



ENGSO priorities on the White Paper on Sport

Direct negotiations with the European Commission

The Commission Director for Youth, Sports and Civil Society, **Pierre Mairesse**, invited ENGSO into a bilateral meeting on the White Paper on Sport in Brussels on 20 September. ENGSO also received an invitation to participate as a speaker in the Conference on the White Paper on Sport organised by the European Commission for the European and international sports organisations in Brussels on 8-9 October 2007. All the key players of European sport were present in this conference.

The position and priorities Pierre de Coubertin Action Plan of ENGSO on the White Paper received a lot of positive feedback from other European sports bodies. I would like to thank warmly all those ENGSO members who took actively part in preparing the ENGSO Statement.



ENGSO Vice-President Toomas Tõnise, Director General Odile Quintin from DG Education and Culture, Director Pierre Mairesse from DG Education and Culture and ENGSO President Birgitta Kervinen met at the conference on White Paper.

Non-profit sport organisations selected as a priority action in 2008

ENGSO is in broad agreement with the White Paper on Sport. ENGSO finds it significant that the Commission considers non-profit voluntary sports organisations as one of the key themes in the White Paper and one of the priority actions of Pierre de Coubertin Action Plan in 2008.

ENGSO strongly involved in the Structured Dialogue

The European Commission published a discussion paper called the Structured Dialogue with Sport Stakeholders. ENGSO warmly welcomes active partnership and regular consultation on topical EU sports policy issues mentioned in the dialogue proposal.

National decision making vital for gambling and lottery

ENGSO stresses the importance of continuity of the national decision making

in the area of gambling and lottery services. Funding from gambling monopolies for sport must continue to exist in order for sport to survive and to benefit the European society.

ENGSO appreciates that the European Commission has listened the European sport movement's views. For the first time national umbrella sport organisations and Olympic committees were invited to the

consultation conference, as proposed by ENGSO.

ENGSO continues its work related to sports political matters and would like to remain an active cooperation partner with the European Commission.

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White Paper on Sport

Confirming its growing interest for the relation between sport and the European Union, the European Commission published a White Paper on Sport in July.

From the recognition of the societal role of sport (public health and physical activity, education and training, volunteering, etc.) to the interpretation of the specificity of sport and the acknowledgement of its economic dimension, the document draws up for

the first time an overview of the application of the Community legislation to sport, sector by sector, opening the debate on several issues.

The White Paper and its annexes:
http://ec.europa.eu/sport/index_en.html
ENGSO Statement on White Paper:
www.engso.com

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The European Youth and Sport Forum 2007

Youth still on the journey to have their say in sport.

For the third consecutive year, EYSF took young volunteers from across Europe to exchange and voice their views. The 2007 forum brought together fifty participants from 22 countries on this journey.

This five-day journey was successfully held in Bonn, Germany on 17-22 of June. This year's slogan was 'Welcome diversity let's move Europe'. The topics of the forum were diversity, anti-discrimination and social inclusion through and in sport. These topics were a compliment to the German EU presidency as one of the functions of the forum is to create a declaration.

The declaration reflects the ideas, experiences and recommendations of the participants. It is a document, which reflects the beliefs of active youth in sport. They were developed through the participants work on different issues of the forum using non-formal education methods. In addition, the participants felt it was important to include examples of good practice in the declaration, which have been carried out by some of the participants in their home countries.

On the final day of the forum the declaration was presented and handed over to representatives from the European Commission, Council of Europe, German Government and leaders of international sport organisations.

All involved parties will continue to spread the messages of the declaration on to ministries in their own countries as well as their national organisations in the hope to give youth a real say in sport.

The forum this year came to life thanks to the ENGSO Youth, in close co-operation with International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA), Deutsche Turnerjugend and host organization Deutsche Sportjugend.

With such a success over the past three years, we hope this event will take place again in 2008 during the French EU-presidency.

The whole declaration is available at <http://www.engso.com/bodies050301.htm>

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PR update

After the 2007 General Assembly the new ENGSO Youth Committee wrote their action plan for 2007/08. Within the plan, Communications and PR were identified as a priority for ENGSO Youth to be able to keep our member organisations up to date with news relating to European Youth Sport and to be able to share good practice. ENGSO Youth is therefore excited about launching their own Newsletter that will be sent to all their members three times a year.

The first newsletter is currently being written and will be disseminated at Christmas this year. If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter please email engso-youth@dsj.de

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European Youth Fair Play Congress

The second European Youth Fair Play Congress took place 17-21 October 2007 in the city of Frankfurt in Germany. This event was linked to the 13th European Fair Play Congress that took place at the same time in Frankfurt.

The Congress assembled over 40 participants from across Europe to discuss the values and roles of Sport and Fair Play in regard to Sport for Development and Peace, Anti-Doping and Anti-Discrimination.

