# European Women and Sport Newsletter N°1

FRENCH CHAIR
2002-2004

Ellen Mac Arthur, sailorwoman, winner of the 2002"Route du Rhum"

## French chair's objectives

## E.W.S. reports

FRANCE
Comité National Olympique et Sportif Français

Ministère des Sports

# Women's **involvement** in decision-making processes : **A priority**

"In the area of women's roles in decision-making, the European Women and Sport steering group, supported by the French National Olympic Committee and the French Ministry of Sports for the period 2002-2004, would like to ensure that the problems of gender equality be considered in all sports policies.

In this regard, I am delighted with the support brought to us by Mrs Geneviève Fraisse, a member of the European Parliament, the Committee on Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities, and the Culture, Youth, Education, and Sports Commission. E.W.S. is pleased to work in close collaboration with Mrs Fraisse in drafting an own-initiative report for the European Parliament based on the theme "Women and Sport". In addition, I would like to strengthen our relationship with all National Olympic Committees and with the EOC in developing a stronger network and in establishing common working strategies in the promotion of women in and by sport."

Chantal Amade-Escot
*E.W.S. Chairwoman*

# **Participation** des femmes dans les processus décisionnels : **Une priorité**

En s'attaquant aux problèmes liés aux rôles des femmes dans les instances dirigeantes, le groupe de pilotage du réseau Européen Femmes et Sport, supporté par le Comité National Olympique et Sportif Français et le Ministère des Sports pour la période 2002-2004, souhaite encourager l'adoption de mesures énergiques visant à assurer la prise en compte de la problématique d'égalité dans toutes les politiques sportives. Dans ce sens, je me réjouis du soutien qui nous est apporté par Mme Geneviève Fraisse, députée européenne, membre de la commission des droits de la femme et de l'égalité des chances et de la commission de la culture, de la jeunesse, de l'éducation, des médias et des sports. Le groupe E.W.S. est heureux de travailler en collaboration étroite avec Mme Fraisse sur la rédaction d'un rapport d'initiative pour le Parlement européen sur la thématique "femme et sport".
Je souhaite également renforcer les liens avec les différents Comités Nationaux Olympiques et le COE afin d'élaborer un réseau plus fort et constituer ensemble des stratégies de travail dans le domaine de la promotion des femmes dans et par le sport.

# **Main Objectives** of the French Chair 2002-2004

**The main objective of the E.W.S. is directed towards a sports culture of practised gender equality in terms of equal opportunities for girls and boys, women and men with regard to education and training, participation and promotion as well as co-determination in decision-making processes in sport.**

The main aims of the French E.W.S. Chair for 2002 – 2004 are :

- Contribution to the achievement of a culture of practised gender equality, as laid down in the EWS guidelines, and throughout the principles of "Gender Mainstreaming";
- Increase in women's networking in Europe and abroad, strengthening co-operation with the southern European countries and with the new network recently set up with the Mediterranean countries ;
- Exchange of know-how and mutual co-operation regarding successful developments and projects for women in sport, in the aim of increasing equilibrium in society as a sign of Democracy ;
- Encouragement of national and international efforts for a stronger institutional structuring and promotion of women in leading positions to ensure Gender Balance in Decision Making in sport ;
- Encouragement of the presence of women in All delegations taking part in sports events organised in Europe, particularly at the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004 ;
- Last but not least, emphasis on reflection and action regarding gender equality in sports education, as the year 2004 will be the year of "Education through Sport".

## New Steering Group E.W.S.

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***The 1st constituent E.W.S. meeting was held from November 16-17th in Paris, France, in conjunction with the Annual I.W.G. meeting.***

***The next E.W.S. meeting will be held in Prague (Czech Republic) February 28th to March 2nd, 2003.***

# Press Point November 15th, 2002

## Women, a challenge for Sport

**On the occasion of the first constituent meeting of the E.W.S. and the annual I.W.G. meeting, a press conference was organised to announce that the 6th European Women and Sport Conference will be held in April 23-25, 2004 in Paris, under the theme : "WOMEN, SPORT AND DEMOCRACY".**

Ms Chantal Amade-Escot, E.W.S. Chairwoman, emphasised the importance of the motto chosen for this conference : "Sport, a challenge for Women ; Women, a challenge for Sport". She insisted on the difference between degrees of participation in sports (high level, leisure, school) which vary according European countries. She also noted that Northern countries have an egalitarian practice older than the others.

