

MINEPS VI Working Group II Meeting – Maximizing the contribution of sport to sustainable development and peace
Monaco, 24th November 2016
Draft Meeting Summary

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The Opening Session

The UNESCO preparatory meeting for the Working group II was organised as a part of the Peace and Sport Forum in Monaco. The session was divided in two parts:

- 1) A workshop – where there were three speeches given, by:

Ms Nada Al-Nashif, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO; Ms Al-Nashif stated that it was some four and a half years ago that UNESCO has initiated a **process** that led to two internationally recognized standard setting instruments in the field of sport and physical education policy. **The Declaration of Berlin**, adopted by MINEPS V in 2013, was the outcome of an extensive multi-stakeholder consultation. The meeting and the further contributions that would be gathered through informal expert working groups are build on this successful model.

Likewise, the revision of the **International Charter** of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport that was initiated by MINEPS V and adopted by UNESCO's General Conference in November 2015, has mobilized a great number of governmental and non-governmental experts who not only helped assure the Charter's relevance and accuracy but also continue promoting it internationally.

Ms Al-Nashif emphasized that MINEPS VI was the first time when a move from the world of good intentions and promises to implementation and practice was made. The aim of MINEPS VI is to agree on international follow-up framework in order to be able to measure progress from now on, we want to turn these internationally agreed principles and recommendations in the two documents and have a process that will be able to design a system that will ensure engagement, deliverables and a sense of accountability.

Ms Al-Nashif thanked the Russian Federation for their generous support. Afterwards Ms Al-Nashif stressed that it would be crucial that this follow-up of sport policy implementation could be placed in the **wider context of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals**, the Agenda 2030. UNESCO was strongly committed to place its future programmes in this SDG context.

The workshop would be tackling the two approaches: contributions of sport to sustainable development and peace which was the second theme of MINEPS VI and UNESCO wanted to work on specific policy areas that were most relevant within the large portfolio of sport-related policy interventions. On the other hand, the workshop would help determine the **linkages of all three main themes of MINEPS VI and the follow-up framework with the SDGs**. Ms Al-Nashif drew attention to the fact that in doing so, one needed to bear in mind that "sport-related policy interventions" were not restricted to sport ministries but increasingly relied on the mobilization of other government and non-government stakeholders, at international, national and local levels.

Ms Al-Nashif highlighted that theme I of MINEPS VI was about a comprehensive vision of inclusive access for all, a great need for strategic partnership was expressed. It was important to realize the return on investments in grassroots sports – the day-to-day activities. Sport was also seen as an enabler of social integration and social cohesion.

Ms Al-Nashif stressed that there was a need to agree on common indicators, quantitative and qualitative, for measuring participation in sport and physical activity and related public investments, on the one hand, and the effects such participation on specific SDGs, on the other hand.

The third theme of MINEPS “Protecting the integrity of sport” was closely linked to goal 16 of the SDG: “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”. Again, to mobilize justice and law enforcement authorities in the Member States, it will be important to demonstrate - and ultimately: measure – how the good governance of sport organizations or the fight against match fixing, to mention just two subtopics of theme III, contribute to this goal.

Mr Gert Oosthuizen, Ministry of Sport and Recreation South Africa, Deputy Minister of Sport and Recreation, CIGEPS Chair;

Mr Oosthuizen congratulated the organizers of the 2016 Peace and Sport International Forum for including this workshop in the programme. He highlighted the importance of the politicians, government officials, leaders from sports organisations, the private sector and civil society as well as leading academia to review a range of initiatives and guidelines to maximize the power of sport as a means to promote development and peace.

Due to its inter-governmental nature, CIGEPS has the potential to bring member states together and to engage governments in a coordinated effort to optimize the benefits of sport and physical education programmes and their potential to deliver a high return on investment. In this regard, Mr Oosthuizen expressed the total commitment of South Africa to work hand in glove with UNESCO in the preparations for MINEPS VI as well as other areas where their inputs were required.

