



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

## Story script and Shot log

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### STORY HEADLINE:

Eritrean refugee Tachlowini Melake Gabriyesos selected for the IOC Refugee Olympic Team to compete in the Tokyo 2020 Games.

**DATE:** 8 June 2021

**LOCATION:** Israel

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Eritrea

**LANGUAGE:** Hebrew

**Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom:** <http://iocnewsroom.com>

### STORY SCRIPT:

Israel-based marathon runner Tachlowini Gabriyesos has been included in the IOC Refugee Olympic Team for Tokyo 2020.

He finally settled in Israel after a treacherous journey from Eritrea and faced extraordinary challenges to overcome: "My country didn't have any law enforcement," says Thachlowini. "It was very frightening to live there."

Tachlowini is one of 56 athletes supported by the IOC through the Olympic Solidarity Scholarship for Refugee Athletes programme. He has demonstrated his ability and versatility by competing in long distance track events and marathons in international championships.

"For me it's a great honour to represent refugees around the world and I'm very proud of it. There's a lot of talent in the world and a lot of kids who also have talent - it's important for them to know we can achieve our goals."

"I don't know what I would do without sport, it's giving me the power to understand the world."

The 29-member IOC Refugee Olympic team (EOR)\* initiative at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 is a continuation of the IOC's commitment to play its part in addressing the global refugee crisis, and another opportunity to continue to convey the message of solidarity and hope to millions of refugees and internally displaced athletes around the world.

*\*The IOC Refugee Olympic Team will compete in Tokyo under the French acronym EOR which stands for Equipe Olympique des Réfugiés.*

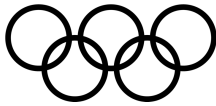
### SHOTLIST:

00:02 Thachlowini Gabriyesos walking towards camera arriving at training

00:08 Tachlowini greeting his coach

00:14 Tachlowini putting his bag down

00:18 Tachlowini tying his shoelaces



00:25 Tachlowini folding his UNHCR tracksuit top and placing it on his bag

**00:30 SOUNDBITE: Tachlowini Melake Gabriyesos, IOC Refugee Olympic Team (EOR), Athletics marathon (English Language)**

**Q.**

*"My journey was very long and challenging in the desert, no water, no food. It was very difficult to get through this period of time. And, you know, we have reached the point where we had nothing to eat or drink. This was a difficult time that is hard to forget."*

00:57 Wide shot of Tachlowini stretching

01:02 Tachlowini jogging away from camera

**01:06 SOUNDBITE: Tachlowini Melake Gabriyesos, IOC Refugee Olympic Team (EOR), Athletics 10,000m (English Language)**

**Q. What does sport mean to you?**

*"Sport for me is above all. Sport is freedom. It is the place I live in. It gives me lots of energy. It gives me lots of motivation to continue the way after, you know, it was not an easy time. And sport is the center of my life and this is what I love to do. This is something that is calming me down. It makes me feel good. It is something that I can describe in two sentences only. Running for me is above all and it is freedom."*

01:46 Wide shot of Tachlowini running towards the camera

01:56 Camera pan down at Tachlowini legs as he runs by

**02:03 SOUNDBITE: Tachlowini Melake Gabriyesos, IOC Refugee Olympic Team (EOR), Athletics 10,000m (English Language)**

**Q. How does competing in sport help you?**

*"Sport can help all refugees, and I am sure that each one of them went through the difficult time and the unpleasant experience. So, sport can clear your mind and help you encourage yourself and it allows you to be a little free, to be by yourself."*

02:29 Pull focus on Tachlowini legs as he runs by

02:33 Pan following Tachlowini as he runs pulling focus on his coach

**02:40 SOUNDBITE: Tachlowini Melake Gabriyesos, IOC Refugee Olympic Team (EOR), Athletics 10,000m (English Language)**

**Q. Can sport help all refugees?**

*"If sport can help refugees? So, yes. First, it can help them emotionally. Socially and emotionally. Refugees are by themselves, without their parents or family, all around the world. So, to meet new people is a self-treatment. And sport can help all refugees. It is freedom, in my opinion."*

03:14 Tachlowini warming down with stretches

03:20 Coach watching Tachlowini warm down

03:25 Close up of Tachlowini stretching

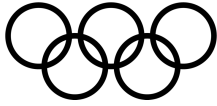
03:30 Camera pans up Tachlowini stretching

03:38 Wide shot of sun going down over the running track facility

03:42 Close up of the sun going down

-- ENDS --

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