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Conference of Parties to the International Convention against Doping in Sport

2CP

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PROMOTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT

SUMMARY

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 by the Secretariat to promote the Convention since the First Session of the Conference of Parties in 2007. At the time of writing, 128 Member States of UNESCO have ratified, accepted, adopted or acceded to the Convention. These States Parties are relatively evenly distributed across all five of the programme regions of UNESCO. The Second Session of 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 15.

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 (herewith referred to as “the Convention”). This document presents information about the geographic 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 are 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 14 October 2009, 128 Member States of UNESCO have ratified, accepted, adopted or acceded to the Convention. Table 1 presents general information concerning adherence to the Convention. The data indicates that there is a solid distribution of States Parties across all five of the programme regions of UNESCO. Table 2 indicates that the rate of ratification, acceptance, adoption or accession to the Convention also remains steady.

Table 1: Adherence to the Convention

Regions	Total	Adhered	Not Adhered	Percent
Africa	48	27	21	56.25%
Arab States	16	12	4	75.00%
Asia & Pacific	47	21	26	44.68%
Europe & North America	48	44	4	91.67%
Latin America & Caribbean	34	24	10	70.59%
UNESCO Member States	193	128	65	66,32%

Table 2: Rate of adherence to the Convention

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 ¹
Number of instruments received	4	37	34	30	21
Percentage of States Parties	3.1%	28.9%	26.5%	23.4%	16.4%

3. It will be important to ensure that this progress continues in the next biennium and that those Member States of UNESCO that have yet to adhere to the Convention are strongly encouraged to do so. As part of its initial planning for the 2010-2011 biennium, the Secretariat has proposed a performance objective of 150. This will require concerted effort with the reinforcement of

¹ As of 31 August 2009.

partnerships to ensure that the number of States Parties continues to increase. One strong motivating factor could be the changes to the World Anti-Doping Code that enter into force on 1 January 2010, which effectively state that the sporting movement should not award the Olympic Games, World Championships or other major sport events to countries that have not adhered to the Convention.

REGIONAL CONFERENCES

4. One of the most successful tools employed by the Secretariat to promote and to facilitate adherence to the Convention has been the organization of regional and sub-regional conferences in collaboration with those Member States that have practical experience in developing and implementing anti-doping programmes. Three such conferences have been organized since the first session of the Conference of Parties in 2007.

5. The Government of Tunisia in collaboration with UNESCO and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) convened a regional conference: Promoting Sporting Ethics and Anti-Doping from 11 to 13 June 2007. The Conference, which sought to build anti-doping capacity and to promote the fundamental values underpinning physical education and sport, was attended by representatives of 12 Arab States. The expertise and experience of the participants provided a strong foundation on which to build consensus on key issues and to promote adherence to the Convention. Considerable progress was made with this second objective as five Arab Member States of UNESCO (31%) ratified or acceded to the Convention in the four month period prior to or following the Conference. Regional support for anti-doping has further progressed with seventy-five percent of all Arab States having now adhered to the Convention.

6. UNESCO organized the African regional conference; United in the Fight Against Doping in Sport in collaboration with Sport and Recreation South Africa and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). This Conference was held in Johannesburg from 27 to 28 November 2008. It was attended by representatives from more than 30 African governments who explored various policy responses to address the growing prevalence of doping in sport. The Conference Declaration called upon all African governments to ratify the Convention and to implement anti-doping programmes consistent with it and the World Anti-Doping Code. The Conference also helped to facilitate a regional approach to anti-doping based upon regular exchanges of information and expertise and ongoing cooperation, with an emphasis placed on the regional anti-doping organizations as the principal vehicle to implement effective anti-doping programmes.

7. There is clear evidence that the African regional conference helped to increase the rate of adherence to the Convention. In the period immediately prior to the Conference, three African governments (Burkina Faso, Chad and Uganda) submitted their instruments of ratification to UNESCO. Zambia presented their instrument during the Conference itself and another four African Member States adhered to the Convention soon afterwards. The total number of African States Parties now stands at 27. The Conference also served as a good occasion to promote the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport (hereinafter referred to as "the Fund"), leading to a number of applications from the region.

8. On 20 September 2009, UNESCO convened the inaugural Pacific Island Sports Ministers Meeting in partnership with the government of the Cook Islands and the Pacific Games Council. The promotion of the Convention and the Fund were key items on the agenda of this meeting and the majority of Pacific governments took part in these discussions. If the experience of the other regional meetings is any guide, it is reasonable to expect that adherence of States Parties from the Pacific should increase as a result of greater awareness of, and engagement in, international anti-doping efforts.

PARTNERSHIPS

9. 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 Ibero-American Sport Council (CID). UNESCO has greatly benefited from participating in their annual conferences where anti-doping has been afforded considerable attention. On 13 September 2008, UNESCO was also invited to participate in a CARICOM caucus meeting in Kingston, Jamaica which was specifically focused on the Convention and the Fund. These activities have translated into a significant increase in the number of States Parties from Latin America and the Caribbean.

10. The close working relationship developed between UNESCO and the Council of Europe and the European Commission has 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 regular participant in the meetings of the Monitoring Group of the Anti-Doping Convention (1989) and the European Sports Ministers' Conference which have both provided important opportunities to share information and to pursue joint objectives around the promotion of the Convention.

11. A number of activities have been undertaken between UNESCO and WADA to promote adherence to the Convention in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the two organizations on 6 June 2006. Information about the Convention remains central to any WADA presentation about international anti-doping arrangements and governments' responsibilities under the Code. Moreover, the Regional Directors of WADA, in particular, have worked tirelessly to promote the Convention. For its part, UNESCO continues to emphasize the relationship between the Convention and the Code and the importance of these two instruments to the fight against doping in sport.

12. It is important to maintain the above partnerships and to look for further opportunities. In this regard, the modalities of a mutually beneficial partnership with the Conference of Youth and Sport Ministers of French-Speaking States and Governments (CONFESJES) and the International Committee of the French-Speaking Countries' Games (CIJF) are currently being explored. Greater engagement with Asia sports ministers is another priority.

OTHER PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

13. 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.

14. The Convention also continues to attract media attention. A number of articles were published in local and international media outlining UNESCO's role in the development of the Convention and the significance of this international instrument to the fight against doping in sport. This media interest has been a result of developments within Member States or specific activities undertaken. For example, UNESCO appointed a Champion for Sport, Justine Henin, who has been entrusted with promoting the Convention and the anti-doping message. A press conference was also held at UNESCO Headquarters on 12 November 2008, to celebrate the 100th State Party to the Convention which gained good media coverage internationally. Interestingly, the number of references to UNESCO in the international media has increased markedly since the adoption of the Convention. UNESCO's anti-doping work is among the programmes with largest media coverage.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2CP/3

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

The Conference of Parties,

1. *Having examined* document ICDS/2CP/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 who have provided valuable support for 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.