



ENGSO Development Group

According to a decision taken by ENGSO ExCom in August 2005 an ENGSO Development Group was established. The group had its' first meeting during the ENGSO Forum in Madeira 28-29 October. The three main tasks of the group will be:

- Evaluation of ENGSO's role, aims, policies and strategies
- Identifying a mission statement and important areas for ENGSO
- Outlining a long-term strategic plan for ENGSO.

Members of the ENGSO Development Group

The members of the ENGSO Development Group are: Mr. **Zdenko Kriz** (Slovak republic); Mrs. **Marije Dippel** (the Netherlands); Mrs. **Ilonda Luse** (ENGSO Youth) and Mr. **Toomas Tönise** (Estonia). ENGSO General

Secretary, Mr. **Predrag Manojlovic** (Serbia and Montenegro) will also be a member of the group as well as ENGSO ExCom President Mr. **Bengt Sevelius** (Sweden) and ENGSO Youth Chair Mr. **Jan Holze** (Germany). The group will be chaired by two process leaders, Mr. **Stefan Bergh** (head) and Mrs. **Catarina Arfwidsson** (vice).

Reference group and other important ways of communication

Opportunities will also be given for other member countries to contribute to the work of the ENGSO Development Group. Since the group is aiming for an open and transparent attitude during the working process, all members of the Development Group are responsible for listening to the views of all ENGSO members

The ENGSO Development Group will invite interested parties to a reference hearing in the beginning of March 2006. On the ENGSO web-site more information will be given after each group meeting. (www.engso.com or get in touch with stefan.bergh@rf.se or catarina@sisuidrottsbocker.se)

Timeframe for the process

The process will run until the General Assembly of 2007, when the mission of the group will be completed. Along the process there will be a couple of meetings, during which reports will be given. Presentations on the work of the group will be given at the General Assembly 2006 and also at the ENGSO Forum 2006.

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The members of the group from left to right: Catarina Arfwidsson, Zdenko Kriz, Jan Holze, Marije Dippel, Ilonda Luse, Bengt Sevelius, Predrag Manojlovic, Toomas Tönise and Stefan Bergh



ENGSO Youth applies to the European Youth Forum

The ENGSO Youth Committee has on their last meeting decided to apply again for becoming a member of the European Youth Forum (EYF). The first application narrowly failed at the General Assembly of the EYF in November 2004. ENGSO Youth wants to contribute to the youth policy in Europe in themes like health, volunteerism and social possibilities of sport and therefore wants to be the first youth sport organisation among the

members of EYF.

The mentioned themes are the main working areas for ENGSO Youth Committee during the Election period 2005-2007. The European Youth and Sport Forum in November 2005 will offer a discussion platform for youth as well as sport organisations to discuss these themes.

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European Youth and Sport Forum 2005

The European Youth and Sport Forum 2005 was held in the UK from the 19th to the 24th November. The Forum was organised by the International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA), ENGSO Youth and CCPR.

The theme for the Forum was *"building a culture of volunteering and citizenship through sport"* and 100 participants, aged 18 to 30, from 28 European countries came together to discuss the issues of volunteering, citizenship, anti-discrimination and health.

The programme purposely reflected the agenda of the recent European Sports Ministers' meeting, and included presentations, workshops and group activities, enabling the participants to appreciate the



discussions being held at European level and to promote a sense of engagement with other young European sports volunteers.

The outcome of the Forum is the 'Declaration', which includes a series of recommendations for EU policies on volunteering, anti-discrimination and

health. The Declaration was presented to the Rt. Hon Richard Caborn MP (UK Sports Minister) and Pedro Velasquez from the European Commission Culture and Youth DG. In response, Mr Caborn pledged to request that the Declaration is presented at the next informal meeting of the Sports Ministers in Vienna and to personally send a copy of the Declaration to each of the

European Sports Ministers.

The Forum was the first time that ICSA, ENGSO Youth and CCPR had worked together and it is hoped that the excellent working relations will continue in the future.

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Rebekka Kemmler, the new Secretary General of ENGSO Youth

Rebekka Kemmler has been working for the German Sports Youth since 2001, mainly in the field of Franco-German Youth exchange in sports. She does close co-operation with German and French sports federations and clubs and with other countries in case of tri-lateral projects. In addition, she organises trainings, meetings and conferences for youth sport leaders and exchange programmes with young athletes.

