

Strasbourg, 21 January 2017

EPAS (2017) 9

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

24th meeting of the EPAS Governing Board Bureau

Council of Europe
55 Avenue Kléber, 75116 Paris
(1st floor, Meeting room n° 1)

Thursday 19 January 2017, 9.30 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. She noted apologies of absence from the delegates from Iceland, Morocco, and FIAS, and the withdrawal from the Bureau by Alexandre Marguerite (France) as Vice-Chair, given his departure from the Ministry of Sport. The full list of participants appears in Appendix I to this document.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Bureau adopted the agenda with no amendments, as it appears in Appendix II to this document.

3. Reports on recent meetings

The Bureau took note of the various reports of recent meetings (EPAS (2016) 38, EPAS-SC (2016) 3rev, EPAS (2016) 47, EPAS (2016) 49, EPAS (2017) 3, EPAS (2016) 51, and EPAS (2016) 42), in addition to the following elements provided orally by the Secretariat:

- The Statutory Committee elected a new Chair at its meeting in 2016: Mr Rémi Mortier, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Monaco to the Council of Europe;
- The Network of National Regulators of the Sports Betting Market held its last meeting under the mandate of EPAS in 2016. The co-ordination of any such networks linked to the Macolin Convention is now under the responsibility of the Sport Conventions Unit; the EPAS secretariat could support the T-MC secretariat, for example in contacts with RPs to appoint regulators to the network.
- The Consultative Committee was re-energised with a good working atmosphere, and is an essential party to the work of EPAS;
- National seminars as follow-up to joint projects (such as PSS and KCOOS) had proven to be an essential way of assisting states on certain issues, but organising them at regional level could have a wider impact and help states facing the same challenges to work together;
- The on-line platform for projects integrating migrants via sport, as a follow-up to the Vienna Conference, was under preparation with the test phase already completed; the Secretariat took note of advice to postpone going live in May if there was not enough content.

4. Recent news

4.1 Member states

The Bureau took note of the oral update regarding the state of play concerning contact made on possible adhesion by states such as Turkey, Italy, Slovak Republic and Ukraine.

4.2 Partner organisations

The Bureau noted the state of play concerning contact made with potential new members of the Consultative Committee, including SportAccord, FIBA and the European University Sports Association (EUSA).

4.3 Sports Conventions

The Bureau noted that over 20 signatures had already been obtained for the new Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events, and that quick ratifications were expected to follow (only three are required for the convention to enter into force).

The Secretariat also updated the Bureau on the Anti-doping Action Plan for the Russian Federation, which the Council of Europe set up in April 2016 and which is much appreciated by the Russian Federation.

Regarding ratifications of the Macolin Convention, only two more are required for it to enter into force. Albania and Georgia are very advanced in their progress, with Azerbaijan, the Russian Federation, Switzerland and possibly Slovenia following suit. On this basis, the Secretariat expects the convention to enter into force during the course of 2017.

4.4 Council of Europe Secretariat

The Bureau thanked the Secretariat for the recent information sent to all Governing Board and Consultative Committee members on the changes in the EPAS secretariat and relevant points of contact. The Secretariat then informed the Bureau of possible restructuring at management level to help the Sport Division cope with the planned increase in resources, especially for anti-doping issues. The Bureau welcomed this increase in budget and structure for the sport sector, but stressed the importance of keeping EPAS and the Sports Conventions in the same unit so they can continue their close co-operation.

The Bureau took note that reflections and discussions had already started within the Council of Europe Secretariat to prepare for the next biennium (Programme of Activities and the DG2 2018-2019 strategy). It noted that there would be a strategic reflexion at DGII level on “non-state actors”, in which sport clearly had a role to play, and the Bureau was pleased to note that the EPAS Secretariat would be represented in an internal working group on this.

The Secretariat informed the Bureau that despite a long process of exchanges with Permanent Representations from the major contributing states (France and Russian Federation) regarding the Governing Board’s proposal to the GR-PBA to offer a deal to non-European states wishing to combine convention ratifications with membership of EPAS, the French delegation had decided not to support the proposal. It was therefore deemed unnecessary to continue pursuing this issue any further.

5. Programme of Activities 2016-2017

5.1 Programme and budget 2016

The Bureau took note of the oral presentation made by the Secretariat on the accomplishment of 2016 activities. It noted that it had been particularly difficult to attract interest from states to host consultative visits on the European Sport Charter (especially those in western Europe), but agreed that the offer should remain open and flexible in 2017.

