

Strasbourg, 15 February 2010

EPAS (2010) 8rev

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

7th meeting of the EPAS Governing Board Bureau Strasbourg, 18 September 2009

List of decisions

The Bureau of the EPAS Governing Board met in Strasbourg on 18 September 2009.

1. Opening of the meeting:

Mr Janiszewski, the current Chair of the EPAS Governing Board, welcomed the participants. Given that this was the first Bureau meeting under his chairmanship, he laid out the main objectives which he intended to follow through in 2010: (1) to ensure the follow-up of the 11th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport which took place in Athens in December 2008; (2) to contribute to the preparation and organization of the 12th conference of ministers which will take place in Baku (Azerbaijan) in the second half of 2010; (3) to increase the transparency of the budgetary practices of the EPAS and to contribute to more a better balance between the personnel expenditure and that on programmes; (4) to ensure the use of the official languages of the Council of Europe.

Of the discussions which followed, the Bureau retains the following decisions:

2. Adoption of the agenda: EPAS (2009) 32 rev

- adopted the agenda, including an addition to item 9 concerning the informal Conference of European Ministers responsible for sport, which would be held in Baku in late 2010.

3. Latest developments:

- took note of the Russian Federation's accession to EPAS on 6 August 2009, as a major contributor and the 32nd EPAS member state;
- took note of the information recently exchange with Italy, Belgium, Turkey and Ukraine, which seemed to be making progress in the accession procedure;
- took note of the Kingdom of Morocco's intention to accede to EPAS as a non-European country;
- enquired about the accession procedure applicable to non-European countries and noted that other non-European countries had already shown interest in EPAS (Kazakhstan, Canada and Israel);

- took note of the requests for the status of observers submitted by Lithuania and Ukraine and of Canada's interest in co-operating particularly on ethical issues;
- took note of the situation concerning the number of staff in the EPAS Secretariat.

4. Reports of previous meetings:

- approved the reports of the 2 previous meetings (Prague April 2009 and Baku May 2009), EPAS (2009)33, EPAS(2009)28final, EPAS (2009) and EPAS(2009)35;
- approved the activity report for 2008, EPAS (2009) 11 rev 2.

5. 11th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport: report and follow-up. Activities relating to the follow-up to the ministerial conference, EPAS (2009) INF 2 rev

5.1 Autonomy in sport:

- took note of the progress made in the production of the publication on autonomy in sport in Europe;
- took note of the list of replies to the questionnaire on autonomy in sport, EPAS(2009) INF 24;
- thanked ENGSO for its support in finalising the survey;
- took note of the Committee of Ministers draft Recommendation to member states concerning the principle of autonomy in sport, EPAS (2009) 39;

5.2 Ethics in sport:

- accepted the principle of first consulting the Governing Board on the draft Recommendations on Autonomy and on Ethics in sport prior to their adoption by the Governing Board and subsequently their presentation to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. Documents: EPAS(2009)19rev, EPAS(2009)37, EPAS(2009)38;
- selected the working document and draft recommendation on the migration of young players, which could form a working basis if the theme was discussed at the Baku conference, EPAS(2009)INF 11;
- was informed of the unsuccessful search for experts on problems of experts on problems of corruption to be invited to take part in the meetings of the ad hoc working group (in Paris instead of Ljubljana) on 2 December and endorsed the proposal to maintain and broaden contacts with specific institutions.

6. Promoting diversity and intercultural dialogue through sport:

- listened to the Secretariat's presentation on the Belgrade conference (20-21 October 2009), which had been organised in co-operation with the Serbian Ministry of Sport on the theme "Fight Against Racism and Violence through Diversity in Sport", EPAS (2009) 42;
- took note of the content and the state of progress of the FARE Conference, to be held in Belgrade on 22 October 2009;

- took note of the progress made in the production of the publication relating to the follow-up to the European Encounters - Sport and Discrimination in Europe, EPAS(2009) INF 07.

7. Development of the EPAS:

- was informed of the latest potential candidatures from states wishing to become members of EPAS (see item 3);
- was informed of candidatures for the status of observer on the EPAS Consultative Committee, EPAS (2009)04rev4;
 - authorised the Secretariat to launch an informal consultation of the UEFA, the British Council and a number of foundations concerning an appeal for voluntary contributions to the Euroschool 2012 project and asked that the results of these investigations be presented in February 2010, EPAS (2009) 12, EPAS (2009) 13rev1, EPAS (2009) 14rev;
 - proposed to present the Euroschool project to the Governing Board to identify the states interested by the project and find out which states would be willing to make voluntary contribution;
 - suggested that Bureau members should be asked to represent EPAS at events which would provide the opportunity to develop specific contacts;
- approved the timetable of activities and the latest version of the budget including a detailed presentation of the programme expenditure, EPAS (2009) 41, EPAS (2009) INF25, EPAS (2009) 01, EPAS (2009) INF 06rev1.

8. Round table

- took note of the idea of holding a round table on the theme “physical and sports education” in Paris in November, if the requests were representative and if there was a fair geographical distribution.

9. Planning of the programme of activities for 2010: EPAS (2009) 20rev, EPAS (2009) INF 18

- approved the draft programme of proposed activities, updated for 2010;
- noted that the meeting on the theme of corruption in early December had been transferred from Ljubljana to Paris;
- expressed concern with regard to the date of the Baku Conference as it was important to ensure that there would be a large number of high-level European partners present at the conference;
- asked members to agree on a suitable theme for the Baku conference and proposed to consult states to ascertain their wishes and inform the Azerbaijani authorities.

10. Preliminary discussions on the final launching of EPAS in 2010:

- took note of the practical consequences of the confirmation of EPAS as priorities for 2010 and took note of this opportunity to reconsider, where appropriate, its status and to redefine its mission;

- was informed of the real difficulties of establishing concrete co-operation with the European Union and took note of the support which the Swedish chairmanship could provide;
- proposed that the accession procedure for non-European countries should be discussed with the Governing Board;
- listened to the clarifications on the role of the different statutory bodies of EPAS and underlined the added value offered to these bodies by the Consultative Committee, in its present membership;
- approved the proposal to improve the distribution of work between the Secretariat and member states and, with this in mind, endorsed the idea of sending them a questionnaire asking them to make proposals concerning the future activities of EPAS, EPAS(2009)40.

11. Statutory Committee

- approved the agenda, EPAS-SC (2009) 2;
- took note of the Kingdom of Morocco's intentions with regard to its national sports strategy, EPAS-SC (2009) INF 1;
- approved the presentation of the EPAS accounts for 2008, EPAS-SC (2009) 3;
- approved the presentation of the draft budget for 2010 by the EPAS Secretariat, EPAS-SC (2009) 1;
- took note of changes in the EPAS budget for 2008-2010, EPAS(2009)INF 19 rev.

12. Other business

- took note of the country fact sheet drawn up by France, EPAS(2009)INF 23 and, instructed the Secretariat to gather the necessary updated information to be put the Internet;
- noted that the information concerning "sport contacts" was also a very useful source of information and that such information should be shared by means of restricted access;
- heard and thanked the Director of Youth and Sport for his contribution and support.

13. Date and place of the next Bureau meeting

- noted that the next Bureau meeting would be held on 3 February 2010 in Paris.

Appendix I

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