

ENGSO supports the legal base for Sport in the future European Constitution

The ENGSO General Assembly agreed upon the following aims and measures as part of the ENGSO Policy on EU affairs 2003-2004 in Stockholm 25-26 April 2003.

Political direction

ENGSO aims to safeguard the specificity of sport, the role of sport and the free and independent sports organisations built on democratic values in the European society and in the EU context. ENGSO should in this respect support actively the efforts of the European sporting movement demanding for a legal base for Sport in the future European Constitution (sport article).

ENGSO shall:

- promote an open and direct dialogue between the sports movement and the EU institutions and EU Presidencies
- represent the interests of the European sport movement and participate actively in the discussion about the structure and competences of a future and bigger Europe within the follow-up of the European Convention
- continue to work for the appreciation of the social significance of sport within the EU context. This contains the social, educational, cultural and health functions inherent in sport as well as the importance of sport for ethnic and social integration
- sensitize national and European coordinating bodies and sport organisations as actors in the field to sport as a tool for assisting the economic and social development of less favoured regions
- make European policy one of its main fields where to take positions and actions in. The ENGSO Executive Committee should recognise this by giving EU affairs a permanent status on its agendas
- consider the possibility of and commitment for an ENGSO application within the framework of the *2004 European year of education through Sports*.

New EU member states

ENGSO aims to increase knowledge in the new EU member states about the EU and its effects on European sports and involve the new member states in the work with EU issues.

ENGSO shall:

- support the coming EU member states, which are also members of ENGSO, in their relations with as well as knowledge and awareness of the EU
- organise a seminar or workshop in connection with the ENGSO Forum 2003
- invite the new member states to take part in the ENGSO EU working group starting in the fall 2003.

EU as a resource for development

ENGSO aims to promote the use of EU as a resource for development – in the form of financial and other support – among ENGSO members.

ENGSO shall:

- spread good practices and increase knowledge of EU funds and programs in connection with the ENGSO Forum 2003
- encourage the member states of the ENGSO EU working group to establish networks with natural partners among the new member states