



European Union and Sport



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European Union and Sport

EU Conference on Anti-Doping in Athens, Greece

At the proposal of the European Parliament, the European Commission held an EU Conference on Anti-Doping in Athens. From 13 to 15 May 2009 representatives of the EU sport governmental authorities convened with key stakeholders involved in the fight against doping, including representatives of the Council of Europe, the World Anti-Doping



EU-Conference on Anti-Doping in Athens, Greece

Agency (WADA), national anti-doping-organisations (NADOs), athlete trade unions and sports academics. Representatives of accredited laboratories in EU Member States were also invited to attend the congress.

Unfortunately, no elected representatives of the IOC, EOC or WADA athletes' commissions were invited.

The Conference is a contribution by the European Commission to anti-doping within the framework of the so-called Action Plan "Pierre de Coubertin". Various aspects of anti-doping issues were discussed at three workshops:

1. A workshop on Data Protection dealt with data protection questions in relation to relevant EU legislation and the latest discussions and developments in this area.
2. A second workshop dealt with the needs and possibilities for

cooperation between anti-doping agencies and the pharmaceutical industry.

3. The third workshop offered delegates from WADA-accredited laboratories located in the EU an opportunity to present their concerns and to discuss issues of common interest.

The Conference came to the following conclusions:

The delegates thanked WADA for its ongoing anti-doping activities and also acknowledged the measures taken by the European Commission and the European Parliament in this connection which have resulted in decisive progress being made in the fight against doping.

Doping is not a problem relating only to sport, but also affects subjects such as health and education. Anti-doping activities are therefore also in the public interest. According to the conference delegates, it is necessary for all public and sports organisations to cooperate in the best possible way in the fight against doping. The good cooperation between the Council of Europe and the European Commission in anti-doping matters should definitely be continued. In addition, the delegates called for anti-doping work at European level to continue to be funded with a future EU sport programme (depending on the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon).



Data protection:

- Since EU legislation guarantees a high data protection standard, this subject is becoming increasingly relevant to anti-doping stakeholders. In anti-doping work, they should take greater account of athletes' personal rights and in so doing should cooperate more closely with the Member States' data protection agencies.
- On 9 May 2009, WADA adopted a revised International Standard for the Protection of Privacy. The successful cooperation of WADA with the EU and the Council of Europe should be continued and as yet unresolved data protection issues addressed.

Criminalisation of trade in doping substances:

- In some EU Member States, "trade in doping substances" is punishable. The other Member States should press ahead with relevant national legislative initiatives. In this connection, Member States, the Commission and the Council of Europe should exchange information more intensively.

Transport of samples on board aircraft

- Within the EU, the transport of doping samples on board aircraft is still

subject to different rules. Thus, uniform EU-wide border/security controls should be introduced, allowing doping samples to be transported without any problems in hand luggage. Relevant examples from Denmark and Finland could be followed by other Member States.

Cooperation with the pharmaceutical industry:

- Cooperation with the pharmaceutical industry across national borders is a useful contribution to the fight against doping and should therefore be extended.

Cooperation between WADA-accredited laboratories:

- The European WADA-accredited laboratories are taking a leading role in the fight against doping (of 34 laboratories around the world, 15 are based in the EU and analyse around 40% of the world's doping samples). A regular exchange of information should be established between the European laboratories within a EU framework. One agreed that relevant anti-doping studies and research on a future EU Sport Programme should be financed with existing EU research frame programmes.



European Commission promotes cycling as a healthy way to travel

On the fringe of the world's largest cycling conference Velo-City, which took place in Brussels from 12 to 15 May 2009, the European Commission announced that cycling would in future be officially supported as a "healthy and safe way of travelling in our cities".



Thus, the organisers of Velo-City, whose aim is that cycling should be recognised as a full-value way of travelling within a sustainable mobility policy, have won this first leg. At

the closing ceremony, a number of European cities, including Munich, Madrid, Brussels and Copenhagen, also signed the so-called Brussels Charter, a commitment to pro-cycling policy through specific infrastructure measures.

"Cycling is a zero-emission answer to travelling in our cities and should therefore receive unqualified support. It can be an effective, healthy and fun way to get from one place to another, but it is crucial that we make sure that it is also safe," declared the Commission's Vice-President Antonio Tajani, who is responsible for transport, and who also referred in this connection to the

Commission's Green Paper "Towards a new culture for urban mobility". This was the Commission's contribution in September 2007 to raising political awareness regarding urban mobility and initiating a dialogue for healthy transport at European policy level.

To promote safe cycling, the EU is financing the development of cycle infrastructure through its Structural and Cohesion Funds for the period from 2007 to 2013 with funding amounting to more than 600 million euro.

