EDITORIAL

Mr. Rodney Swigelaar, Director, Africa Regional Office, World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

I cannot believe that half of 2017 has already passed. It has been quite a busy period for us at WADA. Firstly, I wish to thank all our stakeholders who completed the WADA Compliance Questionnaire. As I informed you in numerous correspondence over the last few months, compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code is a critical responsibility of all our stakeholders and the reporting thereof a key mandate of WADA. Those that must still complete this task should do so without any further delay.

In addition to WADA’s Code Compliance Questionnaire, our government partners have also been asked by UNESCO to complete and submit their ADLogic Questionnaire in preparation for the UNESCO Conference of Parties which is scheduled for 25-26 September in Paris, France. If Hon. Ministers have not yet received notification of either the ADLogic or the Conference of Parties, I suggest that you contact your local UNESCO office for more information. You can also contact WADA’s Africa Regional Office should you need any further information.

We are eagerly awaiting the 1st African Anti-Doping Forum in Seychelles on the 28 – 31 August 2017, which will bring all the key players in the African region together to discuss and deliberate on the continent’s response to the doping challenge. The Forum, spearheaded by the African Union Commission, will bring together stakeholders from the Sports Movement and governments to find their collective voice in addressing issues such as the region’s response to Code Compliance, financial contributions to support the work of WADA, the region’s representation in WADA’s governance structure, the voice of African athletes in the fight against doping and the importance of education and awareness, among others. I am hopeful to be able to share the outcomes with you all following this historic gathering.

With the African Games around the corner (in Equatorial Guinea in 2019), I call upon all involved parties to ensure that efforts are made to have a relevant and comprehensive anti-doping program in place. Past editions of the event have fallen short in terms of the quality of their anti-doping programs, if one considers the various WADA Independent Observer Reports following the conclusions of the events. The organizers of the Games will have to start early in planning for the event and WADA remains available to assist where necessary. Similarly, we encourage the organizers of the 1st African Beach Games to ensure that a viable and relevant anti-doping program is planned for this event which will take place in Cap Vert in 2019. It is never too early to start preparing!

In July 2018, Algeria will host the African Youth Games and I am happy to report that WADA will be present through our Outreach program. We thank ANOCA for the invitation to be part of this important event where the careers of our future champions are shaped. I am hopeful to provide more information on this in future editions of this newsletter.

I wish you happy reading and we do hope that you find the information contained in this publication relevant and informative. If you have any questions, suggestions or relevant updates, please let us know. We want to hear from you!

WADA ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION - 2017

The total amount invoiced to the respective African countries (Africa) is US$ 74,312.00. To date, WADA has received US$ 32,439.00 from the following 19 countries: Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Cote d’Ivoire, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles and Zambia.

We urge all countries to forward their outstanding contributions as soon as possible. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the Regional Office.
UNESCO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT

RATIFICATIONS

Guinea, Mauritania, São Tomé and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Sudan and Tanzania, have yet to ratify the Convention.

UNESCO’s Voluntary Fund – Apply for a National Anti-Doping Project for up to USD 20,000

State Parties to the Convention are eligible to apply for funding for anti-doping programs through the UNESCO Voluntary Fund. To date, 49 African countries have benefited from the Fund (67 projects – 58 national and 9 regional).

UNESCO Conference of Parties meeting: 25 - 26 September 2017, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

The 6th UNESCO Conference of Parties meeting will be held at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 25 and 26 September 2017. We encourage attendance by Ministers, senior government officials and those responsible for anti-doping. Leadership and robust debate about how anti-doping is tackled in the future is extremely important and representation from the African region at this important forum is critical. Should you need more information, please refer to UNESCO’s Mr. Marcellin Dally at: m.dally@unesco.org.

The following is the link to information related to the UNESCO Conference of Parties including Registration forms to be returned prior to 8 September 2017:

http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/learning-to-live-together/?tx_browser_pi1%5BshowUid%5D=42494&c=42494&hash=fb64c44d63

UNESCO ADLOGIC QUESTIONNAIRE COMPLETION

We wish to encourage all States Parties to the UNESCO Convention to complete the mandatory bi-annual reporting requirement – the UNESCO ADLogic online questionnaire. The deadline for submission has been communicated to all by UNESCO. Again, should you require any further information, please contact Mr. Marcellin Dally.

