Independent Investigation into the Sochi Allegations made by Grigory Rodchenkov (‘Sochi Investigation’)

Communications and Media Relations Policy

Context

As outlined in the Terms of Reference for the above-noted ‘Sochi Investigation’, an Independent Person (IP) has been appointed by the WADA President following allegations made by the former director of the Moscow Laboratory Grigory Rodchenkov to the New York Times on May 12th 2016 (Sochi Investigation). The WADA President has appointed the IP to avoid any allegation that WADA, or he personally, could be partial with this matter given that it is related to the Olympic Games and he is an IOC member. The WADA President wants the full true facts to be established, and is acting in the best interest of clean sport and clean athletes.

Purpose

The IP is appointed to conduct an Independent Investigation (Sochi Investigation) and review of any evidence in support of the allegations of manipulation of samples and any other appropriate evidence made by Grigory Rodchenkov to the New York Times on May 12th 2016. To achieve this task the IP will review evidence gathered by WADA and others, and can request the collection of further evidence as it deems appropriate. The IP is also able to obtain information on its own initiative, including personal interviews with persons of interest. This will be coordinated with WADA to avoid duplication. The IP will have independent advisors determined by him with whom he can consult as required.

Communications and Media

As referenced within the Terms of Reference, the IP must read and agree to comply with WADA’s Media Relations policy. This relates to providing information to the public/media regarding WADA and its activities, which is the sole remit of WADA spokespeople.

As it relates to the Sochi Investigation, in order to allow the Investigation to proceed as quickly and effectively as possible, the IP will refrain from public/media commentary until the Investigation is completed and his Report has been published. The IP will provide the WADA President with his Report by 15 July 2016 at the latest. It will be published in full by WADA. Should this publication not be done within 5 days of the receipt of the Report by WADA, the IP is entitled to publish the Report itself.

Upon publication of the Report, the IP will engage in public/media commentary as it relates to the outcomes of the Investigation.
Standard Procedure

In keeping with the Terms of Reference, the IP will have independent advisors determined by him with whom he can consult as required. As it relates to Communications and Media, the following Independent Media Consultant to the IP has been engaged to, among other things, handle media queries and interview requests related to the Sochi Investigation:

Independent Media Consultant to the IP, Catherine Doyle
Phone: +1 514-641-3266
catherine@catherinedoyle.ca

All other media queries/interview requests intended for WADA, excluding the Sochi Investigation, should be directed to:

Media Relations Senior Manager, Ben Nichols
Phone: +1 514-904-8820
ben.nichols@wada-ama.org

Communications Director, Catherine MacLean
Phone: +1 514-904-8827
catherine.maclean@wada-ama.org

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Phone: +1 514-904-8738
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