



Strasbourg, 7 June 2017

Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions

Group of Copenhagen – Network of National Platforms

Data base – country fact sheet

FRANCE

1. Administrative issues / State of progress

State of Progress

- ❖ Operational

Legal Status

- ❖ Set up on 26.01.16 by State Secretary for Sports

Responsible Secretariat

- ❖ Minister in charge of Sports for the coordination board, Online Gambling regulatory authority (ARJEL) for the Operational and Monitoring board.

Contact persons

- ❖ Mr Corentin Segalen, ARJEL – National Platform Coordinator
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Organisational form and composition of NP (bodies/entities)

- ❖ ARJEL, French National Olympic Committee (CNOSF), Ministry of Sports, Ministry of Justice (Agence française anticorruption - AFAC); Ministry of Interior (Service central des Courses et Jeux - SCCJ); Ministry of Finance (TRACFIN); Française des jeux, Athletes representatives, Sports competitions' organisers.

2. Structure / Operational Aspects

Priorities / functions of the NP

- ❖ Prevent and detect sports event manipulation;
- ❖ Improve the fight against match fixing;
- ❖ Produce effective analysis of data and communication with concerned actors;
- ❖ Ensure Sports ethics and integrity at a national and international level.

Objectives

- ❖ Coordinate the fight against the manipulation of sports competitions;
- ❖ Collect and disseminate relevant information to sport organisations and authorities;
- ❖ Collect, centralise and analyse information regarding suspect betting or infringement and generate alerts ;
- ❖ Cooperate with all national and international relevant organisations.

Operational procedures

- ❖ The platform is divided in two functions :

(1) Coordination Board (under the chairmanship of the Director of Sports);

- Observe and assess manipulations, establish recurring typologies and disseminate relevant information
- Organize meetings to share information on themes and concrete issues to improve the fight against this type of criminal behaviors;

- Develop a knowledge & information sharing and circulation system between stakeholders
- Assist, advise and guide whistle-blowers ;
- Recommend any relevant legal evolution ;
- Set up network of focal points within all structures and Ministries involved

Small groups working on various subjects

Objectives:

- Outline the general context
- Issue recommendations
- Improve legislation

For example:

- Whistle-blower protection
- Sports club vulnerability
- Training sessions with sport association, athletes & referees

(2) Operational and Monitoring Board (under the authority of the ARJEL's chairman)

Presentation of the French operational board during the Handball World Championship.



- ❖ The board meets once per quarter and particularly before every big international competitions.
- ❖ Specific procedures in the event of alerts on the matches of the Euro 2016 were drawn up.

Two situations were defined:

- our internal control systems detect an anomaly that cannot be explained.
- an external source transmits information considered serious and of concern to an ARJEL agent. This source can be a licensed operator, an international partner, a journalist, an institutional contact or anyone contacting a member of the national platform. The search for elements following the publication in the press of an article is part of this system.

We decided to define alert levels, each alert level leads to an adequate mobilisation and different procedures:

Alert level	Description	Procedure
Normal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absence of anomaly in the monitoring system. - No rumors on social networks. - No articles in the press. - No information from the competition organizer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All stakeholders who received an alert must be informed of the return to normal.
Yellow alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anomaly in odds or stakes that cannot be explained. - Rumors regarding match fixing on social network. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>More investigation is needed</u> through bilateral coordination with other members of the National Platform (eg. La Française des Jeux) and betting operators (to cross check the numbers). - The alerts are not communicated to the National Platform (or other national platforms), but are recorded.
Orange alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anomaly that remains unexplained. - Whistle blowing. - Sourced and serious allegations in the media. - Precise information from the sports movement concerning a risk of manipulation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>The risk of match fixing is severe, but more investigation is still needed.</u> - Alert is forwarded to the National Platform. - Other national platforms are alerted if needed. - International partners are alerted if needed.
Red alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Match fixing is underway or has occurred certainly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Collecting evidence for prosecution.</u> - Communications with other stakeholders focus on this task and are therefore limited to avoid leaks. - Bets can be suspended.

(1) + (2) A plenary meeting

Once a year, a general meeting of the two boards is organised under the chairmanship of the Minister of Sports. It includes the presentation of an annual report.

Implementation

- ❖ The platform is operational since April 15th 2016.
- ❖ 5 top tables exercises have been organized in 2016 within the National platform and with international partners.
- ❖ In 2016, we recorded 20 yellow alerts, 2 orange alerts and 1 red alert.

Funding of the NP (estimated yearly budget, sources)

- ❖ The few additional costs will be borne by the Ministry of Sports and ARJEL.

3. Development Process

Origin of the initiative

France has been involved in drafting the Macolin Convention since July 2012. She has served as Vice-President of the draft committee.

Leading actors involved in the development process

CNOSF, ARJEL, Ministry of Sports, Française des Jeux, AFAC and SCCJ are the main partners of the platform.

Work carried out to mobilise actors? How many meetings necessary / agendas ?

The Ministry coordinates the Coordination board whilst ARJEL coordinates the Operational and Monitoring Board.

Process in defining priorities and objectives (assessments, analysis, documents produced / published)

Terms of References have been discuss with all the different stakeholders and will be adopted at the end of the next plenary meeting.

Previous situation (domestic law in application, difficulties in proceeding)

The different stakeholders have now the habit to work together in a trustful framework.

Challenges in defining tasks and responsibilities / Reasons for inclusion or exclusion of main actors* (and inclusion/exclusion of representatives)

Athletes representatives are not officially members of the National Platform but they are invited to all the meetings and made several reports to the platform.