

## **ENGSO ExCom ACTIVITY REPORT 2008 / 2009**

Among truly numerous activities of the ENGSO ExCom between the two General Assemblies, its sessions were held in 2008/2009 as follow:

### **Istanbul**

As is the tradition with ExCom meetings, ExCom met prior to the General Assembly in Istanbul to finalize and work out the items on the agenda, divide the tasks and appoint the chairs for the sessions.

ExCom members adopted all proposals and modifications for the agenda, divided the tasks regarding the chairing and organization of the General Assembly and Youth General Assembly and adopted the programme proposed based on the Annotated Agenda, proposals made and registered participants.

ExCom members discussed the topics to be elaborated during the pre-seminar, set the tasks for the Chair of the Pre-Seminar and talked about the proposals for decisions, agreeing that the conclusions for the Assembly and the Pan-European Seminar should be prepared for the members following the GA.

ENGSO ExCom was informed that for the first time, ENGSO received a grant from the EACEA programme, which definitely was a sign of ENGSO being the voice of organized sport in Europe, covering almost all EU and non-EU members. ExCom commended the work of the EU WG and the ENGSO Secretariat, as well as all who were involved in preparing the application documentation for this important grant that would allow different approach to the work of ENGSO and its activities in the following period.

### **Vienna**

Vienna and the Sports Confederation of Austria hosted the 70<sup>th</sup> edition of the ENGSO ExCom on September 8 and 9, and the ENGSO EU WG meeting, which proved to be a very successful for both, in spite of extensive agendas, ending in joint conclusion and proposal to organize such common meetings on a regular basis.

Both EU and ExCom had a lot to discuss, especially considering the EU grant that already was in use, assisting participation of ENGSO members in various events, from GA and Forum, to various mission meetings. ExCom was informed of the grant that ENGSO Youth, also received from EU Youth programmes after many years of applying for it. This gave an additional impetus to what ENGSO Youth has been doing, including their structure, organization, communication, newsletters, printed material and marketing

EU WG Chair, Michael Trinker, clarified issues concerning the implementation of ENGSO EU Grant.

ExCom members were informed of the sport-political situation in Europe in the light of the White Paper on Sport, EPAS, EU matters, etc., through the reports of ENGSO President on the meeting with Mr. Mairesse, ENGSO Position on the Structured Dialogue (WPS), report of Secretary General regarding his activities in EPAS. It was

concluded with satisfaction that the ENGSO and its ExCom are ever more active and that the voice of ENGSO is indeed heard in the EU, CoE, and with the other stakeholders.

ExCom worked the items on the Draft Agenda for the Forum, topics and programme, and proposals, decisions and distribution of responsibilities. EU WG set their tasks in implementing the EU Seminar during the Forum and in giving the conclusions from the Seminar and the Forum, in attempt to present expectations, plans and projects after the Forum.

The latest ENGSO Newsletter aroused great attention as it was well received with the ENGSO members, partners and stakeholders. Communication and Marketing WG worked on the Press Release that will become an immediate reaction following every event of ENGSO, and it has been decided that changes have to be introduced on the ENGSO website to make it ever more attractive and user friendly, providing much more, including the distance learning, forum, inter and intranet, etc.

### **Stockholm**

The last ExCom in 2008 took place in Stockholm, on October 23, prior to the Forum that was organized by the Swedish Sports Confederation.

In discussion regarding the final preparations for the Forum, involving the tasks and responsibilities of ENGSO ExCom members and EU WG members in particular, members were informed that participation was expected by representatives from 22 member countries, as well as the guests from EC Sport Unit, CoE EPAS, EL, and EAS. ENGSO ExCom members reaffirmed what was to be the programme, agenda and the material for the Forum, including the duty of the EU WG to lead the EU Seminar and prepare the report.

ExCom was informed on the financial situation, especially considering the EU grant and what has been done in the meantime and the ExCom agreed to apply for the next EU grant for 2009, affirming importance this grant has in the professionalisation of work and performance of ENGSO in general.

Members were presented with the report on the payments effectuated towards the members for ENGSO General Assembly in Istanbul and on all other financial matters. It was underlined that all members from now on, during the period while the EU grant is used for these purposes, all shall be required to fill the forms and send invoices in order to be able to be reimbursed when all other documents have arrived.

