

play true

ISSUE 3 - 2007

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WORLD ANTI-DOPING AGENCY

Record Pace

Still early out of the blocks, the global anti-doping movement has fostered a new imperative of sportsmanship and fair play that now extends to every level of athletic competition. *Play True* examines this revolution in sport and discusses anti-doping's likely evolution on the occasion of the Third World Conference on Doping in Sport.



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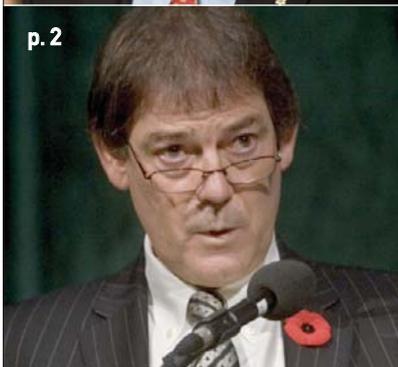
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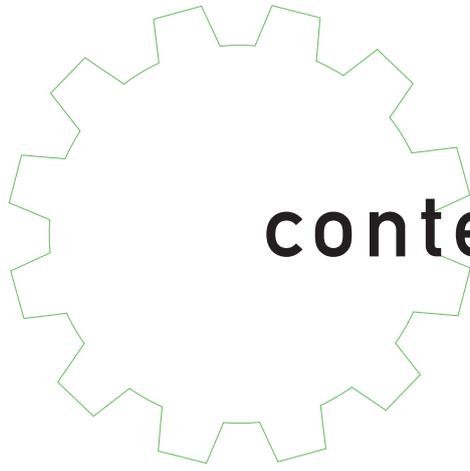


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Parting Thoughts

More than eight years ago Government and Sport came together to combat the greatest threat ethical sport has ever known. They agreed on the creation of an international agency whose mission is focused squarely on combating doping. I was handed the challenge

This special issue of *Play True*, published in time for distribution at the Third World Conference on Doping in Sport, provides a historical perspective of our progress—beginning with the revolutionary act of Sport and Government joining forces to

behind the reliable science and respond to those who make false or unsupported statements (almost always with a degree of self-interest) attacking the science. Similarly, more resources and partnerships are needed in the research field to ensure that anti-

In a knee-jerk reaction to the recent proliferation of doping scandals, certain individuals argue for legalization. This position is incomprehensible, irresponsible and reprehensible in light of the dangers doping poses to athlete health and the future of sport, and it needs to be put to rest once and for all.

of establishing and leading the World Anti-Doping Agency, which I accepted with a profound sense of responsibility, knowing that in many respects, the future of sport and the health of athletes were in our hands. I have taken this responsibility very seriously and have given it my full energy.

confront the scourge of doping, and then developing into a sustained and ever-evolving movement that builds on the foundation, draws on our experience and looks to the future.

doping keeps up with the opportunistic and entrepreneurial science of cheating by doping.

I am extremely proud of what we all have accomplished by working together during this relatively brief period. The Foundation Board and its leadership, stakeholders around the globe and our highly dedicated staff have firmly established this agency as a unique partnership between Sport and Government, have brought together many stakeholders and perspectives into one single set of rules for anti-doping, covering all athletes in all sports and all countries, have established the first and only coordinated scientific research program for the detection of performance enhancing substances, have expanded the reach of anti-doping in underserved regions through our development program. The list goes on.

And looking towards the future, there is much more to do.

Major break-ups of massive manufacturing and trafficking rings, most recently the Operation Raw Deal, confirm what we already knew, that doping is a crisis of international proportion and impact. But not all countries have the regulatory framework that allows law enforcement authorities to stem the rise of these nefarious schemes. All governments need to accelerate the process of ratifying the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport and applying its tenets in earnest.

Recent events tell us that doping is much more pervasive than some of the most cynical observers might ever have imagined. For one, in certain camps, the conduct of the past has allowed doping to take root and spread, like a cancer, taking over the culture of certain sports. Today, the question for some is, can our sport survive? Pressure and assistance, together with support for improved efforts, must be increased to ensure that these organizations take the right steps, now.

Not all countries are actively engaged in anti-doping. The international spotlight needs to be focused on those countries so that they are held accountable for their part in the global harmonized fight against doping. WADA's development program has made inroads. Now all need to participate. The absence of even one country from the fight against doping risks upsetting the balance sought for a level playing field.

The science of detection and laboratory performance need to be beyond criticism, including limiting the possibility of false negative tests or legal loopholes. Those involved in the fight against doping in sport must also be willing to stand



A Tribute to Richard W. Pound

Education can no longer play a back seat to other strategies in anti-doping. Children need to hear the message and be given the tools, at a very young age, to respond in the most healthful way when confronted with the question of doping. Nor should the educational process be limited to children. It needs to affect the entire spectrum of society.

In a knee-jerk reaction to the recent proliferation of doping scandals, certain individuals argue for legalization. This position is incomprehensible, irresponsible and reprehensible in light of the dangers doping poses to athlete health and the future of sport, and it needs to be put to rest once and for all.

In a sense, in this complex system that is the global harmonized fight against doping, we are only as strong as our weakest link. The future will depend on how successful we are in strengthening these areas.

Whatever strategies and tools are brought to confront these specific trials, from our present and past experience, I know there is no panacea. The fight against doping is a living exercise requiring vigilance and fortitude.

Your responsibility is now to redouble your efforts and to keep the momentum going forward. You will need to think anew about how to keep young athletes free from the dangers of doping and protect the intrinsic value sport has in the development of future generations. 

Richard W. Pound
President & Chairman

As we prepare for the Third World Conference on Doping in Sport and for the changing of the guard in the selection of a government representative to become WADA's next president, I take this opportunity on behalf of everybody, to express our warmest gratitude to Richard Pound.

Richard dedicated his efforts and skills to the creation of what has become a highly effective institution, for the benefit of youth and sport, around the globe and for generations to come.

In the time that I have worked with Richard, I have been reminded regularly of his convictions and his ability. He brought a calm and reassuring presence, coupled with sound judgment, fresh thinking and unflinching candour.

Some might characterize his candour as perhaps not always entirely politically correct. But one thing is certain,

Richard has always had the courage to speak the unvarnished truth, and that is what has been required to effect change.

Indeed, throughout the eight years he has led WADA, Richard has had the vision to see the larger strategic picture and the courage to follow it through. Our success is a measure and a recognition of his vision and leadership.

We gather at this World Conference to look to the future, with a newly revised World Anti-Doping Code, a new leadership, and certainly in anticipation of new and unpredictable challenges. We are emboldened by the legacy Richard leaves and the example he has set.

To quote the Roman poet Manlius "the end depends upon the beginning" and thanks to Richard's leadership, we could not have been given a better beginning. 

David Howman
Director General

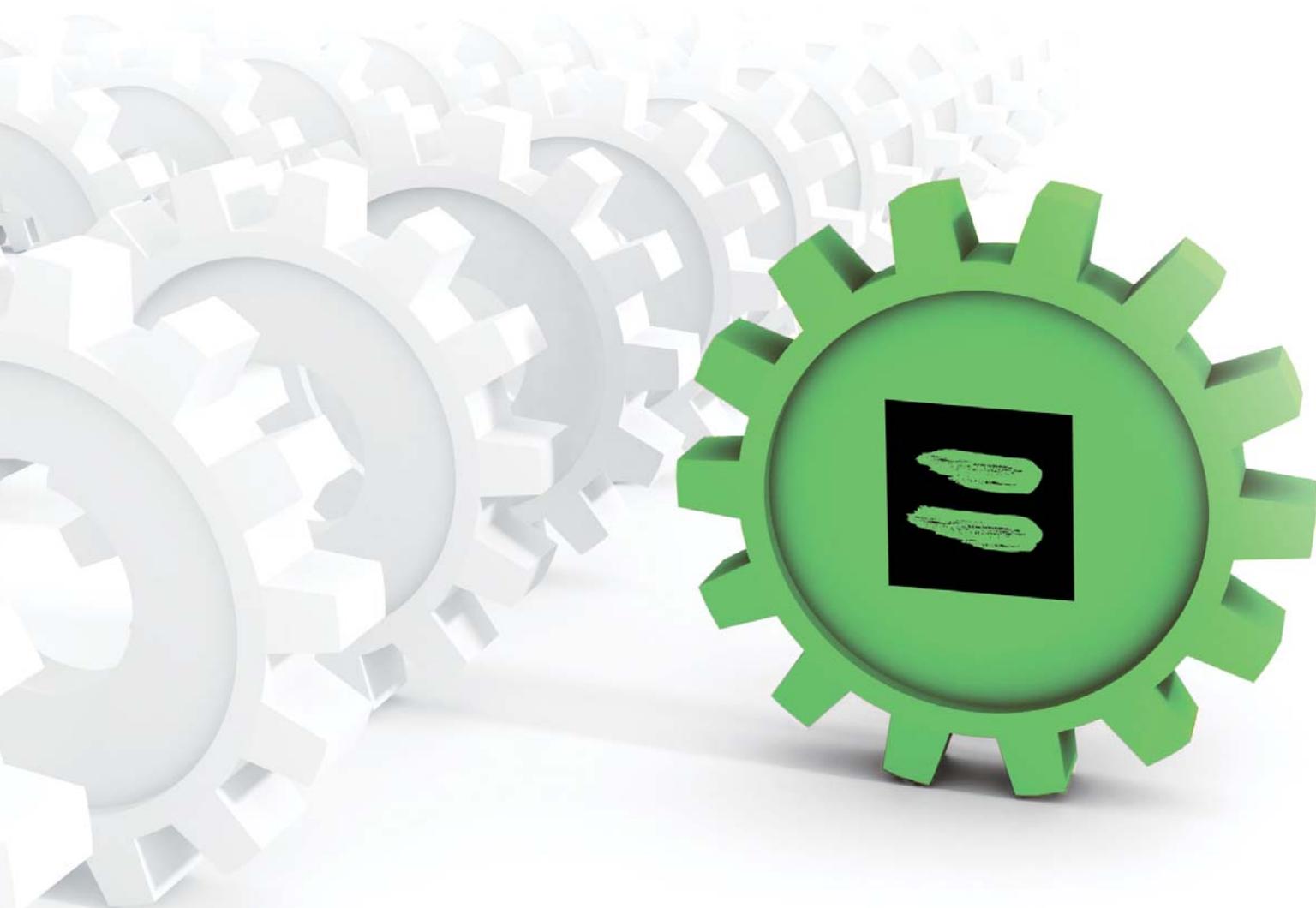


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From Revolution

Looking toward the future of the fight against doping in sport, *Play True* retraces the evolution of the global campaign, beginning with the event that catapulted Governments and Sport into a revolutionary act of allying forces at the First World Conference on Doping in 1999.





to Evolution

rev·o·lu·tion

Function: noun

Definition: a fundamental change in the way of thinking about or visualizing something: a change of paradigm

The Festina doping scandal that rocked cycling in 1998 catapulted Sport and Governments of the world into action. Concerns about the harms of doping to the health of athletes and to the integrity of sport—concerns that had been growing over the previous decades—exploded with Festina, and it became supremely evident that the scourge of doping is the greatest threat that sport had ever known. It could no longer be ignored or addressed sporadically. It had to be confronted head-on. A revolution was needed. One encompassing everyone, including sports authorities, governments, athletes, scientists, educators, coaches, trainers. Anyone who had a stake in the future of sport and the health of not just elite athletes, but the millions of youth who admire athletic heroism and aspire to excel in sport.

And so, in February 1999, in Lausanne, at the First World Conference on Doping in Sport, the revolution began. Sport and Governments of the world came together to ally their forces and devise their strategy for a full frontal assault on doping. That strategy required a uniform approach, coordinated on a global scale, through a partnership between Sport and Government, and led to the creation of WADA to act as the independent international body to marshal the global campaign. WADA's first order of business was to facilitate, with Sport and Government stakeholders, the drafting of a consensus document that would serve as the framework for harmonized anti-doping policies, rules and regulations within sport organizations and among public authorities.

The first years of the campaign were dedicated to consultation among WADA and government and sport stakeholders on the development of the World Anti-Doping Code, and culminated with its unanimous acceptance by all stakeholders in March of 2003, at the Second World Conference on Doping in Sport, in Copenhagen.

