

Strasbourg, 1 February 2014

EPAS (2013) 71rev

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

18th meeting of the EPAS Governing Board Bureau
Council of Europe
1st floor, 55 Avenue Kléber, Paris

15 November 2013, 9.30am-5.00pm (room n° 1)

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 the present List of decisions.

3. Recent news of interest

3.1 Member states

The Bureau noted the update by the Secretariat concerning possible future accessions and that there were no major breakthroughs to report. The Secretariat was working on possibilities for meetings to be organised to re-open dialogue with authorities in the Czech Republic, Slovak Republic and the United Kingdom.

3.2 Partner Organisations

The Bureau noted that the total membership of the Consultative Committee had increased to 29, with the recent decision by the Committee of Ministers to invite FIFPro as member. No new applications had been received, although the Secretariat had been contacted by Supporters Direct and Special Olympics but with no mention of CC membership as yet.

3.3 Sports Conventions

The Secretariat gave a brief update on the work of the standing committees (T-DO and T-RV) including work on the revision of the WADA code and the launch of the negotiation to revise the Spectator Violence convention. Concerning the latter, it had been discussed in the GR-C mid-November and adopted *ad referendum*, so optimistically could be decided by the Committee of Ministers on 11 December 2013.

3.4 Council of Europe Secretariat

The Bureau took note of the arrival in the EPAS Secretariat of Mr François Tricarico (Deputy Executive Secretary) who is a seconded official from the Belgian authorities. It also took note that a

new Director, Mrs Marja Ruotanen, would take up her duties on 1 January 2014 (as a replacement to Mr Weingärtner who left at the end of 2012). The Sports Division will be under her direct supervision. In addition to current subjects covered by this directorate, her portfolio will also cover other issues such as Gender Equality and Children's Rights. This was seen by the Bureau as a positive change, given that the EPAS is tackling such subjects in its sports policy activities.

The Secretariat also informed the Bureau that the Secretary General had met Mr Joseph Blatter, President of FIFA, in Strasbourg for a working lunch on 4 November, also attended by Mrs Snežana Samardžić-Marković. The Bureau decided to discuss the outcome of this meeting in more detail under item 12 of its agenda.

4. Reports from recent meetings

4.1 Joint meeting between the EPAS Governing Board and the Consultative Committee, Strasbourg, 26-27 June 2013

The Bureau took note of the draft list of decisions to be adopted by the Governing Board. The Chair thanked the Secretariat for having drafted the report in an easy-to-read fashion.

The Bureau asked the Secretariat to correct one small mistake in the text and circulate the draft report to the Governing Board for validation by written procedure.

4.2 Statutory Committee, Strasbourg, 11 October 2013

The Bureau took note of the list of decisions and the oral report presented by the Secretariat.

Concerning the update of the EPAS statute, the Secretariat gave a brief reminder of the process so far. The Board noted the Secretariat's optimism that the issue would be solved within the framework of an informal meeting of the Statutory Committee to be organised in the near future.

The Board took note of the Secretariat's explanation with regard to the adoption of the 2014 logframes (priorities and performance indicators) in the annual programme of activities, and the late discovery that these should have been validated by the Statutory Committee at the beginning of the new biennium programme (2014-2015). The EPAS Secretariat had not been aware of this step in budget adoption (since the EPAS statute indicates that the Governing Board adopts the programme of activity, but the Statutory Committee adopts the budget).

The Bureau decided that the Governing Board should be made aware of this change in procedure and informed of the legal framework. The Bureau suggested that the Secretariat launch a written decision procedure via Circular Letter to the Statutory Committee, after first having informed the Governing Board members of this issue.

5. Voluntary Contribution Projects

5.1 Project on good governance

The Bureau took note of the oral update by the Secretariat, following the second meeting of the Accompanying Group (20 September 2013).

The Secretariat will send the Bureau members the written report on this project as soon as possible.

