

## ENGSO PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2005/06

Following the ENGSO Priorities 2005/06 decided upon during the 13<sup>th</sup> General Assembly held in Riga 2005, the Executive Committee reports the following:

### 1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2005-06

The Executive Committee meetings since the last General Assembly have been held as follows

- Belgrade, June 17-19, 2005
- Helsinki, August 7-9, 2005
- Madeira, October 27 & 30, 2005
- Malta, January 20-22, 2006
- Paris, March 17-19, 2006

**Legal Registration of ENGSO** in an ENGSO country has become a necessity for applying for EU-funds. Today, ENGSO due to our statutes is stationed at IOC in Lausanne. The ENGSO Excom member Jeff Angles got the task to investigate the opportunities and found it possible to register in France provided some modifications of the ENGSO statutes. The President of the French Olympic and Sport Committee kindly supported our wish to be registered at the "House of the French Olympic Sport". ENGSO Excom has therefore decided to propose an Extraordinary ENGSO General Assembly to be held on Malta, May 5<sup>th</sup> to make that decision.

### 2. SPORT POLITICAL ACTIONS

#### ENGSO and EU

- ENGSO Excom itself and its EU-working group members have followed up the ENGSO Statement of the GA 2005 in Riga on the EU-Directive proposal "Services in the internal market" concerning the future of games and lotteries in favour of sports.
- ENGSO has actively taken part in EU-consultations during the autumn 2005 concerning anti-doping, equality, social function of sports and voluntary leadership.
- ENGSO is the first sport organisation taking active part in the "EU platform on diet, physical activity and health". Professor Winfried Banzer, Deutscher Sportbund, is called upon as our expert on the platform. Examples of "Best practices" from some of our member organisations have been sent in by ENGSO to the platform.

ENGSO has contributed with a political statement to the EU "Green Paper on Diet and Physical Activity", offering ENGSO members a resource in future health promotion.

- The ENGSO President has been invited to meetings for information held by EU Commissioner Jan Figel in Brussels and actively argued in favour of ENGSO expectations on EU as for example our statement on games and lotteries etc.
- ENGSO President has during the period visited the General Director of the Directorate Youth and Sport, Pierre Mairesse to inform and discuss with him the Expectations of ENGSO on EU and ways of improved co-operation.
- An ENGSO delegation – President, Vice-President, Chair of the ENGSO EU WG, Chair of ENGSO Youth and one Representative of ENGSO EU WG visited March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006, the Head of the Sport

Unit and her colleagues. The main aim was to strengthen the direct contacts between ENGSO and the whole Sport Unit as well as making clear the expectations of ENGSO on EU.

In connection with this meeting the delegation stressed the importance of an improved co-operation between the Sport Unit and the European National Umbrella Organisations of Sport who have the best overview of the situation in sports associations on national level.

- ENGSO has furthermore invited representatives from the Sport Unit both to the ENGSO Forum 2005 and to the General Assembly on Malta 2006.
- ENGSO-ExCom has decided to put forward to the General Assembly 2006 the proposal to adopt a statement "ENGSO Expectations on EU".
- ENGSO is a partner of an EU-supported project called "Sport Co-ordinator", led by Bosön Sports Institute, Sweden, which is aiming to form a "model for training of managers and employees at sport facilities". Participating are Cyprus, Greece, Finland, Italy, Sweden and on European level European Association for Sports Management and ENGSO.
- More is referred to in the report of the ENGSO EU Working Group

### **ENGSO and CDDS**

- ENGSO has since our last GA in Riga been very active in safeguarding the status and budget of CDDS by letters and contacts with the Secretary General of Council of Europe and the Head of the Youth and Sport Directorate as well as by our Vice-President having the NGO-seat in the CDDS-bureau. ENGSO has stressed that CDDS creates the **only** functioning All-European Forum where GO-and NGO-representatives from **all** European Countries can meet and discuss topical sport matters.

Moreover we have stated **that** CDDS anti-doping work has been paving the way in the fight against doping in Europe, **that** when it concerns developing democracy and "Sport for all" the so called "SPRINT Programme" has for Central- and Eastern European been a successful tool showing concrete results in the countries and **that** this is something Council of Europe has to be proud of and go on supporting!

- ENGSO is regularly consulted by the Directorate for Youth and Sports of Council of Europe in sport matters and is to day the only sport organisation with the so-called "participatory status" in Council of Europe.
- ENGSO is now represented by its Vice-President in the newly created body for sports, CAHAS (Ad hoc committee of the Partial Agreement of Sport)
- ENGSO has been asked to participate in a so-called "Feasibility Study Group". ENGSO has appointed Toomas Tõnise, Estonian Olympic Committee.
- "ENGSO Youth" has been recognised as a full partner with a seat in the Board of the Youth Forum of Council of Europe. The ENGSO Youth representative is the Vice-Chair of ENGSO Youth, Rosemary Paul-Chopin.

### **3. ENGSO and OUR PARTNERS**

**EOC** – ENGSO President was invited to the General Assembly of EOC held in Dublin, December 2-4, 2005. He announced in his speech to the General Assembly the wish of ENGSO to co-operate on EU matters, Youth questions, Women in Sports, Management in sports etc, but sorry to say, the feed-back is still missing. ENGSO Secretary General participated in his capacity of Secretary General of the Olympic Committees of Serbia and Montenegro. We had discussions during the meeting concerning ENGSO - membership with the delegations of the Olympic Committees of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Romania and Ukraine.