Armed with the universally-accepted Code, Sport and Government began working, each in their own fashion, to implement it. The International Olympic Committee—in a shot across the bow—immediately amended its charter so that any sport wishing to



To form a strategy of this scale and a system of this complexity is a serious undertaking in itself. But within just a few short years, the Government-Sport partnership became more solid and the paradigm shift—from individual and disjointed efforts to a globally harmonized campaign—had cemented.

participate in the Games, beginning with the 2004 Summer Games in Athens, must have adopted and implemented the Code prior to the commencement of those Games. Governments, under the aegis of UNESCO, began putting the tenets of the Code into the form of an international treaty so that governments could bind themselves to and follow-through on implementation of the Code within their respective countries.

Meanwhile, as the Code provided the framework, WADA provided the direction, insisting upon a comprehensive three-pronged approach involving testing, research and education: testing, not only to detect the presence of prohibited substances and methods in an athlete's sample, but also to deter those who might be less inclined to take the risk of being caught; research, to keep testing programs up-to-date, given the rapidly advancing science of doping; and

strong education programs to prevent doping altogether by reaching athletes early enough to instill the values and tools for making healthy decisions.

To form a strategy of this scale and a system of this complexity is a serious undertaking in itself. But within just a few short years, the Government-Sport partnership became more solid and the paradigm shift—from individual and disjointed efforts to a globally harmonized campaign—had cemented. The foundations had been laid, sports federations continued with their individual Code implementations, and governments adopted the international treaty (the UNESCO Convention Against Doping in Sport) and began their individual ratifications.

The preliminary phase of one of the greatest battles was behind us.

Three World Conferences

Marking Major Milestones

First Lausanne, then Copenhagen, and now Madrid. The Third World Conference on Doping in Sport, taking place from 15 to 17 November 2007 at the convention centre of the Spanish capital, will follow in the example set by two other world conferences, which marked many crucial milestones in the fight against doping in sport.

The First World Conference on Doping in Sport was held in Lausanne (Switzerland) in February 1999, at the instigation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The aim of this meeting was to respond to the

urgent need to strengthen the fight against doping in sport, particularly following the various doping scandals that beset cycling's Tour de France in 1998. It was determined at that time that a global strategy was needed that would bring together and coordinate sports and public authority resources in the fight against doping, and this first conference led to the concept of an independent international agency responsible for coordinating and monitoring the global fight against doping in sport, which resulted in the creation of WADA in November 1999.



evo·lu·tion

Function: noun

Definition: a process of continuous change from a lower, simpler, or worse to a higher, more complex, or better state: growth

The quest for global harmonization led WADA to establish a development program which now fosters the creation of anti-doping programs in underserved regions of the world through Regional Anti-Doping Organizations, with an eye toward worldwide coverage by 2010.

An escalation of resources committed to scientific research brought about major advances in the science of detection, for example in the discovery and detection of DMT, and now look to heading off possible future threats such as gene doping.

A model for reaching out and interacting one-on-one with athletes at competitions was developed for

stakeholders to adopt and implement so that messages about athlete roles and responsibilities in the fight against doping could be spread far and wide.

Similarly, education tools for athletes and members of their entourage were aggregated and shared with stakeholders in many regions of the world.

The monitoring of the Code began in 2004 when it came into formal effect. And each year since that time there has been a demonstrably greater understanding of and compliance with the Code in the delivery of sanctions by stakeholders.

Still, the Code was always intended to be a living document, evolving to meet the needs of the anti-doping movement. In early 2006, WADA launched an extensive review of the Code, in consultation with its stakeholders, over the course of an 18-month, 3-phase process. This intensive review (*in its final stages at the time of this writing*) will build on several years of practical experience with the current Code, fine tune its provisions and strengthen overall efforts to combat doping worldwide.

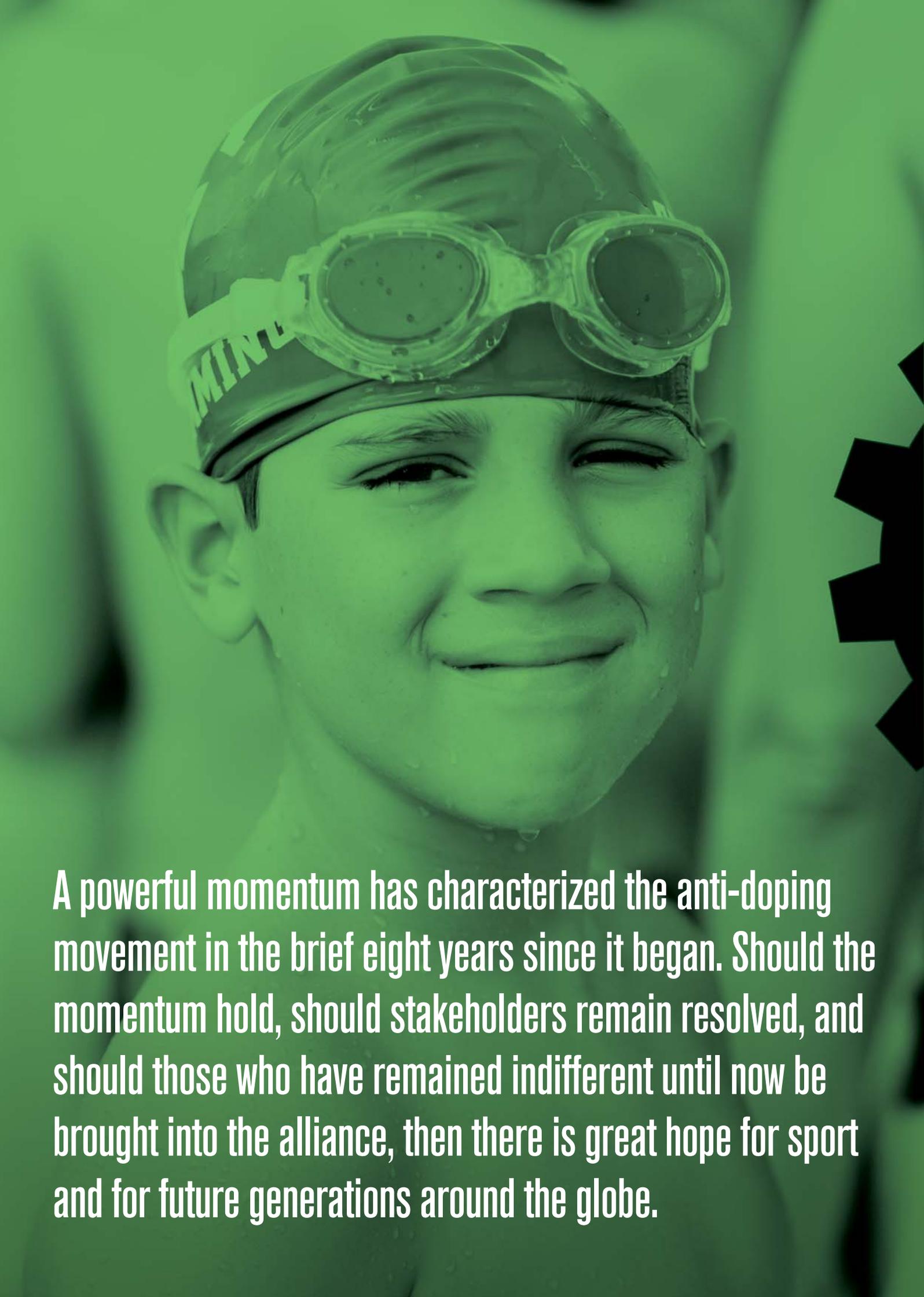
At the same time, major busts, such as the BALCO affair in the United States and Festina in France, and

The Second World Conference, organized by WADA in Copenhagen (Denmark), from 3 to 5 March 2003, marked another important milestone in the fight against doping. At this conference, more than 1,000 delegates representing the governments and the sports movement unanimously approved the final version of the World Anti-Doping Code, the first document to harmonize doping-related rules in all sports and all countries. This event took place following an unprecedented consultation process, which was launched in 2001 and sought to give all

stakeholders in the fight against doping the opportunity to contribute and submit their comments and recommendations (see *"The Making and Evolution of the Code," p. 9*).

At the Third World Conference, the evolution of this Code and the fight against doping in general will form the focus of debate. WADA's Foundation Board decided in May 2005 to organize this major conference to evaluate progress and challenges in the fight against doping and to identify next steps, and six months later, the Board selected

Madrid over Bangkok (Thailand) and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) as the host city. In Madrid, discussion will revolve around, in particular, the final draft of the revised Code, which is the result of an extensive stakeholder consultation process, launched in April 2006, intended to benefit from several years' experience of operating under the Code and to further strengthen the fight against doping. Some 1,500 delegates, observers and media representatives are expected in the Spanish capital from 15 to 17 November 2007.



A powerful momentum has characterized the anti-doping movement in the brief eight years since it began. Should the momentum hold, should stakeholders remain resolved, and should those who have remained indifferent until now be brought into the alliance, then there is great hope for sport and for future generations around the globe.



even more recently the international Operation Raw Deal, demonstrate that doping often occurs on a broad scale and involves the participation of well-financed and well-organized members of the athlete entourage, those who profit from the athlete's success, derived from doping, while risking very little themselves. The ease with which one can purchase prohibited substances through the Internet also lends to the proliferation of counterfeit products, posing even greater health risks to the user. The trafficking of doping substances is now understood to be linked, in many cases, with organized crime and its sophisticated distribution networks, who find it a particularly high-profit low-risk business.

With the growing recognition of the power of these influences, additional strategies have been brought to bear in a coordinated manner to confront them.

Important progress in cracking down on large scale doping rings has been possible thanks to major investigations led by government agencies and law enforcement authorities in countries committed to outlawing the manufacture, trafficking and possession of doping substances. The evidence collected during these investigations is extremely valuable in following-up on anti-doping violations committed by athletes and their entourage. Now, in a collaborative effort, WADA is working with stakeholders, including law enforcement authorities, in the development of protocols for the sharing of information to enhance the efficiency of the fight against doping. The assistance of Interpol has been solicited also in the efforts to share law enforcement information across borders in the breaking up of international trafficking rings.

In the realm of science and medicine, a new strategy is being pursued that involves the longitudinal tracking of athlete biological parameters. This biological tracing throughout an athlete's sporting career should make any illegal preparation far harder to implement, thanks to the detection, in the event of such preparation, of indirect signs of the use of banned substances and methods. As with speed detection on roads, it is a matter of progressing from fixed radars (the location of which is often known) to mobile radars that measure speed on a permanent basis.

Looking toward the future evolution

Some seem to forget all that has been achieved since 1999—and they must therefore be reminded. Prior to

the creation of WADA and the Code, it was primarily the sports organizations which led the fight against doping within their own respective communities. There was a scarcity and splintering of resources necessary to conduct research and testing, a lack of knowledge about specific substances and procedures being used and to what degree, and an uneven approach to penalties for athletes found guilty of doping. The isolated and disjointed efforts did little to stem the scourge of doping.

Fast-forward to the present, and we find a world greatly transformed.

Today, there is harmonization. The vehicle for that harmonization—the Code—has proven itself fair, practical and practicable. There is an international independent body—WADA—protecting the integrity of that Code and ensuring that it remains a living document, that serves the evolving needs of Sport and Governments.

Today, there is a global network of anti-doping organizations, government authorities and laboratories, operating in a complex and interdependent system, united in the common purpose of rooting out doping.

Granted, challenges exist today within the system. But these are the inevitable growing pains of a system in its early phases of development, and are to be expected. While there might still be some who want to avoid the obvious, and others who now suffer the detriments of their long-term denial, fortunately, avoidance and denial are becoming rarer and less tolerated by the rest of the world. The situation created by the combined sport-government resources dedicated to anti-doping is an improvement over the past. The future will call for a bolstering of these resources in the face of the ever evolving nature of the foe and the tools and strategies required to combat it on a global scale.

What challenges and innovations will the future bring to reduce the hold of doping on sport and youth worldwide? The foundation is solid, and universal commitment is secure. A powerful momentum has characterized the anti-doping movement in the brief eight years since it began. Should the momentum hold, should stakeholders remain resolved, and should those who have remained indifferent until now be brought into the alliance, then there is great hope for sport and for future generations around the globe. ■



The Making and Evolution of the Code

The current version of the World Anti-Doping Code, the document providing a harmonized framework for anti-doping policies, rules and regulations for sports organizations and public authorities, was presented to WADA stakeholders during the Second World Conference on Doping in Sport in March 2003 (see *“Three World Conferences: Marking Major Milestones,”* p. 5), and entered into force on 1 January 2004.