5.2 Recommendation from the Budget Committee about the Special Account

The Bureau took note of the recommendation by the Budget Committee to return the funds in the special account (transferred there as unspent funds from the 2007 budget) to the member states (those which contributed in 2007).

The Bureau discussed the fact that the funds currently in the special account had been earmarked for several activities (approved by the Governing Board during its plenary meeting) and decided it would not be wise to return the funds to the member states. It also agreed that, as a matter of procedure, some

informal contacts could be made with the United Kingdom (the major contributor to the 2007 budget and no longer member of EPAS) to clarify the situation.

The Bureau:

- thanked the Budget Committee for its recommendation;
- confirmed that it is aware of the principle that credit balances of budgets should be returned to member States;
- explained that in exceptional circumstances, the Governing Board of EPAS may propose that the Statutory Committee allocate an unspent balance to the special account, as the EPAS needs a working capital to launch joint projects co-funded by external contributions;
- understood that such kind of funding should be used to contribute to the Special Account only if necessary, and if the amount available is not sufficient to launch new project proposals;
- stated that the majority of the amount (€ 46 500.-) in the Special Account is earmarked for projects that were already decided upon and which are confirmed;
- confirmed that the outcome of its consideration will be presented to the EPAS Governing Board, but that it will not suggest recommending to the Statutory Committee to return the 2007 unspent amount to the EPAS member states;
- invited the Executive Secretary, when needed, to provide the Budget Committee with all the required detailed information.

6. Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport

6.1 12th Conference (Belgrade, Serbia, 15 March 2012) - follow-up

The Bureau took note of the progress made so far.

6.2 13th Conference (Macolin/Magglingen, Switzerland, 17-19 September 2014)

The Bureau took note of the update made by the Secretariat on the progress of the conference organisation made so far. It also noted that the Swiss authorities would hold a meeting with the Secretariat in Macolin/Magglingen on 9 December to discuss organisational issues.

The Secretariat informed the Board that it was currently taking measures to recruit an extra secretarial assistant to help with the conference organisation.

The Swiss member of the Bureau added that a project team had been put together and the logistical questions (venues, hotels, transport and security) were organised and would be finalised by the end of the year. A dedicated website for the event will go live in February and the invitations will be dispatched mid-March.

The Secretariat asked the Board members for assistance where possible in using their channels to help promote the participation of Commissioner Vassiliou in the conference.

6.3 19th Informal Conference (Sochi, Russian Federation, 7 February 2014)

The Bureau took note of the update made by the Secretariat regarding the offer from the Russian Federation to host an informal meeting of Ministers on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Sochi Olympic Games.

The Bureau discussed the complexity of sending invitations without being able to give extra accreditations for the opening ceremony (e.g. for advisors of Ministers, etc.) or guaranteeing accommodation will be available for those participants who have not already been invited by the organising committee. It decided that invitations to the informal meeting and logistical aspects linked to the Olympic Games had to be kept separate. The Bureau agreed to invite the Consultative Committee Bureau to the informal meeting, knowing that they may not accept if they do not already have accreditation and a hotel room.

Some members of the Bureau still had doubts as to whether holding two ministerial meetings (one formal and one informal) in one year was wise. The Bureau was adamant that a clear distinction between the two meetings had to be made, so as not to damage the visibility of the main formal

conference in Macolin/Magglingen in September 2014. Also, given the late organisation, the Bureau agreed that the Sochi event should be as informal as possible with no adoption of any Resolutions.

The Bureau agreed that no Resolutions would be adopted at the Sochi meeting. It invited the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Russian Federation delegates, to come up with a new title for the event (e.g. gathering of Ministers / business working party) so as not to overshadow the Formal Conference of Ministers to be held in Macolin/Magglingen. The Bureau agreed that the theme should be restricted to the legacy of Olympic Games. It recommended the invitations be despatched quickly.

7. Ongoing programme and budget

7.1 Meetings and EPAS representation

The Bureau discussed the calendar updates to 2013 and 2014, noting that there were no pending events requiring participation.

