

Doping Hearing Of Rita Jeptoo On January 15

The Athletics Federation of Kenya will hold a hearing in the doping case of Kenyan marathon runner [Rita Jeptoo](#) on January 15.

Jeptoo has been ordered by Athletics Kenya to attend the hearing along with two coaches and her agent (coaches Claudio Berardelli and Noah Busienei, and Jeptoo's agent Federico Rosa) as the East African country investigates its [high profile doping case](#). Athletics Kenya President Isaiah Kiplagat remarked we are hoping this hearing will shed light on who is behind the doping scam and Rita Jeptoo will hopefully tell us what happened.

Rosa and Berardelli vehemently denied any kind of association with the positive drug test. They remarked they were fully cooperating with anti-doping officials. The reputation of Rosa has been surrounded by many controversies in the last few years. In 2012, Mathew Kisorio tested positive for anabolic steroids though he remarked Rosa and Berardelli had nothing to do with the positive test. In the same year, Jemima Sumgong, Jeptoo's training partner, failed a drug test following the Boston Marathon for testing positive to Prednisolone. Jemima received a doping ban of two years from Athletics Kenya but the decision was later reversed as the localized injection for Bursitis was allowed under IAAF Anti-Doping Rules.

In September, Jeptoo, a three-time Boston Marathon winner and two-time Chicago Marathon champion, failed an out-of-competition doping test for [Erythropoietin](#) (EPO). A few weeks later, she claimed her second straight title in Chicago. Rita was all slated to be crowned as winner of the World Marathon Majors series but the news of her failed drug test resulted in postponement of the ceremony. Last month, Jeptoo's "B" sample also came back positive. The marathon runner faces a possible ban of two years.

In 2012, German broadcaster ARD alleged that doping was widespread in Kenya and banned drugs such as EPO can be easily obtained at Kenya's high-altitude training bases. The German ARD documentary alleged that 150 athletes among them 25 Kenyans had suspicious blood values and were not subjected to proper targeted testing afterwards.

Officials from Athletics Kenya have blamed foreign coaches and agents for most doping cases.

Athletics Kenya recently released a list of nine athletes who were suspended or suspected to be involved in doping. The doping list has 2013 Macau Galaxy Entertainment International Marathon, in China, Viola Chelangat Kimetto. Joyce Jemutai Kiplimo winner at the Yangzhou Jianzen International Half Marathon, held in Yangzhou, China in April, Jeptoo and Philip Kibiwot Kandie, winner of Media Marathon BAM Max Tott held in Guatemala City in January.

The urine sample of Chelangat that was collected in competition during the Macau Galaxy Entertainment International Marathon in December 2013 revealed the presence of prohibited substance Norandosterone. Athletics Kenya had recently summoned Maunga James Nyakabira, Ndirangu Alice, Elizabeth Jebet Chelagat, Isaac Kimaiyo Kemboi and Bernard Mwendia Muthoni to appear before the Athletics Kenya Medical and Anti-doping Commission. A statement from Athletics Kenya said each athlete has been requested to get in touch with the head office in reference to particular issues revolving doping cases.