Ms. Kemmler is also an executive member of the International Youth Exchange and Visitors' Service of Germany (IJAB). IJAB is the central specialist agency for international youth policy, youth work and youth information in Germany.

Ms. Jennifer Hedderich is now working at the Land Sports Confederation of Lower Saxony (Germany).

ENGSO President Bengt Sevelius met Mr. Pierre Mairesse for informal discussions

During the informal meeting 13 October 2005 Bengt Sevelius noted that the Head of Unit at the Directorate General for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport Mr. Pierre Mairesse shows great interest in an elaborated dialogue with ENGSO. He will visit the next meeting at the end of 2005 – beginning of 2006.

From the ENGSO's side the following items were highlighted by Bengt Sevelius:

1. The main aim of sports movement in relation to EU is to safeguard the independence and autonomy of sports and to respect its specificity.
2. The non-profit structure of associations has no significance in the EU legislation. It is important for the EU countries to recognize the civic activity of non-profit associations as an activity for the public good and not as a business activity! Furthermore, it is of primary importance that the non-profit associations remain under national regulations!
3. Attention must be paid to the STATUS and conditions for voluntary work in the EU and all over Europe!
4. A crucial question for the moment affecting both NGO-GOs in most EU countries is the strong wish that the lotteries and gambling must be excluded from the Service Directive. The national regulations should be safeguarded. The main argument is that the funds are primarily aimed at "public good activities".
5. A budget line for sport is necessary for sports development.
6. An improved mutual co-operation between EU and the national umbrella organisations of sports is of greatest importance.
7. A strong wish to get the youth activity of the sports movement – by far the biggest youth movement in Europe – to be authorized as a full partner of European youth movements. The sports organisations should be qualified to apply for all existing EU funds aimed at youth activities and projects. A question of EU Commission's moral and financial support to ENGSO and its members organisation in improving EQUALITY in sports was also presented.
8. When it concerns the future dialogue between EU commission and the sports movement, a strong wish is

that the umbrella organisations of sport and the special sports organisations will be heard at all levels of EU before making important decisions in sports and that sport matters and co-operation with the European sports movement will be horizontally included in various EU programmes.

Mr. Mairesse made the following comments on ENGSO expectations:

1. Concerning the hearings or other kind of contracts with the National Umbrella Organisations he stressed that their partners are the European Sports Organisations. Sevelius commented that the National Umbrella Organisation of Sport are those who really are committed to the topics of the "Rolling Agenda". Mr. Mairesse answered that he will take our wishes under a serious consideration.
2. He is interested to use ENGSO and ENGSO Youth experiences in a project called "Youth Pass" and other youth matters in developing EU Youth Policies.
3. "Very interesting to follow and to support" was his personal reflection on promoting "Sports for Women"
4. Co-operation is needed in defining and formulating "The Specificity of Sports". In order to have a joint picture of what it means to all of us, clarification is needed.
5. To put emphasis on Non-Governmental / Non-Profit Organization – their status and role in the EU and to notice that the the organisations are mainly built on voluntarism.
6. The Ministers decision, taken at the informal meeting in Luxemburg, 28-29 April 2005, is to exclude the games of chance from the field of application of the Draft Services Directive calling the European institutions and member States to guarantee the resources for sports.
7. A budget line for sports 2007-2013 still depends on the political situation of sports within EU. Nevertheless, the ambition and wishes of the sports movement are welcomed.

The discussions were held in a very good atmosphere and I felt a sincere mutual wish for an improved positive co-operation!

Bengt Sevelius

Festival Sportfilm Liberec 2005 – Czech Republic

The eight International Festival of Sport Films, *Sportfilm Liberec 2005 – Ficts International Challenge* was held in May 2005 by the Regional Committee of the Czech Sport Association in Liberec

21 films were enrolled this year, out of which 10 were outland pictures and 11 were domestic pictures. After difficult decision making a French film *Les*

miroirs du tour les forcats de la route was awarded the main prize of the festival. The film tells about the history of the world famous cycling competition - Tour de France.

