A New Beginning for Sport
The World Conference on Doping in Sport ushers in an unprecedented new era of global anti-doping cooperation.
Editorial:
New Beginnings
A new Anti-Doping Code, a new look for its flagship publication...

Richard W. Pound discusses the new directions ahead for WADA and for sport in general

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The World Conference on Doping in Sport

Delegates representing governments and sports federations from around the world came to Copenhagen this past March to pass a resolution that will change the face of sport.

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New Beginnings

March 5, 2003, will be remembered as an historic day for sports. It was the day when an unprecedented number of international sports federations and world governments, together with athletes, national Olympic committees, national anti-doping agencies and accredited laboratories, unanimously endorsed the most powerful weapon yet against doping in sport - the World Anti-Doping Code. After three days of discussion in Copenhagen, the delegates to the World Conference on Doping in Sport put aside all other considerations except what is best for the athletes and sent a powerful message to drug cheats: your days are numbered.

The Code represents a new beginning for all of us involved in the fight against doping in sport. We must now work together to make sure the Code is formally adopted and implemented as quickly as possible, not just by all those sports federations and governments who so impressively rose to the challenge in Copenhagen, but by all those with a stake in doping-free sport. The aim is to have the Code in place and ready for implementation not later than the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. It is an ambitious goal, but not an impossible one. I am confident that governments and the sport movement will work together and with WADA in the intervening time, just as they did in Copenhagen, to ensure success. By next summer, we will be ready.

In some ways, it is a time of new beginnings for WADA, as well. Now that the Code has been accepted, our work shifts to ensuring its implementation and monitoring compliance. We are well aware of our responsibilities and are ready to discharge the responsibility that has been entrusted to us.

With the Code now a reality, there is an even greater need to focus the world’s attention on WADA’s core message: Play True. For that reason, you will notice some other changes we are undertaking. We have reworked our website (www.wada-ma.org) to focus on the Play True concept and to provide easier access to information. We are also, with this issue, giving WADA News a new name and a new look. This publication, Play True, will still highlight the work we do with our global partners to ensure doping-free sport, but in a manner that better serves the needs and interests of our readers. We welcome your thoughts and comments.

All international sports federations and nearly 80 world governments gave their backing to the Code, which will revolutionize the fight against doping in sport. For the first time, every athlete will participate under the same rules, the same standards and the same sanctions for infractions of the anti-doping rules. Where an athlete comes from or what sport he or she practices will no longer matter. The playing field has been leveled.

Since this first issue of Play True will focus almost exclusively on the Conference, I want to thank our gracious hosts, the Danish Government and the National Olympic Committee and Sports Confederation of Denmark, for the extraordinary work they did in helping WADA stage this event. I also extend my thanks to WADA’s staff for their superb performance. Those of you who attended the Conference will have seen the quality of their work. I am proud of all of them.

So let us begin this new era - a new beginning for sport and the beginning of the end for doping.
The conference represented one of the largest gatherings in history dedicated to the fight against doping. Nearly 1,200 people, representing 101 nationalities attended the event. Most notably, representatives from all 35 international Olympic federations and from 80 countries came to participate in this historic moment. The number of those present was more than double the number of representatives at the first Conference on Doping in Sport in Lausanne in 1999. The Lausanne Conference led to the creation of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA); this one resulted in acceptance of the Code, which will be the most powerful weapon yet in the fight against doping.

On the final day of the Conference, WADA’s Foundation Board unanimously accepted the Code. A Conference Resolution accepting the Code as the basis for the fight against doping was then presented to and accepted by the delegates.

One of the most important events at the Conference was the signing of the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-Doping in Sport by 51 governments. Another 27 governments promised to sign the document at a later date. Through the Declaration, signatory governments agreed to support the Code; sustain international intergovernmental cooperation to harmonize anti-doping policies in sport; and to support a timely process leading to a convention or other means through which governments can adopt the Code prior to the Olympic Games in Turin in 2006.
Those attending the Conference had a number of opportunities to discuss the Code during the three days of sessions. The Conference began with opening ceremonies and speeches on March 3. WADA President Richard W. Pound emphasized the need to put aside differences and accept the Code for the good of sports, while Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee, stressed that there would be no place in the Olympic Games for any sports federation or nation who does not adopt the Code (see speeches on pages 7-9).

Brian Mikkelsen, Minister of Culture in Denmark and the host of the Conference, also pointed out the unique opportunity that the Conference presented.

"Governments and the sports movement are united in the fight against doping, against cheaters, against the violation of fundamental values," Mikkelsen said. "I wonder if we have ever seen a similar process - either in international governmental cooperation or in the world of sport."

