SUMMARY OF
THE IOC DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATIONS
REGARDING THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF AUSTRIA
(ÖSTERREICHISCHES OLYMPISCHES COMITÉ – ÖOC)

1. On the night of 18 February 2006, the Italian police discovered various medical equipment and substances in the accommodation of Austrian cross-country and biathlon athletes and support staff.

2. The IOC President subsequently established a Disciplinary Commission (the IOC DC), comprising Dr Thomas BACH (Chairman), Mr Denis OSWALD (member) and Mr Sergey BUBKA (member), to investigate whether any violations of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules applicable to the Torino Olympic Games (the IOC Anti-Doping Rules) had been committed.

3. The IOC DC first recommended, and the IOC Executive Board decided, that the athletes, Roland DIETHART, Johannes EDER, Jurgen PINTER, Martin TAUBER, Wolfgang PERNER and Wolfgang ROTTMANN, had committed anti-doping rule violations. In particular, they were found to have been in the possession of materials for the carrying out of blood transfusions and the artificial manipulation of blood haemoglobin levels in violation of Article 2.6.1 of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules (categories M1(a) and M2(b) of Article 2.6.3 of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules). In addition, Messrs PERNER and ROTTMANN were found to have possessed the prohibited substances hCG and albumin in violation of Article 2.6.1 of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules (categories S2(3) and S5 of Article 2.6.3). Mr EDER was also found to have given himself an infusion of saline in violation of Article 2.2 of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules.

4. Furthermore, the volume and nature of the material discovered, as well as the openness of the accommodation, was, among other things, found by the IOC DC to evidence significant collusion within the Austrian team, involving not only the athletes, but also coaches, trainers, management and medical personnel.

5. The IOC DC will continue its inquiries, in conjunction with the Italian authorities, in order to determine the full parameters of this collusion, including, but not limited to, determining the level of involvement of the team director, Markus GANDLER, the team doctor, Dr Peter BAUMGARTL and Walter MAYER. In addition, the IOC DC is still considering the case of the Liechtenstein cross-country skier, Markus HASLER, who was affiliated with the Austrian cross-country team.

6. While inquiries will continue in relation to the above named individuals, as well as others that are suspected of involvement, the evidence that is currently before the IOC DC is sufficient to allow it to make recommendations in relation to the responsibility of the Austrian Olympic Committee (Österreichisches Olympisches Comité, hereinafter referred to as ÖOC), which was called before the IOC DC on the grounds that it was suspected of having violated Article 2.8 of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules.
7. Notwithstanding the strong warning issued to it after the 2002 “Blood Bag Affair”, and the sanctions handed down against various members of its delegation at the Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games, the ÖOC breached its obligations under the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics and applicable anti-doping regulations:

1. through its responsibility for the conduct of the Austrian Ski Federation, as well as for the anti-doping rule violations committed by its athletes and support staff at the Torino Olympic Games, in breach of Rules 28(2.2), 28(2.6) and 44 of the Olympic Charter, By-Law 2.2 to Rules 28 and 29 of the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics and Article 2.8 of the IOC Anti-Doping rules;

2. by failing to prevent Mr MAYER from participating in the Torino Olympic Games in breach of the IOC’s decision against Mr MAYER after the “Blood Bag Affair” in violation of Rules 28(2.2), 28(2.6) and 44 of the Olympic Charter, By-Law 2.2 to Rules 28 and 29 of the Olympic Charter, the IOC Code of Ethics, Chapter II, Article 1 of the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code and Articles 2.8 and 14.1 of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules; and

3. by failing to implement appropriate organisational changes in an attempt to prevent a repeat of the problems experienced in 2002 in breach of Rules 28(2.2), 28(2.6) and 44 of the Olympic Charter and the IOC Code of Ethics.

8. As a result, the IOC DC recommends to the IOC Executive Board:

1. To suspend the National Olympic Committee of Austria from receiving or applying for any grants or subsidies, whether direct or indirect, from the IOC in the amount of one million United States Dollars (US$ 1,000,000.-).

2. The National Olympic Committee of Austria be ordered to finalise its investigations into this matter and its internal organisation and to demonstrate to the IOC Executive Board no later than 30 June 2008 the results of its investigation and the organisational changes that have been implemented.

3. The National Olympic Committee of Austria be ordered to ensure that the terms of all related decisions are fully implemented, particularly in relation to the non-eligibility of certain persons for future Olympic Games.

4. The file be referred to the Fédération Internationale de Ski and the International Biathlon Union so that they may consider whether any action ought to be taken within their competence against the Austrian Ski Federation.