

## REGIONAL NEWSLETTER AFRICA

June 2015

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SAY NO! TO DOPING

## **EDITORIAL**

Mr. Rodney Swigelaar, Director, WADA Africa Regional Office

Dear WADA Africa Stakeholders.

2015 is indeed turning out to be a very busy year for sport and anti-doping. On 1 January, the 2015 World Anti-Doping Code took effect and I am very happy to report that the overwhelming majority of African countries had the necessary amended Code Compliant Anti-Doping Rules in place. We continue to work with Guinea Bissau to ensure they complete this necessary task as soon as possible in order to be declared compliant with that aspect of Code Compliance. WADA will continue to assist countries and Code Signatories in implementing the Code and we call upon our stakeholders to cooperate with us in this regard.

Our six RADOs are also continuing to develop and I once again encourage our government and ANOCA stakeholders to hold their respective RADO representatives accountable to ensure they provide regular feedback and updates as to the goings on of the RADO. Through WADA's Test Grant to the RADO's testing in the members states are ongoing and we can already see the benefit of the grant as testing is taking place almost on a daily basis in the region. Much more can be done however and we call upon our stakeholders to assist and facilitate the collection of samples as much as possible.

The Africa Games this September in Brazzaville will undoubtedly be the highlight of the African sports calendar and WADA is actively assisting the organizers in ensuring that a relevant, comprehensive and robust testing program will be in place at the event.

"The Africa Games this September in Brazzaville will undoubtedly be the highlight of the African sports calendar"

It is incumbent upon all delegations to ensure that their athletes are fully apprised of the anti-doping rules that will be in force for the Games and ensure they understand their roles and responsibilities when it comes to sample collection. Through the RADOs and also by contacting us at the WADA Regional Office, support can be provided to you in this regard so let's all work together to ensure our athletes are properly prepared for this event. This includes those supporting the athletes during their preparations and eventual participation at the Games as well.

Finally, let's continue to work together and ensure that we keep the lines of communications open at all times. Please keep your questions and calls for assistance and support coming as we are only too glad to assist you in support of our clean athletes.

See you all in Brazzaville!



### UNESCO CONVENTION AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT

#### Ratifications - Eight Yet to Complete from Africa

We have 179 countries that have now ratified worldwide and there remain only 18 yet to complete. From our continent, there are eight (8) remaining, namely Central African Republic, Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Sao Tome & Principe, Sierra Leone, South Sudan and Tanzania and we strongly encourage them to complete the process as soon as possible.

We remain committed in assisting countries in finalizing the completion of the ratification since we do have tools and information that could be of relevance to their needs. Also, by ratifying countries become eligible for financial support through the UNESCO Convention Voluntary Fund.

## UNESCO's Voluntary Fund - Apply for a National Anti-Doping project up to USD 20,000

Key Deadline for draft projects - 15 July

Since the establishment of the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport by UNESCO (Voluntary Fund) in 2008, 52 projects from Africa have received financial assistance. While it is encouraging that such a number of countries have already benefitted from the Fund, we maintain that many more proposals from Africa should reach UNESCO for their consideration.

Please be reminded that the Regional Office can provide you with support and assistance in developing a relevant proposal for the application process and we welcome your enquiries in this regard.

Before you start, please read UNESCO's "<u>Tips and</u> Tricks" information.

Past applications have missed key information that should be included and this document gives good guidance.

Please read the <u>Voluntary Fund Handbook and the</u> application information.



UNESCO's project is being implemented in Comoros

— Training the trainer

## Timeline for Application Submission:

**May/June/July 2015**: Prepare Application (three months)

**15 July 2015 (or prior to)**: Submit DRAFT Application to WADA Regional Office (if applicant so wishes) or to UNESCO – Nancy McLennan

**15 September 2015 (EN/FR):** All Applications **FINAL** (English/French) having integrated any comments or recommendations from WADA's Regional Office and UNESCO + signed and stamped and ready to go forward to the Approval Committee.

**14 October 2015**: Final Applications made available to Approval Committee Members

**27 October 2015**: Approval Committee Meeting – last meeting before a new Committee is to be elected at the COP meeting on **29 October 2015**.

# UNESCO Conference of Parties meeting, 28 & 29 October 2015, UNESCO Headquarters in Paris

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Convention

UNESCO has confirmed the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Conference of Parties meeting will be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 28 and 29 October. We encourage attendance by Ministers, senior government officials and those responsible for anti-doping.

