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LANZAROTE COMMITTEE

Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (T-ES)

Draft Annotated Agenda

8th meeting Strasbourg, 8-10 April 2014

Opening of the meeting: 9.30 Closing of the meeting: 18.00

Venue: Agora building, Room 2

Prepared by the Secretariat of the Lanzarote Committee

All meeting documents are/will be available at:

http://www.coe.int/t/dqhl/standardsetting/children/Meetings of Committee en.asp

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND UP-DATE ON RATIFICATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

The Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee will open the meeting. He will in particular recall that his terms of office come to an end and those of the members of the Bureau may be extended for another year (see below item 4). His opening remarks will be followed by a "tour de table" on progress by States in ratifying the Lanzarote Convention.

2. MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LANZAROTE CONVENTION

2.1 <u>Up-date on state of play regarding replies to the thematic questionnaire</u>

The Secretariat will provide a brief up-date of the situation. States Parties still not having submitted their replies will be invited to notify the Committee about the difficulties encountered and the likely date of submission of the replies.

2.2 Exchange of views on selected replies to the General Overview Questionnaire

Since its 2nd meeting (see §5 of the meeting report)¹, the Committee has considered that it should first acquire a general overview of the situation with regard to the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in terms of existing legislation, institutional framework and policies. Such an overview should serve as a basis for the thematic monitoring of the implementation of the Convention.

This approach was confirmed and is reflected in the indicative calendar for the 1st monitoring round as adopted by the Committee in December 2013 (see §13 of the 7th meeting report as well as its Appendix III)². Thus, in accordance with this calendar, the Committee is invited to exchange views at least on the replies to the following four questions.

Question 1: Definition of "child"

- a. Does the notion of "child" under your internal law correspond to that set out in Article 3, letter (a), i.e. "any person under the age of 18 years"?
- b. What legislative or other measures have been taken to ensure that when the age of a victim is uncertain and there are reasons to believe that the victim is a child, the protection and assistance provided for children are accorded to him or her in accordance with Article 11, para. 2?
- c. Please state whether the age for legal sexual activities is below 18 years of age and if so, please specify the age set out in internal law.

¹ The 2nd meeting report is online at: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/children/T_ES/T-ES_2012_004 report 2nd mtg 07082012.pdf

² The 7th meeting report is online at: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/children/T-ES(2013)12Report7thMeeting en.pdf.

Question 3: Overview of the implementation

Please indicate (without entering into details):

- a. the main legislative or other measures to ensure that children are protected against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in accordance with the Convention;
- b. whether your country has adopted a national strategy and/or Action Plan to combat sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children. If so, please specify the main fields of action and the body/bodies responsible for its/their implementation;
- c. whether your country has any guidelines to ensure a child-friendly implementation of the laws, measures and strategies referred to in letters (a) and (b) above. If so, please specify. With regard to judicial proceedings, please specify whether the Council of Europe Guidelines on Child-friendly Justice were taken as inspiration for your guidelines.

Question 5: Specialised bodies/mechanisms

- a. Please indicate the independent institution(s) (national or local) in charge of promoting and protecting the rights of the child. Please specify its/their responsibilities and indicate how resources are secured for it/them (Article 10, para. 2, letter (a));
- b. Which legislative or other measures have been taken to set up or designate mechanisms for data collection or focal points, at the national or local levels and in collaboration with civil society, for the purpose of observing and evaluating the phenomenon of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, with due respect for the requirements of personal data protection? (Article 10, para. 2, letter (b));
- c. Which legislative or other measures have been taken to organise the collection and storage of data relating to the identity and to the genetic profile (DNA) of persons convicted of the offences established in accordance with this Convention? What is the national authority in charge of the collection and storage of such data? (Article 37, para. 1).

