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MINEPS V

5th International Conference of
Ministers and Senior Officials
Responsible for Physical Education
and Sport



Ministerio de Turismo y Deporte
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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**SECOND FOLLOW-UP MEETING
OF THE**

**FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
MINISTERS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE
FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT (MINEPS V)**

FOR THE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION

MONTEVIDEO (URUGUAY) – 6 AND 7 OCTOBER 2014

FINAL REPORT

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Expression of Thanks

UNESCO would like to express its gratitude to the hosts from the Ministry of Tourism and Sport of Uruguay for their warm reception and their commitment shown in organizing the Second Follow-Up Meeting of MINEPS V for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region. The excellent planning and the state of the art facilities contributed significantly to the smooth running of the Meeting and to its positive and substantial results.

We likewise wish to express our gratitude to all those who attended the Meeting. In particular, we owe thanks to the Minister of Culture, Sport and Youth of Barbados, Mr Stephen A. Lashley, the Minister of Sport of Chile, Ms Natalia Riffo, the Minister of Youth, Sport and Civic Action of Haïti, Mr Himmler Rebu, the Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS), Mr Arnaldo Fuxa, President of the Uruguayan Olympic Committee, President of the *Fédération Internationale de Natation* (FINA) and President of the 3rd edition of the International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Sport and Physical Education (MINEPS III), Mr Julio César Maglione, for their personal participation.

The extensive participation in the Meeting reflects the desire of policy makers in the region to work together for leveraging sport as an important tool for socio-economic development and to use the Declaration of Berlin as an overarching reference framework for policy-making in physical education and sport.

I. Context of the Meeting

1. UNESCO's 5th World Conference of Sport Ministers (MINEPS V) gathered, from 28 to 30 May 2013, 591 participants including 121 Member States represented by over 50 Ministers, as well over 150 intergovernmental and civil society organizations specialized in the area of sport and physical education. The outcome document of the Conference, the Declaration of Berlin, was elaborated through a collective preparatory process involving some one hundred of the most renowned experts and academic institutions.

2. The 1st Follow-up Meeting to MINEPS V for the Latin American and the Caribbean Region was held in Bogota on 18-19 October 2013. On this occasion, the Ministers, senior officials and experts responsible for physical education and sport, representing nine governments of the Latin American and Caribbean region, the Intergovernmental Council for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPE) and its Permanent Consultative Council, committed to work together and to mobilize other partners from the region towards implementing the following initiatives: (1) Promotion of the Declaration of Berlin, (2) Establishment of a Regional Observatory and (3) Monitoring.

3. The Second Follow-Up Meeting of MINEPS V for the Latin America and the Caribbean region took place in the city of Montevideo, at the Hotel Four Points by Sheraton. It was attended by representatives of 18 Member States of the Latin America and the Caribbean Region, including three Ministers. Further participants included the President of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPE), the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE), the President of the National Olympic Committee of Uruguay and President of the *Fédération Internationale de Natation* (FINA), and UNESCO's Secretariat headed by the Director of the Regional Bureau for Science and Technology for Latin America and the Caribbean, Montevideo. 4. Two main objectives were outlined in the working document of the meeting:

- (i) Take stock of the initiatives announced in Bogota
- (ii) Develop an action plan for the development of common indicators to measure the implementation of the Declaration of Berlin.

Prior to the meeting, a questionnaire had been sent by UNESCO's Secretariat to the participants in the 1st Follow-up Meeting to MINEPS V for the Latin American and the Caribbean Region with a view to gather information with respect to these two objectives.

II. Opening of the Meeting

5. In his opening remarks, Professor Irurueta, National Director of Sport, Ministry of Tourism and Sport, expressed his pleasure in hosting the Meeting. He underlined that the participants shared the concern to offer their citizens access to quality physical education and sport programmes and were committed to work jointly along clearly defined as outlined in the Declaration of Berlin. The first regional follow-up meeting in Bogota in 2013 already had allowed identifying the regional priorities in this connection.

