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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Draft scenario for a high-level event during the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Safeguarding sport from corruption. Together, everyone wins

Format: Hybrid (online and in person) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt

Date: Tuesday, 14 December 2021

Time: 13:00 – 14:00 Eastern European Time (EET)

Location: STE CATHERINE

A. Title: Safeguarding Sport from Corruption. Together, everyone wins

B. Background:

By offering a roadmap for effectively tackling crime and corruption in sports, through a range of policy considerations, the *UNODC Global Report on Corruption in Sport* reveals the staggering scale and complexity of corruption in sport at the national, regional, and global levels. Developed in partnership with nearly 200 experts from across Governments, sport organizations, the private sector, academia and other stakeholders, the Report is the most in-depth review of its type to date.

While corruption in sport is not a new phenomenon – fraudulent activities in the running of sports institutions and competitions have been documented from the times of the ancient Olympic Games – there has been a substantial increase in criminal activities in this area over the past two decades. Indeed, factors such as globalization, a huge influx of money, the rapid growth of legal and illegal sports betting, and technological advances that are transforming the way sport is played and consumed, are making sport increasingly attractive to criminal networks seeking to exploit it for illicit profit.

Against this backdrop, the Report breaks down and analyses an extensive range of issues, including the role of illegal betting, competition manipulation, abuse in sport, the susceptibility of major sporting events to corruption and the involvement of organized crime. It also highlights the changing landscape of sport and its relation to corrupt practices, existing initiatives to tackle the problem, issues related to detecting and reporting wrongdoing, and how existing legal frameworks can be applied to address corruption in this area.

The Report is published at a pivotal time, with increased emphasis being placed on anti-corruption efforts in all sectors, including sport. The Report is launched ahead of the biennial United Nations anti-corruption meeting, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which is being held in Sharm el-Sheikh from 13 to 17 December, where the issue of corruption in sport will be discussed.



C. Objectives:

The objectives of the high-level event are to:

- Raise awareness of the *UNODC Global Report on Corruption in Sport*
- Discuss how to effectively tackle corruption in sport, including by fulfilling the commitments made at the international level and by addressing the policy considerations included in the Report

D. Proposed speakers:

Moderator:

- Ronan O’Laoire, Responsible for the UNODC Programme on Safeguarding Sport from Corruption and Crime, Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, UNODC (in-person, confirmed))

Speakers:

- John Brandolino, Director, Division for Treaty Affairs, UNODC (in-person, confirmed)
- H.E. Andrey Avetisyan, Ambassador for International Anti-Corruption Cooperation, Russian Federation (online participation, confirmed)
- Gry Haugsbakken, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Culture, Norway (online participation, confirmed)
- H.E. Alessandro Cortese, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Italy to the International Organizations in Vienna (in-person participation, confirmed)
- David Sharpe, Chief Executive Officer, Sport Integrity Australia (online participation, confirmed)
- Eric Bisschop, Deputy Federal Prosecutor, Belgium (online participation, confirmed)
- Ilana De Wild, Director, Organized & Emerging Crime, INTERPOL (in-person, confirmed)
- Thomas Bach, President, International Olympic Committee (pre-recorded video message, confirmed)
- Gianni Infantino, President, Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) (pre-recorded video message, confirmed)

E. Proposed format and duration:

The event will consist of oral statements (PowerPoint presentations will not be possible). Each speaker will be given **six minutes** to make their statement. The moderator will pose a question to each speaker who will then respond.

The language of the event will be English.

Total session time available	60 minutes
Welcome video and introduction by the moderator	5 minutes
Statements by speakers (6 minutes each/8 speakers)	48 minutes
Closing of the session by the moderator (and overflow time)	7 minutes



F. Detailed scenario of the session:

Time (Eastern European Time)	Agenda item
13:00 – 13:05	<p>1. Welcome video and introduction by the moderator</p> <p>The speakers will be presented in the following order (the order may be subject to change):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Brandolino, Director, Division for Treaty Affairs, UNODC (in-person, confirmed) • H.E. Andrey Avetisyan, Ambassador for International Anti-Corruption Cooperation, Russian Federation (online participation, confirmed) • Gry Haugsbakken, Secretary of State, Ministry of Culture, Norway (online participation, confirmed) • H.E. Alessandro Cortese, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Italy to the International Organizations in Vienna (in-person, confirmed) • David Sharpe, CEO, Sport Integrity Australia (online participation, confirmed) • Eric Bisschop, Deputy Federal Prosecutor, Belgium (online participation, confirmed) • Ilana De Wild, Director, Organized & Emerging Crime, INTERPOL (in person, confirmed) • Thomas Bach, President, International Olympic Committee (pre-recorded video message, confirmed) • Gianni Infantino, President, FIFA (pre-recorded video message, confirmed)
13:06 – 13:52	<p>2. Statements by speakers</p> <p>The moderator will ask suggested question to each speaker. Each speaker will then be asked to take the floor and make 6-minute statements as a response to the question.</p> <p>The speakers will take the floor in the following order (subject to change), give their statement, and answer a question asked by the moderator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Brandolino, Director, Division for Treaty Affairs, UNODC (in-person, confirmed) <p><i>Suggested topic for the statement: The UNODC perspective on the importance of the fight against corruption in sport as a leading organization in addressing corruption in sport, and the steps UNODC has recently taken to tackle the issue</i></p>



- H.E. Andrey Avetisyan, Ambassador for International Anti-Corruption Cooperation, Russian Federation (online participation, confirmed)
Suggested question: For many years the Russian Federation is successfully taking efforts to prevent corruption in sport. Based on your experience, could you please shed some light on the measures that your Government is currently taking to tackle corruption in sport and share some of the good practices, including how anti-corruption policies are aligned with the principles of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption?
- Gry Haugsbakken, Secretary of State, Ministry of Culture, Norway (online participation, confirmed)
Suggested question: Norway has been continuously striving for the effective implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption. Could you please highlight some of the measures and developments from Norway which are aimed at combatting corruption in sport?
- H.E. Alessandro Cortese, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Italy to the International Organizations in Vienna (in person, confirmed)
Suggested question: Under the Italian presidency the G20 leaders adopted the leaders' declaration including G20 High-Level Principles on Tackling Corruption in Sport. Could you share with us some of the efforts from Italy based on these principles and how these principles contribute to the fight against corruption in sport?
- David Sharpe, CEO, Sport Integrity Australia (online participation, confirmed)
Suggested question: Australia is one of the frontrunners in combatting corruption in sport. Recently your organization completed one year to its establishment, could you please take us through the background behind the decision to establish Sport Integrity Australia and share some of the successes and challenges faced by the organization while tackling corruption in sport?
- Eric Bisschop, Deputy Federal Prosecutor, Belgium (online participation, confirmed)
Suggested question: Belgium is a key player in the fight against corruption in sport, drawing upon your experience, could you please give an overview of the measures your Government is currently implementing to tackle corruption in sport and share with us some of the good practices when it comes to tackling corruption in sport?
- Ilana De Wild, Director, Organized & Emerging Crime, INTERPOL (in person, confirmed)
Suggested question: Law enforcement authorities play a significant role in preventing, investigating, and sanctioning those involved in corruption. From INTERPOL's side, could you please highlight the importance of coordination between law enforcement authorities and sport organizations to tackle corruption in sport?



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thomas Bach, President, International Olympic Committee (pre-recorded video message)• Gianni Infantino, President, FIFA (pre-recorded video message)
13:53 – 14:00	Closing of the high-level event by the moderator (and overflow time)