

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

RECOMMENDATION No. R (84) 19

OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS TO MEMBER STATES ON THE "EUROPEAN ANTI-DOPING CHARTER FOR SPORT"

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 25 September 1984
at the 375th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.b of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Recalling its Resolution (67) 12 on the "Doping of Athletes" and Recommendation No. R (79) 8 on "Doping in Sport" ;

Bearing in mind the Resolution on "Doping and Health" adopted at the 2nd Conference of European Ministers responsible for Sport, in London in 1978 ;

Emphasising that the use of doping agents is both unhealthy and contrary to the ethical values of sport and thus undermines the main purposes for which sport is supported financially by public authorities ;

Concerned that the use of doping agents is becoming more common and spreading to more forms of sport and that ever-younger sportsmen and sportswomen use them ;

Considering that governments have a general responsibility to counter the use of doping in sport ;

Considering that doping in sport is a part of the problem of drug abuse in society ;

Stressing that the elimination of this problem will require common action by public authorities and sports organisations, each acting within the sphere of its own responsibilities ;

Esteeming that a statement of principles on the roles of each partner will make a timely contribution to further endeavours in the anti-doping campaign, and that the text adopted by the European Ministers responsible for Sport at their 4th Conference, in Malta in 1984, under the title of the "European Anti-Doping Charter for Sport" is such a statement of principles,

I. Recommends the governments of member states :

1. to take the action set out in Part A of the appendix to this recommendation ;
2. to take, in co-operation with the sports organisations, the action set out in Part B of the appendix to this recommendation ;
3. to distribute this recommendation and its explanatory memorandum widely amongst all sports organisations and other interested parties ;

II. Instructs the Secretary General to transmit this recommendation to the governments of states party to the European Cultural Convention who are not member states of the Council of Europe ;

III. Instructs the Secretary General to transmit this recommendation to international sports organisations.

European Anti-Doping Charter for Sport

Part A : The governments of member states should :

1. Take all appropriate steps falling within their competence to eradicate doping in sport and in particular :
 - 1.1. to ensure that effective anti-doping regulations are implemented : for example, by applying the provisions of appropriate legislation in member states where it exists or by obliging sports organisations which have not yet done so to adopt and apply effective anti-doping regulations, for example by making it a condition for receiving public subsidies ;
 - 1.2. to co-operate at international level :
 - a. in measures designed to reduce the availability of doping agents ;
 - b. in facilitating the carrying out of official doping controls decided on by international sports federations ;
2. Set up and run, either individually or collectively, doping control laboratories of a high technical standard.

The creation and operation of high-class doping control laboratories should include provision for the training and retraining of qualified staff and for an appropriate research programme.

These laboratories should be of such a standard that they can be recognised, accredited and verified at regular intervals by the competent international organisations, especially insofar as such laboratories may be used for doping controls at international sports events held on the territory of the member state.
3. Encourage and promote research in doping control laboratories into analytical chemistry and biochemistry, and subsequently help with the publication of the results of research in order to disseminate such knowledge ; and make suitable arrangements for the adoption of techniques, standards and policies as research shows to be necessary.
4. Devise and implement educational programmes and campaigns from school-age onwards drawing attention to the dangers and unfairness of doping and promoting the proper ethical and physical values of sport ; and support the design of properly constructed physiological and psychological training programmes which would encourage the continual search for improved performances without using artificial aids or harming the participant's organism.
5. Assist with the financing of doping controls.

Part B : The governments of member states should offer their co-operation to the sports organisations, so that the latter take all measures falling within their competence to eradicate doping

6. Sports organisations should be encouraged :
 - 6.1. to harmonise their anti-doping regulations and procedures, based on those of the International Olympic Committee and the International Amateur Athletic Federation, and ensure that these regulations provide for an adequate protection of the rights of sports participants accused of contravening the anti-doping regulations, including the right to a fair examination in the proceedings which may lead to penalties being imposed ;
 - 6.2. to harmonise their lists of banned substances, based on those of the International Olympic Committee, and making appropriate provision for the specific anti-doping requirements of each sport ;
 - 6.3. to make full and efficient use of the facilities available for doping controls ;
 - 6.4. to include a clause in their regulations whereby, in order to be considered to be eligible to take part in any official event of that sports organisation or federation, an athlete would agree to submit at any time to any doping control decided on by an official properly and duly authorised by that federation or its superior federation ;
 - 6.5. to agree on similar and substantial penalties for sportsmen or women caught using doping substances and for any other person providing, administering or facilitating the use of doping substances ;
 - 6.6. to recognise that unduly high performance levels required in some events might result in the temptation to use drugs.