



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Anti-doping
Convention

7AP

Approval Committee

Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport

First formal meeting

19 November 2020, 12:00-14:30 Paris time

Virtual meeting

ICDS/7AP/Doc.4
27 November 2020
Original: English

Final Report

Summary

The Approval Committee 2020-2021 of the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport held its first formal meeting virtually on 19 November 2020. The meeting agenda focused on the link between the Fund and compliance with the International Convention against Doping in Sport, minimum 1% contributions from States Parties, private sector involvement, outcomes of the Committee's survey on challenges in the fight against doping, evaluation guidelines for projects approved under the Fund, as well as preparations for the launch of the new call for applications. This report presents an overview of the discussions and decisions taken by the Approval Committee.

Agenda Item 1 - Opening of the meeting

1. The Approval Committee of the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) held its first formal virtual meeting on 19 November 2020. Representatives of all six Committee Members were in attendance, alongside the Chairperson of the Bureau of the seventh session of the Conference of Parties (COP7) to the International Convention against Doping in Sport (“the Convention”)¹.
2. The meeting was opened by Dr. Reema Alhosani, Chairperson of the Committee, who welcomed the participants and emphasized their common commitment to implement the Convention and its principles of sport values, ethics, and integrity, particularly relevant in the context of COVID-19.
3. Mr Marcos Diaz, Chairperson of the COP7 Bureau, commended the Committee for its work and significant progress since its establishment early 2020, highlighting the new vision and approach in line with the Operational Strategy of the Fund for 2020-2025. It was noted that resource mobilization was one of the key matters regarding the roadmap approved by COP7, recalling that “no State Party is left behind” was the priority of both the COP7 Bureau and the Committee, especially considering the impact of COVID-19 on States Parties’ resources and capacity to undertake anti-doping measures. As such, to be able to support States Parties in need of assistance, the Fund must be financially robust. The COP7 Chairperson reiterated the Bureau’s commitment to working together with the Committee.
4. The Chairperson of the Committee then made a presentation on the previous work of the Committee, including informal exchanges with the Secretariat, informal virtual meetings in May and September, participation in the two rounds of regional consultations with National Compliance Platforms (June and October), as well as the launch and dissemination of the survey on States Parties’ challenges, resulting in a very good participation rate (93/189). It was also mentioned that the Committee Chairperson attended the COP7 Bureau’s virtual preparatory consultation meeting on 12 August and its first formal meeting on 20-21 October. Moreover, the Committee Chairperson and the representatives of the Russian Federation and Zambia are also members of the Taskforce on the Operational Guidelines and Framework of Consequences for non-compliance, illustrating the nexus between the Fund and the ongoing work aimed at strengthening compliance with the Convention.
5. Following brief interventions from each Committee Member, Ms Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences (ADG/SHS) expressed appreciation for the work of the Committee, playing an important role in the operational functions of the Convention, notably as a mechanism for strengthening the capacities of States Parties to implement its provisions. ADG/SHS commended the Committee for its initiative to launch a survey among States Parties regarding challenges in their anti-doping efforts, especially taking into consideration COVID-19, and thanked the Committee Chairperson for personally attending the eight regional consultations in October, accompanied by each Committee Member representing the respective region. It was recalled that the resource mobilization target set by COP7 for public authorities for the ongoing biennium was 62 States Parties and 3 million USD. In this regard, while it is encouraging to note that around 20 countries have pledged, or already contributed to the Fund this year, representing a new record and a strong testimony of solidarity and of international cooperation in the current context, ADG/SHS underlined that efforts must be redoubled to tangibly translate the 1% moral engagement of States Parties, to achieve the targets determined by COP7 and build a solid reserve for the Fund. Collectively, it is vital to solidly build back the sport ecosystem with a strong anti-doping framework in place.

¹ Please refer to the Annex for a full list of participants.

