



Mrs Ewa Markowicz
Chair of the Governing Board of the EPAS
Head of Unit for Bilateral and Multilateral
Cooperation
Ministry of Sport and Tourism - Department
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Strasbourg, 9 October 2012

Dear Mrs Markowicz,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Bureau of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) with reference to the activities of the EPAS relating to the negotiations of a possible Council of Europe convention on match-fixing.

As you know, by a decision of 13 June 2012, the Committee of Ministers "invited the EPAS Governing Board, where appropriate, in co-operation with the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO), the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), MONEYVAL and other relevant bodies, and in co-ordination with the European Union, to launch the negotiation of a possible Council of Europe Convention against Manipulation of Sports Results and notably Match-fixing."

At the beginning of September, I was informed that the EPAS had launched the process for negotiating the possible convention. On 20 September 2012, Ms Helena Lisuchova, member of the CDPC Bureau, was appointed to represent the CDPC in the drafting group.

On 2 October 2012, Ms Lisuchova received the official invitation to attend the first meeting (9-11 October 2012) and the working documents and in particular the "preliminary draft convention against manipulation of sports results". She sent this draft convention to the members of the CDPC Bureau that were meeting on 4 and 5 October. The Bureau took note of this preliminary draft convention and noticed in particular that three chapters (III: "Criminalisation and law enforcement"; IV: "Sanctions" and V: "International co-operation") out of seven contain provisions of both substantial and procedural criminal law.

In this regard, I would like to recall that in the past the CDPC delegations have already voiced their doubts as to the need for a new criminal law convention on match-fixing.

The CDPC wishes to play an active role in the drafting process, in full co-operation with the EPAS, and stands ready to discuss the relevant provisions of the draft convention related to criminal law at a plenary session, in accordance with its terms of reference which state that the CDPC "shall develop common standards in the fields of criminal law and preventing and combating organised crime, including both substantive and procedural aspects".

I look forward to discussing the best way to proceed with you. However, I should like inform you that, in view of its heavy agenda in December 2012, the CDPC plenary will not be in a position to examine in depth the draft convention before its meeting of May/June 2013.

Yours sincerely,



Lorenzo Salazar
Chair of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC)

CC Mr Harri Syväsalmi, Chair of the Drafting Group of a draft international convention to combat the manipulation of sports results