

Norwegian Olympic Committee  
Delivered by: Tove Paule, President

- I should like to congratulate WADA with their excellent work since the last World Conference in 2003 and the work on revising and improving the World Anti-Doping Code.
- The consultation process has been extensive and inclusive and we appreciate being invited to take part in the decision making progress. This has been a fully transparent and publicly accountable process.
- Norwegian sports have responded throughout the hearing process. There might be disagreement to some paragraphs in the Code and agreement to others. However, we have kept in mind that everyone has to give and take. Let us look back and remember the status of the anti-doping work before the Code was introduced in 2003. At that time the international efforts were limited and characterized by lack of coordination and harmonisation. A lot has been achieved since then. Now, the time is ripe to make yet another step forward. We support the new draft of the WADC because we believe it represents the next vital step to stop the cheaters and the possible degradation of the reputation of sports nationally and internationally.
- This is not a fight WADA can win alone. For this mission WADA needs partners. WADA has since its origin asked for morally, politically and financial support, which WADA has been given. Supporting WADA is not enough. The most important factor is the effort every single one of us makes to fight doping ourselves. How each individual government, each individual national Olympic committee and each international federation prioritize the anti-doping work. Through our own anti-doping programs, we can show commitment and give the best possible contribution to clean sports.
- In our anti-doping program transparency and accountability are key principles. Not only to WADA, but individually we all have a commitment to follow those principles. For example, a doping violation should follow a public accountable process where the hearing body is independent. Another example is public accountability related to number of samples conducted by each organisation. Why is this so important? Because a public accountable system will ensure the natural justice of the athletes and their right to compete in a doping free sport. Publicly accountability is the best way to ensure the Code is not only legally implemented, but also implemented in real life through testing, information and education.
- If some of us do not follow up by a publicly accountable anti-doping program at home, we should not be allowed to participate in major international events. On this background the Norwegian Olympic Committee supports the suggested text stating that bids for Olympic Games should only be accepted from countries which have accepted the UNESCO convention and are in compliance with the Code.
- Whereabouts is an ongoing discussion and athletes are questioning when a harmonised system is introduced all over the world. Athletes ask for equality. WADA's draft will give a platform for equality. Madrid is the place to make decisions, not to prolong the discussions.
- International experience is showing a tremendous network trafficking doping substances. This is not a fight the sports movement is able to or indeed wishes to win alone. We do need a partnership with governmental organisations. WADA is an excellent example. What we need

is a partnership, not only with the governmental authorities responsible for sports, but with the governmental authorities in general. When we are able to reach such a broad involvement, we are in position to reach our goal about fair, healthy and clean sports for all athletes.