

WADA Forum with Ministers Responsible for Sport in Oceania

Apia, Samoa
29 October 2024

Apia Declaration

Preamble

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) as part of its [five-year Strategic Plan \(2020-2024\)](#) has been engaging with stakeholders and Governments involved in anti-doping in an effort “to increase support, unity and coherence in everyone’s efforts” for clean sport. In this regard, the WADA Forum with Ministers Responsible for Sport in Oceania shows the commitment of Ministers to support and influence policy in those countries.

- Recognizing the important role that governments play in driving policy related to the global movement to protect fairness in sport and promote clean sport; and
- In keeping with the desire to continue to build on the progress, the Ministers responsible for sport in Oceania are grateful to have participated in the region’s inaugural WADA Forum with the Ministers Responsible for Sport in Oceania, held in Apia, Samoa, on 29 October 2024.

Having examined, discussed, and fully considered all the discussions and dialogues, the governments present wish to:

1. **Extend** their warm gratitude to the Government of Samoa and in particular Prime Minister Fiame Naomi Mataafa and Minister Laumatiamanu Ringo Purcell, Minister of Sports and Recreation and member of WADA’s Foundation Board representing the Oceania region, for such effective organization of the Forum in collaboration with WADA.
2. **Take note** of each government’s presentation on their individual anti-doping progress and participants’ strong wish to collaborate closely within the region to jointly protect clean sport and promote the value of sport and benefit from each other experience.
3. **Commit** to hold such forum at least biannually in different country of the Oceania region with a view to take tolls on progress accomplished.
4. **Recognize** the importance of each respective government’s commitment to support the implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code (the “Code”) and of the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport (the Convention) and the absolute need to avoid the politization of anti-doping.
5. **Continue** to support the work of each country’s National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO) or National Olympic Committee (NOC) acting as a NADO to be compliant with the Code and activities of the Oceania Regional Anti-Doping Organization (ORADO) .
6. **Acknowledge** the need to promote athlete engagement in each country in the development of anti-doping programs, especially for Education, and to work with the stakeholders to promote clean sport, in particular, at Major Sport Events in Oceania.

7. **Commit** to strengthen the anti-doping programs of each country with focus on capacity building of NADO and education for athletes and athlete support personnel.
8. **Commit** to work with WADA to ensure that their national anti-doping legislative framework, including the legislation if needed, is aligned with the World Anti-Doping Code.
9. **Continue** to be represented in WADA's high level decision making governing bodies as the Foundation Board and the Executive Committee members.
10. **Acknowledge** the opportunities to capitalize on the Major Sport Events held in Oceania to build the capacities and capabilities of the region to strengthen the anti-doping system in Oceania, in the next eight years and beyond.

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29 October 2024

Signed by: Fifteen government representatives in attendance

American Samoa
Australia
Cook Islands
Fiji
French Polynesia
Kiribati
Nauru
New Zealand
New Caledonia
Papua New Guinea
Samoa
Solomon Islands
Tonga
Tuvalu
and Vanuatu