

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Session document

24.11.2005

B6-0633/2005

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Questions for Oral Answer B6-0430/2005 and B6-0431/2005

pursuant to Rule 108(5) of the Rules of Procedure by

- Maria Martens and Manolis Mavrommatis, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Miguel Martínez Martínez, on behalf of the PSE Group
- Fiona Hall, Thierry Cornillet and Danutė Budreikaitė, on behalf of the ALDE Group
- Margrete Auken, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Ģirts Valdis Kristovskis and Rolandas Pavilionis, on behalf of the UEN Group
- Luisa Morgantini, Feleknas Uca and Gabriele Zimmer, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

on development and sport

European Parliament resolution on development and sport

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the UN resolution (58/5) of 17 November 2003 on sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,
 - having regard to the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child,
 - having regard to the Magglingen Declaration of 18 February 2003 issued by the international conference on sport and development of the ICCE (International Council for Coach Education),
 - having regard to the report on the Next Step conference of 13 November 2003, Amsterdam,
 - having regard to Rule 108(5) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas 2005 is the United Nations International Year of Sport and Physical Education,
- B. whereas one of the goals of the International Year is to create the right conditions for more sport-based development programmes and projects,
- C. whereas physical education and sport projects may help to attain the Millennium Development Goals, especially with regard to themes such as health, education, social mobilisation, gender equality, environment and peace among people,
- D. whereas sport can play a positive role in social inclusion and cohesion, intercultural dialogue, environmental understanding and the reintegration of children in post-conflict situations, for example child soldiers,
- E. whereas sports projects in development are 'low-cost, high impact' projects,
- F. whereas, according to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, children have the right to play,
- G. whereas there are 60 million persons with disabilities living in developing countries; whereas the interests and concerns of disabled persons in the South are often inadequately addressed,
- H. whereas the 1995 UNDP Human Development Report stated that development without specific efforts to empower women for equal participation warps the process of development for everyone,
1. Welcomes the 2005 United Nations International Year of Sport and Physical Education, as sport and physical education are excellent means to promote education, health,

development and peace, especially for vulnerable groups in society, such as children and the disabled;

2. Underlines the significant educational and social functions of sport and its importance not only to physical development but also for its capacity to promote social values, such as team spirit, fair competition, cooperation, tolerance and solidarity;
3. Recognises the social significance of sports organisations, being an integral part of civil society and bringing together people from all classes, intellectual and cultural backgrounds, from grassroots level up to and including the elite level;
4. Emphasises that, in order for sport to be effective for development, the availability of sport itself needs to be developed;
5. Emphasises that sports projects can be cross-cutting means to build capacity in education, health in general, HIV/Aids prevention and peace-building and to combat social exclusion, violence, inequalities, racism and xenophobia;
6. Calls on the Commission to consider supporting sport-based development programmes and projects, through an earmarked budget;
7. Calls on the Commission to promote a study of the results of projects that have been carried out by development organisations and sports organisations on development and sport, the potential of policy in this field and the possible role of the EU, the Member States and/or NGOs in development and sport;
8. Calls on the Commission to create programmes to increase knowledge and experience among teachers of physical education in the field of development through sport;
9. Calls upon the Council to incorporate sport and development explicitly in national policies targeting poverty reduction, and calls on the Council and the Commission to cooperate with national and international sport organisations in order to achieve these aims;
10. Encourages the greater participation of women (athletes and journalists) in sport and development, defines gender equity as an objective in sport for development initiatives and stresses that the World Conferences on Women and Sport led to major progress in the field of women's sports around the world;
11. Encourages international and national sports bodies and sport-related organisations to elaborate and implement partnership initiatives and development projects compatible with the education provided at all levels of schooling to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals;
12. Calls for special attention to access for disabled persons to sports activities, as well as to all aspects of life, given its importance to the rehabilitation and social inclusion of disabled persons, for example through mobilising health care workers at local level and empowering local communities by increasing expertise and support tools;
13. Calls for the training of journalists to eliminate stereotyping, discrimination and racism in

sports reporting;

14. Encourages international sport organisers and sponsors to invest in local communities in developing countries;
15. Welcomes the forthcoming World Summit on Physical Education (2-3 December 2005 in Magglingen, Switzerland);
16. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the ACP-EU Council and Joint Parliamentary Assembly, the United Nations and the African Union.