

Strasbourg, 24 March 2015

EPAS (2014) 65

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

20th meeting of the EPAS Governing Board Bureau

Council of Europe, 55 avenue Kléber, Paris
1st floor, room n° 2

13 November 2014

List of decisions

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by Mrs Wendela Kuper (Netherlands), Chair of the EPAS Governing Board, during which she welcomed Mr Zoran Verovnik as new member of the Bureau.

She referred to the sad news of the death of Predrag Manoljovic and informed the Bureau members that the Secretariat had sent a letter of condolence to ENGSO on behalf of EPAS.

The Secretariat also announced the death of the former Head of Sports Division, Mr George Walker, on 11 November 2014.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Bureau adopted the agenda without any amendments, as it appears in Appendix I to the present List of decisions.

3. Reports on recent meetings

The Bureau took note of reports from three recent meetings:

3.1 Draft list of decisions - Governing Board and Consultative Committee meeting, Strasbourg, 21-22 May 2014

The Bureau found the draft report to be clear, but requested the Secretariat make one small clarification to item 7 to better reflect the idea of a general follow-up to the Sochi meeting, rather than referring to the holding of an actual event.

3.2 Conference on “Sport and Prisons” of 16-17 June 2014

The Bureau took note of the final report and the information given by the Secretariat on the status of the EPAS publication on this subject. The Secretariat was asked to ensure that the Finnish delegation mentioned in the list of participants was complete.

3.3 Statutory Committee meeting of 20 October 2014

The Bureau took note of the outcome of this meeting, firstly with regard to the modifications made to the EPAS statute. It noted that the majority of the proposed changes were rejected by the Statutory Committee for reasons of maintaining consistency with other partial agreements. The two proposals retained were minor changes suggested by DLAPIL. The version approved by the Statutory Committee will now continue for final adoption by the Ministers’ Deputies in late November.

The Bureau also noted the second, more disappointing, outcome of this meeting which concerned the decision not to transfer the remaining 2013 budget to the EPAS special account, but to re-distribute the funds back to member states. The Bureau agreed the role of EPAS member states was crucial in such instances, and better co-ordination between the Ministries and the Permanent Representations in Strasbourg should be encouraged.

This decision now leaves EPAS with the problem of how to fund the 20% part of its potential joint projects with the EU. One suggestion was for EPAS member states to reallocate their 2013 reimbursement as a Voluntary Contribution, although this would not be possible in certain countries as the re-distributed funds are not necessarily returned directly to the Sports budget. The Bureau agreed that in future the Governing Board could immediately try to allocate a portion of its ordinary budget to the Special Account when approving the Programme of Activities.

Decision: the Secretariat will verify, with the Finance Directorate, the feasibility of the Governing Board deciding to allocate funds to the Special Account directly from the EPAS budget.

3.4 Consultative Committee Bureau meeting of 23-24 October 2014

The Bureau also took note of the oral report by Ms Lacarrière, Chair of the Consultative Committee (CC), on the recent Bureau meeting (23-24 October 2014), during which discussions focused on the revision of the CC structure and its Terms of Reference, which are due to expire in September 2015. Ms Lacarrière stressed that the members making up the new composition of the CC Bureau were eager to have a more active role in EPAS and to bring a more dynamic edge to the platform. She emphasised the wish for the Governing Board to support the CC in revising its Terms of Reference. During the general discussions at the CC Bureau, two topics stood out:

- better co-ordination within EPAS with members of the CC to co-operate on answering calls for tender to build Erasmus+ projects together;
- legacy in sports events – at grassroots and at elite level.

The CC Bureau also discussed the low level of participation at plenary meetings and wondered if there was a possibility for EPAS to reimburse experts’ travel and accommodation costs.

The Governing Board Bureau understood the difficulties in financing such costs, and indeed this question had already been raised a few years ago. The decision at that time was not to cover the costs given that the plenary meeting is an event only held once a year. The Bureau decided not to overturn this previous decision. However, it encouraged the CC to prepare its opinion on the revision of its Terms of Reference in time for discussion at the next Governing Board Bureau meeting in May 2015.

4. Recent news

4.1 Member states

The Bureau took note of ongoing secretariat contacts with the major contributors (Germany, Italy and UK) and the state of play regarding other possible member states (Belgium, Slovakia, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine). The secretariat underlined the importance of support in this regard from current member states, and encouraged Governing Board members to mention EPAS membership, for instance when their Ministers meet with counterparts from non-member states.

