

Minutes of the Informal Meeting of the WADA Foundation Board, 8 February 2002, Salt Lake City

The meeting began at 10 a.m.

1. Welcome

THE CHAIRMAN welcomed the members to the ad hoc meeting of WADA's Foundation Board on the eve of the Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City. He also welcomed Dr Rogge, President of the IOC, thanking the President on behalf of WADA for the extremely strong and consistent support given to the objectives of WADA and to WADA itself. It was essential that the IOC be behind the fight against doping in sport as, without IOC support, WADA's efforts would be severely diminished.

DR ROGGE thanked the Chairman for his kind words. The IOC was totally committed to the fight against doping, and would give its full support to WADA.

WADA had evolved a great deal, and excellent developments had taken place. He particularly liked the decision to create regional branches of WADA.

The IOC's collaboration would be total and, politically, it would take the necessary actions advised by WADA.

There was a difficult challenge ahead for WADA regarding the harmonisation of regulations, and increased scientific research and education would be necessary.

He passed on apologies from the Prince de Merode, who had not been able to attend the meeting. Professor Ljungqvist would be chairing the IOC Medical Commission in the Prince's place.

He was happy that the Olympic Games in Salt Lake City would have a team of experienced observers, and reassured WADA of the IOC's total support of WADA activities.

THE CHAIRMAN thanked the IOC President, and presented him with a small souvenir from WADA.

2. Roll Call

THE CHAIRMAN noted that there were several new faces around the table.

The Prince de Merode had not been able to attend, and Dr Schamasch would be arriving to fill in for him as soon as he could; Mr Ricci Bitti was being represented by Mr Fasulo; he was glad to see Ms Di Centa again; Ms O'Neill was present at the meeting as an observer from the IOC Athletes' Commission; Mr Ctvrtlik was present in an official capacity; Mr Madden, from USADA, was attending; Mr Coderre had had his portfolio changed, and the new Secretary of State for amateur sport, Mr De Villers, had taken his place within WADA; Mr Kishida was being represented by Mr Takashi; he was glad to see Mr Rod Kemp, the Minister for Arts and Sport in Australia; Ms Donna De Varona was present, and he thanked her for all her help in the fight against doping in sport; Mr Mallard, the Minister for Sport in New Zealand, was also present, as was Ms Gigliotti, from the US State Department.

He hoped that the members would agree to him sending letters of thanks to Mr Coderre and Ms Kelly for their support and help of WADA in the formative stages.

MR CTVRTLIK noted that Mr Robert Houseman, the chief of staff for General McCaffrey, was present.

DECISION

Chairman to write letters of thanks to Mr Coderre and Ms Kelly for their considerable input to WADA.

3. WADA in Salt Lake City

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL thanked the IOC for supporting WADA in Salt Lake City. WADA was in Salt Lake City to perform three main functions: the WADA office, which was liaising with the

stakeholders and meeting the IFs and NOCs; the Awareness Campaign (which included the WADA Athlete Passport; and the Independent Observer Programme, represented by Mr Howman.

He was glad that WADA had been able to attend the Olympic Games to perform these functions.

– 3.1 Passport / E-learning Update

MR KOSS informed the members that the Athletes' Passport had been launched the previous day, and over 50 athletes had already signed up to be a part of the project.

He showed the members around the internet site, noting that it was extremely secure. The site included an athlete profile; a test history; a calendar, through which to track the daily location of athletes; a prohibited substances list, from the IOC as well as from each IF; links to the various IFs; and an athlete guide to the prohibited substances, written in six languages, as well as more information on each substance.

Athletes could sign up from a computer anywhere, but would need to go and verify their signatures in the Olympic Village, where they would receive a sticker and a paper passport.

The key part of the programme was that it was for clean athletes. The aim was for the athletes to sign up voluntarily.

The second part of the project involved the clearinghouse possibilities, and the third part would aim to involve haematological measures in relation to the possible availability of longitudinal studies online.

The E-learning project had also been launched the previous day. It was also accessible through the passport site, and was aimed at young children.

He thanked the European Commission for having contributed funding for the project, and hoped to continue the partnership.

The project had received a reasonably large amount of positive press the previous day.

He also thanked USADA for its partnership with regard to the passport project; the USADA passport was similar to the WADA passport.