The festival took place in the central square of Liberec city in open air. There were around 3 000 visitors and also the President of The Czech Republic,

Václav Klaus and his wife, attended the festival

The annual festival reflects that sport development can also be supported by this appealing way.

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ENGSO CALENDAR

ENGSO Executive Committee

21-22 January, Malta

ENGSO Youth Committee

12-14 January, Stockholm, Sweden

7th European Women and Sport Conference

24–26 March 2006, Vienna Austria

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ENGSO YOUTH

Ms Rebekka Kemmler, Secretary General

ENGSO NEWSLETTER

Finnish Sports Federation, SLU:
Editor: Essi Puistonen
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www.slu.fi/english



We would like to hear from you

The success of the ENGSO communications depends on the active participation of the ENGSO members. Should you have any ideas for articles about current topics, interviews and/or short news from your organisation, please contact Essi Puistonen at the Finnish Sports Federation, SLU:
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EU-Services Directive: Has the worst been avoided?

On 30 September 2005 the Austrian Sports Federation organized a conference on the EU-services directive. EU-experts discussed the possibility whether the financing of sport through the revenues of the national gambling monopolies is threatened by the EU-services directive.

"Yes, the original proposal of the EU-services directive would have threatened the existence of gambling monopolies in Europe. However, the European Parliament changed the directive to exclude gambling activities from the scope of the directive," reported Ms Christa Prets, Member of the European Parliament. She is confident that the European Parliament will adopt these changes during its plenary session in January 2006 and prevail in this matter.

Ms Melitta Schabus, expert in the gambling

market and representative of the Austrian Finance Ministry, confirmed this opinion and stated that the Council – the other legislation institution – is also in favour of excluding gambling activities from the scope of the directive. Nevertheless, she still recommends continuous lobbying to EU-decision makers, as the legislative procedure is not finished yet.

The EU experts concluded that the worst has been avoided so far. Sports interest have been successfully upheld for the time being but that is still crucial to monitor any developments regarding the EU-services directive and, should the need arise, react decisively.

Michael Trinker
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EWS met in Athens – Cyprus will follow Austria as chair!

The European Women and Sport steering group met at end of September in Athens, just before the European Sports Conference was held. The meeting was conducted as open steering group meeting and dealt with the 7th European Women and Sport conference held in 24-26 March in Vienna and with the question, as who should follow Austria as a new EWS chair.

The steering group unanimously voted for **Athina Kyriakidou** from Cyprus to take the reigns from 2006 to 2009. Like the present chair, **Liese Prokop**, Kyriakidou is a politician (delegate to the Cypriot parliament) and a former track and field athlete.

The 7th EWS conference in 2006 will be a part of the EU presidency of Austria and will

thus have special attention. The theme of the conference is *Good Governance in sport – sport as a role model for the new civil society*, in which intensive discussions are expected. All info for the conference is available at www.ews-online.org.

The EWS was well presented at the ESC, with contributions from **Amanda Bennett**, who presented the Equity Standard, **Liese Prokop**, who spoke about the importance of education for professional life and for the work within sport structures and **Tuuli Merikoski-Silius**, who presented after sports career issues.

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ENGSO Secretary, Ms. Snezana Misic

Born in 1961, and graduated in French and Italian, my first contact with sport was in 1983, as hostess of the Czech Team at the 1st World

Cup in Rhythmic Gymnastics in Belgrade. Soon after I was engaged by the Olympic Committee of former Yugoslavia, following which the Yugoslav Federation of Physical Culture became my second home. Translation, organisation of protocol meetings, various conferences and events, were the basic tasks, but so was an occasional organisation of the Yugoslav delegation office at the

Mediterranean, University Games, etc. As the Federation of Physical Culture was losing on its importance as an umbrella organisation and was replaced with other bodies representing sport, so were the tasks reduced to translating, until Volleyball Federation asked me to join them in their great plans for volleyball sport.

When the ENGSO General Assembly was held last year, I was engaged for several translations, not knowing that some time in June this year, first with the ExCom meeting, ENGSO would come to stay for some time in our office in downtown Belgrade, presenting itself as a new challenge to us all.

What an opportunity!

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