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Anti-Doping Convention (T-DO)

20th Meeting of the Monitoring Group

Strasbourg, 9-10 november 2004

Follow up report

Advisory visit to Azerbaijan on Anti-Doping Convention

Baku, 12-13 June 2002

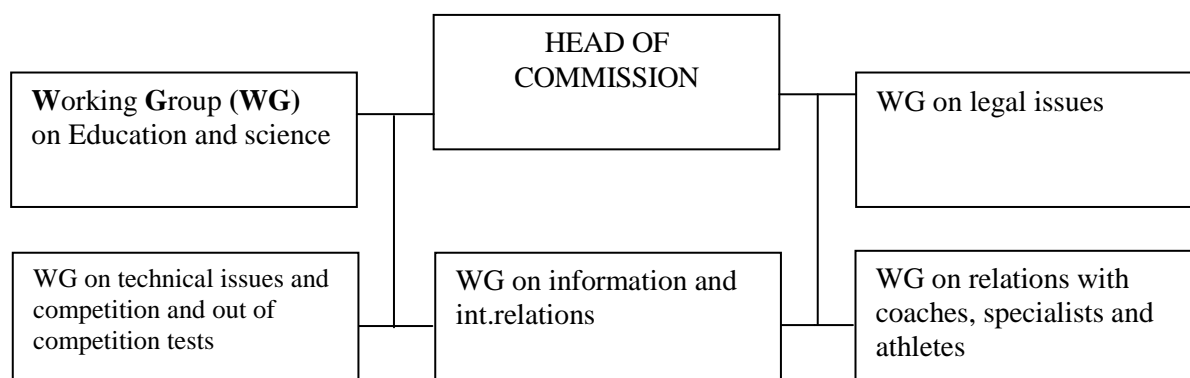
This Advisory visit was organized at the request of the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Tourism the Republic of Azerbaijan. The main goal of the visit was an assessment of Azerbaijan anti-doping policy and program, organization aspects of anti-doping commission etc. The team of the consultative visit was composed of Mr. George Walker (Head of the Sport Department, Council of Europe), Prof. Dr. Ulrich Haas (Lehrstuhl für Bürgerliches Recht und Zivilprozessrecht, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität), Ms. Pirjo Krouvila (Director of International and Developmental Affairs of Finnish Anti-Doping Agency).

Azerbaijan signed the Anti-Doping Convention on 28 June 2002 and Parliament ratified Anti-Doping Convention in June 2003. Additional Protocol of the Convention was approved by the President on 9 December 2003.

At present the National Anti-Doping Policy and program is already elaborated. Education and information aspects are important parts of it. In the light of new challenges Ministry of Youth, Sport and Tourism together with the National Olympic Committee and Federations are preparing a new Anti-Doping strategy and a lot of sport specialists are involved into this. We are trying to learn experiences of other countries and new developments in this area. During the visits of our specialist to Ukraine, Turkey and Russia, they became acquainted with the experience of these countries in this area.

The problems related to the national anti-doping budget were considered. There were long discussions and disputes over this problem. We considered different ways of financing of the Commission and decided to finance it from the budget of sport policy. May be it is not the best way out but finance problems of the commission is solved for the present. In the future we will return to this issue.

As recommended by experts of Council of Europe the structure of the anti-doping commission was improved and there were introduced a changes. The number of the members of the Commission has been increased and a clear structure and responsibility division has been established. The new structure of National Anti-doping Commission is as follows:



The regulations of the Commission is elaborated.

The existing legislation gives a basis for combating against doping. The legislative documents and laws related to anti-doping, acting in Azerbaijan is:

Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on physical culture and sport. Date of coming into force 23/09/1997.

Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on “The fight against the illegal circulation of drugs psychotropic substances and precursors”. Date of coming into force 18/06/1999.

Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Pharmaceutical activity. Date of coming into force: 17/01/1997.

We are working on elaboration of provisions related to the doping to be added to existing legislative acts. Existing legislative acts enable us to combat doping but in nearest future, we are planning launch the elaboration of the draft of the law on combating doping.

Government has a financing policy toward federation and clubs, which takes into consideration their compliance with anti-doping aspects and criteria. We cut financing of federations, sportsmen and their coaches who don't carry out their anti-doping well.

National Anti-doping Commission of Azerbaijan carries out tests for the major sport events held in Azerbaijan. Commission began to carry out out of competition tests also as it was recommended by experts of Council of Europe. Commission conducted 18 out of competition tests in 2003 and 30 out of competition tests in 2004.

In competitions tests for Judo Championship held in Baku in 2003, Women Volleyball European Olympic Qualification Tournament, Taekvando European Olympic Qualification Tournament and Boxing European Olympic Qualification Tournament held in Baku were carried out by National Anti-doping Commission. Commission closely cooperates with accredited laboratories in Moscow and Ankara and collected samples we send to these laboratories.

Sport movement of Azerbaijan participates in anti-doping activities and make it's contribution to the anti-doping work carried out in our country. The National Olympic Committee has financed several seminars related to anti-doping problems and published booklets and brochures.

After the consultative visit of Monitoring Group of the Council of Europe to Azerbaijan the National Anti-Doping Commission organized some activities in the Academy of Sport and Physical Culture, these are:

1. The quantity of hours for studying of doping aspects is increased.
2. Public opinion poll related to the use of "prohibited substances, nutritional ingredients" was organized among students.
3. Seminar related to the problem of fight against doping in sport was organized for students, teachers and coaches.
4. The new books were prepared by Sport Academy and published:
"The doping in sport field and pharmacology care" the author F. Huseynov
«Herbal Preparations used in the sport medicine" the authors are: N.Aliyev, P.Veliyev.

The Ministry of Youth, Sport and Tourism closely cooperate with relevant organizations of Russia, Ukraine and Turkey in the field of information exchange. Our specialists participate at international seminars, workshops, conferences and symposiums on doping issues. We are planning to create a web site of National Anti-Doping Commission.