

## **Australian Government To Launch Investigation Into Cycling Doping**

On Wednesday, the Australian government said it will be conducting a review of Cycling Australia over recent doping controversies for helping restore "confidence and trust" in the sport's national governing body.

Australian Sports Minister Kate Lundy remarked that James Wood, a former chairman of the New South Wales Law Reform Commission, will be performing the review and offering his recommendations to the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority in order to formulate and execute a uniform anti-doping code for all sports in the country.

The move follows the sacking or resignation of Australian cycling officials, Matt White and Stephen Hodge. The move follows the firing or resignation of Australian cycling officials Matt White and Stephen Hodge. While White was fired by after his name appeared in the United States Anti-Doping Agency's report against the disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong as one of the former teammates of Armstrong who used performance enhancing drugs, Hodge resigned after admitting to using performance enhancing drugs but was not implicated in the Lance Armstrong cycling scandal.

Lundy said in a statement that there have been very serious implications for Australian Cycling after the release of the explosive [United States Anti-Doping Agency](#) report that confirmed sophisticated doping programs infiltrated the sport at the elite level. Lundy added that it is important to move quickly to ensure the confidence and trust of the Australian public is restored in cycling's governing body for Cycling Australia and the thousands of competitive cyclists in Australia, in the wake of the resignation of the Australian officials involved in these doping programs.

A former chief judge in the Supreme Court of New South Wales, Wood, recently led an inquiry that resulted in the state adopting legislation for criminalizing match-fixing, Lundy said. She added that the review of Wood will evaluate the governance and administrative practices, including recruitment and employment, of Cycling Australia and Wood will also be examining the anti-doping policies of Cycling Australia and "advise on their effectiveness including any improvement that should be made."

The Dutch cycling federation meanwhile is poised to launch its own commission for investigating the "culture of doping" in the sport. The Royal Dutch Cycling Federation (KNWB) said professional cycling is in crisis and KNWB believes more can and must be done internationally and nationally. The KNWB said the commission will be established no later than November 30 and will make its findings public "no later than June 1 next year" and will be investigating the facts and findings in relation to the doping culture within Dutch cycling and added that it would then come up "with concrete suggestions on how to improve current measures to combat doping." KNWU president Marcel J.G. Wintels warned that cycling faces what he believes is the 'deepest crisis ever.' The Royal Dutch Cycling Federation KNWU recently sent a strong letter to UCI president Pat McQuaid and called for wide-sweeping action and reforms in the sport. It said the loss of Rabobank's backing of the WorldTour team, the [Lance Armstrong scandal](#), and UCI's response to the scandal are big issues.