

Strasbourg, 1 July 2015

EPAS (2015) 20rev

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

21st meeting of the EPAS Governing Board Bureau

Odin Room
Oslo Kongressenter
Youngsgate 11
0181 Oslo
Norway

Monday 16 March 2015, 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

List of Decisions

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by 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 this report.

3. Reports on recent meetings

3.1 Draft List of decisions – Governing Board Bureau meeting, Paris, 13 November 2014

The Bureau took note of the list of decisions and adopted it without further modification.

3.2 Draft List of decisions – 2nd meeting of the Network of the National Regulators of the sports betting market, the Hague, 11 December 2014

The Bureau took note of this report. The Secretariat stressed the importance of this network's continued work regarding fraud detection systems. The regulators are ready to organise field visits to the different systems headquarters to gather information on pre-defined criteria. The Bureau also noted the difficulties encountered by some states to appoint a relevant expert to this network.

4. Recent news

4.1 Member states

The Bureau took note of the Secretariat's oral report on the state of play regarding new member states. Regular contacts were continuing with Italy, Turkey and Belgium; of the three, Italy was the most advanced with regard to EPAS membership as well as signing the convention.

4.2 Partner organisations

No new applications had been received. There had been a show of interest by Special Olympics, but no official request to join.

4.3 Sports Conventions

The Secretariat gave a brief overview of the main activities and challenges concerning the Sports Conventions including, in particular, the on-going process to revise the T-RV convention: the draft convention was adopted with consensus by the Standing Committee in December 2014, and it was due to be discussed within the GR-C on 17 March 2015 for transmission to the Parliamentary Assembly for opinion. No event to open it for signatures has yet been decided upon, but should the convention be ready by the end of 2015, a signature event could possibly be organised to coincide with the hand-over of the Committee of Ministers chairmanship to Bulgaria.

Regarding the Macolin Convention, the Secretariat announced that Portugal would be signing the following day, to bring the total number of signatures up to 18, with one ratification (Norway). The Bureau discussed the timescale and impact of the ongoing EU process on member states and the pressure on states to ratify quickly in order to be part of the first meeting. The Secretariat added that budgetary provisions had been made for 2016 in case the convention entered into force following the first five ratifications. Both Switzerland and Slovenia were hoping to ratify the convention by the beginning of 2016.

4.4 Council of Europe bodies

The Bureau noted the progress of the PACE report on good governance which was due to be discussed during its plenary session in June 2015. The document was not a recommendation, but a resolution, so there will be no requirement for EPAS to give an opinion on it. Other ongoing PACE reports cover topics such as anti-doping policies, sport for all and inclusion in sport. The Bureau noted PACE's increased interest and activity in sport-related issues, following on from the Rochebloine report in 2011, and of course Mrs Brasseur's recommendation on match-fixing.

Concerning the Committee of Ministers, the Bureau noted the oral report by the Secretariat concerning contributions by non-member States to the financing of the Convention Follow-up Committee to be possibly combined with membership of EPAS. The proposal had been handled by the GR-PBA (Rapporteur Group for Programme, Budget and Administration) at its meeting on 3 February but was not supported by delegations from France and the Russian Federation. The Secretariat did not intend to put the item back on the GR-PBA agenda until the Permanent Representations (in particular the major contributors) were supportive of the proposal. The Secretariat distributed a draft document to the Bureau members which contained a more detailed explanation of the reasoning behind the Governing Board's proposal. Once feedback on its content had been received from the Directorate of Finance, the Secretariat proposed to re-send it to the Bureau members in English and French for their feedback.

<p><u>Decision:</u> the Secretariat shall update document EPAS (2015) 17 and distribute it to the Bureau in both official languages.</p>
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4.5 Council of Europe Secretariat

The Bureau took note of the oral update provided by the Secretariat regarding the ongoing preparation by the Director General of the 2016-2017 budget. Despite zero nominal growth, there was some hope

for additional resources, coming from the request by Turkey to become a major contributor to the Organisation's budget. The Bureau members were encouraged to maintain contact with their permanent representations in Strasbourg, to enquire if a portion of these extra funds could be earmarked for the new convention.

5. EPAS Statute and Regulations

5.1 Revised Statute of EPAS

The Bureau took note of the progress to date regarding the two minor amendments agreed upon by the Statutory Committee at the end of 2014. The Resolution amending the EPAS Statute will be on the agenda of the Ministers' Deputies for adoption on 15 April 2015.

