

International Tennis Integrity Agency

and

Agustin Eduardo Torre

**DECISION ON SANCTION UNDER SECTION
G.1.E.IV OF THE TENNIS ANTI-
CORRUPTION PROGRAM (“TACP”)**

Before Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer:

Amani Khalifa

**Representing the International Tennis Integrity
Agency:**

Ben Rutherford

Agustin Eduardo Torre:

Not represented by
outside counsel

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to Section F.4. of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (*TACP*) 2024, the International Tennis Integrity Agency (the *ITIA*) issued a Notice of Major Offense (the *Notice*) to Agustin Eduardo Torre (*AET*) on 20 February 2024. The Notice informed AET that he was being charged with various breaches of the TACP 2017 and of his right to have this matter determined at a Hearing before the Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer (*AHO*) if he disputed the ITIA's allegations.
2. To exercise this right, AET was required to submit a written request for a Hearing within ten (10) Business Days from receipt of the Notice. AET failed to submit a written request for a Hearing by the deadline and as a result, pursuant to Section G.1.e of the TACP 2024, has been deemed to have: (i) waived his entitlement to a Hearing; (ii) admitted that he has committed the Corruption Offenses specified in the Notice; and (iii) acceded to the potential sanction specified in the Notice.
3. Pursuant to Section G.1.e of the TACP 2024, the AHO is now issuing a decision confirming the charges and the imposition of sanctions on AET.
4. Ms. Amani Khalifa holds the appointment as an AHO as per section F.1 of the TACP. The AHO was appointed without objection by either party as the independent and impartial adjudicator to rule on the case.

II. BACKGROUND

5. The ITIA was granted access to certain evidence collated by the Belgian authorities following their investigations into a suspected organised criminal network involved in an international match-fixing operation. The Corruption Offences against the Player mentioned in the Notice arise out of those investigations.
6. The primary evidence obtained comprises messages downloaded from mobile devices and records of money transfers. The individual at the centre of the

Belgian match fixing investigation, ██████████ ██████████ (██████████) communicated with corrupt tennis players and intermediaries to fix matches. ██████████ used a network of associates to ensure payment of players, one of whom was ██████████ ██████████ (██████████). Both ██████████ and ██████████ have been found guilty of numerous corruption offenses including match fixing. ██████████ and ██████████ exchanged a number of messages related to the Corruption Offences contained in the Notice including discussions related to, and screenshots of payments to, AET and people allegedly connected to AET which have been admitted into evidence by the ITIA in these proceedings.

III. THE APPLICABLE LAW AND JURISDICTION

7. The applicable rules are TACP 2017 with regards to the alleged Major Offenses and TACP 2024 with regards to the procedure.
8. Neither party has objected to the appointment of the AHO to hear this matter. She has been properly appointed and seized of the matters in dispute.
9. No other matters relating to jurisdiction or other preliminary objections have been raised by either party.

IV. THE NOTICE OF MAJOR OFFENSE

10. AET has been charged with 35 breaches of the TACP 2017. The ITIA provided the details of these charges in the Notice which are summarised as follows:
 - (a) Seven (7) alleged breaches of Section D.1.b of the TACP 2017 by directly or indirectly soliciting or facilitating any other person to wager on the outcome of the Matches¹;
 - (b) Seven (7) alleged breaches of Section D.1.d of the TACP 2017 by directly or indirectly contriving or attempting to contrive the outcome of the Matches;

¹ Defined at paragraph 11 below.

- (c) Seven (7) alleged breaches of Section D.1.f of the TACP 2017 by directly or indirectly soliciting or accepting any money, benefit or consideration with the intention of negatively influencing a Player's best efforts in the Matches;
- (d) Seven (7) alleged breaches of Section D.2.a.i of the TACP 2017 by failing to report that he was in contact with [REDACTED] and/or his network of fixers who offered a monetary or other form of benefit in return for influencing the outcome or any other aspect of the Matches; and/or
- (e) Seven (7) alleged breaches of Section D.2.a.ii of the TACP 2017 by failing to report that he knew or suspected that other players had committed a Corruption Offence (as defined in the TACP) to the TIU as soon as possible.

(Together, the *Charges*).