It was emphasized that sport, as a universal language, can promote safe spaces and contribute to a culture of peace within and among nations. In this regard the General Assembly of the United Nations has adopted a series of resolutions on Sport for Development and Peace. Today sport is generally recognized as an excellent means of fostering reconciliation between divided communities and of alleviating even the most profound social tensions. However, it was acknowledged that sport alone cannot prevent conflict or build peace, but it can contribute to broader, more comprehensive efforts in a number of important ways.

Major international sports events often did more towards dispelling stereotypes and prejudices than political initiatives. And there were many examples of the role of sport in creating bridges between divided communities, supporting reconciliation and fostering peace. On the African continent we have witnessed how sport can be a diplomatic bridge to peace and a vehicle for healing political and cultural rifts among communities. When nations and people got together to play sports, they cooperatively crossed political and cultural boundaries, even if there had been wars and enmity between them.

Mr Oosthuizen noted that the workshop provided us with a wonderful opportunity to further interrogate how governments could embrace this potential of sport and seize the opportunity to unify people from diverse backgrounds and establish a shared bond that contributes to global citizenship and social cohesion. Through this process, the sport sector can also answer the call of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals that have identified the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies as among the most urgent yet challenging issues across the 2030 Agenda.

Mr Oosthuizen emphasized the importance of quality physical education (QPE), since sport was linked to early childhood development. Central to the 2030 Agenda was the

recognition that all people should have access to life-long learning opportunities – including participation in sport. To assist with the achievement of the 2030 SDGs, the required support structures for school sport must be functional and teachers must be qualified to deliver quality physical education and school sport.

The importance of consolidating government capacity to secure the central position of quality physical education in school curricula was asserted by the Berlin Declaration of MINEPS V. In a follow-up UNESCO has led consultations with over 40 technical partners in the development of a QPE Policy Package. The QPE project of UNESCO was being launched in 5 countries of which South Africa was one. It was also mentioned that sport can help to advance the efforts of governments to achieve the SDGs in very concrete ways. Its global reach and universality makes sport a low-cost, high-impact tool to support all countries working towards the SDGs. The cross-cutting nature of sport also allows it to address several of the goals simultaneously.

According to Mr Oosthuizen the challenge was to identify the specific areas where the sport sector can have a meaningful impact as well as the most effective means of implementation. To achieve this a conscious effort and firm commitment from all role-players in the sport sector was required otherwise the SDGs would remain a “paper exercise”.

As a country South Africa has already identified the areas as well as developed draft indicators where the South African sport sector can play a role in the achievement of the 2030 SDGs.

Mr Oliver Dudfield, Commonwealth Secretariat, Head of Sport for Development and Peace.

Mr Dudfield started with a quote of Pierre Bourdieu which stated that talking about sport scientifically was difficult, because in one sense it was too easy, everybody feels that they had something intelligent to say about it; they believed that they were talking about the object of studies – sport – when they were nearly relying on common representations or preconceptions of that object, the sport, has created about itself.

The task of the afternoon was to consider the notion or the prenotation of sports contribution to sustainable development and how this policy thing can be better reflected in the follow-up framework, the Declaration of Berlin and the International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport.

It was emphasized that inactivity is the fourth highest risk factor for global mortality and is responsive for up to 4% of all health costs. Secondly, according to the “women on board” Gender Balance in Global Sport report 2016, the females make up 16, 6% of board members of national Olympic committees and 18% of board members of sport federations. The benefits of enhancing the women participation in sport go well beyond the individuals to the widest sporting community and a broader society, by proving and promoting alternative norms, values, attitudes, knowledge, capabilities and experiences. Thirdly, well-designed sport initiatives can support improving employability across a number of population groups. At the same time, sport in itself cannot address individual mark and structural issues affecting employment. These three points address the final list of Sustainable Development Goals indicators.