5.2 Programme and budget 2017

The Bureau took note of the updates to the 2017 Programme and budget and to the calendar of activities. Mr Andersen (Play the Game) announced that the 2017 edition of the Play the Game Conference would be held in Eindhoven (Netherlands) from 26-30 November 2017. The Secretariat added that an important part of the EPAS 2017 budget had been put aside for good governance activities, and that EPAS could use the PtG conference as an opportunity to gather its experts and hold a side-event during the conference.

The Secretariat drew the Bureau’s attention to the two projects being launched by other organisations in 2017 to which EPAS had agreed to be a partner (Sports Governance Observer and ASPIRE) and for which EPAS representation at the kick-off meetings would be welcomed.

DECISION: the Bureau asked the Secretariat to transmit more information in writing to the Bureau members on these two projects, and to clarify what would be expected of the chosen EPAS representatives in terms of input and meeting attendance.

The Bureau also noted that the Summer School initially planned for 2016, and which had been postponed until 2017, may not go ahead due to lack of confirmation of co-funding by the IOC.

DECISION: the Bureau decided that if the co-funding for the Summer School was not confirmed this year, then the activity should not be considered again.

6. Voluntary Contribution Projects and Joint Projects

6.1 EU (DG Home): Keep Crime out of Sport (KCOOS)

The Bureau welcomed the presentation by Ms Cassandra Fernandes, Senior Project Officer of the KCOOS project, who highlighted the key outcomes from the different activities organised during the first 12 months of the project. The Bureau also noted the positive feedback received from participants in the regional seminars and thanked Ms Fernandes for her flexibility to drive the project forward. The project will end on 30 June 2017.

Ms Fernandes also gave an update regarding status of signatures and ratifications of the convention on the manipulation of sports competitions and on the progress made regarding the roadmap (see item 8.1).

6.2 EU (Direct grant agreements)

The Bureau took note of the explanations given by the Secretariat concerning various ongoing projects (Balance in Sport, Gender-based/sexual violence in sport and ProS4) all of which are co-funded by the EU and the CoE.

The Balance in Sport (BIS) project had finished in December 2016 after its 12-month run, and had successfully set up some gender equality indicators to be used in sport. The BIS project was scheduled to continue with co-funding by the EU and the CoE but would not be launched until 2018. In the meantime, EPAS could help prepare and clarify the design process for this 2018 project (see item 8.2).

During this break in BIS activity as a joint project, the two Organisations have nevertheless agreed, in principle, to co-fund and run a new 9-month project on gender-based violence in sport, as a follow up to the “Pro Safe Sport” project which EPAS implemented in 2014/15.

Regarding ProS4, the 2016 joint project which concentrated on 3 countries (Slovak Republic, Croatia and Romania) has come to an end. The project is continuing in 2017 under the name ProS4+, and will work more at a regional level, with the role of the NFIPs and the implementation of the convention (CETS no. 218) being the main focus.

6.3 Proposals for Voluntary Contributions:

The Bureau took note of the document prepared by the Secretariat (EPAS (2017) 4) containing information regarding two projects for which voluntary contributions could be requested to member states:

- **Sports Governance Observer (SGO)** (also mentioned under item 5.2)
The project is aimed at implementing good governance indicators at national level, and EPAS could help fund the project’s activities in non-EU countries; contributions of €20,000 to €30,000 per country would be required. States interested in offering support or a voluntary contribution towards these activities should make contact with their Permanent Representation in Strasbourg for further details.
Mr Andersen (Play the Game, SGO project) reiterated his thanks to EPAS for its support to activities on good governance. He added that involvement from EPAS in funding activities in non-EU countries would allow the SGO project to compare a variety of countries across five key sports and thus collect solid data material.

- The proposed follow-up project to KCOOS (known as KCOOS+)
The Bureau acknowledged that the momentum provided by KCOOS should be continued through 2017-2019, despite DG Home not committing to co-finance further projects in this field. It encouraged the Secretariat to continue identifying possible donors from the sports movement and lotteries/betting operators and to seek external sources of funding in order to be able to confirm the setting up of the KCOOS+ project.

7. Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport

7.1 14th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, Budapest, 29 November 2016

The Bureau congratulated the host country and the Secretariat on their fruitful co-operation and the work they did to make the conference a success. It also welcomed the internal evaluations done by both, to see how improvements could be made when organising future conferences.