Agenda Item 2 - Linking the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport to compliance: suggestions for the consideration of the Taskforce on the Operational Guidelines and a Framework of Consequences for non-compliance

6. Committee Members were informed that the Taskforce established under the supervision of the COP7 Bureau in order to further develop the Operational Guidelines and the Framework of Consequences for non-compliance with the Convention was in the process of finalizing the two drafts for consultations with States Parties. The Committee Chairperson recalled the main potential privileges and consequences related to the Fund for Non-Responsive, Non-Compliant (below the agreed threshold of 60%) and Compliant States Parties. Reference was also made to the Fund's Operational Strategy 2020-2025, requesting that funded projects be explicitly linked to specific provisions of the Convention, as well as include a Theory of Change for increased compliance with the Convention. Furthermore, the ADLogic reports will also be taken into consideration during the assessment of applications.
7. The Secretary of the Convention emphasized the key role of ADLogic in monitoring compliance at the national level, as well as the link with the Fund in order to build the capacity of States Parties that are facing challenges in the implementation of the Convention. With respect to the follow-up to non-compliance 2018-2019, it was mentioned that the Secretariat had anticipated the need to focus on the key areas for improvement and established several bilateral conversations to provide tailored support for non-compliant States Parties. It was emphasized that the level of non-compliance decreased significantly from 111 States Parties and territories in 2016-2017 to 59 in 2018-2019. However, additional human and financial resources would be required in order for the Secretariat to be effectively providing the necessary assistance to States Parties.
8. The representative of the Russian Federation noted that the Fund was an effective mechanism supporting countries to implement the Convention and that ADLogic was a key tool indicating the areas of improvement for each State Party. As such, Committee Members should encourage non-compliant States Parties from their regions to prepare applications to the Fund based on ADLogic reports to strengthen their compliance. Supporting this proposal, the representative of Barbados suggested that, considering the different needs and realities of each country, it would be necessary to work with each National Compliance Platform or national anti-doping authority to put in place a system of graduation to reach the minimum 60% compliance threshold. In this regard, the Committee Chairperson and Zambia's representative proposed establishing mentorship programmes and peer-to-peer support.
9. The representatives of India and Zambia emphasized that the comparative analysis of ADLogic reports over the past biennia indicates that some States Parties are continuously below the minimum 60% threshold – the Fund should assist them to increase their efforts in a meaningful manner. The impact of COVID-19 on national capacities and resources should also be taken into consideration, as mentioned by the representative of Barbados.
10. Committee Members agreed that States Parties were expected to also contribute to the Fund and demonstrate their efforts to achieve higher compliance rates through this mechanism.
11. The Committee Chairperson thanked all Members for their inputs and informed them that the Committee's feedback would be shared with the Taskforce during its third meeting, taking place on 24 November 2020.

Agenda Item 3 - Update on the minimum 1% contributions to the Anti-Doping Fund

12. The Committee Chairperson expressed her gratitude to all Committee Members for the reminder letters on the minimum 1% voluntary contribution to the Fund, which was disseminated to all regional groups, in line with Resolution 7CP/10.
13. The Secretary of the Convention provided an update on the contributions received since January 2020, recalling that UNESCO's 1% letter of appeal was sent to all States Parties on 19 February 2020.
14. Eighteen States Parties² have invested in the Fund since the beginning of the biennium – this is an increase of 33.33% compared to the previous record number of donors (12). Seven of these States Parties are first-time donors (Andorra, Bulgaria, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Haiti, United Arab Emirates, Zambia), representing almost 39% of countries having contributed this year. Overall, this translates into an amount of 513,471.64 USD.
15. Considering the overall target set by the Operational Strategy, the Secretary underlined that the minimum financial target enabling the full implementation of the Operational Plan for 2020-2021 is 1.7 million USD.
16. Committee Members agreed that resource mobilization efforts needed to be increased. As an example, Barbados' representative informed the Committee that advocacy within Group III would be undertaken by the end of the year and the representative of Zambia will capitalize on the upcoming regional meeting to remind countries of this commitment. The Committee Chairperson also mentioned she would work together with the COP7 Bureau Vice-Chairperson, Saudi Arabia, to encourage Arab States Parties to invest in the Fund.

Agenda Item 4 - Private sector involvement

17. The Committee discussed about potential private sector companies that could be approached in the framework of resource mobilization efforts, based on document ICDS/7AP/Doc.3 prepared by the Secretariat. Proposals included pharmaceutical and manufacturing companies, major sport events or exploring the possibility of investing a specific percentage from contracts established with elite athletes.
18. It was mentioned that the Secretariat prepared an initial mapping, which was updated based on the impact of COVID-19, and liaised with concerned internal departments to ensure progress in this regard.
19. It was agreed that further guidance would be provided by the Secretariat, in line with UNESCO guidelines, on the means and ways to approach the private sector and the use of targeted communication materials with incentives for private companies.

