

WADA Education Committee Meeting 23-24 April 2019 **Meeting Outcomes**

MEMBERS

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Petr KOUKAL, WADA Athlete Committee

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA's) Education Committee met in Montreal (Canada) on 23-24 April 2019. The outcomes and key recommendations made by the Committee are outlined below.

1. The Education Committee warmly welcomed the [appointment](#) of Committee member Amanda Hudson, currently Director of Education at UK Anti-Doping to the position of Director of Education at WADA, effective 5 August 2019. The Committee also welcomed the announcement that on that date, Education will become a standalone department within WADA, with a seat at the management table, which reflects the importance with which WADA and its stakeholders increasingly view Education.
2. The Committee welcomed four observers as valuable contributors to the meeting; namely, a member of WADA's Athlete Committee, the Chair of WADA's Social Science Research Review Panel, a representative from UNESCO and a representative from the Council of Europe.
3. The Committee noted its updated Terms of Reference.
4. The Committee acknowledged the enhanced role that education is playing within WADA and the global anti-doping system; and, is committed to providing strong leadership via its mandate. It also acknowledged certain, current, shortcomings in education and the need to address these, mainly around resources and capacity in the area.
5. The Committee was provided an overview of the [2018 Meeting Outcomes](#) and was pleased with the action that had been taken to address recommendations highlighted within. Further actions related to the 2018 Outcomes were also discussed:
 - a. The Committee stressed the need for more partnerships within the global anti-doping system and highlighted several opportunities to support this pursuit. The Committee acknowledged the value of

having the observers present; notably, how it opened the door for ongoing networking and increased collaboration concerning education. The Committee recommended a number of forums for further exploration, which could contribute to developing partnerships.

- b. The Committee acknowledged the importance of the [UNESCO Voluntary Fund](#) in supporting less developed countries in delivering education programs. It welcomed the decision of the Fund's Approval Committee to restart considering applications in 2019. It also supported the findings of the evaluation of the Fund to provide ongoing support to applicants and encourage longer term project impact.
 - c. The Committee acknowledged that there are multiple potential funding opportunities for stakeholders; and, it recommended that these be mapped and promoted to encourage applications. The Committee suggested WADA seek to work with funding partners to establish a set of research priorities to reduce duplication and improve longer-term impact.
 - d. The Committee reinforced the need to 'rebrand' the anti-doping program with positive narratives and that approaches should be multi-dimensional and evidence-based.
 - e. The Committee discussed the need to highlight anti-doping as a wider societal issue in order to encourage other sectors and stakeholders to engage more meaningfully, such as the public health, private foundations and education sectors.
6. The Committee was provided an update on the outcomes from the [15 March 2019](#) Athlete Committee meeting. Members were informed that there is a need for more effective education of athletes.
 7. The Committee highlighted the potential benefits for the Athlete Committee and the Education Committee to work more closely together to ensure better anti-doping education of athletes.
 8. The Committee expressed support for the Athlete Committee's call for all National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADO's) to establish their own athlete committees.
 9. The Committee was presented with the outcomes of the Global Education Conference, held in Beijing in October 2018; and, endorsed the [Beijing Declaration](#) as representing the key outcomes.
 10. The Committee supported the proposal that the next Global Education Conference be held in 2020, following a call for tenders.
 11. The Committee was provided an update on WADA's [Anti-Doping eLearning platform](#) (ADeL) -- which was launched in January 2018 and now has approximately 30,000 subscribers -- including regarding new features, courses, functionalities and languages. The Committee recommended that WADA further examine the feasibility of using ADeL as a central clearinghouse for education resources or as an interface providing key directions to other education tools that may be available.
 12. The Committee welcomed the developments on the Sport Values in Every Classroom resource -- a partnership with UNESCO; the International Olympic Committee; the International Paralympic Committee; the International Council for Sport Science and Physical Education; and, the International Fair Play Committee -- and encouraged the Department to continue working with the partners to further pilot, refine and implement it. The resource will be launched at UNESCO's Conference of Parties to the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport, which will be held from 29-31 October 2019. The Committee recommended that WADA encourage governments to take up the resource as an excellent way to support teachers and current curricula within their countries. It also recommended that the implementation of the resource through UNESCO's associated schools' network should be promoted and supported.

