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REGIONAL NEWSLETTER AFRICA

EDITORIAL

Dear WADA African Stakeholders,

2017 is breathing its last breaths and I am sure we are all looking forward to some rest after what has been a very busy year. WADA's Code Compliance Monitoring Program is in full swing and I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support in ensuring that the Program is successfully implemented in the region. Much work must still be done and we are now preparing all the Corrective Action Reports following the submission of your Code Compliance Questionnaires.

Please be on the lookout for this, as it will in all likelihood, require even more effort from your organizations to ensure that these are implemented within the specified timeframes.

In August, the 1st African Anti-Doping Forum was held in beautiful Seychelles. It was a great success and the outcomes were very positive. These outcomes have been sent to you already. However, I do want to highlight the Forum's unequivocal view that, if we are to succeed with our anti-doping efforts in the region, governments and the Sports Movement must work together and pool resources to ensure that our programs in support of clean sport and clean athletes are relevant, sustainable and focused. I am therefore calling upon ANOCA, the Sports Confederations and the Ministries of Sport to do whatever is necessary to cooperate and coordinate their anti-doping efforts. We have already started preparations for the 2nd edition of the event and I will provide more detail in this regard in due course.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Gabonese Ministry of Sport for representing the region on WADA's Foundation Board for the past three years. Similarly, we welcome the Minister of Sport from the Seychelles who will be joining her colleagues from Namibia and Kenya as Africa's representatives to the WADA Foundation Board. The African Union Commissioner for Social Affairs will continue to represent the region on WADA's Executive Committee.

I wish you all of the best for the rest of the year and look forward to working with you in 2018. Happy Holidays and I wish you a prosperous, productive and very happy 2018.



WADA delegation at the State House in Seychelles. Meeting with H. E President of the Republic of Sevchelles: Auagst 2017

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- » Meeting with Ethiopian stakeholders: 28 January 2018, Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia
- » WADA Annual Symposium: 21 – 23 March 2018, Lausanne, Switzerland

» WADA Executive Committee and Foundation Board Meetings: 16 – 17 May 2018, Montreal, Canada

» WADA Executive Committee Meeting: 20 September 2018, Victoria, Seychelles

» WADA Executive Committee and Foundation Board Meetings: 14 – 15 November 2018, Baku, Azerbaijan

UNESCO CONVENTION AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT

Ratifications – Four Yet to Complete from Africa

The Republic of Tanzania became the 187th State Party to the Convention, and the 50th in Africa. We now have only four African countries left to ratify including Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe and South Sudan. The WADA Africa Office continues to assist and encourage those remaining to do so.

UNESCO Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport

By ratifying, countries become eligible for financial support through the UNESCO Convention Voluntary Fund (the Fund). The African region has, over the years, received significant support for the implementation of programs from the Fund.

Following a decision of the Conference of Parties meeting in Paris in September 2017,

there is to be an Evaluation of the Fund and activities to be conducted sometime in mid-2018 along with a strategy to encourage contributions to the Fund to enable it to continue.

UNESCO Conference of Parties Meeting: 25 and 26 September 2017, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

It should be noted that a significant number of African representatives attended the Vth Conference of Parties (COP) meeting held in Paris on 25-26 September. A positive note for the African Region was the strong coordination role undertaken by the African Union.

Importantly, Togo was elected to the role of Vice Chairperson of the COP Bureau for 2017 – 2019, and Cameroon was elected to the UNESCO Voluntary Fund Approval Committee for the 2017 – 2019 period.

Our congratulations to them and we wish them well in their upcoming roles.

You can access the Resolutions document from the meeting at the following link: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0025/002592/259298E.pdf>



Dr. A. El Gamel (Sudan) & Mrs. Kady Kanoute (Member – WADA Education Committee) – African delegation at the UNESCO Conference of Parties – September 2017



UNESCO Project "capacity-building session for sports administrators on the elimination of doping in Sport": 6 – 7 November 2017, Bamako, Mali



ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO WADA

Please note the following highlights concerning the contributions as at 1 December 2017:

- As of today, the percentage paid by African countries is 68.07% versus 55.57% at the same date last year.
- Major outstanding contributions from some countries have been forthcoming.
- Additional contributions have been received from Egypt.

- In November, WADA sent correspondence and an accompanying invoice to countries regarding their 2018 contributions to the Agency.

Once again, we encourage and urge countries to pay their current annual contribution and forward their outstanding ones as soon as possible.

REGIONAL ANTI-DOPING ORGANIZATIONS

WADA's facilitation and support to the RADO Program continues to provide African stakeholders with a meaningful resource to implement the World Anti-Doping Code. RADOs continue to develop as anticipated, with an increased focus on quality and effectiveness. In addition, there is new leadership in Zone II & III, with the Board Member from Senegal recently elected as President, and the Board Member from Mali as Vice-President.

At the end of September/beginning of October this year, WADA Africa Office hosted a training session for all the African RADO Staff at its offices in Cape Town. The training focused primarily on administrative and strategic areas and was, by all accounts, very successful.

INTERVIEW WITH Dr. Mohamed Diop (President, RADO Zone II & III)

Q1: As the newly elected President, what are your main objectives during your term?