The making of the Code was a challenging and complex task involving the development and integration of several standards and core activities, such as the list of banned substances, accreditation of laboratories, and testing of doping control samples.

The drafting represented an unprecedented and extensive consultation process involving all categories of stakeholders and experts, including the athletes themselves. All stakeholders were informed about important milestones and activities and all had the opportunity to provide feedback, which was incorporated into each successive draft version of the Code.

The initiative took a global and inclusive approach, relying on and consulting with all stakeholders in the development and coordination of a comprehensive and worldwide anti-doping strategy, called the World Anti-Doping Program. This program consists of three levels: the Code, the four International Standards (Prohibited List, Therapeutic Use Exemptions, Testing, and Laboratories), and the Models of Best Practice. The Code and the International Standards are mandatory for Code signatories.

Code structure

The first stage in the process consisted of circulating a draft of the main structure of the World Anti-Doping Program and an outline of the Code, having been endorsed by WADA's Executive Committee in November 2001, to WADA stakeholders for comments by the end of 2001.



Following this initial phase, experts in the fight against doping were consulted in order to develop and draft the backbone of the Code, which consisted of core elements such as the rationale for anti-doping; the definition of doping; anti-doping rules violations; proof of doping; the prohibited list; and sanctions and appeals. Consultative meetings with governments, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Federations (IF), National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADO) and National Olympic Committees were also conducted in early 2002, and these contributed significantly to the drafting process of specific articles in the Code.

From February to April 2002, the Code Project Team (a group of internal and external experts) consulted relevant WADA working committees in addition to receiving feedback and comments from WADA's broader stakeholder group.

Consultation and drafting

The first complete draft of the Code was presented to the WADA Foundation Board at its meeting in June 2002, and then sent to more than 1,000 individuals and organizations for comments, who were given three months to respond.

Based on the comments received, the second version of the Code was presented to the WADA Executive Committee at its meeting on 1 October. As with the previous draft, this was then distributed to over 1,000 stakeholders.

Some weeks later, in mid-November 2002, the four mandatory standards developed by the working groups were sent out for consultation.

At the end of this phase, which included the submission of final comments, the definitive version of the Code was distributed in February 2003 along with the second draft of the International Standards.

These documents were presented and approved unanimously at the Second World Conference on Doping in Sport, which took place in Copenhagen (Denmark), from 3 to 5 March 2003. Representatives from 101 nationalities, the 35 International Olympic Sports Federations and 80 governments were all present.

On the final day of the conference, the WADA Foundation Board adopted the Code unanimously. The delegates then unanimously adopted a Conference Resolution, which recognized the Code as the basis of the fight against doping in sport. To demonstrate their support, the governments drafted the Copenhagen Declaration, a political document through which they formally pledged to adopt the principles of the Code by subsequently ratifying an international treaty against doping in sport (see *"The Essential Role of Governments,"* p. 13).

The IOC accepted the Code at its session in July 2003 and amended the Olympic Charter to ensure that only those sports that had implemented the Code would be able to participate in the program of the Olympic Games.



Anti-Doping—From Revolution to Evolution

The Code and the associated International Standards entered into force on 1 January 2004. To date, over 570 sports organizations have adopted the Code.

Formalized rules and respective responsibilities

Two significant advances made by the Code in the global war on doping are the formalization of certain rules and the clarification of stakeholder responsibilities, thus bringing harmonization for the first time to a system where previously rules had varied among sports and countries or had not existed at all.

For example, for the first time, the universal criteria were set for considering whether a substance or method may be banned from use and placed on the Prohibited List. The Code also established the strict liability principle as the basis for determining anti-doping rule violations by athletes with positive doping results. In addition, it set the standard for minimum and maximum sanctions while providing flexibility for the consideration of the circumstances of the cases. At the same time, the Code opened the door for the sanctioning of “non-analytical positives” meaning that evidence other than a positive doping test may be sufficient to sanction those found to have violated anti-doping rules. Such violations include use or attempted use of a banned substance, failure to provide whereabouts information or be available for testing, tampering with doping control or analysis process, and possession of banned substances.

The Code also formalized WADA's right of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) on rulings by anti-doping organizations operating under the Code.

Code review

Over the years, the Code has proved to be a powerful and effective tool in the harmonization of anti-doping

efforts worldwide. This has been demonstrated by the overwhelming support of Governments and Sports in adopting the Code, in addition to the growing body of CAS jurisprudence supporting the Code's tenets. Nevertheless, the Code, as outlined in Article 23.6, was always intended to serve as a living document, evolving to meet needs.

In light of the evolution of anti-doping, and with the purpose of leveraging the experience acquired during several years of implementation, in April 2006, WADA and the anti-doping community launched a consultation process for a practical review of the Code and associated International Standards. The intended result is a strengthening of anti-doping protocols and programs worldwide.

The fully transparent consultation process facilitated by WADA, similar to the process implemented for the initial drafting of the Code, was conducted under the supervision of the WADA Executive Committee. Three consultation phases were held (from April to July 2006, from January to March 2007, and from the beginning of June to the end of July 2007), which gave all stakeholders and interested parties the opportunity to contribute in a constructive manner to the practical improvement of the Code and International Standards.

Comments were therefore submitted by governments, the IOC, IFs, NADOs, athletes, and many other sports organizations and individuals. A total of approximately 210 organizations and individuals submitted suggestions during the consultation, compared to almost 260 during the original drafting of the Code. During the first consultation phase (April–July 2006), WADA received 71 submissions which were considered in the development of the First Revised Draft of the Code. During the second consultation phase

Three steps to Code compliance

Code acceptance means that the organization agrees to the principles of the Code and agrees to implement and comply with the Code.

Code implementation means that the organization amends its rules and policies to include the mandatory articles and principles of the Code.

Code compliance means that the organization has amended its rules and policies and is enforcing them in accordance with the Code.

WADA has a duty to monitor stakeholder acceptance, implementation and compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code.



Two significant advances made by the Code in the global war on doping are the formalization of certain rules and the clarification of stakeholder responsibilities, thus bringing harmonization for the first time to a system where previously rules had varied among sports and countries or had not existed at all.

(January–March 2007), 81 sets of comments were submitted on the First Revised Draft, which led to the Second Revised Draft of the Code. Some 61 submissions were made on this second draft, and the diminution of stakeholder comments to the successive iterations suggests that a relatively broad consensus had been reached on many of the elements. The Third Revised Draft of the Code was published on 15 October 2007, and will be presented for approval at the Third World Conference on Doping in Sport, to take place from 15 to 17 November 2007, in Madrid (Spain).

All of the comments received, as well as monthly updates on the consultation process, were published on the WADA Web site, unless the organization or individual submitting the comments requested otherwise. At the same time, revised versions of the International Standard for Testing, the International Standard for Laboratories and the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions were published for consultation.

Furthermore, the Code Project Team (a group of internal and external experts) in charge of reviewing the Code held numerous meetings with various stakeholder organizations in order to discuss the Code review and solicit to their suggestions.

General trends

The result of this vast consultation process is a draft of the revised Code revealing three major trends: firmness, a strengthening of the fight against doping, and fairness. A clause in the draft thus proposes a strengthening of sanctions for doping cases involving certain “aggravating circumstances,” such as participation in an organized doping network or scheme, the use of multiple prohibited substances by the same athlete, or behaviour intended to obstruct the detection or adjudication of an anti-doping rule violation.

At the same time, greater flexibility would be introduced as relates to sanctions in general. While

this flexibility would provide for enhanced sanctions in cases involving aggravating circumstances, lessened sanctions would be possible where the athlete is able to prove that the substance involved was not intended to enhance performance.

The draft revised Code and associated International Standards address delays and recommend the acceleration of the process and management of doping cases (e.g., reduced period between analysis of the A- and B-samples and mandatory provisional suspension following confirmation of an adverse analytical finding through analysis of the B-sample).

Stakeholders have also requested greater harmonization, now included in the draft revised Code and International Standards, in some areas where stakeholders had initially wanted some flexibility at the time of the original drafting of the 2003 Code. For example, the 2003 Code does not set requirements as to the number of missed tests that should lead to a potential anti-doping rule violation, leaving it to anti-doping organizations to determine this number. This flexibility was examined as part of the Code and International Standards review, with a view to harmonizing the rules and making them more uniform and mandatory. The draft revised Code now formalizes the current WADA recommendation that any combination of three missed tests and/or failures by an athlete to provide accurate whereabouts information within an 18-month period shall constitute an anti-doping rule violation.

Barring changes made at the World Conference in Madrid as regards the required implementation date of the newly revised Code, the final draft states that the revised Code will come into force on 1 January 2009. This means that each signatory needs to ensure that its rules reflect the amendments included in the revised Code prior to that date.

For further information on the Code and its review, please consult the “Code Review” section on the WADA Web site (www.wada-ama.org). ■



The Essential Role of Governments

Governments have a key role to play alongside and in cooperation with the sports world in the fight against doping in sport, and many public authority leaders are fully aware of this. Because some states cannot be legally bound by a non-governmental document such as the World Anti-Doping Code, governments commit to the global fight against doping and implement Code-compliant programs through a two-step process. First, governments signal their political commitment to WADA and the Code by signing the Copenhagen Declaration of 2003, which is then followed by ratification of the UNESCO International Convention against Doping

WADA has paid particular attention to these kinds of complementary actions carried out by the sports and public authorities over the past few years. In cooperation with other sports and anti-doping organizations, WADA organized two symposia on the investigative powers of anti-doping authorities in 2006 and 2007, bringing together representatives of governments, sports, anti-doping organizations and law enforcement.

Indeed, important progress in cracking down on large scale doping schemes has been possible thanks to major investigations led by government

Important progress in cracking down on large scale doping schemes has been possible thanks to major investigations led by government agencies and law enforcement in countries committed to outlawing the manufacture, trafficking and possession of doping substances.

in Sport, the practical document which permits governments to align their domestic policies with the Code. To date, 191 governments have signed the Copenhagen Declaration. The UNESCO Convention, drafted and adopted in record time of less than one year for each, entered into force on 1 February 2007, and by mid-October 2007, some 67 governments had ratified it.

The UNESCO Convention, the first universal treaty against doping in sport, formalizes the responsibilities of governments in the fight against doping in sport, as public authority action is essential to the effectiveness of the fight against doping. For example, governments can, and have the responsibility to, facilitate doping tests, fund research, and support education regarding the dangers and consequences of this threat to public health. What's more, governments, and by their extension law enforcement authorities, have an even broader field of influence than sport in the fight against doping. As such, in areas in which sports authorities have no power to intervene, government and law enforcement authorities are able to take measures relating to source and supply, such as shutting down trafficking rings, beefing up border controls and carrying out investigations.

and law enforcement agencies in countries committed to outlawing the manufacture, trafficking and possession of doping substances. In addition, the evidence collected during these investigations becomes extremely valuable to sport and anti-doping authorities who are then able to follow-up on anti-doping violations committed by athletes and their entourage.

Following these two investigations symposia, WADA created a working group, which is currently establishing how to improve cooperation and the sharing of information between governmental agencies on the one hand and the sports and anti-doping authorities on the other. The working group has also been tasked with putting forward protocol models. *(For further information on these new strategies, please consult issue 1, 2007, of Play True.)*

WADA also has reached an agreement with Interpol, the world's largest police organization, for heightened coordination between the law enforcement community and the sports authorities in the context of doping-related investigations. A memorandum of understanding between WADA and Interpol will be approved officially at the Third World Conference on Doping in Sport in Madrid, so as to define a specific cooperation framework between the two organizations. ■



Strategic Activities: Outcomes & Advances

Reflecting the importance of a comprehensive approach to the fight against doping in sport, WADA targets its activities in several strategic areas. The key advances and outcomes of these programs, achieved in the brief but dynamic period since WADA's founding, are highlighted here.

Anti-Doping Development

Piloted in mid-2004 with five countries in the Oceania region, WADA's anti-doping program development initiative has resulted in the expansion of the fight against doping around the globe through the establishment of Regional Anti-Doping Organizations (RADO).

