

**WADA ATHLETE COMMITTEE MEETING OUTCOMES  
7-8 December 2016  
Sapporo, Japan**

**The WADA Athlete Committee is the unified voice of clean athletes worldwide, encouraging integrity and fairness for sport and athletes.**

The WADA Athlete Committee met on 7-8 December 2016 in Sapporo, Japan. The Committee was invited to remain in Sapporo to take part in the Japan Anti-Doping Agency's regional annual Anti-Doping Symposium.

**In attendance**

- Ben Sandford (Acting Chair), Francis Doodoo, Mariana Quintanilla, Felipe Contepomi, Petr Koukal, Kirsty Coventry, Adam Pengilly (via skype) Lauryn Williams (via skype), Kady Kanoute (Education Committee member)
- WADA Representatives: Olivier Niggli, Gunter Younger, Tim Ricketts and Stacy Spletzer-Jegen

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**MEETING OVERVIEW AND OUTCOMES**

**Statement – McLaren Investigation Report Part Two**

Since WADA's Athlete Committee meeting on 7-8 December, members have read the [McLaren Investigation Report Part Two](#), which was issued on 9 December. Report Part Two, which reconfirmed the institutionalized manipulation of the doping control process in Russia that was first outlined in July by [Report One](#), focused on the number of athletes that benefited from such manipulation. Combined, the Investigation's Reports revealed a shocking system in Russia that was designed to corrupt sport and cheat clean athletes.

The Committee would like to thank professor McLaren for his dedication to the Investigation and for his comprehensive Reports; and, would also like to congratulate WADA for first commissioning the Investigation back in May. The Investigation has served to reinforce the Committee's belief that investigations must continue to be a crucial cornerstone of anti-doping and a vital priority for WADA.

The Athlete Committee condemns the actions of the Russian officials, coaches and athletes outlined by the Investigation; and, asks all relevant organizations to stand up for clean sport by implementing sanctions and bans where appropriate.

Given the shocking level of subversion and undermining of Olympic values, which has been so clearly laid out by the Investigation, it is clear that now, more than ever, all organizations responsible for upholding the principles and values of clean sport must come together and work with the common, unified, goal of protecting clean athletes and ensuring a level playing field for all.



The time is now. Athletes have no appetite for the in-fighting that was witnessed in 2016 between responsible organizations. This energy must be channeled constructively for the benefit of clean sport. Clean athletes of the world call on the responsible organizations to act on their behalf and take the necessary steps and actions to ensure fair sport. There is only one fight that should be taking place - the fight for clean and fair sport for all.

### **Meeting Outcomes**

The Committee recommends inviting athlete leaders from high risk sports to WADA's 2017 Symposium in Lausanne Switzerland from 13 – 15 March. The goal of this exercise is to better engage the athlete community in clean sport initiatives and discussions.

Committee members would like to see longer storage of urine and blood samples by testing authorities to allow for re-testing, which the IOC has proven so valuable in uncovering doping. We especially recommend this for World Championships and other major events.

We ask that more funding be dedicated to anti-doping by International Federations so that the integrity of sport can be upheld.

We acknowledge the [petition](#) of the USA track and field athletes that was initiated in December 2016 in Orlando, Florida. We believe athletes must stand together for the sake of clean sport and we support this petition and appreciate the hashtag they created #empowerWADA.

We firmly support WADA being strengthened as an independent organization, which is responsible and accountable for regulation and compliance. We are pleased that two of our members, Angela Ruggiero and Adam Pengilly, have been appointed members of the Governance Review Working Group, which was formed further to recommendations that were endorsed by the Foundation Board during their November 2016 meeting.

We would like to congratulate WADA on its whistleblower program and policy. We have been strong supporters of the Russian whistleblowers, Yulia and Vitaly Stepanov, and believe that having the proper program in place to support whistleblowers is vital to the future of clean sport.

We also support the work of the Compliance Review Committee (CRC); and, the recommendation that was endorsed by the Foundation Board during its November 2016 meeting for a graded sanctioning framework for non-compliance. While the framework will involve further consultation, once enacted, it would equip the anti-doping system with the ability to levy meaningful, predictable and proportionate sanctions in cases of non-compliance by anti-doping organizations (ADOs) with the World Anti-Doping Code (Code). We further recommend that WADA look at how it could have the right to appeal the decisions of Code Signatories that do not adequately sanction NF's, NOC's etc. This would lead to all sports following the same rules and a universality of sanctions leading to a greater amount of athlete confidence in the governance of sport.

### **Next Meeting/Follow-up**



12 March 2017, Lausanne Switzerland. This meeting will coincide with WADA's Annual Symposium.