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منظمة الأمم المتحدة للتربية والعلم والثقافة

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# Conference of Parties to the International Convention against Doping in Sport

3CP

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Item 3 of the Provisional Agenda

## Promotion of the International Convention against Doping in Sport

**Documents:** International Convention against Doping in Sport

**Background:** This document presents information about the status of the International Convention against Doping in Sport and the activities undertaken to promote the Convention. At the time of writing, 164 Member States of UNESCO have ratified, accepted, adopted or acceded to the Convention. These States Parties are relatively evenly distributed across the geopolitical regions of UNESCO. The Conference of Parties is requested to consider this information in light of their responsibilities to promote the purpose of the Convention as set forth in Article 30(a).

**Decision Required:** Paragraph 11

#### INTRODUCTION

1. One function of the Conference of Parties is to promote the purpose of the Convention as set forth in Article 30(a) of the International Convention against Doping in Sport (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"). This document presents information about the geopolitical distribution of States Parties and the rate by which Member States of UNESCO have ratified, accepted, adopted or acceded to the Convention. A summary of the principal activities undertaken by the Secretariat to promote the Convention is also presented. The Conference of Parties may wish to consider additional measures to ensure that the momentum behind the Convention is maintained.

### ADHERENCE TO THE CONVENTION

2. At the first session of the Conference of Parties it was noted that the Convention was the most successful international instrument in the history of UNESCO in terms of the speed of its development and entry into force. Since 2007, the momentum behind the Convention has been maintained with an exponential increase in the number of States Parties. As of 31 October 2011, 164 Member States of UNESCO have ratified, accepted, adopted or acceded to the Convention. Table 1 presents geographical information concerning adherence to the Convention. This data indicates that there is a solid distribution of States Parties across all electoral groupings of UNESCO. Table 2 indicates that the rate of ratification, acceptance, adoption or accession to the Convention remains steady.

Table 1: Adherence to the Convention (Groupings of Member States for the Purpose of Elections to the Executive Board)

Regions	Total	Adhered	Not Adhered	Percent	
Group I	27	25	2	92.59%	
Group II	25	24	1	96.00%	
Group III	33	29	4	87.87%	
Group IV	44	37	7	84.09%	
Group V(a)	46	36	10	78.26%	
Group V(b)	18	13	5	72.22%	

UNESCO Member				
States	193	164	29	84.46%

Table 2: Rate of adherence to the Convention

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of	4	37	34	30	25	22	12
instruments received							

### PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 3. A number of measures were taken by the Secretariat during the 2010-2011 biennium to promote adherence to the Convention, with a particular emphasis placed on Africa and Asia and Pacific, as suggested by the Conference of Parties during its second session [Resolution 2CP/3]. These efforts have been particularly successful. Of the 34 new States Parties during the biennium, 17 have been from Group IV and nine from Group V(a).
- 4. The Secretariat was actively involved in the 8<sup>th</sup> Asia/Oceania Regional Intergovernmental Meeting on Anti-Doping in Sport held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 20 to 23 May 2011. This meeting provided an opportunity to promote the Convention and the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport (hereinafter referred to as "the Fund") to the representatives of the 24 Member States in attendance. Discussions were also had with the representatives of several governments. In this regard, Afghanistan, Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic indicated that they were making good progress towards adhering to the Convention.
- 5. On 5 September 2011, the Director-General of UNESCO wrote officially to the Permanent Delegations and National Commissions of the Member States of UNESCO which have yet to adhere to the Convention. This letter called upon these governments to take the appropriate political, legal and administrative steps to become States Parties. It also promoted the Fund, which is specifically aimed at helping countries implement the Convention. Following the circulation of this correspondence, Belize, Benin, Bhutan and Liberia became States Parties to the Convention, moreover, several other governments indicated the progress they were making towards this objective.
- 6. UNESCO also participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Ministers of Sport Conference, held in Noumea, New Caledonia, prior to the Opening Ceremony of the 14<sup>th</sup> Pacific Games. Anti-doping was a key item on the agenda and the majority of Pacific governments took part in these discussions. This awareness-raising activity was supported by visits to Niue and Kiribati in early October where talks were held with senior government officials to encourage adherence to the Convention.
- 7. The development of partnerships with a number of regional intergovernmental organizations or fora has been critical in terms of increasing awareness of the Convention and the development of anti-doping programmes. Particular attention is drawn to the activities undertaken by both the American Sport Council (CADE) and Iberoamerican Sport Council (CID). UNESCO greatly benefited from participating in the 10<sup>th</sup> American Council of Sports (CADE) meeting held in Mérida, Mexico, from 3 to 9 May 2010, where anti-doping was afforded considerable attention. These activities have translated into a significant increase in the number of States Parties from Latin America and the Caribbean. There are now only four Member States from the region which had yet to adhere to the Convention.
- 8. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) continues to provide valuable support to the Convention through the Regional Directors and their support staff. The close working relationship developed between UNESCO and the Council of Europe and the European Commission has also been vital. The importance given to anti-doping and the benefits of a cohesive European approach are reflected in the number of States Parties to the Convention. UNESCO has also been a participant in the meetings of the Monitoring Group of the Anti-Doping Convention (1989) which has provided an important opportunity to share information and to pursue joint objectives in the fight against doping in sport.
- 9. The Secretariat has been involved in a series of conferences, seminars and workshops to promote the Convention. Through these activities UNESCO has sought to increase

- understanding of anti-doping issues and to build consensus among government decision-makers and within the sporting movement. These actions have helped to build support for the Convention and international efforts to combat doping in sport.
- 10. It will be important to ensure that progress continues in the next biennium so that UNESCO can move much closer towards the universal application of the Convention. This will require concerted effort with the reinforcement of partnerships to ensure that the number of States Parties continues to increase. Nevertheless, the Convention boasts the second highest number of States Parties of all the international legal instruments administered by UNESCO; behind the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (188 States Parties) which was adopted in 1972.

### **DRAFT RESOLUTION 3CP/2**

11. The Conference of Parties may wish to adopt the following resolution:

The Conference of Parties,

- 1. Having examined document ICDS/3CP/Doc.3,
- 2. Welcomes the initiatives undertaken by the Secretariat to promote the International Convention against Doping in Sport and to increase the number of States Parties to the Convention,
- 3. Expresses its gratitude to all of the intergovernmental organizations and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), which have provided valuable support to the International Convention against Doping in Sport,
- 4. Strongly encourages all Member States of UNESCO that have not yet done so to become States Parties to the International Convention against Doping in Sport,
- 5. Requests the Secretariat to continue to enhance existing arrangements as well as to develop new partnerships to promote the International Convention against Doping in Sport,
- 6. Calls upon the representatives of WADA and relevant regional intergovernmental organizations and/or sport organizations to promote the International Convention against Doping in Sport within their respective regions particularly through existing initiatives and regional meetings and conferences.