



**World Conference on Doping In Sport**

**Madrid, Spain, November 15-17, 2007**

**Intervention  
Association of National Anti-Doping Organizations (ANADO)**

**(Graeme Steel, President, ANADO)**

Dear Mr. Chairman, Anti-Doping Colleagues and friends. My name is Graeme Steel. I speak to you in my capacity as President of the Association of National Anti-Doping Organizations (ANADO). It is my pleasure to address this conference, in the spirit of co-operation as we work jointly to solve the problems which doping poses for the future of sport.

ANADO is an association whose mission is "working together to develop quality programs". We currently have a 47 NADO's as members with an additional seven (7) Observers. Our members include the leading national anti-doping organizations in the world. Collectively we have over 45 years of international experience in a range of activities, including policy development, athlete testing, education, results management, communications and legal operations, including significant investigative activity. We have been key contributors to international standards and other initiatives and a significant number of our members have independently audited quality certifications against the international standards. Our members have an outstanding record of sample collection services and are responsible for the collection of over 110,000 samples annually. This level of experience and knowledge equips us to provide invaluable advice and feedback on the practical application of the Code.

Our mission commits us to ongoing efforts to assist other countries and regions in developing effective anti-doping programs and we are working, in consultation with WADA, to develop a quality recognition program that recognizes that activities are actually implemented in a proper manner, consistent with the requirements and standards of the world anti-doping program.

A central requirement for us, as we develop our work programmes, is that we support the objectives and efforts of the World Anti-Doping Agency and play an important role in partnership with International Sport Federations in pursuit of doping free sport for athletes.

We wish to congratulate WADA and the Code drafting team for its inclusive consultation process throughout the review revisions made to the Code and (for the

most part) the International Standards over the past 18 months and for including education as a mandatory requirement of the Code.

ANADO Supports the revised Code and is committed to working with WADA and International Federations in our ongoing interests to better improve the overall world anti-doping program.

There are challenges that remain that are important to register here today;

- ✓ Whilst we welcome the efforts of WADA to eliminate the abbreviated TUE process many of our members regard the recently proposed process as not being a constructive step forward as it is unnecessarily burdensome on athletes and support personnel. We therefore recommend that approval of the standard be deferred to allow for further review and input, agreeing first and foremost on common principles related to simplifying the process for all.
- ✓ In order to lessen the burden on athletes we also strongly encourage both WADA and International Federations to put in place protocols for mutual recognition, particularly with respect to TUE approvals and other important decisions made by those genuinely applying the International Standards.
- ✓ There is a clear need to continue to look beyond the testing programmes to solve the problem of doping. NADO's are by their nature well placed to develop comprehensive programmes, in collaboration with other Government Agencies as well as sport. We hope this experience and capacity can be used to work with International Federations to maximise the effect.
- ✓ Perhaps most critically we need to ensure that, in whatever we do, we take the majority of hard working, clean and supportive athletes along with us and indeed ensure we provide them with opportunity to be heard both in the development of policy but critically in convincing the next generation that success can not only be gained but is far more rewarding when it results from playing true.

Finally on behalf of all ANADO Members I would like to thank WADA's outgoing Chairman Richard Pound for his leadership and dedication in building the foundation of WADA and guiding the creation of the first ever world anti-doping code to harmonize our collective doping control efforts. We wish you the very best.

We further wish the incoming Chairman well in carrying on the efforts to ensure that sport around the world is drug free and continues to engage, invigorate, entertain and be a positive influence on future generations as it has always been.

Thank you.