

Russian Athletes Involved In Doping Scandal Will Face Disciplinary Proceedings, Says IAAF

The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) has remarked that Russian athletes involved in a major doping scandal will face disciplinary proceedings in the next three months as the sports fight to deal with a "*crisis*."

IAAF President Lamine Diack expressed shock and said he was disturbed by allegations of widespread [doping in Russia](#), which was exposed by a German television documentary. Diack remarked it is a difficult crisis but we will put it behind us by cleaning all this. However, Diack denied that IAAF officials were involved in covering up doping in Russia. The 81-year-old Senegalese said he is convinced that he knows his department and added in Russia there are some cheaters and if it's demonstrated that cheating is organized we have to take action, not only on the athletes, but on the leaders.

Last month, the anti-doping agency of Russia (RUSADA) announced that three Olympic walking champions, Olga Kaniskina, Valery Borchin, Sergei Kirdyapkin, as well as the 2011 world champion Sergei Bakulin, and the 2011 world silver medalist Vladimir Kanaykin had been suspended for anti-doping violations. Russia's 2011 world champion Sergei Bakulin and silver medalist Vladimir Kanaykin were also banned for failing [doping tests](#).

Borchin was suspended for eight years backdated to October 15 2012 even though he had already announced his retirement. Kaniskina and Kirdyapkin were banned for three years and two months from October 15 2012, while Bakulin got the same ban from December 24 2012. Kanaykin has received a life ban from December 17 2012.

In a conference call with reporters, IAAF anti-doping manager Thomas Capdevielle said we hope to at least initiate proceedings in the next two or three months on the first individuals. In another development, the IAAF said it has opened disciplinary proceedings against Coach Viktor Chegin who trained at the Russian race-walking centre in Saransk. Capdevielle remarked the case is currently being investigated and pursued as an anti-doping violation. The IAAF anti-doping manager added he requires some investigation

and also remarked but we are confident it will end up in a satisfying conclusion for us, with a sanction and this coach out of the sport.

In another development, British athlete Jenny Meadows has expressed fear that athletics could be "killed" by the Russian doping allegations. The 33-year-old athlete was beaten to European gold by a Russian drug cheat in 2011. Meadows finished second in the 800m to [Yevgeniya Zinurova](#) in the 2011 European Indoor Championships but she was later upgraded to gold the following year when Zinurova was banned for two years for doping. Yevgeniya Zinurova was suspended by RUSADA for abnormal indexes in her biometric passports.

Jenny Meadows remarked if it is as widespread as those allegations do deem, she just thinks it would just kill our sport. Meadows went on to remark that sponsors may walk away from the sport and fans may walk away from the sport and we may never get a 100 percent accuracy of the scale of doping. She also said it might be the case that we have to prove how many people are doping, destroy the image of the sport and then rebuild it again and look for positive role models who can succeed and win medals on the international stage who are clean athletes.