



Strasbourg, 24 November 2017

CAHENF(2017)LD2

Ad hoc Committee for the Rights of the Child (CAHENF)

List of decisions

3rd meeting

Strasbourg 22-24 November 2017

Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Room 9

Prepared by the Children's Rights Division

Directorate of Human Dignity and Equality

List of decisions

1. Introduction

The third plenary of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Rights of the Child, meeting in Strasbourg from 22 to 24 November 2017, was chaired by Ms Ina Verzivolli (Albania) and opened by Ms Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy.

2. Decisions

The CAHENF decided:

1. Opening of the meeting by the Director General of Democracy
2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business

- to adopt the agenda and order of business.

3. Adoption of the report of the 2nd meeting (29-31 March 2017)

- to adopt the report of the 2nd meeting.

4. Information by the Chair and the Secretariat

- to take note of the First Implementation Report and Action plan of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child prepared by the Secretariat, which was presented to the Committee of Ministers on 3rd October 2017;
- to entrust the Secretariat with the task of regularly updating the Action Plan recording the activities carried out by the various divisions and departments.

5. Children's rights in the digital environment

- to take note of the report of the third and final meeting of the Drafting Group of Specialists on Children and the Digital Environment (CAHENF-IT) and express its appreciation of the excellent work carried out by the CAHENF-IT, with the support of the consultants and secretariat;
- to approve the draft Committee of Ministers Recommendation on Guidelines for member states to respect, protect and fulfil children's rights in the digital environment, in view of the finalisation of the text (including any last editorial corrections) and its transmission by the Secretariat to the Committee of Ministers;
- to take note and request the Secretariat to reflect in the meeting report the dissenting opinion of the Russian Federation with respect to several paragraphs of the draft recommendation;
- to take note of the Lanzarote Committee's monitoring cycle, as well as of the other activities and projects implemented by the Children's Rights Division which are related to children's rights in the digital environment.

6. CAHENF priorities in 2018-2019 and Work plan

- to agree on the process proposed for the Mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the Strategy, including the approach to ensure that children participate in the review;
- to adopt the Work plan for the next biennium, based on the new Terms of Reference 2018-2019 ,

including with respect to the possibility of holding thematic exchanges as proposed;

- to instruct the Secretariat to reach out to member states for nominations of experts to fill the vacant seats of the Drafting Group of Experts on Children's Rights and Safeguards in the Context of Migration (CAHENF-Safeguards) and to issue a call of expression of interest for the nomination of experts to the newly formed Group of Experts on Responses to Violence against Children (CAHENF-VAC);
- to instruct the Bureau to take any necessary decisions between meetings.

7. Update on recent developments and challenges with respect to children's rights at national level

- to note with interest the information provided on recent developments and challenges in member and observer States, including on the implementation of the Strategy priority areas;
- to invite member states that have not yet done so to send their completed form to the Secretariat so that the Tour de Table information document is up-to-date.

8. Children's rights and safeguards in the context of migration

8.1 CAHENF activities

- to take note of the work underway by the CAHENF-Safeguards and the progress made as of their last meeting;
- to hold an exchange of views on the draft Committee of Ministers Recommendation on guardianship for children in migration who are deprived of parental care and to invite member States which have not yet sent their comments on the draft text to do so by 15 December 2017;
- to hold an exchange of views on the proposed preliminary outline on the scope and nature of the Council of Europe proposed standards in the area of age assessment and extend also the deadline for comments on the draft outline to 15 December 2017;
- to take note of the publication of the final report on "Age assessment policies, procedures and practices respectful of children's rights" and to invite experts to disseminate it, as appropriate, to relevant practitioners and professionals;
- to endorse the modalities and processes as set out in the updated roadmap for the work of the CAHENF-Safeguards.

8.2 Other relevant activities

CoE Action plan on protecting migrant and refugee children

- to welcome the information provided by the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Migration and Refugees on its activities and recent reports, as well as of other Council of Europe actions to protect migrant and refugee children and to express its interest in continuing this dialogue at regular intervals;
- to take note of the call to States for expressions of interest to pilot and contribute to the implementation of the Project on Child-Friendly Migration Related Information and Life Projects for Unaccompanied Children (2017-2019).

Standard-setting and policy work

- to take note of the participation of its representatives and of the Children's Rights Division in standard-setting work in the Organisation and any possible follow-up which falls within its mandate.

Parliamentarian dimension

- to take note of the campaign activities of the PACE to end immigration detention of children, of the activities implemented jointly with the Children's Rights Division with regards to migrant children and of the PACE's recent report on Child-friendly age assessment for unaccompanied migrant children and

related Recommendation 2117(2017).

9. Elections of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Bureau

- to elect Ms Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou (Greece) as Chair, Ms Satu Sistonen (Finland) as Vice-Chair and Mr Eduard Israyelyan (Armenia), Ms Christel de Craim (Belgium) and Ms Leda Koursoumba (Cyprus) as Bureau members;
- to thank warmly the Chair, Vice-Chair and Bureau members for their work during 2016-2017.

10. Information on other relevant activities and reports of the Council of Europe and possible follow up

- to take note with interest of the activities carried out by the PACE Sub-Committee on Children (Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development);
- to take note of the latest developments as regards the implementation of the Council of Europe Child Participation Assessment Tool and of the call for expressions of interest to participate in future related activities.

11. Communication on other relevant activities of international organisations and NGOS

- to note with interest the information provided by other international organisations and NGO on ongoing relevant initiatives and projects.

12. Information on relevant work of other sectors and future participation

- to take note of the calendar of events for CAHENF to contribute to other relevant activities;
- to take note of the CAHENF representatives' oral reports following their participation, including the need to ensure a continued contribution and follow-up in several areas;

13. Dates and places of the 4th and 5th CAHENF meetings

- to hold its 4th meeting from 21 to 23 March 2018 and its 5th meeting from 16 to 18 October 2018.

14. Any other business

- to note with appreciation the recent voluntary contributions received from Luxembourg, Andorra and Slovenia to the Programme "Building a Europe for and with children" and the support provided by Greece and Hungary by seconding two officials to the Children's Rights Division secretariat.
- to note the interest expressed by the current two Gender Equality Rapporteurs to continue their function.
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15. Adoption of decisions

- to adopt the list of decisions.

16. Closing of the meeting