PRESS RELEASE

AIU UPDATE ON DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST ATHLETES ASSERTED TO HAVE BREACHED ANTI-DOPING RULES DURING THE TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

12 AUGUST 2021, MONACO: In accordance with the IOC Anti-Doping Rules and the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules, the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) has commenced disciplinary proceedings to determine any consequences beyond the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games to be imposed upon four (4) track and field athletes who are asserted to have committed anti-doping rules violations following testing conducting by the International Testing Agency (ITA) during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

The ITA, who are responsible for testing at the Olympic Games on behalf of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), had asserted anti-doping rule violations and provisionally suspended, the athletes listed below, during the Games.

1. Sadik Mikhou (BRN) – 1500m - Presence/use of a Prohibited Method (Blood Transfusion)
2. Benik Abramyan (GEO) – Shot Put - Presence/use of a Prohibited Substance (DHCMT, Metandienone, Tamoxifen)
3. Mark Otieno Odhiambo (KEN) – 100m - Presence/use of a Prohibited Substance (Methasterone)

Following the conclusion of the Tokyo Olympic Games, the doping control laboratory in Tokyo also notified the ITA of an additional Adverse Analytical Finding from testing conducted during the Games:

4. Chijindu Ujah (GBR) – 4X100m - Presence/use of a Prohibited Substance (Ostarine and S-23)

The AIU worked closely with the ITA during the Games and provided the intelligence to carry out specific target testing on two of the four athletes.

The AIU now awaits the conclusion of the ITA proceedings against the above athletes, which will determine whether any anti-doping rule violations have been committed and what consequences (if any) should be imposed in relation to the Olympic Games. Any consequences beyond the Olympic Games to be imposed upon the athletes under the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules will be determined following the conclusion of the ITA proceedings.

The AIU has also been notified of another Adverse Analytical Finding for Kenya's Odhiambo. On 2 August, the WADA-accredited laboratory in Bloemfontein (RSA), confirmed an Adverse Analytical Finding in a sample collected on 24 June by the Anti-Doping Agency of Kenya (ADAK). Upon request, ADAK immediately handed over the case management responsibility for the ADAK sample to the AIU. The determination of consequences for the ADAK sample will also follow the conclusion of the ITA proceedings against Odhiambo.

To track the disciplinary proceedings against the concerned athletes, please check our Disciplinary Process pages here.
About the Athletics Integrity Unit

The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) is the independent body created by the World Athletics that manages all integrity issues - both doping and non-doping - for the sport of athletics. The remit of the AIU includes anti-doping, the pursuit of individuals engaged in age or competition results manipulation, investigating fraudulent behaviour with regards to transfers of allegiance, and detecting other misconduct including bribery and breaches of betting rules. It is the AIU’s role to drive cheats out of our sport, and to do everything within its power to support honest athletes around the world who dedicate their lives to reaching their sporting goals through dedication and hard work.

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