7.2 Programme and budget 2013

The Bureau took note of the oral presentation made by the Secretariat concerning the 2013 activities which were not implemented or finalised:

- Item 8: TAFISA cancelled this event;
- Item 12: Migration activity depended on EU contribution which was not forthcoming. It will now be covered by the “Pro Safe Sport” project in 2014;
- Item 13: European Week of Sport – the EPAS is now involved in the EU activity on the same subject, rather than run a similar activity in parallel; François Tricarico will attend the first meeting on behalf of EPAS to try to advocate for it to be organised at pan-European level.
- Item 10: it was not possible to set up an agreement with FARE as they did not follow up despite several reminders.

The Bureau noted that one extra meeting of the Drafting Group for the Recommendation on gender mainstreaming in sport had been added, as well as one extra meeting of the Drafting Group for the convention on the manipulation of sports competitions.

Regarding the Friendship Games activity which was placed on the waiting list, no states had come forward with a proposal.

The Bureau agreed to give states until the next meeting of the Governing Board to show an interest in organising the Friendship Games, otherwise it will delete the activity from the list.

7.3 Programme and budget 2014

The Bureau held an exchange of views on the preparation and update of the 2014 programme.

The Bureau noted that in order to arrange a consultative visit in 2014, any interested state would need to send first a report from its authorities. The Bureau believed that such visits were not only for eastern European states, but that there could also be added value for states from Western Europe, with more developed sports infrastructures, to hold such a visit.

The 2013 project with Tennis Europe had resulted in a recommendation for a follow-up seminar in 2014. The Bureau decided to discuss this proposal at its next meeting, once the official report had been submitted by Tennis Europe.

The Bureau discussed the options of running an activity related to the Recommendation No. R (99) 11 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the prohibition of free fighting contests. This topic was raised during the last Governing Board plenary meeting by a member of the Consultative Committee. The Bureau agreed with the suggestion of the Secretariat to organise a Round Table on this topic in order to judge the level of interest by member states in this subject.

The Bureau gave the Secretariat the go-ahead to launch the process of organising a round table on the prohibition of free fighting contests.

8. Standard-setting and follow-up

8.1 Negotiation process of draft convention on match-fixing

The Bureau took note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat on the on-going process, in particular regarding the most important issues to be solved at the next meeting of the drafting group on 25-27 November 2013 (autonomy of sport, purpose of the convention, definitions, national platforms, judicial cooperation, criminal sanctions). The Secretariat also explained the next steps of the process once the drafting group had finished its negotiations.

The Bureau invited the Secretariat to update document EPAS (2013) 29rev2 once the 5th meeting of the Drafting Group was over.

8.2 Draft Recommendation on Gender Mainstreaming in Sport

The Bureau took note of the draft Recommendation in its current state, and noted that the next meeting of the Drafting Group was scheduled to take place on 4-5 December 2013 in Vilnius. The aim of this meeting would be to shorten, simplify and finalise the text of the draft Recommendation.

9. Elections

9.1 Gender Equality Rapporteur

The Bureau discussed the role of Gender Equality Rapporteur and approved the candidacy of Marko Begović (Montenegro) to stand for election. The election would be held during the next Extraordinary meeting of the Governing Board.

10. Promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination

10.1 On-going activities (2013)

a) Children and sport

The Bureau noted the final report prepared by the Secretariat on the outcome of the annual political conference held in Budapest on 7-8 October 2013, in particular the idea of continuing activities such as regional seminars on roma inclusion in sport.

10.2 Future priorities (2014)

a) Sport and Prisons

The Bureau took note of the progress made in disseminating a questionnaire to prison administrations across Europe, the results of which will be analysed and presented at the EPAS conference on this subject to be held in Paris in 2014. The Bureau also noted that the conference will now be held in June 2014, and not April as initially planned, due to elections in France at that time.

10.3 Future priorities (2015)

a) Pestalozzi project

The Bureau took note of the information presented by the Secretariat on this project, in particular the successful identification of an expert to carry out research on how much the Council's values are included in the school curricula of member states.