Further information:

www.velo-city2009.com

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/urban/urban_mobility/urban_mobility_actions/urban_mobility_actions_en.htm

www.dringdring.be

Green Paper "Urban mobility":

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/urban/urban_mobility/green_paper/green_paper_en.htm



EU Policy Issues

The French Olympic Committee (CNOSF) has a new president

CNOSF, one of the EOC EU Office's most important partners, elected a new President on 19 May 2009 at its annual general meeting. Denis Massegia, aged 61, who comes from Marseille, succeeds the long-serving President Henri Sérandour, who had not stood for re-election after 16 years in office.



Denis Massegia:
New CNOSF-
President

Massegia, a physics lecturer, was President of the French Rowing Federation from 1989 to

2001 and for 18 years has been a member of CNOSF, where he has already held the posts of Secretary-General and Vice-President.

Massegia's work schedule is mainly aimed at placing the cooperation of French sport's four active partners on a new basis. The main aim of CNOSF's former PR and marketing manager is to intensify the cooperation of the Sports Ministry and the municipal administration with the sports movement and the country's business partners.

Massegia already made a positive impression in Brussels, too, when he presented CNOSF's White Paper "Arguments for more sport" to the European institutions in 2006 as one of the responsible editors.

The whole EOC EU Office would like to take this opportunity to wish him every success in his new post!

European Ski Federation founded

On 2 May 2009, the European Ski Federation was founded in Munich by four of Europe's leading alpine skiing federations – France, Italy, Switzerland and Austria. The Presidents of the four federations are the members of the board of the European Ski Federation (ESF), which will have its future headquarters in Geneva. They are Alain Méthiaz (FRA), Gianni Morzenti (ITA), Urs Lehmann (SUI) und Peter Schröcksnadel (AUT). Schröcksnadel was also elected as the Federation's first President. The four federations see themselves as the founding members of an association that is open to further European federations. The objectives of the newly founded federation include

promoting skiing and winter tourism in Europe in cooperation with the interest groups involved and strengthening Europe's voice in international skiing events. In this connection, the new federation is aiming to achieve close coordination and the best possible cooperation with the International Ski Federation (FIS) in order to implement its objectives.

Further information:

http://www.oesv.at/aktuelles/verband/2009_0506_europaischerwintersportverbandgegrundet.htm



World Anti-Doping Agency adopts revised Standard for the protection of privacy

The Executive Committee of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) adopted a revised 'International Standard for the Protection of Privacy' in Montreal, Canada, on 9 May 2009. The revised Standard, which entered into force on 1 June 2009 and lays down minimum requirements for the storage and processing of data collected within the framework of the notification duties, replaces the Standard that entered into force on 1 January 2009.

The drafting of some definitions and the revision of the rights and obligations of those concerned has now led to greater overall transparency in WADA's data processing system and has strengthened athletes' position. In addition, there has been an improvement in the legal situation of third parties who are only indirectly affected by data storage, for example by their addresses being forwarded.

In future, the principle will apply that data have to be deleted as soon as they are no longer needed to prosecute doping rule infringements. When data are passed on to third parties, the data security applying at WADA has to be guaranteed. Stricter obligations relating to information now apply to WADA and national anti-doping agencies. There is now even explicit provision for the possibility of calling on the international Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) as well as WADA in case of an infringement of the Standard.

The background is as follows. Currently, some 20,000 athletes around the world (approximately 1,400 in Germany) submit their notification data online to WADA via the

Anti-Doping Administration and Management System (ADAMS). Some 60 international sports federations, more than 40 national anti-doping organisations and all 34 of the WADA-accredited doping laboratories have joined this system. In the area of tension between data protection and anti-doping, notification obligations have come under growing public and media scrutiny.

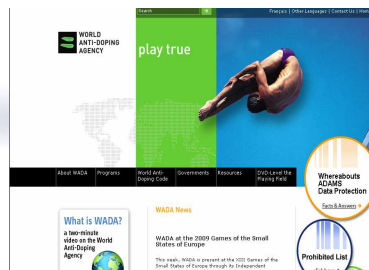
In revising its 'International Standard for the Protection of Privacy', WADA was reacting to a statement by EU data protection experts, the so-called

Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, published on 6 April 2009 (set up under directive 95/46/EC on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data). In its declaration, the Working Party had called for previous International Standard to be made compatible with EU data protection law (cf. Monthly Report April 2009).

Ján Figel', the European Commissioner responsible for sport, welcomed the latest developments as since some of the concerns raised by the EU Data Protection Working Party have been resolved through adoption of the revised Standard.

The European Commission and WADA will continue their cooperation already in June in the context of an informal expert group, after the Commission had already continued the dialogue and exchange with WADA at the EU Conference on Anti-Doping in Athens from 13 to 15 May 2009.

