

E-mail sent by the Chair of the CDPC to all CDPC Delegations on 5 May 2014

Dear members of the CDPC,

I should like to inform you on the state of play concerning the CDPC draft opinion on the Convention against manipulation of sports competitions prepared by EPAS.

As you know, the Bureau prepared at its last meeting on 7-8 April a draft opinion on the text of the criminal law provisions (Articles 15, 17 to 19, 21 to 23, 25, 26) of the draft Convention, following the proposal on the procedure to follow, which I addressed to all of you by my letter dated of 7 March 2014 and that was agreed by written procedure. This draft opinion was then sent to all CDPC delegations on 11 April by the Secretariat who informed you that the opinion would be sent to the EPAS and asked if any delegations wished to make any final remarks on this opinion. The Secretariat received comments by a few delegations, one of which supported the draft opinion. Some remarks had been received prior to the drafting of the opinion and those remarks were already largely included in the draft opinion.

During the whole negotiation process with and within EPAS both the Bureau, the chairs of the CDPC and the Secretariat have been in regular contacts with EPAS to facilitate the work on the criminal law provisions. In my view and in the view of the Bureau, the provisions in the draft Convention now generally meet the requirements and wishes from the CDPC. Please note, that the draft EPAS Convention is not a CDPC Convention which we shall approve and send to the Committee of Ministers after a discussion and possibly a vote in the Plenary of the CDPC. We are only called upon to take a decision on an opinion concerning the draft.

Against this background, It is furthermore a matter of fact that the opinion can be considered as largely supported by the vast majority of the CDPC delegations according to our usual rules on written procedure and subsequently it could be sent to EPAS, which by the way has been informed about all the comments received from CDPC delegations. At the same time, since our next plenary session is going to take place in about one month, I can inform you that the item on the draft Convention prepared by EPAS will be included in the draft agenda of the meeting notably in order for the CDPC to have an opportunity to formally approve/endorse the opinion and to discuss the few comments received related to the opinion. It is thus neither the intention to have a discussion on the convention in general (which falls outside the remit of the CDPC and where the issues can be addressed to the Committee of Ministers), nor is it the intention to discuss the criminal law provisions beyond what is necessary to address the comments already received from delegations to the extent that those comments have not already been included in the draft opinion.

Best regards

Jesper Hjortenber
Chair of the CDPC