In response to details released at recent World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Executive Committee and Foundation Board meetings, and in light of new claims of extensive doping in Russia, the Board of Directors of the Institute of National Anti-Doping Organisations (iNADO) calls for further action to protect clean athletes world-wide. “Doping athletes perpetrate a fraud on sport and steal rightful opportunities from clean athletes.” iNADO Board Chair, Doug MacQuarrie said, “Protecting the interests of clean athletes is of paramount importance; clean athletes deserve the enforcement support from those who govern sport.”

In support of its position, iNADO further states that:

- iNADO renews its November 2015 call for the ARAF – Russia’s national federation for athletics – and its athletes to be suspended by the IAAF and the IOC from the 2016 Summer Olympic Games. Based on last week’s report by WADA of anti-doping work in Russia, there is little new evidence that Russian Athletics has progressed adequately with its compliance milestones.

- iNADO recognises that WADA’s role as an international regulator is seriously compromised if those who govern sport (such as IFs and the IOC) do not appropriately act on clear cases of non-compliance. We recognise and respect WADA’s critical role as a regulator and believe the IOC, IPC and IFs must also demonstrate their support by acting decisively on WADA’s findings. Alternatively, those international sport organisations should give WADA enhanced enforcement powers. This should include measures to exclude from international competition athletes from countries, or indeed sports, where there is a demonstrable doping problem. Only such exclusion will encourage those countries and those sports with a doping problem to properly address their issues and protect clean sport.

- We applaud the work of WADA and the experts it has assembled, including UK Anti-Doping, in an effort to redress the significant failings uncovered in the Independent Commission Report and in order to assist Russia to become Code-compliant. But the testing that has been managed in Russia and of Russian athletes in all sports in the last six months is but a fraction of what has been conducted in the past, even if it is of higher quality. Moreover, that testing suffers from limited sample collection capacity, from limited access to Russian athletes and from continuing administrative problems. It is not yet an adequate doping control programme, certainly not for a leading sporting nation.

- We commend Russian whistleblowers, Vitaly and Yulia Stepanov for their continuing courage in revealing the truth about doping practices in Russia. Anti-doping rules need to be amended as an urgent matter to do more to encourage and protect those who report doping and the corruption of anti-doping in sport.

- In light of the recent and very significant allegations, including those of Dr. Grigory Rodchenkov, the former Director of the Moscow Laboratory, a thorough and independent investigation leading to appropriate punitive actions, if warranted, must be undertaken if we are to maintain the trust and confidence of clean athletes around the world.

- iNADO welcomes recent announcements by WADA and by the IOC of further investigation and of more retesting of stored samples. But iNADO believes that investigation and retesting alone
of samples from the Beijing and London Summer Games and the Sochi Winter Games will not assure the confidence of clean athletes who are preparing to compete later this summer in Rio. WADA, the IOC and summer IFs need to thoroughly investigate the possible doping that occurred or is occurring in sports on the summer program as an urgent matter.

☐ It is critical for clean athletes preparing for Rio that dealing with past doping (at Beijing, London and Sochi) not distract the anti-doping community from the current situation in Russia and elsewhere (such as Kenya). It is better to keep cheaters out of the Rio games in the first place when we have information about possible doping (or not doing what is required under the Code) than to try to correct the doping 8 – 10 years later.

☐ Nevertheless, retesting samples with advanced analytical techniques is a useful strategy to detect doping and sends a powerful deterrence message. It is important for the IOC and the IPC to use all strategies at their disposal to keep doping athletes out of the Olympic and Paralympic Games

☐ iNADO’s global network of Member National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs) and its Board stand at the ready to collaborate with WADA in its investigative, compliance and testing programmes.

iNADO is the international member association of NADOs. NADOs have the sole and unequivocal mandate to protect clean athletes, without conflicting responsibilities such as promoting sport. iNADO’s 58 Members represent all Olympic Regions and conduct the majority of anti-doping work world-wide each year.

iNADO is the Institute of National Anti-Doping Organisations. It promotes best practices by NADOs and is their collective international voice.