Adolf Ogi, former president of the Swiss Confederation and special advisor to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on Sport for Development and Peace, brought a similar message on behalf of the U.N. He emphasized the importance of the positive value of sport in helping further human development. He also warned how doping can damage those values.

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### The Code: A Timeline to Implementation

**June 2003**

Adoption of the International Standards for Laboratories and for Testing by the WADA Executive Committee

**January 1, 2004**

All International Standards are finalized

**September 2003**

Adoption of the International Standards for Therapeutic Use Exemptions and for the Prohibited List by the WADA Executive Committee
“The power of sport can only be efficient if the image of sport remains clean and respectable,” Ogi said. “Sports are practiced to improve health, to enjoy an active life and not to deteriorate it. Sport provides the ground for friendly contests and not for cheating, nor for promoting the use of drugs.”

PARTICIPANTS SHARE VIEWS ON CODE

During the three-day Conference, athletes and representatives from the sports movement and world governments also had the opportunity to share their perspectives on the Code. Although some pointed out parts of the Code with which they did not agree, almost all vocalized their overall support for the adoption and swift implementation of the document.

“The uniform and singular World Anti-Doping Code and the Copenhagen Declaration, a document by which national governments express their support for WADA and the Anti-Doping Code, are both extremely important,” said Shigeo Takasugi, during an intervention on behalf of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. “It is imperative that on the final day of this World Conference all participants approve the Anti-Doping Code and each national government adopts the Copenhagen Declaration.”

Many who spoke on behalf of the sports movement agreed. Some, for example, asserted that the argument against adopting the Code without the inclusion of professional leagues was without merit.
“This Conference and the World Anti-Doping Code draw a line in the sand,” said Kai Holm, the president of the Danish National Olympic Committee and the Sports Confederation of Denmark. “From now on, every sports organization will be able to show where they stand in the fight against doping by joining the Code. Those who stand outside will get the label of NOT wanting to join the international fight against doping.”

The voices that perhaps resonated the most during the Conference belonged to the athletes who spoke on behalf of all athletes from around the world.

They emphasized to the delegates that the Code was needed to protect the vast majority of athletes who compete cleanly and fairly.

“It is in the interests of all of those who are actively involved in sport to ensure that the principle of WADA – which is to fight doping so as to ensure a level playing field for all – is exactly in the spirit of competitive sport,” said Sergey Bubka, chair of the IOC Athletes’ Commission.

NEXT STEPS

While the acceptance of the Code was a major milestone in the fight against doping, many at the Conference also emphasized that it was only a first step.

“No, everybody needs to look ahead and make sure the Code is implemented,” said Susie O’Neill, an IOC Athletes’ Commission member and one of the athletes who spoke out in favor of the Code at the Conference.

The next steps include the finalization of all international standards, which are a part of the Code, by January 1, 2004; adoption of the Code and the international standards by international sports federations prior to the Olympic Games in Athens in August 2004; and the adoption of the Code and the standards by world governments prior to the Olympic Games in Turin in February 2006.

Conference Statistics: Who attended?

- 101 nationalities
- 1200 participants
- All 28 international Olympic summer sports federations
- All 7 international Olympic winter sports federations
- 65 International Olympic and non-Olympic Federations
- 80 governments of the world
- 120 media representatives
- 70 local volunteers

Signatory Governments

During the Conference, 51 world governments signed the Government Declaration on Doping in Sport, which outlines the governments’ commitment to the adoption and implementation of the Code. Another 27 governments present at the Conference have pledged to sign at a later date.

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| Barbados  | France           | Mauritius | Republic|
| Brazil    | Georgia          | Monaco    | South Africa|
| Burkina   | Germany          | Morocco   | Spain   |
| Faso      | Greece           | New       | Sudan   |
| Cameroon  | Guatemala        | Zealand   | Surinam |
| Canada    | Guinea           | Nigeria   | United Kingdom |
| China     | Indonesia        | Norway    | USA     |
| Croatia   | Iran             | Peru      | Uruguay |
| Cuba      | Italy            | Portugal  | Uruguay |
| Cyprus    | Japan            | Romania   | Venezuela |
| Denmark   | Lebanon          | Russia    |         |

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“Now, everybody needs to look ahead and make sure the Code is implemented,” said Susie O’Neill, an IOC Athletes’ Commission member and one of the athletes who spoke out in favor of the Code at the Conference.

The next steps include the finalization of all international standards, which are a part of the Code, by January 1, 2004; adoption of the Code and the international standards by international sports federations prior to the Olympic Games in Athens in August 2004; and the adoption of the Code and the standards by world governments prior to the Olympic Games in Turin in February 2006.