Ms Sue Neil, I.W.G. co-chair, announced that the 4th World Conference on Women and Sport will be held in 2006 for the first time in Asia (Kumamoto, Japan) and most importantly, officially announced the integration of Ms. Béatrice Hess to the IWG as a new co-opted member. I.W.G. still strongly involved in promoting and facilitating the development of opportunities for girls and women in sport and physical activity throughout the world.

Both M. Henri Sérandour (President of the French National Olympic and Sports Committee) and M. Jean-François Lamour (French Minister of Sports) confirmed their commitment to mobilising all general policies and measures specifically for the purpose of achieving equality between women and men in sports activities.

Mr. Jean-François Lamour added he thought women could bring a fresh view on solutions and actions in the fight against violence in Sport. "Women generally enjoy sport more as leisure and social bonding and can therefore make a big impact, particularly in providing solutions, on the fight against incivilities".

# Activities

## from our International Partner

### Report from the Annual I.W.G. Meeting held on November 14-15, 2002 in Paris (France)

The C.N.O.S.F. hosted the annual meeting of the International Working Group on Women and Sports on November 14-15, 2002 in Paris. Along with the 2 co-chairs Dr. Sue Neill and Dr. Etsuko Ogasawara, members in attendance were, Ms. Chantal Amade-Escot in representation of Europe and acting as host of this meeting, Ms. Margot Foster sent by the Australian Sport Commission in representation of Oceania, Dr. Margaret Talbot in representation of the International Association of Physical Education for Girls and Women, Prof. Kari Fasting in representation of the WomenSport International , Dr. Anita White and Mr. Yacine Kabbage from the IWG secretariat.

Further to the core of the group, it was once again agreed that the group would benefit from the presence of individual co-opted members who would bring a better balance and varied skills to the group. It was decided that cultural diversity in relation to language, religion and ethnicity, and expertise in Sport for people with disabilities was needed. Members unanimously agreed to invite Ms. Béatrice Hess (France) and Ms. Aminata Diack Ndiaye (Senegal) to become co-opted member.

Various tasks have been split amongst the members :

- Maintain close links with the U.N., prepare a joint publication and monitor the progress of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women ;
- Interface with UNESCO and push for the inclusion of Women and Sport in the Physical Education issue. Co-operate to find a solution to the World Crisis in Physical Education ;
- Monitor the progress of the Brighton Declaration and the Windhoek call for action ;
- Use and maintain resources (keep an updated web-site), advertise resources available from other sources, and continually look for resources, which would benefit women and sport ;
- Follow up the theme "Gender mainstreaming" ;
- Encourage infrastructure and network amongst the various parties involved (Sports Federations, Olympic Movement, Governments, Non Governmental Organisations, …) that will facilitate the work towards better Women Representation in Sport ;
- Collaborate with the World Health Organisation to promote the spread of "Move for health".

The group is looking forward to forge strong networks and lay the grounds for the I.W.G.'s work until 2006. For further information on I.W.G. activities see www.iwg-gti.org

# Croatian Olympic Committee – Women and Sport Commission

Report by Ms. Iva Gavez

More than 800 000 play sports regularly every day, and 40 % of those are organised sports club members. But as we look at higher levels in sport, we see that women tend to leave sport after an active career. One of the reasons is often the hard way to make a living out of sports. Girls and women choose University education and afterwards move in other directions. Few remain in sports. However, it is the strategy and one of the most important goals of Women and Sports Commission to work on that issue and to improve it.

In it's rather short existence, the Croatian Olympic Committee has welcomed the IOC's quota programme and has been acting on many fields and in different ways to fulfil them. Women and Sport Commission statistics were found :

- In the Executive Board the women are represented in 5 %
- In the General Assembly, there are 6,5 %.
- The number of female coaches and journalists is drastically rising and is now near 15 % and 25 % respectively.