MR CTVRTLIK complimented Mr Koss on having done a great job. The gift-giving idea was a good one, and gave the passport project a classy look.

Would any IOC results be on the site?

MR AJÁN said that the IWF had been one of the first IFs to issue an athletes' passport in 1995, and currently had over 7,000 athletes with passports. He wanted to know how the WADA passport would be distributed.

There was also a problem in that athletes sometimes did not take their passports with them to events. What could be done in such situations?

MR FASULO asked whether, during the signing-up process, there was an explanation given to the athletes regarding how their information would be used.

MR KOSS asked Professor Ljungqvist to reply to Mr Ctvrtlik's question regarding IOC test results online.

PROFESSOR LJUNGQVIST said that it was in the interests of the IOC to give WADA any information that might be needed. He would discuss the matter with the IOC.

MR KOSS thanked Mr Aján for his comments. With regard to the distribution of the passport, it was currently being done as a pilot project. WADA would like to work with the IFs and distribute the passport at international events if possible. The passport would be introduced at the Commonwealth Games and at the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004 for the summer IFs.

The IFs were crucial to the success of the programme.

The athletes could provide their passports to WADA to be signed if they had forgotten them for a particular test.

He told Mr Fasulo that there were many legal implications involved, but the athletes were made aware of the implications upon signing the agreement.

He thanked Mr Howman, the Passport Committee and all the staff involved in the project.

THE CHAIRMAN said, with regard to distribution of the passports, that WADA should be as opportunistic as possible and use the IFs and the NOCs and their respective events where possible to facilitate the distribution of passports.

Concerning the matter of athletes forgetting their passports, they would have to get used to carrying two passports when travelling.

He thanked Mr Koss for persisting and moving ahead with the idea. WADA was fortunate to have received EC funding for its E-learning project.

DECISIONS

1. Professor Ljungqvist to address the issue of providing IOC test results to WADA to be used in the passport project.
2. Passport/E-learning update approved.

– **3.2 Independent Observer Programme**

MR HOWMAN said that the Independent Observer team had undertaken a training course in Finland in December 2001. An Independent Observer office had been set up in Salt Lake City on 29 January, and the observers had been very busy in the task of observing all of the stages of the doping control process and the results management process, and then reporting to WADA. The report would be made available to the Executive Committee some time in April 2002, whereupon it would be made public.

THE CHAIRMAN noted that Mr Howman had been very successful in obtaining a much higher level of instant cooperation in Salt Lake City than had been the case in Sydney and congratulated him on this success.

DECISION

Independent Observer report approved.

4. Relocation / Staffing Report

MR NIGGLI referred the members to the report in their files (Annex).

MR DE VILLERS was happy to note, with regard to formalities, that the Canadian Government was in the process of satisfying the requests for more transparency and would be confirming all its financial and other commitments in the very near future.

THE CHAIRMAN said that he was reluctant to enter into any employment contracts or move anybody to Canada until everything was lined up. He would be grateful if the issue could be put on the front burner, with the front burner turned up.

MR DE VILLERS replied that such was the intention. There remained only formalities.

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL reported on the staffing of WADA (Annex).

DECISION

Relocation/staffing report approved.

5. Funding / IICGADS

THE CHAIRMAN said that Australia had paid its contribution to WADA for 2002.

SENATOR KEMP informed the Chairman that the funding issue had gone through all of the government processes in New Zealand, and the contribution would be made to WADA.

THE CHAIRMAN stressed that the matter of government financing was very serious, and he hoped that all of the governments would honour their commitment to getting their payments in. The WADA statutory requirement for payments was that they be made on 1 January 2002, but he understood that this had not been possible. He wished to know precisely when and how the government contributions would be made by the next meeting. The credibility of WADA would suffer drastically if the members were unable to honour the commitments made.

MR WALKER said that, in Europe, following Mrs Reding's speech at the Foundation Board meeting in December 2001, the contribution from the European region would be harmonised through the Council of Europe, using the scales of contributions used for dividing the portions between the 48 different countries.

There were ongoing discussions, both formal and informal, on a daily basis, and the committee of ministers had been examining the matter regularly. There were strong indications that the agreement for the continental share arrived at in Cape Town would be accepted by the member states, and that there would be contributions. He was confident that there would be a series of clear decisions by the end of the month or at the beginning of the following month.

