

GO-NGO PARTNERSHIP: 10 ENGSO RECOMMENDATIONS

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INTRODUCTION

ENGSO has reviewed its' role as a catalyst for change in the very important area of GO/NGO sport relations. Recognising the enormous political and hence cultural changes that have taken place in Europe within the last decade.

Coupled with the increasing rate of technological development which itself places considerable pressure for change upon society.

As a result of a democratic process of discussion with the ENGSO member organisations, ENGSO worked out

10 RECOMMENDATIONS for GO-NGO PARTNERSHIP

to take forward into the 21st Century.

These cover four fundamental aspects;

- A Status of Sport**
- B Support**
- C Consultation and Co-ordination**
- D Co-operation**

In particular these recommendations recognise the increasing role that sport continues to play in ensuring a balanced society.

At the same time ENGSO stresses the need for increased co-operation with Government in developing the many beneficial effects that sport can engender.

Therefore a partnership is proposed where Government creates and funds a climate for sport as a vehicle for social change and NGOs deliver the essential elements of health, exercise, social inclusion, national profile and equally important fun.

Not forgetting the economic benefits which occur from this climate including job creation, inflow of funds from events, television, sponsorship etc.

It is the wish of ENGSO that all European NGOs will agree to adopt these recommendations as the basis for co-operation and hopefully a partnership for sport which will benefit all. Moreover, it is our hope that also all national governments take positively notice of this paper and play a constructive role in this joint partnership.

A. - Status of Sport

1. Acknowledgement of sport as a basic right of all citizens.
2. Inclusion of sport in the Constitution; creation of a legal framework for sport.
3. Recognition of the promotion of sport and physical education as a prominent task of State authorities, including the facilitation of general access to sport as well as the provision and maintenance of adequate sport facilities and sufficient equipment to cover basic needs of all groups of the population.

B. - -Support

4. Agreement among all political parties to support the sport movement in its contributions to a democratic Society and to the quality of life of its population.
5. Public financial support for voluntary, non-profit sport organisations to fulfill their multiple tasks related to general sport development and to the promotion of its ethical, educational and health-enhancing values.
6. Appropriate financial support for NGO involvement in inter-national sport activities, conferences and other events, related to sport-political and sport-practical issues, at national and inter-national levels.

C. Consultation and co-ordination

7. Active involvement of sport organisations in
 - ⇒ developing sport legislation
 - ⇒ defining and implementing the official national sport policy
 - ⇒ establishing and implementing GO-NGO consultation
 - ⇒ mechanisms for all sport-related issues
8. National co-ordination of sport related activities
 - ⇒ among different State bodies with participation of sport representatives in the co-ordination process
 - ⇒ regular meetings GO/NGO for co-ordination and exchange of information

D. Co-operation

9. GO-NGO co-operation should be based on good partnership and cover all fields of joint national concern.
10. Joint GO-NGO definition and representation of sport policies at European and international levels, including sport-related EU matters