

Strasbourg, 18 March 2011

EPAS (2011) 22

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

3rd plenary meeting of the Consultative Committee

Room 5, Council of Europe Paris office

21 March 2011, 9.30am-5pm

Meeting report

Order of proceedings

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Welcome of new partner organisations
4. New developments regarding membership to the EPAS
5. Accession to the Consultative Committee
6. EPAS developments since the last Consultative Committee meeting:
7. Input of Consultative Committee members in the work of the EPAS:
8. Preparation of the next joint meeting with the Governing Board in Strasbourg (7 June 2011)
9. Other Business
10. Date and place of the next meeting

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1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by Predrag Manojlović, Chair of the EPAS Consultative Committee. The chair welcomed participants who attended their first meeting of the Committee and underlined that the increased number of participants and applications was a positive sign of the good wealth of the Consultative Committee.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Chair thanked the Secretariat for the preparation of the meeting and in particular its contribution to drafting documents. The Committee took note of new documents, namely

- the updated version of the Consultative Committee Terms of Reference EPAS (2011) 25 (under item 5),
- the follow-up to the Ministerial Conference in Baku (IM18 (2010) 7 and IM18 (2010) 8) (under item 6),
- the information document on Common Standards from Sport Accord EPAS (2011) INF10 (under item 7) and
- the project on good governance (see EPAS (2010) 9rev) (under item 7);

The Chair requested that the Secretariat continues to send all documents 15 days in advance and any new documents separately by e-mail;

The agenda, as attached in appendix 1, is adopted.

3. Welcome of new partner organisations

The Consultative Committee is now composed of 15 members. During a “tour de table”, the participating organisations shortly presented their scope of action and activities. Most of the organisations cooperate with other members of the Consultative Committee (e.g. EFPM with ISCA, EGLSF with UEFA through the FARE network, etc).

- TAFISA focusing on sport for all, with a range of activities throughout 55 countries in Europe and worldwide.
- EFPM is composed of 40 European Olympic committees and associations, and aims at promoting fair play and ethic values, not only in sports but in everyday life.
- EGLSF was set up in the Netherlands 22 years ago and now covers 120 clubs representing 120.000 LGBT athletes. The objective is to provide a safe environment of LGBT in sport and raising awareness in mainstream sport.
- ISCA, umbrella organisation dealing with sport for all covering 68 countries, is developing the international platform for sport and development and projects directed towards youth.
- Peace and Sport supports projects using sport to promote peace and development, mostly in areas where poverty exists.
- UEFA comprises 53 football associations throughout Europe. Its objective goes beyond football and seeks to promote general interest of sport in general.
- ENGSO gathers 51 national umbrella organisations and national Olympic committees, dealing with grass root sport and the social dimension of sport.

Participants underlined that the added value of joining EPAS was that it allows organisations to take part in the sport political debate at pan-European level with public authorities, in particular

on issues of common interest. Interest was in particular shown in the role that partner organisations can play in the drafting process of European standards. In addition, members of most organisations are out of the EU and therefore they are interested in the potential cooperation between the Council of Europe and the European Union.

As regards activities and future priorities of Consultative Committee members to be presented in the forthcoming joint meeting with the Governing Board on 7 June, partner organisations are invited to send their contributions by 18 April 2011.

4. New developments regarding membership to the EPAS

The Consultative Committee took note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the current membership to the Partial Agreement, namely the recent accession of Georgia on 1st February 2011, as well as the on-going negotiation with other countries (Turkey, Belgium, Malta and Ukraine).

As regards accession to the Consultative Committee, the Consultative Committee welcomes the recent decision of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe allowing European Women and Sport (EWS) and the International Sambo Federation (FIAS) to join EPAS.

Furthermore, the Consultative Committee considered two new applications from UEPEA and Sport and Citizenship. Given the specific setting of the think-tank Sport and Citizenship, a debate took place on the nature of organisations that can apply to EPAS, and on the definition of a sport organisation. However, and in accordance with the existing criteria set out in the terms of references, the Consultative Committee decided to give a positive opinion on these applications.

Participants agreed to resume the debate on membership in the near future and partner organisations are invited to make suggestions and amendments on the criteria applied for new applicants. The expiration of the Terms of Reference in 2012 is an opportunity for members of the Consultative Committee to revise the existing criteria and eventually narrow the scope of accession (see below under item 5).

