

**WADA NADO EXPERT ADVISORY GROUP
13 April 2021
Meeting Outcomes**

MEMBERS

Rune ANDERSEN (Chair) - *Norway*
Victor CARPIO QUINTANA - *Peru*
Shafag HUSEYNLI - *Azerbaijan*
Halim JEBALI - *Tunisia*
Jeremy LUKE - *Canada*
Christine HELLE - *Sweden*
Nicole SAPSTEAD – *United Kingdom*
Mathieu TEORAN - *France*
Chen ZHIYU – *China*
Jorge LEYVA – *Institute of National
Anti-Doping Organisations (iNADO)*

WADA

Tom MAY
Ieva LUKOSIUTE-STANIKUNIENE

**WADA participants for specific
topics**

Olivier NIGGLI

WADA's National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO) Expert Advisory Group (EAG) held its first meeting of 2021 on 13 April. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held virtually. The key outcomes of the discussions are outlined below and have been submitted to WADA Management for further consideration.

Introduction and Review of NADO Expert Advisory Group Terms of Reference

- The NADO EAG has been transitioned to a full Expert Advisory Group, with its [Terms of Reference](#) updated to be consistent with other Expert Advisory Groups of WADA.
- The NADO EAG welcomed a new member to the meeting, Ms. Christine Helle, the Chief Executive Officer of Anti-Doping Sweden.
- Mr. Olivier Niggli, Director General of WADA, joined the beginning of the meeting to discuss various issues with the NADO EAG.
- With the effectiveness of virtual meeting tools, the NADO EAG agreed to consider meeting more than two times per year (which has been standard practice for the group).
- The NADO EAG recommended that consideration be given to developing a strategic direction for the group, using the Terms of Reference as well as the NADO Program Strategy as a basis for development.

WADA Governance

- The NADO EAG welcomed the opportunity to meet with the [Working Group on the Review of WADA Governance Reforms](#) (GRWG) recently. The NADO EAG still believes this working group would have benefited from a NADO representative within the group; however, since this is not possible the NADO EAG stresses the importance for all NADOs to participate in the consultation process and encourages the GRWG to engage the NADO community in its activities.

Russia

- The NADO EAG encourages WADA to review the overall case related to RUSADA's non-compliance to determine if there is anything that should be changed / improved in order to avoid similar situations (and decisions) in the future.

- The NADO EAG agrees that it is critical for WADA to continue closely monitoring RUSADA to ensure it can continue to operate independently and without outside interference (as per the reinstatement conditions in the CAS decision).
- The NADO EAG also encouraged WADA to work closely with other stakeholders who have ongoing processes in Russia (i.e. World Athletics, International Biathlon Union, etc.) in order to share information and ensure a consistent approach.

Impact of COVID-19 on Anti-Doping

- The NADO EAG is concerned about the ongoing impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on anti-doping globally.
- With the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games still scheduled to take place in 2021, it is important for WADA to monitor the anti-doping activity, including testing, worldwide.
- Some NADOs are concerned that, due to the lower number of samples being collected, their sample collection equipment will expire before it can be used. The NADO EAG will follow up with the manufacturers of the sample collection equipment to see if there are any potential solutions to this issue.

Implementation of the 2021 World Anti-Doping Code / Compliance Monitoring

- The NADO EAG is concerned that there are still a significant number of ADOs, including NADOs, who have not finalized and adopted anti-doping rules in line with the 2021 Code.
- The NADO EAG is encouraged that WADA is continuing its compliance monitoring activities despite the current conditions caused by the pandemic, including with Major Event Organizations.

NADO Governance and Development

- While WADA is undergoing its own governance review, it is also important for NADOs to strengthen their own governance. The NADO EAG encourages all NADOs to use WADA's [Guide for the Operational Independence of NADOs](#) to assist them in this process.
- The NADO EAG encourages WADA to assess the current situation related to NADO governance and independence and work with the NADO EAG to develop strategies and programs to address any areas of need.
- The NADO EAG will support WADA in its development of additional tools and materials to assist NADOs in their development.
- The NADO EAG has requested the WADA Program Development and NADO/RADO Relations Department to provide regular updates on its implementation of the NADO Program Strategy.

Substances of Abuse

- The NADO EAG discussed Code article 10.2.4.1¹ and the challenges related to approving substance abuse treatment programs, including different approaches by ADOs, managing the differences between a recreational user and someone with a substance abuse issue, etc.
- iNADO will consider conducting a survey of its members to determine how NADOs are addressing this requirement.

¹ Code article 10.2.4.1 “In addition, the period of Ineligibility calculated may be reduced to one (1) month if the Athlete or other Person satisfactorily completes a Substance of Abuse treatment program approved by the ADO with Results Management responsibility.”



- The NADO EAG recommends that WADA consider developing guidance, including general principles, that ADOs can consider when developing how they will address this Code requirement.

Future Discussions

- The NADO EAG identified several issues for discussion at future meetings, including: use of supplements, sample re-analysis strategies, sport health and monitoring programs, and the monitoring of anti-doping programs in countries with restricted entry requirements.