

More Research Required To Catch Cheats, Says WADA Vice-President

World Anti-Doping Agency vice-president Makhenkesi Stofile has remarked sport is going to be free of cheats only if science is ahead of the dopers. The WADA VP said pharmaceutical companies assisting WADA is a big step in the fight against cheats.

A long-time advocate of doping-free sport, Stofile said it is positive to see some of the pharmaceutical companies putting their efforts to assisting (WADA) in the [fight against doping](#), because until science consistently stays ahead of the dopers, we are not going to be entirely rid of a cheating culture. He added in this regard, more and more research is going to be crucial in order to sharpen our skills.

The [World Anti-Doping Agency](#) vice-president said WADA has done a great job in very difficult circumstances and said he remember in Athens in 2004 that cheating in sport was not only the crime of the athletes, but also the crime of the coaches and, in some cases, the crime of friends or relatives or even governments. He added all these people need to take responsibility for this issue and the numbers of those getting caught is certainly increasing; even the big cheats in sport spend a great deal of time discussing their misdemeanors. The WADA VP added we also have a greater level of cooperation taking place between different stakeholders: the Sports Movement, the International Olympic Committee and of course the public authorities across the world and unless we work together in this way, side by side, we will not succeed in catching the cheats.

He further remarked all the countries need to help in the process of implementing the [WADA code](#) and said what needs to be done now, with the implementation of the Code, is the introduction of necessary rules in order to facilitate the process of implementing the Code and all countries and all NADOs and RADOs will need to work with WADA in establishing the legal framework. Stofile added it has a busy first three months, especially with the Sochi Games which was the first Paralympic Winter Games he attended. He remarked he also had an opportunity to visit the WADA Athlete Outreach and Independent Observer teams in Sochi, both of whom demonstrated a wonderful spirit behind their work, and wonderful cooperation and motivation for the athletes, managers, WADA members, and of course the whole anti-doping system, too.

Stofile, who took charge as the vice president of WADA, served on the WADA Executive Committee and Foundation Board from 2004-2010. Stofile was elected by the Foundation Board as WADA's new Vice President and his three-year term began on January 1, 2014.

In another development, new recommendations have been made from 24 international sports bodies aimed at tackling doping. This includes the storage of samples for up to 10 years that will facilitate more extensive retrospective testing as newly devised methods are put in place. Jiri Dvorak, Chief Medical Officer of FIFA, remarked the fight against doping has intensified over the past 10 to 15 years, but the increase in simple sampling procedures has not stopped some athletes from continuing.