Leadership and robust debate of how anti-doping is tackled in the future is extremely important and representation from the African region at this important forum should be on your calendars. Invitations are to be sent in due course by UNESCO, please refer again to Mr. Marcellin Dally: m.dally@unesco.org.

## **UNESCO AdLogic Questionnaire - Convention Reporting Requirement Must Be Completed:**

Every country that has ratified the Convention is required to complete the UNESCO Questionnaire. It is a self-reporting requirement to show what has been undertaken by States Parties with regard to the Convention and it is undertaken every two years. Mr. Marcellin Dally who is the Secretary for the Convention is responsible for reaching out to States Parties to complete it and he can be contacted at: <a href="mailto:m.dally@unesco.org">m.dally@unesco.org</a>. He will provide the details to enable your country to complete it. Please contact him promptly if your country is listed below:

Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Comoros, Eritrea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zimbabwe (23).

## REGIONAL ANTI-DOPING ORGANIZATIONS (RADOs)

The WADA Testing Grant made available to RADOs has undoubtedly led to much more progress throughout the continent. Through this grant, more out-of-competition tests are being conducted in RADO member countries and Doping Control Officers are gaining extensive experience. This should also result in more partnerships with International Federations due to the increase in capacity and quality. This testing program will ensure that more athletes in the region will be tested, which is of particular importance seeing that countries are preparing themselves for the upcoming Africa Games that will take place in Brazzaville, Congo in September 2015.

More training and capacity development are planned in the different RADOs (Education Officers, Doping Control Officers, and Results Management Committees) in order to build a strong, Code-compliant support system for the RADO member countries.

Following the December 2014 RADO Staff training in Montreal, as well as the 2013 Africa RADO Staff training in Cape Town, the Regional Office is now preparing for the second African Staff training session which is scheduled for August 2015.

It is hoped that this training will further capacitate the six RADO staff in order to further enhance the quality of the RADO Offices, improve their day-to-day activities and the increase the overall effectiveness of their programs.



RADO Zone IV - Board meeting in Brazzaville, Congo: 19 -20 April 2015



RADO Zone V - Result Management Committees' training session in Nairobi, Kenya: 4 – 6 May 2015

## 2015 WADA ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Countries' financial contributions assist and support WADA's work in its global fight against doping. To date, a significant number of African countries are still in arrears insofar as their contributions for 2015, and previous years are concerned. These nominal contributions allow us to deliver on our mandate in Africa, and through these actions assist all countries with the development and implementation of relevant programs.

As of 15 May 2015, the following countries have remitted their 2015 annual contributions to WADA: *Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe.* 

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.

## COLLABORATION BETWEEN WADA AND ANOCA

## WADA Africa Regional Office speaks to Mr. Tommy Sithole, Secretary General of ANOCA

You have been involved with Sport in Africa for a long time - in your opinion, how has the fight against doping changed since then in Africa?

Until just two Olympics ago, Africa was paying plenty of lip service to the antidoping cause due to ignorance, that doping was for the well to do big money athletes who took substances especially made for them in labs for which African athletes had no access. Moreover, the African sports movement sort of did not seriously get into anti-doping programmes as it was seen to be mostly the preserve of governments. The situation has been changing. A near revolution is taking place in the continent, mostly due to NADOs and RADOs. Suddenly the sports movement, generally speaking, is taking a keen interest and being involved. Hardly a day passes without something on anti-doping coming through my email. The most important aspect being the educational element in the campaigns.

You have been working closely with WADA Regional Office, how does ANOCA assist in the fight against doping in the region?

Nothing happens in ANOCA in terms of competition, athletes' gatherings and forums without factoring in anti-doping and specifically the involvement of the WADA Regional Office. The personal relationship between the people involved on both "sides" as it were, only helps in terms of communication.

#### From Left to Right

Mr. R. Swigelaar, Director, WADA Africa Regional Office;

Gen. L. Palenfo, President, ANOCA:

Rev. Ambassador A.M Stofile, Vice President, WADA;

Mr. T.G. Sithole, Secretary General, ANOCA.

There is a dedicated approach to both to exploit every opportunity to spread the word. ANOCA, through my office, has been at the forefront of helping the regional office to get the remaining African countries to be compliant. Just recently, I personally spent time moving from one office to another getting the Sao Tome and Principe compliance documents signed and sending them to Cape Town. All this at the request of the WADA Regional Office. The popular annual forum for NOC Secretaries General has always dedicated time to anti-doping matters. This year will not just be the same. We have agreed with Rodney to afford more time to him for reports and a review of how the educational programmes are going. We also have the All Africa Games coming up in Brazzaville in September. The reporting systems have not been very pleasing to ANOCA and the educational element has been a little short. These are the 50th anniversary games (they started in 1965) and may be the last to be held under the current all-governmental circumstances. ANOCA will wants to review the anti-doping processes to ensure total compliance with the WADA anti-doping procedures and also that this becomes a process rather than a oncein-four-years event.

