

Strasbourg, 4 April 2014

EPAS (2014) 31

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

19th meeting of the EPAS Governing Board Bureau

Council of Europe
2nd floor, room n° 3
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg

3-4 April 2014

List of Decisions

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by Mrs Wendela Kuper (Netherlands), Chair of the EPAS Governing Board.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Bureau adopted the agenda as it appears in Appendix I to the present List of decisions.

3. Reports on recent meetings

The Bureau took note of the three most recent meeting reports (Governing Board Bureau of 15 November 2013, Extraordinary Governing Board of 23 January 2014 and the Informal networking event in Sochi of 7 February 2014).

4. Update on EPAS membership and Consultative Committee

Information on accession of new members to the EPAS

The Secretariat told the Bureau their were requests pending from two potential new members of the Consultative Committee (European Tour and International School Sports Federation) which the Consultative Committee should discuss at its next meeting on 20 May.

Elections in the Consultative Committee

The Secretariat explained that several elections should take place this year within the Consultative Committee, including its Bureau members as well as a new Chair. It was also noted that the Secretariat had contacted the eight organisations whose membership was due to expire, inviting them to request renewal. Such requests for renewal will be on the agenda of the Governing Board meeting on 21/22 May 2014.

5. Preparation of the 13th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (Macolin/Magglingen, Switzerland, 18 September 2014)

Organisational issues

The Bureau noted that invitation letters would be dispatched on 14 April and that the closing date for registration via the dedicated website would be 20 July. The Swiss authorities had also put in place a telephone hotline to answer participants' questions or to solve registration problems.

Programme

The Bureau discussed the speakers and personalities proposed by the Secretariat to intervene on the different themes. It noted the need to replace Mrs Fourneyron in the programme as she was no longer of Minister of Sport. Also, it was agreed to continue pursuing Mark Pieth as main speaker on good governance.

The Bureau discussed the relevance of holding a separate meeting for EPAS states Ministers. The Bureau decided this should be maintained in the programme but changed to a more informal reception event in the evening, where only three short speeches would be made and then a list of possible future priorities would be distributed to Ministers for opinion (survey with boxes to tick).

Concerning the background document MSL 04, the Bureau agreed that the Secretariat should launch a survey among EPAS members on what legislation they have concerning corruption in governance, so that concrete examples could be added to the document.

6. Standard-setting and follow-up

Update on the draft Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions

The Secretariat informed the Bureau that the process was continuing according to schedule, and that the Parliamentary Assembly rapporteur, Mr Kent Härstedt (Sweden), was in the process of finalising his report on the Convention, having first taken the time to meet with the EPAS Secretariat at the end of March to discuss certain aspects.

Mr Härstedt's report will be discussed and possibly approved by the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media during the PACE session of 7-11 April and then transmitted to the Standing Committee for possible adoption during the meeting in Baku on 23 May. Should this schedule be maintained, the report will be transmitted to the Committee of Ministers in time for the critical discussions on the convention within the GR-C meeting of 17 June. Mr Harri Syväsalmi will attend this meeting to present the convention and answer any questions. If one GR-C meeting is not sufficient, there are two extra special meetings foreseen if need be (1 and 8 July). The Ministers' Deputies will then have their final say on the adoption of the convention on 9 July, which is their last meeting before the summer break.

The Bureau asked the Secretariat to transmit the approved version of Mr Härstedt's report, once available, to the Drafting Group for information.

The deadline of 13 April was given to Permanent Representations for states to submit scrutiny reservations, before the list will be sent to the GR-C. The Secretariat made it clear that this list is not binding, and other reservations may still be made later during the GR-C meeting; the list will, however, allow the GR-C and its Chairman to have a good overview of the situation.

The Bureau requested that a letter be sent to the Drafting Group informing them of the deadline for states to send in their scrutiny reservations.

The Secretariat also reminded the Bureau that the CDPC had been consulted by written procedure on the convention's explanatory report, the deadline for which was 4 April.

Regarding future signatures and ratifications to the new convention, the Secretariat brought the Bureau's attention to three issues:

1. The legal time constraints required for non-European states who now start to show an interest in the convention, are too short to allow them to sign the convention at Macolin on 18 September. The Secretariat was looking into ideas for EPAS to arrange an extra event at the end of 2014 to mark the occasion for such states to sign the convention.
2. The expression of interest by FIFA to be involved in the CoE's convention could be solved by proposing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations on its promotion at international level outside of Europe. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe must obtain approval from the Committee of Ministers to sign such an agreement, but if possible, similar MoUs could also be suggested with Interpol and Unesco.
3. The new convention foresees financial contributions to be made by those non-CoE states who become party to it, and this may be an obstacle when it comes to states joining EPAS. The Committee of Ministers is yet to decide how the charging of states to be party to conventions will be implemented. In the meantime, the EPAS could discuss the possibility of suggesting negotiated packages which include accession to EPAS and the convention, or exoneration from convention charges if states become member of EPAS). Endorsement by the Governing Board on any such proposals would be required before taking any discussion to the GR-C/Committee of Ministers.

