

## **Finance & Administration Committee**

### **Memo**

On February 31, 2016, WADA President, Vice President and Director General received a letter from the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) signed by the CPJ Executive Director Joel Simon. In this letter CPJ expresses their concern about corruption actions inside international sports organizations and regulatory and control authorities, provoking unfair competition among pharmaceutical companies by their means, and threats and persecution of the journalists covering this issue. CPJ requires WADA to use all means to ensure journalists' freedom of action and to promote the suspension of illicit actions and infringement of the Fundamental Principles of Olympism in international organizations.

According to the CPJ, the journalists been involved in this inquiry are prepared to full cooperation with WADA, IOC and other organizations of the Anti-Doping community. Although, the Committee is ready to provide all available materials and grant non-disclosure guarantees. In their turn, in the case of cooperation of the above mentioned international organizations with journalists the CPJ undertakes to provide absolute confidentiality, since renders inadmissible to discredit international authorities.

The Finance and Administration Committee strongly recommends starting this cooperation for the purposes of nondisclosure of information.

### **Objective / Key Activities**

To that end the Finance and Administration Committee suggests to hold the following activities:

1. Sign the non-disclosure agreement and other necessary documents certifying the consent to take responsibility for dissemination and exchange on confidential data by the journalists to third parties.
2. Sign necessary documents certifying the consent to take responsibility for knowingly provision by journalists false or incorrect information to WADA, IOC and other Anti-Doping Community members.
3. Obtain all existing materials of the journalistic investigation.
4. Form a list of persons informed about these journalistic materials. It is also necessary to figure out what kind of information was imparted to individuals and organizations on the concurrent list.
5. Fix the CJP obligations of confidentiality of information detained by the Committee if applicable.
6. Determine the data leak channels.

7. Implement internal inspection with reference to obtained data in order to identify all persons involved in violation of confidential information.
8. Inform IOC about the result of the measures carried out for adjustments of the plan of the further action.

## CPJ Letter (Enclosure)



Committee to Protect Journalists

March 31, 2016

Sir Craig Reddie  
President of the World Anti-Doping Agency  
Stock Exchange Tower, Suite 1700  
Montreal, Canada

*Via facsimile: +1 514 904 8650*

*Via email: [media@wada-ama.org](mailto:media@wada-ama.org)*

Dear President Reddie,

The Committee to Protect Journalists, an independent nonprofit organization promoting press freedom worldwide, is writing to express its enduring concern over the corruption component in international sports organizations, regulating and supervising organs, and employing them as tools of unfair competition among the pharmaceutical companies. We are also worried by cases of threatening the journalists involved in the informational coverage and their persecution.

The journalists who investigated corruption in international sports organizations and wished to stay unnamed for personal safety reasons, have reported into the CPJ on being kept under tight surveillance by the police and some unidentified persons in civilian clothes. They also complained of getting repeated anonymous threats.

On March 21, 2016, the police made inspection in their office and confiscated electronic data carriers available there at the moment. On March 23, 2016, the journalists were notified of the necessity to visit the police station for preliminary investigation as suspects in disclosing of the confidential data and falsification of the interior documentation. On March 24, 2016, following dactylography, photography, confirmation of cooperative agreement with the investigators and searches conducted at the apartments of the detained journalists they were all released for lack of sufficient evidence. Several days later they started to get threats relating to their professional activity via the phone and social networks. On March 30, 2016, one of the journalists was assaulted and severely beaten up near his house.

All those acts of pressure, harassment and direct violence are occurring amid the pending mass media publication of the data gotten in the wake of the journalistic probe into illegal activities of the international sports organizations. The journalists have managed to get information confirming that WADA-banned meldonium is actually a means of creating

unfair competition. Major pharmaceutical companies allocated financial funds to the administration board of WADA and International Olympic Committee (IOC) so that they would introduce the ban on the use by athletes of the competitive product by JSC Grindex with meldonium as the basic active component. The decision was actually due to decline in world trade of its analogues, such as esafosfina, neoton, and L-carnitine. The doping test samples of the most world celebrated athletes who had taken drugs based on meldonium were used to substantiate the ban. This made it possible for WADA Executive Committee to add these drugs into the List of Prohibited Substances and Methods for 2016. Due to the artificially provoked doping scandals, WADA got an opportunity to control the Russian Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA) through the British National Anti-Doping Organization (UKAD). On February 1, 2016, WADA, UKAD and RUSADA signed a relevant agreement on cooperation. This opens access to the information vital to further fight of the pharmaceutical companies with the competitive production.

Unlawful actions on the part of the international sports organizations and the measures they took to curb the mass media freedom undermine greatly the trust to international institutions, European ones in particular. Autonomy, independence, and legal personality imply not only big opportunities but also great responsibility.

The journalists involved in probing into the above mentioned breaches gave their consent to the full-fledged cooperation with your structures, passing of all the materials in their possession, and guarantees of confidentiality of data in exchange for the stop of their harassment, threats and pressure on them. On our part, we pledge to secure complete confidentiality while meeting the demands of the journalists, for we see it as totally unacceptable and insecure to discredit the international institutions under the current political situation being so tense.

We are appealing to you to stop illegal activities, eroding the basic principles of Olympism and employ all the resources to secure the freedom of work for journalists whose rights mustn't be infringed by constant threats, persecution, physical assault, or scare-mongering. We believe that the current situation gives ground for great concern and expect you to apply urgent effort so that the problem could be resolved.

Sincerely,

Joel Simon  
CPJ Executive Director

CC:  
Rev. Dr. Makhenkesi A. Stofile, WADA Vice President  
David Howman, WADA Director General

April 1, 2016