



## PRESS RELEASE

### ATHLETICS

#### LIFE BAN IMPOSED ON SUREYYA AYHAN KOP

*Lausanne, 10 November 2009* - The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has rendered its final decision in the cases concerning the Turkish athlete Sureyya Ayhan Kop and her husband and trainer, Mr Yucel Kop. The CAS has set aside the decisions made by the Arbitral Tribunal of the Turkish General Directorate of Youth and Sport, has imposed a life ban on Sureyya Ayhan Kop and has lifted the 2-year ban imposed on Yucel Kop.

Sureyya Ayhan Kop was subject to an out of competition doping control in September 2007. The analyses of both the A and B samples revealed the presence of stanozolol and methandienone metabolites. In January 2008, the TAF Disciplinary Commission found the athlete guilty of a doping offence and imposed a life ban upon her for a second anti-doping rule violation under IAAF Rules. The athlete referred the case to the Arbitral Tribunal of the General Directorate of Youth and Sport, a Turkish national arbitration board specialised in sport-related disputes, which, in May 2008, reduced the sanction to four years' ineligibility.

Yucel Kop has been the athlete's trainer throughout her career. In that respect he functioned as "athlete support personnel" as defined by the IAAF Rules. Mr Kop was sanctioned with a two-year period of ineligibility by the TAF Disciplinary Commission in relation to the athlete's second anti-doping rule violation on the principal basis that he had been negligent in his coaching duties. Mr Kop referred the case to the Arbitral Tribunal of the General Directorate of Youth and Sport, which, in May 2008, confirmed the two year sanction.

Mr and Mrs Kop both filed appeals with the Court of Arbitration for Sport requesting the annulment of the Arbitral Tribunal of the General Directorate of Youth and Sport's decisions. The IAAF requested that a life ban be imposed on Mrs. Kop.

The cases were referred to the same Panel of CAS arbitrators: Mr Quentin Byrne-Sutton (Switzerland), President, Mr Kismet Erkiner (Turkey) and Prof. Dr. Christoph Vedder (Germany). A hearing was held at the CAS on 2 April 2009. Following the hearing, the parties were granted time to file some additional written submissions.

The CAS Panel has decided to lift the ban which had been imposed on Mr Kop considering that there was no evidence that he violated any anti-doping rule or any disciplinary rule connected with his duties as *athlete support personnel* in the meaning of the IAAF Rules.

Regarding Mrs. Kop, the Panel has found that the athlete committed an anti-doping rule violation under IAAF Rule 32.2 (a), which, in conjunction with the first violation in 2004, constitutes a second violation under IAAF Rule 40.1. Considering that the second violation was committed in 2007, namely a substantial period of time after the athlete had received notice of the first violation in the year 2004, the conditions for admitting a multiple violation under IAAF Rule 40.6 are fulfilled and a life ban has been ordered.

The full award with the grounds is published on the CAS website (<http://www.tas-cas.org/recent-decision>).