6. The Director of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Technology for Latin America and the Caribbean, Ms Lidia Brito, highlighted the importance of addressing the central issues of social inclusion and youth. She underlined that the region was particularly strong in building on scientific evidence for policy-making. To illustrate the power of sport, she presented the example Ms Lourdes Mutola, the athletics champion from Mozambique, who is regularly intervening in schools to raise awareness of sport values and to serve as a role model for self-confidence and personal achievement.

7. The President of CIGEPS, Mr Arnaldo Rivero Fuxa, pointed out the current slow process towards the development of the indicators for sport and physical activity and the need to develop a clear action plan during this meeting. He conceded that progress since the meeting in Bogota had not been as fast as expected and underlined that the focus of the MINEPS V follow-up on indicators, as decided by CIGEPS in its 2014 session, provides an opportunity for concrete actions and results.

8. The President of the National Olympic Committee, Mr Julio Maglione acknowledged the Declaration of Berlin as a global consensus of intent with respect to international and national sport policy. He commended the exceptional commitment by the Latin America and Caribbean region to enact the Declaration. He underscored that FINA, with its organizational structure including different stakeholders, is actively working towards the reduction of children's death by drowning, especially in developing countries and marginalized communities.

9. The participants approved the Agenda and Rules of Procedure of the Meeting. Professor Irurueta was elected as Chair of the Meeting by acclamation.

III. Overview of the Current Status of the Follow-up to MINEPS V

10. The Secretariat presented the context and evolution of the follow-up to MINEPS V since the 1st Follow-up meeting in Bogota. It was highlighted that the Declaration of Berlin has been referenced within several intergovernmental and/or multi-stakeholder contexts, such as the 7th Commonwealth Sports Ministers Meeting, the Brighton Plus Helsinki 2014 Declaration on Women and Sport, the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions adopted by the Council of Europe, as well as the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group convened by the UN Secretary General's Special Advisor for Sport for Development and Peace. The progress made in the revision of UNESCO's International Charter of Physical Education and Sport was presented and gratitude expressed to the authorities from Colombia for having hosted, in September 2014, the expert meeting for this purpose. With respect to topic 6 of the follow-up to MINEPS V, namely "Piloting guidelines and tools for quality physical education (QPE)", the current pilot phase of the QPE Policy Package was outlined.

11. The three main modalities of the follow-up to MINEPS V were recalled: (i) thematic breakdown of the Declaration of Berlin into 11 "topics", (ii) delegation of follow-up to informal expert groups under the direction of the ad-hoc working group established by CIGEPS, (iii) focus on the development of indicators, benchmarks and self-assessment tools. It was underlined that this latter focus was particularly requested by CIGEPS at its ordinary session in March 2014,. Together with thematic priorities for the region determined at the Bogota Meeting, the scope of the follow-up for the region was thus clearly defined. The different purposes orienting the development of indicators include the monitoring of the implementation of the Declaration of Berlin, the evaluation of the impact of sport policy, the comparison/benchmarking of policy, the support to capacity development, as well as evidence-based advocacy for increased public investments in sport.

12. A methodological framework was presented comprising four different "layers" of indicators, namely a covariate, an input, an output and an outcome layer. A twofold approach to the development of indicators was suggested: firstly, a limited number (2 to 5) of basic indicators should be developed for each of the eleven topics of the Declaration of Berlin, in order to ensure that as many Member States as possible can participate in the related collection of data; secondly, a greater number of more sophisticated indicators can be developed for specific topics in which certain Member States are particularly interested. At this stage, the challenge is to develop solid methodologies for consistent indicators while anticipating an effective process for the collection of data. With respect to methodologies, co-operation with academia will be essential, while regional and intergovernmental organizations will need to be mobilized to ensure a sustained participation in data collection.

