

Sports in Europe

No. 2/2006
June



Important decisions taken at the ENGSO Assemblies in Malta 5-6 May, 2006

The preconditions for our meetings in Malta – the Extraordinary and General Assembly of ENGSO as well as the EU-seminar – were perfect. The secretariat of ENGSO had prepared the assemblies well. The deeply engaged “leader troika” of the Malta Olympic Committee, President **Lino Farrugia Sacco**, Vice President **Julien Pace-Bonello** and Secretary General **Joseph Cassar**, welcomed and took well care of us during the visit in Malta and where the Grand Hotel Mercure presented us an impressive conference room.

The first Extraordinary Assembly in ENGSO's history was called upon by the ENGSO Executive Committee because of the wish to register the ENGSO headquarters and office in Paris, at the House of French Sports. This was important for legal recognition and for having the opportunity to apply for EU funding for ENGSO projects. The French Olympic Committee and its' President, Mr **Henri Serandour**, had kindly opened the House of the French Olympic Committee for the official registration of ENGSO. Some modifications of the ENGSO statutes were decided upon in order to be in conformity with the French law.

The Extraordinary Assembly unanimously decided to follow the recommendation of the Executive Committee and expressed their thanks to the French Olympic Committee.

During the Ordinary General Assembly of ENGSO many important items proposed by the Executive Committee were discussed and decided upon.

- An ENGSO-statement on “ENGSO expectations on EU” (can be found on the updated ENGSO-website <http://www.engso.com>)

- An ENGSO-statement concerning a “Study of gambling services in the internal market of the European Union” delivered by the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law at the request of by the European Commission (see ENGSO-website)
- An invitation to join the ENGSO leadership programme for women and to join a meeting during the Summer 2006 for preparation of a joint ENGSO application for EU funding
- An intermediate report followed by discussions in workshops concerning the ENGSO development process in order to outline important future issues for ENGSO.

The ultimate aim is to make ENGSO known as an alliance of national umbrella organisations in Europe and as a strong European voice in sport political matters fighting for the position of sport in the society and developing the quality of sport both in activities and administration. The final proposals will be presented at the ENGSO General Assembly 2007 in Helsinki (more about

this topic on page 4).

Furthermore, it was decided that

- the **ENGSO FORUM 2006** will be organised the 27-29 October in **Budapest** by the Hungarian Sports Confederation
- the **ENGSO FORUM 2007** will be held at **Faeroe Islands** with the Faeroe Confederation of Sport as host
- the future **General Assemblies of ENGSO** will be held
 - **2007 in Helsinki**, 4-6 May, organised by the Finnish Sports Federation
 - **2008 in Istanbul**, Turkey, organised by the National Olympic Committee of Turkey
 - **2009 in Paris**, France, organised by the French Olympic and Sports Committee

In connection with the Assemblies in Malta a seminar on EU matters was held in which most Assembly delegates took part. Many current EU matters were discussed as a preparation for the decisions taken during the General Assembly. It was decided that an open ENGSO EU group will meet more often

and it will try to improve the engagement of the members in the preparation of EU seminars.

I would like to thank all delegates at the ENGSO meetings held in Malta for creative and lively discussions as well as for the stimulating togetherness! This, in connection with the good preconditions given us by our Maltese friends, resulted in a very good and positive atmosphere!

Thank you everybody and “Good luck” with your ambitions on national level!

Bengt Sevelius
ENGSO President





European Youth and Sport Forum 2006 coming up

ENGSO Youth (European Non-Governmental Sport Organisation Youth), SLU (Finnish Sports Federation), ISCA (International Sport and Culture Association), Svoli (Finnish Gymnastic Federation) and the Young Finland Association are delighted to announce that they will organize a follow-up event to the EYSF2005 during the Finnish EU presidency in close relation to the informal EU Sport Directors meeting. The European Youth and Sport Forum 2006, "Youth - A Future for Sport in Europe" will take place on 26th of September to 1st of October 2006 in Pajulahti, Finland.

