

Governance Guidelines of the International Partnership Against Corruption in Sport

1. Objectives of the International Partnership Against Corruption in Sport

The objectives of the International Partnership Against Corruption in Sport (hereafter referred to as “the Partnership”) are:

“To bring together international sports organisations, governments, international organisations, and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen and support efforts to reduce the risks of corruption and promote a culture of good governance in sport”.

2. Partnership Approach

The Partnership will draw from the mandates, technical expertise and experience of its Partners to prevent and fight corruption in sport and enhance a culture of good governance in sport.

All Partners will be jointly committed to its success, placing emphasis on the added value of their coordinated work and of collaborating to achieve common goals.

The Partnership will operate in an inclusive, coherent and transparent manner.

The Partnership will regularly review its work and areas of focus to ensure its contributions add-value to the fight against corruption in sport.

The Partnership will review the present guidelines two years from the time of their acceptance by the Steering Committee and thereafter, whenever deemed necessary.

3. Partnership Structure

The Partnership will be composed of Partners belonging to the following categories:

- States, which are State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (hereafter referred to as “States”);
- Sports organisations, in particular those of the Olympic Movement as defined by the Olympic Charter and;
- Intergovernmental organisations with expertise in the fight against corruption for which addressing corruption in sport is part of their mandates.

The bodies of the Partnership are:

- A Steering Committee, with a Chair;
- Task Forces;
- A Partnership Support Office;
- Annual General Conference.

4. Partners

Partners are committed to and responsible for the Partnership attaining its objectives and adhering to its working principles, in spirit and in practice.

Partners participate and contribute to the design and implementation of the Partnership's objectives and provide input and advice to the Annual General Conference, Steering Committee and to the Task Forces should they so wish.

Partners may provide, as appropriate, financial, technical or human resources by way of supporting the Partnership's bodies and related activities.

5. Participation of Observers

Any States, sports organisations and international organisations, and other relevant entities, which are not partners to IPACS, may be invited to attend meetings of the Task Forces, Steering Committee and/or the Annual General Conference.

Without taking part in the making of decisions, Observers may receive IPACS related documents and submit their views in writing in relation to the given meeting attended.

6. Decision-Making

The Partnership will endeavour to take all decisions by consensus. Decisions and appointments of the Partnership will be made by the Steering Committee.

If all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, decisions shall, as a last resort, be taken by a two-thirds majority of the Partners which form the Steering Committee who are present and voting.

7. Steering Committee

A. Composition

The Steering Committee shall be composed of representatives from all Partners as follows:

- the five founding partners of the Partnership, namely the Council of Europe, the International Olympic Committee, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; and
- four/five representatives of the States and four/five representatives from the partners from sports organisations, ensuring geographical representation as much as possible. These eight/ten Steering Committee members will be designated by the Annual General Conference every two years, renewable once.

B. Chair

A Chair will be elected amongst the partners involved in the Steering Committee for the period of two years.

The Chair will have primary responsibility for:

- Working with Partners to identify priorities and opportunities for action by the Partnership;
- Convening meetings of the Partnership, in particular those of its Steering Committee and its Annual General Conference;
- Facilitating regular interaction between the Partners and promoting consensus among them in all aspects of its functioning and work

C. Missions

The Steering Committee will:

- provide overall guidance to the work of the Partnership, including by developing an annual workplan;
- review the work of the Task Forces, in particular before the publication of their deliverables, and, as necessary, adopt new or update existing Terms of References of the various Task Forces;
- determine the establishment, aims and composition of new Task Forces;
- support dissemination, awareness raising and implementation of the Partnership's work.

The Steering Committee should endeavour to meet four times per year, virtually or in person when needed.

8. Task Forces

Task Forces will focus on specific issues¹ and deliver results, as mandated by the Steering Committee in the Task Forces' Terms of Reference. Deliverables may include technical advice, studies, tools, mechanisms and guidelines for adoption by the Steering Committee.

The Task Forces will, over time, adapt and develop their focus, composition and working methods in line with the terms of reference and other decisions of the Steering Committee.

The composition of Task Forces will be drawn from and coordinated by Partners, as appropriate and decided by the Steering Committee. Task Forces may also consider inviting experts on an ad-hoc basis to participate in the Task Forces' discussions.

The Task Forces will be reviewed periodically by the Steering Committee.

9. Partnership Support Office

The International Olympic Committee and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime shall provide the necessary secretariat services to the Annual General Conference and Steering Committee, including:

- assisting Partners in providing information relevant to the work of the Partnership;
- ensure circulation of all supporting documentation relevant to the various meetings;
- providing the necessary support for the organisation of all the meetings (providing the date, location of the meetings, agenda, minutes).

The Chair and the Partnership Support Office will meet remotely on a regular basis to ensure effective coordination of the working operations of the Partnership.

10. Annual General conference

The Annual General Conference will gather all the partners, the observers and other relevant entities as appropriate.

The purpose of the Annual General Conference will be to raise awareness of the Partnership's work; explore ways to further enhance collaboration; identify emerging challengers; and to promote the adoption and/or implementation of the Partnership's various outputs.

The Annual General Conference will take place in any possible format: in person, remote or hybrid.

¹ The terms of references of the IPACS Task Forces are available on www.ipacs.sport

11. Funding

Partners are not required or expected to fund the partnership.

Partners can make available, on a voluntary basis, and as appropriate, financial, technical or human resources, as well as in-kind contributions (such as hosting various IPACS meetings), for the benefit of the Partnership.

Resources are to be made available on a case-by-case basis for the benefit of specific activities, namely those required by the different Task Forces, and should be made available through their respective coordinators in accordance with their financial principles, regulations and rules.

12. Joining the Partnership

Partners from the categories identified in section 3 above wishing to join the Partnership may do so by expressing their interest to the Partnership Support Office (to-contact-us@ipacs.sport).