The Bureau noted the need for the Governing Board to discuss and clarify the role of the Consultative Committee within the context of the Ministerial Conference, and in particular for the Secretariat to communicate better in the factsheet of the next conference on who exactly is invited to the Senior Officials meeting. The Bureau also raised the question of media presence during the Conference itself.

DECISION: the Bureau noted that these issues should be discussed at the next plenary meeting in May 2017, and asked the Secretariat to publish the different speeches from the Conference on-line, if prior approval from the speakers was obtained.

The Bureau took note of, and agreed with, the list of actions suggested by the Secretariat in document EPAS (2016) 56 in order to follow up the resolutions adopted during the Ministerial Conference.

7.2 15th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport

The Bureau took note of the official offer received from Georgia to host the next Conference of Ministers in 2018, and the unofficial offer from Montenegro (an official letter was in the process of being signed and would be submitted shortly).

DECISION: the Bureau asked the Secretariat to prepare a document in time for the next Bureau meeting (20 March 2017) on the issues to be raised at the Governing Board plenary meeting concerning the hosting of the 15th MSL.

8. Standard-setting and follow-up

8.1 Update regarding status of signatures and ratifications of the Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions

The Bureau took note of the oral report provided by the Secretariat under item 6.1.

8.2 Recommendation on Gender mainstreaming in sport

The Bureau took note of the concept paper concerning the BIS+ project preparation in 2017 (follow up to the 2016 Balance in Sport project) as prepared by the Secretariat, and had no comments to make.

8.3 Recommendation on the protection of child and young athletes from dangers associated with migration

The Bureau took note of the oral presentation by the Secretariat on the progress made so far, to try to involve the African Union in a co-operation activity on this subject. The Council of Europe's office in Geneva was helping to make contact via the AU's Permanent Delegation in Geneva.

8.4 Recommendation on the prohibition of free fighting contests, such as cage fighting

The Bureau took note of the oral presentation on the progress made so far regarding the progress of the Working Group, which had been set up to revise the recommendation. Its first meeting the previous day in Paris had been fruitful, and the next meeting was scheduled for April.

8.5 Compliance with Commitments

- Procedural guidelines
- Preparation of visits in 2017

The Bureau took note of the complete version of the procedural guidelines with appendices adopted by the various Council of Europe committees in the field of sport. The Secretariat requested input from the Governing Board on how to better encourage states to host EPAS-related consultative visits.

9. Promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination

9.1 Priorities (2017)

- **Working together to build and consolidate democracy, tolerance and inclusion**, Annual conference, Cyprus, 11 May 2017

The Bureau noted that the venue for the annual conference had been confirmed as the Grand Resort Hotel in Limassol. The aim of this conference will be to look back over the first 10 years of EPAS and to evaluate its role in promoting diversity and fighting discrimination in sport.

In order to make the three days in Limassol as compact as possible, it was suggested that the Consultative Committee could hold its plenary meeting on the morning of 9 May, and join the Governing Board for the joint part of the meeting as from the afternoon (the Governing Board will meet *in camera* during the morning of 9 May). The joint meeting will then continue all day on 10 May, and the Annual Conference will be on 11 May.

- **Tolerance and diversity through PE teaching**, Summer School, Olympia, 2017

The Bureau took note of the oral report provided by the Secretariat under item 5.2.

9.2 Future priorities (2018-2019)

- Results of the questionnaire circulated at the Restricted Gathering of EPAS Ministers, Budapest, 28 November 2016

The Bureau took note of the results of the questionnaire which had been circulated at the Restricted Gathering of EPAS Ministers, in Budapest on 28 November 2016. It decided that not only the topics coming out on top should be looked at, but also those in 2nd and 3rd place as the results were quite close.

The Bureau discussed whether the interesting results of this questionnaire could be made public.

DECISION: the Bureau asked the Secretariat to reshape the document by adding extra information such as the number of participants' replies, to highlight the three best-rated options, and to distribute it to the Governing Board for information. Only then could the document be made public. At its next meeting in March, the Bureau will discuss how to ensure the Governing Board holds more interactive debates on this.

- Preparation of biennium 2018-2019

The Bureau took note of the presentation given by the Secretariat on the proposed new changes to the biennium programme categories. The previous bienniums had been consolidated into three pillars, which were “monitoring, diversity and co-operation”. This new proposal to suggest “sport for all, clean sport and safe sport” were welcomed by the Bureau as they seemed more modern and transversal. One remark made was to avoid the word “clean” and replace it with “ethics” instead.

DECISION: As the Secretariat would no doubt be asked to deliver the new 2018-2019 structure, for internal purposes, before the next meeting of the Bureau, it was agreed to continue discussions with the Bureau on this via e-mail.