5. Accession to the Consultative Committee

The Consultative Committee addressed the revised version of the Terms of Reference updated by the Secretariat (EPAS (2011) 25). This revised version includes cosmetic changes made in accordance with the new statute of EPAS, notably replacing in article 5.1.2.a the General Association of international sport federations by Sport Accord, making reference in the introductory part to more recent official texts and adding the election of a second member of the Consultative Committee to attend meetings of the Bureau of the Governing Board.

The Chair noted that the mandate of the first organisations to join EPAS will expire soon (after 3 years according to article 5.1.1. of the Term of Reference) and that a renewal of accession will be made soon. In parallel, new applications have been received by the Secretariat. The Consultative Committee agreed that a clear up of different categories a, b and c that sometimes overlap was needed.

To date, with the accession of EWS and FIAS the Consultative Committee is composed of 17 members, the maximum number of members being fixed at 30 participants. One participant

asked whether it was wise to stick to 30 participants or if a more important figure should be proposed in the revision of the Terms of References.

As regards categories, participants noted that the geographical scope of members are different, that some organisations belong to other organisations also members of the Committee, and that some organisations are in fact represented several times, under different categories.

Besides, participants stressed that some sport organisations should also join the Committee and in particular organisations representing individual sport such as tennis, swimming, athletics as well as winter sport such as hockey.

The Consultative Committee decided that until the effective revision of the Terms of References, the Committee will continue to apply the existing criteria for assessing new accession or renewal of membership. Against this background, it accepted the applications from UEPEA and Sport and Citizenship and entrusted the Secretariat to inform members of the governing board.

The Consultative Committee finally stress that once the ToR will be revised, the revised criteria will apply to new applications and to renewal.

6. EPAS developments since the last Consultative Committee meeting:

6.1 Presentation of adopted resolutions from the 18th Council of Europe Informal Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, held in Baku, Azerbaijan (22 September 2010), and follow-up IM18 (2010) 7 and IM18 (2010) 8

The Consultative Committee took note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the two resolutions, namely Resolution 1 on the Promotion of the integrity of sport against the manipulation of results (match-fixing) and Resolution 2 on Current Issues in Pan-European Sport Co-operation, and their follow-up.

The discussion focused on the potential input from CC members to the above mentioned resolutions. The Chair stressed that members can contribute in two different ways :

On the substance of the Resolutions

Resolution 1 : One participant underlined that the principle of financial solidarity mechanism on betting activities is missing in the current draft Resolution 1 – a principle that already applies to state lotteries.

Considering the issues at stake, members of the Consultative Committee are invited to take an active part in the Hearing with the public authorities, sports movement and betting operators on the Draft Recommendation on promotion of the integrity of sport against manipulation of results notably match-fixing organised by the EPAS on 3rd May in Strasbourg.

Resolution 2 : Members of the Committee underlined that the cooperation between CoE-UE is not symmetric. Several members of the Consultative Committee are carrying out projects that are funded by the EU and are organising events with the EPAS. Partner organisations express their commitment to support finding ways to strengthen cooperation between the two European institutions.

Regarding resolution 2 on visa, EGLF drew the Consultative Committee's attention on the difficulties faced by athletes to get visa, especially for athletes who are attending G and L competitions, as well as for volunteers preparing LGBT sport events. They deem necessary to raise awareness of the authorities on this particular aspect.

On the follow-up to the Resolutions (see EPAS (2011)17)

The Chair underlined the need for the Consultative Committee to find a way to propose concrete actions according to decision of the Ministerial conference.

Resolution 1 : Participants took note of the informative document EPAS (2011) INF10 presenting guidelines elaborated by Sport Accord and the current comparison being made on these guidelines and the part B of the Resolution 1. Along these lines, the Chair invited members to report to the Secretariat on measures taken by their organisations within their network. UEFA informed the Committee that similar efforts have been made in their context and information will be sent to the Secretariat.

Resolution 2 : Members of the CC are invited to send a list of existing projects and cooperation activities between CC members and EU. On this basis, the Committee can in its next meeting, define more precisely where cooperation between the two European institutions can be made through the sport movement. Considering the financial situation of sport at EU level, and the risk of shortage of projects, the cooperation with EPAS and EU can be an interesting alternative for the partner organisations.

