

WADA's response to athlete's appeal for further investigations

Further to the outcomes of WADA's Independent Commission, appeals have been made to WADA by our Athlete Committee, and other athlete commissions, to conduct further investigations into other sports and other countries.

We understand that athletes of the world were alarmed by the Commission's outcomes; and, are concerned that other countries and sports may have similar problems. We also recognize that, since the Report came out, other allegations have surfaced regarding other countries and other sports; for example, via The Times articles in March alleging doping in Russian and Chinese Swimming; and, via a CBS *60 Minutes* broadcast on 9 May alleging Russian cheating during the 2014 Olympic Games in Sochi.

While the Independent Commission was very effective, it's important to note that there are many different forms of investigation and that the great majority of doping information/intelligence doesn't necessitate an independent inquiry like the Commission.

With this said, in direct response to the Commission and the athlete's appeal, WADA is:

- reinforcing our **Intelligence and Investigations Team**. We are currently hiring a Director, increasing its budget and improving its data collection systems.
- strengthening our **compliance program**, which will now include audits of anti-doping organisations; particularly, those that we suspect don't have quality anti-doping programs in place.
- making more use of the **Athlete Biological Passport**, which allows for the long term monitoring of an athlete's biological data in both blood and urine; as well as, the monitoring of potential markers that indicate doping. We monitor the ABP programs of countries and sports to identify patterns that should be investigated. We are also making it mandatory that all doping control forms be entered into our Anti-Doping Administration & Management System (ADAMS) so that we can monitor all Passports worldwide and use this valuable information to initiate further action, including investigations, when necessary.
- asking that **doping control officers (DCOs)**, which are external suppliers, now send WADA their DCO incident reports and other pertinent information/intelligence collected from athletes during the sample collection process.
- enhancing our **whistleblower program** so as to encourage more athletes, support personnel and others to come forward with valuable information/intelligence. This includes:
 - development of a whistleblower policy;
 - enhancement of our website so as to better target the information/intelligence that is required to investigate potential anti-doping rule violations; while, offering further protection to whistleblowers. We have also made the site more inclusive by offering the platform in English, French, Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish.

WADA assesses all information/intelligence that we uncover, and/or is received from whistleblowers; and, does not hesitate to initiate the proper form of investigation as necessary.

For example, as it relates to *The Times* allegations noted above, WADA immediately followed up with them to see whether they could provide evidence and/or encourage their sources to come forward. To date, we have yet to receive any information that would corroborate the allegations; however, we also immediately followed up with FINA and encouraged them to launch their own independent investigation that they have agreed to do. Similarly, as it relates to the *60 Minutes* allegations, we immediately commenced inquiries into the allegations concerning Sochi. In particular, we are trying to access the recorded conversations between the Russian whistleblower, Mr. Vitaly Stepanov, and the former Moscow Lab director, Dr. Rodchenko – information that Dr. Rodchenko had not previously shared with the Commission.

Athletes, entourage and others are strongly encouraged to contact us in confidence to share their doping concerns, whatever they may be, via WADA's [Report Doping](#). We need your help. By working together, we can clean up sport!