WADA facilitates the establishment of RADOs by bringing together countries with similar geographical interests, in regions where there are no or limited anti-doping activities, so that they can pool human and financial resources for the implementation of doping control and anti-doping education programs. In each of the regions, the RADO is a shared organization among the countries involved that takes on the responsibility for the full range of anti-doping duties, including coordinating sample collection; managing results, appeals, and TUE approvals; disseminating education and information; and establishing Code compliant anti-doping rules.

By the close of 2007, more than 119 countries across 14 RADOs will have become engaged in the fight against doping through local ownership, the support of partners and most of all the commitment by those countries to protecting their athletes' health and right to doping-free sport.

Athletes

Created in 2005, WADA's Athlete Committee rapidly established itself as an effective representative for Clean Athletes within WADA programs and on the global stage. Not only have Committee members provided constructive feedback to WADA on anti-doping topics, but they are also speaking out on behalf of Clean Athletes worldwide, calling for tough sanctions for those who cheat themselves and their competitors by doping, as well as challenging governments and sports to raise the profile and voice of their own clean athletes. Committee members have been key participants in every step of the consultation and review of the World Anti-Doping Code.

WADA's own Athlete Outreach Program has become an integral strategy for educating athletes and their support personnel about the dangers and consequences of doping. Launched in 2001, the outreach program is delivered at major multi-sport events, such as the Olympics and Paralympics, and has interacted with thousands of athletes worldwide. Each program recruits a team of international anti-doping experts to support its operation and uses the WADA Doping Quiz, now translated into 16 languages, to provide anti-doping information directly to athletes and officials in a fun and interactive way. The success of the outreach program led to the creation of the WADA Outreach Model in late 2006 for the implementation of outreach programs by sport and anti-doping stakeholders alike. With the free templates available in a multitude of languages and formats, more than 25 stakeholders have already adopted the WADA outreach model as the basis for their own athlete awareness programs.

Science

Four years under the Code have allowed for the development and consolidation of several activities in Science.

The Prohibited List: A committee of ten members, representing different fields of expertise, reviews and establishes the draft Prohibited List on an annual basis and submits the draft to a transparent and thorough process of consultation. Comments from stakeholders are reviewed by the scientific committees before the Prohibited List is discussed and approved by the representatives of the governments and sport authorities at the WADA Executive Committee.

Research: Since 2001, WADA has established a strong and continuous support system for anti-doping research. With more than 25 percent of its annual budget, for a total of more than US\$32 million, WADA has supported close to 150 research projects for the improvement and development of new anti-doping methods and the detection of new drugs. The growing number of scientific presentations and international publications making reference to WADA illustrates the vitality of this key program.



Anti-Doping—From Revolution to Evolution

Laboratory Accreditation: The laboratory accreditation and re-accreditation program has been a major point of focus since WADA's inception. Inherited from the IOC in 2004, this program has evolved into a more continuous monitoring of laboratory performance and quality, based on the harmonized and stringent rules under the International Standard for Laboratories and the related Technical Documents. These new rules under the Code have established a strong basis of harmonization for the work conducted by the existing accredited laboratories worldwide as well as guidance for future laboratories joining the WADA accreditation. Strong links are now established with other international organizations concerned with laboratory performance, quality and accreditation, including the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation and the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures.

Medicine

Since its creation, WADA has sharpened its strategies relating to athlete health, including generating a broader understanding of the dangers of doping and exploring new medical models for enhanced detection.

The first major step concerns the mechanism for granting Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE). Prior to WADA's existence, the treatment of therapeutic use of doping substances was greatly disparate among International Federations and National Anti-Doping Organizations, ranging from a complete absence of a TUE policy to a system of exemptions that was mostly symbolic and very permissive. Today, thanks to WADA, there exists an International Standard formalizing a single process for everyone. This standard brings to bear not only the desired harmonization, but it also permits a medical consistency in the authorizations based on validated references.

A more medical approach has also been introduced through the development of the Athlete Passport concept. Thus the longitudinal follow-up of athlete biological parameters recorded in a "passport" should allow the identification, indirectly, of abnormal profiles due to the use of banned substances or methods. The Athlete Passport, currently in development, could offer an interesting solution in the face of the limits of direct detection of substances in athlete samples. This model could also play an important role in the monitoring of athlete health for the identification of pathological abnormalities.

Further, the creation of WADA has permitted the development of a network of medical experts around the problem of doping, in partnership with sports medicine organizations. This helps to identify and debate issues, in order to develop solutions that are applicable in the global context.

Legal

Every year since the beginning, legal activities in relation to harmonization and Code monitoring have grown exponentially. In the initial stages, WADA's legal activities were driven in part by a very strong legal committee, whose work was devoted chiefly to the implementation of contractual relationships for out-of-competition testing and the establishment of initial rules and regulations for harmonization. With the development of the Code, drafted in 2001 and 2002, and adopted in 2003, WADA's legal activities grew. And, with the Code coming into force in 2004, specifically giving WADA the right of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) of International Federation and National Anti-Doping Organization rulings, WADA's legal activities have shifted to a close monitoring of all doping sanctions delivered around the world and the launch of appeals to CAS when appropriate.

In addition, WADA's legal department has contributed to many different areas, including data protection for ADAMS, contracts for research, protection of the WADA logo, establishment of various standards and a very important involvement in the revision of the Code in the lead up to the Third World Conference on Doping in Sport.

Anti-Doping Coordination: ADAMS

WADA launched ADAMS officially on November 17, 2005, to serve as the platform for stakeholders to share important anti-doping information and activities in one secure system—from athletes providing whereabouts information, to anti-doping organizations ordering tests, to laboratories reporting results, to anti-doping organizations managing results.

ADAMS is specifically designed for WADA stakeholders and is free to use from anywhere in the world via the Internet. Available in seven languages, ADAMS is highly secure and meets European Union data protection requirements.



Since its launch, ADAMS has made significant advances, in both its adoption by stakeholders for the management of their day-to-day doping control programs and its deployment for in-competition programs at Major Games. ADAMS has been successfully implemented for the doping control management at three Major Games: the 2006 Paralympic Winter Games in Torino (Italy), the 2006 Asian Games in Doha (Qatar), and the 2007 Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). In addition, consistent with best practice in major technology-based initiatives, WADA continues to devote resources to enhance functionality and ease of use.

An essential tool in the fight against doping, ADAMS facilitates stakeholders compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code in a more efficient and cost-effective manner than ever before.

Education

WADA's current Education strategy was developed with prevention as its key focus. To be effective, preventive anti-doping education needs to offer a sustained process of developing and integrating values in individuals, at the earliest age possible, that will help them make the choice, when it arises, of not engaging in cheating or doping. From a practical view-point and for best effect, because education is a process that is intrinsically tied to culture and custom, anti-doping education activities need to be conceived and delivered locally, using established education-enabling structures that are not limited to sports centers, sports schools or clubs, but also include regular classrooms and other teaching environments (families, social groups, etc.).

As such, WADA has developed education activities geared to assisting stakeholders with promoting and instilling the Spirit of Sport values so as to provide strong moral grounds on which to base decisions not to engage in doping. WADA's values-based education activities are delivered in an interactive format, to fully engage stakeholders in ownership of their own programs, and reap the practical, capacity-building benefits of the "train the trainer" model. These activities target youth and also cast a broader net to reach all of the actors from a youth's and future athlete's major circles of influence (teachers, coaches, doctors and therapists, officials, parents, etc.). WADA's values-based education activities include the regional "Traveling Seminars" and education "Tool Kits" for teachers, for elite coaches and for anti-doping program officers.

In parallel, WADA continues to run its Social Science Research Grant Program, first initiated for the purpose of yielding evidence-based information on which to ground WADA's education and prevention initiatives.

WADA's education activities and materials are already beginning to receive an enthusiastic welcome and recognition from stakeholders worldwide as offering practical assistance with the design and implementation of anti-doping education programs that suit and reflect local cultures, needs and resources.

Finance

WADA was created on the basis that it would be funded equally by the Olympic Movement and the Governments of the world. In the early days (2000–2001), the Olympic Movement alone funded WADA in order to allow governments to organize their contributions and to agree amongst themselves on a share split. Since 2002, the Olympic Movement has been matching all of the government payments, dollar for dollar. In 2002–2003, government funding was relatively low (much of these dues were not paid until 2004–2005). The resulting tight cash flow and lack of reserves required extremely prudent management and the downsizing of planned activities. However, since 2005, payments have been coming in earlier in the year and more regularly, thereby greatly improving cash flow and the ability to follow-through on all planned projects. In 2006, the rate of contribution reached 95.1 percent, demonstrating that nearly all regions of the world were meeting their financial responsibilities in the global harmonized fight against doping in sport.

In 2005, WADA began maintaining its accounts under the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the audited accounts are publicly reported in the WADA Annual Report. The WADA Finance and Administration Committee closely scrutinizes budget provisions and proposals, as well as the audited accounts and reports from the auditors. Monthly accounts are made available for management and quarterly accounts are presented to the WADA Executive Committee. By operating under this open and transparent process and by meeting the highest standards in financial reporting, WADA instills trust and confidence among its stakeholders. ■

Global Expansion

Anti-Doping Programs Take Root around the Globe

The WADA anti-doping development program, launched in 2004, has made considerable progress in only three years. Designed to enable every country in the world to carry out anti-doping activities in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code, this program facilitates the development of Regional Anti-Doping Organizations (RADO) in regions in which there are no established or developed doping control programs. By the close of 2007, 14 RADOs will have been created so that 119 countries will now be active in the fight against doping through these structures (see list on next page).

Because not every country of the world has a solid anti-doping program, it was first up to WADA to design a strategy that sought global coverage. "We carefully analysed the panorama of the fight against doping to establish which countries were carrying out anti-doping activities, and which were not," explained WADA Director General David Howman. "The countries with robust programs, often directed by a National Anti-Doping Organization or by the National Olympic Committee, do not require special attention. But the small countries, and those with underdeveloped or inactive anti-doping programs, are the ones

that need support, because they have limited capacities. It is important to launch testing programs, raise athlete awareness and establish values even in the smallest of countries."

Following the successful creation of a pilot RADO in Oceania in June 2004, in partnership with several organizations (see "The Power of Partnerships," below), WADA decided to repeat the model in other regions. Five RADOs were thus established in 2004 and 2005. Four additional regional organizations were set up in 2006, followed by five more in 2007 (the fifth, to be based in the Indian Ocean and

(continued on page 19)



The Power of Partnerships

Because of its unique structure bringing together public and sports authorities, WADA is ideally positioned to facilitate the creation of RADOs and to garner the support of these two groups for their RADOs. (Each country is represented on the RADO board by a member appointed jointly by the country's government and the National Olympic Committee.) WADA is thus active in each RADO during the launch period, depending on the needs of each organization, and provides the necessary initial financial support along with its experience and expertise.

Nonetheless, these organizations, which are intended to operate fully independently from WADA and which should provide economically advantageous solutions in terms of anti-doping programs for the participating countries lacking in anti-doping resources or expertise, would be unable to exist without partnerships and contributions from other organizations. In each region, and with the support of

WADA, RADOs have benefited from the expertise or financial or human support of various types of organizations: international sports federations, national anti-doping agencies working as mentors, continental associations of National Olympic Committees (NOC), the Olympic Council of Asia in particular, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, the Conference of the Youth and Sports Ministers of French-speaking Countries (CONFESJES), etc. In many cases, the RADO office and an employee are generally provided or supported by the government and/or the NOC of the host country or by one of the other aforementioned organizations.

These valuable partnerships contribute not only to launching the RADOs, but also to building an important momentum, with the objective of turning them into sustainable and self-sufficient organizations (without WADA's financial support) after two years of operation.

