

Berne, 25 May 2022

T-MC(2019)3sw

Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions

Group of Copenhagen – Network of National Platforms

National Platform Fact sheet

SWITZERLAND

1. Administrative issues / State of progress

State of Progress

- ❖ Operational since January 1st 2019.

Legal Status

- ❖ The Swiss Gambling Supervisory Authority (Gespa) is a public body of the Swiss Cantons. It is the regulatory authority for the Swiss lottery and betting market. Based on the Federal Gambling Act (enforced January 1st 2019) or rather the Government Decree on Gambling Gespa (in federal law referred to as the “interkantonale Behörde”) is also the designated Swiss National Platform according to the Macolin Convention.
- ❖ The legislator consciously decided not to create a new unit to combat the phenomenon of manipulation of sports competitions. Instead, he wanted to benefit from the experience and know-how of the existing state authorities (such as cantonal and federal law enforcement units, Gespa etc.) and gave Gespa the task to act as a point of contact, reporting office and information hub.

Responsible Secretariat

- ❖ The responsible secretariat is the office or rather the permanent secretariat of Gespa.

Contact persons

- ❖ Patrik Eichenberger; patrik.eichenberger@gespa.ch, +41 31 313 13 03.

Organizational form and composition of NP (bodies/entities)

- ❖ As outlined, in the field of manipulation of sports competition the legislative concept confers to Gespa the role of an information hub. Gespa is closely linked to operators, law enforcement and other crucial stakeholders.
- ❖ Based on Federal Law Gespa has the right to collect and disclose personal information. Furthermore, in cases of manipulation Gespa is bound to inform the relevant law enforcement

agency. Finally, Gespa has certain party's rights in criminal proceedings on suspicion of manipulation.

2. Structure / Operational Aspects

Priorities / functions of the NP

- ❖ Gespa in its role as a National Platform is destined to act as link between all stakeholders involved.
- ❖ Based on the Federal Gambling Act Swiss stakeholders who are involved in the organisation or surveillance of a sports competition- that either takes place in Switzerland or on which bets can be placed on the Swiss market- are legally obliged to report to Gespa all suspected cases of manipulation.
- ❖ Depending on the situation Gespa will subsequently forward the information to other stakeholders, including the members of the Group of Copenhagen.

Objectives

- ❖ The objective is to use existing structures and competence and give the National Platform the role of a link between the different state authorities and national and international stakeholders.

Operational procedures

- ❖ Operated by the permanent secretariat of Gespa, the National Platform is continually operational within business hours.
- ❖ On Gespa's website there is comprehensive information about how to contact the secretariat in cases of manipulation. Gespa can also be contacted anonymously via their website.
- ❖ Gespa has an efficient and secure channel of communication to the relevant law enforcement agencies which enables the competent authority to act promptly if necessary.

Implementation

- ❖ The National Platform has been fully operational based on Federal Law since 1 January 2019.

Funding of the NP (estimated yearly budget, sources)

- ❖ The tasks of the National Platform are carried out by Gespa which is funded by the 26 Cantons of Switzerland.

Other points

- ❖ The National Platform has the role of an information hub in both the national and the international context and focuses on suspected cases of manipulation. The National Platform can assist stakeholders in finding competent contacts if they need to liaise. However, the National Platform does neither have the task nor the expertise to act as a comprehensive actor covering all aspects of the phenomenon of manipulation of sports competitions. Especially all activities regarding training and prevention are in the responsibility of the Swiss Federal Office of Sports, with which Gespa has close and effective relations.