



UNESCO – MINEPS VI

Preparations (Working Group)

ABSTRACT

MAIN POLICY AREA (theme 3)

– *Protecting the Integrity of Sport*

GAPS IDENTIFIED:

- The lack of adoption, implementation and independent assessment of international standards on good governance, financial integrity, and sport betting integrity;
- The lack of training, education and capacity building support systems to foster the implementation of the SIGA Universal Standards; and
- The lack of an independent, objective, supra parties, assessment and supervision.

PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL ACTION:

- Support and participate in the development of the *Sport Integrity Global Alliance (SIGA)* as an independent, neutral, multi-stakeholder coalition.
- To participate in the development, adoption and implementation of the SIGA Universal Standards on Good Governance, Financial Integrity and Sports Betting Integrity.

KEY WORDS

– SIGA (*Sport Integrity Global Alliance*), Good Governance, Financial Integrity, Sport Betting Integrity; Sport's ethics and values; multi-sectorial, cross-sectorial, training, education and capacity building, assessment and oversight.

SOURCE

– SIGA

REGIONAL SCOPE

– Global

LANGUAGE

– English

Open data / URL

– <http://\siga-sport.com>



SYNOPSIS

In November 2015, a group of 20 leading organisations from the world of sport, government, business, international organisations and civil society, gathered, for the first time ever, to discuss the crisis of integrity facing the sector of sport, and the consequent need for reform.

From this initial meeting, an informal coalition – a coalition of the concerned - has evolved and expanded, including 100 leading global organisations, including representation from the sports sector, governments and inter-governmental institutions, NGOs, sponsors, broadcasters and various academics and experts. This informal coalition, the first of its kind, is referred to as the *Sport Integrity Global Alliance*, or SIGA.

SIGA works towards a vision of sport played and governed under the highest integrity standards, free from any form of unethical, illicit and criminal activity, to safeguard sports values and ensure its positive impact and benefits to all citizens.

The mission of SIGA is to provide global leadership, promote good governance and safeguard the integrity of sport through a set of universal standards operated by an independent, neutral and global body.

The vision and mission will continue to be informed by stakeholder inputs to ensure it reflects the needs and intent of the founding members.

Over the past twelve months, SIGA has held various General Assemblies, taking place in 2016 in London (February), Madrid (April), Paris (June) and Cascais (September). During these various General Assemblies, important milestones and concrete action has been taken, including the following:

- The formal launch of SIGA as a global, independent and neutral sport integrity coalition;
- The signing of the Declaration of Core Principles on Sport Integrity;
- The unanimous approval of SIGA's Statement of Intent ;
- The approval of the SIGA Concept Note, outlining the vision, mission, key strategic priorities and organisational structure;
- The creation of task forces to develop the SIGA statutes, governance model and business plan, and conduct the respective consultation processes;
- The appointment of the SIGA ad interim Council & Coordinator;
- The appointment of the Co-Chairs of the SIGA Steering Groups, Sponsors & Media Committee and Comms Working Group;
- Approval of the SIGA Universal Standards on Good Governance in Sport, Financial Integrity and Sports Betting Integrity; and
- Approval of the SIGA Statutes and incorporation of SIGA as a legal entity.

SIGA supporters have built a common ground, recognising and supporting:

- a) The urgent need for fundamental reforms in sport, rooted in the core concepts of democracy, transparency, accountability, integrity and stakeholder representation, sine qua non condition for the recognition of the principle of autonomy of sport;



- b) The growth, advancement and success of the sport sector, and commitment to encourage the swift and immediate execution of core reforms that advance and ensure for the future the highest standards of good governance, financial integrity and sports betting integrity; and
- c) The need for reforms that reflect a strong and wholly credible commitment to preserve the integrity and essence of sport and its future, for the highest benefit to society and the economy;

SIGA is designed as an international, independent, neutral voluntary membership-based organisation, comprising of five categories of stakeholders (sport organisations, international organisations, governments, business sector and civil society).

Supporters of SIGA are united by an *Aspirational Statement*, a *Declaration of Core Principles on Sport Integrity (Core Principles)*, and corresponding *Universal Standards* that aim to usher sport into a new era of transparency, accountability and integrity in sport.

