WADA Education Committee
Meeting
6, 7, 8 April 2022

Meeting Outcomes

MEMBERS
Kady TOUNKARA (Chair)
Sian CLANCY (virtual)
Karri DAWSON
Erik DUIVEN
Mark HARRINGTON
Aditya KUMAR
Nina MAKUC
Leonardo Jose MATARUNA DOS SANTOS
Anna MGUNI
Agnes WANJIKU MANDU
Yaya YAMAMOTO (virtual)
Thierry ZINTZ

WADA
Amanda HUDSON (Director)
Supported by other members of the Education Department as per the Agenda
Erika ARMITANO (Administrator)

OBSERVERS
Liene KOZLOVSKA, Council of Europe (virtual)
Raluca PETRE-SANDOR, UNESCO (Apologies)

NOTE: A Joint meeting was held on 6 April and included all members of the Social Science Research Expert Advisory Group (SSREAG)

WADA’s Education Committee (Committee) met in-person on 6, 7 and 8 April 2022. The outcomes and key summary of agreements made by the Education Committee are outlined below.

1. The Education Committee Chair welcomed members and introduced the meeting, Agenda and shared news and observations since the last meeting.
2. The Education Committee warmly welcomed the appointment of a new member; Dr. Nina MAKUC (Slovenia).
3. The Committee welcomed the representative from the Council of Europe (Liene KOZLOVSKA) as an observer and valuable contributor to the meeting and accepted the apologies received from the UNESCO representative (Raluca PETRE-SANDOR).

4. At a joint meeting of the Social Science Research Expert Advisory Group (SSREAG) and the Committee was held on 6 April 2022, where an overview of the Social Science Research Grant Program (SSR Grant Program), launched on 14 October 2021 was presented by Rob Donovan, Chair of the SSREAG, including the recommendations for funding for the 2022 SSR Grant Program. The Committee acknowledged the work of the SSREAG to review the 65 applications received and the work done to raise awareness of the SSR Grant Program outside of Europe and North America regions which resulted in greater applications submitted by South America and Africa.

5. The Committee endorsed the recommendations for grant funding made by the SSREAG and agreed to the 12 research projects being submitted to the WADA Executive Committee for its formal approval at its May 2022 meeting.

6. Members maximized the time with the SSREAG by discussing SSR priorities and areas of interest with a list of topics identified for further discussion. This closed the joint meeting.

7. The Committee heard an update regarding WADA Commissioned research projects: Fonds de Recherche du Quebec (FRQ), International Academy of Sport Science and Technology (AISTS) and ADO Research Package review. As part of the WADA Strategic Plan 2020-2024, the key initiative regarding FRQ project will be to focus on impactful research and effectiveness of anti-doping programs to prevent intentional and unintentional doping.

8. The Committee was provided with an update on the measures being taken to assess Anti-Doping Organizations compliance with the International Standard for Education. Members were given an overview on the background of the CCQ and how signatories will be expected to experience the questionnaire, including the timelines for each Tier of ADO and how corrective actions are managed. It was highlighted that all Tiers of ADOs have education as a mandatory element to be compliant with under the Compliance program.

9. The Committee received an update on WADA’s activities and the Education Department activities since the last meeting.

10. The Committee explored the planning, logistics, and program for the 2022 Global Education Conference. Members praised the diversity and importance of the sessions, particularly the welcome day prior to the commencement of the conference and the innovation day thereafter. Members also reaffirmed the concept of shifting the objective of education to assist in the development of behaviours, as well as the importance of promoting and enhancing athlete presence at the Conference. Members also shared their affirmation for the need to provide an opportunity for regional sessions to enable those attending to discuss regional needs and challenges and asked WADA Education Department to proceed with this initiative.

11. The Committee was provided with plans for the education-supported sessions at the next WADA Symposium, which were well appreciated, particularly the plenary session on the compassionate approach to anti-doping.

12. The Committee heard an update regarding the Global Learning and Development Framework (GLDF) pilot program, including a summary of the initial feedback received from participants. Members who have participated in the GLDF
as a Technical Working Group member or as a Trainer have expressed their positive experiences and praised WADA for their commitment to supporting the technical development of anti-doping practitioners. Members acknowledged the surprising benefits/positive impacts of the COVID pandemic that have changed the initial delivery plan from an in-person to on-line delivery training. Members encouraged WADA Education Department to consider this a permanent change to facilitate global accessibility to training and sustainability of the GLDF as part of the evaluation process.

13. On the second day of the Committee meeting, members participated in facilitated sessions to discuss and propose ideas for strategic messaging related to education and a more captivating education narrative to improve the consistency of members and their interactions with stakeholders. Members requested a briefing sheet summarizing the key WADA Education initiatives to support them in the promotion of the Committee's activities and more widely WADA.

14. The Committee discussed and provided insights regarding the work done to date on the Education Strategy and agreed that the final draft should be shared at the Global Education Conference in September, for stakeholder feedback prior to the Committees formal endorsement and then formal approval by the WADA Executive Committee or equivalent.

15. The Committee heard an update on the Digital Learning activities, specifically the presentation of the ADEL: One Year on report, which was published on 10 March 2021. Members acknowledged the progress made in digital learning and congratulated the Education Department on the improvement made on ADEL since the launch in January 2021 and its global reach, noting that over 53k athletes had been educated in one year alone.

16. The Committee reviewed and approved the proposed Education Committee work plan for 2022. The Committee also agreed to maintain the working groups in order to take advantage of the knowledge and expertise of members.

17. In Hot Topics, Members shared their reflections about education related comments published as part of WADA's Independent Observer (IO) report from the Tokyo Games. They also raised concerns with the education provided to RTP athletes and requested if any additional help could be provided via ADEL, for example making the ADEL for RTP athletes education course available for Athlete Support Personnel, such as Agents/Managers who may have the role of completing an athlete’s whereabouts. Finally, members had a lengthy exchange on the challenges with educational messaging related to the use of nutritional supplements and whether it could be possible to harmonise such messages and for such messaging to be behavioural in nature providing greater consistency for athletes in how to manage the risks associated with supplement use.

18. The Committee was reminded of the next official meeting scheduled to take place at the Global Education Conference in Sydney, Australia, to be held on Monday 19 September 2022.