Question 6: National or local coordination, cooperation and partnerships

- a. Please describe how coordination on a national or local level is ensured between the different agencies in charge of the protection from, the prevention of and the fight against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children. In particular, please provide information on existing or planned coordination between the education sector, the health sector, the social services and the law enforcement and judicial authorities (Article 10, para. 1);
- b. Is cooperation with a view to better preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children encouraged between the competent state authorities, civil societies and the private sector (Article 10, para. 3)? If so, please specify how;
- c. Are partnerships or other forms of cooperation between the competent authorities promoted with particular regard to the recipients of intervention programmes and measures for persons subject to criminal proceedings or convicted of any of the offences established in accordance with the Lanzarote Convention (Article 15, para. 2 and Article 16)?

The replies to the questionnaires have been published in the new "MONITORING ROUNDS" space on the left side of the Lanzarote Convention webpage (http://www.coe.int/lanzarote). The replies to the above four questions have been compiled by the Secretariat and have been published as working documents for this meeting.³

³ This draft annotated agenda as well as all working documents will be online at: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/children/Meetings of Committee en.asp

2.3 Future work of the Committee

This item is related to item 4.2 below and its purpose is to discuss how to organise the Committee's work in-between meetings in the light of the indicative calendar for its first monitoring round.

3. CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

3.1 **Debriefing**

- a. Madrid Conference on "Preventing sexual abuse of Children" (10-11/12/2013)
- b. Danilovgrad Regional Meeting on "The rights of the child Improvement of the status of children to protect them from all forms of exploitation " (21-22/01/2014)
- c. Dubrovnik Conference on "Growing with Children's Rights" (27-28/03/2013)

3.2 **Update on the ONE in FIVE Campaign initiatives**

3.3 <u>Information sharing on other initiatives related to the fight against sexual violence</u>

- a. Pro Safe Sport for Young Athletes (PPS) initiative of the Enlarged Partial agreement on Sport (EPAS) of the Council of Europe, co-financed by the European Union
- b. Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine 2011-2014 "Strengthening and protecting children's rights in Ukraine"
- c. Global Alliance against child sexual abuse online (http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/organized-crime-and-human-trafficking/global-alliance-against-child-abuse/index en.htm)

4. ELECTIONS

4.1 Election of the Chairperson and Bureau of the Committee

The Chairperson will recall the Rules of Procedure concerning elections.

During the current meeting the Committee is called upon to vote for:

- A Chairperson: the terms of office of Mr RUELLE (FRANCE) come to an end and may not be renewed.
- The Bureau: the terms of office of the current 3 members of the Bureau may be renewed for another year. A 4th member of the Bureau may also be elected in accordance with Rule 4.

It is recalled that the current 3 members of the Bureau are:

- Mr GUÐBRANDSSON (ICELAND), Vice-Chairperson
- Mr JANIZZI (LUXEMBOURG)
- Mr AZZOPARDI (having replaced Mrs MUSCAT, MALTA)

All Committee members (see Rule 2§2.1) may stand for elections. The composition of the Bureau should take into account geographical distribution and gender balance (Rule 4§2).

4.2 Appointment of thematic Rapporteurs for the monitoring work

During its last meeting (9 December 2013, Madrid), the Committee decided to appoint thematic Rapporteurs in charge of drafting specific parts of the implementation reports of the Convention (Rule 27). In this regard, members of the Committee, but also participants and observers interested in playing this role are invited to inform the Secretariat at the latest at the beginning of the meeting on 8 April 2014.

For more information on the role of the Rapporteurs, see §§ 16-18 of the 7th meeting report.⁴

4.3 Appointment of a Gender Equality Rapporteur

It is recalled that during its 5th meeting, the Committee was presented the Council of Europe Gender Equality transversal programme and the role of Gender Equality Rapporteurs. The Lanzarote Committee was encouraged to appoint one. For more details on the Gender Equality Rapporteurs, please visit:

http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/equality/02 GenderEqualityProgramme/GE R/index en.asp

5. OTHER BUSINESS

6. DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

- 9-11 September 2014
- 2-4 December 2014⁵

⁴ The 7th meeting report is online at: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/children/T-ES(2013)12Report7thMeeting_en.pdf.

⁵ The dates of 9-11 December could not be confirmed. The meeting has therefore been anticipated of a week.