IV. National Activities Carried out in Connection with the Declaration of Berlin

13. The activities that were presented by participants reflect the themes and topics of the Declaration of Berlin. Several Sport Ministries of the region have posted links to the Declaration on their websites. Several countries reported progress with respect to the establishment of a strategic and coherent vision for national physical education, physical activity and sport programmes. This was notably achieved through the development of national sport strategies and enhanced co-operation between sport ministries, on the one hand, and health, education and youth ministries, on the other hand. It was reported that sport is increasingly recognized as a powerful means to foster social inclusion. In this connection, the 2010 edition of the Pan-American Games was mentioned as a successful model of a major sport event that has succeeded to activate social capital. In several countries, inclusive physical education and teacher training are considered strategic priorities. It was, however, noted that public authorities need to ensure that access to physical activity and sport is also provided outside schools, especially in situations in which the education system does not reach all young people. Several participants reported progress in the fight against doping which was achieved through the establishment of national anti-doping institutions. It was highlighted that co-operation with international sport federations (e.g. FIFA, IOC) is a means of mobilizing resources for anti-doping tests and prevention programmes.

V. Observatory of Good Practice for Sport Policy for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region

14. The presentation by Colombia of the Observatory highlighted major responsible institutions, its main objectives, methods and implementation strategies, results, as well as strengths, limitations and next steps. The University of Pereira is responsible to set-up and maintain the Observatory. However, contributions by all member states are needed to fulfil the main objectives. In this connection, it was suggested that each country should designate one responsible person who is in charge of up-loading documents. Many participants expressed their gratitude to Colombia for the establishment of the Observatory and interest in up-loading information on the Observatory.

15. Although first beneficial outputs could be observed, major challenges for current work of the Observatory were identified, including notably: the lack of contributions of all countries of the Latin America and Caribbean region; the differences in countries' tax policies; the insufficient coverage of physical education; the disproportionate focus on medals; missing contact details. As an additional drawback a lack of structure could be identified. This could be solved through a higher commitment by all Member States, for instance through up-loading existing programmes on the website to disseminate findings.

16. Several propositions were made with regard to future developments and improvements of the Observatory, including: renewal of the user manual; featuring of summaries/abstracts for each entry, in order to facilitate research of information; use the meetings in Bogota and Montevideo as test cases for evaluation; inclusion of information on different funding mechanisms for sport programmes; inclusion of scientific arguments for improving sport development legislation. It was noted that an evaluation of the current status of the observatory by all its participants is pending.

VI. Advocacy & Funding Models

17. The need for advocating increased investments in physical education (PE), physical activity (PA) and sport programmes came out as a common concern of the participants. Advocacy needs to be directed to key policy decision makers (ministries of finance, budget, planning) and to be based on scientific evidence of the benefits and, more particularly, of the return on investment that can be achieved through such programmes. Further research on such evidence, as well as an international meeting of government leaders was proposed in this connection. It was seen as a drawback that there exists an unclear task distribution between different ministries which makes it difficult to access funding from them. As an illustration, in some countries the law defines PE as a priority; however the budget for PE is not located under the Secretariat for Sport. In other countries, the sport budget is integrated into the Ministry for Youth which obstructs a clear outline of the budget for sport. The issue of funding models in these fields was raised by several participants. Different modalities were discussed including the allocation of a percentage of taxes on tobacco, alcohol or telecommunication, tax incentives for investments in sport infrastructures or training, lottery models, as well as partnerships with major sport federations. It was suggested that studies should be conducted about the impact of sport on health, social inclusion and related public budget

VII. Development of Indicators

18. This item was discussed in two separate break-out sessions. There was an overall agreement with the focus of the MINEPS V follow-up on the development of indicators for measuring the implementation of the Declaration of Berlin. However, many participants were concerned about the amount of indicators pertaining to the eleven topics derived from the Declaration and strongly suggested to reduce the number of indicators. Besides, the data collection should firstly focus on major indicators with the emphasis on Theme I of MINEPS V – Access to Sport as a Fundamental Right for All. With this regard, several participants proposed to concentrate on common macro-indicators, human capital, sport policy structure, participation in sport and physical activity, investment, as well as on the impact of sport activities. In general, participants discussed about the importance to revise and develop common definitions of indicators, as there had been confusions about the terminology, especially with regard to the distinction between physical education, physical activity and sport. These definitions should be