11. That ITIA has provided a summary of the evidence on which it relies in the Notice. That evidence relates to the following matches in which AET played:

- (a) **Match 1:** Men's [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Turkey [REDACTED] tournament on [REDACTED] August 2017 against [REDACTED]
- (b) **Match 2:** Men's [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Argentina [REDACTED] tournament on [REDACTED] August 2017 with [REDACTED] against [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- (c) **Match 3:** Men's [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Argentina [REDACTED] tournament on [REDACTED] November 2017 with [REDACTED] against [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- (d) **Match 4:** Men's [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Chile [REDACTED] tournament on [REDACTED] November 2017 against [REDACTED]

- (e) **Match 5:** Men's [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Chile [REDACTED] [REDACTED] tournament on [REDACTED] November 2017 with [REDACTED] against [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
- (f) **Match 6:** Men's [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Chile [REDACTED] [REDACTED] tournament on [REDACTED] November 2017 against [REDACTED]
- (g) **Match 7:** Men's [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Chile [REDACTED] [REDACTED] tournament on [REDACTED] December 2017 with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] against [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- (h) **Match 8:** Men's [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Chile [REDACTED] [REDACTED] tournament on [REDACTED] December 2017 against [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (together the *Matches*).
12. The ITIA alleges that prior to each of the Matches AET was approached by an associate of [REDACTED] who offered him money to contrive part of his match in breach of section D1.d of the TACP. The ITIA alleges that AET did this to facilitate betting on the Matches and that he received money for doing so in breach of sections D.1.b and D.1.f. Further, the ITIA alleges that AET failed to report the corrupt approaches made to him in breach of sections D.2.a.i and/or D.2.a.ii on each occasion.
13. Under sections G.1.e.ii and G.1.e.iii of the TACP 2024, by failing to answer the Charges brought against him, AET has admitted liability for the Charges and acceded to the potential sanctions specified in the Notice.
14. Under Section B of the Notice, the ITIA stated that it provisionally considered that in line with the TACP Sanctioning Guidelines (the *Guidelines*), the above charges against AET may be categorised as Culpability A and Impact 1, which has a starting point of permanent ineligibility and a potential fine of up to US\$250,000.

² The charges in respect of match 4 and match 5 are dealt with together in the Notice.

15. The Notice also provided that AET was entitled to have the matter determined by the AHO at a Hearing if he disputed the ITIA's allegations. The Notice provided the details of the procedure and the deadline for submitting a request for a Hearing.

V. THE PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

16. On 20 February 2024, the ITIA issued the Notice to AET outlining the allegations and charges against him and informing him of that Amani Khalifa had been appointed as AHO in this matter. AET was given ten (10) Business Days to submit a written request for a Hearing. AET did not respond to the Notice before the deadline or at all.
17. On 13 March 2024, the AHO informed the parties that AET had failed to file a written request for a Hearing by the deadline. The AHO noted that in accordance with Section G.1.e of the TACP 2024, the Covered Person has, *inter alia*, waived his entitlement to a hearing; admitted that he is liable for all Corruption Offenses for which he was charged in the Notice and acceded to the potential sanctions set out in the Notice. The AHO therefore requested counsel for the ITIA to file written submissions regarding the recommended sanction by 27 March 2024, further to which the AHO would issue her decision.
18. On 22 March 2024, the ITIA filed its submissions on sanction (the ***Sanctions Submissions***) as directed.
19. On 3 April 2024, the AHO invited AET to make any submissions in mitigation in answer to the Sanctions Submissions by 10 April 2024, failing which, the AHO would proceed to issue a decision on sanction in accordance with Rule G.1.e of the TACP. AET failed to file any submissions within the deadline provided and has not done so as of the date of this decision.

VI. ITIA'S WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

20. The AHO has carefully considered the Sanctions Submissions which are summarised below. Additional facts and allegations found in the ITIA's

submissions may be set out, where relevant, in connection with the legal discussion that follows. The AHO refers in her award only to the submissions and evidence she considers necessary to explain her reasoning.

21. The charges against AET comprise seven breaches of sections D.1.b, D.1.d, D.1.f D.2.a.i and D.2.a.ii of the TACP 2017. The ITIA relies on the following evidence in support of the allegations:

(a) Evidence obtained by the ITIA from the Belgian authorities, including the forensic download from [REDACTED] mobile phones, including WhatsApp messages³ exchanged between [REDACTED] and his various middlemen, including [REDACTED] in relation to:

- (i) the fixing of the Matches;
- (ii) payments made to AET following Match 3, Match 6, Match 7 and Match 8; and
- (iii) evidence of a MoneyGram payment to [REDACTED] following Match 3.

