

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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March 29, 2017

Mr. Travis Tygart
Chief Executive Officer
U.S. Anti-Doping Agency
5555 Tech Center Drive
Suite 200
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Dear Mr. Tygart:

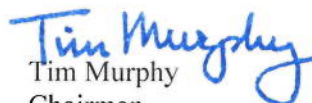
Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, to testify at the hearing entitled "Ways to Improve and Strengthen the International Anti-Doping System."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions and requests with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Wednesday, April 12, 2017. Your responses should be mailed to Elena Brennan, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Elena.Brennan@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Tim Murphy
Chairman

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: The Honorable Diana DeGette, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Attachment

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Tim Murphy

1. On March 1, the day after the Subcommittee’s hearing, Vladimir Putin pledged to establish an “independent” system in Russia to tackle doping. This system will transfer its anti-doping program from the nation’s sports ministry to an independent organization. Does the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) believe that this will adequately address the problems that occurred at Sochi and London?
 - a. If not, what other steps does USADA believe need to be taken to further improve the system?
2. With the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang less than a year away, is USADA confident that the systemic weaknesses identified before and after the Rio games will be addressed in advance of the games?
 - a. In addition, does USADA have confidence that all of the athletes implicated in the Russian doping scheme will be adequately tested leading up to and during competition?
 - b. What additional changes do you believe are necessary to ensure public confidence that the next Olympics will be a clean and fair competition?
3. Recently, an International Olympic Committee (IOC) Athlete’s Commission member described the current lack of sanctioning criteria for sporting organizations that fall foul of anti-doping rules “completely ridiculous.” Does USADA agree with this characterization? Please explain.
4. The IOC has suggested the establishment of an independent testing authority, separate from national interests. What is USADA’s opinion on this proposal?
 - a. Do national anti-doping organizations provide a valuable resource in the global fight against doping? If so, how?
 - b. Based on your experience, what more can be done to ensure that national anti-doping organizations remain independent and do not place national interests above their mission?
 - c. Based on USADA’s experience, would a centralized testing authority be financially and logistically feasible and/or practical? Please elaborate on any specific challenges or benefits to this model.

5. The IOC recently suggested that the Court of Arbitration in Sport (CAS) should be responsible for sanctioning athletes. What is USADA's reaction to and position regarding this proposal?
 - a. If CAS is responsible for issuing sanctions, how would an athlete appeal a sanction?
6. In your oral testimony before the Subcommittee you stated, "[w]e find ourselves at a critical juncture for the soul of sport." Please elaborate on that statement, particularly the "critical juncture" component, and explain why need for reform is so timely.
7. During the hearing Dr. Budgett testified that the IOC has already taken steps to invoke change with a governance structure review. This review, which includes independent experts as well as representatives from sport and government, is tasked with examining the total of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), including whether the executive board should be independent of both sport and government.

Your reaction to this statement seemed hopeful, yet pessimistic given your comment that "we've had 2-plus years for that move to be made and athletes are still waiting for some change..." Since the hearing, have you seen any progress with regard to changing the governance structure at WADA? Do you believe that the IOC review will ultimately effectuate change in the governance structure of WADA? Please explain.