It may be assumed, however, that these are only first steps in a lengthy process towards



World Anti-Doping-Agency: WADA



a long-term solution of the area of tension between data protection and anti-doping. In spite of the data protection experts' work, the EU institutions are unlikely to take a legally binding decision in the near future.

The next step will be to clarify whether and to what extent the specificity of sport is to be taken to account in interpreting the data protection directive 95/46/EC.

Further information:

European Commission – Sport:
http://ec.europa.eu/sport/index_en.htm

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA):
<http://www.wada-ama.org/en/>

Project: EU:Sport:Future – First project workshop held in Vienna

The first workshop in the framework of the Europe-wide project EU:Sport:Future took place on 29 May 2009 in the Haus des Sports in Vienna and addressed the subjects of "Sport and Education" and "Sport and Health".

The task of the project, which is being organised by ENGSO and supported using EU funds, is to gather opinions relating to how EU sports policy is to be shaped in the future. To this end, the responses of 817 European citizens who took part in an online questionnaire were evaluated in a first project phase. In a second phase, a number of workshops are now going to be organised to initiate discussions on European sports issues and to press ahead with an exchange of views on the best practical approaches. Among the questionnaire's respondents selected for participation in the workshop were citizens from Bulgaria, Estonia and Austria. A European Commission (Sport Unit) representative was also present, who, in his speech to the participants, underlined the

project's significance for shaping EU sports policy in the future.

After the workshop, the participants drafted some sports policy recommendations addressed to the European Commission. These included the wish for European networks to be promoted in the fields of "Sport and Education" and "Sport and Health."

The next EU:Sport:Future workshop will take place in Paris and will deal with questions relating to the subjects of "Sport and Employment" and "Sport and Volunteering".

The results of the workshops will then be presented at a final event taking place in Portugal on 29 and 30 October 2009 at which some European citizens who took part in the workshops will have an opportunity to present their concerns personally to the European Commission.

Further information:
www.eusportfuture.eu



Funding programmes

EU funds sport projects: Call for proposals published

The European Commission has published a call for proposals within the context of the sport budget line 2009. The funding, amounting to a total of 4 million euro, will be awarded for project proposals for "preparatory measures in the field of sport", i.e. for projects which will come under a future EU sports policy following ratification of the Treaty of Lisbon.

This call for proposals will support transnational projects put forward by public bodies or civil society organisations in order to promote networks and good practices in the field of sport in the following areas:

1. Promoting health-enhancing physical activity

Actions will support networking and exchange of best practices between the sports sector and other civil society organisations, schools, public authorities (especially at municipal level) and local enterprises in order to strengthen sport's contribution to healthier lifestyles.

Minimum size of the network: partners from at least 4 Member States. It is envisaged that 5 projects will be funded with a total amount of 1.4 million euro.

2. Promoting education and training in sport

Actions will support activities aimed at promoting sport and physical activity in a

school environment and at encouraging sport organisations and sport clubs involved in the training of young athletes to share knowledge in this area, with particular regard to the question of combined sports training and education for young people.

Minimum size of the network: partners from at least 9 Member States. It is envisaged that 5 projects will be funded with a total amount of 1 million euro.

3. Promoting European fundamental values by encouraging sport for persons with disabilities

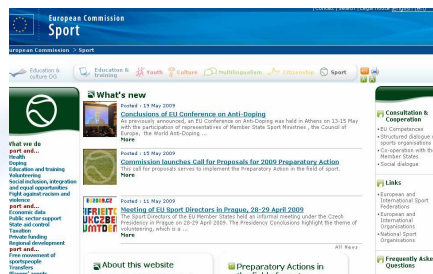
Actions will test the promotion of the European dimension of disability sports, such as the integration of disability sport components into mainstream sport events so as to improve the sustainability of sport competitions for people with disabilities.

Minimum size of the network: partners from at least 9 Member States. It is envisaged that 3 projects will be funded with a total amount of 1 million euro.

4. Promoting gender equality in sport

Actions will support networking and exchange of best practices in view of strengthening women's access to decision-making positions in sport.

Minimum size of the network: partners from at least 4 Member States.





It is envisaged that 3 projects will be funded with a total amount of 0.6 million euro.

Deadline for submission of proposals:
31 August 2009

Financing:

Projects must start between 1 December 2009 and 31 March 2010 and end no later than 31 March 2011.

EU co-financing will be provided to a maximum of **80 %** of the total costs. The external co-financing can be partly made up of contributions in kind.

Further information:

Application forms and further information:

http://ec.europa.eu/sport/preparatory_actions/doc743_en.htm

All questions are to be addressed to:

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