

IAAF TASKFORCE: INTERIM REPORT TO IAAF COUNCIL, 1 DECEMBER 2016

1. On behalf of the Taskforce, I am pleased to present this third report to the IAAF Council on the progress that the Russian Athletics Federation ('**RusAF**') has made to date in satisfying the conditions for reinstatement set out in the Taskforce's Terms of Reference.
2. As a reminder, the Council suspended RusAF from membership in November 2015, after a WADA Independent Commission concluded there was a systemic and deeply-rooted culture of doping in Russian athletics. The Council decided that, in order to be reinstated to membership, RusAF must satisfy a number of specified '**Verification Criteria**', and must demonstrate that the following three '**Reinstatement Conditions**' *"have been met, and can reasonably be expected to continue to be met moving forward"*:
 - 1st, that RUSAF complies in full with the World Anti-Doping Code and IAAF Anti-Doping Rules;
 - 2nd, that the IAAF and RUSADA (the Russian NADO) are able to conduct their anti-doping programmes in Russia (in particular, drug-testing) effectively and without interference; and
 - 3rd, that as a result, the reintegration of Russian athletes into international competitions will not jeopardise the integrity of those competitions.
3. At the Council's meeting on 17 June 2016, the Taskforce reported that, although many of the Verification Criteria had been satisfied, several important ones had not. In addition, RusAF had been unable to secure the assistance of the Russian criminal authorities for the investigation by the French criminal authorities into the alleged conspiracy between former officials of the IAAF and ARAF, as required by the Council at its March meeting. And Professor Richard McLaren had reported that the Ministry for Sport and other public agencies, far from supporting the anti-doping effort, had in fact orchestrated systematic doping and the covering up of positive drug tests. In such circumstances, the Taskforce was clear that the Reinstatement Conditions had not been satisfied. It therefore recommended, and the IAAF Council decided, that RusAF should not be reinstated to membership of the IAAF at that time.
4. Since June 2016, the Taskforce has met twice in person (once in Rio during the Olympics, at the suggestion of the IAAF President, and once last night). And representatives of the Taskforce have met once with representatives of WADA, and twice with RusAF president Mr Dimitri Shlyakhtin and with Mr Artem Yakubov from the Ministry for Sport.
5. I can report that, under the very professional leadership of its president, Mr Dimitri Shlyakhtin, RusAF has made further progress towards satisfying the outstanding Verification Criteria, including rolling out anti-doping education modules for coaches and athletes, imposing clear contractual and regulatory obligations on coaches and

athletes, and strengthening its ability to enforce its rules effectively. In addition, the Russian Parliament has passed a law that makes it a criminal offence for coaches and other support persons to supply prohibited substances to athletes. And we understand that progress has been made in securing the cooperation of the Russian criminal authorities with the French criminal authorities, as the Council specifically required. In my view, these encouraging developments would not have happened if you had not made the brave decision that you did in June last year.

6. One key remaining issue is how the Taskforce and the Council can be satisfied that the IAAF and RUSADA (once it is reinstated) will be able to conduct their anti-doping programmes in Russia without interference, given Professor McLaren's findings that Ministry for Sport officials and other public agencies doped Russian athletes and then interfered with drug-testing to cover up that doping. In the view of the Taskforce, at least the following will need to happen to address this point:
 - 6.1 Professor McLaren's findings will have to be either convincingly rebutted, or else acknowledged and properly addressed; and
 - 6.2 all of the conditions fixed by WADA for the reinstatement of RUSADA as a truly autonomous, independent and properly-resourced national anti-doping organisation will have to be met.
7. On the first point, Professor McLaren is providing his final report on 9 December 2016, and we have arranged to visit Moscow in January 2017 to assess the reaction to that report. On the second point, discussions are ongoing between WADA and the Russian authorities on a roadmap for RUSADA to begin operations again as a fully compliant NADO hopefully before the end of 2017.
8. Therefore, **the Taskforce recommends that there be no change to RusAF's status now**, but it will report again on progress at the Council's next meeting, in February 2017, when it hopes to be able to identify a clear roadmap and timetable for RusAF's reinstatement.
9. The Taskforce has noted Mr Butov's request to the Council to consider re-admitting certain youth athletes, Master's level athletes, and technical officials to competition. **The Taskforce recommends that that request be tabled for consideration at the next Council meeting**, when the Taskforce will be able to report back after its visit to Moscow in January 2017.
10. **The Taskforce also asks the Council to approve the proposed changes to the Verification Criteria highlighted in the attached Exhibit 1.** The changes extend the testing requirements beyond 2016 (see section 5); (b) confirm the further requirement approved by the Council last year (cooperation with the French criminal investigation) (see section 7.1); and (c) add in the requirement that RusAF cover the costs of the Taskforce and of the various required disciplinary cases as a further condition of reinstatement (see section 7.2).

11. In addition, at its meeting in June 2016 the Council accepted the Taskforce's recommendation to adopt a new Competition Rule 22.1A, allowing athletes of a suspended national federation to apply for special eligibility to compete in international competitions as 'Neutral Athletes' pending reinstatement of the national federation. Many Russian athletes applied under that new rule for special eligibility for the Rio Olympics, and many of them challenged the rule in court when their applications were denied. Those challenges were rejected, but the IAAF's lawyers have advised amending the wording of the rule slightly to deal with some of the practical issues raised, so that the rule operates smoothly moving forward, offering athletes of a suspended national federation a pathway to compete in international competitions as neutral athletes pending reinstatement of their federation's membership of the IAAF. **The Taskforce therefore recommends that the Council approve the proposed amendments to Competition Rule 22.1A.** If helpful, Jon Taylor could take us through the basic detail of the proposed changes.
12. Finally, if I may be permitted one extraneous comment: I have been advised of the proposal to establish a new independent Integrity Unit at the IAAF. As the independent chairman of the Taskforce, this proposal seems to me to be groundbreaking, and it strikes me that the new Integrity Unit could play a very important role in future in helping the IAAF to determine non-compliance and to fix sanctions quickly and efficiently, and also to monitor and guide the efforts of non-compliant national federations to bring themselves back into compliance with the anti-doping and other integrity requirements of IAAF members. I look forward to hearing the results of your deliberations and the deliberations of your Congress on this proposal.
13. That completes this interim report by the Taskforce to the Council.

Rune Andersen, Taskforce Chair
1 December 2016