



## **Board of the Cycling Anti-Doping Foundation**

### **To the Global Cycling Community**

Oslo, 25th October 2019

#### **Future of the fight against doping in cycling**

Dear Cyclists, Friends, Colleagues,

As we are sure many of you are aware, in recent days there has been an unprecedented challenge to the future work of the Cycling Anti-Doping Foundation (CADF) in the global fight against doping in the sport of cycling.

Over the last ten years, cycling has worked hard to improve its reputation and distance itself from some of the scandals that blighted the sport in the past. This is in large part a result of the hard work carried out by the CADF. Since its foundation in 2008, and vitally its independence in 2013, the CADF has been recognised as one of world's most comprehensive, innovative, efficient and credible anti-doping organisations.

Many have looked at the practices and procedures employed by the CADF, under its ISO 9001 certification, as a benchmark for their own work, as CADF manages one of the most comprehensive anti-doping programmes globally, conducting more tests than any other Olympic Sport organisation. It has built an intelligence and investigations unit that is equipped to act effectively on information received, handle case management according to clear processes and manage a whistleblowing system.

It has taken a significant period of time, investment and expertise to establish the credibility that CADF enjoys globally, operating to the highest levels of integrity. The work of the CADF is carried out on behalf of the cycling community and is funded by the community, guaranteeing that the resources are being used appropriately for the sport of cycling while maintaining continuous dialogue with all stakeholders, teams and organisers. With a different governance model for anti-doping, the same assurances on fund control and allocation for cycling cannot necessarily be given.

Such a change would reverse the trend being applied by other sport federations such as International Tennis Federation, World Athletics and International Biathlon Union, to name a few, who have recognised the importance of having dedicated independent bodies in place to protect



the integrity of their respective sports for the management of issues including doping, match fixing etc. They are following the CADF model already established for this purpose.

As a result of the news published by the UCI in recent days, some of you may be wondering why there should be an analysis being made by the UCI to investigate future collaboration with the International Testing Agency (ITA). We of course cannot underestimate the constantly evolving landscape that exists in sport, but it nevertheless comes as a surprise to us that such a decision would be initiated without a comprehensive consultation period with the cycling community. In any case, it must be the cycling community to make a decision, which needs to be based on facts and reason, and not rushed.

While we take nothing away from the work of the ITA, which is already benefiting some sports organisations, and Major Event Organisers (MEO), the CADF is without doubt best positioned to continue to serve anti-doping in cycling with the dedication, expertise and integrity that have been the foundation of its work since its establishment. The organisation possesses full knowledge of the sport across all disciplines and is led by a team of highly competent experts in their field who produce outstanding results, as recognised by UCI itself.

We invest significantly in all our programmes, including intelligence and investigations and the athlete biological passport, with dedicated staff and innovative tools at our disposal, across each area. The CADF has always engaged with its stakeholders to ensure that it delivers the best for the sport. The team has established excellent relationships with all cycling stakeholders and has established real credibility not only throughout the cycling community but globally with The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and National Anti-Doping Agencies and relevant national law enforcement authorities, as was the case for the work of the CADF with the Aderlass issue.

The CADF has worked tirelessly to create a solid foundation and instill confidence by cycling's stakeholders in its work, for the protection of the sport. The position of the UCI has been made public with a timeline having been identified for its assessments. A decision on the future of the cycling anti-doping programme could be made in February 2020.

However, with a possibility of changes, it is now up to the cycling community to assess whether the risk of change is for the good of the sport. We want the community to have its voice heard about the future of anti-doping in its sport, and we invite any interested party to contact us at any time via email at [christophe.misteli@cadf.ch](mailto:christophe.misteli@cadf.ch), CADF Board Secretary. We are ready to listen to your concerns and suggestions as we continue to work hard for the benefit of cycling.

Thank you,

The Cycling Anti-Doping Foundation Board