

IPC Taskforce: progress report, January 2018

This report to the IPC Governing Board is provided on behalf of the IPC Taskforce and summarises the progress that the Russian Paralympic Committee (RPC) has made to date in meeting the conditions for reinstatement established by the IPC (available at www.paralympic.org/russian-paralympic-committee-suspension).

- Since the last Taskforce report to the IPC Governing Board in December 2017, the RPC has again continued to make good progress towards meeting the outstanding reinstatement criteria, including ensuring that the recent changes to the Russian legislation (allowing for the proper enforcement of provisional and final suspensions against athlete support personnel) have been reflected in the Centre of Sports Preparation of National Teams of Russia's standard athlete support personnel agreements.
- 2. While several of the reinstatement criteria are completed but with ongoing monitoring for compliance, the Taskforce anticipates that it will be in a position to recommend the reinstatement of the RPC to membership of the IPC on the completion of the following outstanding matters (as detailed in the agreed roadmap for the RPC's reinstatement):
 - (a) The full reinstatement of RUSADA by WADA.
 - (b) The provision of an official response specifically and adequately addressing the findings made by Professor McLaren, including the findings of an institutionalised and wide-ranging doping conspiracy and cover-up, and the involvement in that scheme of (among others) officials from the Ministry of Sport, the Centre of Sports Preparation of National Teams of Russia, and the FSB.
- 3. As mentioned in its February, May, September and December 2017 reports, the Taskforce has significant concerns as to the lack of any material progress regarding the provision of an official response from the Russian authorities adequately addressing the findings made by Professor McLaren. The Taskforce repeats, again, that Professor McLaren's findings (including the evidence released) must be specifically addressed, whether by acknowledging the findings and tackling the problems, or by properly rebutting the findings. This is a fundamental requirement, as unless and until the problems that led to the RPC's suspension are fully understood and addressed, they cannot with any confidence be fixed for the future. As stated by the CAS Panel in Russian Paralympic Committee v International Paralympic Committee, CAS 2016/A/4745:



'What has occurred in Russia was not a minor breach of an obligation or a random failure. Instead, this situation of noncompliance has been ongoing for many years ... The RPC has not established that there was at the time of the Decision, or now, a systemic cure for the systemic failure that occurred within the RPC jurisdiction and "on the RPC's watch" and that clearly demonstrated that there had, at the least, been a marked failure by the RPC to fulfil its obligations to ensure compliance with its Anti-Doping Policy.'

- 4. To date, there has been no such acceptance of the McLaren findings/evidence by the Russian authorities, nor any proper rebuttal (and the Taskforce notes that both WADA and the IAAF have expressed similar views in relation to requirements in their own roadmaps). The Russian authorities have been provided with numerous opportunities to address this issue, and they have chosen not to do so.
- 5. As the reinstatement criteria have yet to be met in full, the Taskforce is not currently in a position to recommend the reinstatement of the RPC and it therefore unanimously recommends that the RPC's suspension be maintained and the limited interim measure put in place by the IPC removed. Pursuant to the Taskforce's terms of reference, any further action regarding the RPC is a matter for the IPC Governing Board.

Andy Parkinson IPC Taskforce Chair