MR DE VILLERS said that he was confident that the commitments made would be fulfilled, although at this point the details were still being worked out.

MR TAKASHI informed the Chairman that Japan was discussing the matter further with the relevant minister.

THE CHAIRMAN looked to Mr Takashi and Japan to coordinate all of Asia. He was counting on the governments, noting that the future of WADA depended very much on the government commitment to payment as well as participation.

MR REEDIE said that there was not unlimited time to collect the funds from a financial point of view. WADA was committed to delivering a very heavy programme, and the funds would be necessary.

MR VERBRUGGEN asked what the WADA Statutes said with regard to late payment or non-payment.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that the Statutes provided that, if members did not pay their share, they would no longer be allowed to sit around the table. He preferred, however, not to think of this as a voting matter: it was more important that all of the governments pay their share.

DECISION

Precise information on when and how the governments are to contribute to WADA to be provided at the next meeting.

6. Code Update

MR WADE informed the members that not a great deal had happened with regard to the Code since the previous meeting, but plans and activities were progressing well. He referred the members to the report in their files (Annex).

He had been honoured to present the Code to the IOC Athletes' Commission, and it had been well received.

MR KOSS said that the IOC Athletes' Commission was very committed to setting up a group of athletes to work on and review the WADA Code. The IOC had recommended to WADA that the group be under WADA's responsibility. Some active athletes who were not members of WADA had been proposed.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that WADA welcomed athlete involvement, however the athletes should understand that they would need to be committed, as the project would require concentrated work over a two-year period.

MR KOSS brought up certain financial issues related to the matter.

THE CHAIRMAN said that he did not mind paying, as long as WADA received value for the money that it paid.

MR WALKER referred to the 15 February deadline. The reactions to the deadline had been very positive, and contained constructive and helpful remarks. He congratulated the team on a job well done. The structure of the Code was very much appreciated.

Many of those who had provided feedback had taken the liberty to say that the Code itself should be short and crisp.

MR SHARMA noted that a committee had been appointed under his chairmanship which would work out the modalities of ensuring doping-free sport in India. The work carried out by the Code team would definitely be of help to his committee.

Whatever good came out of the Code should be applied universally. The various countries were at different stages of development. The Code should also be uniform, but WADA would have to take into account that some countries might need help in order to reach accepted international standards.

THE CHAIRMAN said that it was good news to see such progress in India.

WADA's objective was to have a universal code and the same standards of application.

He urged the public authorities representatives, with regard to their meeting in Kuala Lumpur in April 2002, to consult amongst their continental colleagues and turn up at the meeting with proposals, ready to go.

As of spring 2003, the mechanism had to have started, so that WADA could have a code applicable for the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004.

He also asked the members not to identify a problem unless they had a solution to propose.

PROFESSOR LJUNGQVIST had a problem, and he also had a solution to propose. The problem was related to the fact that an important part of the code involved the developing of the list of banned substances. The new WADA list would be applied on 1 January 2003, therefore there was a short amount of time in which to develop the new list. He proposed that someone at the WADA office take over the responsibility of coordinating the work immediately, as it was impossible for the committee members to do this on a voluntary basis.

THE CHAIRMAN agreed. A member of staff would take over the responsibility of coordinating the list work immediately.

DR GARNIER informed the members that the Code had been presented on 21 January 2002 in Marrakech at a seminar of government and NOC representatives, and had been well accepted by the 37 countries attending. Attention had been brought to the need to set the Code within a public legal framework on a national level.

The Council of Europe Monitoring Group of the Anti-Doping Convention was progressing and would keep WADA informed as soon as concrete proposals could be made.

THE CHAIRMAN said that WADA would need one or more governments to be prepared to move ahead and get the business done. This was a fundamental element, and all of the members would need to play according to the same rules.

MR DE VILLERS stated that Canada was willing to continue and work towards this goal.

MR HOWMAN noted that a working party at government level was looking into the issue of nationalisation of the Code and would put a proposal on the table in Kuala Lumpur.

MR KOSS referred to the proposal to draw up two lists: a health and safety list and a performance enhancement list. Further clarification was necessary, but the proposal had been well received by the athletes.

