

Strasbourg, 28 November 2024

EPAS(2024)58

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

Consultative Committee (CC) Meeting

Tuesday, 8 October 2024
2.30pm – 4pm

Alfândega, Congress Centre, R. Nova da Alfândega, Porto, Portugal
Dom Luis room

Working language: English

Meeting Report

1. Opening of the meeting

Charlotte Girard Fabre, Chair of the Consultative Committee (CC), warmly welcomed the members of the CC to the meeting. She expressed special thanks to EPAS for their excellent work in preparation for the event.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda (Appendix I) was adopted without any modifications.

3. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair gave the floor to three new CC members (in alphabetical order), allowing them to introduce themselves.

- Xavier Malenfer, Director of Institutional and International Relations, Fédération International de l'Automobile (FIA)
 - Initiatives: Promoting diversity and inclusion and fighting online abuse. The FIA is celebrating its 120th anniversary and operates in 147 countries.
 - Objectives: Align FIA's efforts with the European Sports Charter. Programmes include campaigns against online abuse and support for the inclusion of women in sport.
- Christian Dullin, Vice-President of the French National Olympic Committee and Vice-President of Rugby Europe
 - Initiatives: Governance and reform of the economic model for rugby in Europe
 - Objectives: Promote the inclusion of women in leadership roles and improve governance with three pillars: transparency, ethics, and democracy.
- Dominique Kuhn, President, World Snowboard Federation
 - Initiatives: Youth development, organising international competitions, and collaboration with the International Ski Federation (FIS).
 - Objectives: Use sport as a tool to fight isolation in Europe. The WSF emphasises training young individuals before focusing on creating athletes.

4. 18th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport

Cassandra Mactavish of the EPAS Secretariat then took the floor to present the conference programme, outlining the opportunities for the CC and the activities planned for this 18th Ministerial Conference.

- Agenda: Presentation of sessions and speakers, including panels on the European Sports Charter and discussions on good governance.
- Opportunities for the CC: Three-minute statements with priority given to Ministers and Heads of Delegations.

She expressed her gratitude for the strong attendance and participation of the CC, emphasising the importance of this conference for the Consultative Committee (CC).

The opening session was to be held at the conference centre, followed by a focal session on the European Sports Charter (ESC), both of which would be live-streamed. She expressed gratitude to Raymon Blondel (EPC), for his contribution to the ESC panel.

In addition, a new promotional video on the European Sports Charter would be presented to promote the Charter's values and showcase what has been achieved under its framework.

The conference would then become a closed session focused on collaborative governance, with specific speakers. Following the presentations, the CC would be given the floor to make statements on each of the 2 themes: Collaborative governing and good governance.

The Secretariat noted that those who wish to make a statement but have not yet done so can still express their interest. Each intervention is limited to three minutes.

Finally, she informed the CC that Thursday's focus sessions would revolve around leadership, with two main themes: gender equality in sport and dual career. She thanked the CC members involved in both panels including Annemarie Phelps (EOC), Laura Capranica (EAS), Andrej Pisl (EUSA) and Sofia Ramalho on behalf of FIBA.

5. Upcoming EPAS events / 6. Updates on past events

The Secretariat provided information on upcoming and past events including:

- Start to Talk launch in Quebec, 2024
- Meeting of the Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport, 3 December 2024, Strasbourg
- Breakfast roundtable on women in sport, 8 March 2025
- Round table on equality and diversity in francophone sport, July 2024
- ESC WG meeting, September 2024

CC members were thanked for their participation and attendance at previous events including Charlotte Girard Fabre (IFSO), Christian Dullin (Rugby Europe), Annemarie Phelps (EOC), Xavier Malenfer (FIA), Pauline Johanet (Peace and Sport) and Guido Battaglia (CSHR). They were also encouraged to continue their support for all EPAS events including the upcoming above mentioned.

European Sports Charter WG meeting

The Secretariat gave an update on the European Sports Charter Working Group, whose aim is to focus on the promotion of the European Sports Charter and facilitating its implementation.

As was presented at the plenary meeting in May, a quantitative questionnaire has been developed to identify the implementation of the Charter's values in each member State.

The Secretariat specified that all member states (41 in total) have received this questionnaire and have about six weeks to complete it. The results will be available for the plenary meeting next May, where initial trends will be presented. The working group mandate will expire at the end of 2025 during which time it will examine these results and determine how they will be used and published.

This year, two implementation visits have taken place, in Finland and Morocco. The Secretariat thanked the CC members who participated in these visits, particularly Annemarie Phelps (EOC) and Mark Lichtenhein (SROC) (rapporteur) in Morocco and Hugh Torrance (EGLSF) in Finland. Next year, visits are planned in Ireland in March, as new members are a priority, as well as in Armenia toward the end of the year.