5.2 Consultative Committee – Revision of its Terms of Reference

The Bureau was reminded that the Governing Board will be asked to renew the Consultative Committee's Terms of Reference during the next plenary meeting in May 2015. At the same time, the Chair of the Consultative Committee had agreed to make proposals to update the terms, in particular to clarify the membership criteria. Due to the late availability of the document containing these proposals, the Bureau was unable to make a clearcut decision during its meeting. The Bureau discussed the delicate issue of whether commercial or "for profit" organisations could become members of the Consultative Committee (as they nonetheless promote the values of the Council of Europe and strive for social responsibility) or whether membership should be restricted to the non-profit, volunteer-based, sports movement. The Bureau agreed this was a "grey area" which merited being strengthened if it was to be included in the revised Terms of Reference.

Decision: in order to determine if an update to the Terms of Reference should be included on the plenary meeting agenda, the Bureau asked the Secretariat to consult the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee members for an opinion on the inclusion of commercial organisations.

6. Voluntary Contribution Projects and Joint Projects

6.1 Preparatory Action: European Partnerships on Sport – "Pro Safe Sport for young athletes"

The Bureau took note of the positive mid-term evaluation report from partners in this project. The Secretariat announced that a seminar to test the PSS toolkit will take place in Minsk on 28 April 2015, and that the project's closing event will be held in Rome on 4 May 2015. Both events are open to all members of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee.

6.2 DG Home : Call for proposals "New integrated mechanisms for cooperation between public and private actors to identify sports betting risks"

The Bureau noted that the Secretariat had submitted a project proposal titled "Keep Crime out of Sport – together against criminal manipulations of sports competitions" in reply to this call for proposals. If selected, the project will run for 18 months, and will include desk research on information flow, preparation of a handbook on how to set up a national platform, 5 regional seminars and 2 expert missions to help countries in need of advice. The partners committed to this project include the IOC, Interpol, Oxford Research, NOC Finland, Ministry of Sport of Norway, ARJEL, and the UK Gambling Commission. The results of the selection process will be announced by DG Home in Autumn 2015.

Further to a question regarding resources for this project, the Secretariat explained that, if accepted, 10% of this project will be funded by the Council of Europe's reserve fund (not by EPAS), so the project's events will not be restricted to EPAS member states only. In addition, €20 000 had been earmarked in the 2015 EPAS budget to make a possible accounting provision in the special account to complement the project with activities which may not be eligible within the EU project. It would enable

the recruitment of a project manager and a part-time assistant, should the project application be successful.

Regarding the Erasmus+ project submission “Balance in Sport”, the Secretariat explained that this application had not been successful, but informal talks were ongoing with the European Commission regarding possible future direct grant agreements.

The Bureau welcomed this development and requested an overall presentation be made on the state of play during the forthcoming Governing Board plenary meeting.

7. Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport

7.1 13th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, Macolin/Maggingen (Switzerland), 18 September 2014

The Bureau took note of the follow-up document discussed possible actions to help implement the Resolutions. Regarding good governance, the Bureau agreed there were many research studies going on by various organisations, and that EPAS should not add to this list by producing another set of principles. One option would be to make an inventory of all the projects that currently exists so that any loopholes or missing issues can be pinpointed. The idea of attending the Play the Game conference on 25-29 October 2015 to pursue the Good Governance question further, was also discussed.

Decision: the Bureau agreed to launch a survey for the Governing Board members, containing concrete questions with a view to creating an overview of good governance projects, for more detailed discussed in the joint Plenary meeting in May 2015.

7.2 Informal Ministerial Gathering – Baku, 12 June 2015

The Bureau discussed the background document prepared by the Secretariat on the theme of “Social Sustainability of Major Sports Events” in preparation of this event, making some small modifications to it. The Bureau also took note of the Secretariat’s idea to involve the Global Reporting Initiative developed by the UN programme for environment, currently managed by a foundation based in the Netherlands and which provides a framework to report on the sustainability of activities. The Bureau encouraged the Secretariat to make contact with the foundation, and to report on this in more detail at the forthcoming plenary meeting.

Decision: the Bureau asked the Secretariat to update the background document and to distribute it again to the Bureau members once improved.

The expert from France informed the Bureau that further to an event held in September 2014 on the environmental impact of sports events, some recommendations were elaborated. Subsequently, a conference on climate and environmental sustainability will be held in Paris at the end of 2015 to which Sports Ministers will be invited, with the aim of adopting a declaration on this subject.

8. Standard-setting and follow-up

8.1 Update on the status of signatures to the Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions and further promotion initiatives

- Oslo Conference, 17-18 March 2015

The Bureau took note of the state of signatures and ratifications, in particular the signature by Portugal foreseen to take place in Strasbourg on 17 March 2015.

The Oslo Conference was expected to gather some 100 participants, although the Bureau noted that few of those participating were from non-European countries. The Bureau encouraged continuing to promote the convention via the networks of the IOC, UNESCO and the WADA Foundation Board so as to attract interest from states such as Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

8.2 Recommendation on Gender mainstreaming in sport

The Bureau took note of the recommendation as adopted by the Committee of Ministers, and discussed possible activities related to its implementation.