REGIONAL ANTI-DOPING ORGANIZATIONS

As we all know, doping is a public health issue that is reaching areas beyond sport. It is a national concern which urgently requires stakeholders in the region (NOCs, NADOs, NFs and Governments) to work closely together in order to tackle this issue and protect clean athletes.

Regional Anti-Doping Organizations (RADOs) have played a vital role since their creation in reaching areas that were previously untouched by anti-doping programs. 48 African countries belong to one of the six RADOs in Africa. The sustainability of these organizations depends on NOCs and Government cooperation to provide resources, guidance, leadership etc.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE REGIONAL ANTI-DOPING ORGANISATION (RADO), NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORT

“Ensuring the viability of a RADO means maintaining a good relationship with the NOC and the Ministry of Youth and Sport”

Rym Zerfli, Manager, RADO Zone I

The Africa Zone I RADO office has been in Morocco since 2013 due to the mutual support and efforts of the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MUS) and the Moroccan National Olympic Committee (CNOM), whose aim is to encourage and promote clean sport in the member countries of this RADO and Morocco.

In this regard, Morocco allocates an annual operating budget to the RADO and facilitates the process and access to resources to implement its strategic and operational plan.

Since the establishment of the Africa Zone I RADO office, the RADO has focused on developing tools and means of communication with all member countries of this Regional Anti-Doping Organization with an objective to:

- Establish the principles of clean sport in member countries;
REGIONAL ANTI-DOPING ORGANIZATIONS

RADO ZONE V: Board meeting and Education Officers’ training: 13 – 14 June 2017. Kigali, Rwanda

- Assist member countries in promoting their anti-doping policies and philosophies, including anti-doping rules and regulations;
- Build partnerships and cooperation with the MSJs and NOCs of each RADO member country in order to increase the anti-doping culture;
- Improve the programming of smart testing based on risk factors;
- Inculcate the principle of clean sport in the sporting environment and encourage a values-based education program.

The Africa Zone I RADO is making considerable efforts to act in an equitable manner with all the MSJs and NOCs of the member countries in terms of prevention, education and testing according to a well-established program.

This collaboration with our partners in the region is not only to maintain smooth and regular communications, but also, and above all, is a deep conviction among our partners that anti-doping programs prevent, deter and detect doping in sport. For the success of such objectives, it is essential to support the RADO in the implementation of its strategic and operational plan.

However, like any Anti-Doping Organization, the RADO is faced with some challenges, notably:

- Optimization of intelligent testing
- Monitoring Code compliance
- Better collaboration between board members
- Implementation of an anti-doping program in a member country that does not have an independent anti-doping structure

The RADO remains open and cooperates with any entity promoting clean sport in order to preserve the values of sport and sportsmanship.

AN APPEAL TO PARENTS OF ATHLETES

Kirsty Coventry, WADA Athlete Committee

Sport is not just about winning. It is also about leading better lives through a healthy lifestyle, discipline and values. Both physical and mental nourishment are key and can teach our children to lead better lives by showing them how to overcome challenges, retain their values and become role models for others. This is how leadership is created.

I grew up in Zimbabwe and was very naive to any doping happening in Africa. As an advocate for clean sport and a member of the World Anti-Doping Agency, I am now privy to a great deal of information regarding the use of performance enhancing supplements by athletes. I am given all kinds of reports as well as my own research and I am shocked by some of the stories I hear. This is a dirty world of lying and cheating where athletes, coaches, doctors, and even parents will do anything for the win. The peer pressure from parents and teammates of schoolboy rugby players is now pushing children as young as 14-years old to start doping.

Recently, in Zimbabwe, it was reported that parents were sending their children to a ‘clinic’ to receive IV treatments of Vitamin B12. I’ve heard of coaches encouraging their athletes to take supplements and yet have no idea what is in them. I don’t get it. If we could have any car in the world but we would only be allowed to have that one car for the rest of our lives, how well would we look after it? Then why, if we are only given one body, do we not look after it the same way?

