

play true

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Widening the Net

How improved data-sharing with state and global law enforcement agencies is leading to more effective investigations into banned substances



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WADA Director General David Howman emphasizes the objectives of WADA's Say NO! To Doping campaign and reviews why sport organizations around the world should sign on to help improve anti-doping awareness.

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Creating partnerships and developing cooperation

The Hon. John Fahey, AC, WADA President

// Editorial

WADA has been focusing on the benefits of a globally unified approach to the fight against doping in sport for some time now; an approach that sees organizations at national and international level working together to help eradicate a problem that threatens what we all value and love about sport.

Bringing together different bodies from around the world takes time, patience and an unwavering commitment to everything that the anti-doping community stands for.

I was extremely heartened, therefore, that WADA was able to release at its Executive Committee and Foundation Board meetings in May a document designed to help Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) develop partnerships with law enforcement agencies.

WADA's Director General highlighted the importance of intelligence gathering in his last message for this publication, and the Agency was able to meet that priority with the release of its 'Guidelines for Coordinating Investigations and Sharing Anti-Doping Information and Evidence'.

Doping is not just a problem for sport—it is a problem for the whole of society. The rise of steroid abuse in our schools, and even in our security forces, has not gone unnoticed, and there is a recognized need for joint action.

I am confident this new initiative will enable ADOs to take a pro-active role in the sharing of information with the relevant authorities so that sport and society can tackle this problem together.

The recent memorandum of understanding signed between WADA and the World Customs Organization, which is similar to the agreement WADA has with Interpol, is another important step in this direction.

From a science perspective, WADA's new partnership with pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline is a further example of the cooperation that we are keen to develop.

This agreement will allow both organizations to share expertise at the early stage of medicine development so that WADA can develop early detection methods to minimize the chance of performance-enhancing abuse when the medicines are licensed.

It will help WADA's efforts to stay one step ahead of the cheats and builds on the partnership already in place with the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations (IFPMA), which was also recently endorsed by the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO).

One of the key elements of WADA's mandate is to help ADOs become compliant to the World Anti-Doping Code and we are approaching a crucial stage in our compliance cycle. WADA is currently very focused on the compliance deadline in November and I urge all ADOs to take all steps possible to attain this standard.

Bringing together different bodies from around the world takes time, patience and an unwavering commitment to everything that the anti-doping community stands for.

Africa has been very much in WADA's thoughts recently as I was in Durban for the IOC Session and was also delighted to sign an MOU with the SA Sports Ministry to stage the World Conference on Doping in Sport in 2013.

WADA will also be sending an Outreach team to the All Africa Games in Maputo, Mozambique, as well as to the Pan American and Parapan American Games in Mexico the following month.

Good luck to all the Outreach teams as they continue their excellent work delivering the anti-doping message.



'Awareness' crucial in the fight against doping in sport

David Howman, WADA Director General

Communicating the anti-doping message takes on various forms within WADA's operations.

We have our hugely important Outreach and Education programs, as well as the traditional forms of communications using online, print publications and media relations.

We also have our awareness campaign Say NO! To Doping and I would like to take this opportunity to highlight its aims.

There is nothing complicated about Say NO! To Doping; it is a turnkey tool that WADA created to promote the fight against doping in sport.

It provides a template on how to set up an anti-doping awareness campaign, where you can pick and choose aspects that are most relevant to your organization's need.

Many in the anti-doping community believe that awareness, especially for youth, is the best form of prevention, and already there are a number of effective campaigns in place.

WADA this year will be putting extra emphasis on Say NO! To Doping so it is an ideal time for the anti-doping community to unite behind it and launch their own campaigns.

I want to urge all of WADA's stakeholders to use the Say NO! To Doping model and create your own campaigns. It does not matter how large or small the campaign is, it will always have an impact.

Whether you produce and distribute Say NO! To Doping pins, or build a campaign around one of your championships, the most important thing is just to have one up and running.

Say NO! To Doping will be a prominent part of WADA's Outreach programs at the All Africa Games, Pan Am Games and Parapan Am Games, and it would give the project a huge boost if event organizers and federations adopted it at other tournaments.

There is no time like the present to give this campaign your full support.

Awareness is a crucial component of WADA's multi-faceted approach to the fight against doping in sport, and I have been delighted with the funding support from UNESCO to help develop such campaigns, among other anti-doping projects.

WADA this year will be putting extra emphasis on 'Say NO! To Doping' so it is an ideal time for the anti-doping community to unite behind it and launch their own campaigns.