SDG indicators show how the global community will measure progress in achieving sustainable development. MS Dudfield also revealed some questions: Which areas of sustainable development can sport contribute to? How, in which contexts and why? These

were the questions that the Commonwealth Member Governance has asked on a consistent basis. In relation to sport and development, both heads of governments of the Commonwealth and the ministers responsible for sport, have consistently recognized the valuable role of sport in development and peacebuilding. They mandated the Commonwealth Secretariat to support Member Governance link between sport, development and building sustainable and cohesive communities. To strengthen this link, this SDG framework is critical. In these global goals there is a recognition of sport as important enabler of sustainable development, although in the document (Agenda 2030/SDGs) there was no reference to or guidance on sports contribution to sustainable development. This potentially caused an issue for sport community: in the Millennium Development Goals the beneficial effects of sport were taken for granted and a lack of understanding of complexity and challenges of development was missed. During the MDG era, sport was presented as “fix-all”, was presented too simplistically in terms of “how”, “why” and in what context it can contribute to sustainable development.

It is in this context that the Commonwealth has undertaken extensive analysis of sport with respect to the SDGs. In this regard 6 goals and associated targets have emerged as key areas, those related to health, education, gender equality, promoting good jobs and economic growth, promoting sustainable cities and communities, peace and justice with goal 17 around partnerships was considered cross-cutting. This report and analysis speak to the importance of specific mechanisms and indicators to measure progress, which respond to target 17.8 and 17.9 of the Sustainable development goal framework, which call for quality, timely and disaggregated data to enable more robust measurements of progress of sustainable development.

Considering this analysis, at the 8th Commonwealth Sport Ministers meeting held directly before the Rio Olympics, Commonwealth ministers agreed “to align sports architecture and sport policy to the Sustainable development goal framework and associated targets”. In emphasizing this need for alignment, ministers did want to highlight the protecting the integrity of sport is critical component in promoting the contribution of sport for development. Commonwealth ministers also “endorsed the development of a common framework for monitoring and implementation of Declaration of Berlin and the International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport and requested the Commonwealth Secretariat continued to engage with UNESCO and CIGEPS to coordinate on the development of this framework in the lead-up to the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport”.

The Commonwealth was sure that sport could make a valuable contribution to sustainable development, but: 1) it must be based on clearly articulated theories of change of how sport contributes and the outcome pathways from sport to the result or change we were claiming sport can contribute to; 2) the word contribute is critical, we should speak of contributions, not solutions; 3) sport-based approaches must be integrated and interlinked with policy responses and strategies across the development areas, that is with health, education, gender equality, urban planning, transparency and integrity of institutions; 4) we must measure up progress and clearly agreed indicators to be able to talk to and present data on contribution of sport and physical education physical activity is making to sustainable development.

Mr Alexander Makogonov from the Russian Embassy to the Republic of France thanked the audience for the attention and presented a video, dedicated to the city of Kazan,

Russian Federation, where the next meeting of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport would take place on 5th and 7th of July 2017.

2) The expert group meeting Preserving the Integrity of Sport

Mr Philipp Müller-Wirth, Executive Officer for Sport, UNESCO, opened the main session by thanking all the presenters from the previous workshop. He then thanked all the participants for their commitment to contribute to the informal working group meeting which will help the MINEPS VI Programme Committee **to prepare an action-oriented outcome document** for participants, when they meet in Kazan, the Russian Federation, from 5 to 7 July 2017. Mr Müller-Wirth expressed gratitude to Peace and Sport for hosting UNESCO and making the meeting of the Working group II possible.

Sports ministers are often quite marginal in their governments and MINEPS is an instrument for them to create an international momentum when they may be heard because they have certain legitimacy in promoting certain issues in their own governments. Declarations of this form are the standard worldwide in terms of policy making, physical education and sport.