100 to 120 young people from all over Europe are expected to attend the Forum, which will precede the informal EU Sport Directors meeting 5-7 October

2006 in Finland. The EYSF2006 will build on the results of last year's forum and work on the basis of a non-formal educational process, concluding with a declaration that focuses specifically on the following topics:

- Youth and health
- Equality
- Volunteering
- Project planning

The EYSF2006 is financed by the European Commission's YOUTH programme, the Finnish Ministry of Education, ENGSO-Youth, SLU, Svoli, Young Finland Association and ISCA.

Please find the formal invitation and the application form to the European Youth and Sport Forum 2006 on our website www.engso.com/youth

European Women and Sport had youth sport on their agenda

ENGSO Youth gave an input to the European Women and Sport Conference, which was held from 24th-26th March 2006 in Vienna. The guiding theme was "Good governance in sport – sport as a role model for the new civil society". ENGSO Youth was invited to make a contribution to two of the three thematic blocks. **Jan Holze** (Germany) gave a presentation the special problems of youth, especially females, in sport for all. **Ilonda Luse** (Latvia) took part at the open podium discussion and talked about "Women and Top Sport". **Barbara Lang** (Austria) was member of the EWS steering group to prepare the European Women and Sport Conference 2006.



Members of the ENGSO Youth Committee at the EWS Conference: Barbara Lang, Jan Holze, Eszter Rudas, Ilonda Luse.

National Developments in youth sport Examples from Finland

Finnish National Youth Committee

Finnish National Youth Committee was established in the beginning of 2006 in co-operation with Finnish Sport Federation, Young Finland Association and Finnish Olympic committee. Every partner believes that "give youth a real say" is important for the future development. More than 40 applications for the Youth Committee were submitted and 14 members between 18 and 25 years old were selected, who are now planning the work. The main aim is to increase youth participation in sport.

Youth Sport Managers

Young Finland Association has a programme for youth sport activities development. One aim is to recruit "youth sport managers" in to sport clubs. By means of the project new sports opportunities are created for young people who either have dropped out of sport or who wish to take up a new sport. The manager is the support person for the young people in the sport club. In spring 2006 seminars will be held in Finland where the idea will be presented.

Coach and leadership education

Finnish Sport Federation, Young Finland Association and Olympic Committee have started a long term developing project for the coach and leadership education. In each organisation there is a project manager and they work together as a team to develop a new education system in sport.

Sport adventure around the globe

Young Finland Associations campaign for children in school "Sport Adventure around the globe" was 13 March – 2 April 2006. Almost 50% of 6-12 years old children in schools took part to the campaign, which main aim is to encourage children to be physically active on daily basis.

More information in English www.nuorisuomi.fi or contact: Päivi Laihonen: paivi.laihonen@nuorisuomi.fi

European Youth Forum invited ENGSO Youth

The European Youth Forum (EYF) as the umbrella organisation for youth organisations in Europe invited ENGSO Youth to be part of their working group on youth and alcohol. The EYF will develop a European policy on alcohol in the field of youth. The European Commission is preparing their policy on alcohol and will take into account the contribution of the European Youth Forum. **Jan Holze**, chair of ENGSO Youth, sees this as a very positive signal in the process of becoming a member of the European Youth Forum.

ENGSO Youth's delegate is **Anders Rönmark** (Sweden).

Foundation of the German Olympic Sports Confederation

German Sports Confederation (DSB) and the National Olympic Committee for Germany (NOK) concluded their merger to the "**Deutscher Olympischer Sportbund**" (DOSB) with a ceremonial act on 20 May in Frankfurt. The members of the DOSB executive board were elected during a constitutional assembly, which took place prior to the festivity.

