Country: United States of America

Committee: UNODC

Topic: The Usage of Appearance and Performance Enhancing Drugs (APEDs)

POSITION PAPER

The USA is a developed country that is known to have the best economy in the world. It is also known for its diversity and free speech policies. The United States of America does not have an official language but most people speak English. The country was colonized by Britain, France, Spain, and the Netherlands, during the colonialization era, the Native Americans have suffered harshly. After some time, the USA gained its freedom. Since then, the USA became one of the best-known countries.

APEDs are mostly used by men that want bodybuilder looks or more muscle in general. While it seems to be working at first, it has serious long-term effects, from oily scalp skin to heart attacks. If the APEDs are used at a young age, especially as a teenager, it has bigger effects; such as short stature or even worse, delusions. Many people that use APEDs do not understand the effect that may take a toll on them and they are mostly misinformed. Another problem that APEDs have: inequality in the Olympics. It is a truth that APEDs are an unethical use of dopamine in any athletic game; for example, FIFA, The Olympics, and Tour de France. That is because dopamine, APEDs to be specific, would make the game unfair and boring. While this perspective is also important, there are already tests and rules that are used which makes the usage of APEDs in athletic games less of a problem. There is the last point that should be made, which is dopamine. A lot of people misconceive dopamine as only APEDs but even coffee, to some extent, is considered as dopamine which makes it harder for people (mostly athletes) to understand if some products are allowed.

Misuse of Appearance and Performance Enhancing Drugs (APEDs) has side effects from oily scalp skin to heart attacks. The USA had been a breeding ground for unsolicited use of APEDs with inappropriate production. There are multiple national non-governmental and governmental organizations that have done many pieces of research and campaigns; for example, NIH (National Institute on Drug Abuse) and NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations). While NIH mostly focuses on researches and surveys, NFHS specifically has done informational papers and articles about teenage use of APEDs and their effects on children’s minds, NFHS also gives guides to teachers and parents to inform them about APEDs. Like what the USA is doing nationally, it should be done internationally in a broader aspect with the help of organizations like WADA (The World Anti-Doping Agency). What UNODC and IOP can do is to educate others through talks and advertisements (e.g., billboards, TV breaks). In the talks and advertisements, there can be professionals and athletes that would talk about the dangers of using APEDs. Also, these organizations can promote and advocate for new researches about APEDs to raise awareness and have new ways of testing the usage of APEDs in the Olympics. There can be fundraising events during the Olympics and FIFA in order to fund the advertisements and researches.