UNESCO's 'Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport' has been especially useful of late for anti-doping organizations in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

I have also been heartened by the partnerships WADA has recently signed with GlaxoSmithKline and the World Customs Organization.

I have stressed before that the problem with doping in sport needs to be fought on a number of different fronts: these latest developments are crucial to achieving that aim.

A more
data-driven
and coherent strategy
against doping



WADA took an important step in the fight against doping in sport at its Foundation Board meeting in May when it released guidelines designed to enhance cooperation between Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) and law enforcement agencies around the world.

'Coordinating Investigations and Sharing Anti-Doping Information and Evidence' is a detailed document that will lead to a more concerted effort in the fight against doping in sport by allowing different organizations to pool their intelligence and share their expertise.

"We have been saying for some time now that the battle against doping cheats cannot be fought only in laboratories across the world, and that we need a more collaborative approach to the problem," said WADA Director General David Howman.

"Based on experience gained, evidence gathered, and lessons learned in the first 10 years of WADA, it is the Agency's firm view that ADOs need to move beyond drug-testing alone and develop additional ways to gain information about the use and supply of prohibited substances.

"After all, it's not only the athletes who are involved in doping—members of the athletes' entourage may also be involved, as well as the many upstream perpetrators in charge of the supply and trafficking of substances."

The WADA document is the result of a series of symposia hosted by the ADOs in the USA, Australia and UK over the last few years to establish a way forward for the sharing of intelligence.

It is not a model of best practice, and nor has it been proposed by WADA for it to become a formal part of the world anti-doping program. It does, however, give advice on how best to establish key relationships with different authorities, and offers ample proof on the

effectiveness of previous investigations into doping by law enforcement agencies.

Examples include the investigation by French customs and police into the Festina cycling team at the 1998 Tour de France; the enquiry by US law enforcement agencies into the BALCO laboratory and its president Victor Conte; the raid by Italian police at the 2006 Turin Olympics which seized doping materials from the rooms of the Austrian ski team; and the multi-agency cooperation across the US-Canada border that led to the indictment of Dr Anthony Galea in 2010.

"Intelligence gathering is crucial if we are to take the fight against doping on to a new level."

The document also acknowledges the challenges faced by ADOs. It highlights the need for evidence gathering in relation to non-analytical rule violations, and the problem of upstream perpetrators who mostly fall outside sport's jurisdiction.

As well as harnessing the powers of public authorities in a bid to overcome these challenges, the document advises ADOs on how best to ensure that appropriate anti-doping laws exist within their countries, and that those laws encompass all the relevant doping substances.

(continued on page 5)

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Furthermore, it advises on how to incentivize robust enforcement of national laws and regulations, and highlights the potential need to remove legal obstacles to the sharing of information between ADOs and public authorities.

“Intelligence gathering is crucial if we are to take the fight against doping on to a new level, and already a number of ADOs have their own intelligence units in place,” added Mr. Howman.

“These guidelines will help other ADOs adopt a similar approach, so that we can develop non-analytical strategies to go alongside the more traditional testing programs that WADA has helped put in place over the last decade.

“Testing and intelligence gathering will become more and more interdependent over the next few years, and will make life much tougher for those who continue to cheat.”

WADA and WCO sign MOU



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES DOUANES

WADA signed a ground-breaking memorandum of understanding with the World Customs Organization (WCO) in June that will increase the sharing of key information into the trafficking of prohibited substances.

The MOU includes co-operation in the collection, storage and exchange of information, the setting up of information sessions and seminars, and cross-organization alerts on trends observed in the areas of anti-doping and the trafficking of doping substances.

“The WCO is committed to working with its international partners to combat all forms of illicit trade, including the trade of illegal, counterfeit and unlicensed pharmaceutical products,” said WCO Secretary General Kunio Mikuriya.

“This MOU will facilitate relations between WADA and the WCO, provide us with a concrete basis for further cooperation, contribute to a healthier and safer international environment, and encourage Customs administrations in meeting one of their core aims, namely the protection of society.”

The agreement further supports the national and international doping measures referred to in the UNESCO ‘International Convention against Doping in Sport’, and follows similar cooperation between WADA and Interpol.





Cydonie joins the fight against doping in sport

Action Images/Reuters

Cayman Islands' star athlete **Cydonie Mothersill** earlier this year became the latest addition to WADA's Athlete Committee. The reigning Commonwealth Games 200m champion has been amongst the world's top sprinters for over a decade now and has seen many changes within her sport - some good, some not so good.

She has also been personally affected by doping, and was denied her right to stand on the podium at the 2001 World Athletics Championships by rivals who have since been sanctioned for taking performance enhancing drugs.

