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**Position  
on  
the EU Budget 2009 – Sport Budget Line 15 05 11**

Sport is the largest social movement in Europe. About 1/3 of the EU population is organised in a sport club. Approximately 60% of European citizens participate in sporting activities on a regular basis.<sup>1</sup>

ENGSO (European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation) represents this movement in its broadest sense - from children and youth sport, to sport-for-all activities up to elite sports. ENGSO is the European umbrella body for the national sport confederations and national Olympic organisations and presently has 40 national umbrella sports organisations as members. ENGSO is the only European sports organisation having been granted consultative status by the Council of Europe. Moreover, ENGSO receives structural support from the Europe for Citizens Programme for 2008 of the European Commission and is a member of the EU Platform on Diet, Physical Activity and Health.

The (insert name of your organisation) is member of ENGSO.

➤ **ENGSO supports strongly the sport budget line 15 05 11 (EU budget 2009)**

ENGSO noted with great satisfaction that the DG Budget proposed for the budget 2009 a budget line for preparatory action in the field of sport (budget line 15 05 11). With even more satisfaction ENGSO noted that the CULT committee adopted its opinion (C6-0000/2008 - 2008/2026(BUD)) requesting an increase of the sport budget line to EUR 5 million.

This is in line with the adopted first reflections of the Committee on Budgets on the 2009 Preliminary Draft Budget and mandate for the conciliation (2008/2025(BUD)) which support the setting-up of a new preparatory action in the field of sport with an annual budget of EUR 5 million.<sup>2</sup>

However, ENGSO is concerned that the budget discussions in the Council did not retain the sport budget line.

**Therefore, ENGSO hopes that the European Parliament will prevail in the discussions with the Council on the setting-up of the sport budget line for 2009.**

<sup>1</sup> Special Eurobarometer (2004): The Citizens of the European Union and Sport.

<sup>2</sup> The European Parliament demands in its report a sport budget line 2009: European Parliament resolution of 8 May 2008 on the White Paper on Sport (2007/2261(INI)), point 108.