

Joint Media Release

Cambodia Marked the First UNESCO Funded Anti-Doping Education Workshop for Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel: with support from JADA and SEA RADO

The Cambodia Anti-Doping Agency (CADA) marked the first education and information session as part of their UNESCO Anti-Doping Fund with the support of the Southeast Asia Regional Anti-Doping Organization (SEA RADO) and the Japan Anti-Doping Agency (JADA).

Over 3-days, the Cambodia Anti-Doping Education Workshop in Phnom Penh was attended by a total of around 300 athletes and athlete support personnel. The workshop was delivered and facilitated by Mr. Gobi Nair, Director General of SEA RADO, and Dr. Mayumi YaYa Yamamoto, Senior Manager of Education & Planning and Policy & Strategy of JADA, as part of their MOU and also as JADA's "Sport for Tomorrow" project.

In his opening speech for the workshop, H.E. Mr. Sean Borath, State Secretary of Education, Youth and Sport of Cambodia, remarked to all the participants by saying: "this is a very significant moment for Cambodian sport and the people in Cambodia. I do hope that you learn from the workshop and gain the knowledge."

In the first two days, the participants comprised of Cambodia national coaches, the staff of National Sports Training Centre and National Sport Administrators and for the first time, they were exposed to the rules-based anti-doping information.



Day 3 was attended by around 200 national athletes training at the National Sports Training Centre. It was intended not only to bring the awareness of athletes towards anti-doping but also to the values in sport.

In the beginning of workshop, Mr. Ith Leng, Chief of CADA, introduced the newly created CADA and illustrated how CADA cooperates with SEA RADO and other NADOs like JADA. He emphasised that “CADA is created to ensure meeting the global anti-doping programme and to protect the Cambodian athletes from doping as well as to increase the values in sport in Cambodia”.



The basic anti-doping information was covered and Mr. Nair and Dr. Yamamoto spoke on the development of global and regional anti-doping programme and also introduced the available resources and possible anti-doping programme development. It has been stressed that the significance of values in and through sport and the participants were put in the groups to discuss the actual education and information programme.



In Day 1 and Day 2, the participants worked in groups and discussed about their roles and responsibilities. Many of the national coaches presented from their discussions mentioned: “we will have to start the programme immediately and we can disseminate ‘Play True’ message and anti-doping information to the athletes, fellow coaches and administrators.”



The final workshop was the highlight. The national athletes presented their discussion outputs on the topic of the importance of sport for themselves and for Cambodia.

A Taekwondo athlete presented that: “whether or not obtaining medals, we would like to be remembered that we show our friendship and solidarity to the competitors and spectators from other countries, as well as, building good communication with smiles, therein the Cambodian athletes can contribute through sport to the society.”



In closing ceremony, H.E. Mr. Sean Borath congratulated all the participants stressing: “it was the first time Cambodia is concerned seriously about doping issues in sport by holding this workshop. For 2023 SEA Games, we would like to improve the anti-doping activities in close collaboration with SEA RADO and JADA”.

Mr. Ponn Sok, Director of National Training Centre, also commented: “working closely with SEA RADO and JADA, this workshop was made possible. It was a significant step for Cambodia and we would like to continue collaborating to develop anti-doping programme and maintain contact with those participants.”

CADA plans to develop the anti-doping policy in line with the 2015 World Anti-Doping Code and develop its capacity for education/information programme, doping control and TUE and Result Management.



About:

Cambodia Anti-Doping Agency (CADA)

Cambodia signed the Copenhagen Declaration on 24 June 2005 and CADA was founded in 2013 under the National Training Centre of Cambodia, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport. CADA will implement the anti-doping information and education programme, doping control test and the committees for TUE and Result Management.

Japan Anti-Doping Agency (JADA)

The Japan Anti-Doping Agency (JADA) was founded in 2001 as the cooperative effort of all stakeholders in Japan. Supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), JADA endeavours to lead the anti-doping activity with its key activity areas of education, awareness raising, communications, research, doping control and the JADA Sports Pharmacist Program. It strives to promote and strengthened a value-based education programme in Japan in view of development of people and society through sport. "Sport for Tomorrow" is commissioned by the Japanese Government as part of Tokyo 2020's legacy project.

<http://www.playtruejapan.org/>

Southeast Asia Regional Anti-Doping Organization (SEA RADO)

The Southeast Asia Regional Anti-Doping Organization (SEA RADO) was established by National Olympic Committees (NOCs) and Government representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Timor-Leste, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam with the assistance of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) on 30 November 2006 in Doha, Qatar. The SEA RADO office is currently hosted in Singapore.

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