

ENGSO President Report



In the mid-term of my office as ENGSO President I am happy to report the changes and new steps which we have undertaken. These cover the tasks and responsibilities that we adopted for our new Strategic Plan and Actions for the 2007–2011 period at the 15th General Assembly held in Helsinki on 4 and 5 May 2007. These tasks and responsibilities are the set **ENGSO Priority Activity Areas (2007-2011) and are to:**

1. Influence the sports political agenda by outlining and implementing a strategic approach for acting within the sports political field
2. Be a forum for exchange of knowledge and experiences
3. Upgrade and consolidate the ENGSO internal organisation
4. Develop a clear and effective profile and communication methods
5. Identify and obtain new resources for the organisation

Political Priorities

As it stands in the adopted Strategic Plan and Actions for the 2007–2011 period: a priority of ENGSO's work is to influence the sports political agenda by implementing a strategic approach for acting within the sports political area. After the last ENGSO General Assembly in Istanbul, ENGSO's influence within the political field has increased. ENGSO's Sports Political Influence is aimed mostly at the Council of Europe and the European Union.

The European Union

The European Union has implemented the White Paper on Sport and Pierre de Coubertin Action Plan during the year 2008 and 2009. ENGSO has followed the ratification process of the Lisbon Treaty. The ministers responsible for sport adopted declaration on sport in November 2008 in Biarritz and the European Council adopted the declaration on sport in December 2008 in Athens.

Within the EU, the Commission Sport Unit is in the main centre of activity. During the French EU Presidency in 2008 ENGSO was invited to all meetings related to sports. ENGSO took part in the EU Sports Directors Meeting in Versailles, European Sports Forum and in the informal Meeting of EU Ministers Responsible for Sport in Biarritz.

ENGSO expressed its appreciation to the European Commission for re-launching the EU Sport Forum and the ENGSO President delivered a speech under the theme "[Support for grassroots sport in Europe](#)". In the speech was underlined that the aim of ENGSO is to give every European citizen an opportunity to be physically active and to have open access to participate in the various activities of sport clubs. This can only be guaranteed through strong public funding for sport. The ENGSO President was also invited to the Informal Meeting of the EU Ministers Responsible for Sport.

ENGSO is a member of the **EU Platform on Diet, Physical Activity and Health**, in addition to being a member at **the HEPA Steering Committee and Physical Activity**

Guidelines Working Group. ENGSO also has been invited to become a member in the **Active Citizenship Working Group** of the European Commission.

Last year ENGSO was invited to two significant Working Group Meetings of the European Commission for the first time. An ENGSO representative attended both the **Sport and Health Working Group** and the **Non-profit Sport Organisations Working Group Meeting**.

ENGSO Projects and Programmes

ENGSO received structural support of the European Commission's "Europe for Citizens" Programme of the EACEA. This support allowed ENGSO to promote its role and be particularly successful as a platform for dialogue, exchange of views, information, ideas and best practices in the year 2008.

ENGSO is implementing the **EU Sport Future** project in cooperation with seven different sport organisations from all over Europe. It is organised as a broad discussion project, collecting the opinions of both experts and citizens to provide recommendations on how future EU competence in sport should be shaped. The project started in February 2009 and the final conclusions of the workshops are expected to be published at the end of November and submitted to the European Commission. The EU Sport Future project receives financial support from the European Commission's "Citizens for Europe Programme".

In 2008 for the first time ENGSO Youth gained support by the **EU Youth in Action Programme** - Action 4.1. This assured the resources to continuously being supported by the ENGSO Youth secretariat in Berlin.

The aim of the **ENGSO Enter Programme** is to improve the position of women sport leaders. This programme has had its first meeting which was held in Paris on January. ENGSO Member CCPR has taken the responsibility for the preparatory actions of the programme.

Council of Europe

The Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) was established by the Council of Europe in May 2007. Through EPAS, the connections between the ENGSO member organisations' governments and the sports organisations can be maintained and further promoted. ENGSO participated in the work of the Governing Board and will actively continue its influence and dialogue with the Council of Europe. ENGSO took a part in preparations of the 11th Council of Europe Informal Conference of Ministers Responsible for Sport, which was held in Athens on 11 December 2008. ENGSO delivered a speech under the theme "[Ethics in Sport, Sports movement perspective](#)". It should be one of our main priorities to be well prepared to react quickly to new ethical challenges.

Active co-operation and new co-operation partners

EOC EU Office

ENGSO continued active cooperation with the EU Office of German Sports. Following the decision of ENGSO taken in Torshavn, during the ENGSO Forum 2007, ENGSO applied for membership in the EU Office of German Sports. ENGSO has been accepted as an associated partner for the EOC EU Office since 1 January of 2009. ENGSO's President participated in the inauguration of the reorganized EOC EU Office in February 2009 in Brussels.

European Lotteries and Toto Association

ENGSO along with European Lotteries and Toto Association (EL) signed a cooperation agreement in January 2009. With this agreement the parties intend to strengthen the link between voluntary non-profit sports organizations and national lotteries. The common aim of the parties is to protect the national lotteries and gambling systems and the integrity of sports in the EU member states. Publicly secured funding from state-run and state-licensed gambling operators are the most significant contributors to sport.

ENGSO was invited into the meetings in the area of Sport for All with Trim and Fitness International Sport for All (TAFISA) in Helsinki in December 2008 and with International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA) in Helsinki in March 2009.

