Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Opinion 238 (2002)[1]

Draft additional protocol to the Anti-Doping Convention

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly welcomes the decision by the Committee of Ministers to draft an additional protocol to the Anti-Doping Convention on a binding evaluation mechanism and on mutual recognition of controls on the territory of other parties. This is the first international text to recognise the new World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and its out-of-competition doping control programme.

2. The adoption of the Anti-Doping Convention in 1989 created common, high standard foundations for the organisation of a system for fighting doping in member states of the Council of Europe.

3. Further recommendations issued by the Monitoring Group of the Anti-Doping Convention mark significant progress as they help develop procedures applied during anti-doping controls, and legal as well as structural and programme solutions, which facilitate the implementation of the recommendations stipulated in the Anti-Doping Convention by member states.

4. The draft additional protocol to the Anti-Doping Convention aims to enhance and reinforce the fight against doping through the recognition by member states of doping controls on their territory on sportsmen and women from other states parties to the convention, without having to conclude any separate bilateral agreements.

5. It recognises the competence of WADA to operate on the territory of the member states which are signatories of the Anti-Doping Convention.

6. The Assembly considers the additional protocol to the Anti-Doping Convention a considerable step forward, which should help to increase the effectiveness of the fight against doping in sport.

7. In consequence the Assembly urges all states parties to the Anti-Doping Convention to sign this protocol on the day of its opening for signature.

1. Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 29 May 2002 (see Doc. 9453, report of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, (rapporteur: Mr Smorawinski).