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STORY HEADLINE: Swiss-based Eritrean refugee Luna Solomon picked for IOC Refugee Olympic Team for Tokyo 2020

DATE: 8 June 2021
LOCATION: Switzerland
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Eritrea
LANGUAGE: French
Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: http://iocnewsroom.com

STORY SCRIPT:
Eritrean refugee shooter Luna Solomon can set her sights on Olympic glory after being selected for the IOC Olympic Refugee Team for Tokyo 2020.

Luna has lived in Switzerland since 2015 after fleeing war-torn Eritrea, and is the proud mother to a small boy.

While living in Lausanne she met Niccolo Campriani, a three-time Olympic champion shooter, and became one of three refugees trained by him. Under his guidance, and training four times per week, Luna has reached the standards required to compete on the Olympic stage.

"In my country if you’re shooting it’s to kill someone,” Luna has said about her experiences in Eritrea. “We don’t use rifles for sport.”

From her refuge in Switzerland Luna has become one of 56 athletes supported by the IOC through the Olympic Solidarity Scholarship for Refugee Athlete programme. She now proudly becomes an Olympian, in the 10m air rifle event in Tokyo.

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 people 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:
00:00 Various camera shots of Luna Solomon walking

00:04 SOUNDBITE: Luna Solomon, IOC Refugee Olympic Team (EOR), Tokyo 2020, Shooting (10m air rifle) (English Language).
Q. How did you become a refugee?

“I left my country because there is no freedom there, there are no rights to work and make money and all that. That is why I left my country, anyway. It was very very hard, we crossed Sudan for about 2 weeks. We walked by foot. Then, we continued by bus until the big city of Sudan. It is called Khartoum. I also stayed there for 5 months-6 months. Then we started to cross Libya, through the desert and sea. From Italy, we started to travel, dark (dreadful) travel to Switzerland. That is how I reached Switzerland, I cried all the time, all the time. I could not stop crying, I couldn’t eat or drink.”

01:15 Camera tracks through shooting event arena
01:17 Luna being shown how to hold a rifle
01:19 Close up Luna looking at the rifle
01:22 Luna putting on a shooting jacket
01:25 Luna preparing herself and her rifle to shoot
01:30 Wide shot of Luna at the range
01:33 Close up of Luna hand picking out a pelet
01:35 Close up of Luna face
01:37 Camera looking down the barrel of Luna’s rifle
01:43 Wide shot of room full of competitors at standing at the range
01:45 Close up of scoreboard targets
01:48 Luna from behind, shooting
01:52 Close up of Luna’s face sighting the target
01:55 Close up of digital target monitor
01:58 Wide shot of Luna packing up
02:01 Luna smiling and walking away from the range
02:04 Luna looking at her paper target
02:07 Luna removing her shooting jacket

02:13 SOUNDBITE: Luna Solomon, IOC Refugee Olympic Team (EOR), Tokyo 2020, Shooting (10m air rifle) (English Language).

Q. What is your goal for the feature?

“I want us to help immigrants (women) like me, also to help people to be more courageous especially in shooting sports.”

02:27 Luna walking up to her apartment building
02:30 Luna standing at her kitchen sink
02:34 Luna cutting tomatoes
02:38 Close up of Luna face
02:43 Luna stirring a pot on the stove
02:46 Close up of food cooking in a pot
02:50 Wide shot of Luna in the kitchen

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