



PROCEDURES OF THE DRAW OF THE QUALIFIERS OF THE WOMEN AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS 2026

I. Engaged Teams : 38

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cap Vert, Chad, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mali, Malawi, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, RD Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Senegal, South Sudan, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia & Zimbabwe + Host country: Morocco (automatically qualified)

II. Qualifiers format:

The qualifiers should be composed of the following home and away rounds:

- 1st round composed of 32 teams. (The best 6 ranked teams according to the FIFA ranking are exempted from this round).
- 2nd round: the 16 qualified teams from the first round in addition to the 6 exempted teams will play the 2nd round. The 11 winning teams will qualify to the final tournament.

III. Ranking (FIFA Ranking):

- The 6 exempted teams are: Nigeria – South Africa – Zambia – Ghana – Cameroon – Cote d'Ivoire
- In the first round, the teams are split into 16 higher ranked and 16 less ranked.

A- Exempted teams: mentioned above

B- Highest ranked teams:

UNAF	: Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt
CECAFA	: Ethiopia
WAFU A	: Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Cape Verde, Sierra Leone
WAFU B	: Burkina Faso, Togo
UNIFFAC	: Equatorial Guinea, DR Congo, Congo
COSAFA	: Zimbabwe, Namibia

C- The 16 less ranked are:

UNAF	: None
CECAFA	: Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, South Sudan, Burundi, Rwanda, Djibouti
WAFU A	: Guinea
WAFU B	: Benin, Niger
UNIFFAC	: Gabon, Chad
COSAFA	: Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Eswatini



IV. Procedures of the draw:

In order to respect as much as possible the geographical factor, neighbouring zones are paired together as much as the number of teams allow it.

1st round:

Angola Botswana Malawi Eswatini Tanzania Uganda	Ethiopia Zimbabwe Namibia Eq. Guinea DR Congo Congo	Kenya South Sudan Burundi Rwanda Djibouti	Tunisia Algeria Egypt Burkina Faso Togo	Guinea Benin Niger Gabon Chad	Mali Senegal Gambia Cape Verde Sierra Leone
Pot 1: Less ranked from COSAFA & CECAFA	Pot 2: Higher ranked from CECAFA COSAFA & UNIFFAC	Pot 3: Less ranked from CECAFA	Pot 4: Higher ranked from UNAF & WAFU B	Pot 5: Less ranked from WAFU A/B & UNIFFAC	Pot 6: Higher ranked from WAFU A

- The 1st team drawn from pot 1 plays against the 1st team drawn from pot 2. The second leg is played in the territory of the teams of pot 2. This process is repeated 6 times.
- 1st team drawn from pot 3 plays against the 1st team drawn from pot 4. The second leg is played in the territory of the teams of pot 4. This process is repeated 5 times.
- The 1st team drawn from pot 5 plays against the 1st team drawn from pot 6. The second leg is played in the territory of the teams of pot 6. This process is repeated 5 times.

Matches:

1st round:

Matches 1 & 2: 1st teams drawn from pot 1 & 2
Matches 3 & 4: 2nd teams drawn from pot 1 & 2
Matches 5 & 6: 3rd teams drawn from pot 1 & 2
Matches 7 & 8: 4th teams drawn from pot 1 & 2
Matches 9 & 10: 5th teams drawn from pot 1 & 2
Matches 11 & 12: 6th teams drawn from pot 1 & 2
Matches 13 & 14: 1st teams drawn from pot 3 & 4
Matches 15 & 16: 2nd teams drawn from pot 3 & 4
Matches 17 & 18: 3rd teams drawn from pot 3 & 4
Matches 19 & 20: 4th teams drawn from pot 3 & 4
Matches 21 & 22: 5th teams drawn from pot 3 & 4
Matches 23 & 24: 1st teams drawn from pot 5 & 6
Matches 25 & 26: 2nd teams drawn from pot 5 & 6
Matches 27 & 28: 3rd teams drawn from pot 5 & 6
Matches 29 & 30: 4th teams drawn from pot 5 & 6
Matches 31 & 32: 5th teams drawn from pot 5 & 6

2nd round:

Matches 33 & 34: Winner 1/2 vs Winner 3/4
Matches 35 & 36: Winner 5/6 vs South Africa
Matches 37 & 38: Winner 7/8 vs Winner 9/10
Matches 39 & 40: Winner 11/12 vs Zambia
Match 41 & 42: Winner 13/14 vs Winner 15/16
Match 43 & 44: Winner 17/18 vs Cameroon
Match 45 & 46: Winner 19/20 vs Ghana
Match 47 & 48: Winner 21/22 vs Winner 23/24
Match 49 & 50: Winner 25/26 vs Nigeria
Match 51 & 52: Winner 27/28 vs Winner 29/30
Match 53 & 54: Winner 31/32 vs Cote d'Ivoire