Cydonie talks to Play True about the experience and what made her want to take a more active role in the fight against doping in sport.

Play True: At what age did you first know that you would one day be able to compete and beat the best sprinters in the world?

Cydonie Mothersill: It was a sequence of events that made me take track more seriously. It started during the latter years of my high school career—when I was just starting to understand the sport—along with performing well at the Caribbean Free Trade Association

(CARIFTA) Games, particularly winning the double and receiving the Austin Sealy Award.

However it wasn't until my last year in college that I felt I could be a part of this elite group, and that I could make a success of becoming a professional track and field athlete.

PT: Who was your role model growing up and why?

CM: My role model growing up was my Mom. In fact, she still is my role model. She is a God fearing woman and her strength is her resilience. She taught me along with my brothers, the importance of hard work, in trusting God and not in ourselves, to be honest and that no matter what the obstacles are ahead that we should press on. She is a woman of integrity. I also come from a very small family, and they have played a crucial part in shaping who I have become.

// Athlete Profile



“If I had the chance to speak to a fellow athlete who is doping, I would say to them it’s not worth it. The fame and the money just aren’t worth the consequences.”

PT: When did you first become aware that doping was a problem in your sport?

CM: I cannot recall when I first became aware of doping in my sport. There wasn't an 'aha' moment. It was more a case of there being a lot of talk about the issue.

PT: How has doping in athletics affected you personally in terms of success, especially when you were denied a bronze at the 2001 World Championships until many years later?

CM: I have been affected personally by doping, and it's important to remember that the damage it can inflict goes much deeper than the loss of a job, your livelihood, and the embarrassment it can cause. Doping weeds itself into families and can destroy them.

For me personally, being denied the rightful chance to stand on the podium at the 2001 World Athletics Championships in Edmonton to receive my bronze medal is something I can never get back.

Yes, it was wonderful to finally receive it at home last year because I was surrounded by my family and friends, and because the entire country got to be a part of that.

But no one will ever really know what I have been denied. No one will ever know what my contract could have been, what other endorsements might have come along? I used to think about these things, but now I do not bother myself with those thoughts — I've come to terms with what happened.

It is something I cannot get back or change so why dwell on it? Life goes on.

PT: Is there a specific experience that made you want to join the WADA Athlete Committee?

CM: When I was told by the president of our Olympic Committee, Mr. Donald McLean, that my name would be put forward for the nomination, I was honored just at the thought. I shared the idea with only my family as I thought oh how great to be considered, but I also wondered whether it was a long shot that I would be chosen.

Needless to say I am honored that I was selected. My reason for being on this committee is firstly to educate myself on the role that WADA plays in athletics and sports in general. Many athletes have a misconception about WADA's role, and I did too.

Also I love my sport and want it to have a better image, and for it to have longevity. So if I can play a part in changing people's perceptions then I am pleased. My hope is that one day the playing field will be level.

PT: As one of the world's leading sprinters, how seriously do you take your responsibility as a role model?

CM: I take my responsibility as a role model very seriously. I try to show by my actions and way of life that hard work, determination and self discipline are qualities that the youth of this world must be proud to have and attain.

I want to show the youth in my country that even though we are small in size we can still make an impact in sports on the world stage. I hope my accomplishments will give them hope to dream beyond our shores.

PT: Is the problem of doping discussed amongst athletes at events?

CM: The problem of doping surrounds athletics, and as athletes we are concerned about how our sport is viewed, and the things that occur within its scope. So yes, the problem of doping is discussed. We do not speak publicly about those discussions, but we are aware of them.

PT: Athletes can earn big money these days: do you think that 'clean' athletes should be taking on more responsibility to make the sport 'clean'.

CM: Clean athletes cannot take on any more responsibility in making our sport clean — apart from what we are already doing, which is speaking out against doping, and making ourselves available to drug testers.

I believe our hands are tied. How can we fight them, how do we convince them that the big money that they can potentially make isn't worth the consequences? We, the clean athletes, are trying to focus on performing well, despite the fact that maybe the odds are already against you.

PT: Do you think doping in athletics is becoming more or less of a problem, and have you seen the problem grow throughout your career?

CM: I think that doping is becoming more of a problem because the methods seem to be getting more sophisticated. It seems the cheaters are harder to detect. Throughout my career the face of doping has changed.

PT: If you had the chance, what would you say to a fellow athlete who is doping?

CM: If I had the chance to speak to a fellow athlete who is doping, I would say to them it's not worth it. The fame and the money just aren't worth the consequences.