Current Regional Anti-Doping Organizations

<p>1. AFRICA ZONE V (East Africa)</p> <p>Date Established: July 2005</p> <p>Participating Countries (7): Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda</p> <p>Participating Organizations: South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS) Commonwealth Secretariat International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)</p> <p>Office Location: Nairobi, Kenya (Office donated by the Kenyan Government)</p> <p>Milestones: Doping Control Officers trained, Outreach Programs implemented, Education Brochures developed</p>	<p>4. CENTRAL AMERICA AND COLOMBIA</p> <p>Date Established: Sept. 2005</p> <p>Participating Countries (8): Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, El Salvador</p> <p>Participating Organizations: United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA)</p> <p>Office Location: Bogota, Colombia (Office donated by the Colombia Government)</p> <p>Milestones: Doping Control Officers trained</p>	<p>7. OCEANIA</p> <p>Date Established: June 2004</p> <p>Participating Countries (6): Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu</p> <p>Participating Organizations: Oceania National Olympic Committees (ONOC) Commonwealth Secretariat Drug Free Sport New Zealand Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) International Rugby Board (IRB)</p> <p>Office Location: Suva, Fiji (Office donated by the Oceania National Olympic Committees)</p> <p>Milestones: Doping Control Officers trained, Education Material developed, Outreach Programs implemented</p>	<p>10. EASTERN EUROPE</p> <p>Date Established: Mar. 2007</p> <p>Participating Countries (8): Albania, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Macedonia, Moldova, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine. (The following countries were not in attendance at the first meeting but are being invited to be part of the RADO: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Montenegro.)</p> <p>Office Location: Minsk, Belarus (Office donated by the Belarus Government and NOC)</p>
<p>2. AFRICA ZONE VI (Southern Africa)</p> <p>Date Established: May 2006</p> <p>Participating Countries (10): Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Participating Organizations: Supreme Council for Sports in Africa (SCSA) Zone VI South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS) Commonwealth Secretariat</p> <p>Office Location: Maputo, Mozambique (Office donated by the Mozambique Government)</p> <p>Milestones: Doping Control Officers trained</p>	<p>5. CENTRAL ASIA</p> <p>Date Established: May 2006</p> <p>Participating Countries (9): Afghanistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan</p> <p>Participating Organizations: Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Anti-Doping Norway</p> <p>Office Location: Tehran, Iran (Office donated by the Iran Government and NOC)</p> <p>Milestones: Doping Control Officers trained</p>	<p>8. SOUTHEAST ASIA</p> <p>Date Established: May 2006</p> <p>Participating Countries (11): Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Lest, Vietnam</p> <p>Participating Organizations: Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) Japan Anti-Doping Agency (JADA)</p> <p>Office Location: Bangkok, Thailand (Office donated by the Thailand Government and NOC)</p> <p>Milestones: Doping Control Officers trained</p>	<p>11. AFRICA ZONE IV (Central Africa)</p> <p>Date Established: April 2007</p> <p>Participating Countries (7): Chad, Cameroon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe</p> <p>Office Location: Yaoundé, Cameroon (Office donated by the Cameroon Government)</p>
<p>3. CARIBBEAN</p> <p>Date Established: Sept. 2005</p> <p>Participating Countries (14): Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos</p> <p>Participating Organizations: Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) Commonwealth Secretariat</p> <p>Office Location: Barbados (Office donated by the Barbados Olympic Association)</p> <p>Milestones: Doping Control Officers trained, Outreach Programs implemented</p>	<p>6. GULF STATES AND YEMEN</p> <p>Date Established: Nov. 2005</p> <p>Participating Countries (7): Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen</p> <p>Participating Organizations: Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) UK Sport</p> <p>Office Location: Kuwait City, Kuwait (Office donated by the Kuwaiti Government and the Olympic Council of Asia)</p> <p>Milestones: Doping Control Officers trained, Education Mentors trained</p>	<p>9. AFRICA ZONE II & III (French-speaking West Africa)</p> <p>Date Established: Oct. 2006</p> <p>Participating Countries (11): Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Mauritania, Senegal, Togo</p> <p>Participating Organizations: Conférence des Ministres de la Jeunesse et des Sports des États et Gouvernements ayant le français en partage (CONFJES) International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES)</p> <p>Office Location: Niamey, Niger (Office donated by the Niger Government and NOC)</p>	<p>12. SOUTH ASIA</p> <p>Date Established: May 2007</p> <p>Participating Countries (5): Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Participating Organizations: Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) UK Sport</p> <p>Office Location: Male, Maldives (Office donated by the Maldives Government and NOC)</p> <p>13. WEST ASIA</p> <p>Date Established: July 2007</p> <p>Participating Countries (4): Iraq, Jordan, Palestine, Syria. (Lebanon was not in attendance at the first meeting but is being invited to be part of the RADO.)</p> <p>Office Location: Amman, Jordan (Office donated by the Jordan Government and NOC)</p>

Regional Anti-Doping Organizations

to serve Africa Zone VII, will be created by year-end).

When it comes to the creation of RADOs, the underlying principle is simple. "All countries should have anti-doping programs led by a National Anti-Doping Organization or, if no such organization exists, by the National Olympic Committee, but we realized that few, in fact, had one," observed Howman. "The idea is to bring countries together through their government and NOC, and to pool financial and human resources in order to create an anti-doping program on a regional basis. We were worried that, if we did not help to launch these organizations, some countries

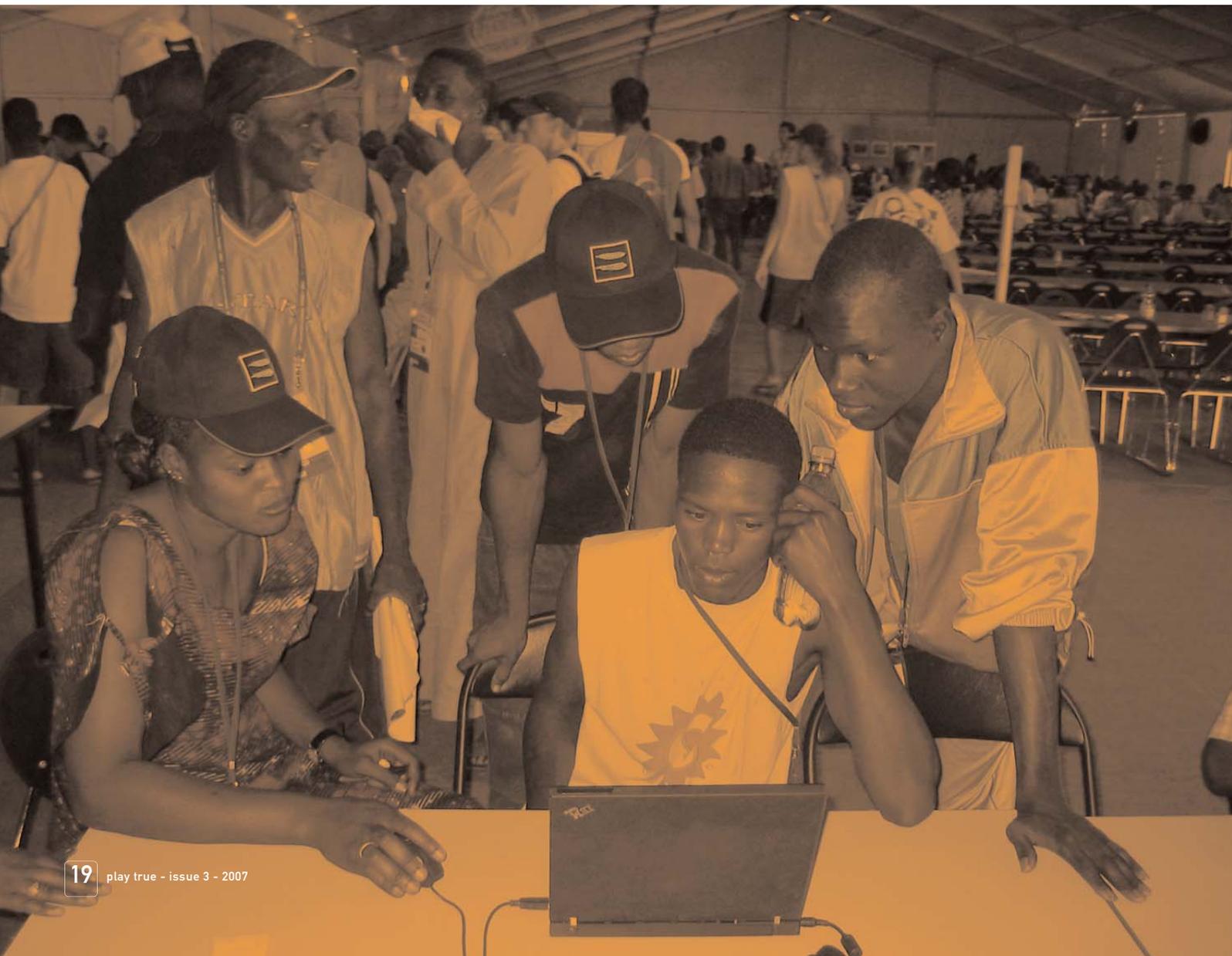
would not have an anti-doping program at all."

In many cases, according to Howman, countries do not know where to start, have scant resources, or need help in understanding what the development of an anti-doping program entails. The supreme objective is to ensure that all athletes worldwide have the same possibility of being tested and benefit from the same anti-doping procedures and protocols, no matter their sport, their nationality, or the country where tested.

WADA's development program is currently enjoying such success

that several countries that had not previously participated in the launch of the RADO in their regions now want to join it. Additional RADO projects will be initiated over the coming months, in North Africa and in other regions of the world, with a global target of having every country in the world committed to the fight against doping by 2010 through a national or regional anti-doping organization.

For further information and updates on the RADOs, as well as contact details for these organizations, please consult the Anti-Doping Development section of WADA's Web site at www.wada-ama.org.





WADA President Encouraged by Chinese Progress in Fight against Doping in Sport

During his second official visit to China, from September 25–28, 2007, as WADA President, Richard W. Pound congratulated Chinese anti-doping and sport officials on the progress that has been achieved in the fight against doping in China since his first visit nearly one year ago.

Pound was warmly received by Mr. Liu Qi, President of the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games, Mr. Liu Peng, China's Sport Minister and President of the Chinese Olympic Committee, and Mr. Duan Shijie, Vice Minister and Chairman of the Chinese Olympic Committee Anti-Doping Commission, who serves on WADA's Foundation Board. During the two-day program, Pound's hosts presented the advances the country has made over the past year in heightening its commitment to the fight against doping in sport.

"I am very encouraged by the progress reported during my meetings with China's sports and anti-doping leaders this week," said Mr. Pound at the conclusion of his visit to the Chinese capital. "Last year we had asked certain questions and provided several recommendations for the preparation of doping-free Olympic Games and for improving a strong and efficient national anti-doping program."

Pound expressed his encouragement after learning of the measures China has begun to implement, such as establishing an independent national anti-doping organization, increasing human and financial resources dedicated to the national testing program, building a new state-of-the-art laboratory, augmenting testing based on a strategy that emphasizes "smart" out-of-competition testing, and incorporating strong education programs that target athletes of different ages, as well as coaches and officials, in their long-term strategy for prevention. Pound noted that many of the plans outlined by the Chinese hosts are already in the early phases of implementation, and that it will be important to learn of China's success as it meets critical milestones in the full implementation of its programs.

Pound noted the significance of China's establishment of a new anti-doping agency, the only new agency created by the central government at a time when it is trying to limit its growth. He also highlighted the progressive way in which the fight against doping is being coordinated, involving commitment and coordination of several governmental departments including the sports ministry, the food and drug administration and other relevant function areas, including greater cooperation with provincial and regional governments. ■

WADA Hosts Information/Education Session in India

On October 5–6, 2007, in cooperation with the Indian Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, WADA hosted in New Delhi an extensive program to inform government and sport stakeholders and other interested parties from the region about the importance of the fight against doping in sport and stakeholders' respective responsibilities under the World Anti-Doping Code (Code).

It was also an important occasion for WADA Director General David Howman to meet with the relevant sport and government officials in India to learn of the country's progress towards establishing an independent National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO) and independent anti-doping laboratory. Howman noted that India is an important country that has many opportunities to prove its commitment to clean sport, including hosting the Commonwealth Games in 2010.

Several presentations were delivered during the two-day conference, including a session by WADA Director General David Howman presenting an overview of the fight against doping in sport, the Code and WADA's strategic initiatives and programs.

The Director of WADA's Asia/Oceania Regional Office, Kazuhiro Hayashi, provided a more in-

depth perspective of WADA's work in Asia and the region's status vis-à-vis the global harmonized fight against doping.

Rob Koehler, WADA's Deputy Director of Standards & Harmonization, led attendees through a series of sessions outlining the key stakeholder responsibilities and processes in anti-doping, including Therapeutic Use Exemptions, athlete whereabouts information, sample collection process, results management and appeals, and how to establish a NADO.

The program concluded with WADA Director of Communications Elizabeth Hunter highlighting key principles and best practices for communications in relation to potential doping cases. A separate media program was hosted in conjunction to provide journalists from the region the opportunity to build their knowledge about the fight against doping in sport, WADA and the Code.