THE CHAIRMAN said that the committee would come back and make recommendations to the Foundation Board, which would have to make the necessary policy decisions, taking into account both the scientific and the legal aspects of any such decision.

It was necessary to keep up the pressure and broaden the consultation base.

DECISIONS

1. A member of WADA staff to take over the responsibility of coordinating the list work immediately.
2. Code update approved.

7. Out-of-Competition Testing Update

MR KOEHLER read his report (Annex), noting that WADA would be reaching out more to the IFs in the future.

MR TALLBERG said that an informal meeting of the IOC Athletes' Commission had taken place, at which two cases had been discussed. With regard to the Estonian athlete who had tested positive and then negative, it was felt that the athletes should be protected and that, as such, providing information to the press should not happen. Secondly, with regard to the Latvian sledder, the Athletes' Commission fully supported the stance adopted by WADA at the IOC Session. The commission had also asked Mr Koss to make a statement regarding the matter.

MR BESSEBERG complimented the out-of-competition testers. There was excellent cooperation between WADA and the IFs. He asked that this cooperation be maintained, and also that the national anti-doping agencies be involved. In this way, all three parties would be able to perform much more targeted athlete testing and coordinate their work.

The report should be given to the press so that any misunderstandings regarding the 27 so-called positive laboratory reports could be cleared up.

MR HOWMAN asked whether there was a number for the no-shows: those athletes who the consortium failed to locate.

With regard to the sledding doping case, the FIBT had issued a sanction outside its rules, which had been corroborated in the decision made the previous day by the CAS. The CAS had not been able to interfere because neither the IOC nor WADA had had the power to appeal the decision.

The Legal Committee should look at any future contract with the FIBT because WADA should be very strong in determining conditions before signing such a contract.

The Code Committee should look at the suggestion raised by the CAS, to allow the IOC and WADA the right of appeal in such doping cases.

MR KOSS said, with regard to out-of-competition testing, that he had received two cases of reported inaccurate protocol and inappropriate behaviour by the testing personnel. The first case had occurred with speed skaters in Park City in December and the second had taken place with swimmers in Canberra. The doping controls could be sharpened up. There had been reports of athletes being left alone, as well as poor identification of the athletes.

He also thought that the issue of sanctions should be looked into.

THE CHAIRMAN asked Mr Koss to get the specifics of each case to Mr Koehler.

PROFESSOR LJUNGQVIST noted that the report was encouraging, as out-of-competition testing was one of WADA's major tasks.

National agencies should be used, but he warned that his idea of out-of-competition testing was unannounced out-of-competition testing. When national agencies were recruited to cooperate with WADA, WADA should require that the testing be unannounced out-of-competition testing.

With regard to the 27 reported cases, these raised the issue of WADA's information policy. Who was the authority to make public the testing results?

He would have thought that WADA's results should be conveyed to and dealt with by those IFs concerned.

With regard to the two positive cases mentioned, WADA should identify those athletes who cheated and protect the others. Unfortunately, the Estonian cross country skier's reputation had probably been ruined, and she had not been guilty. WADA could do something about cases such as the NHA player found with a diuretic who had been exonerated. This should not have happened, in other words, the athlete had been unfairly exposed by the media. There was no mechanism for the application for exoneration regarding such banned substances. He would like WADA to ensure that the IFs had a mechanism in place to grant exemptions for the use of banned substances.

PROFESSOR DE ROSE referred to the issue of no-shows. Different contracts had different approaches. FINA was very strict, for example, but other IFs did not allow for preliminary agreements, therefore it was not fair to blame the out-of-competition testing organisations, as they did what the contracts with the IFs requested them to do.

MR VERBRUGGEN spoke about the athlete who had tested positive in the A sample and then negative in the B sample. He was surprised, as certain IFs wanted their athletes to be sanctioned immediately after the A analysis had been completed. The UCI did not do this, and had been criticised because it did not sanction its athletes immediately after a positive A analysis.

The recent cases of the positive A samples and the negative B samples had been due to a laboratory error. In the interests of the athletes, the UCI did not make public declarations until the B sample confirmed the A sample. He thought that the B sample should confirm the A sample before results were made public.

MR BESSEBERG referred to the case of the Estonian cross country skier. The FIS president and secretary general had confirmed that the Estonian federation had announced the result, so there was no reason to blame WADA or FIS for announcing the result.

