Press Release

NIJEL AMOS OF BOTSWANA PROVISIONALLY SUSPENDED AFTER TESTING POSITIVE

12 JULY, MONACO: The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) has today provisionally suspended Nijel Amos of Botswana with immediate effect after a sample collected from the 800m runner tested positive for Metabolites of GW1516, a substance that is prohibited under the 2022 WADA Prohibited List as a metabolic modulator. Substances in this category modify how the body metabolizes fat and GW1516 was originally synthesized and evaluated for the treatment of obesity, diabetes and other disorders caused by metabolic problems. GW1516 is not an approved substance for human use and WADA has advised of its health risks for athletes.

GW1516 is a non-Specified Substance on the 2022 WADA Prohibited list and a provisional suspension is mandatory following an adverse analytical finding for such substance under the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules.

The AIU collected the sample from Mr Amos during an out-of-competition test on the 4 June 2022. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)-accredited laboratory that analysed the sample notified the AIU of the adverse analytical finding today, 12 July 2022.

The athlete was notified of the adverse analytical finding and his mandatory provisional suspension this afternoon in Eugene. He was scheduled to participate in the 800m heats on 20 July.

The AIU will make no further comment on the matter at this time.

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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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