



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)

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List of decisions 7th meeting

Madrid, 9 December 2013

Prepared by the Secretariat of the Lanzarote Committee

The Committee of the Parties (hereinafter referred to as “the Lanzarote Committee” or “the Committee”) to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (hereinafter referred to as “the Lanzarote Convention” or “the Convention”) held its 7th meeting in Madrid on 9 December 2013.

During this meeting, the Lanzarote Committee:

1. Thanked the Spanish authorities for hosting its meeting.
2. Took note of the progress in the ratification process by Monaco.
3. Confirmed that the 1st monitoring round of the Lanzarote Convention will concern the following 26 Parties: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Spain, “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey and Ukraine.
4. Took note that several of the above Parties are encountering difficulties in collecting the replies by all relevant stakeholders to the questionnaires for the monitoring process but confirmed the deadline of 31 January 2014 for submitting such replies.
5. Entrusted its Bureau with the task of deciding on the way forward in the event of a substantial lack of replies by the set deadline.
6. Reiterated the importance it attaches to receiving contributions to the monitoring process also from NGOs and took note that the Council of Europe Conference of INGOs as well as Missing Children Europe shall reply to the questionnaires through some of their national branches.
7. Asked the Secretariat to compile the replies to the questionnaires following the indicative time-table for the 1st monitoring round as appended, i.e. for its next meeting replies to questions 1, 3, 5 and 6 of the General Overview Questionnaire should be compiled.
8. Agreed that its implementation reports (Rule 27) shall be prepared by thematic Rapporteurs with the support of the Secretariat.
9. Considered it preferable to have more than one Rapporteur for a specific theme and invited members, participants and/or observers in the Committee, including representatives of NGOs, to volunteer to act as Rapporteurs.
10. Entrusted its Bureau with the task of ensuring that the designated Rapporteurs represent, as far as possible, the different legal systems of the Parties to the Convention as well as the variety of approaches represented in the Committee (legal, social, non-governmental), whilst respecting gender balance.
11. Decided that the periodic reporting to the Committee of Ministers on the state of its work (Rule 21) should be in writing (maximum 2 or 3 pages) and issued on a yearly basis in June (to have an impact on budgetary discussions).
12. Agreed that this brief factual report should be prepared by the Secretariat and finalised by the Bureau.

13. Took note of the latest developments in the organisation of the Conference on “Preventing sexual abuse of children” to take place in Madrid on 10-11 December 2013.
14. Took note of the recent activities of the Council of Europe Network of Contact Parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children.¹
15. Agreed that during the working lunch convened by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe with the organisation’s monitoring mechanisms to be held on 17 December 2013, the Lanzarote Committee should in particular highlight its double role (monitoring and capacity building), the thematic and comparative approach chosen for its 1st monitoring round and the challenge of coordinating and cooperating with other mechanisms working on overlapping themes.
16. Agreed to hold an exchange of views on the possible transposition in law and practice of Article 23 (“Solicitation of children for sexual purposes”) of the Lanzarote Convention at a forthcoming meeting.
17. Decided that Interpol and Europol should be invited to its forthcoming meetings in accordance with Rule 2.2.2 (“Participants”).
18. Took note that the dates for its next meetings are:
 - 8-10 April 2014;
 - 9-11 September 2014;
 - 9-11 December 2014 (to be confirmed).

In accordance with Rule 10, paragraph 4 of the Rules of Procedure and as the Lanzarote Committee has not decided otherwise, this list of decisions shall be made public.

In accordance with Rule 10, paragraph 5 of the Rules of Procedure, a full meeting report shall be submitted to the members, participants and observers of the Lanzarote Committee at a later stage.

¹ More information on the PACE Network is available at http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/children/1in5/PACE/About_en.asp

Appendix I

1ST MONITORING ROUND - INDICATIVE TIME-TABLE²	
Committee meeting	Questions to be examined (from the thematic questionnaire and where appropriate the general one)
8-10 April 2014	Overview of relevant replies to the GOQ (at a minimum of questions: 1, 3, 5 and 6)
1st sub-theme	
9-11 September 2014	10 (criminal law offence of sexual abuse) 12 (aggravating circumstances) 1 (data collection) 11 (corporate liability)
9-11 December 2014	13 (best interest of the child in investigation and criminal proceedings) 14 (child friendly investigations and proceedings) 9.a (legal safeguards to assist and protect the victim)
April 2015	Draft implementation report on the 1 st sub-theme
September 2015	Finalisation and adoption of the report on the 1 st sub-theme
2nd sub-theme	
December 2015	4 (awareness raising strategies) 2 (children's education) 7 (preventive and intervention programmes) 6 (participation by children in the development and implementation of policies, programmes)
April 2016	3 (recruitment and screening) 5 (specialised training) 8 (reporting) 9.b (denial of exercise of the professional or voluntary activity)
September 2016	Draft report on the 2 nd sub-theme
December 2016	Finalisation and adoption of the report on the 2 nd sub-theme.

² It should be borne in mind that **the pace at which the Committee will proceed depends on:**

- whether all Parties strictly respect the deadline of 31 January 2014 to submit their replies as well as on the number of replies received by representatives of civil society;
- whether all the replies are comprehensive or need to be completed by the submission of further information;
- what working methods the Committee will agree upon to carry out the examination of the replies to the questionnaires (e.g. the appointment or not of rapporteurs for one/several questions or small drafting groups, etc.).