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Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions

Group of Copenhagen – Network of National Platforms

Data base – country fact sheet

NETHERLANDS

1. Administrative issues / State of progress

State of Progress

- ❖ The national platform match-fixing is in the process of streamlining the existing structures and working procedures. In order to increase the amount and quality of the signals provided, a new position for an information coordinator will be created and embedded within the structure. The platform has also developed a so called disruption model. This is a comprehensive overview of all different kinds of measures and instruments that are available to prevent, detect, tackle and prosecute matchfixing. It will be translated to English and made available to other platforms in due time. The action plan that was mentioned in earlier years is now finished and describes these actions.

Legal Status

- ❖ No formal legal status, but all participants have signed a declaration of intent.

Responsible Secretariat

- ❖ The public prosecution office has had the responsibility of the secretariat from the start of the platform and will continue this for the meetings of the operational partners where operational information is shared.
- ❖ Regarding the more policy oriented meetings of the platform the ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport and the ministry of Security and Justice are alternately responsible for the secretariat.

Contact persons

- ❖ Ms Wendela Kuper, ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, wh.kuper@minvws.nl
+31 6 211 60 639
- ❖ Ms Anna Linmans, ministry of Security and Justice, a.m.linmans@minvenj.nl
+31 6 310 13 672

Organizational form and composition of NP (bodies/entities)

- ❖ Platform consists of three parts:

- The strategic council in which changes in strategy, trends, structure and financing are discussed and decided.
- Policy platform for sharing general information, networking and improving cooperation between partners.
- Platform where actual cases, operational information and possible intervention strategies are being discussed.

2. Structure / Operational Aspects

Priorities / functions of the NP

- ❖ The platforms are active since 2014. The platform for exchanging operational information with all operational partners (and open seat for the sport) is chaired and coordinated by the public prosecution office. 2 different subgroups, 1 and one platform for policy exchange with all partners involved, chaired by ministry of security and justice and the ministry of health, welfare and sport. The strategic platform is chaired by the ministry of health, welfare and sport See above.
- ❖ Priority of the subsequent platforms is to strengthen the fight against match-fixing and make it more pro-active and effective.

Objectives

- ❖ For the policy part: exchange policy information and coordinate measures on prevention, detection and enforcement. Furthermore share good practices, raise awareness etc.
- ❖ For the operational part: share operational information, discuss and choose the most appropriate intervention strategy to combat match-fixing in specific cases.

Operational procedures

The meetings of the policy platform will become less frequent because meetings with all participants will be used for exchange of information and knowledge. A new, select group of platform participants will meet at a higher frequency for a better cooperation and coordination.

Implementation

The platform is operational since 2014 and focuses on further strengthening the cooperation and intelligence base for combating match-fixing. Next steps will be to appoint an information officer and to improve the process of data collection and analysis. In addition, we are focusing on the development of a disruption model.

Funding of the NP (estimated yearly budget, sources)

- ❖ For the moment only contribution in kind by all partners. Every stakeholder takes own measures from their budget and the government subsidises preventive measures taken by the sports sector, like education, hot line for sport, but also the development of the disruption model etc. For 2018 a limited budget (exact figures not yet available) will be available for the appointment of an information officer and a subsidy for the sport organizations to take further preventive measures.

3. Development Process

Origin of the initiative

The setup of the platform was one of the outcomes of a national study and was also part of the convention. That is why both the ministries, prosecution office, police and sport sector have taken initiative to set up this platform in the Netherlands.

Leading actors involved in the development process

- ❖ Ministry of Health, Welfare and sport
- ❖ Ministry of Security and Justice
- ❖ Public Prosecution Office
- ❖ Sport movement
- ❖ Gambling Authority
- ❖ Police

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

The policy platform has approximately 5 meetings a year. The operational platform meets every month. Many partners are dedicated to participate in the meetings of the platform.

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

The strategic platform match-fixing has recently launched a project plan with the priorities for the coming years, aimed at improving cooperation between the partners and streamlining the existing structures and working procedures.

In order to increase the amount and quality of the signals provided, a new position for an information coordinator will be created and embedded within the structure of the platform.

The platform is developing a so called disruption model that gives an overview of the different actions a variety of stakeholders can take to disrupt or block the fixers in their path to fix a match.

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

The platform has proved its value in networking and creating trust between partners to exchange information. Cooperation could be further enhanced. The next phase is aimed at streamlining the cooperation in order to improve the effectiveness and to make sure the current structure delivers the results that are necessary in the fast changing world of match-fixing.

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

It is difficult to assess what organisations should be partners of the platform. Many organizations are interested, but with too many organizations it is difficult to create an atmosphere of trust where organizations feel safe to share sensitive information. This is why the proposed division of the policy platform will take place.