He continued with describing MINEPS as a unique, global platform for sport and physical education policy development and information sharing. The delegates of MINEPS VI will be Ministers and Senior Officials from UNESCO member states, as well as representatives from the global sport movement. To reach effective and sustainable results, the discussions prior to and during MINEPS are meant to work towards a **global consensus**, based on compromising. The consensus creates the standard, because the entire world agrees on these recommendations and commitments.

The Working Group will continue their work in a virtual manner until the Programme Committee will convene on 31st January until 1st February 2017 in Kazan, Russian Federation. He thanked ICSSPE for contributing to the programmatic preparations for MINEPS VI.

MINEPS V: International Charter & Sport Integrity

Mr Müller-Wirth outlined the steps taken since MINEPS V, which took place in Berlin, Germany, in 2013. Its outcome document, the Declaration of Berlin, initiated the revision of the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport that was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in November 2015.

MINEPS V was placing a high focus on three topics, namely: 1) Access to sport as a fundamental right for all; 2) Promoting public investment in sport and physical education programmes, with an emphasis on the implementation of sustainable mega sport events; and 3) Preserving the integrity of sport with a focus on the issue of match-fixing (manipulation of sports competitions) which were first addressed at the global level in such details.

The Declaration of Berlin was characterized as a policy consensus of policymakers.

The International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport is a different document by nature, it formulates a common vision amongst different stakeholders on what

are the fundamental principles and values that should guide policy sport programmes undertaken either by governments but also by other organization. The Charter focuses on grassroots sport, it barely deals with elite sports.

MINEPS VI: Focus on Action

According to UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS), MINEPS VI shall focus on the development of **a call for action** which is based on the Declaration of Berlin (2013), the International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport (2015), as well as on Agenda 2030/Sustainable Development Goals, adopted at the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2015. All these reference documents shall be merged into a follow-up policy framework for which UNESCO has developed a first draft.

Follow – up framework

UNESCO's ambition is **to create a sport policy implementation framework** which shall be used to show what has been done or what has been achieved and what has not been done against these commitments and recommendations.

The intent is **to foster a policy convergence into policy implementation**: The Declaration demonstrated the consensus on **what** should be done. The next step would be a consensus on **how** it could be done best and how governments can make sound investments in sport programmes.

Convergence has a number of purposes: member states want UNESCO, the Council of Europe, the Commonwealth, other regional and international intergovernmental bodies not to duplicate efforts, and there is a need for a common framework underneath which everybody can align their investments. There is also a need for a basic methodology for comparing what different countries are doing.

A need for a common follow-up framework should be recognized by the ministers as a means to create convergence of implementation of the policy commitments and that MINEPS VI is the place where one can compromise on such a follow-up framework.

The call for action shall encourage immediate response, identify gaps and foster international convergence in policy implementation and its monitoring. It is envisaged to further develop the framework in order to form a basis for a comparison of developments within countries. The vision for MINEPS VII could then be the translation of the international framework into national ones.

Main elements of programme preparation

Working group participants were informed that the Programme Committee is composed of UNESCO, the Russian Federation, the Chair of CIGEPS, the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, The Association for International Sport for All, as well as ICSSPE.

Working Group participants were reminded of the time constraints due to the scheduled meeting of the PC for 31st January and 1st February 2017. This means that all draft documents would need to be presented to the UNESCO Secretariat not later than 22nd January 2017. We want the working groups to help us assess the progress.

The following tasks were set as objectives of the meeting:

- Clarify scope & sub-topics of theme II
- Identify linkages with the SDGs
- Assess core progress since 2013
- Identify persisting issues/problems
- Suggest actions and contributions
- Commit to further contributions to the working group after the meeting

The Scope and Sub-topics of theme II

The preliminary proposal for sub-topics from UNESCO, which is subject to further discussion and changes, is:

- Physical activity and healthy lifestyles
- Social inclusion
- Good governance of sports organisations
- Sport values and civic education/fight against youth radicalization
- Youth empowerment
- Sport in post-conflict settings
- Sport and migration
- Major sport events
- Sport ecology/climate change
- Sport and economic development
- Urban planning

The main part of the discussion was about whether the subtopics should be regrouped along SDGs. The Commonwealth highlighted that we would need to go further than the goals and also consider related targets and indicators.