I would say that your decision to break the rules that govern our sport won't make the playing field level because you believe others are doping. I would also say think about your family, your country and your sport — think about the damage and embarrassment that will follow.



Africa Reaching out to

// Feature



WADA will deliver its anti-doping message to Africa in August when it sends an Outreach team to the All Africa games in Maputo, Mozambique.

Working alongside the Outreach team will be members of WADA's Communications department, who will host a press conference and a number of interviews with African media.

"We are extremely excited about visiting the Games—we are very focused on working closely with the event's

organizers and WADA's stakeholders in Africa to try and raise the profile of anti-doping," said WADA President Mr. John Fahey.

"Outreach is a key component with which to communicate with athletes and the wider sporting movement, and I very much look forward to building on WADA's relationships in the region."

WADA's Outreach is a tried and tested program developed for major multi-sport events over the last decade.

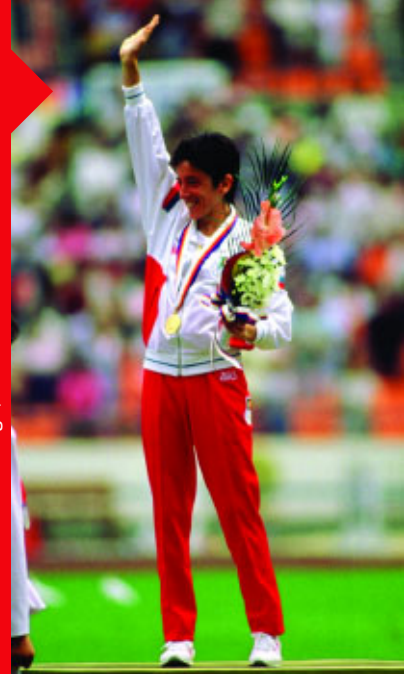
Rosa Mota adds experience in Africa

Marathon legend Rosa Mota will add a decade's worth of experience as an elite athlete to WADA's Outreach program at the All Africa Games.

The former Olympic, World and European champion will lend her expertise and knowledge to a program designed to raise anti-doping awareness among the finest athletes in Africa.

"Having an athlete as widely known and respected as Rosa Mota on board is a huge boost to our Outreach goals at the All Africa Games," said WADA Director General David Howman.

"Rosa has a wealth of advice to offer after competing so successfully and for so long at the top end of her sport. Competitors in Maputo will be able to learn from her—she will give WADA's Outreach an extra dimension."



Action Images/Reuters



It allows a friendly and direct approach to athletes and their entourages in a bid to raise their awareness of the dangers of doping.

In Maputo, an Outreach booth will be set up in the athletes' village, where competitors will be able to learn about health risks involved in doping and the importance of competing 'clean'.

The team will be led by Stacy Spletzer, WADA's Senior Manager Athlete Relations and Communications, whose Outreach experience includes numerous Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Ms. Spletzer will be joined in the Outreach booth by an experienced team of anti-doping officials from around Africa, who will be on hand to deliver WADA's message and answer any enquiries, as well as Portuguese marathon star Rosa Mota.

The booth will also be used to conduct media interviews with Mr. Rodney Swigelaar, Director of WADA's South Africa Regional Office, who will be available to explain the WADA policies and its approach to the fight against doping in sport.

The WADA press conference has been scheduled for September 2, the day before opening ceremony. The Games runs through to September 18.

First for WADA at Parapan American Games

WADA will break new ground later this year when it sends an Outreach team to the Parapan American Games for the first time.

The event in Guadalajara, Mexico (November 12–20) follows the able-bodied Pan American Games (October 14–29), where WADA's Outreach team will also be in attendance.

"We look forward to working alongside the organizers of the Parapan Games for the first time," said WADA Senior Manager Stacy Spletzer.

"The Games have grown to such an extent over the years that we now have an opportunity to reach out to a large number of athletes in one environment."

It will be the fourth edition of the Parapan American Games, and organizers will look to build on the success of its 2007 predecessor in Rio which attracted 1,150 competitors from 25 countries.

The first Parapan American Games in 1999 was also staged in Mexico, and four years later Mar del Plata in Argentina hosted the event.

Anti-Doping education on the Isle of Man

WADA will also be attending the fourth edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games (Sept 7–13) in Douglas on the Isle of Man, where there will be a strong focus on education.

Up to 1000 athletes aged 14–18 and from 71 countries, will compete in seven sports, allowing WADA's Education department the opportunity to raise awareness on the dangers of doping in sport through its Play True Generation Center.

First launched at the 2010 Youth Olympics in Singapore, Play True Generation is designed to encourage complete rejection of doping by youth athletes.