10. Visibility and publications

- 10.1 Good practice handbooks**
- 10.2 Sports Policy and Practice collection**
- 10.3 Sports website**

The Bureau took note of the oral presentation made by the Secretariat on the update regarding publication of handbooks, the sports policy and practice series (including Sport and Prisons) and the migration of the two current sports websites (EPAS and Conventions) into one combined website.

The Bureau welcomed the attempts made by the Secretariat to make the meeting documents easier to download from the website, but asked if it was technically possible to have them open in a new pop-up window, rather than in the same window, and to show the content of the document rather than just the reference number.

11. Any other business

Sport Diplomacy

The Bureau discussed the follow-up that EPAS could bring to the report of the High-level Group on Sport Diplomacy, given that the content coincides with EPAS values but that the geographic coverage of EPAS reaches further than the EU. The Bureau discussed the idea of organising a Round Table on the subject, given that several countries, including France and the Russian Federation, have Ambassadors for Sport whose roles fit with the EPAS priorities.

DECISION: the Bureau agreed to add it to the list of activities for 2017 as a topic for a possible round table and to discuss it further in the joint meeting in May.

Other meetings: MINEPS VI and the International Partnership on Sport Integrity

The Secretariat gave an update to the Bureau members on the development made on these two files, especially with regard to the Council of Europe's high-level participation in the forthcoming IFSI meeting in Lausanne on 15 February where the partnership would be discussed.

12. Date and place of the next meeting

The Bureau agreed to hold its next meeting on 20 March 2017, at the Council of Europe office in Paris, where the main topic on the agenda would be the preparation of the agenda for the joint meeting on 9-10 May. The Secretariat would confirm this date by e-mail to all Bureau members, and would invite Alexandre Marguerite to join those interested, either for lunch or dinner.

<p>DECISION: the Bureau asked the Secretariat to prepare a draft agenda of the joint meeting, and to clarify the ends of mandates for current Bureau members, so that there is a clear picture of the elections that need to take place.</p>

Appendix I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

CHAIR / PRESIDENCE

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

VICE-CHAIR / VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr Alexandre MARGUERITE
France
Excusé / Apologised

BUREAU MEMBERS / MEMBRES DU BUREAU

HUNGARY / HONGRIE

Ms Krisztina GÖNTÉR
Senior advisor
EU and international relations
Ministry of Human Capacities
State Secretariat for Sport and Youth

ICELAND / ISLANDE

Mr Oskar Þór ÁRMANNSSON
Excusée / Apologised

MOROCCO / MAROC

Ms Samira HEMAMA
Excusée / Apologised

MONTENEGRO

Mr Marko BEGOVIĆ
Advisor for international relations and high performance sport
Ministry of Sports

SLOVENIA / SLOVENIE

Mr Zoran VEROVNIK
Secretary
Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport

RUSSIAN FEDERATION / FEDERATION DE RUSSIE

Mr Alexey MOROZOV

Director of the Department of winter sport's development and preparations for the Olympic Games in Sochi

Ministry of Sport

Accompanied by:

Ms Marina SEDUGINA

Adviser of the international Department for the cooperation in the sphere of sports

Ministry of Sport

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE / COMITE CONSULTATIF

Mr Jens Sejer ANDERSEN (Chair of the Consultative Committee)

International Director

Danish Institute for Sport Studies

PLAY THE GAME

Mr Michal BUCHEL (Vice-Chair of the Consultative Committee)

Excusé / Apologised

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EPAS SECRETARIAT / SECRETARIAT DE L'APES

Mr Stanislas FROSSARD

Executive Secretary

Mme Clarisse BONJEAN

Project Manager

Ms Heather STEWART

Administrative assistant

Appendix II

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 (2016) 50

Action: adopt agenda EPAS (2016) 50

3. Reports on recent meetings

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 3.1 Draft List of decisions – 10th meeting of the EPAS Governing Board, Strasbourg, 17-18 May 2016 | EPAS (2016) 38
(English only) |
| 3.2 List of decisions – 13th meeting of the EPAS Statutory Committee, Strasbourg, 9 September 2016 | EPAS-SC (2016) 3rev |
| 3.3 List of decisions – 4th meeting of the Network of National Regulators of the Sports Betting Market, Strasbourg, 20 September 2016 | EPAS (2016) 47 |
| 3.4 Draft report - 6th meeting of the Bureau of the Consultative Committee, Sofia, 3 October 2016 | EPAS (2016) 49
(English only) |
| 3.5 Draft list of decisions - 9th meeting of the Consultative Committee Plenary, Budapest, 28 November 2016 | EPAS (2017) 3 |
| 3.6 Report on the Conference on Promoting the Well-Being of Athletes in the framework of the Council of Europe initiative “Pro Safe Sport” (PSS), Sofia, 4 October 2016 | EPAS (2016) 51
(English only) |
| 3.7 Conclusions of the annual EPAS Conference on “Newly arrived migrants and their integration via Sport”, Vienna, 2-3 June 2016 | EPAS (2016) 42 |