The challenge for the participants was trying to find coherence in those subthemes reducing them and link them to those that were believed to be priority areas in regard to SDGs, and look at the formulation of the targets and then formulate the subthemes in response to that. There was also a proposal, supported by several participants, that we should not take the full list of SDGs but rather create specific policy areas around prioritized SDGs/targets/indicators to which sport makes the most significant contribution.

It was agreed that all these terms represent a preliminary collection; their relationship to each other and their scope need to be discussed, as well as their suitability in a set of conceptual terms that stand on a similar level of generalizations.

Further discussion yielded some points:

- There are two tensions in the topic: thematic approach - combination of themes and results; and national policies. The tension in sport and through sport.
- Topic 1: PA and healthy lifestyles and 3: Good governance of sports organisations will cover the areas internal to sport. Topic 2: social inclusion is making an impact outside the sport and it encapsulates many of the points on the list. Youth empowerment is a sublevel of outcomes. However, there is a risk that the list is too generic.
- Healthy lifestyle and PA is very important – it connects beyond MINEPS to other international platforms and instances. This theme should be robustly represented.
- When it comes to the terms and the language, the formulation of the SDGs should not be taken into account; the terminology has already been set by MINEPS V. The topics and the targets should be taken from SDGs, whereas language should refer to the Declaration of Berlin.
- Prioritisation – create a matrix of attainable and reachable goals. Hard to attain topics should not be covered.
- Should we use as the baseline the MINEPS V in 2013 or the adoption of the SDGs?

Sub-topics of theme II: Question to be discussed

The following section contains issues that were raised during the meeting and which remain open for discussion:

Urban and territorial planning

Urban planning is an important point. All the proposed topics can be placed in the city context, because all cities have similar concerns, such as transport, public use of spaces, and activity-supporting settings. Urban planning should be included because of increasing city populations. Urban planning is a tangible component (different than the abstract concept of peace) that can be a concrete platform for governments to cover different topics.

Social inclusion

How do we consider social inclusion in the context of MINEPS, because this theme crosses different thematic areas? How we have to design sport to be inclusive as such?

Sport in this context should be used as a tool of inclusion, not on a personal level in the sense of “me including you”. Sport is a potential tool of a broader social inclusion, encompassing issues of social integration, community development and empowerment, and social networks.

Major sport events

Small sport events rather than major sport events are often more appropriate for the social and economic challenges facing states.

Parameters for data collection

It was agreed that the parameters for data collection and for discussions should be:

- Norms
- Resources
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Research
- Promotion

Progress since 2013

This question was not addressed.

Recommendations for future action on an international level

- Measurement of the progress; the progress measurements should be made against something future looking;
- It is very important to come up with a baseline – we need to help ministers to justify their decisions;
- The framework of topics and themes should prioritize issues but at the same time cater to the needs of all member states.

List of Participants

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Bertaccini, Paolo – Advisor, Territoria
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Dudfield, Oliver - Head of Sport for Development and Peace, Commonwealth Secretariat
Dumon, Detlef – Executive Director, ICSSPE
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Hernandez, Gilberto - Partner at SIF (Sports Investment Fund), Mexican Sports Ministry
Hunt, Paul – Project Officer, Swiss Academy for Development
Ito, Ayako - Chief of International Affairs Division Japan Sport Agency
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Kazantzopoulos, George –Managing Partner, Team for the world
Klis, Natacha - In charge of international relations, National Olympic Committee of France
Mascagni, Katia - Head of International Relations, International Olympic Committee (IOC)
Messmer, Gabriel – President, Evaleo
Müller-Wirth, Philipp - Executive Officer for Sport, UNESCO
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