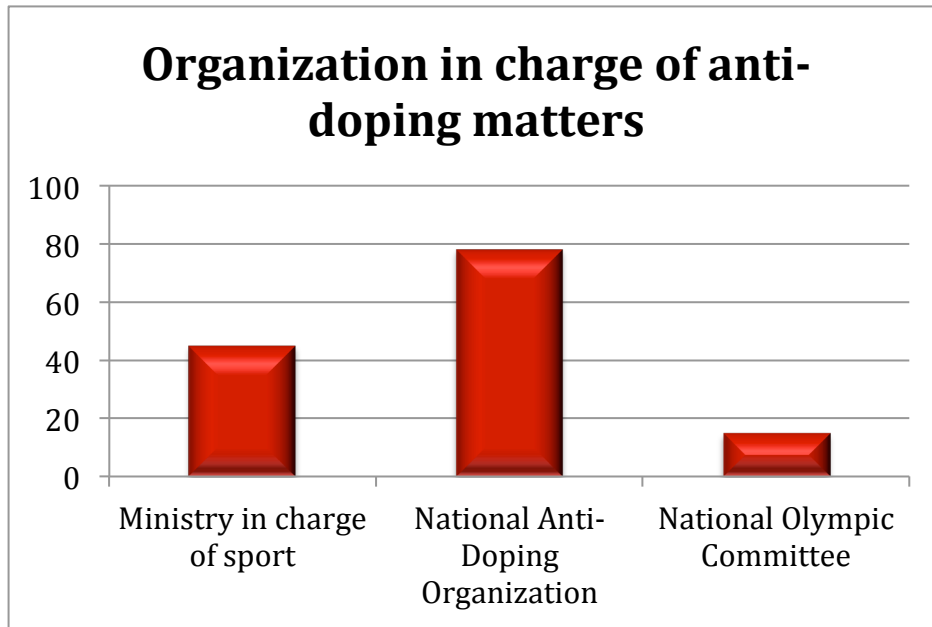
Agenda Item 5 - Results of the Approval Committee survey on challenges in anti-doping

20. The Committee Chairperson presented the final outcomes³ of the survey on States Parties' challenges in anti-doping, launched on 7 September and closed on 16 November 2020. Overall, 93/189 States Parties responded to the survey.
21. Approximately 49% of States Parties responding to the survey indicated that the Ministry in charge of sport dealt with anti-doping matters while more than 85% identified the National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADO) as the entity primarily in charge. National Olympic Committees (NOC) (acting as NADOs) are responsible for

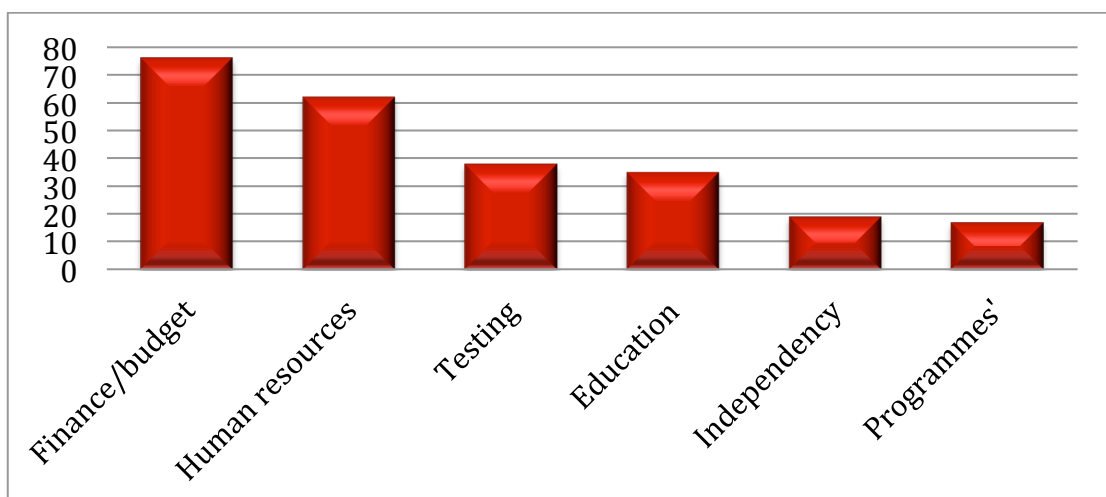
² Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Bulgaria, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Haiti, Kenya, Monaco, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Zambia