7. Diversity Conference 2025

The Secretariat also mentioned the biennial Diversity Conference. Last year, in 2023, the conference focused on the inclusion of child migrants and refugees in and through sport. These conferences are an excellent opportunity to collaborate with the CC. In 2025, as a follow-up to the 2024 conference, a webinar will be organised early in the year to share best practices and updates on the inclusion of child migrants and refugees in sport. The aim is not only to discuss best practices but also to enable member States to apply them concretely.

For 2025, the theme has been selected: intergenerational challenges in sport, focusing on youth and seniors. The date and location are still to be confirmed but likely it will be in October 2025.

8. Consultative Committee Terms of Reference (ToR)

The Chair specified that the current CC Terms of Reference (ToR) are valid from 27/04/2022 to 30/06/2025. Given the upcoming expiration, it was recommended that the CC identify any areas where the ToR could be improved and to recommend any modifications.

The first step will be for the CC bureau to examine the document and provide feedback by the end of 2024.

The process will then include feedback from the Consultative Committee via a circular letter; validation by the Governing Board bureau and the Governing Board. Along each step the Secretariat will ensure that the document is coherent from a legal standpoint.

The new ToR will then be presented to the Governing Board for final validation at the plenary meeting on 14-15 May 2025.

9. AOB

Laura Capranica (EAS) presented the DE-PASS (Determinants of Physical Activities in Settings) with the objective of identifying determinants to guide policymakers. This project involved 36 countries and over 300 researchers from various fields of sport.

CC members are therefore invited to complete this anonymous questionnaire. The results of this questionnaire will be used to evaluate programmes in order to guide public funding and optimise outcomes.

The Secretariat will send the link to the CC members.

10. Tour de Table

Exceptionally, it was agreed upon by the CC that the youth delegates attending the Ministerial Conference would be invited to join the Tour de Table session. The purpose of this was to give an opportunity to the youth delegates to get to know the various organisations represented in the CC. This was in preparation for the next event which was a CC *speed dating* with the youth.

11. Place and date of next meeting

The Chair reminded the CC that the next meeting would take place at the 17th Plenary meeting of the EPAS Consultative Committee, Strasbourg on 14 May 2025

12. Closing

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and invited them to take a family photo with the youth delegates followed by the *speed dating*.

Appendix I: Agenda

1.	Opening of the meeting
2.	Adoption of the draft agenda
3.	Welcome and introduction of new CC members
4.	18th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport
5.	Upcoming EPAS events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start to Talk launch in Quebec, 2024 • Meeting of the Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport, 3 December 2024, Strasbourg • Breakfast roundtable on women in sport, 8 March 2025
6.	Updates on past events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round table on equality and diversity in francophone sport, July 2024 • ESC WG meeting, September 2024
7.	Diversity Conference 2025
8.	Consultative Committee Terms of Reference
9.	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBC
10.	Tour de Table <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth delegates invited as observers
11.	Date and place of the next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 May 2025 (17th Plenary meeting of the EPAS Consultative Committee, Strasbourg)
12.	Closing

Appendix II: List of participants

Centre for Sport and Human Rights

Guido BATTAGLIA, Head of Partnerships and Institutional Affairs

EU Athletes (New name as of 01.10.24: European Athletes and Players Association, EAPA)

Paulina TOMCZYK, General Secretary

European Athletics

Jean GRACIA, First Vice-president

European Association for Sport Management (EASM)

Anton BEHRENS, General Secretary

European Athlete as Student (EAS)

Laura CAPRANICA, President

European Fair Play Movement (EFPM)

Carlos CARDOSO, Representative of Portugal in the EFPM

Anabella REIS, Vice-President of the Portuguese Sports Foundation, Representative of Portugal in the EFPM

European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation (ENGSO)

Marie DENITTON, Office Director

European Network of Sport Education (ENSE)

Antonio TESSITORE, President

European Paralympic Committee (EPC)

Raymon BLONDEL, President

European Olympic Committees (EOC)

Annamarie PHELPS, Member of the Executive Committee

European Physical Education Association (EUPEA)

Bruno CREMONESI, Vice-president

European University Sports Association (EUSA)

Andrej PISL, Projects and Policy Manager

FARE Network

Piara POWAR, Executive Director

Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA)

Xavier MALENFER, Director of Institutional and International Relations

International Basketball Federation (FIBA)

Jadranka CLARK, Senior Advisor

International Dance Organization (IDO)

Patrik PEROSA, Advisor to the President

International Federation of Sport Officials (IFSO)

Charlotte GIRARD FABRE, Secretary General

International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA)

Mogens KIRKEBY, President

Peace and Sport

Pauline JOHANET, Head of International Relations

Play the Game

Jens Sejer ANDERSEN, International Director

Stanis ELSBORG, Senior Analyst and Head of Conference

Rugby Europe

Christian DULLIN, Vice-President

Sports Rights Owners Coalition (SROC)

Mark LICHTENHEIN, Chairman

TAFISA Europe

Janez SODRŽNIK, TAFISA Treasurer

Union of European Football Associations (UEFA)

James OGILVIE, Head of European Affairs

World Snowboard Federation (WSF)

Dominic KUHN, President