Dr. Thomas Bach, lawyer, IOC-Vice-President and Olympic Champion in fencing in 1976, was elected as the first President of the DOSB. He will be assisted by the following five Vice-Presidents:

Mr. **Eberhard Gienger** (Elite Sport)

Mr. **Walter Schneeloch** (Sport for All and Sport Development)

Mrs. **Guðrun Doll-Tepper** (Olympic Education)

Mrs. **Ilse Ridder-Melchers** (Women and Gender Equality)

Mr. **Hans-Peter Krämer** (Economic and Financial Affairs)

Further board-members are: **Ingo Weiss** (German Sports Youth), **Stefan Forster** (athletes' representative), **Walther Tröger** (IOC-member) and the future general director (staff level is to be appointed by the board).

Two committees, elite sport and sport for all, are linked to the executive board. Besides that three individual conferences were established to provide advisory support to the executive board: national sport federations, regional sport confederations and federations with special tasks. Additionally, a women's assembly was set up.

EU Office of German Sport



Dr. Thomas Bach, the new DOSB President.

Joint Declaration: Civic activity on the agenda during the Finnish EU-Presidency

Finnish Sports Federation, Finnish Youth Cooperation Allianssi and Finnish Federation for Social Welfare and Health submitted a joint declaration concerning civic activity to Finnish Prime Minister **Matti Vanhanen** on 1 June 2006.

The three biggest civic organisations in Finland regard it important that the council of state would, during the Finnish EU-presidency, highlight the significance of the civic organisations, and the fact that the activities of the civic organisations

differ substantially from the activities of the private sector. Civic organisations should have their own autonomous space in the society that should not be hindered by unconsidered actions.

Work – including legislative actions – that relates to civic organisations and that strengthens their position should be continued also at the EU level. For the sake of strengthening the citizens' voice in Europe, it is essential that civic organisations will have an official and



consultative role in the preparation of policies and in the dialogue between the European institutions.

Finnish EU-presidency begins 1st July 2006. The official web site of the Finnish EU presidency is:
http://www.eu2006.fi/en_GB/

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European Association of Sport Employers

EASE is a European Association of Sport Employers operating in Amateur and Professional Sport and Recreation, Fitness and Outdoor sports. It is an independent membership association of national sport employer groups and associations wishing to promote social dialogue. It is a European non-profit organisation created in 2003 and registered in France.

Aims of EASE

The objectives of EASE in all sport fields are:

- to defend the rights and the material and moral interests of its members,
- to participate in the Social Dialogue Sport committee at European level,
- to negotiate at a European level on

behalf of employers in sport

Members

As its name implies, EASE is an employer organisation and its activity is driven by employers. The members can make major statements to Governments and decision makers both nationally and at a European level.

EASE has nine members, who are from France, Netherlands, UK, Sweden and Belgium.

The EASE is working to develop an effective network of employers which meets the requirements of the European Commission for representation. That is the reason why EASE encourages the creation of national employer organisations in countries where the

social dialogue is emerging.

European projects

EASA has run European projects. During 2003-2005 three projects were done:

- Building the Social Dialogue in the Sport Sector (BSDSS) – 2003/2004
- "European Observatory for Sport Education and Employers Network" – EUROSEEN Project – 2003/2005
- VOCASPORT Project - 2004

Currently the EASA is doing projects on social dialogue and on the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)

For more information, please visit :
www.easesport.org

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ENGSO CALENDAR

ENGSO Executive Committee

1-3 September, Faroe Islands
26-27 October, Budapest

ENGSO Forum

27-29 October, Budapest

ENGSO Youth

3-5 August, Sofia

European Youth and Sport Forum 2006

26 September - 1 October,
Pajulahti Finland

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ENGSO NEWSLETTER

Finnish Sports Federation, SLU:
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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: essi.puistonen@slu.fi
tel. +358 9 3481 2600.