At the conclusion of the two-day program, Indian officials agreed to step up efforts to ensure that the recently founded National Anti-Doping Agency is off to the right start, and that there will be sustained efforts at anti-doping education during upcoming regional and national events. ■

WADA Director General David Howman (far right) met with relevant sport and government officials in India to learn of the country's progress towards establishing an independent National Anti-Doping Organization and independent anti-doping laboratory. Pictured are (from l-to-r): Hon. Singh Deo, Chairman, Organizing Committee for Commonwealth Games 2010 Delhi; Ratan P. Watal, Director General, Sports Authority of India; Mike Hooper, CEO, Commonwealth Games Federation.



Code Compliance: Official Report to be Released in 2008

All stakeholders should be fully aware of their compliance and reporting obligations as 2008 is the first year that signatories to the 2003 World Anti-Doping Code (Code) must publicly report their status vis-à-vis Code compliance.

For one, compliance with the Code is mandatory for signatories of the Code, as stated in Code Article 23.2.1: "The Signatories shall implement applicable Code provisions through policies, statutes, rules or regulations according to their authority and within their relevant spheres of responsibility."

Also mandatory is stakeholder reporting to WADA on Code compliance. Article 23.4.2 of the Code states: "To facilitate

monitoring, each Signatory shall report to WADA on its compliance with the Code every second year and shall explain reasons for non-compliance."

The Code assigns WADA the responsibility of monitoring implementation of and compliance with the Code by its signatories. One way WADA achieves this is by closely monitoring doping cases and exercising its right of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport for cases under the jurisdiction of organizations that have implemented the Code. WADA is also required to report formally on stakeholder compliance with the Code every two years. In November 2008, WADA will make its first official report of

cases of non-compliance to its stakeholders, including the International Olympic Committee (IOC), who have jurisdiction to impose sanctions.

The Olympic Charter was amended in 2003 to state that adoption of the Code by the Olympic Movement is mandatory, and only sports that are compliant can be included and remain in the program of the Olympic Games. Similarly, if a country does not ratify the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport, it may also be subject to sanctions from the IOC and from other sports organizations, including losing the right to host major games.

Article 23.5.1 of the Code states: "Noncompliance with the Code by either the government or National Olympic Committee of a country may result in consequences with respect to Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, World Championships or the Events of Major Event Organizations as determined by the ruling body for each Event. The imposition of such consequences may be appealed by the National Olympic Committee or government to CAS pursuant to Article 13.4."

There are three steps in the compliance continuum that are required of Code signatories: acceptance, implementation and compliance. By accepting the Code, an organization agrees to



the principles of the Code. Acceptance is followed by implementation, when an organization amends its rules and policies to include the mandatory articles and principles of the Code. The signatory determines how the Code is to be best implemented into its rules, regulations and/or policies, and these anti-doping rules must be submitted to WADA for review, in either English or French, in order for the rules to be pronounced in line with the Code. The final step, Code compliance, means that the amended organization rules and policies are actively enforced in accordance with the Code.

To facilitate the reporting obligation of signatories, WADA has developed an online anti-doping survey tool. The

questionnaire consists of multiple choice questions which refer to requirements and stipulations within the rules adopted by the anti-doping organization or International Federation and to the actions taken or not taken by the same organizations.

This online tool will assist WADA in evaluating the status of each signatory with regards to compliance with the Code and enable WADA to provide guidance, if needed, to achieve complete compliance.

WADA also offers a number of resources to assist stakeholders with these regulatory obligations (*see table, below*).

A guide to building a National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO)

for those countries in need of assistance will be available soon. "Building National Anti-Doping Organizations—From Basics to Best Practice" provides the foundation for developing effective, efficient national anti-doping programs in every country or region worldwide. The information presented in this guide is relevant for all countries and regions, no matter the stage of NADO development—whether the process of establishing a NADO has just begun, or there is a well-established NADO independently certified as already having met mandatory requirements and quality standards—or anywhere in between these two extremes. This Guide will be available on the "Code Compliance & Reporting" section of www.wada-ama.org.

Compliance Resources Available on WADA's Web site

Go to www.wada-ama.org and click on "Code Compliance & Reporting"

For International Federations:

"Models of Best Practice for International Federations" are available on the WADA Web site.

For National Olympic Committees:

If there is an established National Anti-Doping Agency (NADO) in your country, you may use "Models of Best Practice for National Olympic Committees" located on the WADA Web site.

If there is no established NADO in your country, the responsibility of anti-doping activities reverts to your National Olympic Committee (NOC) and you would then need to draft NADO rules. Please see the "Models of Best Practice for National Anti-Doping Organizations" located on the WADA Web site.

For National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADO):

"Models of Best Practice for National Anti-Doping Organizations" are available on the WADA Web site.



In Search of the Spirit of Sport

By Thomas H. Murray, PhD

The Hastings Center, Garrison, NY USA

The struggle for the future, and perhaps the soul, of sport is an ongoing conflict. The arguments pressed by the opponents of doping control have not changed much at all in the quarter-century since I began my research into the ethics of performance enhancement in sport. Five arguments come up repeatedly in one variation or another. Each of them seems plausible at first, but each one has serious flaws.

**Argument 1:
"It's all the same"**

The first argument against doping control begins by noting that sport is constantly evolving in the quest for outstanding performance. Equipment improves—fiberglass poles replace wooden ones in the pole vault. Training, also, is transformed by science. In the end, what difference does it make that a cyclist's endurance improves through power meters and interval training, or through injections of EPO? Aren't they all just ways of going faster longer?

Suppose someone showed up to compete in the New York Marathon. She was properly registered and equipped except for one thing—her shoes had wheels on the bottom. She was wearing roller blades. Not surprisingly, she covers the 26-plus miles faster than everyone using running shoes. Does she deserve to be crowned as the winner? Virtually everyone I've asked this question says no, she does not. Not all means for going faster in the marathon are equal. Some, like roller blades—and perhaps EPO, anabolic steroids, and other drugs—undermine the meaning of the sport. If you agree that our imaginary roller blading marathoner has not earned the champion's crown, then you understand that not all ways of improving performance are the same.

**Argument 2:
The line-drawing problem**

The doping skeptic may concede that point but insist that it's impossible to draw a line that is not hopelessly, fatally arbitrary. Some varieties of arbitrariness are

morally abhorrent, for example punishing one person and rewarding another when they've done exactly the same thing. Sport is constantly drawing lines, but they don't seem to be arbitrary in quite the same indefensible way. Basketball permits five players to a side. Why draw the line at five? Why not four or six? As a youth I played five-on-five, but also two-on-two, even one-on-one. Of course, the game changes along with the number of players. But still, why five? Imagine that we take the skeptic's criticism to heart. Yes, five is an arbitrary place to draw the line, like every other particular number. So we'll let teams put as many players as they want on the court. The elegance, speed, passing and grace of basketball would collapse under the weight of massive numbers and brute force as teams put 30, 40 or more players on the floor. It might resemble an endless rugby scrum, only on hardwood not grass.

Drawing lines is not only permissible, it is essential for preserving the meaning of each sport and of sport in general.

“I understand the spirit of sport to be embodied not only in the Olympic Games, but in the strivings of every amateur athlete who kicks a ball, runs on country paths, or pedals up steep hills. The glory of sport is learning what we can do with the natural talents we have, perfecting them through admirable, persistent effort. Yes, I could probably ascend the four mile climb into Fahnestock Park near my home more easily if I used EPO. I could do it much more quickly on a motorbike. But where is the satisfaction in that?”

Arbitrariness is not a fatal flaw when line-drawing is necessary in this way, and when a reasonable case can be made for drawing the line in this particular place—even if another nearby spot would have been equally defensible. So protein supplements and special diets may fall on the acceptable side of the line, while anabolic steroids and human growth hormone are prohibited. The line must be drawn with great care, and there will always be cases that challenge it; those cases should prompt a thoughtful reappraisal of precisely where to draw the line—but difficult cases are never reasons to abandon line-drawing altogether.

Argument 3:
“You’ll put your eye out!”
A detour into paternalism

Why, though, should we draw the line this side of performance enhancing drugs? The most common answer is that athletes might hurt themselves if they use steroids, EPO, or other drugs. There are two problems with this argument, which philosophers call “paternalism.” Roughly, paternalism is doing something to or for another person in order to promote their good, but without regard to their own desires or preferences.

Paternalism is an essential part of good parenting (I wouldn’t allow my three-year old grandchildren Tess and Cooper to play in the street even if they wanted to. They’re too young to appreciate the risks, I know better, and I am responsible for their well-being). So paternalism would support limiting the freedom of adolescent athletes to take severe risks; but its legitimacy fades as athletes become adults.

The second problem with the “you’ll put your eye out!” argument is that in many sports we encourage and reward athletes for taking risks. Alpine ski racers careen down steep slopes at 100 kilometers an hour, and road cyclists descend long hills at comparable speeds. They are likely to find the tender concern that they might hurt themselves if they take steroids or EPO a tad hypocritical.

In research done at The Hastings Center nearly thirty years ago, and in the decades since, I have spoken with many elite athletes. Overwhelmingly, they did not see using performance enhancing drugs as a glorious expression of their personal liberty. Most athletes are merely trying to level a playing field tilted against them because,

they fear, their competitors are gaining an advantage by taking drugs. Drug use by some athletes, in other words, creates enormous coercive pressure on other athletes to also use drugs merely to keep up. Successful doping control levels the playing field so that athletes can compete fairly without drugs. So, even if paternalism weakens as athletes become adults, protecting athletes from the coercive power of drugs in sport remains a solid ethical justification for effective doping control.

Argument 4:
“Resistance is futile”

Notice that I said *effective* doping control—which brings up the fourth objection: that, in the words of the Borg from the television series Star Trek, “resistance is futile.” Here the skeptic can note that enforcing a ban on doping is difficult. It is. The question for us though, given that perfection is unachievable in doping control or, for that matter, any other important social policy, what level of control is possible and worth the trouble? Some components of a serious and significant doping control system, such as sample collection and lab protocols, have long been in place. But other pieces have

been weak or lacking until recent years, among them a genuine commitment from the leadership of sport, a good measure of independence for those entrusted with doping control, and funds to support the research necessary to keep up with—or get ahead of—doping advocates. The creation of WADA and other national anti-doping agencies, and the reinvigoration of a number of sports governing bodies give reason to hope that resistance, in this instance, may not be so futile.

**Argument 5:
Transhumanism and
the re-manufactured athlete**

The skeptic's fifth and last argument may be the greatest challenge to the future of sport. Olympic athletes push the human body to its limits. Sport science continues to discover new ways to press past old boundaries through studies of how the body responds to training, optimizing recovery, biomechanical analysis and

other techniques. The quest for knowledge and technique is a vital part of what it means to be human. Why, the skeptic may ask, do we permit, even encourage, using science and technology to improve performance in many ways, but recoil when the means of transforming the human athletic body is through drugs, implants, or—and this is more hype than reality at the moment—genetic engineering? Some commentators argue that we should embrace the technologically re-manufactured athlete as the apotheosis of sport. Human ingenuity creates the means, such as biosynthetic hormones, to alter the human body; human will finds the determination to employ those means despite the dimly understood dangers that may accompany them. Therefore, the skeptic concludes, the manufactured—literally, made-by-hand—athlete is the highest expression of the human spirit.

This, roughly, is the view of certain transhumanists who want

to shrug off, even transcend, the limitations of our finite, imperfect bodies. I understand the spirit of sport to be embodied not only in the Olympic Games, but in the strivings of every amateur athlete who kicks a ball, runs on country paths, or pedals up steep hills. The glory of sport is learning what we can do with the natural talents we have, perfecting them through admirable, persistent effort. Yes, I could probably ascend the four mile climb into Fahnestock Park near my home more easily if I used EPO. I could do it much more quickly on a motorbike. But where is the satisfaction in that?