During this first term, I think it is necessary to increase the visibility of the RADO within our respective countries and partner institutions. All board members must move towards this approach so that the fight against doping is at the center of the relevant authorities' concerns. We will also need to join forces with the NADOs in their World Anti-Doping Code compliance process.

Q2: What do you see as the greatest challenge in the fight against doping today and in the future, not only in your region but in Africa in general?

Of course, the biggest challenge remains increasing awareness on doping issues. This awareness must start with young children in schools and make its way to the general public, through the print media and television. It should also be done systematically during major sporting events.



Of course, we will have to increase the number of anti-doping tests, which at our RADO, is limited to a WADA grant.

Q3: Do you have any plans for how the RADO will promote the fight against doping in your Zone? Making ourselves more visible is the best way to get our voices heard by our sports ministries and our National Olympic Committees in order to receive more grants to achieve our goals in terms of education, awareness, investigations and testing. We will also call on the member States to pay the arrears of contributions.

This must also involve the Ministries of health because the fight against doping is a significant aspect of public health. It is also necessary to know how to take advantage of the opportunities to solicit funds from UNESCO, ECOWAS, ANOCA, the African Union etc. We will focus on these institutions and then see the opportunities in the private sector.

We will also try, with the help of WADA, to see how countries that have difficulties implementing a coherent fight against doping could benefit from proper coaching by RADO members.



RADO Managers' training: Cape Town, South Africa, 29 Sept. – 1 October 2017

Also key is the training of sports stakeholders, including the administrative, technical and medical staff. Training for athletes however, is fundamental.

In some countries, it will be necessary to think of conducting surveys, especially in traditional sports that may be subject to this problem.

This can assist big time, especially if we work in close collaboration with customs, law enforcement and other relevant authorities.



RADO Zone II & III's delegation: meeting with the Minister of Sport: 12 October 2017, Dakar, Senegal



RADO Zone I Board meeting and Results Management training: 18 – 19 October 2017, Marrakech, Morocco

ANTI-DOPING FORUM “THINK TANK”

By H. E. Amira El Fadil (Commissioner, Social Affairs – African Union Commission)



Africa has also been ravaged by its fair share of doping cases in the last few years. Hence, in the latest move to enforce policy statements, the meeting of the Specialized Technical Committee

on Youth, Sport and Culture (STC-YSC), which took place in June in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, took the following decisions in regards to doping in sports:

Member states to put in place NADOs (National Anti-Doping Organizations) and appropriate legislative frameworks that will guide the existence and functioning of sports development and various funding initiatives.

Member States to comply with the World Anti-Doping Code and promote a drug free environment in all competitions.

With the talents we have on our continent, it was felt that there is a critical need to protect athletes from the dangers of doping and all Member States were encouraged to join the fight against doping and ensure adherence to a “Doping-Free African Sports Culture.” The STC – YSC decisions also called on countries which have not yet ratified the UNESCO International Convention Against Doping in Sport, to do so and to ensure that all WADA annual contributions are remitted, including all arrears.

In response to the request of the STC, the AUC, in collaboration with the Republic of Seychelles, organized the first African Anti-Doping Think Tank Forum in August 2017.

The gathering included the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), WADA Africa Office, WADA’s African Foundation Board members, as well as other key sports partners on the continent.

Several key issues were discussed and eventually some key recommendations came out for the continent’s engagement in its fight against doping in sport.

Some key outcomes of the forum include: Increased education and awareness, as preventive measures - especially focused on youth - through the education system, compliance with the WADA Code, annual contributions to WADA, a more concerted African approach at international forums, defining the role of African WADA Executive Committee and Foundation Board members, more stringent measures in ensuring anti-doping tests at all major sporting events; and, the establishment of a process of representation for Africa within WADA’s governance.

The forum also called for Africa, as a whole, to join the effort to fight doping in all its forms, through strong internal mechanisms and instruments, and to speak with one voice on all doping related matters.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE FORUM

“An African solution to an African problem” – Mr. Jean Larue (President, Indian Ocean RADO)

“This Forum is for Africa, by Africa and made in Seychelles” - Mrs. Mitcy Larue (Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture, Seychelles)

“ANOCA salutes the initiative of the African Union. Indeed, doping is a reality in Africa, as shown by the latest events. ANOCA agreed with the resolutions adopted to develop strategies for awareness, prevention and the fight against doping.” - Prof. Cyril Dah

“It has been a great honor to take part in the first African think tank forum on Anti-doping on behalf of the WADA Education Committee, but also as an African athletes’ commission member. I was pleased to make the voice of the athletes heard and was very comforted to witness the major decision makers and stakeholders of the fight against doping in Africa: the African Union and ANOCA collaborating and drafting key recommendations when it comes to the future of the fight against doping in sport in Africa. The hospitality of Seychelles was exceptional and we will be looking forward to the next forum.” – Mrs. Kady Kanoute (Member of the WADA Education Committee & ANOCA Athlete Commission)



First African Union “Think Tank”: African Anti-Doping Forum, Victoria, Seychelles

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