

Summary Notes of the 9th Asia/Oceania Region Intergovernmental Ministerial Meeting on Anti-Doping in Sport

Date:	28 June 2012
Time:	9:00-17:00
Venue:	Intercontinental Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand
Participants:	Refer to the attached list
Agenda:	Refer to the attached
Resolution:	Refer to the attached

1) Introduction

H.E. Mr. Sombat Kuruphan, Vice Minister of Tourism and Sports, welcomed all participants from 26 countries. Mr David Howman, WADA Director General, thanked the government of Thailand for hosting the meeting, participating representatives for attending the meeting, and the Olympic Council of Asia for supporting the meeting. 65 representatives, including a representative from Samoa, Oceania region, were introduced.

2) WADA 2012 Global Activities

Mr. David Howman, Director General, World Anti-Doping Agency, gave a presentation on WADA's global anti-doping activities and issues, in which the need of government support for the global anti-doping program was stressed, and the support for RADOs and the finalization of the Asian Funding Formula were strongly encouraged.

3) Anti-Doping Policy Development in the Kingdom of Thailand

Mr. Kanokphand Chunkasem, Governor the Sports Authority of Thailand, gave a presentation on anti-doping activities in Thailand.

4) Application to the UNESCO Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport (Voluntary Fund)

Ms. Anne Jansen, Senior Manager, WADA Government Relations and Compliance, gave a presentation on the UNESCO Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport and encouraged non State Parties to complete the ratification process, and State Parties to apply for the Voluntary Fund. She also reminded States Parties that they must complete the UNESCO Ad Logic online Survey in order to receive funding from the Voluntary Fund. Applications should be sent to UNESCO as soon as possible to meet the 21 September 2012 deadline for receipt. The WADA Asia/Oceania Regional Office is available to assist with the completion of applications and encourages countries to send them.

5) World Anti-Doping Code Review Consultation

Mr David Howman gave a presentation on the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC) Review Consultation, stressing the purpose of the presentation was to make representatives present aware of the review and consultation process, and to encourage them to be involved and provide their comments and feedback. The first draft of the WADC 2015 had been provided to participants prior to the meeting, and the major proposed changes were introduced during the presentation.

Discussions and conclusions:

- The presentation will be distributed to Asia/Oceania stakeholders after the meeting.
- Workshops on the changes to the Code in the region or in the respective RADOs were encouraged. Whether the feedback is to be submitted collectively or individually, comments or responses will be welcomed.
- WADA coordinates the Code review process, however, expertise is provided by some of the responsible committees within WADA, like Prohibited List Expert Group, Health, Medical & Research Committee. These groups comprise external experts in their field, who will also be reviewing the documents for issues.
- It was strongly recommended that the governments be involved in the Code review process, as there are many aspects which they have responsibility for i.e. there are some issues that only the governments can handle, e.g. Sports cannot enforce the law and implement penalties or sanctions but government can.

6) Asian WADA Foundation Board Member Election Process (2013-2015)

Mr Nishel Kumar of Malaysia, WADA Foundation Board representative, introduced the topic of the election of the WADA Foundation Board member and then handed over to Mr Kazuhiro Hayashi to give details regarding the process for the election of the member for 2013.

Discussion:

The following questions were asked of those present; 1) whether the WADA Asia/Oceania Regional Office should continue to co-ordinate the election process on behalf of Governments; and 2) whether a new criteria should be added i.e. in order for a country to be able to vote and be considered a candidate for the WADA Board, then the Code signatory of that country must be Code compliant.

A clarification was made by the Chairman that a Signatory within the context of this discussion referred to the NADO or NOC acting as NADO; it did not refer to the International Federation in this case.

Conclusion and decisions:

1. The WADA Asia/Oceania Regional Office was requested to continue to coordinate the election process and to do so according to the proposed and approved timeline within the documents provided;
2. Countries must have made a full financial contribution to WADA (2005-2012), have become a State Party to the UNESCO Convention, and the following new criteria was added that a Signatory must be Code compliant in order to be able to vote and be a candidate.