Humankind could devise a transhumanist competition for cyber-athletes if it wished. I would not be at all surprised. But, as long as people care about human excellence, natural talents, and the dedication and intelligence required to perfect those talents, I believe the spirit of sport, and the Olympics, can and should survive. ■

About Thomas Murray and the Hastings Center

Thomas H. Murray, PhD, is President of The Hastings Center (USA). Dr. Murray, chairman of WADA's Ethical Issues Review Panel, was formerly the Director of the Center for Biomedical Ethics in the School of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, where he was also the Susan E. Watson Professor of Bioethics. He is a founding editor of the journal *Medical Humanities Review*, and is on the editorial boards of *The Hastings Center Report*; *Human Gene Therapy*; *Politics and the Life Sciences*; *Cloning, Science, and Policy*; *Medscape General Medicine*; *Teaching Ethics*; *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry* and the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*. He also is a member of the International Panel of Experts of the Singapore Bioethics Advisory Committee, the Advisory Committee for the Genomics Institute at the Wadsworth Center, the Ethics Committee of the Human Genome Organization, Board of Directors of Charity Navigator, and Board of Directors of Physicians and Lawyers for National Drug Policy; a U.S. representative to the International Stem Cell Forum's Ethics Working Party; and consulting editor in bioethics to Johns Hopkins University Press. He served as President of the Society for Health and Human Values and of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities, and has been a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee's Anti-Doping Committee as well as the NIH Director's Working Group on Oversight of Gene Therapy Research.

Author of more than 200 publications, his most recent books are *The Worth of a Child*, *Healthcare Ethics and Human Values: An Introductory Text with Readings and Case Studies* and *The Cultures of Caregiving: Conflict and Common Ground among Families, Health Professionals and Policy Makers*, edited with Carol Levine. He is also editor, with Maxwell J. Mehlman, of the *Encyclopedia of Ethical, Legal and Policy Issues in Biotechnology*.

The Hastings Center, with offices in Garrison, NY and Washington, DC (USA), is the world's first research institution devoted to bioethics. Its mission is to create and share knowledge about ethics in medicine and the life sciences. The Center's unique interdisciplinary process allows complex issues to be analyzed from different perspectives—legal, medical, biological, philosophical, economical, and even personal—in order to find common ground.

www.thehastingscenter.org



Up Close and Personal Outreach Builds Athlete Awareness

Athlete Outreach continues to be an important program for WADA in reaching out to and interacting with the athletes of the world. With the goal of raising awareness about WADA and the anti-doping issue, Athlete Outreach is an important platform to provide information in a fun and engaging way at major events worldwide.

In the latter half of 2007, WADA's Athlete Outreach Program interacted with thousands of athletes and officials in three key regions of the world: Africa, South America and Asia. Each program recruited a team of international anti-doping experts to support its operation and used the WADA Doping Quiz, now translated into 16 languages, to provide anti-doping information directly to athletes and officials.



All Africa Games, Algiers, Algeria, 11–23 July 2007

The All Africa Games, one of the largest sporting events in Africa, takes place every four years. Having had great success at the 2003 Games hosted in Nigeria, WADA once again prioritized this major event by taking its Athlete Outreach Program to Algiers (Algeria), where the 2007 All Africa Games were hosted, from 11 to 23 July.

With four athlete villages to contend with, WADA's Athlete Outreach Program was mobilized, changing its venue every two days in order to reach as many athletes as possible during the Games. A regional team from Africa was recruited to help deliver the program and was led by the Director of WADA's Africa Regional Office Rodney Swigelaar. The team included Silvestre Nicaningo (MOZ), Dr. Donia Koubaa (TUN), Mr. Jean Larue (SEY) and Assistant to WADA's Africa Regional Office Nathalie Bashala. Olympian and Ambassador for Fair Play Frankie Fredericks (NAM) visited the program to show his support.

The WADA Athlete Outreach Model

The Athlete Outreach Model was launched in 2006 in an effort to provide stakeholders all the tools necessary to deliver their own outreach activities. The program is turn-key and available at no cost. Stakeholders that sign up to the model are provided templates for educational resources and banners, the doping quiz, co-branded with their logo, and guidance on how best to start an outreach program.

The success of the program is growing and there are currently over 25 organizations using some aspect of the program in their national or sport-specific activities. Recent Outreach model programs include:

The **European Athletic Association** adopted and launched the Athlete Outreach Model at the European Athletic Championships from 12–15 July, held in Debrecen (Hungary).

The **International Association of Athletics Federation** (IAAF) continued their partnership in delivering the Athlete Outreach Model at the Track and Field World Championships in Osaka (Japan) from 25 August until 2 September. They ran their program with the help of the Japan Anti-Doping Agency (JADA).

The **International Tennis Federation** (ITF) adopted the Athlete Outreach Model and used it for the first time at the US Open, held August 27–September 9 in New York City (USA). The ITF is currently planning their next activity at the Australian Open in Melbourne (Australia) in January 2008.

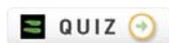


Pan American Games, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 13–29 July 2007

The Pan American Games are a continental version of the Olympic Games and include Olympic sports as well as other disciplines approved by the Pan American Sports Organization (PASO). The purpose of the Pan American Games is to provide a competition for the Americas and are always hosted one year prior to the Summer Olympic Games.

Hosted in Rio de Janeiro in July 2007, the Pan American Games welcomed more than 5,500 athletes representing 42 countries, competing in more than 30 sports. This was the second time WADA's Athlete Outreach Program attended a Pan American Games, the first being in 2003 when the event was hosted in the Dominican Republic. In Rio, WADA had a booth and information set-up in the dining room in the athlete village. A regional team of anti-doping experts was recruited to assist with delivering the message and was led by WADA's Manager of Outreach and Athlete Programs Stacy Spletzer. The team included Director of WADA's Latin American Regional Office Diego Torres Villegas, Vice President of Trinidad & Tobago Alliance for Sport & Physical Education Andre Collins (TRIN), Manager of Anti-Doping for the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Karine Henrie (CAN), steroid specialist from Brazil Paulo Rodrigo da Silva (BRZ), and Assistant to WADA's Latin American Regional Office Edna Serra.

Doping Quiz Link Program



WADA's Doping Quiz 'Link Program' was launched on 27 June 2007. The Link Program provides an avenue for organizations around the world to link their Web sites, for free, to WADA's Doping Quiz, thus allowing more athletes and officials to receive this information. The Doping Quiz, now in 16 different languages, has become a cornerstone to WADA's Outreach activities and the Link Program is a direct result of stakeholder feedback and requests.

Since June, 97 organizations from around the world have linked their organization's Web sites to WADA's doping quiz which has solidified the importance and impact of this multi-lingual educational tool.



World University Games (Universiade), Bangkok, Thailand, 8–18 August 2007

The Universiade is an international sporting and cultural festival organized every two years during both the summer and winter seasons. The International University Sports Federation (FISU) was formed to oversee each event, which allows opportunities for university students from around the world to compete at a high level.

In August, Bangkok welcomed over 8,000 athletes from over 135 nations, and WADA's Athlete Outreach Program was on hand to raise awareness about anti-doping. This was the second time WADA participated in the Universiade, the first being in 2001 in China.

Situated in the high-traffic athlete village, WADA's Athlete Outreach booth provided several thousand athletes with educational information and three computer stations to take part in the interactive Doping Quiz in 1 of 16 available languages. The program was met with overwhelming enthusiasm by crowds of athletes who frequently queued at the booth for several minutes to learn more about the fight against doping, and were often overheard discussing key issues with fellow teammates, trainers, coaches, and in a number of instances, their parents.

The Outreach Program, led by WADA Manager of Athlete Outreach and Athlete Programs Stacy Spletzer, was supported by Doping Control Officer Dr. Tricia Guison (PHIL), USADA Education Project Manager Betsy Liebsch (USA), ASADA Strategic Deterrence Manager Tristan Salter (AUS), Education Program Manager for Drug Free Sport NZ Andrew Sylvester (NZ), and WADA Communications Coordinator James Roach.



WADA Streamlines Web-based Spanish Content

WADA's Web site, published in the Agency's two official languages English and French, also has available for download much of its content translated into multiple other languages. Recognizing the large number of Spanish-speaking populations and in view of the Pan American Games hosted in July in Rio as well as the World Conference hosted in November in Madrid, WADA has aggregated its Spanish-language content and made it more visible and accessible from the WADA home page via a special *Contenido en Español* button. More than forty documents and multimedia resources are available in Spanish.

2008 List of Prohibited Substances and Methods

At its meeting in September, WADA's Executive Committee approved the List of Prohibited Substances and Methods for 2008. The 2008 List offers some changes compared to the 2007 List. For example, the 2008 List will include new classes of substances such as selective androgen receptor modulators (SARMs), a family of nonsteroidal molecules that has the same effect as anabolic steroids, and agents modifying myostatin functions including but not limited to myostatin inhibitors. The Executive Committee also approved amending the prohibition of intravenous infusions so that intravenous infusions are not permitted except in the treatment of acute medical conditions. The 2008 List was published online on 26 September 2007, and will go into effect on 1 January 2008.

WADA assumed responsibility for the List following implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code (Code) and the International Standards in 2004. The List is developed through a highly consultative year-long process, beginning with the circulation of a draft List among more than 1,700 stakeholders for comment. The comments received are processed by WADA's List Committee, who then presents its conclusions to the WADA Health, Medical and Research Committee, who in turn submits its final recommendations to the Executive Committee at the annual September meeting. The Executive Committee, WADA's ultimate policy-making body, discusses the recommendations and makes a final decision.

WADA Appoints New Education Director

WADA has promoted Rob Koehler as its new Education Director. Koehler has been an integral member of WADA's staff since 2002, serving as Deputy Director of Standards and Harmonization, and has been largely responsible for the advances made in initiating Regional Anti-Doping Organizations around the globe.

Rob Koehler has been working in anti-doping field for more than ten years. Prior to joining WADA he worked with the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CCES). During his tenure with the CCES,

he was involved with Spirit of Sport Foundation promoting values of fair and ethical sport and the drug free sport program. He was also responsible for managing doping control programs for major Games in Canada including the summer and winter Canada Games, the 1999 World Junior Ice Hockey Championships and the 1999 Pan American Games in Winnipeg.

Koehler replaces Julie Carter who will be leaving Montreal to pursue other opportunities. WADA extends its gratitude to Carter who has been



Rob Koehler

a driving force in building an Education program that is founded in values-based learning and sharing expertise among stakeholders.

WADA has also appointed Emiliano Simonelli as its new Senior Manager for Code Compliance.



Biathlon and Anti-Doping

By Michael Geistlinger, IBU Secretary General

Two of the worst days during the past 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Turin came for the International Biathlon Union (IBU) Executive Board and all biathlon friends when they were informed of an adverse analytical finding in the sample of one of the most brilliant female biathletes. Concerns were compounded by the police search of the accommodations and belongings of a member federation's biathletes and their team staff—due to the suspicion of possessing prohibited substances or of having applied or having been ready to apply prohibited methods.

The first impression was that the IBU's battle against doping had proven rather unsuccessful and dissatisfying. However, upon closer inspection the opposite conclusion can also be drawn: assuming that no sport is safe from athletes, coaches and medical doctors using prohibited substances or applying prohibited methods, the fact that such persons are found can also be seen as proof of a successful cooperation between the IBU, WADA and the IOC.

In the winter of 1994/1995, the IBU started its own blood test system in addition to the regular urine testing of the top-placed athletes and of further athletes drawn by lot. Whereas the urine tests take place immediately after a biathlon competition, the blood controls are organized prior to the start of the competitions and focus on the search for elevated

hemoglobin or hematocrit values. Six to ten athletes per competition at World Cups and all participating athletes at World Championships have been submitted to such tests over the years. The IBU acquired its own *Sysmex* machine and rented its own van to carry the machine to each competition site, which allowed an immediate analysis of the blood taken from the athletes—all of them drawn by lot at World Cups—at the venue. This system led to the immediate suspension of an athlete found with elevated values. Thus on average, three to five athletes per competition season (consisting of eight World Cups and a World Championship) had to be suspended from competing until a re-test showed normal blood values. Whenever one of the five members of the IBU Medical Committee—all of them medical doctors—acting as medical

delegate for an event saw other abnormalities in tested blood, she/he informed the chairperson of her/his committee, who then followed up the case with target testing.