4.2 Partner organisations

With the recent addition of the International School Sports Federation, the total number of Consultative Committee members was now at 29. There are no other requests pending. In answer to a question by one Bureau member, the Secretariat said that no official request had been received from FIFA to join the Consultative Committee, but that since the current Terms of Reference only permit one organisation per sport, then UEFA (as the European body) remains the sole footballing member of EPAS. The Bureau encouraged the CC to raise this issue when discussing the revision of the Terms of Reference.

4.3 Sports Conventions

The Anti-Doping Convention celebrated its 25th anniversary on 4 November. Concerning spectator violence, the revision of the convention is at the forefront of its committee's work, but with three states having reservations on the new version it has not yet been adopted by the working party. Negotiations will continue during the T-RV meetings in December and hopefully it can be processed through the usual channels in time for an event in 2015 to celebrate the 30 years of the convention.

4.4 Council of Europe Secretariat

As the Secretary General was re-elected for a further 5 years, the Secretariat has not undergone extensive reforms at high level. The Director General of Democracy is currently working on the 2016-2017 budget, which is important for the sports conventions with the possible entering into force of a 3rd sports convention. Concerning the sports department, Karina Forsyth-Lotz has left the team following the end of the Ministerial Conference. A recruitment competition is under way to create a reserve list of Project Managers with sport-related knowledge and experience, the results of which should be known by early 2015.

5. Voluntary Contribution Projects and Joint Projects

5.1 Project on Good Governance

The Secretariat explained that the student involved in this project had finalised his thesis but would no longer complete the post-doctorate abroad as initially planned, for personal reasons. This meant that the added value of this project (study on good-governance indicators at national level) would not be achieved. The Secretariat asked the Bureau for advice on how to proceed.

The Bureau suggested inviting the project's Accompanying Group to evaluate this current situation, and give its opinion on how to progress (eg. identify new partners to work on the implementation of good governance indicators at national level and/or consider a publication of the summary of the thesis in the EPAS collection). It was clear to the Bureau that this should be done with the Macolin Resolutions in mind, and in creating synergies with the ongoing EU activities in this field. It was also noted that relevant members of the Consultative Committee could also give expertise and contribute if needed.

Decision: the Secretariat should contact the student concerned to request a copy of the thesis, and seek the opinion of the Accompanying Group.

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

The Bureau took note of the update by the Secretariat on the progress of this project. The last of the four workshops had taken place in October and the Secretariat was expecting to hold the closing event of the project in Rome on 4-5 May 2015. Prior to this, a workshop on child protection in sport could be organised in order to allow non-EU countries and experts to take part in the process and contribute (possibly to be held in Minsk).

5.3 Erasmus+ : “Balance in Sport”

The Secretariat had not received any news regarding the project submitted for funding on gender mainstreaming in sport. Results were due by the end of 2014.

5.4 Possible reply to other calls for tender

DG Home: the Secretariat was still waiting for the official announcement and call for tender by the EU in order to submit its application for funding a joint project on match-fixing which would focus on strengthening co-operation with law enforcement. The announcement was due by the end of 2014.

Erasmus+ 2016: the Bureau took note of the suggestion by the Secretariat not to reply to this new call for project applications related to the European Week of Sport in case the Gender Mainstreaming and Match-fixing projects were launched. The Bureau agreed it had to be realistic on the number of projects EPAS can handle, and should limit the quantity of its projects so as not to impact their quality.

Ms Lacarrière (SportAccord) stressed the useful insight the Consultative Committee members could bring to these processes and asked that they be consulted or involved on a more regular basis in EPAS project ideas. The Secretariat agreed that transparency could be improved, but explained that the choice of project partners depended largely on the project topic and the countries where they are based. This question would be discussed in more detail by Ms Lacarrière with the Consultative Committee Bureau.

6. Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport

6.1 13th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, Macolin/Maggingen (Switzerland), 18 September 2014

The Bureau had no comments to make on the draft report of the Secretary General. The report will be presented to the GR-C on 20 November and then transmitted to the Deputies for adoption.

The Bureau noted the results of the survey circulated to Ministers during the Restricted Gathering event held in Macolin/Maggingen on 17 September. The Bureau felt this opportunity of obtaining the opinions of the Ministers themselves was a good one and the informal and relaxed format of the event made it a success. The Bureau noted that the results of the survey showed a distinct preference by the Ministers for EPAS to work more on the topic of Good Governance, and the results should be used as a basis for further discussions within the Governing Board.

The Secretariat distributed a draft document (EPAS (2014) 66) containing the possible follow-up to be given to the Macolin Resolutions.

Decision: the Secretariat will send document EPAS (2014) 66 to be the Bureau members by e-mail so that they can prepare for further discussions on this at the next Bureau meeting.

6.2 14th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport

The Bureau took note that two countries have shown an interest in hosting the next Conference of Ministers – Georgia and Hungary. The majority of the Bureau seemed to be in favour of Hungary as host of the next conference, given that the last three Ministerial conferences were all held in non-EU countries. However, it wished to let the Governing Board discuss this further at its next plenary meeting, and to reflect on the values such a conference could bring to both countries.

6.3 Informal Ministerial Gathering – Baku 2015

The Secretariat briefly explained the idea behind this event, which would be along the same lines as the one organised in Sochi in 2014. Since many European Sports Ministers will be attending the opening ceremony of the European Games in Baku on 12 June 2015, the intention would be for EPAS to organise a short informal round table event (90 minutes) plus a reception prior to the opening of the Games. The event was already in the Programme of Activities for 2015, but as yet, no theme has been identified.

The Bureau discussed possible themes including environmental sustainability of major sports events, social sustainability (promoting sport in society, changing citizens' outlook), social acceptability and respecting human rights in major sports events. The preferred topic was societal sustainability - how major sports events can contribute to the promotion of developing sport in a lasting way.

Decision: the Secretariat will prepare a discussion paper on social sustainability of major sports events, in time for the next Bureau meeting.

7. Standard-setting and follow-up

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

The Bureau noted that the Governing Board's financial package and partnership proposals had continued their progress and were now on the GR-C agenda for discussion. The Secretariat asked the Bureau to consult with their Permanent Representations to ensure their support for these items during the GR-C.

Decision: regarding the financial package proposal, the Secretariat will send the Bureau members some simulated calculation examples for the states concerned by these proposals.

7.2 Draft Recommendation on Gender Mainstreaming in Sport

The Secretariat gave a brief update on the current situation and the Bureau members discussed the compromises made on this text with regard to removing certain phrases from the Recommendation and placing them in the explanatory report. The negotiations led by the Chair of the GR-C with member states were ongoing.

7.3 Compliance with Commitments

The Bureau noted the background explanation given by the Secretariat on the need to revise the old handbook on monitoring visits to include more harmonised methodology and to make it more user-friendly for those conducting visits. It was agreed with the other sports committees (T-RV, T-DO and CAHAMA) to hold a joint meeting of representatives to take a first look at revising the handbook. The EPAS Governing Board was therefore asked to propose two or three of its representatives to attend this meeting which is likely to take place in London at the end of January 2015. The Secretariat proposed designating those Governing Board members who had prior experience in carrying out consultative visits.

Decision: Wendela Kuper (Netherlands), Satu Heikkinen (Finland) and Zoran Verovnik (Slovenia) all expressed a willingness to attend this joint meeting on behalf of the EPAS Governing Board.

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

The Secretariat informed the Bureau that this interesting visit had been organised as expected, with a consultative team which included Wendela Kuper (Netherlands), Kornelija Tiesnesytė (Lithuania), Martin Holzweg (EUPEA) and Stanislas Frossard (EPAS secretariat). The draft report of the visit would be ready in time for the next Governing Board plenary meeting in May 2015.

8. Programme of activities 2014-2015

8.1 Programme and Budget 2014

The Secretariat gave a brief update on activities, informing the Bureau on those which had either already taken place, were under way, or which had been postponed. The Secretariat hoped that the 2014 budget would be used up with little balance remaining.

8.2 Programme and Budget 2015

The Secretariat gave a brief update on activities foreseen in 2015, in particular:

- Seminar on visas: already postponed a few times, there was hope this could be organised in 2015 in co-operation with the Latvian EU Presidency - possibly adjacent to one of its Working Party Schengen meetings; the drafting of a good practice handbook on the subject was under way by Dragan Atanasov;
- Activity n° 9 on conflict of interest was not yet fully decided upon and still required some clarifications. This would be discussed further at the next Bureau meeting;
- Under Diversity, it was questioned whether or not activities 1 and 5 could be combined; the Secretariat explained that the two were quite different, one being the annual political conference which will build upon the Pestalozzi collaboration, and the other being awareness raising activities to follow up the PSS project, so it was not wise to combine them. Concerning the annual conference, the Secretariat confirmed that the Pestalozzi Project would not contribute financially to the organisation of the conference but they would need to be committed and on board to ensure the conference is a success.

Decision: the Bureau approved the updated planning of activities for 2015, but remained open to future changes depending on developments regarding EU project proposals.

8.3 Other meetings and EPAS representation

The Bureau took note of the Secretariat's intention to represent EPAS at the forthcoming Sport and Betting 2014 Conference in London on 26 November 2014, as a speaker on the signature process to the new convention.

Decision: the Bureau asked the Secretariat to add the SportAccord Convention (19-24 April 2015 in Sochi) to the list of events organised by other organisations featured in the EPAS 2015 Calendar of Activities.

9. Promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination

9.1 Future priorities (2015)

Tolerance and Diversity through Physical Education Teaching

The annual political conference on this subject will take place in the autumn of 2015, bringing the sport and education authorities together. There was not yet a defined host for this conference, so any proposals would be most welcome. The conference will follow up on the Pestalozzi Training Seminars launched in 2013/14.

Decision: the Bureau asked the Secretariat to distribute the list of participants of the Pestalozzi Training Seminars.

9.2 Future priorities (2016)

Involving newly-arrived migrants in sport

The Bureau agreed that some groundwork or research was required on this subject before the annual conference in 2016. The members discussed existing projects in Europe, including those in Turkey for Syrian migrants, but asked for the help of the Consultative Committee in identifying more projects which could be seen as good practice examples. It also believed the UNHCR and the National Refugee Council could help.

Decision: Ms Lacarrière (SportAccord) agreed to raise this question with the Consultative Committee. The Secretariat would make contact with the UNHCR office situated in the Council of Europe premises.

10. Ongoing co-operation with European Union institutions

10.1 Co-ordination with the European Union

The current co-operation issues with the EU focused on the signature of the new Convention and the legal opinion on EU member states' ratification. The Bureau discussed recent developments whereby the call from the EU to states to refrain from signing the Convention was no longer relevant. This was good news for the Convention. The Secretariat thanked states such as France which had been instrumental in encouraging other states to sign.

The Chair suggested using the next Bureau meeting to discuss how it sees co-operation developing with the EU, given that the Macolin Resolutions clearly indicated this should move forward. An action plan could be developed to highlight the activities of the EU and EPAS, so as to ensure better co-ordination.

The Bureau also discussed the European Week of Sport and the desire for some non-EU countries to feel part of it. Although there was no intention to submit a project following the Erasmus+ call for proposals on this, the Secretariat asked the Bureau to make proposals if they felt it necessary or if there was genuine interest.

11. Any other business

Mr Marguerite (France) informed the Bureau members that his ministry had organised a brainstorming seminar in September 2014 to reflect on the environmental impact of major sports events. He added that a leaflet would be produced on this issue shortly.

Mr Verovnik (Slovenia) announced that the National Programme of Sport in the Republic of Slovenia for 2014-2023 had recently been published, and was now available on-line (http://www.mizs.gov.si/en/legislation_and_documents/).

Next steps: Round Table on combat sports (12 November 2014, Paris)

The Bureau reflected on the previous day's Round Table meeting which had been very interesting, despite the small number of participants. The Secretariat distributed a draft summary of the discussions including the possible follow-up measures to be taken. The Bureau came back to the main issues which were the possible revision of Recommendation (99) 11, and the fact that it was not clear whether the governments or the sports movement held responsibility for formally recognising sports. These issues should be discussed at the next Governing Board meeting in May 2015.

Seminar on Sports Betting Fraud Detection Systems (10-11 December 2014, The Hague)

The Secretariat reminded the Bureau of this Seminar being organised in co-operation with the Asser International Sports Law Centre. The topics under discussion were the pros and cons of fraud detection systems, and the role the convention can play in enhancing them.

12. Date and place of next meeting

The Bureau took note that the 9th joint meeting of the Governing Board and the Consultative Committee will be held on 20-21 May 2015 in Strasbourg.

<p><u>Decision:</u> the Bureau asked the Secretariat to check with the Norwegian collaborators on the possibility of holding the next Bureau meeting on 16 March 2015 in Oslo, the day before the Conference on the promotion of the new Convention.</p>
--

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

The Bureau is invited to adopt the agenda and its possible amendments.

EPAS (2014) 55

Action: adopt agenda EPAS (2014) 55

3. Reports on recent meetings

3.1 Draft List of decisions – Governing Board meeting, Strasbourg, 21-22 May 2014

EPAS (2014) 40

3.2 Final report - Pan-European Conference "Sport and Prison", Paris, 16-17 June 2014

EPAS (2014) 51

3.3 List of decisions – Statutory Committee meeting, Strasbourg, 20 October 2014

EPAS-SC (2014) 3rev1
EPAS (2013) 47rev

3.4 Consultative Committee Bureau, Paris, 23-24 October 2014

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

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

5. Voluntary Contribution Projects and Joint Projects

5.1 Project on good governance

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

5.3 Erasmus+ : “Balance in Sport”

5.4 Possible reply to other calls for tender

- DG Home

- Erasmus+ 2016

The Bureau is invited to take note of the updates by the Secretariat and discuss necessary actions.

Action: instruct the Secretariat on how to proceed in order to raise funds for potential future projects.

6. Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport

6.1 13th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, Macolin/Maggingen (Switzerland), 18 September 2014

The Bureau is invited to take note of the Report of the Secretary General and the results of the survey collected during the Restricted Gathering for Ministers.

CM(2014)139
EPAS (2014) 61

6.2 14th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport

The Bureau is invited to discuss the hosting of the next Conference of Ministers responsible for sport, following the show of interest from Georgia and Hungary and to prepare a proposal for the Governing Board.

6.3 Informal Ministerial Gathering – Baku 2015

The Bureau is invited to discuss the hosting of such an event during the European Games in Baku and to identify a possible theme for it.

7. Standard-setting and follow-up

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

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

EPAS (2014) 60
GR-C(2014)10
CM(2014)140

7.2 Draft Recommendation on Gender mainstreaming in sport

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

CM(2014) 61rev

7.3 Compliance with Commitments

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information regarding the harmonisation of procedures and to designate two Governing Board representatives to participate in Committee consultations to update these procedures.

Sport (2014) 2
CDDS(2003)59rev

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

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

8. Programme of Activities 2014-2015

8.1 Programme and budget 2014

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

EPAS (2014) 7

8.2 Programme and budget 2015

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

EPAS (2014) 33rev

Action: approve the updated planning and elements of activities for 2015.

8.3 Other meetings and EPAS representation

Sport (2014) 1

Sport (2015) 1

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

9. Promotion of diversity and fight against discrimination

9.1 Future priorities (2015)

- Tolerance and diversity through PE teaching

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.

9.2 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.

EPAS (2014) 36

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

10.1 Co-ordination with the European Union

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

11. Any other business

- Next Steps - following the Round Table on combat sports (Paris, 12 November 2014)
- Seminar on Sports Betting Fraud Detection Systems (The Hague, 10-11 December 2014)

13. Date and place of the next meeting

Action: agree to hold the next Bureau meeting on XX April 2015, 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 Strasbourg on 20-21 May 2015.

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**Ms Satu HEIKKINEN**

Senior Advisor
Ministry of Education and Culture
FINLAND

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 Marko BEGOVIC

International Affairs Advisor
Directorate for Youth and Sports
MONTENEGRO

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

Accompanying person

Ms Marina SEDUGINA

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

Mr Zoran VEROVNIK

Secretary
Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport
SLOVENIA

Mr Pascal CHATELAIN

Chef des affaires internationales
Département fédéral de la défense, de la protection de la population et des sports
Office fédéral du sport
SWITZERLAND

BUREAU MEMBER REPRESENTING THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Sarah LACARRIERE
Chargée de projets Intégrité
Unité de l'Intégrité du Sport
SPORTACCORD

EPAS SECRETARIAT

Mr Stanislas FROSSARD
EPAS Executive Secretary

Mr François TRICARICO
EPAS Deputy Executive Secretary

Mrs Heather STEWART
EPAS Administrative assistant

APOLOGISED

Mrs Birgitta KERVINEN
ENGSO