

Presidency Summary EU Sport Directors

Genval, 16 & 17 September 2010

The EU Sport Directors were gathered in Genval by the Belgian Presidency on 16 and 17 September.

The Sport Directors

Welcomed the presentation of the Belgian EU Presidency programme, in particular the two main priorities on the Belgian agenda: the future EU actions in the field of sport and the societal role of sport, including fair play.

Reflected on the new competences in the field of sport on EU level and the issue raised by the Presidency regarding the relation between formal and informal structures for sport.

Took note of the Presidency's summary regarding the role of EU Sport Directors during the last decades and in the future under the Treaty of Lisbon.

Future EU initiatives in the field of sport.

Listened to the European Commission's report on the state of play regarding the preparation of a Communication on the implementation of the sport provisions in the Lisbon Treaty and took note of the underlying constraints for presenting a proposal for an EU Sport Programme for 2012-2013.

Welcomed the Commission's commitment to work towards the adoption of the Communication before the end of the year and took note that preparations for a possible Commission proposal for a future EU Sport Programme as of 2014 will continue.

Called on the Commission to present the initiatives in due time, in order to give a strong signal to the sport movement that the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon brings an added value to sport.

Education and Training in sport

Listened to the European Commission's progress report on the informal Working Group on Education and Training in sport.

Listened to a presentation from the Belgian Presidency concerning the recognition of sport qualifications within the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).

Expressed their support to continue the implementation of this framework in the field of sport and called upon the Member States to bring all qualifications in line with one another within this framework as of 2012; noted that, as of 2012, all EU countries are advised to mention the EQF qualification level on every qualification.

Confirmed that the Member States are in full process of reviewing the existing structures and aligning them to EQF.

Listened to the presentation of good practices and stressed the need to continue the exchange of best practices in the field of education and training in sport.

Listened to the presentations on the education of young players and the protection of minors in sport.

Took note of the possible consequences of the European Court of Justice's ruling in the "Bernard case" concerning the training of young players and discussed the possible influence on training compensation systems for young players within the different Member States.

Took note of the precarious position of minors in the world of sport and supported the fact that the interests of minors should be safeguarded within sport.

Acknowledged that it is important to further discuss these issues between the Member States of the European Union.

Volunteering in sport

Welcomed the exchange of best practices concerning volunteering in sport.

Acknowledged the importance of volunteering in sport and repeated the need to further improve education, training and management support for volunteers.

Looked forward to the European Year of Volunteering 2011 and asked for appropriate attention for volunteering in the sport sector.

Informal Working Groups

Listened to the European Commission's progress report on the informal Working Groups on:

- Sport and Health
- Social Inclusion and equal opportunities in Sport
- Sport and Economics

Fight Against Doping

Welcomed the progress report by the European Commission and Cahama.

Received the results of the study on the implementation of the WADA Code in the European Union and were informed about the remaining differences between the EU Member States regarding the fight against doping.

Reflected on the role of the European Union in the international fight against doping and future challenges and possibilities, taking into account the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty and the new EU competence for sport.

Presentation of the Hungarian Presidency programme

Welcomed the priorities and the agenda of the next Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Looked forward to supporting the initiatives under the Hungarian Presidency.

Sport Council

Applauded the European Council's decision to change the name of the Council formation for Education, Youth and Culture, following the initiative by the Belgian EU Presidency: From now on, the EU will also have a 'Sport Council', as the Council will officially carry the name Education, Youth, Culture* and Sport.

* Including Audiovisual