M. Begović (Montenegro) strongly supported this project and hoped it would be a long-term initiative.

The Bureau invited the Secretariat to add the powerpoint presentation on this project to the list of the Bureau's meeting documents on the Restricted Access website.

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

11.1 EU sports forum – Vilnius, Lithuania

The Bureau took note of the update by the Secretariat regarding the EU events organised in Lithuania. It also noted the positive relations between the EPAS Secretariat and the new Head of Sports Unit at the Commission, Mr Yves Le Lostecque. They will meet in January to discuss co-operation between the two institutions on matters relating to sport.

As an example of ongoing co-operation, the EC Secretariat continues to be involved in the EPAS drafting group on the recommendation on gender mainstreaming, and in turn has invited EPAS to be represented in the EC conference on gender equality in sport in Lithuania in early December.

The Secretariat added that EPAS would be represented at the forthcoming meeting in Brussels on a possible European Week of Sport, organised by the EU, with the aim of reminding the organisers that Eastern European countries could also be involved.

11.2 EU Programme

The Secretariat informed the Bureau that the EPAS project application “Pro Safe Sport for Young Athletes” discussed at the last plenary meeting had successfully passed the evaluation stage for EU funding. The Secretariat told the Bureau it was in the process of hiring a Project Manager in time for the project to kick off in January 2014.

The Bureau asked the Secretariat send the Governing Board members a copy of the final EU project application, along with the list of partner organisations, and to keep the Board informed of progress at the various stages of project implementation.

12. Miscellaneous

The Bureau discussed the non-paper prepared by the Secretariat concerning several issues raised by FIFA during Joseph Blatter’s meeting with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 4 November. The Bureau agreed on the following topics:

- FIFA membership of the Consultative Committee: sporting disciplines should be represented on the Consultative Committee by a single sports federation, and preference should be given to the European branch (i.e. UEFA). The Bureau agreed that UEFA could be consulted on a joint membership with FIFA, with only one delegate representing them, depending on the nature of the EPAS event.
- Payment to join the Consultative Committee: no payment would be possible, but co-funding for certain activities could be envisaged.
- FIFA involvement in match-fixing convention: it was now too late to join the negotiations and the framework cannot be modified.
- Participation in the ministerial conference in Macolin/Magglingen: the Secretariat will discuss this issue with the Sports Director of Switzerland. Some sports organisations which are not members of the Consultative Committee are sometimes invited to Ministerial meetings.

13. Date and place of next meeting

The Bureau took note that an Extraordinary meeting of the Governing Board will be held on 19 December 2013, following the final meeting of the drafting group on the Convention against the manipulation of sports competitions (if the work on the convention is finalised). This meeting will be postponed to January 2014 if another meeting of the drafting group is required.

The Bureau asked the Secretariat to check room availability and to confirm the exact date of the next Bureau meeting (around 3-4 April 2014), at the Council of Europe office in Paris or Strasbourg.

The Bureau noted that the next joint plenary meeting of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee will take place on 21-22 May 2014 in Strasbourg.

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

EPAS (2013) 60

The Bureau is invited to adopt the agenda.

Action: adopt agenda EPAS (2013) 60

3. Recent news of interest

- 3.1 Member states**
- 3.2 Partner Organisations**
- 3.3 Sports Conventions**
- 3.4 Council of Europe secretariat**

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

4. Reports from recent meetings

- 4.1 Joint meeting between the EPAS Governing Board and the Consultative Committee, Strasbourg, 26-27 June 2013**

EPAS (2013) 64

The Bureau is invited to take note of the draft list of decisions to be adopted by the Governing Board.

4.2 Statutory Committee, Strasbourg, 11 October 2013

The Bureau is invited to take note of the list of decisions and the oral report presented by the Secretariat.

EPAS-SC (2013) 3 final

5. Voluntary Contribution Projects**5.1 Project on good governance**

The Bureau is invited to take note of the update by the Secretariat, following the second meeting of the Accompanying Group (20 September 2013).

