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FACT SHEET

A to 9516403

AUSTRALIAN ANTI-DOPING RESEARCH FUNDING**Guidelines for Applicants**Background

Under the *Backing Australia's Sporting Ability - A More Active Australia* policy, funds have been allocated for new anti-drugs research. In the 2002-3 financial year there is up to \$700,000 available for new anti-doping research to improve the analytical capability of detecting banned substances and doping agents. Further funds will be available for the 2003-4 and 2004-5 financial years.

An Anti-Doping Research Panel (ADRP) has been formed to coordinate the allocation of this research funding and to monitor the progress of funded projects. The ADRP comprises a 6-person panel with members from the Australian Sports Drug Agency, Australian Sports Commission/Australian Institute of Sport, Australian Government Analytical Laboratory/Australian Sports Drug Testing Laboratory, as well as two non-government scientific experts. The ADRP is chaired by a representative of the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

The *Backing Australia's Sporting Ability* policy provides funding specifically for 'new research to reveal those using currently undetectable drugs and masking techniques'. In considering priority areas for funding this financial year, the ADRP has taken into account the research priorities of the World Anti-Doping Agency, and is seeking funding applications in the range of \$150,000 to \$300,000 for the priority areas described in selection criterion 6(a) below. The ADRP will also consider applications for up to \$50,000 that address selection criterion 6(b) below.

Selection Criteria

The following five criteria are mandatory, and must be satisfied for an application to be considered further.

1. The application must demonstrate that the proposed research project provides value for money.
2. The application must demonstrate that the research organisation:
 - a) has a clear knowledge and understanding of the proposed project, and the expertise and equipment to undertake it;
 - b) is financially viable;
 - c) is willing and able to comply with Commonwealth Government funding requirements (as evidenced in the Draft Funding Agreement).

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3. The application must demonstrate that the proposed project has been cleared through, or has been submitted for consideration by, a National Health and Medical Research Council specified ethics committee.
4. The application must demonstrate that the research funds will be fully expended in Australia (applicants may, however, collaborate with international organisations).
5. The application must identify the International Olympic Committee accredited laboratory(ies) that they will communicate or collaborate with to ensure that the new or modified detection protocols and methodologies developed by their research can be implemented by IOC accredited laboratories.

Applications that do not satisfy the above mandatory criteria will not be considered further.

The ADRP will make determinations on the allocation of anti-doping research funding based on its assessment of the extent to which the remaining research applications address the following criteria:

6. a) The extent to which the application is consistent with, and will make a relevant and useful contribution to, the following priority anti-doping research areas (funding range \$150,000 to \$300,000):
 - i. factors enhancing the oxygen carrying capacity of blood; and
 - ii. factors regulating and enhancing growth; or
- b) The ability of the application to demonstrate an understanding of research priorities in another relevant area of sport anti-doping research, and detail an innovative and relevant proposal for research in that area which the ADRP considers could lead to new and/or improved detection methodologies (funding limit \$50,000).
7. The ability of the applicant to demonstrate the scientific robustness of the proposed research project to the satisfaction of the ADRP and any independently appointed reviewers.
8. The ability of the applicant to demonstrate that other funds or 'in kind' support have been committed to the project.

The ADRP will be selecting projects for funding in accordance with these Guidelines and Selection Criteria.

Selection Process

Applicants must complete the application form and all requested attachments with reference to these Guidelines and Selection Criteria.

The attached draft Deed of Agreement is indicative of the type of Agreement that applicants will be expected to sign if they are successful in being offered funding. Any offer of funding will be subject to the applicant agreeing to comply with the terms and conditions stipulated in the Agreement. It is therefore important that you

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read the Agreement, and bring to our attention any provision on which you may wish to negotiate. However, it is not possible in some cases for the Commonwealth to make changes to suit a recipient.

Applications must be addressed to Peter Nettlefold, and returned to the Sport and Public Sector Support Branch of the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, GPO Box 2154 Canberra 2601 by no later than 18 November 2002.

Applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of the selection process.

Contact officer: Peter Nettlefold

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