simple without many details. In addition, many participants noted the requisite of using existing indicators with high quality and to consider diverse contexts, such as public health or high performance sport. It was pointed out that the “outcome layer” (see para. 12 above) could include the notion of “risk of inactivity” rather than more specific outcomes, such as obesity. Furthermore it was noted that, in post-crisis situations, physical education cannot be assessed exclusively within the formal education system as it is often delivered outside the school context¹⁸. In terms of data collection for the indicators, participants agreed that the MINEPS V follow-up can be an effective framework for mobilizing competent authorities. It was highlighted that different national authorities will need to be involved: while Sport Ministries should co-ordinate the data collection, they need to mobilize other Ministries in charge of education, planning, statistics, health, etc. For this purpose it was requested that UNESCO prepare a formal note specifying the official nature of this undertaking. highlighted request was made that the meetings of the CIGEPS Ad-hoc Working group on the MINEPS V Follow-up should be convened for more than just one day, in order for Member States to justify their participation and the related costs. Concerns were raised that a sustained coordination role of Sport Ministries in this respect needed to be formalized by the establishment of a specialized a post dedicated to this task,. Participants underscored the effectiveness of referring to existing international data collecting systems which use common definitions and methods. New data should be assessed through methods which were earlier approved as valid and reliable by (pilot) studies on a national level. As regards participation in physical activity, it was noted that the only reliable assessment method are surveys. Mexico informed the participants that it had just received the results of a national survey in this area.

19. The participants decided that their co-operation for the development of indicators should focus, at a first stage, on a few “core variables” that are fundamental for both advocacy and policy development purposes: participation in PE, PA and sport, as well as related public investments. The related indicators and elements of an action plan are stated in the Communiqué of the Meeting that was approved by all participants. ICSSPE was invited to consider pro-bono support for determining the methodological scope of the indicators and action plan.

VIII. Closure & Decision

20. Mexico generously offered to host the 3rd Follow-up Meeting to MINEPS V for the Latin American and the Caribbean Region in September 2015. The participants warmly thanked Mexico for that invitation. In their closing remarks Professor Irurueta and Ms Brito commended the collective and constructive spirit of the meeting. They highlighted that the development of the agreed action plan the will require a sustained commitment by all participating Member States and expressed the hope that concrete results can be achieved until the next meeting in Mexico.

21. According to the Communiqué that was adopted unanimously, the participants

Decide to carry-out the following activities:

1. Develop common definitions and methodologies for the following indicators
 - a) Participation in physical education
 - (i) number of students with access to physical education / total number of students enrolled in public schools;
 - (ii) number of qualified physical education teachers / number of students with access to physical education;
 - b) Participation in sport
 - (iii) number of athletes affiliated to sport federations / total population
 - (iv) number of sport coaches / number of athletes affiliated to sport federations
 - c) Participation in physical activity
 - (v) number of practitioners of organized physical activity / total population;
 - d) Public investment in physical activity, physical education and sport
 - (vi) total amount of public investment in physical education / total amount of public investment in education
 - (vii) total amount of public investment in building and maintenance of physical activity facilities / total population;
 - (viii) total amount of public investment in programmes for physical activity and sport / total population;
2. Develop an action plan for the collection of data pertaining to the above indicators, including
 - (i) specification of relevant definitions, concepts and methodologies;
 - (ii) specification of modalities of securing a sustained participation in the collection of data of the concerned government authorities responsible for sport, education, statistics and planning;
 - (iii) elaboration of methodological explanations, practical instructions and briefing notes for the collection and analysis of data;
3. Mobilize key partners from academia, inter-governmental organizations, multilateral and bi-lateral development aid institutions, and the business community;
4. Use the Observatory as a mechanism for sharing and publishing information concerning the above activities;