6.2 Presentation of the EPAS 2011 calendar of activities (see Sport (2011) 1)

The Consultative Committee took note of the information provided by the Secretariat on specific activities for which and input is needed.

During the debate, the importance for EPAS to keep focusing on grass root sport rather than elite sport - in accordance with the European Sport Charter, was stressed. However, this does not prevent EPAS from also tackling, in a balanced way, issues raised in elite sport, and many members of the Consultative Committee are involved and interested both at grass root and elite level.

6.3 Presentation of the EPAS Programme of Activities and Budget 2011 (see EPAS (2011) 7rev2)

The Consultative Committee took note of the presentation of the programme of activities in 2011 and of the expected contribution of partners organisations in identified specific activities (see also under item 7 below).

7. Input of Consultative Committee members in the work of the EPAS:

Participants addressed this issue from three different perspectives :

7.1 in the drafting process and implementation of adopted documents

Participants expressed their satisfaction as regards the level of confidence of the Governing Board towards sport organisations and the cooperative attitude from the governmental representatives in general. At the same time, participants stressed the need for the Consultative Committee to play a more active role and improve their input, both during the drafting process and the implementation of European standards.

In that respect, EFPM recalled that it has been raising awareness on European standards since 1994, in particular the European Sport Charter. It has mainly focused on training of youth rather than intervening in the legal field. EFPM suggests that EPAS could be the umbrella organisation coordinating this kind of training carried out by different NGOs.

As regards drafting and implementing, UEFA underlined that its sphere of influence reached many different stakeholders, in particular the national football federation and the clubs. The UEFA representative informed the Consultative Committee that the Professional Football Strategy Council recently urged governments to support football on betting, more precisely to adopt concrete national and/or Europe-wide legislation to address match fixing and to ensure a fair financial return to football”.

Participants agreed that the Secretariat send a brief questionnaire where all members of the Consultative Committee will have the opportunity to express their wish and priorities. Partner organisations are requested to send their comment back by 18 April.

7.2 in organising joint seminars/training/conferences

The Consultative Committee took note of the different examples of joint cooperation experienced in the frame of the European programme to promote diversity in and through sport (in 2011, a seminar was organised in Warsaw in cooperation with the European Olympic Committee; a training with ISCA, ENGSO Youth and Special Olympics; a conference in London with European Women and Sport).

Participants suggested the following activities :

ENGSO, as member of the Consultative Committee suggests the involvement of EPAS during the round table on sport for all.

ISCA, who receive grants from the UE for several projects, could potentially involve EPAS for specific activities within these projects. It is always possible to invite Consultative Committee members in the activities.

EFPM would be pleased to cooperate with EPAS in the frame of the EFPM Congress on Ethics in Sport that will be hold in Cyprus eventually in October 2012. The EU Commissioner will also attend the meeting.

EGLF suggested EPAS support some activities that will take place in 2012, in particular focusing on anti-discrimination around the EURO 2012 (in Poland and in Ukraine) to tackle homophobia in football. A pride house should be set up in Warsaw, where a human rights conference could be organised. In parallel, the Eurogames will take place in Budapest. On that occasion, EPAS could arrange a training in the premises of the Council of Europe Youth Centre in Budapest. Finally, EPAS could be invited to a meeting in Split in March

2012, where best practices to tackle discrimination and homophobia in sport practice will be discussed.

7.3 *in presenting common projects by external financial contributions:*

Media Against Racism in Sport (MARS) – A European Union/Council of Europe Joint Programme (see EPAS (2011) INF2)

The Consultative Committee took note of the information presented by the Secretariat and UEFA on the MARS project. UEFA is associated, as well as the Vienna Institute for Development and Cooperation to this joint programme between the the Council of Europe and the EU. The MARS project shows that joint efforts are needed between media, sport organisations and public authorities.

The UEFA representative stressed that VIDC and IGLSF are doing an excellent work, in particular through the FARE network, to fight discrimination in football. Support shall be offered to initiatives launched in the context of the European Championship in 2012. The Consultative Committee welcome this project and recommend that journalists from EPAS countries are included in the process.

- *“Friendship games” (information document available upon request)*

A second project “les jeux de l’amitié” was presented by Peace and Sport, based on successful initiatives in Haiti and in the Great Lakes region (Burundi) to promote peace, social and national cohesion. Specific information was provided on the elements needed to make the project successful. These projects are sustainable and have been running for several years. Some elements are very important, such as avoiding a political dimension, involving youth from different communities, rehabilitate sport infrastructure and sport inside communities, organising symbolic actions and cultural activities.

