

# TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE “EUROPEAN SPORT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE”

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**Title of this group:** European Sport Workforce Development Alliance

**Acronym:** ESWDA / “the Alliance”

## **Background:**

A new step in the Education and Training policy in Europe was initiated by the European Council and the European Commission at the Maastricht conference in December 2004. In line with the Copenhagen declaration (2002) on VET, it has been decided to support the creation of a “European Qualification Framework” (EQF). A first document called “Towards a European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning” was approved in July 2005 and then submitted to a Consultation Process open until the end of December 2005.

In the light of that, the EOSE Board has taken the initiative to arrange a meeting in December 2005 in Brussels with the key stakeholders of the European Sports Sector to coordinate the contribution of the Sports sector to the EQF consultation and to form a permanent group to provide the strategic guidance towards developing, implementing and evaluating a European Sport Workforce Development Plan with short, medium and long term goals...

The strategic committee called “**European Sport Workforce Development Alliance**” was created to bring together the major network organisations working in the sport sector to share and discuss issues around the development of the European Sport Workforce.

## **Scope:**

The alliance will focus on issues and activities related to qualifications and training with specific reference to the European Qualification Framework for vocational training and Higher Education including the emerging credit system for vocational training. The Alliance will further consider matters related to employment, job mobility and sports systems across Europe with particular reference to sports participation and the drive towards increased physical activity.

## **Mission statement:**

The mission of this alliance is to provide a mechanism to coordinate the development of the European sport’s workforce to ensure a workforce with the “right skills at the right time in the right place” and develop an active partnership between the major decision makers of the sector. The role of this Alliance will be to continue contributing to the implementation of EU policies but also to guarantee that the Sport sector can present itself at the European level in a coherent way in demonstrating its positive and growing contribution to the social, health, economic and cultural development of the European Union.

## **Goals and objectives:**

The objectives of the ESWDA shall be:

- To consider, advise and recommend strategies for the development and improvement of the skills required by the sport sector.
- To analyse and comment on studies and research already developed to highlight key problems and challenges for the sector.
- To advise and inform the sector on the implementation of European initiatives.

- To coordinate the views of the sector on initiatives and issues at the European level that impact on the sector.
- To encourage partnership working and exchange between the members of the Alliance.
- To ensure a close link with the EU Commission and key stakeholders to promote sector issues and initiatives.
- To strengthen the recognition of the sector and the Alliance at the European level.
- To provide regular updates on good practice and latest developments from the sport sector at the European, national and local level.
- To ensure the effective promotion, communication and dissemination of the work of the Alliance through the respective networks of the members.
- To work together in a structured manner for the benefit of the sector.

### **Composition:**

This Alliance can be considered as highly significant insofar as this is the unique group bringing together the key European organisations involved in the sport sector. The European stakeholders currently involved in the development of this strategic committee are:

1. The European Association of Sport Employers – EASE – [www.easesport.org](http://www.easesport.org)
2. The European Olympic Committee – EOC – [www.eurolympic.org](http://www.eurolympic.org)
3. The European Non Governmental Sports Organisation – ENGSO – [www.engso.com](http://www.engso.com)
4. UNI-EUROPA – [www.union-network.org](http://www.union-network.org)
5. The European Network of Sport Science, Education and Employment – ENSSEE – [www.enssee.de](http://www.enssee.de)
6. The European Health and Fitness Association – EHFA – [www.ehfa.net](http://www.ehfa.net)
7. **Facilitator** - The European Observatoire of Sport and Employment – EOSE – [www.eose.org](http://www.eose.org)

The EU-Sports Office are invited to attend and participate in meetings of the Alliance.

The possibility to apply for membership of the Alliance remains open to other European partner organisations in the sector able to contribute to our mission. The Alliance will take the opportunity to invite representatives from other sectors and key experts to collaborate in our activities when appropriate.

### **Administration:**

The Alliance will meet as required but at least twice a year during each presidency to discuss on the latest news, activities and strategies to put in place in the sport sector. Participants will be responsible for the cost of their travel, meals and accommodation.

### **Secretariat:**

It was unanimously agreed by the group that EOSE was the right organisation to facilitate and support the development of the Alliance. So, the secretariat function will be provided by EOSE which will coordinate the meetings and all related administrative duties (Agenda, minutes, communication ...).

### **Changes to the terms of reference:**

These terms of reference may be amended at any meeting of the Alliance by consensus.