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of these reports, and the oral presentations by the Secretariat.

4. Recent news

- 4.1 Member states
- 4.2 Partner organisations
- 4.3 Sports Conventions
- 4.4 Council of Europe Secretariat

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

5. Programme of Activities 2016-2017

5.1 Programme and budget 2016

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the oral presentation made by the Secretariat on the accomplishment of 2016 activities

EPAS (2016) 7rev1
EPAS (2017) INF02

5.2 Programme and budget 2017

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the updates to the draft 2017 calendar, make proposals where necessary, and designate Bureau representatives for activities where EPAS representation would be advisable.

EPAS (2017) 7
Sport (2017) 1

6. Voluntary Contribution Projects and Joint Projects

6.1 EU (DG Home): Keep Crime out of Sport (KCOOS)

6.2 EU (Direct grant agreements):

- [Balance in Sport](#)
- [ProS4 / ProS4+](#)
- Sexual violence in sport

6.3 Proposals for Voluntary Contributions:

- Sports Governance Observer (SGO)
- KCOOS 2

EPAS (2017) 4

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the state of play of these projects and the updates given by the Secretariat regarding their follow up.

7. Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport

7.1 14th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, Budapest, 29 November 2016

EPAS (2016) 56

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the list of actions suggested by the secretariat and give feedback on the secretariat's proposals in order for the resolutions to be followed up successfully.

7.2 15th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport

EPAS (2017) INF01

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the offers to host the next Conference of Ministers in 2018

8. Standard-setting and follow-up

8.1 Update regarding status of signatures and ratifications of the Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions

- [Chart of signatures and ratifications](#)
- Roadmap – state of play

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

8.2 Recommendation on Gender mainstreaming in sport

EPAS (2017) 2

Action: The Bureau is invited to give its comments on the concept paper concerning BIS+ (follow up to Balance in Sport project).

8.3 Recommendation on the protection of child and young athletes from dangers associated with migration

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the oral presentation on the progress made so far.

8.4 Recommendation on the prohibition of free fighting contests, such as cage fighting

EPAS (2016) 54

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the oral presentation on the progress made so far and to comment where necessary on the documents.

8.5 Compliance with Commitments

- Procedural guidelines
- Preparation of visits in 2017

Sport (2017) 2

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the procedural guidelines as adopted by the various Council of Europe committees in the field of sport and of the information presented orally by the Secretariat.

9. Promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination

9.1 Priorities (2017)

- **Working together to build and consolidate democracy, tolerance and inclusion**, Annual conference, Cyprus, 11 May 2017
- **Tolerance and diversity through PE teaching**, Summer School, Olympia, 2017

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat

9.2 Future priorities (2018-2019)

- Results of the questionnaire circulated at the Restricted Gathering of EPAS Ministers, Budapest, 28 November 2016

EPAS (2017) 1

Action: The Bureau is invited to discuss the proposed structured priorities for EPAS in 2018-2019 and take a stand on the activities to be pursued as a priority.

10. Visibility and publications

- 10.1 Good practice handbooks
- 10.2 Sports Policy and Practice collection
- 10.3 Sports website

Action: The Bureau is invited to take note of the oral presentation made by the Secretariat and make suggestions where necessary

11. Any other business

Sport Diplomacy

- Bearing in mind the work done by the EU High-level Group on Sports Diplomacy and its [report](#), the Bureau is invited to discuss in more detail the merits of EPAS using Ambassadors of Sport to help play a role in transmitting EU values to other non-EU countries

Action: The Bureau is invited to discuss the follow-up that EPAS could bring to this report of the High-level Group

12. Date and place of the next meeting

Action: agree to hold the next Bureau meeting on XX March 2017 (*w/c 20 March?*), at the Council of Europe office in Paris.

Action: take note that the next joint plenary meeting of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee will take place in Cyprus on 9-10 May 2017.