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- 80 governments of the world
- 120 media representatives
- 70 local volunteers
Recalling that doping in sport is contrary to the spirit of sport, and that the fight against doping in sport shall be intensified, accelerated, harmonized and unified;

Noting that doping in sport is the concern of the Olympic movement, sport organizations, governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, athletes throughout the world and their support personnel;

Considering that doping practices constitute violations of sport and of medical ethics as well as of the fundamental principles of the Olympic movement;

Concerned by the threat that doping poses to fair-play as well as to the health of all athletes and of the youth of the world;

Recognizing the necessity for sustained efforts directed at the creation of awareness, education and prevention to eliminate doping in sport;

Noting that the solution to the problem of doping requires the cooperative and complementary efforts of the sport movement, governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

Acknowledging the efforts previously undertaken by various entities and bearing in mind the World Conference on Doping in Sport held in Lausanne and its declaration of 4 February 1999, the creation of the World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”), and the remarkable work it has accomplished;

Noting that the Foundation Board of WADA has adopted the World Anti-Doping Code (“Code”) after broad consultation throughout the world;

Recognizing that the support, adoption, implementation and ongoing review of the Code is fundamental and crucial for an efficient fight against doping in sport;

Acknowledging the need for support and solidarity for all countries in their anti-doping efforts;

The World Conference on Doping in Sport held in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 3 - 5 March 2003, (“World Conference”) with the participation of athletes, ministers and other high-level representatives of governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the International Olympic Committee, international sports federations, national Olympic committees, International Paralympic Committee, national anti-doping agencies and WADA, hereby adopts the following resolution:

1. The World Anti-Doping Code

The World Conference accepts the World Anti-Doping Code (“Code”) as the basis for the fight against doping in sport throughout the world.

2. Olympic Movement and other interested parties

The International Olympic Committee, international sports federations, national Olympic committees, International Paralympic Committee, national anti-doping organizations and major event organizers shall confirm their acceptance of the Code by signing a formal declaration of acceptance upon approval by each of their respective competent bodies. They undertake to implement the Code before the first day of the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in 2004 in Athens.

3. Governments

a) Governments have adopted the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-Doping in Sport and by signing the Declaration they:
• recognize the role of, and support, WADA;
• support the Code;
• sustain international and inter-governmental cooperation in advancing harmonization in anti-doping policies and practices in sport;
• support a timely process leading to a convention or other obligation concerning, among other things, the Code, to be implemented through instruments appropriate to the constitutional and administrative contexts of each government on or before the XX Olympic Winter Games in Turin in 2006.

b) The World Conference urges all governments to:
• confirm their commitment to the Code before the first day of the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens in 2004;
• implement the contents of the Code before the first day of the XX Olympic Winter Games in Turin in 2006.

4. The World Anti-Doping Agency

The Olympic Movement recognizes the role of, and supports WADA and will continue to provide collectively 50% of WADA’s approved annual core budget.

The Governments recognize the role of, and support WADA and will continue to provide collectively 50% of WADA’s approved annual core budget in accordance with a formula that they will determine.

The World Conference commends WADA for the excellent work achieved since its creation and reconfirms its full support to WADA. The World Conference encourages and invites all parties concerned to intensify their support of WADA.

5. Harmonization and acceleration of the fight against doping in sport

Recognizing the work and the efforts undertaken to date in the fight against doping in sport, the World Conference notes the urgent need for harmonization in the fight against doping in all sport, including professional leagues, throughout the world. All parties are urged to accelerate their efforts and programs to that effect.
Let me begin by adding my own words of welcome, on behalf of the World Anti-Doping Agency, to this historic Conference and to thank all of you for your tremendously valuable work that has enabled us to come so far in such a short time. If we do our work on this occasion, years from now, when the fight against doping in sport has become a success, the world will look back on this Conference as a seminal moment in this fight. If we do not succeed on this occasion, the world will judge us as having failed to demonstrate the commitment necessary to protect the values of sport.

Our mutual objectives during this Conference are the following:

1. To accept the World Anti-Doping Code as the basis for the fight against doping in sport;
2. To resolve that each of the classes of stakeholders participating in the Conference, including sports organizations and governments, will take the steps necessary to adopt the Code as part of its own rules governing sport;
3. To ensure that the Code is fully applicable by the time of the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens;
4. To fortify the commitment to the intensification, acceleration, harmonization and unification of the fight against doping in all sport.

All of us have, at various times, made such commitments, but this is the first time in the history of sport that participants from the public authorities and the sports movement have come together at the same time, in the same place and with the same objectives. We are here after careful preparation and a broader consultative process than has ever occurred in our respective histories, and, in addition, with specific proposals that have been developed for mutual action.

We are not here to exchange general statements, but to take several vital concrete actions that will advance the fight against doping in sport. It is a fight that, in the interests of sport and the youth of the world, we simply must win.