In parallel the IBU, being well aware of the similarity of the development of doping technology, tried to improve the effectiveness of its testing and asked the athletes to agree to the use of their blood data collected since 1994/95 for a research project co-funded by WADA and the IBU being called ARIETTA, short for Artificial Intelligence Evoking Target Testing in Anti-Doping. The project aimed at the development and application of computer software allowing computerized screening of the collected blood test results for abnormalities other than elevated hemoglobin and



hematocrit values, and the definition of these abnormalities. Taking into consideration that different substances and methods can increase the oxygen-carrying capacity of blood and the athlete's performance, and that validated detection methods for these ergogenic aids are available, the project aimed to develop an intelligent system able to show athletes' profiles in order to detect those reflecting an abnormal pattern consistent with the use of banned substances or methods. An intelligent system with different sections and functions was developed and tested after the hematological and performance data of athletes belonging to the IBU had been entered.

The experience derived from routine application to create a stable target testing program, and from future studies aiming to evaluate and increase the sensitivity of the diagnostic phase will represent a further improvement of the system. ARIETTA is deemed to be an efficient database enabling a quick evaluation and interpretation of blood results. It could improve surveillance programs and timely testing of athletes by the international federations collecting blood samples for target testing purposes.

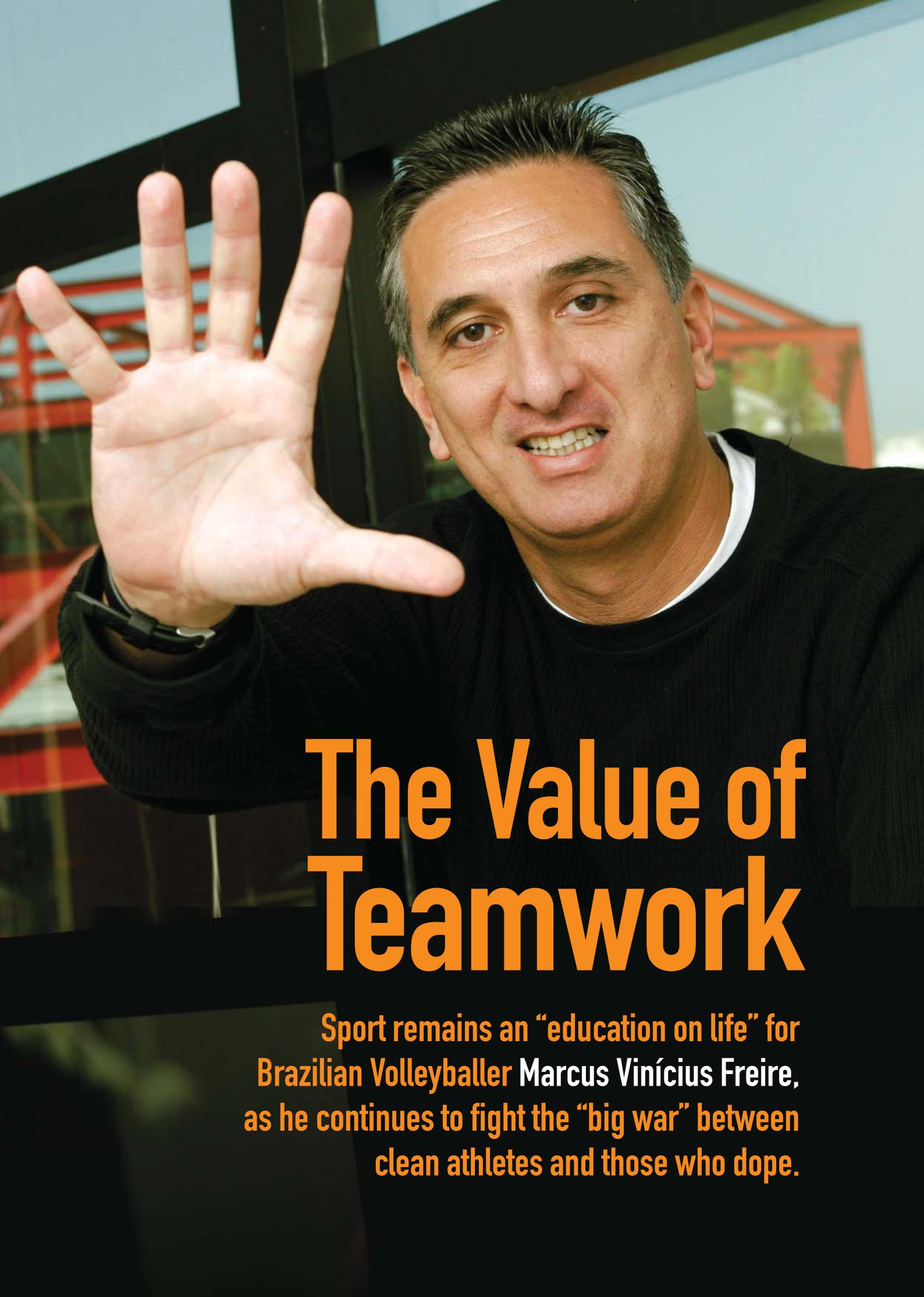
The project was successfully completed by the beginning of the current year and will allow a new IBU target testing program—which has currently been set up for the rest of the year and the forthcoming competition season—to be streamlined. Taken together with what is quite an impressive quantity of tests for one of the smaller winter sports federations, the program will thus substantially improve the quality of the IBU-WADA tests of biathletes.

In the sport of biathlon in 2006, a total of 254 doping controls were exercised by the IBU, 160 by WADA, 553 by IBU member federations, and 120 by the IOC in the pre-games and games period in Turin (as far as the IBU is aware), which makes the total number of 1087 for the sport of biathlon in the year 2006. In terms of the budget, the expenses covered by the IBU for anti-doping measures in the business year 2006 amounted to more than €200,000. Five medical doctors, 3 medical assistants and one person running the ADAMS system—which the IBU joined to administrate the whereabouts information for the 30 top male and female athletes forming the IBU Registered Testing Pool from 2006 onwards—make up the IBU staff and functionaries directly running the IBU anti-

doping system. The responsibility for results management lies with the Secretary General and the Executive Board.

The fight against doping is not an insignificant undertaking for a relatively small Olympic sports federation. Irrespective of this fact, the IBU Executive Board and Headquarters feel fully supported by the IBU member federations with regard to budget and staff assignments to anti-doping, as well as with advising their athletes and staff on how to use the ADAMS system and in correctly implementing the World Anti-Doping Code, the IBU Anti-Doping Rules and all the respective International Standards.

With regard to the application of the ADAMS system, nearly all athletes belonging to the IBU Registered Testing Pool use this system correctly and timely. The IBU is optimistic that the few athletes—which can be counted on one hand—who are still sending their whereabouts information outside of the ADAMS system will also soon be convinced to change their respective behaviors. As a next step, the IBU intends to activate the ADAMS system to process TUE decisions and applications. ■



The Value of Teamwork

Sport remains an “education on life” for Brazilian Volleyballer Marcus Vinícius Freire, as he continues to fight the “big war” between clean athletes and those who dope.

Soccer (i.e. football) may be the most popular sport practiced in Brazil, with its history of great players, large stadiums and fanatical fans, but it is not the only sport this country of 185 million inhabitants excels in and enjoys with great passion. Brazil also has a strong tradition for the sport of volleyball, possibly originating with Brazilians avidly enjoying the sport on their country's famous beaches—such as those in Rio de Janeiro.

As a young boy, Marcus Vinícius Freire may have dreamed of being a soccer player like many young Brazilian girls and boys, but because of the influence of his older brother he came to learn about volleyball. At 6'3", his height and frame ultimately were better suited for volleyball than soccer, but it was his ability and talent that allowed him to become part of the first generation of Brazilians to play professional indoor volleyball; a career that culminated in an Olympic silver medal at the Los Angeles Olympic Games. After the 1984 Olympic Games, Marcus went on to play professional volleyball in Italy for three years.

Marcus Vinícius Freire

- 1984 Olympic Silver Medalist / Los Angeles, USA
- 1983 Gold Medalist Pan American Games/ Caracas, Venezuela
- 1982 Gold Medalist in South American Games / São Paulo, Brazil
- 1981 Bronze Medalist in World Cup / Japan

"Sport offers an education on life. I played volleyball with and against people from all over the world which has been rewarding, fun and an important part of my life," said Marcus, who was forced to retire early because of a back injury and hernia operation in 1990, at which time he made the ultimate transition from an active athlete to sport administrator.

Today, at 44, Freire remains actively involved with Olympic sports. He is a television commentator for major volleyball events and has taken a key role at the Brazilian Olympic Committee (BOC). Not only does he voluntarily serve as the BOC's Director of Sport, but the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing will be the third time he will lead the Brazilian delegation as Chef de Mission. Marcus also serves as a member of WADA's Athlete Committee.

Play True: Do you believe that athletes are role models?

Marcus Vinícius Freire: I think athletes and their experiences can offer an important model for both young athletes and society. It is important we use our experiences to show others that winning can be accomplished without drugs or doping.

What is your opinion about anti-doping today and where does it need to go in the future?

MVF: I think there is a big, big war between clean athletes and those that dope. WADA has been an important element, making things better. It is important that those in the world work together—WADA, athletes, international federations, Olympic committees and governments—to fight the industry of doping and those who cheat. I think this is our strong line for now.

Is this a war that can be won?

MVF: We need to keep fighting this war. Many who cheat have big money to find new ways to cheat. We need to continue to increase our efforts to beat them.

"I think athletes can offer an important model for both young athletes and society. It is important we use our experiences to show others that winning can be accomplished without drugs or doping."

What has sport, more specifically volleyball, given you?

MVF: Volleyball has taught me how to live my life. A team is similar to a family, it teaches good values and also working together. Volleyball exemplifies teamwork because when one person touches the ball, if no one else touches it, the ball will hit the ground and you will lose the point. Communication in volleyball is important since you can't hit the ball two times in a row. I use this in my life now: with WADA, my career, and in my family. We need to work as a team.

What is the most important message you would want to provide regarding this issue?

MVF: My advice is this: We need to work as a team to fight against drugs and against doping in sport. It can only be done if we work as a team. ■

WADA Program Calendar. For the most current updates, visit www.wada-ama.org

THIRD WORLD CONFERENCE ON DOPING IN SPORT

The World Conference, hosted by WADA in Madrid (Spain) in cooperation with the Spanish Government's High Council for Sport, will be the third of its kind after the conference organized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in February 1999 in Lausanne (Switzerland) and the second held by WADA in Copenhagen (Denmark) in March 2003. Representatives of national governments, related public authorities, the Olympic Movement, other sports governing bodies, athletes and expert groups will attend the Conference. For more information, visit www.wadamadrid2007.com **November 15–17, 2007. Madrid, Spain.**

ANTI-DOPING PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

WADA works with stakeholders to facilitate the establishment of strong anti-doping programs in sports and regions throughout the world. The following are meetings of various development programs, including those of Regional Anti-Doping Organizations (RADOs).

November 21–24, 2007	Africa Zone II & III RADO Board Meeting	Guinea
December 14–17, 2007	South Asia RADO Board Meeting and Doping Control Officer Training	Maldives
February 8–11, 2008	West Asia RADO Board Meeting and Doping Control Officer Training	Jordan
February/March 2008	Africa Zone V RADO Board Meeting	Egypt
March 10–13, 2008	Eastern Europe RADO Board Meeting and Doping Control Officer Training	TBC
May 14–16, 2008	Southeast Asia RADO Board Meeting	TBC

ADAMS TRAINING

ADAMS (Anti-Doping Administration & Management System) is the web-based database management system that coordinates anti-doping activities worldwide. WADA hosts training sessions for stakeholders adopting the ADAMS system.

November 6–7, 2007	Trinidad
February 2008	Doha, Qatar

EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

WADA's Education Department works through a variety of programs to expand the reach and impact of anti-doping education worldwide. Through its various education activities, including its Traveling Seminars, WADA raises understanding about anti-doping efforts, provides general information about anti-doping in sport and offers guidance and practical tools for initiating or enhancing anti-doping education programs among WADA stakeholders.

Education Activities for Remainder of 2007

November 6, 2007	Anti-Doping Education Seminar for PAISAC Participants	Montreal, Canada
November 26–28, 2007	Coach's Tool Kit Training for IF Representatives	Lausanne, Switzerland
November 29–30, 2007	Québec Provincial Association of Teachers Annual Convention	Montreal, Canada

Prospective Traveling Seminar Schedule for the First Quarter of 2008

TBC	Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Cook Islands	Oceania
TBC	3 locations in Southern Africa	Africa
TBC	Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico	Americas
TBC	Beijing, Chintao, Tengzu, Hong Kong	Asia