

Tennis Anti-Doping Programme

7 March 2016 – London, ENGLAND

Tennis Anti-Doping Programme statement regarding Maria Sharapova

Following the statement made by Maria Sharapova in a press conference today, the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme (**TADP**) can confirm the following:

- On 26 January 2016, Ms Sharapova provided an anti-doping sample to the **TADP** in association with her participation in the 2016 Australian Open.
- That sample was analysed by a World Anti-Doping Agency (**WADA**) accredited laboratory, which returned a positive for meldonium, which is a prohibited substance under the WADA Code and, therefore also the TADP.
- In accordance with Article 8.1.1 of the TADP, Ms Sharapova was charged on 2 March with an Anti-Doping Rule Violation.
- Ms Sharapova has accepted the finding of meldonium in her sample collected on 26 January.
- As meldonium is a non-specified substance under the WADA (and, therefore, TADP) list of Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods, Ms Sharapova will be provisionally suspended with effect from 12 March, pending determination of the case.

The Tennis Anti-Doping Programme is a comprehensive and internationally recognised drug-testing programme that applies to all players competing at Grand Slam tournaments and events sanctioned by the ITF, ATP, and WTA. Players are tested for substances prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency and, upon a finding that an Anti-Doping Rule Violation has been committed, sanctions are imposed in accordance with the requirements of the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme and World Anti-Doping Code. More background information on the Programme, sanctions, tennis statistics and related information can be found at www.itftennis.com/antidoping.

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