

RUSSIA TASKFORCE REPORT TO COUNCIL MEETING OF 22 NOVEMBER 2019¹

1. At the Council meeting in Doha in September, I reported that the AIU was investigating whether senior RusAF officials were complicit in Russian high jumper Danil Lysenko's provision of fabricated medical records to the AIU in an effort to avoid being suspended for a whereabouts violation. As we have just heard, yesterday the AIU announced that it has charged RusAF with failing to cooperate with the investigation and obstructing the investigation, and it has also charged a number of senior RusAF officials, including the President Dmitry Shlyakhtin, the Executive Director, Alexander Parkin, and a Board member, Artur Karamyan, with tampering and/or complicity in the provision of false explanations and forged evidence to the AIU, and has provisionally suspended them pending determination of the charges by the independent disciplinary tribunal.

2. I also told Council in September that WADA and the AIU had both found significant discrepancies in the data from the Moscow laboratory that the Russian authorities provided to WADA in January 2019. As a reminder, the data relates to the results of the laboratory's analysis of athletes' samples in 2012-2015. The discrepancies uncovered suggest there has been deliberate tampering with the data. In particular, presumptive positive findings that appear in a copy of the LIMS database provided to WADA by a whistleblower are missing from the copy of that database provided to WADA by the Russian authorities, and the raw data and PDF files from the tests leading to those positive findings have been deleted or altered. The explanations offered by the Russian authorities for these issues did not satisfy WADA or its experts, and therefore a recommendation has been made to WADA's Executive Committee to send RUSADA formal notice of non-compliance and to propose consequences in accordance with the principles set out in the International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories. The recommendation (the precise content of which is confidential) will be considered by WADA's Executive Committee at a meeting in Paris on 9 December 2019.

¹ As a reminder, RusAF (fka ARAF) was suspended from membership of the IAAF in November 2015, after a WADA Commission concluded there was a systemic and deeply-rooted culture of doping in Russian athletics. Council decided that, in order to be reinstated to membership, RusAF must demonstrate that it meets the following **Reinstatement Conditions**: (i) it complies in full with the World Anti-Doping Code and IAAF Anti-Doping Rules; (ii) the IAAF and RUSADA (the Russian national anti-doping organisation) are and will be able to conduct their anti-doping programmes in Russia (in particular, drug-testing) effectively and without interference; and (iii) as a result, the reintegration of Russian athletes into international competitions will not jeopardise the integrity of those competitions. A number of specific **Verification Criteria** were identified that have to be met as part of this task.

In April 2017, Council approved a **Roadmap** proposed by the Taskforce that identified six specific conditions to be met in order for the Taskforce to consider recommending RusAF's reinstatement. And in 2018 Council added a further requirement, relating to the LIMS data provided by WADA to the IAAF in December 2017.

All of these requirements are designed to ensure that RusAF establishes a culture of zero tolerance towards doping in Russian athletics, and that RusAF, RUSADA, and the public authorities in Russia, working in cooperation, create an anti-doping infrastructure that is effective in detecting and deterring cheats, so that RusAF and its athletes can start participating again in international competitions without jeopardising the integrity of those competitions.

3. These two developments call into very serious question whether there has been any change of culture in Russian sport since the systemic doping of Russian athletes was first exposed back in 2015.

4. The Taskforce therefore recommends that:

4.1 Council immediately suspends the RusAF reinstatement process pending resolution of the above charges.

4.2 Council mandates the members of the Taskforce and the Doping Review Board to review the 'Authorised Neutral Athlete' (ANA) mechanism that Council put in place in June 2016, and to make recommendations to Council as to whether that mechanism can and should continue to be used given the above developments, and (if so) in what form. Any ANA applications received in the interim to be held in abeyance pending such review.

4.3 Council mandates the Taskforce to make recommendations to Council as to the sanctions that Council should impose on RusAF if it is determined that RusAF has breached its obligations under the Anti-Doping Rules, and whether Congress should be asked to consider the expulsion of RusAF from membership of World Athletics.

Rune Andersen, Taskforce Chair

22 November 2019