Women and Sport Commission has also orientated on the practical everyday concern for female athletes. The topic of the next year's European Sports Conference is "Making Sport attractive for all" and it will make great effort in covering recreational and high level sport, as well as sport leadership.

Several seminars have been organised by the Women and Sport Commission :

- March 2001, "Female athletes and health – prevention, injuries and rehabilitation" ;
- May 2002, "Female athletes and the Media".

The next Seminar to be organised by the Commission in early spring has the topic "Athlete – Coach – Parent relationship"

Soccer referee championship woman
female french - Ghislaine LABBE-PERRON

# Development of the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

E.W.S. STEERING GROUP REPORTS

## E.W.S. Report

GERMANY (MS. BARBARA AFF)

Prepared by a group of women who work in the different Lands Federation Women Committees or Sport Governing Bodies Women Committees an application concerning gender mainstreaming has been submitted to the presidency of German Sports Federation. In summary it says :

• The German Sports Confederation commits on support of women and the strategy of gender mainstreaming to reach gender balance in sports.

• The presidency of German Sports Confederation decides to make the strategy of gender mainstreaming to a guideline of work of GSC (DSB).

• A paritic steering group will be established to fulfil this aim. The regularities are to be matched with Women in Sports Committee. The aim is the decision and the transfer into action of an effective concept with measures to realise Gender Mainstreaming in the fulltime structures of sports in Germany as well as in the federal committees.

• The President of GSB (DSB) and the chairwoman of Women in Sports Committee will give a report of what the situation is like every year in the General Assemblies about the transfer in action of Gender Balance in German Sports Confederation.

The Secretary General of German Sports Federation is one of the members of the steering group. A great success for men and women in Sport!

## E.W.S. Report

AUSTRIA (MS. EVA JANKO)

The women and sport working group within the Austrian Sports Federation (BSO) had some remarkable developments in the last 2 years.

Following a study : "Sport 2000" which dealt with the reality of sport in general in Austria, the main questions with regard to women in sport could be addressed. These are :

• the fact that women represent the new type of sportive people outside of clubs, who simply enjoy fitness/wellness

• women are consequently less represented in clubs : 41%, of which 50 % are active

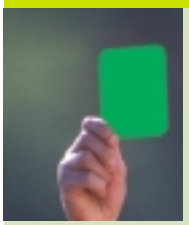
• Executive boards/committees/councils in Austria do only have an average percentage of 10 % women. This fact had been underlined with 2 surveys of the women and sport group in 1999 and 2002. Positive developments could be noted : 2 national federations (out of 53) have meanwhile a female president, Modern Pentathlon in Austria has 3 women and 2 men on their Executive Board.

With January 2003, the Women in Sport working group will launch the project "Mentoring". It had been the focus of the first "Women and Sport" conference in 2000. Now 6 mentor/mentee pairs will have the chance to work together over 1 year. 5 meetings and 2 seminars are embedded in this program.

Gender Mainstreaming became an issue of major importance. On governmental level, 2 decisions of the council of ministers to implement Gender Mainstreaming had been taken, and an inter-governmental working group, combining all ministries had been set up.

In September, the women and sport working group had organised a conference on Gender Mainstreaming, this together with the ministry for public service and sport. As a result, a resolution to introduce GeM as action guideline for the sports federations was formulated, and this resolution was taken at the general assembly of the Austrian Sports Federation.

# FIFA launches Women's World Ranking



Ten years after the launch of the world ranking for men's national teams, FIFA will launch the world ranking for women's national teams on May 23, 2003 – almost exactly four months to the day before the opening game of the fourth FIFA Women's World Cup to be staged in China.

By launching the World Ranking, FIFA is hoping to give the popularity of women's football a well deserved extra boost. According to the Big Count survey published by FIFA two years ago, some 22 million women play football regularly in over 130 countries. Almost one hundred teams are now contesting the preliminary competition of the fourth FIFA Women's World Cup (China, from 23 September to 11 October 2003).