The SIGA Universal Standards are focused on 3 (three) core areas for action: *Good Governance*, *Financial Integrity* and *Sports Betting Integrity*.

The SIGA Universal Standards are now under external consultation process.



MAIN POLICY AREA (theme 3) – Protecting the integrity of sport

SPECIFIC POLICY AREAS

- III.1 Good governance of sports organisations
- III.3 Fight against manipulation of sports competitions
- III.4 Protection of participants, spectators and workers
- III.7 Prevention education and awareness raising

IDENTIFY GAPS and PROPOSE INTERNATIONAL ACTION:

In accordance with objectives set for MINEPS V follow-up, in particular the *Recommendations* of the *Declaration of Berlin*, it was concluded, under the *theme 3 – Protecting the integrity of sport –*, that *the sport sector needs to provide effective responses to concerns linked to phenomena such as doping, corruption, political exploitation and manipulation of sport competitions, which jeopardize the integrity and the ethical values of sport*. It is further added that ***concerted action and co-operation worldwide between relevant stakeholders at all levels is required to protect the integrity and potential benefits of sport***.

In light of these objectives and bearing in mind that one of the central methodological purposes is to present practical solutions, it is forward information relating to ***SIGA, the Sport Integrity Global Alliance***, cfr. annexes.

NORMS

(Berlin Declaration)

3.6 Stressing that efforts to protect the integrity of sport will be successful if they are shared by the whole Sport Movement, governments, the betting and other related industries, the media, athletes and their close entourage, and society at large;

3.11 Being convinced that better governance and strong and diverse role models in the Sport Movement can help create an environment in which the manipulation of sport competitions is unlikely, and where the social value of sport is fully realized;

3.17 Assume leadership in assessing the nature and scope of threats to the integrity of sport and developing appropriate policy to address these threats at national, regional and international levels;

3.19 Ensure, in accordance with national and international law, a collaborative, continual, effective and dynamic exchange of information among all stakeholder groups in securing integrity in sport;

3.22 Promote interdisciplinary research around the manipulation of sport competitions, particularly in criminal science, sport science, biotechnology, ethics, economics and law and use



the results of the scientific research for political consultation, prevention education and public awareness raising;

3.39 Establish or reinforce transparent, democratic decision-making structures to enhance integrity, accountability, equal treatment and sustainability;

3.42 Adopt binding good governance rules, which include:

a) measures to strengthen democratic structures and transparency at the level of federations and associations/clubs; individual actors, including sponsors and investors, must not use their influence to undermine the integrity of sport;

b) reliable and sound management of financial affairs (including salary payment according to work contract provisions);

3.41 Cooperate with governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions to develop an international prevention programme to preserve the integrity of sport, with a focus on training and education.

(International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport)

Article 10 of the Revised Charter: “Protection and promotion of the integrity and ethical values of physical education, physical activity and sport must be a constant concern for all”

*10.4 All organizations and institutions dealing with physical education, physical activity and sport must **implement principles of good governance**. These include transparent and democratic procedures for elections and decision-making, regular consultations with stakeholder groups, as well as clear provisions for the redistribution of funds, and the **rigorous enforcement of the principles of accountability and transparency**.*

10.7 Public authorities which contribute financial, material or other support to providers of physical education, physical activity and sport, have a right and duty to audit and control the proper use of the resources they have granted on behalf of society.

(SDG’s – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS – General Assembly resolution 70/1, “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”)

Sustainable Development Goal 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

35. Quality early education provides children with basic cognitive and language skills and fosters emotional development.

[SIGA Training, Education & Capacity Building]

Sustainable Development Goal 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and **build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**



106. Peace, justice and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions are at the core of sustainable development.

- End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children
- Reduce illicit financial flows and combat all forms of organized crime
- Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms
- Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
- Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels
- Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance

[SIGA Core Principles in Sport Integrity & SIGA Universal Standards on Good Governance in Sport and SIGA Universal Standards on Financial Integrity in Sport]

Sustainable Development Goal 17

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

117. Achieving the ambitious targets of the 2030 Agenda requires a revitalized and enhanced global partnership that brings together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizes all available resources.



ANNEXES

- SIGA Aspirational Statement
- SIGA Declaration of Core Principles on Sport Integrity
- SIGA List of Supporters