Resolution (86) 3
Sport for Prisoners and Young Delinquents

(The European Ministers responsible for Sport, meeting in Dublin for their 5th Conference from 30 September to 2 October 1986)

Considering the importance of not neglecting humanitarian factors recognised by human rights;

Taking account of each country's domestic law;

Pointing out that the European Sport for All Charter makes no distinction of social category;

Invite the member governments of the Council of Europe to:

1. recognise the value and benefits of physical education and sports activates in prisons and other custodial centres;
2. encourage and, where necessary, offer support, including financial, to sports organisations so that they offer their aid and experience in developing with prison authorities sports programmes - be they competitive or not - especially for particular categories of detainees;
3. prepare for detainees' release and social reintegration through the organisation of sports meetings inside and if possible outside establishments, one means of so doing being to allow inmates to join sports clubs;
4. encourage, where necessary, prison departments to provide animators to help detainees develop and organise their own sport and recreation as an exercise in independence;
5. assist the deployment and training of an adequate number of motivated and qualified staff (from prison services, sports associations, voluntary organisations or other sources, as appropriate to needs and circumstances) to carry out the aforementioned programmes;
6. provide opportunities for prison and detention centre staff to take basic or further training for a sports or physical educational qualification;
7. encourage sports authorities and prison services to run common training schemes so that qualifications are mutually recognised;
8. enable teachers of sport and physical education who wish to work in prisons or detention centres to gain experience of them;
9. provide prison establishments with sports facilities and enable those without their own facilities to have access to suitable local facilities where security considerations permit;
10. encourage the development of research strategies, where necessary, to assess the effects of regular sport and recreation on detainees' physical and mental well-being and on former detainees;
11. encourage the development of sports programmes for potential young offenders (that is, those at risk of custodial sentences should they further offend) via co-operation between sports organisations, municipalities, police, probation services and voluntary organisations;

Invite the Committee of Ministers to ask the CDDS to ensure that the work begun on this project is properly pursued.