I want to thank the Council of Europe for the benefit of its considerable work and experience, the IICGADS group that undertook the voluntary work amongst governments, the IOC for its efforts to develop the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code, the international federations for their valuable insights into many of the practical problems surrounding doping in sport, the NADOs for sharing their expertise, the national Olympic committees for their efforts within their domestic jurisdictions, UNESCO for its willingness to assist governments to find the appropriate mechanisms for international co-operation and, above all, the athletes, who remind us of the essential values of their efforts and the need to ensure that the playing field will always remain level.

I do not want to minimize the many difficulties and concerns that have had to be reconciled in order for us to be here today. We are dealing with a Code that reflects the best judgment and the most acceptable compromise among some 200 governments, the same number of NOCs, dozens of international federations, the IOC, Olympic and other athletes and the organizations responsible for the administration of testing and analytical procedures. I am sure that not everyone here today is 100% satisfied with the precise wording of every sentence in the Code, but the goodwill that has been demonstrated in acknowledging that harmonization can only be achieved through positive compromise in the interest of an international solution to an international problem has been remarkable. There is no doubt that experience with the Code will lead us to improvements in the future, but we have to start somewhere and to develop that empirical experience that will help us make it even better.
We are not here to exchange general statements, but to take several vital concrete actions that will advance the fight against doping in sport. It is a fight that, in the interests of sport and the youth of the world, we simply must win.

Some are concerned by the fact that it may take governments longer than the sports movement to fully adopt and implement the Code and to formalize the financing mechanisms for their share of the WADA budget. That is no excuse for those of us within the sports movement, who are able to act more quickly to hold back and wait for governments, since we have our own responsibilities to sport and to athletes. It is unacceptable for us to say that we will only act if someone else will do the same thing. Even if governments were never to act, we would have our own duty to proceed.

What is important, however, is that there are twice as many governments present at this Conference than there were in Lausanne four years ago, and they are committed to the fight against doping in sport. Governments recognize the challenge they have to meet. They know the reproach that will follow, if they are unable or unwilling to assume their responsibilities. They fully intend to accept the Code on the same schedule as the sports movement, namely by the time of the Athens Games in 2004. It may take slightly longer to have formal legislation adopted and they have committed to do this prior to the Olympic Winter Games in 2006. I am confident that they will demonstrate their commitment. They will appoint their champions to see that the schedule is maintained and the sports movement will assist them in every way.

Some might seek to point the finger at sport organizations, mainly professional, that are, presently, not governed by international federations or by government regulations, and say why, if these organizations do not have anti-doping regulations, why should they? This approach is without merit. It is difficult for me to imagine that any responsible sports leader could stand up to say that, although there are, admittedly, doping problems in his or her sport, that sport will take no action regarding those doping problems because there are some sports organizations who do not have their own rules that are the same as those applicable to his or her sport. Not only would such a position have no merit, but it would be irresponsible. Those of us who can act, must act. We recognize this fact. This reflects not only the concept of Fair Play, but also the basic requirements of human rights that are protected by law. Before producing a final draft of the Code, these delicate questions have been referred to independent legal experts for their opinion. The language of the Code that is before you at this Conference has been approved by those experts as compliant with the laws governing human rights. The fight against doping in sport compels us not to adopt a level of sanction that conforms to the lowest common denominator, where this level has been conclusively demonstrated to have been unsuccessful in eliminating, or even reducing, drug use. Either we are determined to win this fight, or we should give it up, admit defeat and open the floodgates that will destroy sport and the physical and moral lives of the athletes involved.

We must win, and win big. We must close the book on the era of doping, where athletes are seen as machines that have to perform at a certain level, and not as human beings with a right to full health. That is what this Conference is about. It is about Fair Play, about ensuring that athletes are protected, and that governments, sport organizations, and international federations all recognize that they have a responsibility to ensure that sport is clean and fair. Let us get to work - let us make history.
A Tough Stand

The revelations of the Tour de France taught us that 30 years of parallel but uncoordinated efforts by governments and the sports movement were not successful. The sports movement called for the help of governments within WADA and the governments have accepted. I would like to thank them for that.

Since then, WADA has developed commendable activities. We now have a headquarters, an administration, we have the new but important concept of independent value if we harmonise our roles and regulations. WADA will be effective if we all accept the Anti-Doping Code. Of course, this Code is only a means to an end, and the end is to fight better against the scourge of doping. It is the most important piece of our activities. I therefore urge the sports movement and the Governments alike to approve, adopt and implement the final version of the code.

Ladies and gentlemen, there should be no place in the Olympic Games for international federations and national observers, out-of-competition testing. WADA is now preparing the list of banned substances and methods. It has entered into scientific research, education. Is this enough? Not yet. WADA will be able to bring real added value if we harmonise our roles and regulations. WADA will be effective if we all accept the Anti-Doping Code. Of course, this Code is only a means to an end, and the end is to fight better against the scourge of doping. It is the most important piece of our activities. I therefore urge the sports movement and the Governments alike to approve, adopt and implement the final version of the code.