THE PRESIDENT agreed that there had been no breach of confidentiality on WADA's part. The national federation had released the name and a 'positive' result before the analysis of the B sample.

MR REEDIE said that, over the past 18 months, WADA must have picked up a great deal of information within WADA on difficult situations and different federations treating the same problem in different ways. In the short term, it must be possible for WADA to ask a federation to consider, in its rules, approaching the issue in a different way. Presumably, when the Code was introduced, part of the Code would be a set of model rules, which would have to be an amalgamation of all of the world's best practice, and it was to be hoped that as many federations as possible would adopt and follow the model rules.

When the Chairman spoke to the press later that day, he thought that some of the statistics from the report should be given.

MR HOWMAN said that all the members should know that the out-of-competition testing contracts signed were based on the condition that the IF rules be respected. WADA did not wish to be in a position legally to be advising the IFs, because that would then lend itself to a question of liability for WADA if a subsequent legal matter were to arise. What had been debated that morning indicated that a shift might be required, which would be remedied once the Code was in place. The negotiations to date had been based on the fact that the IFs had to adhere to their rules. If WADA was to ask the IFs to change their rules, then that would be a shift of policy, which would need to be considered.

PROFESSOR LJUNGQVIST noted that it was fortunate for WADA that neither of the two unfortunate cases had been WADA's fault. This had been an important experience for WADA.

With regard to the A and B samples, the A result had been borderline and the B sample had been just under the cut-off limit.

The IAAF did not announce results following a positive A sample, but it did suspend the athlete from competition, as it took months to clarify the B sample and, in most cases, the B sample confirmed the A sample result. In conclusion, an athlete should be suspended but not announced following a positive A sample, and then, if found guilty, the athlete could be banned for two years minus the period already served.

THE CHAIRMAN informed the members that, with regard to the ice hockey case, had the medication been declared at the time of the test, there would have been no problem. The medication had not been declared, and then the IF had released the name of the athlete, although he was not sure why.

MR LARFAOUI noted that the B sample confirmed the A sample in 99.99% of cases, rather than in 90% of cases. Should the B sample be maintained? The same laboratory analysed the A and then the B sample, therefore there was no second opinion given. A different laboratory should be used to provide a second opinion.

After the results of the A sample, FINA provisionally suspended athletes, but did not give out names until the B sample confirmed the positive result.

MR KOSS thought that there was a need to focus on the numbers of positive cases for the media. Damage was done to the perception that everybody used drugs in sport. Less than 1% of athletes tested positive. There was a lot of smoke, but there was certainly no fire.

MR KOEHLER said that the percentage of no-shows was approximately 4%. This was related to the issue of athlete whereabouts information. FINA and the IAAF had excellent programmes, but all of

the IFs needed to be on the same level. WADA would be starting a pilot project with some federations in order to provide assistance in obtaining whereabouts information.

He told Mr Koss that any feedback on sample collection was welcomed, and thanked him for bringing up the cases. Any feedback was positive feedback, as it could only make the programme better.

With reference to the Estonian case, he wished to clarify that this test had not been carried out by WADA.

As for the NHL and the International Ice Hockey Federation, the chairman of the medical commission had approached WADA to review its rules and regulations. A third party had agreed to review the rules and regulations, and this would happen after the Olympic Games in Salt Lake City.

With regard to agreements for out-of-competition testing, the agreements with the DFSC and the national anti-doping agencies required that the tests be unannounced.

THE CHAIRMAN highlighted the need to ensure that it was understood that an elevated result was not necessarily the same as a positive doping case. He wanted WADA to be able to announce elevated results for reasons of transparency, and the fact that WADA, as the results manager, expected to learn what happened with regard to these elevated results.

WADA was missing contracts with the fencing, football, handball and tennis federations. WADA had an agreement with FIFA, and FIFA would be making available to WADA its network of doping control officers, which would save WADA a great deal of expense in certain countries. An occasion would be arranged upon which to announce the contract with FIFA the following month, before the 2002 World Cup.

Why were there no agreements with the fencing, handball and tennis federations? Should WADA make it public that these federations had not signed an agreement?