ENGSO Youth Committee member **Anna Eliasson** led a workshop on Sport and UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

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University Sport: «Sport Creates Man.... Man develops Nationhood»

The Universiade Bangkok 2007 FISU Conference was one of the principal events to commemorate the eightieth birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of the Kingdom of Thailand. The conference was held under the patronage of the Thailand's Ministry of Education, the Council of University Presidents of Thailand, FISU Conference Organising Committee, CESU and many donors in Thailand.

The core theme of the conference was: «University Sport: Sport Creates Man....Man Develops Nationhood», this theme was then divided into five sub-themes: sport and socialisation, sport and environmental concerns, globalisation of sport, perspectives of sport science and healthy lifestyle and quality of life.

This conference gave an opportunity for sports experts, researchers, academics, athletes and university students from different countries around the world to gather and exchange their views and experiences in order to promote and to make progressive changes for the enhancement in sports and higher education.

Let me finish with vice president FISU, prof. Claude-Louis Gallien, words: "University sport is much more than sports, it is sports with that extra quality that is the spirit of sports or «sportsmanship», a direct heritage of Olympism."

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Fair Play Award for EYOF Belgrade 2007 Volunteers

The closing ceremony at the Belgrade Arena marked the end of the ninth European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) which welcomed approximately 3000 athletes from 48 European countries competing on 21-28 July.

Alike athletes, the volunteers were champions of this grand Festival. The kindness and commitment they showed, won the hearts of the guests. Their invaluable contribution was recognised by the European Fair Play Movement and so the volunteers received an award for Fair Play.

The Management Team of Volunteers was presented with the award in the Olympic Village on the last day of the Festival.

Thus ended the engagement of 1200 volunteers, boys and girls – great people with big hearts – whose knowledge, upbringing, will and love, helped the organisation of this unique Festival.

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Council of Europe and Sport

Council of Europe has played an important role in European sport, especially in the 1980's and 1990's when the political system changed in Eastern Europe and a big number of countries joined the Council of Europe.

The Committee for the Development of Sport (CDDS) was a very fruitful meeting point of GO and NGO representatives from all over Europe. The main sports political documents - the European Sports Charter (1992), the European Anti-Doping Convention (1990) and the European Convention against Violence in Sport (1989) have strongly influenced sport policies.

Different projects, like SPRINT, have helped in building up democratic sport systems in many European countries.

Due to the financial difficulties in CDDS the structures were reformed into the **Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)**, as it was proposed by the Feasibility Study Group and adopted by the Sports Ministers meeting in Moscow 2006.

At its 117th session on 11 May 2007, the Committee of Ministers adopted Resolution CM/Res(2007)8 creating the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS).

The first Meeting of the Governing Board of EPAS was held on 8 October 2007.

The following States were entitled to participate as full members: Andorra, Azerbaijan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, San Marino, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Untied Kingdom. In addition, 18 countries will join EPAS in 2008.

Hopefully, EPAS will continue to fulfill the important tasks started and led by CDDS. ENGSO has a promising opportunity to co-operate with EPAS because it has the observer status in EPAS Governing Board and Bureau.

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ENGSO CALENDAR

ENGSO Executive Committee

23-25 November, Lisbon
15-17 February, Istanbul
15-17 April, Zagreb

ENGSO GA

16-18 May, Istanbul

ENGSO Youth

30 November – 2 December,
Brussels

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ENGSO NEWSLETTER

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Finnish Sports Federation thanks the readers and writers

This is the last ENGSO Newsletter edited by the Finnish Sports Federation. We would like to thank all the readers and writers for your contribution and interest.

The world has changed during the five years that Finnish Sports Federation has had the responsibility of editing the ENGSO Newsletter. It is most likely that the future of the ENGSO Newsletter is online at ENGSO web-site.

Dear ENGSO-members!

THANK YOU ALL – Finnish Organisers of the ENGSO General Assembly, ENGSO and ENGSO Youth Members – **for the unforgettable celebration and appreciation** I was given by you, dear friends, in connection with the General Assembly in Helsinki 4-5 May 2007.

I will keep the very good feelings I got in my mind for ever!

With Greatest Appreciation!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bengt Sevelius', written in a cursive style.

Bengt Sevelius
Honorary President

New head of the EU-Office of German Sports

On 1 October, **Folker Hellmund** succeeded **Tilo Friedmann**, who left the EU-Office after working for the German Olympic Sports Confederation for nine years.

Mr Hellmund has already worked in the European environment in Brussels for 15 years. As Deputy Head of the Joint Representation of Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein, he attained a wide knowledge of European politics, particularly in the field of funding programmes. He has a broad network of contacts and is a very experienced lobbyist. He enjoys doing sport in his leisure time and is very much looking forward to representing the interests of sport at European level.



ENGSO thanks for your co-operation during 2007.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2008!