The Code itself is a compromise of the opinion of many stakeholders There are different points of view and different angles and each one of us will have to make some concessions because no text can be perfect. But we have to do that in order to achieve this very important development.

The IOC will accept the current version of the Code, even if for example we find the wording on the athletes from professional leagues not strong enough. But we reckon that will be addressed in the future. The IOC therefore urges everyone to accept the Code and of course asks WADA to accept reasonable amendments if any.

Ladies and gentlemen, WADA is at a crossroads. If the sports movement implements the final version of the Code before the opening of the Athens Games in 2004; if the governments do the same preferably also by 2004, and if really needed by the opening of the Turin Games in 2006; if a solution can be found for the level of funding of WADA; if WADA develops a strategy which is complimentary to the already existing activities of governments and the sports movement; then the future is bright. If not, WADA will become irrelevant.

Be assured of the total support of the IOC for the further development of WADA. We have a tremendous responsibility toward the youth of each country and of the world. Doping is not only an issue for elite sports. It attacks also the recreational sports and it attacks the youth as such when we see there is a wider use of anabolic steroids outside the organised sports movement.

Ladies and gentlemen, I wish you very good proceedings.
As an athlete currently training and competing at world level I wanted to take this opportunity to present an athletes' view to the World Anti-Doping Forum. I invest most of my energy and time in my quest to be the best distance runner in the world. However today our sport and others are tainted by the doping cloud.

The current system does not detect many of the substances being abused by athletes. This means that often athletes do not know if they are competing on a level playing field, if their hard work and sacrifice is being trumped by an easier scientific route. Often when an athlete puts in a good performance they are subjected to suspicions and innuendos instead of praise. Having been on the receiving end of accusations like this, I can testify as to how much this hurts and angers the athlete.

Doping in sport is a criminal offense and should be treated as such. It not only cheats other athletes, but also promoters, sponsors and the general public. Being caught in possession of performance enhancing drugs should carry a penalty.

At the moment we know that testing in certain countries is less thorough and reliable than in others. A universal World Code for anti-doping would address this. We need to close off the loopholes and hiding places abused by some, so that we can all live by the same rules. Schemes such as an athletes’ passport can really help if we all work together. Athletes can get athletes need to cooperate. Samples given could also be used to build up personal profiles and to help research to establish new tests.

Knowledge and coordination of athletes’ whereabouts also needs to be improved. The suggestion of a pager system is a good idea in order to help reduce unnecessary “no-shows” because athletes are out and about. We can also utilise our resources better. Several times I have been tested out of competition, while in training camps or venues along with many other top athletes, yet have been the only one tested at that time. Why not reduce costs and test all top athletes in the vicinity at the same time?

An idea which also occurred to me last year was to ask if my samples could be frozen and retested as more new tests for substances become available. I realise that the cost of this may be too high for every sample but what about the possibility of freezing samples after World Records are broken?
Against The True Nature of Sport

by KAI HOLM

In March of this year, top leaders from the world of sport met with government representatives from around the world at WADA's World Anti-Doping Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Conference endorsed a global World Anti-Doping Code that will govern the fight against doping in the future.

But why is this fight against doping so important that more than 1000 people including 120 journalists travelled to Copenhagen to set up these rules? Why is doping considered a mortal sin in sports? Why does the use of doping cause suspensions and public condemnation when the use of medicine and dietary supplements amongst the public has never been higher?

They argue that this cannot be any different as long as athletes pursue optimization of their performances and as long as we live in a society where it is becoming more acceptable to take artificial short cuts. Is it not best for all of us if sports takes the heat for the use of doping, which is hardly a bigger crime than anything else that takes place today, they would say.

The Character of Sports

What these scientists have not understood is that sport has its own character, which is different from other kinds of cultural life. The justification of the existence of competitive sports is questioned by doping, which is why it is so important to fight it.

In competitive sports the process towards the final result is as crucial as the final result. Following the process is what fascinates us about sport. To hear the result of a football match is interesting but not enough for us. Immediately we want to know how it happened. Competitive sports would not survive if the results were just communicated or if the competitions took place without spectators and media coverage. In the other cultural areas the results stand alone. This is not the case within sports.

Important Comparability

As the process towards the final result is so important in competitive sports, it is crucial that we are able to follow the competition that leads to the result. Competitive sports are built on a set of objective rules which means that everybody knows on what terms the competition takes place. Competitive sports are therefore also characterized by a high degree of transparency and comparability.