MR KOEHLER noted that WADA did have an original agreement with the three IFs mentioned by the Chairman, but the agreement had been amended (to include the disclosure of all positive results from the athletes) and these three IFs had yet to sign it. The handball federation would be signing the agreement, and the fencing federation had also indicated that it would be signing. The ITF was having problems with the ATP and professional coordinating bodies, and had proposed that WADA use their testing agents to perform the testing, and this proposal was being examined. In conclusion, there were agreements, but the amendments had not been signed.

THE CHAIRMAN asked Mr Koehler to ensure that the federations signed the agreements, and to tell them that, if they did not sign the agreements, WADA would go public and announce that there seemed to be some problem since they did not wish to sign.

DECISIONS

1. Mr Koehler to ensure that the fencing, handball and tennis federations sign the necessary agreements.
2. Out-of-Competition Testing update approved.

8. Other Business

– Asthma

MR KOSS brought up the issue of asthma and the procedure regarding asthma testing and the documentation of athletes using beta-2 agonists.

There had been an uproar because some athletes might not have received approval for the use of agonists by the time of their event. The testing method triggered attacks, which meant that the athletes could not perform at their optimum levels. This was an ongoing issue. Could the Chairman of the IOC Medical Commission shed any light on the matter? There had been a petition from Canada, Norway, the United Kingdom, Sweden and two other countries. It was accepted that the misuse of asthma medication should be prevented.

PROFESSOR LJUNGQVIST informed the members that, the previous evening, there had been a meeting of the IOC Medical Commission and the team physicians, most of which had been spent on

discussing the asthma issue. The consensus was that some sort of control of the use or misuse of beta-2 agonists was necessary. Clear medical documentation was now requested from the athletes, who were then tested for asthma. In many cases, there was no evidence of asthma in the athletes tested, and the approach to regulate the use of asthma medication had been fully supported the previous day.

The matter was important, but he thought that it had been dealt with the previous day, obtaining the mutual agreement of the IOC Medical Commission and the team physicians. He was confident that the correct approach had been taken.

DECISION

List Committee to further consider the issue of asthma medication.

– **Laboratory Accreditation**

MR SHARMA stated that India was very keen to join in the campaign for doping-free sports, and had submitted an application for accreditation of a laboratory in India. He requested that the application be considered urgently.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that WADA would ensure that Mr Sharma's request was dealt with by the IOC.

DECISION

WADA to ensure that Mr Sharma's request for accreditation of laboratory in India be given urgent consideration by the IOC.

– **EPO**

THE CHAIRMAN highlighted several important issues: EPO and the schism between scientists; the whereabouts of the athletes; the report on the research budget; and the fact that WADA should write to the FIBT to request an explanation with regard to what had happened in the Latvian doping case.

The first issue was that one of more divisive discussions had centred on what was considered an appropriate EPO test. There were different types of EPO available, and it would be appropriate to follow up on the decision to have an independent review with respect to the science. He referred to the draft paper of scientific questions that needed to be answered (Annex).

There were two schools of thought: one which believed that the urine test alone could identify EPO, and another which believed that a combined blood and urine test was necessary in order to be certain.

WADA needed to ask questions before moving ahead and making decisions on funding and testing.

It was fairly clear that, some day soon, artificially produced EPO would be indistinguishable from naturally produced EPO. In the meantime, he did not want to look only to the future and have somebody steal the wheels off the car today. It might be that WADA would have to have a two-pronged approach to the issue. Until WADA received some independent advice, it seemed to him that the members would be whistling in the dark.

He thought that WADA needed to engage somebody totally removed from WADA to advise the members on the issue.

MR KEMP said that he would write to WADA as soon as possible with his country's views on the draft paper. He would make a response, although it might be hard to obtain definitive answers to the draft questions.

MR VERBRUGGEN wanted to ask WADA to look immediately and independently into the issue of EPO detection. There was currently a new form of artificial EPO on the market, which was for sale on the internet. The UCI's experts believed that the French method for the detection of recombinant EPO was adequate, but that it required certain adjustments. The UCI would be performing tests on the urine of people who had used the new artificial EPO product.

This was encouraging news, but he wanted immediate action to be taken by WADA, as danger was imminent: the product was available and immediate steps should be taken to see if the traditional EPO test could be used.

