

**THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED
BY ISRAEL**

***PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE IN SPORT AND MITIGATING
THE RISK OF CORRUPTION***

ISRAEL (SEVENTH MEETING)

1. In the context of prevention, please describe (cite and summarize) the measures/steps your country has taken (or is planning to take, together with the related appropriate time frame) to promote good governance and mitigate the risk of corruption in sport.

Information sought may, in particular, include the following:

• *Legislation and policy*

In 2011, the Sports Law, 1988 (the "**Sports Law**") was amended to improve equality and ethical conduct of and within sporting bodies such as unions and associations. Such bodies tend to be public in nature and have monopolies within their field, such that it is important to ensure transparency, integrity and compliance with correct governance. If a sporting body does not comply, the Ministry of Finance is able to reduce funding accordingly.

According to the Sports Law, the Head of the Sport Authority (subordinated to the Ministry of Culture and Sport) has the discretion to decide that someone who has a criminal conviction is unable to be a referee, coach or hold other official positions. The Head of the Sport Authority also has the discretion to decide that someone who has been criminally charged is unable to serve as a referee in a sporting competition.

The Sports Law provides that sporting bodies must have an ethical code of conduct for their officers, umpires, coaches and sportspersons. The Centre for Ethics (a public institution founded in 1997) has prepared a standard code of conduct that sporting bodies can chose to adopt fully or partially.

The independence of judicial institutions of sporting bodies is ensured through the provision in the Sports Law that all persons who hold an adjudicative position must be independent, impartial and not have any conflict of interest. Such persons must also have a certain level of administrative and organizational independence from the people who decide on and enforce the constitution and rules of the sporting body.

2. In the context of enforcement, please describe (cite and summarize) the measures/steps your country has taken (or is planning to take, together with the related appropriate time frame) to ensure the detection, investigation and prosecution of criminal offences linked to sport integrity.

Information sought may, in particular, include the following:

• Examples of criminal cases involving offences linked to integrity in sport (corruption, money-laundering, organized crime, match-fixing, etc.);

The Israeli Police respond and investigate all claims that are submitted and all information that is received. Section 292 of the **Penal Law, 1977** criminalizes the provision or receipt of bribery with the intention of influencing the existence of, the course of, or the results of a sporting competition or any other competition where there is a public interest in the existence of or the results of such a competition.

There have been at least four convictions pursuant to this provision, including when football players were bribed in order to cause the cancellation of certain games, to avoid scoring goals in certain games, and cases where football team managers admitted to bribing other football teams' managers with the purpose of arranging a loss in the games they played.

When adjudicating such cases, the Supreme Court of Israel has emphasized on numerous occasions the importance of upholding high ethical standards and behavioral norms in the sporting industry, particularly because of its importance to a large proportion of Israeli society.