In fact, certain scientists claim that the condemnation of the use of doping in sport is out of proportion. They find it understandable that athletes have difficulties resisting the temptation of doping. The use of doping in sports is here to stay, they say, and they believe that sports will need to be less morally ambivalent and more realistic regarding doping.

The special character of sport can be illustrated by the following example: Within music, literature and art it is the final result - the work - which is conclusive. In principle we do not care how the writer wrote his book or how the composer composed his music. We do not know - or care - if it took him a year or a week or if he had been taking drugs. But that is not the case with sport.

Everyone has the possibility of learning the rules of any sport and we are therefore capable of giving our own comments on a result. Other kinds of culture do not normally have objective rules. There are no rules to observe when you write a book or paint a picture. On the contrary it is sometimes considered preferable if an artist does not follow the standardized norms. If that took place in football.
the referee would award a free kick. And even though we may not agree to whether the free kick should have been allowed, we have a visible experience from which we can learn.

Doping, on the contrary, takes place beneath the surface. It is not just a violation of a rule but an attempt against the ambition of competitive sports of being open and transparent. It is for the same reason that some sports have special rules about how a bicycle or a boat must be constructed. Collusion is the same way as doping ruinous to all the premises that sport is built upon. For the same reason, the worst that a sport can be accused of is being compared to American TV-wrestling, where everything is agreed on beforehand. Competitive sport fascinates people because it is unpredictable. This is ruined if collusion or doping takes place and sports are reduced to a circus show.

Sports would still appear open and transparent and keep its attraction value, one could say. So why not legalize doping? The answer is simple. If doping were legalized then all athletes would have to use it in order to compete successfully. The substantial health risk that is connected with the use of doping (in particular EPO, NESP, and steroids) would not be fair to impose on music. However, youth do not expect that you need to take drugs in order to be a good rock musician. On the other hand, the connection between performance and doping in sport is strong in the public perception. If doping were legalised it would send a signal to young people that it is all right to take drugs if you want to be a successful athlete.

A Question of Health

So doping is damaging to sport as it offends the rules which are made to protect the most crucial attraction: the transparent competition where nothing is planned beforehand. But if all the athletes used doping then everyone who wants to be able to compete successfully.

The signal to young athletes is another problem. Elite sportsmen serve as role models for the youth in a way that we do not see in other parts of culture except, perhaps, in rock music. I, too, believe that the hysteria about doping sometimes reaches inconceivable heights. However, there is a reason why sport reacts so strongly against doping. Maybe the critics should be pleased that somebody tries to hold on to the special character of sport instead of criticizing them for fighting a hopeless battle and being out of touch with the development of society. Who knows? Maybe it will have a positive effect on the use of medicine etc. in society in general, if we succeed in keeping competitive sport open and transparent.

...Sport has its own character, which is different from other kinds of cultural life. The justification of the existence of competitive sports is questioned by doping, which is why it is so important to fight it.
Independent Observers in Val di Fiemme

Since January 2003, WADA has been restructuring the pool of volunteers for the Independent Observers program. The members of the pool will be assigned to different categories of expertise according to their respective experiences: sample collection, legal, medical, laboratory, doping control and athlete Representative. The new membership criteria ensure continuity and rotation within the pool. All appointed members will provide letters of endorsement from their respective International Federation, government or national anti-doping (or similar) authority.

Several experts have been recognized as team leaders and will meet at the WADA headquarters in Montreal prior to summer 2003 to be trained in their new functions.

An Independent Observers team, chaired by Mr. Joseph de Pencier, Canada, has already undertaken a mission this year at the Nordic World Ski Championships following an invitation from the International Ski Federation (FIS). The Independent Observer report concerning these Championships held in Val di Fiemme, Italy, from the 18th February to the 1st March 2003, will be published on WADA’s website by the end of April 2003.

Funding

The United States Government has paid its full share ($800,000 USD) toward WADA’s 2002 budget. As of beginning of April, 2003, WADA is still expecting 2002 payments from a number of countries, including Italy.

In January, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) made a payment of US $3.7 million to WADA as part of its commitment to fund 50 percent of the organization’s budget.

Oceania (Australia and New Zealand) has already paid its contribution for 2003 (US $256,985). Other countries that have also made their 2003 payments include Hungary, Georgia, Estonia, Norway and the Netherlands. Others that have made written or verbal commitments to pay include Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Macedonia, Slovakia, Sweden and the USA.

WADA’s 2003 budget is US $21 million. For updated information, please go to WADA’s website at: www.wada-aama.org

Athlete Outreach: WADA Reaches the World

The Athlete Outreach Team continues to meet with the world’s athletes and in three short months has reached over 8,000 elite athletes from 87 countries. While attending the Central American and Caribbean Games in San Salvador, the Australian Youth Olympic Festival in Sydney, Australia, and the European Youth Olympic Festival in Bled, Slovenia, WADA delivered a simple message: doping has no place in any sport or in any region of the world.