### **European Sports Conference (ESC)**

ENGSO President and Vice-President took part in the XVIII ESC held in Athens-Greece, September 24-25, 2005. The ENGSO President was invited to give a speech entitled "Dominating Trends in the Co-existence of Governmental and Non-Governmental Sport Bodies – European Union Article".

### **European Women and Sports Group (EWS)**

ENGSO was strongly represented at the "European Women and Sport Conference" held in Vienna, March 24-25, 2006, under the theme "Good Governance". From ENGSO participated the Vice-President and the President, who both had the opportunity to actively take part, as did also the Chair and Member of ENGSO Youth, Jan Holze and Ilonda Luse, who both gave valuable speeches.

### **European Fair Play Movement (EFPM)**

The ENGSO Executive Committee Member Carlos Cardoso, represented ENGSO at the General Assembly of EFPM held in Lithuania, September 2005.

### **European Physical Education Association (EUPEA)**

Visited both ENGSO GA 2005 and the ENGSO "Round Table of Sport for All"-meeting held in Frankfurt, January 14-15.

### **The ENGSO Round Table of Sport**

The aim of the Round Table is bridge-building of "Sport for All" - organisations active on European level (TAFISA, ISCA, European Company Sports Federations – ECSF, and CESS). President and Marlis Rydzy-Götz, Special Adviser to ENGSO Excom, represented ENGSO in the meeting held in Frankfurt January 14-15, 2006

## **4. PROMOTION OF YOUTH SPORTS (see the report of ENGSO Youth)**

Concerning the legitimization of Youth Sport activities by European intergovernmental bodies we have reached authorisation by Council of Europe but still we – ENGSO and ENGSO Youth - have to work for the acceptance by EU Youth bodies – all in order to be allowed to apply for all existing funds aimed at youth activities and projects.

## **5. PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN SPORTS**

Here I refer to the report written by the Vice President of ENGSO under this topic of the Annotated Agenda for the General Assembly 2006.

## **6. PROGRAMMES SUPPORTING OUR MEMBER ORGANISATIONS**

- **ENGSO in the future – ENGSO Development work**

**The highest priority** during the second half of 2005 and up until now is given the "ENGSO Development Work" with the **ultimate aim** to get **ENGSO known as a strong and fighting European voice** of sport political matters and **a European sport alliance striving at QUALITY** in activities and administration of sports (Good Governance).

An ENGSO Development Group (EDG) was on proposal of the ENGSO President created by the Executive Committee, with Stefan Bergh from the Swedish Sports Confederation appointed as

leader of the process. The Development Group consists of: Zdenko Kriz, Confederation of Slovak Sport Associations, Toomas Tõnise, Estonian Olympic Committee, Marije Dippel, NOC\*NSF, Ilonda Luse, ENGSO Youth, Pedrag Manojlovic, Secretary General of the Olympic Committee of Serbia and Montenegro and Secretary General of ENGSO, and Bengt Sevelius, ENGSO President. As assistant process leader functions Catarina Arfwidsson, Swedish Sports Confederation.

In January the Process leader Stefan Bergh visited the ENGSO Excom for updating the members on the follow-up and discussing with them matters concerning the aims of the process.

One whole day - March 18<sup>th</sup> was given for ENGSO development discussions in Paris between EDG, ENGSO ExCom and a **Reference Group**, representing ENGSO members from different parts of Europe – all in order to broaden the involvement of members in this important work.

- **8<sup>th</sup> ENGSO FORUM ON MADEIRA OCTOBER 27-29, 2005**

The Forum was in an excellent way organised by the Sports Confederation of Portugal together with the sports authorities of Madeira.

The programme of the Forum was focused on current and crucial questions for the sports movement of Europe divided in four sessions as follows:

- “Specificity of Sports on European Islands”
  - “Lottery and Sport in Europe” and “How can Sport co-operate with Lottery Companies”
  - “Sport Promoting Healthy Lifestyle”
  - Workshops on “NGO-GO relationship in member countries”, “How to integrate of all ENGSO-members in EU matters” and “How to improve the ENGSO services to member organisations, particularly from Eastern Europe”
- The ENGSO Excom has during 2005-06 tried to improve our contacts with members of Central and Eastern European countries (see report of Secretary General).

## **7. STRENGTHENING THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION OF ENGSO**

Our New Secretariat in the Office of the Olympic Committee of Serbia and Montenegro has started very well doing their utmost to serve our members, the ENGSO Excom and our Working Groups.

In order to be more offensive and keep our website updated it has been transferred from Switzerland to our ENGSO Secretariat which has good opportunities to provide us with fresh information (see also the report of Secretary General)

Our Finnish colleagues have in a successful way broadened the content of the ENGSO Newsletter and also produced extra pages in order to meet the wishes to make known important actions of ENGSO bodies, our members and partners.

All this is done in order to improve the transparency and mutual information of ENGSO.

**Dear friends**, this was a look backwards, but looking into the future I do hope ENGSO will be known as

- **a strong NGO voice in sport political matters all over Europe**
- **an organization which stimulates the broadening and quality development of sport activities among its members**

- **an organisation which actively develops the NGO-GO partnership** – perhaps also taking on board to organize joint NGO-GO meetings on European level!

**Bengt**  
**ENGSO-President**

**Sevelius**