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Message from the iNADO Chair and CEO

As we begin 2019, iNADO extends best wishes for a wonderful New Year to the entire international sport community and, in particular, our (67) member NADOs that are committed to the iNADO Mission of Clean Sport Together. We are looking forward to working with you all in 2019 to progress the WADA Code and ensure our members are fully supported in their work.

At this time, we also note the passing of an important deadline for the Anti-Doping community which is directly related to the work of iNADO, our member NADOs and to the fundamental need to maintain credibility with the clean athletes of the world: the 31 December 2018 deadline regarding Russian compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code.

Under the terms of the 20 September 2018 WADA decision to reinstate RUSADA as compliant, a failure to secure access to the authentic data by 31 December 2018 would result in RUSADA being declared non-compliant once again. If this were to happen, it would be under the stronger terms of the International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories (ISCCS) that took effect on 1 April 2018.

On 21 December 2018 WADA reported being prevented from accessing the data by Russian Authorities, apparently due to a failure to have the equipment they require approved by Russian authorities. In the intervening time the critical importance of meeting WADAs terms has been reiterated in a video appeal from the Russian NADO (RUSADA) Chief Executive to President Putin. Despite this, and placatory words from the Kremlin, the WADA team has not (based on information available at the time of the deadline) been able to begin, let alone complete, the tasks required.

This is, of course, of great concern to the NADO community which desperately needs a fully compliant RUSADA operating to support clean sport in one of the worlds sporting powerhouses. iNADO awaits the advisory report to be produced by the WADA Compliance Review Committee (CRC) which will meet on January 14 and 15. The importance of the decision of the WADA Executive Committee, in the light of that report, cannot be underestimated.

Now, more than ever, the sporting world is relying on a steadfast WADA.

Doug MacQuarrie
Chair

Graeme Steel
CEO

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