Susie O’Neill, Olympic gold medalist and ambassador for the WADA Outreach Program sums up the Program’s importance: “Raising awareness to athletes at an early age about the dangers of doping is the best way to make sure they stay clean throughout their careers. WADA’s Athlete Outreach Program is about reaching all athletes with the message that doping will ruin their careers and their lives. The earlier we can get that message out in an athlete’s career, the better.”

Both Olympians and anti-doping experts assist with supporting the Athlete Outreach Program at different multi-sport events worldwide.”
Staff Announcements

David Howman Joins WADA as COO

WADA is pleased to welcome David Howman, the Agency’s new Chief Operating Officer and Special Counsel, who started work on March 1 in Montreal.

The 54-year-old Howman is well-known to WADA, having worked with the organization since its inception in 1999. A career lawyer, Howman was president of the New Zealand Anti-Doping Agency and of the country’s National Tennis Federation. He was also a member of WADA’s Foundation Board and head of the Agency’s legal committee. Howman served as vice-president of the WADA team of Independent Observers (IOs) at the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000 and president of the IO team at the Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City in 2002. In addition, Howman has extensive experience as a lawyer in the field of doping in sport, notably before the Court of Arbitration in Sport.

Howman now works closely in Montreal with WADA’s President, Richard W. Pound, and the Agency’s Director General, Harri Syväsalmi.

During the last few months, several additional staff members have joined WADA’s Montreal headquarters.

- Natalie GRENIER, Project Coordinator for the Standards and Harmonization Department
- Lyse L’HOSTIE, Assistant, Chief Operating Officer
- Elizabeth OSPITAL, Scientific Project Manager for the Science Department
- Karen PARR, Testing Manager for the Standards and Harmonization Department
- Anne PLEAU, Receptionist
- Caroline THOM, Results Management Manager for the Standards and Harmonization Department

Departures:

Angela SCHNEIDER has resigned as Director of Ethics and Education. She will continue to provide WADA with special projects reports focused on ethics.

Out-of-Competition Testing Program

WADA and the International Tennis Federation (ITF) signed an agreement in February to allow WADA to perform out-of-competition drug testing at ITF events. In doing so, ITF joined most of the International Olympic sports Federations, which have already signed such a convention with WADA.

events. Recently, individuals from Netherlands Centre for Doping Affairs (NeCeDo), UK Sport and the Athens 2004 Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games (ATHOC) took part in outreach events.

The Program is an opportunity for direct interaction with athletes and the athlete’s entourage. Check out the Doping Quiz which is an interactive way to begin dialogue on the anti-doping issue and answer any questions that athletes may have (Doping Quiz - http://195.139.49.18/3_wada-eventsite/dopingQuiz/index.htm). The Program’s future plans for 2003 include the Pan American Games in August, the All African Games in October and the South East Asian Games in December.
There are now 36 members of WADA’s Board, with the addition of a representative from the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), as well as another one from public authorities.

New members:
- Philip CRAVEN (IPC President)
- WILLI KALTSCHEMMITT-LUJAN (IOC member, Guatemala)
- Raja Randhir SINGH (ANOC, IOC member, India)
- Gian Franco KASPER (GAISF, IOC member and FIS president)
- Mario PESCAVITE (Undersecretary of State for Sport, Italy)
- Achilleas MAVROMATIS (Special advisor to the Minister of Culture, Greece)
- Abderrahim ZOARI (Minister of Sports, Tunisia)
- Dr Andrea BARTHEWELL (Deputy Director for Demand Reduction, ONDCP, United States of America)
- Dr Mario GRANDA FRAGA (Director, Anti-Doping Laboratory, Cuba)
- Dr Eduardo SCHIANTARELLI (Executive President, Institute of Sport, Peru)
- H.E. Mohsen MEHRALIZADEH (Vice President of the Islamic Republic of Iran)
- Pr David GERRARD (President, New Zealand Sports Drug Agency)
- Dr. Roland BAAR (IOC Athletes Commission)
- Charmaine CROOKS (IOC Athletes Commission)
- Susie O’NEILL (IOC Athletes Commission)
- Rania ELWANI (IOC Athletes Commission)

The Following Members have left the Board :
- Feliciano MAYORAL (ANOC)
- Hein VERBRUGGEN (GAISF)
- Juan Antonio GOMEZ ANGULO (Spain)
- Dr Sayed KASHABA (Egypt)
- Dr Adrian LORDE (Barbados)
- Lars SCHMITT (Brazil)
- L.M. MEHTA (India)
- David HOWMAN (New Zealand)
- Peter TALLBERG (IOC Athletes Commission)
- Manuela Di CENTA (IOC Athletes Commission)
- Johann Olav KOSS (IOC Athletes Commission)
- Robert CTVRTLIK (IOC Athletes Commission)

Special Note: With great sadness, WADA bids farewell to Prince Alexandre DE MERODE (IOC), a member of WADA’s Foundation Board who passed away in November 2002.