³ Preliminary outcomes were shared during the COP7 Bureau meeting on 20 October 2020.

the fight against doping in sport in 16% of respondent States Parties. Almost all respondents emphasized the operational independence/autonomy of NADOs, even when the Government provides their annual budget.



22. The **top three most popular/famous sports**, based on States Parties' responses, are football (83/93), basketball (36/93) and athletics (30/93).
23. Regarding the **main challenges**, financial/budgetary resources are the main concern for 77/93 respondent States Parties. This is due to insufficient funding, high costs for testing and education, the current economic uncertainty, difficult planning due to late release of the budget (e.g. in the middle of the year).
24. The second biggest challenge encountered by States Parties (63) is the lack of trained and capable human resources, followed by testing and education/training, as indicated by 38 and respectively 35 States Parties. Testing has been made particularly difficult in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.



25. Among **potential solutions** to these challenges, States Parties referred to increasing human resources; mobilizing resources, including from independent revenue-generating activities or the establishment of a national anti-doping fund; developing national strategies; establishing/improving national legislation and sensible policy framework; putting in place independent NADOs; awareness-raising for the entire society; better planning (of activities and budget) - correct and smart prioritization of tasks; improving communication channels and outreach; increasing governmental support to anti-doping matters; better coordination with other stakeholders; increasing

funding for anti-doping research under the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport; building capacity of NADO staff; UNESCO's mediation role between States Parties and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA); developing partnerships with the sport movement and other entities.

26. The importance of the Anti-Doping Fund was emphasized by all respondent States Parties, **noting full support to this mechanism**. Almost 73% of respondents agree that the 1% contribution could be mandatory, while the remaining 27% would prefer for the contributions to be voluntary, taking into consideration countries' capacity and referring to the text of the Convention.
27. The role of the COP Bureau to encourage States Parties to contribute to the Fund is considered to be key for successful implementation of the COP Resolution. Moreover, it was also suggested that this matter be discussed during sport ministerial meetings. Advocacy and communication with States Parties would support the implementation of the minimum 1% contribution. In order to increase resources, some States Parties suggest involving the sport movement (especially the International Olympic Committee) and the private sector, as well as a percentage of the profit obtained during major sport competitions.
28. Respondent States Parties also agree that the harmonization of national policies should correlate with funding to Anti-Doping Organizations.
29. With respect to the **main areas for improvement**, States Parties indicate legislation/policies, education programmes – notably values-based education, increased awareness-raising, capacity-building through reinforced, trained human resources and increased anti-doping budgets, harmonization of testing at the global level, policy advice, research, intelligence and investigations.
30. The Committee Chairperson thanked the Secretariat for its support with the dissemination of the online survey and the analysis of its results.
31. Committee Members agreed that the outcomes of the survey would serve as a tool for future work, providing a basis for assessing the Fund's impact. It was also noted that other surveys, on specific topics, could be conducted.

Agenda Item 6 - Evaluation guidelines for projects supported by the Anti-Doping Fund: for feedback prior to submission to COP7 Bureau

32. It was recalled that, pursuant to the Operational Strategy 2020-2025, States Parties are eligible to apply each biennium for a national (maximum US\$35,000) or a regional (maximum US\$95,000) project. An envelope of 5% maximum of the approved project budget shall be dedicated to an evaluation carried out by a competent entity based on these guidelines endorsed by the COP7 Bureau. The evaluation shall take place at the end of the project and its purpose is to assess the results achieved, as well as identify any lessons learnt for the future.
33. The Committee then provided feedback on the draft Evaluation Guidelines for projects supported by the Fund, prepared by the Secretariat in liaison with UNESCO's dedicated Internal Oversight Service. In addition to the key role of the Committee in assessing applications submitted to the Fund, it was suggested that, to ensure quality control for the evaluation of projects implemented under the Fund, the Committee could be engaged in the process, complementarily to the independent evaluators on the ground. It was agreed that the Committee's feedback would be included in the final version of the Evaluation Guidelines that will be put forward to the COP7 Bureau examination at its second meeting (Dakar, Senegal, 4-6 February 2021).