(b) Evidence obtained by the ITIA from the Belgian authorities, including the forensic download from [REDACTED] mobile phones, including:

- (i) A copy of a MoneyGram payment receipt to [REDACTED] following Match 7; and
- (ii) A Copy of a Western Union payment to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] following Match 8.

22. The ITIA submits that on a preponderance of the evidence, AET has committed the Corruption Offences subject of the Charges. Moreover, his failure to contest the charges by the deadline or at all constitutes an admission that he has committed the Corruption Offences included in the Notice of Charge.

³ These messages have been provided in a spreadsheet by the ITIA which includes translations of the messages downloaded from [REDACTED] mobile phones.

23. The ITIA's position in relation to each Charge is as follows:

Match 1

24. The ITIA submits evidence of WhatsApp messages between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ("[REDACTED] one of [REDACTED] betting mules, on the morning of Match 1 to support its allegations in respect of the Charges relevant to Match 1. In the messages [REDACTED] states "Torre will [REDACTED] [REDACTED] + [REDACTED] set: [REDACTED] (the "Match 1 WhatsApp Messages"). The final score in Match 1 reflected the score agreed in the Match 1 WhatsApp Messages.

Match 2

25. The ITIA submits evidence of WhatsApp messages between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on the morning of Match 2 to support its allegations in respect of the Charges relevant to Match 2. [REDACTED] sent [REDACTED] a screenshot of Match 2 from a betting website, [REDACTED] sent a message that states "[REDACTED] Torre will [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] Set: [REDACTED] break" (the "Match 2 WhatsApp Messages"). AET served a double fault in the third service game but went on to win the game. The final score in Match 2 therefore did not reflect the score agreed in the Match 2 WhatsApp Messages. However, the ITIA submits that the messages sent before the game, the double fault served by AET and messages between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] following the game support its position that AET was approached and attempted to contrive aspects of Match 2, but that AET failed. The ITIA's submission is that although AET did not successfully contrive the result of Match 2, he has still committed the relevant offences.

Match 3

26. The ITIA submits evidence of WhatsApp messages between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on the day of Match 3 to support its allegations in respect of the Charges relevant to Match 3. Ahead of the match, [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] to "check Torre on Argentina [REDACTED] Following the match, the ITIA alleges that the WhatsApp messages show [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] exchanged messages in relation to [REDACTED] arranging the fix on Match 3 and AET's agreement as follows, "And for Torre I don't know name, but you can send the 500 to me [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and "1500 for

Torre waiting for name.” A few days later, on ■ November 2017, ■ confirmed to ■ via WhatsApp “*Hi bro Torre name ■ Argentina*” (the “*Match 3 WhatsApp Messages*”).

27. Evidence of a WhatsApp message which includes a Moneygram payment of \$1,500 to “■ ■ ■ has been submitted by the ITIA as evidence that payment was made in accordance with the Match 3 WhatsApp Messages.

Match 4 and Match 5

28. On ■ November 2017 ■ and ■ exchanged WhatsApp messages regarding Match 4 and Match 5, these have been submitted in evidence by the ITIA. The ITIA submits that the message “■ *set: ■ break > 500 + 200*” refers to Match 4. In Match 4 AET served ■ double faults which the ITIA alleges shows that AET had agreed to contrive the result of this match.

29. The ITIA does not refer to any specific messages in relation to Match 5 and submits that although the score from Match 5 does not correspond to the pre-arranged score, it still alleges that AET attempted to contrive an aspect of that match.

Match 6

30. The ITIA submits evidence of WhatsApp messages between ■ and ■ on the day of Match 6 to support its allegations in respect of the Charges relevant to Match 6. Ahead of the match, ■ and ■ exchange the following messages:

■ “*Torre interested [sic]?*”

“*Torre single :*

In ■ set : ■ break

In ■ : ■ break

> 800 + 400

In ■ set : ■ break > 500 + 200

■ *set :*

■ > 2000 + 500

■ > 2500 + 500”

■ “Torre no today”

“1400 rest to Torre”

“Torre ■ in ■ set: ■ break in ■ set: ■ break”.

“Yes that’s for Torre and he will give the girls”.

(the “**Match 6 WhatsApp Messages**”).

31. It is averred by the ITIA that AET lost his second service game in set 1 as agreed and pre-determined in the Match 6 WhatsApp Messages.