Activity of ENGSO

ENGSO General Assembly 2008 was held in Istanbul, Turkey with the celebration of the Turkish Olympic Committee's 100th anniversary. The General Assembly event started with the ENGSO Pan-European Pre-Seminar named "Sport Political Issues and Processes in Europe:—Chances, Challenges and Changes". The speeches were delivered by the European Commission, Council of Europe, Germany EU Office and European Lotteries and Toto Association. ENGSO gave a [statement](#) about the Pan European Sports.

At the ENGSO General Assembly in Istanbul, the Executive Committee of ENGSO remained the same as in previous year:

- Mrs. **Birgitta Kervinen**, President (FIN)
- Mr. **Toomas Tõnise**, Vice-President (EST)
- Mr. **Predrag Manojlovic**, Secretary General (SRB)
- Mr. **Jean-François Angles**, Treasurer (FRA)
- Mr. **Jan Boháč**, Member (CZE)
- Mrs. **Romana Caput-Jogunica**, Member (CRO)
- Mr. **Carlos Cardoso**, Member (POR)
- Mr. **Louis Kilcoyne**, Member (IRL)
- Mr. **Jan Holze**, ENGSO Youth Chair, (GER).

The 11th ENGSO Forum was held in Stockholm on 24 and 25 October. The ENGSO Forum comprised an EU Seminar on ENGSO's sports political cooperation in the European Union and in the Council of Europe. The two main topics were Sport and health

and Sport and volunteering. ENGSO organised working groups on both themes. The Final [Statement](#) of the ENGSO Forum 2009 underlines the relation of sport to both health and civil society.

ENGSO Ex Com Meetings held in 2008-2009:

- Austria, Vienna, 8 and 9 September 2008
- Sweden, Stockholm, 23 October 2008
- Czech Republic, Prague, 23 and 24 January 2009
- France, Paris 21 March 2009
- France, Paris 23 April 2009

The youth organisation of ENGSO is ENGSO Youth, which has its own Youth Assembly and Youth Committee. Since the last Youth Assembly the Youth Committee met four times actively working on youth issues. This included preparing the European Youth and Sport Forum as well as the Youth Conference which takes place now parallel to the ENGSO GA in Paris and also mid-term and long-term programmes and activities. The European Youth Forum (YFJ) approved ENGSO Youth as observer member in their General Assembly in Rotterdam in November 2008. This aim is in accordance with existing ENGSO rules: “to develop and support a Youth Committee within ENGSO that will fulfil the general criteria necessary for membership of the European Youth Forum.”

ENGSO Youth is also helping member organisations to actively develop youth governance in their organisation. Youth Committee held one of their meetings in Reykjavik, Iceland and at the same time it organised the “Give youth a real say in sports!” seminar with the Icelandic National Olympic and Sports Association. The aim of this seminar was to give support to the development of the youth action in Iceland. ENGSO Youth is interested in organising these kinds of seminars in their member organisations in future.

According to its strategy ENGSO has three working groups. As for the Working Groups, the Executive Committee divided the areas of responsibility between them and asked the member organisations to nominate candidates for the following Working Groups.

- 1. EU WG**
Chair Person – Michael Trinker
Ex Com Responsible – Carlos Cardoso
- 2. Communication and Marketing WG**
Chair Person - Eva Szanto (HUN)
Ex Com Responsible - Jan Bohac
- 3. Funding WG**
Ex Com Responsible - Louis Kilcoyne

At the ENGSO General Assembly held in Istanbul Michael Trinker was elected to the Chair of the EU Working Group. The Working Group has worked very actively during the whole year. One example of their activities is the ENGSO Manifesto “Sport for an Active and Competitive Europe”, which summarises the main recommendations for European decision makers.

Communication and Marketing Working Group has continued its work for developing the ENGSO communication systems. One step forward was the launching of the ENGSO

Newsletter in electronic form. The Croatian Olympic Committee was responsible for the successful Newsletter, which was edited by Manuela Sentderdi. The website of ENGSO, www.engso.com (www.engso.eu) has been renewed during the last year and the work for completely new website will continue.

Funding Working Group is the third group. Their remit is to get more funding, which is a challenging task at the best of times.

In addition to these working groups the question of education in sport is also an important part of ENGSO's aims. For developing the position of education in sport ENGSO analysed data obtained from the ENGSOEDU Questionnaire that was received from 13 members. The final results of the ENGSOEDU study were presented at the previous ENGSO GA in Istanbul. After that the ENGSOEDU Network was launched.

Moreover, the ExCom members have participated in several meetings representing the interests and objectives of ENGSO.

The most important meetings attended by ENGSO President:

- Nordic Felles Meeting
- The International Conference "Promoting Equality in Sport – Towards Sydney 2010"
- Steering Group Meeting of the International Working Group on Women and Sport (IWG)
- Active Citizenship Working Group Meeting
- EU Sports Directors Meeting
- European Sports Forum
- Informal Meeting of EU Ministers Responsible for Sport
- Meeting with TAFISA
- Council of Europe/ EPAS
- Inauguration of the EOC EU Office
- Meeting with ISCA

ENGSO Position Papers and Statements:

ENGSO GA 2008 [Statement](#)

[Position](#) on the EU Budget 2009 – Sport Budget Line 15 05 11

[Position](#) on the Structured Dialogue

ENGSO Forum 2008 [Statement](#)

ENGSO Manifesto "Sport for an Active and Competitive Europe" 2009