The expert from Montenegro (also the Gender Equality Rapporteur to EPAS) told the Bureau that he had represented EPAS at a recent “Women in Sport” conference in Serbia, where he had the opportunity to present and promote the recommendation. He thought it would be a good idea for EPAS to collect data on how countries deal with gender mainstreaming in their national legislation.

The Bureau welcomed the idea of keeping this topic high on the agenda, but was reluctant to launch another survey for fear of over-burdening EPAS experts with too many questionnaires. The idea of asking European Women in Sport (EWS) to collaborate by co-organising an event during 2015 to follow up on this recommendation was appreciated by the Bureau.

Decision: the Bureau asked the Secretariat to enquire with EWS regarding its readiness to collaborate with EPAS on an event in 2015 to follow up on the promotion of this new recommendation.

8.3 Compliance with Commitments

The Bureau took note of the update by the Secretariat regarding the meeting held in London on 23 January 2015, and discussed the shorter, more user-friendly, version of the Procedural Guidelines, making some proposals (eg. on conflict of interest and the profile of the rapporteur) for modifications. The Bureau also noted that the Governing Board should draft the specific requirements for visits on the European Sport Charter, which should be included in the Appendix relating to visits organised by EPAS.

8.4 Consultative Visit – Georgia (13-15 October 2014)

The Bureau took note of the state of play regarding the report of this consultative visit to Georgia. The report will feature on the agenda of the forthcoming EPAS plenary meeting.

9. Programme of Activities 2014-2015

9.1 Programme and budget 2015

The Bureau took note of the revised version of the 2015 PoA as circulated by the Secretariat during the meeting. The Secretariat gave an oral update on the state of play regarding each activity on the programme. The Bureau approved the update and remained open to any ideas for new activities related to relevant subjects.

9.2 Other meetings and EPAS representation

The Bureau discussed and approved the calendar updates and encouraged any Bureau member interested in representing EPAS at any of the events to contact the Secretariat as soon as possible.

10. Promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination

10.1 Priorities (2015)

- Tolerance and diversity through PE teaching

The Bureau held an exchange of views on the preparation of the political conference which this year will involve the Pestalozzi Programme and the results of its teaching modules. The Bureau noted that there will therefore be a lot of material on show at the conference, and that the aim was to gain political support from both sport and education ministries. The Bureau agreed it was crucial to have co-operation with the education sector already at the organising stage, and the EPAS delegations should ensure the promotion of the conference to their counterparts in competent state authorities, such as the education and even health ministries.

10.2 Future priorities (2016)

- Involving newly-arrived migrants in sport

The Bureau took note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat on this topic, in particular that the UNHCR was ready to be a partner from the refugee-side, but that other potential partners who could support EPAS and give input from a “working migrants” side were still being sought. The Secretariat clarified that this diversity topic should not be confused with the migration of athletes, which was another subject altogether.

As far as examples of good practice were concerned, the expert from ENGSO informed the Bureau of many interesting special sport-related programmes for newly-arrived migrants which were being set up within cities across Europe. The Secretariat thanked her for this idea, and would contact the Council of Europe’s Congress and the secretariat from the Intercultural Cities project to see if they are ready to collaborate with EPAS on this subject.

11. On-going co-operation with European Union institutions

11.1 Co-ordination with the European Union

The Bureau took note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat regarding possibilities for co-operation with the EU, both under Erasmus+ and via direct grant agreements. Informal talks between representatives of EPAS and the EU were held on a regular basis and a possible meeting between the Director General of DG EAC and the Council of Europe’s Director General of Democracy was being planned.

12. Publications

The Bureau took note of the update presented orally by the Secretariat on ongoing publications and the prospects for new titles in the collection of good practice handbooks. The Bureau also noted that the unofficial translations of the Macolin Convention (CETS n° 215) received by the Secretariat from member states were now on the Treaty Office website.

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

The Bureau made comments on the draft agenda for the forthcoming plenary meeting and the Secretariat took note of amendments to be made prior to publishing the agenda as part of the plenary meeting documents.

One of the main items on the agenda would be the elections to the Governing Board Bureau. The Chair took this opportunity to thank the out-going Bureau members for their hard work and dedication to EPAS activities.

Decision: those Bureau members who intend to stand for re-election, should inform the Chair before 1 May 2015.

14. Any other business

None.

15. Date and place of the next meeting

The Bureau provisionally arranged to hold the next Bureau meeting in Paris during the week of 16 November 2015, depending on the availability of the newly-elected Bureau members. However, if the conference on climate and environmental sustainability mentioned under item 7.2 of this report is held in Paris at the end of 2015, the Secretariat would try to arrange the Bureau meeting the day before or the day after this event.

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.

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3. Reports on recent meetings

3.1 Draft List of decisions – Governing Board Bureau meeting, Paris, 13 November 2014

The Bureau is invited to take note of and adopt this report.