Haemoglobin Reticulum, or artificially produced haemoglobin, was on the market, and was apparently easy to detect in urine. Professor Catlin had developed a method for detection, but there was no officially validated method, therefore he asked that WADA take an immediate initiative to see if the method was valid, so that athletes could be told that there was a test for the product. These two issues were pressing and, in his opinion, absolutely essential.

DECISION

After the meeting and until the end of February, any questions regarding EPO to be passed on to the Chairman or the Director General.

– **Athlete Availability for Out-of-Competition Testing**

THE CHAIRMAN referred to the issue of out-of-competition testing and athlete availability. He would like each of the Olympic Movement constituents (athletes, IFs, NOCs and the IOC) to submit their thoughts, prior to the next meeting, on how to improve the process. It was dangerous if an athlete could disappear for three weeks or a month without anybody knowing his or her whereabouts.

MR HYBL agreed with the Chairman.

PROFESSOR DE ROSE referred to the issue of athlete whereabouts. When he received a request, the request was combined with a deadline. Even if he knew that an athlete was not available, he was obliged to go to the place and produce a no-show. Greater flexibility was needed, and then more athletes would be found than at present.

THE CHAIRMAN said that the NOCs were in daily contact with the NFs, and probably had more information than the IFs.

PROFESSOR DE ROSE said that WADA should be able to interfere in the testing procedure.

DECISION

Each of the Olympic Movement constituents (athletes, IFs, NOCs and the IOC) to submit their thoughts on how to improve the process of unannounced out-of-competition testing.

– **Research projects**

THE CHAIRMAN brought up the matter of the research projects.

PROFESSOR LJUNGQVIST noted that he was not in a position to discuss the matter. Work in his commission had been delayed due to the absence of someone assigned to deal with the matter and the absence of a review by the Ethics and Education Committee regarding the distribution of funding. To his knowledge, 12 out of the 21 projects should have received their funding, but he did not have specific information.

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL thought that there was a lack of staff. Professor Saltín had kindly promised to carry out the review. A meeting had been organised with Professor Saltín, who had not shown up. The only excuse for the delay was that WADA had needed to establish its own ethical review system. WADA hoped to receive Professor Saltín's confirmation on the 12 projects within the week, and he would be more than happy to make the first payments as soon as possible.

THE CHAIRMAN stated that this was unsatisfactory, as the research funding was WADA's highest priority over the next five years, and suggested asking somebody else to carry out the review.

PROFESSOR LJUNGQVIST agreed that such an administrative matter could not be based on volunteer input. Professor Saltín could not be employed to perform administrative work for WADA, but had volunteered to do as much as possible. He had been reluctant when Dr Vereen had asked to review the ethical process of the research grants, as the entire process had had to be recommenced.

To his knowledge, half of the applications approved by the committee were still under review.

MR WALKER noted that, if the Health, Medical and Research Committee examined the projects, followed by the Ethics and Education Committee, there would be delays. The Ethics and Education Committee could vet a proposal before the Health, Medical and Research Committee in order to avoid further delays.

DECISION

Report to be given in April on research fund distribution status.

– **FIBT**

THE CHAIRMAN asked Mr Howman to draft a letter to the FIBT, requesting, on behalf of WADA, an explanation in relation to the FIBT's sanction of S. Prusis.

DECISION

Mr Howman to draft a letter to the FIBT, requesting, on behalf of WADA, an explanation in relation to the FIBT's sanction of S. Prusis.

– **Olympic Aid**

MR KOSS took the opportunity to invite the members to the Olympic Aid round table, at which discussions would take place on the use of sport for development, health and peace around the world.

9. Next Meetings

THE CHAIRMAN hoped that an Executive Committee meeting would be held in Kuala Lumpur in April 2002.

There would also be a WADA Executive Committee meeting on 3 June, and a Foundation Board meeting on 4 June 2002 in Montreal.

DECISIONS

1. WADA Executive Committee meeting to take place, if possible, in Kuala Lumpur in April 2002.
2. WADA Executive Committee meeting to be held on 3 June 2002, followed by a Foundation Board meeting on 4 June 2002 in Montreal.

THE CHAIRMAN thanked the members for attending the meeting of the Foundation Board in Salt Lake City, and informed them that there would be a WADA press conference at the Utah Centre at 1.30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12.30 p.m.

FOR APPROVAL

MR RICHARD W. POUND, QC
PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF WADA