Match 7

32. The ITIA submits evidence of WhatsApp messages between ■ and ■ on the day of Match 7 to support its allegations in respect of the Charges relevant to Match 7. ■ stated: “*What’s the offer for Torre bro?*” and “*Brother, Torre ask if is possible do the ■ with the break each set for 2k so ■ take 1k and he take 1k*”. After more communication ■ stated: “*Torre, ■ confirm brother ■ ■ serve game break each set. If they have to retire 1000*”. ■ confirmed this fix. Following the match, ■ sent the following messages to ■ “*For Torre bro: ■ Argentina: MoneyGram plz*” “2400” (the “**Match 7 WhatsApp Messages**”).

33. ■
The ITIA avers that this supports its position that AET agreed to contrive this aspect of Match 7 in accordance with the Match 7 WhatsApp Messages.

34. Further, the ITIA has submitted as evidence a MoneyGram payment to ■ ■ found on one of ■ devices. This corresponds to the Match 7 WhatsApp Messages regarding payments to be made to AET for agreeing to contrive aspects of Match 7.

Match 8

35. The ITIA submits that it received a match alert from four betting operators in respect of AET's loss of the ██████ of Match 8 ██████. The ITIA has not submitted evidence of these alerts in the proceedings.
36. The ITIA has submitted evidence of WhatsApp messages sent ahead of Match 8. ██████ proposed the following fix for AET's game to ██████

“Torre single :

█████ *set :*

█████ *> 2500 + 500*

█████ *> 3000 + 500*

█████ *> 3500 + 500”*

- █████ confirmed that *“Torre confirm bro ██████ (the “Match 8 WhatsApp Messages”)*.
37. The score in Match 8 reflected the agreement set out in the Match 8 WhatsApp Messages.
38. The ITIA has also submitted into evidence of further WhatsApp messages regarding payment to AET as follows:

*“Torre names: 1 - ██████ ██████ 2 - ██████ ██████
Argentina 1500/1500. Western Union he need please. Sorry bro just remember
he ask”*

39. Screenshots of payments to ██████ ██████ and ██████ ██████ made via Western Union have been submitted as evidence by the ITIA. The ITIA argues that this is clear evidence that AET agreed to contrive the result of Match 8 and received payment for doing so.

The offences

40. The ITIA submits that it is clear from the evidence set out above that in respect of each of the Matches, AET was approached to influence the outcome in order

to facilitate betting on those matches, that AET received money for doing so and that he failed to report the approaches to the ITIA.

41. Specifically, the ITIA avers that based on the evidence, AET has committed the following offences:

- (a) D.1.b TACP 2017 – facilitation
- (b) D.1.d TACP 2017 – contriving
- (c) D.1.f TACP 2017 – receipt of money
- (d) D.2.a.i TACP 2017 – failure to report
- (e) D.2.a.ii TACP 2017 – failure to report

Sanction

42. The ITIA submits that given the Charges against AET, the maximum potential sanction under section H.1.a TACP 2024 is life/permanent ineligibility from Sanctioned Events, a US\$250,000 fine and repayment of any corrupt payments he may have received.

43. The ITIA argues that in line with the Guidelines, the Charges against AET should be categorised as culpability Category B (but with an element of Category A), and between impact Category 1 and 2, with a small uplift required given the number of offences committed.

44. The ITIA submits that with regards to culpability:

- (a) AET displayed a “*Some planning and premeditation*” as required for Category B, owing to the fact that there was prior contact with ■■■ and pre-meditation required in order to agree which points to fix in each Match. The ITIA submits that there was also a degree of planning required in order to arrange payment of the fixes.
- (b) In light of the above, AET was also “*Acting in concert with others*” as required for Category B. Specifically, the ITIA submits that AET acted in concert with

■ and possibly other members of ■ network in order to contrive aspects of the Matches in order to facilitate betting on particular points.

- (c) AET committed “*Several offenses*”, in accordance with Category B. The ITIA submits that AET arguably meets the criteria for Category A of “*Multiple offenses over a protracted period of time*” noting that although there are multiple offences these occurred over a relatively short period of time.
45. The ITIA submits that with regards to impact:
- (a) AET’s conduct involves “*Major TACP Offenses*” as required by Category 1, as all of the Charges against AET are Major TACP Offenses.
 - (b) AET’s conduct resulted in a “*Material impact on the reputation and/or integrity of the sport*” as required by Category 1, on the basis that professional tennis players have a duty to uphold the rules of the sport. By deliberately breaching the rules AET has undermined the integrity on tennis.
 - (c) The ITIA submits that relative to AET’s legitimate earnings from professional tennis the payments he received from match fixing are of a “*relatively high value*” as required by Category 1.
46. The ITIA submits that as the Guidelines are not prescriptive AHOs are entitled to determine a starting point between categories. Accordingly, the ITIA submits the appropriate starting point for AET is a ban of eight years.
47. The ITIA submits that there are no relevant aggravating or mitigating factors in AET’s case.
48. The ITIA submits that AET has effectively been found liable for 35 Major Offenses. The Fines Table in the Guidelines suggests that the appropriate fine for 15 or more Major Offenses is a minimum of US\$75,000, however the ITIA is mindful that in order to reflect the key aims of the TACP it is important to impose a reasonable and proportionate sanction that acts as an effective deterrent. Therefore, the ITIA submits that based on the Guidelines and recent,