I have been competing in swimming since I was 6-years old and I have been to 5 Olympic Games and won 2 Gold medals, 4 Silver medals and 1 Bronze medal. The only time I ever took any kind of supplement was a year before my last Olympics in Rio 2016. I will not mention the brand in fear of you thinking this is a marketing document. I will also point out that I personally did a huge amount of research into the product to make sure it was natural and contained nothing that would harm my body. The message I am trying to make is that throughout my career, I relied solely on my training and a healthy diet to win. I broke multiple world records and I became a World Champion and Olympic Champion in multiple events.

Being an athlete is about seeing how far you can push your body. The ultimate reward is not the money or the fame, it’s that elated feeling of “Oh my goodness, I just did that”. If you look at photograph of my win in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, you can see what I was feeling: I had won 3 Silver medals in my previous events and when I finally won Gold, that achievement was not about just missing out in the previous events, it was the culmination of the years of sweat and tears that finally got me to this point. It’s this feeling that drives true athletes but instead of the ‘dirty’ athlete relishing this feeling, they grow up in an unreal world filled with dishonesty, idleness and a constant search for quick fixes rather than developing a strong work ethic and drive for accomplishment. This is not the Africa we want and since sport is such a big part of our lives, then we need to do something about it.

We need the financial support from governments and corporations to help fight the doping system, but we also need the moral support of family and friends who surround the athlete and protect them from wondering off their path. Don’t try and live your life through your athlete or your child because the importance of winning will no longer be about their achievement but about your own desire to reap the rewards you seek from others.
IMPORTANCE OF ANTI-DOPING IN AFRICA

ANOCA reiterates its full support for the recommendations of the IOC 2020 Olympic Agenda, in particular those concerning the integrity of athletes and the predominant role that should rest with athletes in the Olympic movement.

In this regard, it urges all NOCs in Africa to ensure, within the framework of their missions, and in coordination with States, National Federations and National Anti-Doping Agencies, to preserve the integrity of athletes, good governance in sport management bodies and, in general, the cleanliness of sport.

WADA must remain independent of sports organizations and national interests. The role of WADA should be strengthened and ANOCA supports WADA in its various initiatives aimed at ensuring that all stakeholders comply with the World Anti-Doping Code so that all athletes compete on an equal footing.

ANOCA will continue to work closely with the Athletes Commission and RADO to coordinate projects related to education and awareness, communication and Code implementation.

In addition, it will ensure that all athletes participating in sporting events under its jurisdiction are subject to the same anti-doping protocols and procedures.

ANOCA is determined to sanction all persons (athletes, technical and medical executives, officers and institutions) who have any responsibility in the practice of doping.

2017 CALENDAR

> RADO Zone V Board meeting and Education Officers’ training: 13 – 14 June 2017, Kigali, Rwanda
> Meeting with Rwanda Stakeholders: 15 June 2017, Kigali, Rwanda
> Meeting with Egyptian Stakeholders: 13 July 2017, London, UK
> WADA at the African Union Anti-Doping Forum: 28 – 31 August 2017, Victoria (Mahe), Seychelles
> RADO Zone II et III Board meeting and training: 6 – 7 September, Niamey, Niger
> Meeting with Ethiopian Stakeholders: 13 – 14 September 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

> WADA Executive Committee meeting: 24 September 2017, Paris, France
> WADA at the 6th UNESCO Conference of Parties meeting: 25 – 26 September 2017, Paris, France
> RADO Managers’ training: 29 September – 1 October 2017, Cape Town, South Africa
> WADA at the South African Sport and Recreation - Sport Law Conference: 3 – 4 October 2017, Potchefstroom, South Africa
> RADO Zone I Board meeting and Result Management training: 18 – 19 October 2017, Marrakech, Morocco

> RADO Indian Ocean Board meeting and training: 24 - 25 October 2017 (Venue to be confirmed)
> WADA Executive Committee and Foundation Board meetings: 15 – 16 November 2017, Seoul, South Korea
> RADO Zone VI Board meeting and UNESCO Regional project workshop: 28 – 30 November 2017, Windhoek, Namibia

WADA HEADQUARTERS
Stock Exchange Tower, 800 Place Victoria, Suite 1700, P.O. Box 120
Montreal, Quebec
Canada H4Z 1B7
Tel.: 1.514.904.9232 | Fax: 1.514.904.8650

AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE
8th floor, Protea Assurance Building,
Greenmarket Square
Cape Town, 8001
Tel.: 27.21.483.9790 | Fax: 27.21.483.9791