Gathering momentum for awareness campaigns

// Feature

WADA is looking to build on the growing momentum of 'Say NO! To Doping' as more and more sports organizations around the world adopt the user-friendly, turn-key awareness campaign.

Launched in 2010, Say NO! To Doping has enjoyed considerable success as a platform for bodies to unite behind in their support of doping-free sport. WADA expects the impact of its message will continue to grow in the build up to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) was the first to adopt the campaign at their world championships in Germany last year, using the idea of a green practice puck to deliver its message.

Since then FIFA, the International Rugby Board (IRB), the International Triathlon Union (ITU) and International Floorball Federation (IFF) have joined the list of the governing bodies to have incorporated elements of it into their anti-doping awareness campaigns.



SAY NO!
TO DOPING

SAY NO!

launch in South Africa

The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and National Anti-Doping Organizations in Brazil, South Africa and Finland have also used it as a template for their messaging.

“Say NO! To Doping has been endorsed by some of the biggest sports federations in the world, and our aim at WADA is to get as many organizations on board as possible,” explained Stacy Spletzer, WADA’s Senior Manager Athlete Relations and Communications.

“Awareness is a vital tool in the fight against doping in sport—if young athletes and fans see their heroes associating with the anti-doping message, then it will hopefully have a knock-on effect.

“Awareness is a vital tool in the fight against doping in sport.”

“There is no reason why every sports organization and sports event cannot have its own anti-doping campaign, and the concept behind Say NO! To Doping is to help them in that goal.”

One of the ways for an organization to adopt the campaign is by having a piece of equipment integral to their sport produced in green and with Say NO! To Doping branding.

That piece of equipment can then be introduced at training camps or during warm-ups at major competitions. Banners, leaflets, merchandising are also covered in WADA’s Say NO! To Doping guidelines.

SA Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS) responded to a worrying trend of steroid abuse in South African high-school rugby by launching its ‘I Play Fair. Say No! To Doping’ campaign at two Super 15 games on the same weekend.

The integrated campaign, which incorporated WADA’s ‘Say NO! To Doping’ slogan, was designed to develop a culture of anti-doping in sport among athletes, coaches and fans.

In addition to the high-profile launch at the Super 15 games in Pretoria and Bloemfontein, the campaign was supported by a public service announcement from South African rugby star and Rugby World Cup winner Bryan Habana.

“We needed to launch the campaign on a national level with maximum exposure involving both athletes and fans,” said SAIDS’s CEO Khalid Grant.

“We have now connected with other sports federations, where we will activate targeted campaigns for different sports.”

Other elements of the campaign include social media, digital advertising, brand management, politician endorsement, stakeholder engagement and event activation.

“I Play Fair. Say NO! To Doping is a prime example of how working as partners we can create highly-effective campaigns at both national and global level,” said WADA Director General David Howman.



WADA focused on Compliance deadline

One of the most important cycles in WADA's mandate will reach a conclusion later this year when the first Compliance Report is presented to the Foundation Board.

// Feature

WADA will deliver the eagerly-anticipated report at the Board's meeting in Montreal in November, having two months earlier given an interim report to its Executive Committee in Lausanne.

The November deadline will also coincide with UNESCO's report on compliance to its 'International Convention against Doping in Sport', the means by which countries officially signify their support for the fight against doping in sport.

Helping signatories reach Code compliance is one of the fundamental principles of WADA's mandate and the November date has been very much at the forefront of the Agency's efforts for the last few years.

"Persuading governments and sport to accept and then implement the Code is arguably WADA's most significant achievement to-date," said WADA Director General David Howman.

"So it is incumbent on the Agency to now make sure as many signatories as possible become fully compliant. Monitoring is crucial to that process.

"The Code has given global harmony to anti-doping in sport but, as well as accepting the principles of the Code, signatories must have in place rules and programs that allow it to be effective.

WADA assistance for signatories

// Interview

WADA's methods for helping signatories become compliant to the Code are tried and tested, and designed to help organizations of all sizes reach the required standards.

There are two stages to reaching Compliance: setting up anti-doping rules, and then creating anti-doping programs.

Signatories must first implement Code fundamentals into their rules, and then create programs that satisfy key

criteria for testing, results management, Therapeutic Use Exemptions, and education.

At the first stage, WADA has created Model Rules for signatories to adopt, and offers assistance through a series of reviews, and sometimes meetings, depending on the degree of help a signatory requires.

For their programs, signatories can access guidelines on line, particularly for registered testing pools, out-of-competition testing and testing programs, while the WADA Logic Survey is a key tool to self-evaluate the progress they have made.