comparable cases, \$35,000 is an appropriate fine without any portion being suspended.

49. In summary, the ITIA requests the AHO to impose the following sanctions on AET:

- (a) a ban of eight (8) years; and
- (b) a fine of US\$35,000.

VII. MR TORRE'S WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

50. AET has not filed any written submissions in these proceedings in relation to the Charges or the sanctions requested by the ITIA.

VIII. REASONS

51. Match fixing is a serious threat to tennis. Once admitted to or proven, match fixing is a deliberate, intentional offense that threatens competition by eliminating the uncertainty which is at the heart of professional tennis.

52. The imposition of a lenient sanction would defeat the purpose of the TACP. However, any sanction imposed must both be proportional to the offense and consistent with the sanctions imposed in similar cases to ensure consistency. There are 35 charges against AET under the 2017 TACP which are summarised at paragraph 10**Error! Reference source not found.** above.

53. The Guidelines provide that where there are multiple Corruption Offenses, in the interests of efficiency, they should be taken together in in one concurrent sanctioning process – *i.e.*, a single sanction is imposed.

54. Section H.1 TACP 2024 provides that:

H.1. Except as provided in Sections F.5., F.6., and F.7., the penalty for any Corruption Offense shall be determined by the AHO in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section G, and may include:

H.1.a With respect to any Player,

(i) a fine of up to \$250,000 plus an amount equal to the value of any winnings or other amounts received by such Covered Person in connection with any Corruption Offense;

(ii) ineligibility from Participation in any Sanctioned Events for a period of up to three years unless permitted under Section H.1.c.; and

(iii) with respect to any violation of Section D.1, clauses (c)-(p), Section D.2. and Section F., ineligibility from Participation in any Sanctioned Events for a maximum period of permanent ineligibility.

[...]

H.1.d No Player who has been declared ineligible shall, during the period of ineligibility, be credited with any ranking points for any competition played during the period of ineligibility.

55. AET has not provided an answer to the Notice and is deemed to have accepted liability for each of the above charges under Section G.1.e.ii, as confirmed by the AHO on 13 March 2024.
56. The case against AET is based on uncontested evidence of multiple fixes, reliance on those fixed matches to generate financial gain, and then how AET, or people nominated by him, received a share of the profits.
57. As stated above, the ITIA has recommended a fine of US\$35,000 and a ban of eight years. The AHO is not bound by the sanction recommended by the ITIA and may impose appropriate, just, and proportional sanctions pursuant to the TACP and the Guidelines, bearing in mind the circumstances of the individual case.
58. AHOs retain full discretion in relation to the sanction imposed. However, the application of the Guidelines promotes fairness and consistency in sanctioning

across tennis. Therefore, the AHO has followed the Guidelines to reach her decision.

59. The Guidelines set out a five step-process to determine the appropriate sanction as follows:
- (a) Determining the offense category;
 - (b) Starting point and category range;
 - (c) Consideration of reduction for early admissions;
 - (d) Consideration of other factors which may merit a reduction including substantial assistance; and
 - (e) Setting the amount of the fine (if any).

These are addressed in turn below.

A. DETERMINING THE OFFENSE CATEGORY

60. As regards the level of culpability, the AHO accepts the ITIA's submission that AET's level of culpability falls within Category B which is medium culpability. The principal reasons for this conclusion are that AET has admitted to 35 Major Offenses which he committed in concert with others requiring premeditation and planning. The AHO acknowledges the ITIA's submission that the number of offences meets the criteria of a Category A offence, however as these offences occurred, by the ITIA's own admission, within a short period of time, the AHO is satisfied that medium/category B culpability is appropriate in the circumstances.
61. As regards the level of impact, the ITIA submits that the impact of AET's conduct "*sits between Category 1 and Category 2*". The AHO considers that the impact of AET's conduct is more properly characterised as category 2 for the reasons set out below:

