

November 7, 2014

Statement from Sir Craig Reddie, WADA President and Olivier Niggli, WADA General Counsel to the IAAF Ethics Commission

This is an official statement from the World Anti-Doping Agency President, Sir Craig Reddie, and the World Anti-Doping Agency General Counsel, Mr. Olivier Niggli, to the attention of the IAAF Ethics Commission.

1. On 27 August, Sir Craig Reddie received an email from the Russian Ministry of Sport indicating that they wanted to meet with him because they had important information about "*incorrect interaction (abuse of authority) between the IAAF and the ARAF (Russian Athletic Federation)*".
2. On 19 September, Sir Craig Reddie and Mr. Olivier Niggli met with a delegation of the Russian Ministry of Sport composed of the Deputy Minister of Sport, Yuri Nagornyh, and a lawyer from the Ministry, Miss Natalia Zhelanova (Miss Zhelanova is known to WADA as she is a member of the WADA Finance Committee).
3. During this meeting we were informed by the Deputy Minister that he had a discussion with Mr. Valentin Balakhnichev, President of the All Russia Athletic Federation, (ARAF) who is also the Treasurer of the IAAF.
4. The Deputy Sport Minister, Mr. Nagornyh, informed us that he was willing to share with us the information he had received from Mr. Balakhnichev.
5. This information can be summarized as follows:
 - Since 2011 ARAF has been blackmailed by IAAF.
 - A system was put into place at the IAAF level under which athletes with an abnormal blood passport profile would be allowed to keep competing at high level in exchange of cash payments made to the IAAF.
 - In Russia, this would concern at least six athletes identified as follows:
 - o Liliya Shobukhova
 - o Valeriy Borchin
 - o Olga Kaniskina
 - o Sergey Kirdyabkin
 - o Yevgeniya Zolotova
 - o Vladimir Kanayakin
 - For these six athletes, despite abnormal profiles having been identified for each by IAAF, no result management or follow up took place by IAAF.



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- According to Mr. Balakhnichev the system was introduced and orchestrated by the son of the IAAF President and his lawyer, Mr. Habib Cisse, with the help of some people within the IAAF anti-doping department.
 - The system was in place not only in Russia, but, potentially, in other countries such as Morocco and Turkey.
 - The money was apparently paid by the athletes' agents to ARAF and then given to IAAF.
6. We have since tried to obtain some collaboration from Mr. Balakhnichev with no success. We have suggested to him that he should be talking to the IAAF Ethics Commission, but he has not indicated to us any willingness to cooperate.
 7. We have however heard from other sources, that we cannot reveal at this stage for confidentiality reasons, further evidence which corroborates some of what we were told by the Russian Deputy Minister of Sport.
 8. Furthermore, the facts, and the delay in the result management process identified in the Liliya Shobukhova case, that we have shared with your commission previously, also tends to corroborate, at least to some extent, the above-described scenario.
 9. We thought it was our duty to inform the commission of the facts we have been made aware of. We obviously have not been able to corroborate all these facts with hard evidence such as email communications or bank transfer records and we do not see that we have any investigative power that will allow us to do so. However it is clear to us that a number of possible cases have not been dealt with appropriately and timely by IAAF and we have not received any indication from IAAF as to why this has happened. It is to be noted that the adaptive model (ABP) was introduced into ADAMS only in September 2012 and therefore that WADA was not able to monitor all these passport profiles until 2013. Therefore the timing of the facts places responsibility firmly on the IAAF, the only organization overseeing these athletes' passports.

We hope that you will find this statement helpful for your inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

Craig Reddie
President

Olivier Niggli
General Counsel