Throughout the process, expertise and guidance is also on hand from WADA's Regional Offices and the Regional Anti-Doping Organizations.



“Helping them with the task of implementing those standards is a huge part of the Agency’s focus at the moment.”

For an organization to become a signatory it must first agree to the Code’s fundamental principles, before amending its own rules to embed the Code’s regulations.

As of 2008, WADA was mandated to report on signatories’ compliance every two years, though the schedule for the first report was put back a year in alignment with UNESCO’s compliance timing.

“Persuading governments and sport to accept and then implement the Code is arguably WADA’s most significant achievement to-date.”

The Foundation Board also recognized that certain signatories needed more time due to amendments made to the Code in 2009.

It must then enforce those amended rules and agree to report on compliance.

“Assisting signatories with compliance is one of WADA’s core activities and we can be as hands on as is necessary,” explains Rune Andersen, WADA Director of Standards and Harmonization.

“There has been considerable compliance progress made in the last couple of years, but we are under no illusion that there is still much to do,” added Mr. Andersen.

“We are fully aware that some signatories require more help than others, depending on their resources and particular situation, and we take this into account when offering support.

“Assisting signatories with compliance is one of WADA’s core activities and we can be as hands on as is necessary.”

“Visiting individual countries is often required and, as an example, we recently achieved considerable success from our trip to Hungary.”

Rune Andersen

Joint WADA-IOC missions to Russia and Brazil in May and June respectively also resulted in gaining a clearer idea as to the anti-doping challenges these countries face.

“November is a key date for us and I want to encourage as many signatories as possible to make a huge effort to become fully compliant before that deadline.”





WADA and FMSI encouraged by peptide hormones symposium

// Science

WADA and the Italian Federation of Sports Medicine (FMSI) were encouraged with the outcome of their Rome Symposium into the detection of doping with peptide hormones.

It also confirmed that over the last few years significant progress had been made into peptide hormone protein detection, which has been reflected in several applications in the fight against doping in sport.

“It’s widely accepted that doping cheats are becoming more sophisticated, so it is imperative the anti-doping community applies cutting-edge science to stay one step ahead of them in terms of detection.”

Dr Maurizio Casasco, FMSI President

The two-day Symposium was hosted by the FMSI and attracted 60 experts in science research and medicine from across the world.

“It’s widely accepted that doping cheats are becoming more sophisticated, so it is imperative the anti-doping community applies cutting-edge science to stay one step ahead of them in terms of detection,” said FMSI President Dr Maurizio Casasco.

Participants reviewed scientific advances in the area of detection of doping with peptide hormones, releasing factors and other related substances.

It concluded that the Symposium resulted in a productive review of the most advanced methodological concepts in the field of peptide hormones in the context of their potential application for anti-doping testing.

“WADA-accredited laboratories are able to detect several recombinant peptide hormones, including some which are identical in structure to their endogenous counterparts, so it is vital we continue research into this area,” said WADA Science Director Olivier Rabin.

“This type of symposium plays a significant role in the fight against doping in sport and we must give credit to the FMSI for enabling so many experts to gather under one roof to discuss this subject.”



Rome Symposium press conference

WADA signs agreement with pharma giant GSK

WADA signed a long-term agreement with GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) in July that will help create early detection methods for medicines that have performance-enhancing potential.

The historic partnership, which was officially ratified in London in late June, will see GSK supply WADA with confidential information about medicines in early stage development that could be abused by athletes once they are licensed for patient use.

WADA achieve its mission of a doping-free sporting culture,” said WADA President John Fahey.

The partnership covers all new medicines being developed by GSK and builds on the company’s role as the Official Laboratory Services provider for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

“The safe and effective use of our medicines, in appropriate patients, is our top priority,” said Patrick Vallance, SVP Medicines Discovery and Development at GSK.

“The safe and effective use of our medicines, in appropriate patients, is our top priority.”

Patrick Vallance, GSK

“Unfortunately there is always potential for illegitimate use by athletes. Our contribution as laboratory services provider to London 2012 and this longer term partnership with WADA will demonstrate the positive role that science can play within sport.”

Under the new agreement, medicines in development will be reviewed by GSK scientists specifically to identify substances with a probable or high risk of abuse in sport.

Scientists will look for any similarity to the pharmacological characteristics of existing performance-enhancing substances and assess how they work in the human body. This would include stimulatory effects or improved physical endurance.

New medicines found to have performance-enhancing characteristics will be highlighted and confidential scientific data will be transferred by GSK so WADA can begin work on detection methods.