On the Executive Committee, Craig Reedie (ANOC) has replaced Feliciano Mayoral. Arne Ljungqvist (IOC) has replaced Prince Alexandre de Merode.

Chairs of working committees remain in place

During its meeting in Copenhagen on March 2, 2003, WADA’s Executive Committee voted to maintain the chairs of its three working committees:
- Dr Andrea BARTHEWELL (Deputy Director for Demand Reduction, ONDCP, USA), Ethics and Education Committee
- Pr Arne LJUNGQVIST (IOC member and IOC medical Commission chairman), Health, Medical and Research Committee
- Craig REEDIE (Chairman of the NOC of Great Britain and IOC member), Finance and Administration Committee

Next meetings of the Executive Committee and of the Board

The next meetings of WADA’s Board and Executive Committee are scheduled for the following dates in Montreal:

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<th>Executive Committee</th>
<th>Board</th>
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<td>November 21, 2003</td>
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<td>September 22 - 23, 2003</td>
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Role Models for the Next Generation

The AOC Drug Education Program

In an effort to educate Australia's aspiring young athletes, their supporting coaches and parents on the important issue of drugs in sport, the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) Drug Education Program 'Live Clean Play Clean' has delivered more than 38 presentations to 5000 participants since its launch in May 2002.

Sponsored by Energy Australia, the Program is presented by Australia's Olympians. The use of Olympians as key presenters is critical to the success of the program. The young participants are attentive and respond positively to Olympian role models who can provide 'real life' athlete experiences relating to this challenging and complex issue.

"The vast majority of Australia's elite athletes are vehemently opposed to drugs and the AOC very much appreciates the support of our champion athletes in this campaign," said AOC Secretary General Bob Elphinston.

The presentation includes powerful video footage and provides the audiences an informative, yet entertaining insight to the issue of Drugs in Sport. In particular, the presentation focuses on:

- the moral, ethical, social and physical reasons for not taking performance enhancing and/or recreational drugs;
- relevant anti-doping issues such as strict liability, inadvertent doping and the use of supplements;
- creating an awareness of the wide-spread presence of banned drugs and of the risks and penalties associated with their use;
- the introduction of key agencies such as the Australian Sports Drug Agency (ASDA);
- the values of competing drug free using the AOC ASPIRE message;

AOC Secretary General, Bob Elphinston.
The program works closely with key agencies such as ASDA and WADA. This working relationship encourages sharing of programs, resources and strengths to create a greater domestic effort for drug-free sport.

Prior to each presentation, a media release is sent to metropolitan, regional and suburban media to help ensure the message of saying ‘no’ to doping in sport reaches a wider public audience. This encourages the media to be a part of the education process in reporting positive stories about drug-free sport and drug education programs.

This is what some of the participating athletes have had to say about the part of the ‘Live Clean Play Clean’ Drug Education presentation that contained the strongest message for them:

"The video footage shows the true consequences of drug taking, it's not just a maybe situation, it's very real."

"Knowing that I could be stripped of a medal even if I did not realise I may have taken a banned substance. I'll think twice before I take anything from the chemist."

"I now know that I am ultimately responsible for what goes into my body and I cannot blame anyone else."

The program targets aspiring athletes, their supporting team officials (coaches, doctors, administrators) and parents through State Institutes of Sport, Regional Academies of Sport, State and National Junior Championships and Training Camps and is conducted Australia wide in metropolitan, regional and rural areas.

Fully funded by the Australian Olympic Committee, the 2003 AYOF provided the highest level of competition to 1500 athletes in 14 summer Olympic sports. The 2003 AYOF featured some of the best young male and female athletes from Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Oceania, Singapore, South Africa and United States of America.

The 2003 AYOF Program was further supported by WADA's attendance. The presence of the WADA Outreach Program featured an interactive booth, which generated a great deal of interest and activity amongst the participating athletes and team officials. Together the AOC and WADA programs promoted a strong drug-free message at the 2003 AYOF.

The AOC is proud of the firm stance it takes against the use of performance enhancing drugs in sport. The provision of ongoing education for athletes early on in their athletic careers is an important step in assisting them to make responsible choices in their pursuit for athletic excellence.

The Energy Australia ‘Live Clean Play Clean’ Drug Education Program is an excellent tool to raise athlete, coach and parent awareness on this important issue.

For more Information on the Energy Australia, ‘Live Clean Play Clean’ Drug Education Program go to: