

Strasbourg, 20 March 2024

EPAS(2024)21

Meeting of the EPAS GB Bureau

Wednesday 20 March 2024

1 pm – 1.45 pm CET

Online (Teams platform)

Working language: English

REPORT

Participants

Governing Board (GB): Alexandre Husting (Luxembourg, Chair), Andrea Carletti (Italy, Vice-Chair), Solène Charuau (France), Ioanna Paraskevopoulou (Cyprus), Diana Santos (Portugal, MSL18)

Consultative Committee (CC): Charlotte Girard-Fabre (CC Chair)

Secretariat: Sophie Kwasny, Caroline Larghi

1. Welcome

The meeting was opened by the Chair of the GB.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with the following items for consideration:

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Adoption of the agenda
- 3) Draft documents for the 18th Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (MSL 18)
- 4) Draft agenda of the plenary meeting of the GB (joint meeting with the CC)
- 5) Any other business
- 6) Date and place for the next meeting

Diana Santos requested the floor under item 5 “Any other business”.

3. Draft documents for the 18th Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (MSL 18)

The Executive Secretary of EPAS presented the amended versions of the four draft documents submitted to the Bureau (the drafts were presented on 27 February to the Bureau and circulated for possible written comments, with a deadline set at 12 March, and subsequently revised). Some linguistic changes were made, but are not visible. However, substantive modifications appear in track changes mode in the documents.

Based on the comments made during the meeting, the Secretariat will further revise the drafts ahead of their submission to the CoE’s internal visa process. Possible written comments can be shared with the Secretariat until 25 March at the latest.

The Secretariat will make the following changes notably:

- Draft resolution

Add a reference to school sport, commercial sport, community sport, etc. to include all the sports mentioned in the European Sports Charter.

Besides, the new title is not reflected enough in the document; this fresh approach should be made more apparent in the Resolution and actions called for.

- Draft reference document

The document will serve as a basis for the two thematic sessions of the Ministerial Conference, on collaborative governing and on good governance. The Bureau agreed that the set of questions would be divided in two parts to correspond to the two thematic sessions, with thus solely one question per theme, inviting delegations to choose one for a possible intervention in Porto.

The explanatory text on what is meant by Governance and Governing should be reflected in this part of the document containing the questions. “Values-based sport” should be expressly linked to the European Sports Charter to clarify what values are at stake.

- Draft concept note

Change “sports agents” on page 1 § 1 to “sport stakeholders” and on page 1 § 4, add “other” before “public authorities”.

- Draft programme

Alignment between page 1 of the concept note and page 1 of the programme under “Welcoming addresses by: ...”.

Indication that the “Signing ceremony” concerns Council of Europe Conventions on sport” (page 2) and that all delegations are welcome to attend.

4. Draft agenda of the plenary meeting of the GB (joint meeting with the CC)

The Executive Secretary explained that the first morning will be dedicated to both in-camera sessions, as usual. The CC-GB joint meeting will start at 2pm on 29 May with standard items (different updates by the secretariat, statutory issues, etc.). A special focus will be granted to Item 8 (EPAS Strategy 2024-2025).

On Day 2 (30 May), the morning session will be dedicated to the European Sports Charter and a specific programme will be built together with the delegations to showcase their activities and best practices on 5 selected themes (GB and CC will alternate their presentations).

Besides, under Pilar II, the floor can be given to delegations to present what his/her organisation has done in this area. These good practices would also populate the Cloud which is about to be created to store GB’s and CC’s examples and good practices.

On Day 1, at the end of the meeting, all participants will be invited to the launch of the exhibition “Les Elles des jeux”, co-organised by the Permanent Representation of France to the Council of Europe.

On Day 2, at the end of the meeting, an information meeting on the forthcoming ministerial conference (MSL18) will be organised for Permanent Representations, more specifically the Representations of non-EPAS member states, in order to update them on the preparation of the ministerial conference.

The draft agenda with the slight amendments discussed in the meeting will be sent with the convocations.

5. Any other business

Diana Santos announced that after the elections, a new government will be formed in Portugal and she will no longer be part of the team in the Ministry. She thanked the Bureau for the good collaboration and working atmosphere and wished all the best to the Bureau for the future and the forthcoming events, namely the ministerial conference in Porto. The Bureau thanked Diana Santos most sincerely for her outstanding contribution to the EPAS work, especially the preparation of the ministerial conference and for her involvement as Chair of the working group on the implementation of the European Sports Charter, notably in revising the methodology for the support and follow-up visits, for her dynamism and vision, and expressed its best wishes of success in her new position.

6. Date and place of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place online on 29 April 2024 from 2.30pm to 3.30 pm.

The meeting was closed at 1.45pm.