13. The Committee discussed the development of the [Social Science Research Grant Program](#) and recommended that WADA continue encouraging research from a wider geographical spread. The key role research plays in the development of education programs was acknowledged and the need to continue to advocate for evidence-based practice was emphasized. The Committee also recommended encouraging funding in the following areas:
 - a. Whistleblowing policies and practices
 - b. Supplement use among athletes
 - c. Athlete engagement and athlete views on relevant messaging for them
 - d. Inadvertent doping and the need for data on this topic

Since its creation in 2005, the Program has awarded over USD 3.5 million towards approximately 100 projects to ensure that preventive anti-doping education programs are designed using an evidence-based approach.

14. The Committee was provided an update on some of WADA's non-education priorities and activities by Chief Operating Officer, Frédéric Donzé.
15. The Committee asked that WADA do the necessary to communicate/educate stakeholders as fully as possible regarding the 2021 Code and International Standards, which have undergone a [three-phase stakeholder review](#). The Code and Standards will be presented for consideration and approval at the [fifth World Conference on Doping in Sport](#) in November 2019 and will enter into effect on 1 January 2021.
16. In particular, the Committee had an in-depth discussion regarding the draft International Standard for Education (ISE); and, provided feedback for amendments to be considered by the ISE Working Group, including:
 - a. The need to ensure that the education pool for Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) is as broad as possible while being realistic and achievable.
 - b. The importance of trained educators in the field and the need to make this a requirement for ADO's as soon as possible.
 - c. Recognizing the key role that National Federations play in the system, the need to ensure that they are sufficiently engaged in educating target groups, particularly in cooperation with NADOs and supported by International Federations (IFs).
 - d. The need to ensure that international events/competitions are providing education to athletes before and at the event.
 - e. The need to provide guidance on identifying and prioritizing athlete support personnel.
 - f. The need to provide a clearer definition of education within the ISE.
17. The Committee asked WADA to explore whether a second in-person meeting of the Committee could be held in 2019 to enhance and pursue the ISE, Code and Guidelines for Education that will have to be put to the fifth World Conference on Doping in Sport in November 2019; and, whether, effective 2020, two in-person meetings could be scheduled per year. The latter is in accordance with the Terms of Reference, which indicated that up to a maximum of two in-person meetings can be held per year.
18. The Committee also recommended that WADA explore the possibility of convening a joint-meeting between the WADA Education Committee and the IOC Education Commission in order to look at common issues, synergies and opportunities. While no particular timeline was discussed, it was suggested that WADA seek to leverage a planned event (i.e. WADA's Annual Symposium); and that, it may only be possible with sub-groups from each Committee.
19. The Committee discussed the drafting of the new Guidelines for Education that will support the implementation of the SE. The Members provided guidance on a variety of topics; and, in particular,

expressed the need for a user-friendly document. This included the development of a curriculum framework with clear learning objectives that align education to the athlete pathway.

20. The Committee carried out a strategic planning session that helped provide guidance and input on the direction for WADA Education in the coming years. Key strategic areas to be considered included:
 - a. A focus on reducing inadvertent doping, including the need to identify metrics for this.
 - b. Maintaining an athlete centered approach to education including the need to fully engage athletes in the process, particularly the WADA Athlete Committee.
 - c. Supporting the integration of clean sport education into mainstream sport and school programs and activities.
 - d. Ensuring that developments are research-led and innovative through the WADA Social Science Research program.
 - e. Promoting partnerships and cooperation to minimize duplication and increase the reach of education programs.
 - f. Maintaining a focus on values-based education and the need for this to underpin all activity.
21. Sub-groups of the Committee were established in order to follow up on specific topics related to the development of the Guidelines for Education and to provide further guidance on WADA's Education strategy.