

Strasbourg, 23 December 2024

EPAS(2024)60

## **Meeting of the EPAS GB Bureau**

**Monday 18 November 2024**

4.30 pm – 5.30 pm CET

Online (Teams platform)

Working language: English

## **REPORT**

## Participants

Governing Board (GB): Alexandre Husting (Luxembourg, Chair), Solène Charuau (France), Ioanna Paraskevopoulou (Cyprus), Duarte Lopes and Filipa Cavaleri (MSL18)

Consultative Committee (CC): Charlotte Girard-Fabre (IFSO, Chair), Mogens Kirkeby (ISCA)

Apologised: Andrew Decelis (Malta), Bram van Houten (The Netherlands)

Secretariat: Sophie Kwasny, Emma Zanichelli

### 1. Welcome

The meeting was opened by the Chair of the GB.

### 2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted, as with main item on the agenda the debrief and follow-up of the 18th ministerial Conference in Porto.

### 3. Debrief and follow up of the 18<sup>th</sup> ministerial Conference in Porto

A tour de table provided the following important debriefing insights of the Ministerial Conference:

- Positive:
  - The theme – highly topical and political / Topic perfectly aligned with current sport trends and challenges
  - Dynamic pace
  - Attendance
  - Side events / ESC session at the beginning of the Conference / focus sessions
  - Contributions and documents that were adopted
  - Youth initiative and participation - suggestion to also involve other (age) groups in future Ministerial Conferences
  - Speakers
  - CC engagement
  - Interpretation
  - Collaboration host-EPAS Secretariat
  - Cooperation with Secretariat and the CC Chair – roles seemed very clear
- Lessons learnt/to address:
  - Restricted gathering missed the mark as the main objective was networking and it did not work / questionnaire too long
  - Suggests to try and host future Ministerial Conference at one single venue (hotel, conference centre, meals, etc.).
  - Logistical issues such as transport etc.
  - Registration system

- Distinction between heads of delegations and others, namely for room distribution and at the lunch
  - Difficulty getting a youth representative to attend
  - Not enough time for networking and exchange (including more laid-back discussions)
  - Management of the youth component very challenging
  - Senior officials: complexity of last-minute amendments
- Suggestions:
- The restricted gathering should take place when all the ministers have already arrived (after the Conference and before the gala dinner).
  - Speed dating for ministers or other high level with youth
  - Invite high-level speaker to restricted gathering

The Bureau thanked the Portuguese authorities for their warm hospitality and the results of the Conference, despite a change of the governmental counterparts earlier in the year.

- Next steps

A Specific Handover online meeting between Portugal and Monaco to share lessons learned, including on youth participation, would be organised by the Secretariat before the end of 2024.

For MSL19, the work in the Bureau will start in 2025 with Delegation of Monaco participating in the meetings in their quality of Hosts of MSL19.

The schedule and possible theme will be discussed with Monaco. It is important to note that H.S.H the Prince Albert in his address of 2 October 2024 on the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Monaco's accession to the Council of Europe referred to the 2026 Ministerial and highlighted the importance of child safeguarding, of good governance/integrity in sport and of safety and security at major sports events.

#### **4. AoB**

No other matter was raised.

#### **5. Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Bureau will be convened in 2025.