- (a) The AHO accepts that AET's conduct undoubtedly involves "*Major TACP Offenses*".
- (b) The AHO is not persuaded that the impact of AET's Corruption Offences was both significant and material as indicated for category 1. She agrees that every case of match fixing threatens the integrity of tennis but many of the elements cited would be present in any instance of match fixing including the involvement of third parties. In the circumstances, a fair assessment of the impact of AET's offenses on the reputation and integrity of tennis is that it was simply material as indicated for category 2. The AHO does acknowledge that the Charges relate to eight matches but both categories 1 and 2 allow for the commission of multiple Major Offenses and in a case that involves commission of multiple Major Offenses, a Covered Person could be included in either category.
- (c) To support a category 1 classification the ITIA argued that the question of whether the benefit received by AET was "*relatively high value*" and "*material*" should be considered in relation to AET's individual circumstances and his legitimate earnings from playing professional tennis. The AHO does accept the ITIA's submission that the benefit received may be evaluated relative to the Covered Person's own circumstances however, the AHO does not accept that the evidence of gain in this case is high either in absolute or relative terms. Moreover, the ITIA has not submitted any evidence as to the total alleged illicit gains to support its position that the amounts received by AET are comparatively high. For these reasons, the AHO considers that the gain is more appropriately characterised as being on the higher end of the range that could be classified as being 'material' but not a 'high value of illicit gain' as required for category 1. Therefore, it can be concluded that AET enjoyed a "material" gain in line with category 2.

62. For all these reasons, the AHO considers that AET's offense category is B2.

B. STARTING POINT AND CATEGORY RANGE

63. Under the Guidelines, the starting point for a category B2 offense is a three (3) year suspension and the category range is a six (6) month to five (5) year suspension. The AHO considers that due to the number of Charges and proof of gain received by AET, a five-year suspension is appropriate in the circumstances.
64. The AHO accepts the ITIA's submissions that there are no aggravating or mitigating circumstances.

C. CONSIDERATION OF REDUCTION FOR EARLY ADMISSIONS

65. The AHO notes that AET has not made any early admissions.

D. OTHER FACTORS WHICH MAY MERIT A REDUCTION INCLUDING SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE

66. The AHO notes there are no other factors which merit a reduction in AET's sanction. AET has not given any substantial assistance to the ITIA, has not made any admissions and has ignored the ITIA's correspondence.

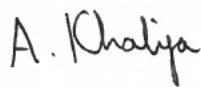
E. THE FINE

67. The Guidelines include The Fines Table which shows several scales based on the number of Major Offenses that are proven or admitted. In the present case, AET has effectively admitted 35 offences which, in accordance with the Guidelines, yields a fine of at least US\$75,000. However, the ITIA has conceded that based on comparable cases a fine of \$35,000 is appropriate.
68. The Guidelines further provide that the amount of any fine should reflect the categorisation of the offense. However, the financial means of the Covered Person may be taken into account to reduce the fine level. Considering the number of offenses, the categorisation of the offense as B2 and the ITIA's submissions, the AHO agrees that the appropriate fine in this case is US\$35,000.

IX. DECISION

69. AET, a Covered Person as defined in Section B.10 of the 2017 TACP, is liable for Corruption Offenses pursuant to the following sections of the TACP 2017:
- (a) D.1.b – facilitating betting – seven charges;
 - (b) D.1.d – contriving the outcome of a match – seven charges;
 - (c) D.1.f – receipt of money – seven charges;
 - (d) D.2.a.i – failure to report – seven charges; and
 - (e) D.2.a.ii – failure to report – seven charges.
70. Pursuant to the TACP 2024 and the Guidelines, the sanctions imposed upon the AET as a result of these Corruption Offenses are:
- i. A ban of five (5) years from Participation, as defined in section B.26 of the TACP, in any Sanctioned Event as defined in section B.31 TACP and as prescribed in section H.1.a TACP, effective on the date of this Decision; and
 - ii. A US\$35,000 fine as prescribed in section H.1.a TACP.
71. Pursuant to section G.4 TACP, this award on sanction is to be publicly reported.
72. Pursuant to section G.4.d TACP this award on sanction is a full, final, and complete disposition of this matter and is binding on all parties.
73. This Decision can be appealed to Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland within twenty business days from the date of receipt of the Decision by the appealing party.

26 April 2024



Amani Khalifa, Anti-corruption Hearing Officer