

12 July 2006

## **UNESCO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT**

Dear Colleagues in Sport,

We are writing to kindly ask you to take the legal steps in your country required to ratify the International Convention against Doping in Sport. As you will be aware, this Convention was unanimously adopted in Paris on 19 October 2005 at the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of the UNESCO General Conference. Before it comes into force, 30 governments must submit their instruments of ratification to UNESCO. As at today's date 14 countries have ratified (Australia, Canada, Cook Islands, Denmark, Iceland, Latvia, Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Seychelles, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), still well short of the required number.

The cornerstone for the fight against doping in sport is the World Anti-Doping Code. This document was approved in Copenhagen in March 2003, and has been accepted and implemented by the Sports Movement. The Convention provides the mechanisms for governments to accept the World Anti-Doping Code.

We are aware of the many legal and bureaucratic hurdles that need to be surmounted for countries to ratify international treaties. On this particular occasion, however, we ourselves have been urged further by members of Sports Movement, including the President of the International Olympic Committee, of recent days.

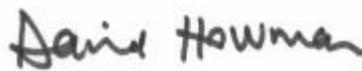
In the past, we have sent you a copy of the Convention. Official copies have been forwarded to you by UNESCO. It is our hope that you, as soon as possible, take the time to review the steps that your country has taken to date, and continue to do your utmost so that instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession can be lodged as soon as possible with the Director-General of UNESCO.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,



Brian Mikkelsen  
Minister for Culture, Denmark  
WADA Vice Chairman



David Howman  
WADA Director General