The ExCom was informed of the forthcoming election period and the deadlines that should be respected in order to fulfill all tasks set through the ENGSO Statutes. The next General Assembly will be electoral for two ExCom members, namely re-election of Secretary General and election of new ExCom member.

ExCom also discussed the activities of ENGSO Youth and ENGSO Working Groups. However, the decision on the venue of the next ENGSO Forum was not decided yet, due to lack of new proposals. That was to be concluded by the next ExCom which will be held in Prague, January 23 and 24, 2009.

In this one year period, ExCom members have participated in numerous meetings, conferences and events throughout Europe, organized by the Council of Europe, EU, EU institutions, EOC, Sports Ministers meetings, as well as expert events.

### **Prague**

The first meeting of the ExCom in 2009 was in Prague, January 23-24, with very extensive agenda and many topics, of which the most important was the preparation for the General Assembly in Paris. Following the good experience with the ExCom meeting in Vienna which was held jointly with the EU WG, Prague was venue of another such joint meeting.

With the elections of the Parliament in May, and many projects in sight, EU WG, led by Trinker, had great plans and projects, of which some were accepted for funding by the EU, namely, the project EU:Sport:Future. There was the Work Programme for the current year, areas of activities to be identified, ENGSO Manifesto, special press release and Newsletter, Seminar, implementation of EACEA grant in 2008, the tasks which were all finalized and delivered. EU WG decided to act by raising the awareness of sport for those who are to be elected to represent Europe in the European Parliament. ENGSO received support from EU in form of grants for the functioning of ENGSO and for the projects of ENGSO and ENGSO Youth.

It was evident that with the work of the EU WG and C & M WG, not to forget ever active Youth, ENGSO became very present in all policy making establishments, whether governmental or non-governmental.

ENGSO ExCom decided also to become associated member of the EOC EU Office of Sport in Brussels as all conditions were there for a signing of an agreement with them, offering services from which all ENGSO members would be able to benefit.

Cooperation with European Lotteries also proved to be beneficial with their presence in all ENGSO events, but also for their financial support.

ENGSO Youth coorganized a very successful European Youth Sports Forum in Paris and finally, after years of applying for membership, was finally accepted as observer in European Youth Forum, very powerful European youth organization. However, that has denied them the advisory place in the Council of Europe, which was taken by ISCA consequently.

Preparing for the GA in Paris, all items were agreed upon, deadlines, tasks and invitations, as well as election process to be followed, including the organization of Youth Conference and Assembly which were to be held separately, but it was agreed that all ExCom members would be present during the Youth Assembly.

Very important matter to be discussed at the General Assembly would be the assessment of the Action Plan of ENGSO based on its Strategic plan and preparations of the mid-term plan for ENGSO, based on all its needs and activities, considering its mission and vision.

It was decided that the Forum 2009 be organized in Portugal, at the invitation of the Portuguese Sports Confederation, while the European Youth Sports Forum and the EU Sport Directors Meeting were planned for Prague, Czech Republic holding the EU Presidency in the first part of 2009.

## Paris

Following the ExCom meeting in Prague, the meeting in Paris, March 21, was mostly dedicated to the Pre-Seminar dedicated to ENGSO Manifesto, EU Parliament elections General Assembly topics and tasks and the election process, and the financial situation of ENGSO Youth, whose application for the EU grant failed.

ENGSO ExCom also had the opportunity to review all the documents prepared for the GA and discuss the leadership during the GA.

ExCom was also informed that the agreement due to be signed during the opening of the EOC EU Office of Sport, had to be modified and not signed yet. Beside the reports of ExCom members, preparations were carried out by CNOSF for the organization of ENGSO events in Paris.

ENGSO ExCom also met representative of a accounting company from Paris that should in future be responsible for financial transactions of ENGSO, due to the variety of funding sources and more complex accounting services needed.

All was prepared for another meeting of ExCom in Paris, before and following the 17<sup>th</sup> ENGSO General Assembly 2009.

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Beside these activities, ENGSO ExCom in close cooperation with the ENGSO Secretariat and hosts of ENGSO events dealt with preparations of ENGSO Forum and ENGSO GA.

ENGSO Secretariat was charged with the regular communication with all members WGs and partners, updating of the ENGSO website, preparation of documents and meetings.

All for the Future of ENGSO!