Olivier Rabin (WADA) and Pauline Williams (GSK)

“Our work with the pharmaceutical industry is critical to staying one step ahead of the dopers, who have an ever-increasing level of scientific expertise—this partnership will play a significant role in helping

BioTech endorses Declaration against Doping in Sport

The ‘Joint Declaration on the Fight against Doping in Sport’ between WADA and the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA) was endorsed by the Bio Technology Organization (BIO) at its conference in Washington DC in June.

The endorsement adds further support to the WADA-IFPMA

declaration that was established to identify medical compounds with doping potential, restrict misuse of medicines in development, and facilitate development of detection methods to help the fight against doping in sport.

As part of the endorsement, BIO will encourage its member organizations to collaborate with WADA and the IFPMA.

“Our members have continually demonstrated their commitment to the anti-doping cause,” said BIO President and CEO Jim Greenwood. “This endorsement is a natural step in this long-standing tradition.”

The endorsement was supported by a BIO Convention discussion on ‘How Dare they Dope with our Medicines’, which addressed the issue of doping in sport.

WADA announces 2011 Young Investigator Award candidates

WADA has announced six short-listed candidates who hope to be amongst the winners for the prestigious 2011 Young Investigator Award.

The candidates (see full details right) come from Spain, Greece, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Switzerland and Austria, and will be vying for one of the four awards.

“Good luck to all the candidates—we are delighted they have chosen projects to explore issues related to doping in sport to further our knowledge in the area of social science research,” said Rob Koehler, WADA Director, Education and Program Development.

“Research is vital in the fight against doping. It provides evidence-based information to more effectively tailor our programs to specific target groups.

“The Young Investigator Award is an important component of our education strategy and we are confident it will continue to develop into a highly-valued prize within the world of academia. We hope that all these young researchers continue to work in the field to further our knowledge base.”

Winners will receive US\$2,000 each and have their profiles added to WADA’s highly-respected Social Science Research Directory.

Now into its second year, the Young Investigator Award is designed to encourage students to focus their area of research on anti-doping issues.

The 2011 award was open to all students due to have completed a relevant master’s level research project (thesis, thesis equivalent or internship report) by January 10, 2012.

The winners will be announced in March of next year.



2011 Candidates

Alberto Yelmo Bravo, Spain:

The Role of the Psychologist in the Prevention of Doping in Spain

Adamantia Thanou, Greece:

Epidemiology of Self-Reported Doping Use among Greek Elite Athletes

Ricky James, United Kingdom:

Acceptable Alternatives to Doping: Promoting Functional Food to Enhance Performance

Josef Hovorka, Czech Republic:

Ethics in Sport - Educational Research in Primary and Secondary Schools in the Czech Republic

Mike Earl, Switzerland:

Measuring the Impact of a Drugs and Doping Control Education Program on Knowledge and Attitudes of Young English Professional Footballers

Cornelia Blank, Austria:

Evaluation of Austrian Sport Physicians’ and Pharmacists’ Knowledge Regarding Doping and Doping Prevention in Sports

RADOs key to African anti-doping progress

Significant progress has been made in African anti-doping over the last five years thanks to the efforts of the WADA Regional Office in Cape Town.

Crucial to this development have been the Regional Anti-Doping Organizations (RADOs) that were set up to manage the anti-doping requirements on an area-specific basis.

The first of six RADOs in Africa was established in 2005, and there are now offices in Tunisia, Niger, Cameroon, Kenya, Mozambique and Seychelles to look after the interests of 45 countries in the African and the Indian Ocean regions.