The Bureau decided these three important matters should be discussed in full plenary by the Governing Board. In particular, the Bureau requested that the EPAS Secretariat be granted an extension to the deadline of 20 May (submission of GR-C documents for 17 June meeting) to enable the EPAS Governing Board to discuss the matter of financial contributions to the convention at its meeting on 21-22 May.

Validation of the draft Recommendation on Gender mainstreaming in sport

The Secretariat gave a brief update on the schedule of the adoption procedure, highlighting that the text of the Recommendation was currently being checked by DLAPIL and that once proofread by the Editorial Unit, it would be on the GR-C agenda of 20 May, for possible adoption by the Ministers' Deputies on 28 May.

The IWG World Conference (Helsinki, 12-15 June) would be the ideal opportunity to promote this Recommendation, and the EPAS Secretariat had already been contacted by its counterpart in the European Commission and invited to hold a joint session during the conference.

7. Programme of activities 2014-2015

The Secretariat gave a brief update on activities, informing the Bureau on those which had either already taken place, were under way, or which had been postponed. The main issues raised were as follows:

- Gender mainstreaming toolkit: will start following adoption of the Recommendation; possible Erasmus+ application;
- Betting regulation network: 2nd meeting in Autumn 2014; the UK may organise an exchange of views on 1 July 2014 but this will not replace the Autumn meeting;
- Seminar on betting surveillance: for budgetary reasons. If the Norway event on national platforms does not take place, we could replace it with this one, but do not have budget for both;
- Seminar on visas: requires co-operation from EU Presidency and its working party on this topic; awaiting confirmation from Greece;

- Handbooks on judiciary: summer school on sport and human rights, organised by the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg in July, will be an opportunity to establish contact with potential experts;
- Consultation visits: awaiting reaction from member states who are interested;
- Bureau meeting of the Consultative Committee: cancelled due to lack of availability;
- Conference on Sport and Prisons: to take place in Paris on 16-17 June. The Secretariat asked the Bureau to suggest names of Ministers who could possibly open or close the event, if they have experience in sport development in prisons.

The Bureau took note of the update given by the Secretariat.

8. Activities with the European Union

Pro Safe Sport (PSS) project

The project is underway, with the kick-off event having been held in Vienna at the end of January 2014. A note regarding the content and aim of the project was distributed to the Bureau members for information. One Bureau member noted that there was only one sports medicine organisation mentioned in the list of partners, and wondered if this was sufficient given the value they could bring to the project. The Secretariat noted the comment, adding that the Sports Medicine Association with which EPAS had co-operated last year, was invited to be partner to this PSS project but it was unable to do so. EPAS could, however, invite it to be involved on an ad hoc basis.

The Bureau asked the Secretariat to prepare, for the Governing Board meeting, an overall calendar covering the 18 months of the project, highlighting the different milestones.

Possible application for future projects

The Secretariat informed the Bureau that the closing date for applications for Erasmus+ has been postponed until the end of June 2014. It has also discovered that DG Home will launch a call for applications during 2014 for projects on match-fixing, which could be suitable for the Council of Europe.

Regarding Erasmus+ applications, the Secretariat had some ideas (gender mainstreaming toolkit, guidelines on physical activity, etc.) which would require an opinion from the Governing Board. Given the time-consuming task of preparing detailed documents on both ideas, the Secretariat was not sure it would be able to do this before 21-22 May. It would be preferable if the Bureau could give feedback on both ideas by written procedure.

The Bureau members agreed to give their feedback on the choice of project application to be proposed within Erasmus+ by the end of April, therefore allowing the Secretariat more time to prepare just one proposal for the Governing Board on 21-22 May.

Possible participation in other projects

The Secretariat informed the Bureau of a Round Table event being organised by Foot Solidaire in Geneva on 13 May 2014, to which the Secretary General of the Council of Europe has given his patronage. The content of the conference is strongly linked to the Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)10 on the protection of child and young athletes from dangers associated with migration and could be a good opportunity for EPAS visibility. Any States which have already started to implement and promote the Recommendation could send representatives to attend the Round Table which is followed by a Gala Football Match.

The Bureau agreed that states interested in attending should inform the EPAS Secretariat as soon as possible.

9. Draft Agenda of the 8th Joint meeting of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee

The Bureau discussed the items to be put on the draft agenda of the forthcoming plenary meeting (21-22 May) and made the following proposed modifications:

- Add new Chair of the Consultative Committee to the opening of the meeting, given the elections which will take place on 20 May;
- Standard-setting and follow-up: add sub-items on possible Memorandum of Understanding with other partners, Signature of the convention by non-CoE states, and financial contribution issue; move item on national betting regulator network to “Reports” and add renewal of its mandate beyond 2014;
- Accession of new members: add sub-item on election of two Consultative Committee members to the Governing Board Bureau;
- Social event not yet finalised – to be confirmed nearer the time;
- Ministerial conference: re-phrase decision to be taken;
- Item on promotion of diversity - topic for 2016 still to be identified; ideas or suggestions from the Bureau would be appreciated;
- Statute and regulations: add breakdown of Special Account, and item on 2013 accounts which show approximate €34,000 not spent; Bureau suggested adding this to agenda in order for Governing Board to give clear opinion to the Statutory Committee which will meet later in the year.

