IPACS
INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CORRUPTION IN SPORT

Meeting of the IPACS Steering Committee

Friday, 2 October 2026, 10:30-12:00 CEST

Olympic House, Lausanne, Switzerland

Meeting minutes

1. Welcome remarks and introduction to candidates for the 2027-2028 Steering Committee

- The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed participants attending in Lausanne and online, including the proposed members of the 2027-2028 Steering Committee present as observers.
- An apology was noted from a Steering Committee member who was unable to attend owing to a family matter. The Steering Committee conveyed its best wishes to the member and their family.
- The Chair recalled the principal outcomes of the previous meeting: the introduction of several proposed members of the 2027-2028 Steering Committee; approval of the revised IPACS Governance Guidelines; adoption of the initial Terms of Reference for IPACS Governance Ambassadors and Governance Champions; and preparations for the Annual General Conference.
- The agenda was adopted without amendment. The minutes of the previous Steering Committee meeting were also approved without amendment. The Chair reminded observers that the minutes are prepared in accordance with the Chatham House Rule and published on the IPACS website.

2. General updates from Steering Committee members

- An update was provided on two motions approved by the Swiss National Council. The motions would require the removal from the Sports Promotion Ordinance of provisions linking public funding for sports clubs and federations to, among other governance requirements, balanced gender representation in governing bodies and term limits. It was noted that the change would take effect if the Council of States also approved the motions.
- An update was provided on work relating to competition manipulation. It was reported that 50 countries had been identified as having criminalised competition manipulation, following the recent identification of relevant legislation in the United Arab Emirates.
- The publication of a report from an expert roundtable on corruption in sport was announced. The report, also available in Spanish, covers illegal betting, competition manipulation and money laundering.
- It was further shared that work was being developed with the European Commission on a project concerning money laundering in football. Interested IPACS Partners would be invited to contribute. Relevant resolutions arising from the ongoing United Nations General Assembly would also be shared with the Partnership where appropriate.

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3. Consideration of Terms of Reference for IPACS Governance Ambassadors and Champions

- The Steering Committee reconsidered the Terms of Reference following discussion by the Good Governance Task Force. On the recommendation of the Task Force, the provision allowing an indefinite appointment for Governance Ambassadors had been replaced by a maximum term of eight years. No other changes were proposed.
- Members welcomed the introduction of the term limit as consistent with the principles promoted through IPACS good governance recommendations.
- The importance of monitoring implementation was emphasised, particularly in view of the different functions envisaged for Governance Ambassadors and Governance Champions. It was agreed that implementation should remain under review by the Steering Committee and the Good Governance Task Force.
- **Decision:** The amended Terms of Reference for IPACS Governance Ambassadors and Governance Champions were approved.

4. Consideration and approval of IPACS Annual General Conference documents

- The final annual activity reports of the AI Working Group, the Cooperation Task Force and the Good Governance Task Force were presented. The reports respectively summarised the preparation of the Fact Sheet on AI and Corruption in Sport; work on the Guide on the Prosecution of Bribery in Sport and the related webinar organised with UNODC and the International Association of Prosecutors; and efforts to disseminate the IPACS Sport Governance Benchmark & Guidelines Handbook, including translations and the development of a strategic dissemination roadmap.
- The Good Governance Task Force report also recognised dissemination initiatives undertaken by IPACS Partners and cooperation with intergovernmental organisations, and outlined activities for the coming year.
- The IPACS Partner Report 2026 was presented. In addition to outlining changes in the number and regional representation of Partners since October 2025, the report described how the Partnership's growth had supported expanded activities, including dissemination of the Handbook, development of the AI Fact Sheet and the webinar on the prosecution of bribery in sport. It also addressed the opportunities and challenges associated with the forthcoming renewal of the Steering Committee.
- No amendments were requested to the three activity reports. In relation to the Partner Report, a member welcomed the Partnership's growth while encouraging greater participation by government organisations, noting the important role of governments in multiplying efforts against corruption in sport.
- **Decision:** The annual activity reports of the AI Working Group, Cooperation Task Force and Good Governance Task Force, together with the IPACS Partner Report 2026, were approved for presentation at the Annual General Conference.

5. Preparations for the 9th IPACS Annual General Conference

- The Support Office presented the final programme and practical arrangements for the Annual General Conference taking place that afternoon in the same room and online.
- The programme would include opening remarks, followed by thematic sessions on good governance, cooperation between criminal justice authorities and sports organisations, and AI and corruption in sport. An audience question-and-answer session would allow participants to address questions to speakers from the three thematic sessions.
- The final substantive session would present the proposed 2027-2028 Steering Committee and announce the incoming IPACS Chair. Proposed members would have an opportunity to make brief remarks following their designation.
- Information was also provided on seating, session changeovers, the coffee break and lunch arrangements. No further questions were raised.

6. Consideration of new Task Force experts

- The Steering Committee considered the candidature of a representative of the Japanese Olympic Committee for both the Good Governance Task Force and the Cooperation Task Force.
- Following clarification that the candidature covered both Task Forces, no objections were raised.
- **Decision:** The candidature was approved for both the Good Governance Task Force and the Cooperation Task Force.

8. Closing of the meeting

- The Chair confirmed that the arrangements for the Annual General Conference were clear and invited participants to continue informal discussions over lunch before reconvening for the Conference.
- The Chair thanked participants and closed the meeting.