"As I've said above, the sports movement in Africa has only just gotten proactive, again thanks to the persistence of the regional office"





How does having both governments and the sports movement working together help in this fight?

As I've said above, the sports movement in Africa has only just gotten pro-active, again thanks to the persistence of the regional office. There is a growing acceptance that this is not to be left to governments alone, that sport itself must be an equal partner and that it has great influence on sports persons in general. One has to understand that the dominant "force" in African sport has been governments. Legislative powers and control of resources had left the Olympic Movement in Africa in particular playing a peripheral role. Over the years, the influence of the Olympic Movement in Africa has been on the upward trend, more because of availability of funds from the IOC, greater professionalism in the administration of sports and the realization that sports development can only be realized if all elements in society play their role. Sports organizations are increasingly accepting that their responsibility goes beyond competition, that they have a responsibility to young people and to development in general.

This realisation has not suddenly happened. It has been a long educational process whose results are beginning to tell.

I have engaged Rodney so that we may include in educational programmes the "non-traditional" doping such as khat and abuse of over-the-counter concoctions. We have discussed how we may keep pushing RADOs and all constituencies that anti-doping programmes are not only designed to keep clean sport but are important for character building and good citizenship; that staying clean is good for one's health, whether they are involved in sports competitions or not.

There indeed had been a prevalent feeling, if not attitude, that anti-doping education is reserved only for sports persons, just so that it does not give them an unfair competitive edge.

ANOCA very much subscribes to the understanding that sport, though very influential and certainly one that tends to produce the most visible of role models, is more useful as a tool for human development.

The new Code entered into force in January 2015, how is ANOCA planning to assist countries in the implementation process?

By providing the support necessary, encouraging NOCs and their constituencies to work hand in hand with authorities, ensuring that funds that are allocated to NOCs by the IOC through ANOCA are also applied to anti-doping education.

The ANOCA Medical Commission and the Athletes Commission have been given special brief in that regard. The proposed first-ever African Athletes Forum which will be held in Marrakech in October will address clean sport and anti-doping measures and education.

## WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE: COMPLIANCE

WADA's Africa Regional Office remains in contact with non-compliant countries to the 2015 World Anti-Doping Code. We urge these countries to finalise the process of their rules in order for them to be declared compliant and fulfil their obligations to the Code. For any assistance or queries, please contact the WADA Africa Regional Office.

For those organization/countries that have rules in line with the Code, their next step is now the further implementation of the Code, with specific reference to the initiation of quality anti-doping programs. How does one achieve this? Countries, organizations should devote sufficient resources in order to implement anti-doping programs (based on the rules) in key areas of testing, Results Management, TUE and Education.

Should you need assistance with some of the programs, please check on WADA website: <a href="www.wada-ama.org">www.wada-ama.org</a> for some materials that are available for our stakeholders.

## 2015 CALENDAR

#### **June**

WADA's presence at the 3<sup>rd</sup> AU joint meeting-10<sup>th</sup> Africa Games: 1-4 June 2015, Brazzaville, Congo

#### July

RADO Zone II & III Board meeting: 22-23 July 2015, Lomé, Togo

#### **August**

African RADO Staff training: 12-13 August 2015, Cape Town, South Africa

#### September

WADA's presence at the Africa Games: 4-19 September 2015, Brazzaville, Congo

#### September (cont.)

WADA Executive Committee meeting: 16 September 2015, Copenhagen, Denmark

#### October

WADA's presence at ANOCA Secretaries general's meeting: 5-7 October 2015, Maseru, Lesotho (date & venue still to be confirmed)

India Ocean RADOBoard meeting and training: 14-16 October 2015, Port Louis, Mauritius

WADA's presence at UNESCO Conference of Parties' meeting: 29-30 October 2015, Paris, France

#### November

RADO Zone I Board meeting and training: 4-6 November 2015, Tunis, Tunisia

WADA Foundation Board and Executive Committee meeting: 17-18 November 2015, Colorado Springs, USA

#### **December**

RADO Zone VI Board meeting: 8-9 December 2015, Mbabane, Swaziland