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3.2 Draft List of decisions – 2nd meeting of the Network of the National Regulators of the sports betting market, the Hague, 11 December 2014

The Bureau is invited to take note of this report

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4. Recent news

4.1 Member states

4.2 Partner organisations

4.3 Sports Conventions

4.4 Council of Europe bodies

4.5 Council of Europe Secretariat

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

5. EPAS Statute and Regulations

5.1 Revised Statute of EPAS

The Bureau is invited to take note of the progress to date.

5.2 Consultative Committee – Revision of its Terms of Reference

The Bureau is invited to approve this version of the Terms of Reference for renewal by the Governing Board.

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6. Voluntary Contribution Projects and Joint Projects

6.1 Preparatory Action: European Partnerships on Sport – “Pro Safe Sport for young athletes”

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6.2 DG Home : Call for proposals "New integrated mechanisms for cooperation between public and private actors to identify sports betting risks"

The Bureau is invited to take note of the updates by the Secretariat.

7. Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport

7.1 13th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, Macolin/Maggingen (Switzerland), 18 September 2014

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The Bureau is invited to take note of the follow-up document and propose, where necessary, amendments to the implementation of Resolutions.

7.2 Informal Ministerial Gathering – Baku, 12 June 2015

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The Bureau is invited to discuss the background document prepared by the Secretariat on the theme of “Social Sustainability of Major Sports Events” in preparation of this event.

8. Standard-setting and follow-up

8.1 Update on the status of signatures to the Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions and further promotion initiatives

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- Oslo Conference, 17-18 March 2015

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

8.2 Recommendation on Gender mainstreaming in sport

The Bureau is invited to take note of the Recommendation as adopted by the Committee of Ministers, and discuss possible activities related to its implementation.

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8.3 Compliance with Commitments

The Bureau is invited to take note of the update by the Secretariat regarding the meeting held in London on 23 January 2015, and to discuss which specificities should be included in the Appendix relating to visits organised by EPAS.

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8.4 Consultative Visit – Georgia (13-15 October 2014)

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

9. Programme of Activities 2014-2015

9.1 Programme and budget 2015

The Bureau is invited to hold an exchange of views on the programme and approve any updates to the planning and elements of activities for 2015.

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9.2 Other meetings and EPAS representation

The Bureau is invited to discuss and approve calendar updates and designate Bureau representatives, where necessary, for activities where Bureau representation would be advisable.

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10. Promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination

10.1 Priorities (2015)

- Tolerance and diversity through PE teaching

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The Bureau is invited to hold an exchange of views on the preparation of the political conference (place, time) and to discuss co-operation possibilities with partner organisations.

10.2 Future priorities (2016)

- Involving newly-arrived migrants in sport

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat on this topic, and to discuss preparatory actions in 2015.

11. On-going co-operation with European Union institutions

11.1 Co-ordination with the European Union

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat regarding possibilities under Erasmus+ in 2016.

12. Publications

The Bureau is invited to take note of the update presented orally by the Secretariat

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13. Draft Agenda of the 9th 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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14. Any other business

15. Date and place of the next meeting

The Bureau is invited to decide upon a date for the next Bureau meeting in November 2015.

Appendix II: List of Participants

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS /
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS**

CHAIR / PRESIDENCE

Ms Wendela KUPER
Senior policy advisor
Sports Department
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
NETHERLANDS

BUREAU MEMBERS / MEMBRES DU BUREAU

Mr Marko BEGOVIC
International Affairs Advisor
Directorate for Youth and Sports
MONTENEGRO

Mr Pascal CHATELAIN
Chef des affaires internationales
Département fédéral de la défense, de la protection
de la population et des sports
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Counselor for Cultural Affairs
Ministry of Education and Culture
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Secretary
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Masarykova 16
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Mr Alexandre MARGUERITE
Chef du bureau des relations internationales
Direction des Sports
Ministères des sports, de la jeunesse, de l'éducation populaire et de la vie associative
FRANCE

Mr Alexey MOROZOV
Deputy Chair of the EPAS Governing Board
Director of the Department of Winter Sport's Development and Preparations for the Olympic Games in
Sochi
Ministry of sport
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE /
REPRESENTANTS DU COMITE CONSULTATIF

Ms Birgitta KERVINEN

President

European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation (ENGSO)

APOLOGISED / EXCUSEE

Mme Sarah LACARRIERE

Chargée de projets Intégrité

Unité de l'Intégrité du Sport

SPORT ACCORD

EPAS SECRETARIAT / SECRETARIAT DE L'APES

Mr Stanislas FROSSARD

EPAS Executive Secretary

Council of Europe

Ms Caroline LARGHI

EPAS Administrative Assistant

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Ms Heather STEWART

EPAS Administrative assistant

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