



January 16, 2008

Urgency to become a State Party to the UNESCO led International Convention against Doping in Sport prior to the Beijing Olympic Games in August 2008

Dear Minister,

It is my pleasure to write to you as one of my first activities as President of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), and in particular as representative of the public authorities.

First, let me acknowledge the tremendous progress that has been achieved on the global front in the fight against doping in sport since Governments and the Sport Movement joined efforts in 1999 and established WADA. The success in laying the foundation and building the framework for an international collaborative campaign against doping is a result of the commitment of all stakeholders. As WADA's President, I look forward to playing a very active role in driving further progress in the next phase of the fight against doping in sport through the continued partnership and collaboration.

At the World Conference on Doping in Sport, held on November 15-17, 2007, it was reported that 71 Governments have now become states parties to the UNESCO Convention (as of 14 January 2008 there are 75 states, parties to the Convention). The Sports Movement expressed its concern that, in spite of certain progress — the Convention having been drafted and approved in record time and 192 Governments have signed the Copenhagen Declaration—many Governments have not completed the process of ratifying the UNESCO Convention. Underlying this is the fact that the Convention has been open for UNESCO member states to do so for over two years. Universal ratification of this Convention is critical for the global harmonized fight against doping in sport to succeed as it permits the alignment of domestic policies with the World Anti-Doping Code. Each government's response to this call to action impacts upon the credibility of the country, as well as its sports and athletes, and will influence the confidence the Sports Movement has in the partnership with public authorities.

With this in mind, I join with David Howman in strongly urging the Government of (*insert country name*) to become a state party to the Convention without further delay. I recognize that (*insert country name*) has undertaken the promotion of anti-doping in the (*insert region name eg Europe*) region and has contributed to WADA. It is now a propitious moment for your Government to ratify the Convention prior to the commencement of the Beijing Olympic Games in August 2008. Doing so will send a powerful message to your athletes, and to



the Sport Movement around the world, that *(insert country name)* fully supports clean and ethical sport and will not tolerate cheats.

To date, the following twenty nine countries in the *(insert region name as appropriate and states parties from that region)* European region are states parties to the Convention: Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Join these countries now in leading your region in the global fight to protect the integrity of sport and the health of athletes.

Yours sincerely

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President Director General

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