7) Individual Country Anti-Doping Progress Reports

Progress reports from each country were given by the 26 countries in attendance. The majority of countries had made a considerable progress in their anti-doping policy development and activities.

8) Contributions to WADA for 2013 and beyond

Prof Kamal Al Hadidi, Chairman of the Asian Ad Hoc Finance Committee, reported on the work of the Committee and in particular their recommendation to the meeting. The Committee supported Option One, which had been sent to the participants prior to the meeting. He also added that the agreed contribution formula should be applied for a period of 5 years until 2017.

The chairman stressed that the Asian governments had spent years discussing the formula for the contribution, and it was the time to reach an agreement and move forward and focus on other things such as anti-doping program development.

Following the recommendation by the Ad Hoc Finance Committee, Mr Kazuhiro Hayashi, Director of WADA Asia/Oceania Regional Office, introduced and explained the respective options made and considered by the Ad Hoc Finance Committee.

Question and Discussion:

Dr Naser Al Ansari, Chairman of the Qatar Anti-Doping Commission, disagreed with the recommendation as follows;

1. He was the member of Ad Hoc Finance Committee, and had attended the Committee meetings held in November 2011 in Montreal and in June 2012 in Bangkok, however, his opinion did not count.
2. The problem with the current formula was that small countries were paying a big amount, which had been pointed out at the previous intergovernmental meetings, but this problem was not fixed with the proposed formula.
3. To solve the problem with regard to any increases, the WADA Board members should pay more on voluntary basis.
4. It was not acceptable to keep the current formula for 5 years, and it should be discussed yearly at the meeting.

Following the points made by Dr Al Ansari, the Chairman of the meeting Dr Hilary Inwood, confirmed that his disagreement would be noted in the Minutes, and recommended members to make a decision. A motion was then put to the meeting, asking those that supported Option One to raise their hands. This motion was approved by 17 members of the meeting out of 25 participating Asian countries.

Mr Kazuhiro Hayashi reminded all members that 1) if there was no increase in the WADA 2013 budget, countries would be invoiced the same amount as for 2012, 2) if there was an increase, it would be proportionally shared by all Asian countries, except Japan, Brunei Darussalam, and nine Least Developed Countries (LDC), 3) Japan, and Brunei Darussalam would keep the same amount going forward as for 2012 and LDCs would be invoiced the minimum payment of USD 5,000, and 4) LDCs were identified by the United Nations.

Conclusion*:

The proposed contribution formula, Option One, was approved by the representatives for 2013 to 2017 for contributions to WADA.

*Qatar – the representative noted that he could not agree with the conclusion reached upon for the contribution formula for 2013 to 2017, especially the condition that the approved formula would be applied for 5 years.

9) Future Meeting

The government of the Maldives kindly offered to host the next Asia/Oceania Region Intergovernmental Ministerial Meeting on Anti-Doping in Sports on 28-29 March 2013. It was agreed that the Regional Office would liaise and coordinate for the details of the next meeting and advise all governments of the outcomes. The governments of Brunei Darussalam and Japan also kindly offered to host the intergovernmental meeting in 2014 (TBC) and the WADA Regional Office would liaise with both countries to finalize the meeting.

10) OCA Activities and Anti-Doping Programs (29 June 2012)

Mr Reza Charim, Director of the OCA Doping Control Department, gave a presentation on OCA activities and Dr Manikavasagam Jegathesan, Chairman of OCA Medical Committee and Anti-Doping Commission, gave an in-depth overview of the OCA Anti-Doping programs.

11) Conclusion

The Resolution of the 9th Asia/Oceania Region Intergovernmental Ministerial Meeting on Anti-Doping in Sports was read and agreed* (28 June 2012).

NB: Copies of presentations made are available from the WADA Asia/Oceania RO upon request.