The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

WADA Votes to Reinstate Russia's Anti-Doping Authority

By Reuters

September 20, 2018

Mikhail Djaparidze / TASS

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has voted, subject to certain conditions, to lift the ban on Russia's anti-doping authority (RUSADA), which was suspended in 2015 following allegations of widespread state-sponsored doping.

In a widely-expected but heavily-criticised decision, WADA said that one of the key sticking points — access to stored urine samples at RUSADA's Moscow laboratory — still needed to be provided.

The suspension could be reintroduced if this did not happen within "a clear timeline," it added.

"Today, the great majority of the WADA Executive Committee (EXCO) decided to reinstate RUSADA as compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code, subject to strict conditions," WADA

President Craig Reedie said following a meeting in the Seychelles.

Related article: Director of Russia's Anti-Doping Agency Says Chances for Reinstatement Low

RUSADA was suspended in November 2015 after an independent WADA report carried out by Canadian lawyer Richard McLaren outlined evidence of massive state-backed, systematic doping in Russian athletics.

The allegations, which Moscow has denied, led to Russia being banned from this year's winter Olympics in South Korea with some Russian athletes permitted to compete under the Olympic flag.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2018/09/20/wada-votes-to-reinstate-russias-anti-doping-authority-a62948