

NORDIC STATEMENT ON GOOD GOVERNANCE IN SPORT

The Nordic ministers for sport call for good governance in sport.

Corruption, mismanagement, doping and manipulation of sports competitions undermine the core values of sport and threaten the integrity of sport.

Investigations into mismanagement in international sports organisations, such as the ongoing investigations in relation to FIFA and IAAF, deal with serious criminal conduct. FIFA and IAAF and the sports movement at large face a tough task restoring public confidence.

The report *Sports Governance Observer 2015*, presented during the Play the Game 2015 conference in Denmark, identifies serious governance deficiencies in international Olympic sports federations with regard to four key areas of governance: Transparency and public communication, democratic processes, checks and balances and solidarity.

Weak democratic structures and control mechanisms increase vulnerability to corruption and mismanagement and undermine the credibility of international sports organisations.

We expect each international sports federation to initiate actions to rectify shortcomings identified in the report. The time for action is NOW.

The Olympic Agenda 2020 is an important step towards reforming international sport. We appreciate this important initiative, and we expect the Olympic Movement to follow up with concrete action.

It is particularly important to keep the costs and requirements of staging the Olympic Games and other major sports events at a reasonable level. We stress the importance of full transparency when awarding and implementing these events.

National and international sports organisations should work more actively to ensure gender balance in their governing bodies and structures. Gender balance is a key element in good governance.

We will address the need for good governance in sport in relevant international fora.

We will also discuss issues of good governance with sports organisations both nationally and internationally.

We consider it important to involve both former and current top level athletes in the promotion of good governance in sport.