5.2 Recommendation from the Budget Committee about the Special Account

EPAS (2013) INF34

The Bureau is invited to take note of the recommendation by the Budget Committee and to take a stand on this proposal

Action: decision on funds in Special Account

6. Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport

6.1 12th Conference (Belgrade, Serbia, 15 March 2012) - follow-up

The Bureau is invited to take note of the progress made so far.

EPAS (2012) 21rev1

6.2 13th Conference (Macolin/Maggingen, Switzerland, 17-19 September 2014)

The Bureau is invited to take note of the update made by the Secretariat on the progress made so far.

EPAS (2013) 27rev
EPAS (2013) 31

6.3 19th Informal Conference (Sochi, Russian Federation, 7 February 2014)

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

EPAS (2013) 53rev

7. Ongoing programme and budget

7.1 Meetings and EPAS representation

Action: discuss and validate the calendar updates and designate Bureau representatives, where necessary, for activities where Bureau representation would be advisable.

Sport (2013) 1
Sport (2014) 1

7.2 Programme and budget 2013

The Bureau is invited to take note of the oral presentation made by the Secretariat.

EPAS (2013) 23rev
EPAS (2013) 55

7.3 Programme and budget 2014

The Bureau is invited to hold an exchange of views on the preparation and update of the programme.

EPAS (2013) 33rev
CM/Rec (99) 11

Action: approve the planning and elements of activities for 2014; discuss the addition of possible activity on the follow-up or review of Recommendation No. R (99) 11 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the prohibition of free fighting contests, such as cage fighting.

8. Standard-setting and follow-up

8.1 Negotiation process of draft convention on match-fixing

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat on the on-going process.

EPAS (2013) 29rev2
EPAS (2013) INF17
EPAS (2013) 16rev6
EPAS (2013) 62rev
EPAS (2013) 63

8.2 Draft Recommendation on Gender Mainstreaming in Sport

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat on the on-going process.

EPAS (2013) 36rev2

9. Elections

9.1 Gender Equality Rapporteur

GEC (2012) 12rev1

The Bureau is invited to discuss the role of GE Rapporteur and to propose candidates to stand for election during the next plenary meeting on 19 December 2013.

Action: approve the proposal of candidates to stand for election

10. Promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination

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|-------------|---|----------------|
| 10.1 | On-going activities (2013)
- Children and sport | EPAS (2013) 65 |
| 10.2 | Future priorities (2014)
- Sport and Prisons | EPAS (2013) 66 |
| 10.3 | Future priorities (2015)
- Pestalozzi project | EPAS (2013) 58 |

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat on these topics.

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

11.1 EU sports forum – Vilnius, Lithuania

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

11.2 EU Programme

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information presented orally by the Secretariat regarding possible projects :

- Preparatory Action: European Partnerships on Sport – “Pro Safe Sport for young athletes”
- Erasmus+

EPAS (2013) INF35

12. Miscellaneous

13. Date and place of next meeting

Action: take note that an Extraordinary meeting of the Governing Board will be held on 19 December 2013, at the Council of Europe office in Paris

Action: agree to hold the next Bureau meeting on XX April 2014, at the Council of Europe office in Paris or Strasbourg.

Action: take note that the next joint plenary meeting of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee will take place on 21-22 May 2014 in Strasbourg.

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

Chair of the EPAS Governing Board
Senior policy Advisor
Sports Department
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
NETHERLANDS

BUREAU MEMBERS**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

Mr Marko BEGOVIC

International Affairs Advisor
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Mr Pascal CHATELAIN

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SWITZERLAND

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

Ms Ewa MARKOWICZ

Head of Unit for Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation
Department of International Cooperation
POLAND

Accompanying person

Ms Marina SEDUGINA

Expert
International Department for the Cooperation in the Sphere of Sports
Ministry for Sport
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

BUREAU MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr Predrag MANOJLOVIĆ
ENGSO Secretariat

EPAS SECRETARIAT

Mr Stanislas FROSSARD
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APOLOGISED

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