WHAT NATIONAL NETWORKS IN THE EU TO FIGHT AGAINST MATCH-FIXING?

DENMARK SEMINAR SYNTHESIS

26 June 2013

Brondby (Denmark)
Main issues raised during the seminar:

Level of match-fixing risk and awareness:
- The match-fixing risk in Denmark is considered by the participants as low;
- Denmark didn’t really face a match-fixing case till now (but two second division football players admitted to have bet against their team);
- According to participants, awareness about match-fixing issues still has to be improved. There is a strong need of quantification to prove that match-fixing is a huge problem for sport. Facts and figures showed by Iris are concrete and useful but there is a need of a worldwide watchdog;
- According to most participants, there is still a certain lack of information, education and prevention about match-fixing in Denmark;
- For many participants, Internet related risks are underestimated within the country. It is therefore important to inform stakeholders about the weaknesses of the KYC (Know Your Customer) principle from the time that many betting operators offer bets illegally.

Who has to fight against match-fixing?
- In Denmark, public authorities formally recognize sports autonomy. The cooperation between the sports movement and public bodies appears to work quite well. The sports movement seems to be ready to accept public intervention in case of public order risks;
- The role of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) and Sports Confederation of Denmark (DIF : Danmarks Idrætsforbund) seems to be very important regarding the match-fixing issues: the DIF is in charge of the elaboration of model rules and disciplinary sanctions’ drafted for all the sports federations. Those regulations (“Prohibition against manipulation of sports competitions and similar unethical conduct”) have been finalised and entered into in May 2013. This procedure seems to be quite efficient in Denmark: all the sports bodies generally follow the guidelines determined by the DIF. If not, they might face financial sanctions. Denmark seems to be ready to sign the EPAS convention against match-fixing; Several questions have been raised about this convention: agenda, questions on the position of other countries about a specific criminal offence, etc.;
- Denmark has a very pragmatic approach concerning an international structure on sports integrity: participants are not strictly against this possibility but call for a flexible, operational and low cost organisation.

Match-fixing and betting:
- In Denmark, most of the participants have a quite good knowledge about betting;
- For most of the participants, betting restrictions is a secondary issue: The key point focuses on an effective fight against illegal betting. Since Denmark implemented its new regulation (2012), several participants are sorry that the State doesn’t really use all the possible enforcement measures regarding this issue, in particular Internet and payment blocking. Danish Regulatory Authority explains all the work achieved within a specific document sent after the meeting. Today, the illegal online gambling market can be estimated under 5% of the total.
**Measures to protect sports integrity:**

- Participants give overwhelming support to education and information measures. The Danish football association (DBU) has already appointed a national integrity officer (in relation with UEFA) and has been developing its own education programme. The DIF had initiated education sessions a year and a half ago and considers a reinforced education plan as from next September/October;

- Participants think that sports actors ("actors" defined in the DIF Regulations VIII as "liable persons") should at least not bet on their own match. The DIF is currently implementing stricter rules and ban bets on players’ own competitions. The football board still has to validate this choice;

- More generally, the DIF determined several rules about match-fixing issues (betting prohibitions, insider information disclosure, whistle-blowing, sanctions, including temporary suspension in case of strong grounds, etc.) and established a match-fixing secretariat. As it has been said, all the federations follow these model rules;

- In Denmark, the general legislation on fraud is used for sports corruption. Let’s notice that the DIF advocates for a specific criminal offence regarding match-fixing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Existing (Yes / No)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Betting: Fight against illegal betting</td>
<td>YES but not sufficient (good advertising ban, quite moderate Internet and payment blocking)</td>
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<td>Betting: Authorised list of bets</td>
<td>NO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Betting: Other restrictions (pay out, stakes)</td>
<td>NO (but Danske Spil implements self-limitations, for example on live betting)</td>
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<td>Sport: Education programs</td>
<td>In progress (football) - DIF: strategy as from next autumn</td>
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<td>Betting prohibition for sport actors</td>
<td>- Responsible guidelines and sanctions determined by the DIF;</td>
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<td>- Prohibition to bet on its own competition to be improved by DBU (football)</td>
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<td>Conflicts of interest: Disclosure of inside information</td>
<td>Responsible guidelines and sanctions determined by the DIF (use and disclosure of insider information)</td>
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<td>Integrity officer</td>
<td>- YES for football</td>
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<td>Sport: Prohibition to control betting operators</td>
<td>NO</td>
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<td>Criminal offence &amp; Sanctions</td>
<td>NO specific offence for sports fraud (Criminal Code on Frauds, art. 279)</td>
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<td>Betting: Prohibition to control sports when bets are offered</td>
<td>NO</td>
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<td>Contract between sport and betting</td>
<td>NO compulsory</td>
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<td>Intelligence and monitoring</td>
<td>YES (through Danske Spil / ELMS)</td>
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Next steps and recommendations:

- The participants asked for a summary that has to be sent by Iris after the seminar;
- Denmark may possibly look into the 5 following priority items:
  o Appointment of an “integrity officer” in each “big” sports organisation, not only in football;
  o Implementation of education programmes focusing on face-to-face (players, referees) and “train the trainers” (may be through a national sports coordination by the DIF);
  o Fight against illegal betting, in particular to avoid that punters leave towards .com sports betting websites;
  o Survey about a need of enhanced criminal disclosure on sports fraud (work to be done in cooperation between the DIF and the public authorities, and first of all the Police);
  o Developing enhanced cooperation between sports organisations and sports betting operators about betting expertise and betting related risks.
APPENDIX

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