

**First Session of CHINADA International Anti-Doping Symposium
“Implementing Effective Anti-Doping Programs at Major Events”**

Tuesday 16 July 2019

Opening remarks – WADA President, Sir Craig Reedie

Mr Li Yingchuan, Vice-Minister of the General Administration of Sport of China, Mr Chen Zhiyu, Executive Director General CHINADA, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

It is a great pleasure, on behalf of the World Anti-Doping Agency, to be invited here to this important conference, which is being organized by the China Anti-Doping Agency, in partnership with WADA and under the auspices of the General Administration of Sport of China.

China has been contributing to the development of anti-doping on a global stage for many years as the WADA Foundation Board member representing the Asian region as well as through hosting various anti-doping workshops, seminars and conferences such as this, not to mention the ongoing assistance it gives to nearby National and Regional Anti-Doping Organizations.

This first annual anti-doping symposium hosted by CHINADA for Asia/Oceania follows on the heels of the WADA Global Education Conference, which was very successfully held by CHINADA last year here in Beijing, which I was delighted to attend. I do appreciate China’s leadership in this region as you continue your strong support for the anti-doping movement.

Coming here to the impressive Beijing International Convention Center, which is located not far from the Bird’s Nest, the Water Cube and the National Indoor Stadium, which were all venues for Beijing’s 2008 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games, brings back happy memories for me of those excellent major events. I am also pleased that these venues will be used for some events during the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games that will be staged here in three years’ time.

Of course, major events are what we are discussing here this week as we hear about the implementation of effective anti-doping programs at such global competitions.

Over the next day and a half we will learn more about those programs, particularly as they relate to testing and education. The International Testing Agency has been charged with running the testing program for the 2020 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo followed soon thereafter by the Beijing events. So, as those major events draw near, it will be particularly interesting to hear from Benjamin Cohen, the Director General of the International Testing Agency.

This conference is also a very timely opportunity to hear from Dr Ulrich Haas, Professor of Law at the University of Zurich and a key member of WADA's 2021 Code drafting team, about the latest draft of the revised World Anti-Doping Code. The Code is currently undergoing some finishing touches as it is set to be endorsed at the fifth World Conference on Doping in Sport in Katowice, Poland, in November for entry into force in January 2021.

In addition to updating everyone on the Code Review Process, Dr Haas will also be here to outline two new International Standards that will come into effect on 1 January 2021. These standards cover the areas of results management and education, two crucial elements of any anti-doping program in and around major events.

While the strengthened Code and Standards don't come into effect until 2021, the Agency continues to reinforce the global anti-doping program by delivering on its priorities.

To that end, WADA works hard with anti-doping organizations all over the world to increase their capacity and so strengthen the overall system. It is also important that we ensure ADOs' compliance and further develop our already successful compliance monitoring program.

As you may have seen in the media recently, we continue to manage the outcomes of the various WADA investigations related to Russia so that we can make good on the September 2018



WADA Executive Committee decision to conditionally reinstate RUSADA as compliant and, in the process, bring to justice those who cheated as part of that sorry episode. And apart from the Russia file, WADA Intelligence and Investigations is working tirelessly on behalf of clean sport to root out cheating in its various forms no matter where in the world it is happening.

Another WADA priority is to increase research-led education, in particular through the aforementioned new International Standard in Education, and we are also in the midst of improving the Anti-Doping Administration and Management System, known as ADAMS, which is going to make life a lot easier for elite athletes as they fulfil their responsibilities under the Code.

Elsewhere, WADA continues to make good progress in the areas of the Athlete Biological Passport and Therapeutic Use Exemption programs as well as identifying exciting new methods of anti-doping, such as dry-blood-spot analysis and artificial intelligence.

The quality of WADA-accredited laboratories is another major priority as we work collaboratively with them to ensure the highest standards of lab performance are maintained.

In these areas and much, much more, WADA stands ready to assist all our stakeholders – athletes, governments, the Sports Movement, National and Regional Anti-Doping Organizations, laboratories and others – as we all work hard to ensure that major events have the best anti-doping programs possible so that those athletes can compete on a level playing field.

As we at WADA reflect on the 20 years of challenges and achievements since the Agency was formed, we are pleased to engage with our stakeholders at every opportunity, with everyone who is part of the clean sport movement to ensure that we are all heading the right way together.

Many thanks for the opportunity to speak to you this morning.

Thank you.