a war everything stops. So, I think that if there wasn't a war and he wouldn't have been a refugee he would have gone to the Olympics. Now being that there is a war and he is a refugee it is very good that he can go to the Olympics.”

SOUND BITE Carine Verbauwen, Rami Anis’ coach (English language):
QUESTION: How have you managed to help Rami?
“So, the first month when he came he could swim here for two hours and i heard after two weeks that he had to travel 6 hours to swim 2 hours. I said that is impossible what you do. so i asked a colleague of mine if he could stay over with him and so he could work out for a couple of days and then go back and come back again.”

SOUND BITE Carine Verbauwen, Rami Anis’ coach (English language):
QUESTION: How has Rami dealt with the problems he has had?
“So he stayed with me and we went house hunting every day. For three days, housing here in Ghent is so high that it was not possible plus for the
papers they asked it was really not possible. But he stayed always positive, he always said no don't worry it will be alright we will find something. I didn't sleep anymore the day before he had to leave the camp, I couldn't sleep. But he always said don't worry it will be alright. I couldn't understand it. Maybe that is their culture that that is not my culture."

**SOUND BITE** Carine Verbauwen, Rami Anis’ coach (English language):

QUESTION: What is your relationship like with Rami?

"It's not a trainer, swimmer relationship anymore its really different. It is for me...you know everybody has to have a good case in his life. You have to do something good in your life to deserve your heaven. I'm not catholic, but to deserve your heaven. He is the one, the case, that will get me my heaven."

End

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