The Bureau invited the Secretariat to update the draft agenda according to the proposals made. It also asked the Secretariat to prepare possible dates for the 2015

10. Any other business

Round Table on the prohibition of free fighting contests

A reminder to member states on this event scheduled for 17 April had been sent out, as very few positive replies had been received.

The member of the Bureau representing Finland said that an announcement regarding the new Minister of Sport for Finland had just been published. The new Minister is Ms Pia Viitanen from Tampere.

11. Date and place of next meeting

The Bureau took note that the 8th joint meeting of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee will be held on 21-22 May 2014 in Strasbourg.

The Bureau asked the Secretariat to check room availability and to confirm the exact date of the next Bureau meeting (possibly 13 November 2014), to be held at the Council of Europe office in Paris. It also asked the Secretariat to look into possible dates for the 2015 joint meeting.

Appendix I**Agenda****1. Opening of the meeting**

The meeting will be opened by Wendela Kuper (Netherlands), Chair of the EPAS Governing Board.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Bureau is invited to adopt the agenda and its possible amendments.

EPAS (2014) 22rev

3. Reports on recent meetings

- List of decisions – Governing Board Bureau meeting held in Strasbourg on 15 November 2013;
- List of decisions – Governing Board extraordinary meeting held in Strasbourg on 23 January 2014;
- Executive Report - Informal networking event held in Sochi on 7 February 2014.

EPAS (2013) 71rev

EPAS (2014) 17

EPAS (2014) 20

The Bureau is invited to take note of these reports, previously distributed for comments by written procedure.

4. Update on EPAS membership and Consultative Committee

- Information on accession of new members to the EPAS
 - Governing Board;
 - Consultative Committee.

The Bureau is invited to take note of the oral update provided by the Secretariat.

- Elections in the Consultative Committee

EPAS (2014) 24

The Bureau is invited to discuss the document prepared by the Secretariat and to decide on the calendar of elections.

5. Preparation of the 13th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (Macolin/Maggingen, Switzerland, 18 September 2014)

- Organisational issues
 - Elements on the calendar of the Ministerial Conference
 - Opinion given by the Legal Advice Department
 - Schedule of the preparatory work of conference documents
 - Presentation by the Swiss authorities
 - Factsheet

EPAS (2014) 26

EPAS (2011) INF 28

EPAS (2013) 27rev2

MSL13 (2014) 2

The Bureau is invited to take note of the updated schedule for the preparation of the conference. Is also invited to approve the practical information document.

- Programme
 - Thematic overview
 - Draft detailed programme

MSL13 (2014) INF1

MSL13 (2014) 1

The Bureau is invited to hold an exchange of views on the content and structure of the documents and to agree on the follow-up.

- Preparation of the conference documents

- Presentation by the Secretariat on the issue of Corruption in the Governance of Sport and draft Resolution 1; MSL13 (2014) 4
- Presentation by the Secretariat on Co-operation between the European Union and the Council of Europe and draft Resolution 2.1; MSL13 (2014) 5
- Presentation by the Secretariat on the Revision of the Convention on spectator violence and draft Resolution 2.2;
- Presentation by the Secretariat on the Representation of the European Public authorities in WADA and draft Resolution 2.3.

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information provided by the Secretariat and to discuss and approve the contents of the relevant documents.

6. Standard-setting and follow-up

- **Update on the draft Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions**

- Presentation of the updated 2014 calendar for the next steps in the procedure
- Discussion
- Updated list of scrutiny reservations
- Convention and Explanatory Report

EPAS (2014) 15rev2

EPAS (2014) 19rev

CM(2014)20

CM(2014)20addprov

The Bureau is invited to take note of the updated schedule of the procedure leading to the adoption of the convention.

- **Validation of the draft Recommendation on Gender mainstreaming in sport**

The Bureau is invited to decide on the next steps, following the adoption of the draft Recommendation by the Governing Board

EPAS (2013) 36rev6

EPAS (2014) 21

7. Programme of Activities 2014-2015

The Bureau is invited to take note of the oral presentation by the Secretariat regarding the status of the Programme of Activities.

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8. Activities with the European Union

- Pro Safe Sport (PSS) project
 - Update by the Secretariat
- Possible application for future projects
- Possible participation in other projects

9. Draft Agenda of the 8th Joint meeting of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee

The Bureau is invited to comment on and validate the draft agenda for the forthcoming plenary meeting.

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10. Any other business

- Round Table on the prohibition of free fighting contests

11. Date and place of the next meeting

- 8th Joint meeting of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee (21-22 May 2014, Strasbourg)

Appendix II**FINAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS****CHAIR****Ms Wendela KUPER**

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