



## EXAMPLE 6

**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 28 October 2010**

**15227/10**

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**SPORT 16  
SOC 689**

### **NOTE**

From:	Presidency
to:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council
N° prev. doc.	15081/10 SPORT 13 SOC 675
Subject:	Social inclusion in and through sport - <i>Policy debate</i>

Delegations will find attached a Presidency discussion paper on the above subject to serve as a basis for a policy debate at the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council on 18-19 November 2010.

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Background document Council debate  
Social inclusion in and through sport

Inspired by its founding principle of solidarity, the European Union has identified **2010** as the **European Year For Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion**. The key objectives are to raise public awareness about these issues and renew the political commitment of the EU and its Member States to combat poverty and social exclusion.

The guiding principle of the 2010 Year is to give voice to the concerns of people who have to live in poverty and suffer from social exclusion, and to inspire European citizens and other stakeholders to engage with these important issues. As well as promoting equal opportunities, active inclusion is about encouraging Member States to take action to meet the needs of disadvantaged groups.

Sport is generally considered as an activity which attracts many European citizens and has the capacity to bring people together, regardless of their age or background. Taking active part in sports, teaches people skills which help them in daily life and equip them to become active members of society. Therefore, Sport can play an important role in strengthening social cohesion and integration into society of disadvantaged groups.

During the exchange of views between the Sport Ministers at the Council of 10 May 2010 on the Lisbon Treaty and Sport, several Member States acknowledged the societal role of sport and in this regard stressed that the potential of sport to enhance social inclusion should be one of the main priorities for the European Union in its future initiatives in the field of sport.

The Belgian EU Presidency identified the societal role of sport as one of its main priorities during its Presidency and focused in particular on social inclusion in and through sport.

The Council Conclusions on the role of sport as a source of and a driver for active social inclusion demonstrate the common interest of the EU Member States in this regard and invite Member States and the Commission “*to encourage and promote participation in sport of people who come from disadvantaged backgrounds, at the same time as ensuring their inclusion into society through sport by introducing them to new social networks and equipping them with new skills*”.

With a view to exchanging experiences and best practices regarding the role sport can play to enhance the social inclusion of disadvantaged groups, the Presidency have chosen to hold a policy debate at the Council meeting on 18 November 2010, during which Ministers are kindly invited to respond to the following questions:

- 1) Do you have any specific projects running in your country which aim at promoting sport among socially disadvantaged groups?
- 2) What priorities would you envisage for work at EU level in this field, based on your experiences at national level?

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## EXAMPLE 6

**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**  
  
**GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

**Brussels, 3 November 2010  
(OR. fr)**

**CM 5350/10**

**OJ CONS  
EDUC  
JEUN  
CULT  
SPORT**

### **COMMUNICATION**

#### **NOTICE OF MEETING AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

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Subject: 3046th meeting of the COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
(EDUCATION, YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT)  
Date: Thursday 18 (09.30) and Friday 19 (10.00) November 2010  
Venue: COUNCIL  
JUSTUS LIPSIUS BUILDING  
Rue de la Loi 175, 1048 BRUSSELS

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#### **THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2010 (15.00)**

#### **SPORT**

#### **Non-legislative activities**

12. Sport as a source of and a driver for active social inclusion
  - Adoption of Council conclusions  
15213/10 SPORT 14 SOC 686  
+ COR 1
13. Social inclusion in and through sport
  - Policy debate  
[Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure  
(proposed by the Presidency)]  
15227/10 SPORT 16 SOC 689

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