The FIFA Women's World Ranking will be presented in detail at the group draw in the city of Wuhan in central China on 23 May 2003 and is due to be published quarterly.

# IOC sub-regional seminar in Rome

Ms. Chantal Amade-Escot and Ms. Iva Gavez attended the IOC sub-regional seminar in Rome last November 2002 as Women and Sports Working Group members of their respective National Olympic Committee.

In the course of this seminar, participants were invited to elaborate a national action plan to promote women in sports leadership and career. Four years after the first IOC sub-regional seminar, held in Zagreb (Croatia), this seminar aimed to raise the level of awareness about women's sport situation in Europe, to inform participants about recent and sustainable IOC developments, to broaden NOC's participation in national action plan to promote women in sports, and to implement and support active pilot projects through IOC.

Along with a number of other developments, this seminar demonstrates a welcome optimism regarding Women and Sports issues. It was also a useful exchange of ideas and offered the opportunity to meet Mr Mario Pescante, President to the European Olympic Committees and to strengthen the relationships with many NOC's working persons on Women and Sport issues.

# Calendar of Upcoming Events 2003

**Feb. 28 – March 2**
2nd E.W.S. Steering Group Meeting.
Prague, Czech Republic

**March 7 – 8**
Congress on "Women and Sport : Old and New Stereotypes".
Thessaloniki, Greece

**April 10 – 12**
E.S.C. preparation.
Dubrovnik, Croatia.

**April 25 – 27**
11th ENGSO General Assembly.
Stockholm, Sweden

**April 27 – 29**
IOC sub-regional seminar for Women in Sport.
Warsaw, Poland.

**May 19 – 25**
Women forum during 47th Individuals Table Tennis World Championships.
Paris, France

**June 26 – 28**
Conference "United against discrimination".
Brussels, Belgium

**September 23**
3rd E.W.S. Steering Group Meeting.
Dubrovnik, Croatia

**September 24**
E.W.S. Open Meeting.
Dubrovnik, Croatia

**September 25 – 27**
XVI European Sports Conference.
General theme : "Making Sport Attracting for All". Dubrovnik, Croatia

# www.ews-online.com

We are pleased to announce the launch of the new European Women and Sport (E.W.S.) hosting web-site : www.ews-online.com
Two versions are available : English and French. Log on to www.ews-online.com today!

• French National Olympic and Sports Committee •
www.cnosf.org/

• French Ministry of Sports •
www.jeunesse-sports.gouv.fr/

• International Working Group on Women and Sport •
www.iwg-gti.org/

• European Commission - Gender Mainstreaming •
europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/equ_opp/gms_en.html

• European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation •
www.engso.com/

• Women's Sport Foundation - UK •
www.wsf.org.uk

• The United Nations and the Status of Women •
www.un.org/Conferences/Women/PubInfo/Status/Home.htm

• European Women's Lobby •
www.womenlobby.org/

# Last Minute

The French E.W.S. Chair is very pleased and proud to announce that Ms Emanuela Pierantozzi has been elected and approved by a majority (8 of 8 votes agree) as a new Steering Group member! Congratulations! In her Sports career, Ms Emanuela Pierantozzi has been silver Olympic medallist in Judo in Barcelona Olympic Games and bronze medallist in Sydney Olympic Games. She is member of the Athletes Commission of the Italian National Olympic Committee as well as the Athletes Commission of the European Olympic Committees. She is also member of the CONI General Assembly. We greatly appreciated the support made by the Italian National Olympic Committee and hope to construct a very fruitful partnership with Italy.

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# 6th European Conference on Women and Sport

**APRIL 23-25, 2004 - PARIS, FRANCE**

This conference will be held in Paris, France in April 2004, co-sponsored by the French National Olympic and Sports Committee as well as the French Ministry of Sports. More than 300 participants from governmental and non-governmental sport organisations, universities, and associations will attend this conference. The following slogan has been selected for this Conference :

Women, Sport, and Democracy :
**Sport, a Challenge for Women ; Women, a Challenge for Sport.**

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