Against this background, Peace and Sport is offering to the EPAS to draft a framework project for voluntary contribution that could be developed for projects in European countries. This frame should be adapted to the European context keeping a certain flexibility: it could for instance concern neighbouring countries, but it could also take place between different communities within one country. The objective is to make this framework project available for States who could use it and together with EPAS and the sport movement could help implementing these projects.

The Consultative Committee welcomed the project proposal and supported it. Some participants suggested that for the implementation of such projects, some network such as the National Olympic Committees could take an active role. The project proposal will be sent to all members of the Consultative Committee and they are invited to comment on it by the 18 of April.

- *Project on good governance*

The Secretariat is still seeking for funding from the sport movement for this project. To date, part of the budget will be funded by EPAS and by the European lotteries. ENGSO will contribute to this project, through cross support via the Finnish and the European Lotteries. However, there is still 7500 Euros/per year for three years that could be funded by the sport movement.

The Secretariat informed the Consultative Committee on the on-going consultation. The Consultative Committee invited partner organisation to contact the Secretariat if they are

interested. The Committee also invited the Secretariat to send the project proposal to all CC members to state whether they are interested to contribute. The Consultative Committee agreed that the Secretariat contacts other potential organisations interested by this project, in particular FIBA-Europe and European Athletics.

8. Preparation of the next joint meeting with the Governing Board in Strasbourg (7 June 2011): Retrospective 2010 and Prospective 2011

The Secretariat informed members of the Consultative committee that the document Retrospective 2010 – Prospective 2011 (EPAS (2011) INF5) has been updated. However, information is still needed from participants to have a comprehensive view of the activities and future priorities of partner organisations. Members of the Consultative Committee are invited to send back their contribution to the Secretariat by 18 April

9. Other Business

According to the new statute of EPAS (Article 6c), the Consultative Committee is entitled to designate a second member to attend the meetings of the Governing Board. Due to the limited number of participants to this meeting (less than half of the members), the participants agreed to postpone the election of the second member to a next meeting.

The Chair recalled that the deadline for submitting all contributions to the Secretariat is 18 April.

10. Date and place of the next meeting

Participants noted that the next meeting that concerns the Consultative Committee will be the joint meeting with the Governing Board on 7 June 2011 in Strasbourg

Appendix 1 Agenda

Strasbourg, 14 February 2011

EPAS (2011) 4rev2

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)**Plenary Meeting of the Consultative Committee**

Room 5, Council of Europe Paris office

55 avenue Kléber, 75016 Paris

21 March 2011, 9.30am-5pm

Draft agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda EPAS (2011) 4rev2
3. Welcome of new partner organisations
(*Tour de table of partners*)
4. New developments regarding the EPAS membership
 - Member states
 - Recent applications from partner organisationsEPAS (2011) 6rev
EPAS (2011) INF4rev
5. Accession to the Consultative Committee EPAS (2009) 25final
6. EPAS developments since the last Consultative Committee meeting
 - 6.1 Presentation of adopted resolutions from the 18th Council of Europe Informal Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, held in Baku, Azerbaijan (22 September 2010), and follow-up IM18 (2010) 7
IM18 (2010) 8
 - 6.2 Presentation of the EPAS 2011 calendar Sport (2011) 1
 - 6.3 Presentation of the EPAS Programme of Activities & Budget 2011 EPAS (2011) 7
7. The input of Consultative Committee members in the work of the EPAS:
 - 7.1 Drafting process and implementation of adopted documents,
 - 7.2 Joint seminars/training/conference
 - 7.3 Presentation of common projects by external financial contributions EPAS (2011) INF2
 - Media against racism in sport – A Council of Europe Media Network against racism, for mutual understanding and intercultural dialogue (A European Union/Council of Europe Joint Programme)
 - Document prepared by Peace and Sport (expected mid-February) EPAS (2011) INF8

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| 8. | Preparation of the next joint meeting with the Governing Board in Strasbourg (7 June 2011) : Retrospective 2010 and Prospective 2011 | EPAS (2011) INF5 |
| 9. | Other Business | |
| 10. | Date and place of the next meeting | |

Appendix 2 List of participants

List of participants / Liste des participants

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