Agenda Item 7 - Launch of new call for applications to the Anti-Doping Fund

34. The main changes to the application process and eligibility criteria, as adopted by COP7 based on the full set of findings and major evaluation recommendations (2018), were recalled. It was emphasized that COP7 Resolutions related to the purpose and objective of the Fund must be implemented in an appropriate manner, and that applications must be directly linked to the Convention provisions and increased compliance. Applications submitted to the Fund could refer to the World Anti-Doping Code only in specific cases where concrete provisions promote the Convention and reinforce compliance with the Convention based on the national reports submitted by States Parties to the COP.
35. While a maximum of 30 national projects and six regional projects could be approved each biennium, amounting to 1.8 million USD, the resources currently available within the Fund for project allocation are of approximately 700,000 USD (around a third compared to the maximum target set by COP7). As such, the Committee agreed that the principle of “one-third” would apply for the allocation of funds this biennium, meaning a maximum of 10 national projects and two regional projects. This decision will be submitted to the COP7 Bureau for endorsement. The Secretariat and the Committee will continue to work together until the next meeting in order to fine-tune the process based on existing financial resources, noting that project budgets may vary as well.
36. The Committee also considered the possibility for States Parties to submit their applications in Spanish, in addition to English and French (UNESCO’s working languages). This is based on previous practice of the Committee and available budget, as the necessary costs for official translation into English could be covered by the envelope approved by COP7 (20,000 USD) for the organization of Approval Committee meetings.
37. Committee Members agreed to the following provisional application calendar:
 - Early December 2020: launch of call for applications, following the standard procedure (official correspondence)
 - 24 January 2021: deadline for submission of draft applications
 - 12 March 2021: deadline for submission of final applications for first funding round
 - Last week of March 2021: Approval Committee meeting - first funding round
 - 21 May 2021: deadline for submission of final applications for second funding round
 - Mid-June 2021: Approval Committee meeting - second funding round

Agenda Item 8 - Other matters (outcomes of meetings, timelines and plans towards COP8)

38. Considering the overall schedule of activities related to the Convention, the Committee agreed that the second formal meeting would be organized at the end of March 2021 and the third one mid-June 2021. The Committee Chairperson invited all Members to hold the second meeting in the United Arab Emirates.
39. It was noted that the Secretariat would liaise accordingly and provide all necessary information, in view of the spring session of UNESCO’s Executive Board.

Agenda Item 9 - Closing of the meeting

40. Following an oral report outlining the key points of the meeting, the Committee Chairperson expressed her gratitude to the Members for their contributions, which have led to fruitful and meaningful outcomes, illustrating the Committee’s commitment to achieving the principle of “no State Party left behind”. In closing, the Chairperson thanked the Secretariat for facilitating the organization of the meeting.

Annex

List of participants

Approval Committee Members

Dr. Reema Alhosani

Chairperson

President, United Arab Emirates National Anti-Doping Committee

Mr Andrea Carletti

Civil servant, Department for sport, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy

Mr Kirill Kozhevnikov

Deputy Director of the Legal Department, Ministry of Sport, Russian Federation

Mr Neil Murrell

Director of Sports, National Sports Council; member of the National Anti Doping Commission, Barbados

Mr Navin Agarwal

Director-General, National Anti-Doping Agency, India

Mr Raphael Mulenga

National Anti-Doping Desk Officer, Ministry of Youth, Sport and Child Development, Zambia

Bureau of the seventh session of the Conference of Parties (COP7)

Chairperson of the COP7 Bureau

Mr Marcos Diaz

Dominican Republic

UNESCO

Ms Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences

Mr Alexander Schischlik, Chief, Youth and Sport Section

Mr Marcellin Dally, Secretary of the International Convention against Doping in Sport

Ms Elena Licheri, Project Assistant, Youth and Sport Section

Ms Raluca Petre-Sandor, Assistant Project Officer, Youth and Sport Section

Ms Rinrada Yothaparn, Project Assistant, Youth and Sport Section