News from ENGSO Development Group

Important strategic development areas outlined

At the 14th General Assembly of ENGSO held in Malta, 5-6th of May 2006, part of the programme was devoted to the ENGSO development work. 27 ENGSO member organisations got information from the ENGSO Development Group (EDG) work and were given the possibility to give an input on important future issues for ENGSO to deal with.

The EDG is aiming for as much interaction with members as possible during this crucial process. Members are informed via EDG newsletters, the ENGSO website and they are involved during ENGSO meetings (Forums, GAs).

Among previous steps in the development process, a SWOT-analysis has been made by the EDG, the ENGSO ExCom and an ENGSO reference group, consisting of ten member organisations. From the exercises done and discussions held until now, a number of important strategic areas for ENGSO have been distilled. A preliminary outline of the strategic development areas consists of the following:

- to develop clear profile and effective communication
- to advocate / lobby for sports
- to increase resources
- to produce services for members
- to focus on education
- to focus on expertise knowledge

Member survey and stakeholder analysis coming up

To get even more input for the remaining EDG-

work, a short but important member survey is now sent out to the member organisations. The survey will be administered via e-mail. **Responding to the survey will only take ten minutes of your time. The result, however, will be of great importance to the future process.**

The EDG will also undertake an external stakeholder analysis, by getting in touch with the main players in the sports policy field of Europe and asking for their input.

Your involvement is essential!

The main theme on the programme of the next ENGSO Forum in Budapest in October 2006 will be the ENGSO development work, focusing on the coming long-term strategic plan for ENGSO. **As we will be discussing the future of ENGSO we urge all members to come to the Forum and take part in this important work.** The final plan will then be presented at ENGSOs next GA in Helsinki, 2007.

Please forward questions related to the EDG to:

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If there are other people in your organisation or elsewhere, that might want to get information from the ENGSO Development Group, please mail their contact details to any of the process leaders.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.engso.com>

An "imperial" conference

The EWS conference, staged 24 -25 of March 2006 in Vienna in the imperial "Hofburg" and chaired by the Federal Minister for the Interior in Austria, **Liese Prokop** had "Good Governance in sport, sport as a role model for the new civil society" as headline. It proved to be a perfect follow-up of the last two conferences (Germany 2002 – "Gender Mainstreaming" and France 2004 – "Women, Sport and Democracy") of the EWS and could carry this important theme further.

A special focus was on this conference, as it was possible to place it as official programme on the agenda of the EU presidency of Austria. With this, the EWS was for the first time in the "European Union" spotlight, a fact that could be underlined by the high calibre podium for the opening ceremony. **Jan Figel'**, EU Commissioner, **Maria Rauch-Kallat**, Federal Minister for Women and Health, **Franz Löschnak** as president of the Austrian

Sports Federation and Liese Prokop welcomed the approximately 160 participants.

Good Governance in all its aspects, from the basic definition to gender budgeting, from quotas to the practical implementation was discussed during the first day, with a podium discussion (among the guests **Erica Terpstra** and **Lydia La Riviere-Zijdel**) closing it.

The second day was devoted to projects in the fields of top sport, sport for all and education, as well as to the presentation of recent studies.

The decisions of Vienna – 1) thinking the gender perspective AND being active in women's promotion, 2) quality through equality and 3) evolution of a new organisational structure closed the two very intensive and fruitful days for women in sport!

The conference proceedings will be available beginning of June at: e.koenig@bso.or.at

ENGSO Forum 2006 in Budapest 27-29 October

The ENGSO Forum 2006 will be organised by the Hungarian Sports Federation on 27 – 29 October in Budapest.

One whole day will be spent on the main theme "ENGSO Development" foreseeing on the long term strategic plan for ENGSO. Other topics of the Forum will be current and crucial EU matters, Sport and Employment and Sport as Health Promoter.

A first announcement will be sent out to the members during June.

I do hope that the important question concerning the future of ENGSO as the role of sport in the modern society motivates many members to participate.

Bengt Sevelius
ENGSO President