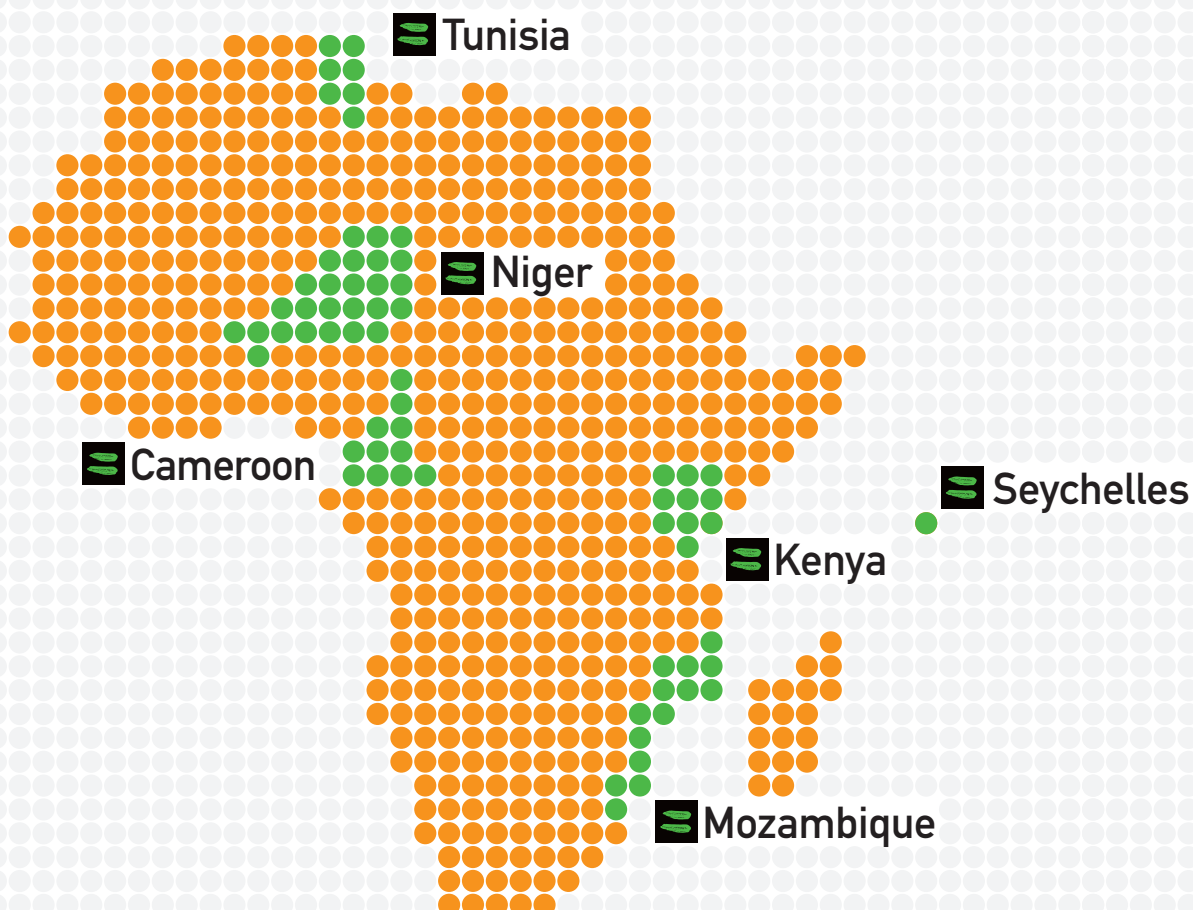
Key to their role has been the creation of in-competition and out-of-competition testing through a network of doping control officers, processes for results management and Therapeutic Use Exemptions, and anti-doping education programs.

In addition, the RADOs have assisted event organizers with their testing and education programs, including the 2008 Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA) Zone VI Youth Games, as well the 2011 Indian Ocean Games in Seychelles.

They will also assist the WADA Outreach team at the 2011 All Africa Games in Mozambique.

Of great benefit to the Africa RADOs has been partnerships with La Conférence des Ministres de la Jeunesse et des Sports des États et gouvernements ayant le français en partage (CONFEJES), and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Funds provided by these organizations have assisted the RADOs in furthering the fight against doping in sport in their member countries.





Ratification of UNESCO Anti-Doping Convention reaches 159

UNESCO set to report on Convention and funding

// Updates

The number of UNESCO member states to have ratified the International Convention against Doping in Sport has reached 159*, following decisions by the Federated States of Micronesia, Uzbekistan and Gambia to commit their support.

The International Convention against Doping in Sport is now the third most ratified of all UNESCO conventions, which shows a remarkable commitment and unified approach from countries across the world.



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“It is hugely significant that WADA’s ideals have developed an accord with 159 countries around the world,” said WADA Director General David Howman.

“If ever anyone has doubt as to the worldwide commitment to our cause, they need only to look at this figure.

“It sends out a very strong message that the world is united in its desire to rid sport of drugs.”

UNESCO is made up of 193 member states, which leaves just 34 who have yet to complete the process.

(* as of June 7, 2011)

The third session of the Conference of Parties to the ‘International Convention against Doping in Sport’ will meet from November 14–16.

It will discuss monitoring of the Convention as well the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport (Voluntary Fund).

UNESCO has strongly encouraged governments to send anti-doping experts to the Paris session and has asked them to complete in advance an online questionnaire.

Results of the survey—which must be completed for states parties to remain compliant with the convention—will be reported at the Paris session.

Also to be discussed is the election of members to the Approval Committee for the Voluntary Fund, a report on the projects funded, and a discussion on the Fund’s focus.