



Strasbourg, 21 March 2016

CDDH-MF(2016)01 revised

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
(CDDH)

**DRAFTING GROUP ON FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION AND FORCED MARRIAGE  
(CDDH-MF)**

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**Extracts of CDDH documents concerning CDDH-MF**

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1<sup>st</sup> meeting  
27 April (9.30 a.m.) – 29 April 2016 (1 p.m.)  
Council of Europe, Agora – Room G.05

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**Extracts of the report of 84<sup>th</sup> CDDH meeting, Strasbourg 7-11 December 2015**

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**ITEM 11: PREPARATION OF THE CDDH 2016–2017 BIENNIUM WORK**

39. The CDDH welcomed the adoption by the Committee of Ministers, on 25 November 2015, of the terms of reference for the CDDH and its committees DH-SYSC and DH-BIO for 2016–2017 though noted with regret that the qualification that it would undertake certain work on the development of human rights only if resources permit was omitted from the proposal presented to the Committee of Ministers. Accordingly, it considered in detail working methods and calendar for their implementation. In light of the comments made at the meeting it endorsed the reflections of the Bureau and the Secretariat's proposals appearing in CDDH(2015)015Rev.

40. In particular, during its present meeting, the CDDH decided the following:

- (i) even though the final deadline for the majority of activities is the end of 2017, it would be preferable to embark upon certain activities only once others have been completed. At this stage, the CDDH gave priority to work on issues related to work related to female genital mutilation and forced marriage. To this end, it set up the Drafting Group on female genital mutilation and forced marriage (CDDH-MF), the mandate of which appears at Appendix VI, and appointed Mr Rob LINHAM (United Kingdom) President and Rapporteur for this activity.

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**Extract of Appendix IV of document CDDH(2015)R84 on terms of reference of the CDDH and its subordinate bodies for the biennium 2016-2017** *(as adopted by the Committee of Ministers at their 1241<sup>st</sup> meeting, 24–26 November 2015)*

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**SPECIFIC TASKS**

**1. Protection of human rights:**

Oversee the work of the Committee of experts on the reform of the Court (DH-SYSC) (see terms of reference of the DH-SYSC).

**2. Development and promotion of human rights:**

If necessary, and to avoid any duplication, appropriate co-ordination and co-operation with relevant conventional and monitoring bodies and other Council of Europe bodies involved is to be ensured.

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## Female genital mutilation and forced marriage

- (i) Further to work already conducted in the area of human rights and culturally diverse societies, undertake work to combat and prevent female genital mutilation and forced marriage, which are serious violations of human rights. To this end, conduct an analysis of the legal situation at international level and in the Council of Europe member States (deadline: 30 June 2016).
- (ii) On this basis, prepare a guide to good national practices aimed at combatting and preventing these affronts and, if necessary, make proposals to (a) ensure coherent policies and better implementation of the legislation aimed at preventing these affronts; (b) reinforce the national and European legal framework as well as co-operation between member States; (c) raise awareness of this issue. These proposals may result in, inter alia the preparation of a draft recommendation of the Committee of Ministers (deadline: 31 December 2017). This activity is to be carried out ensuring appropriate co-ordination and co-operation with the relevant bodies involved, in particular the GEC, GREVIO, GRETA and the CDPC.

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**Extract of Appendix VI of document CDDH(2015)R84 on the terms of reference of the CDDH Drafting Group on female genital mutilation and forced marriage (CDDH-MF) (as adopted by the CDDH at its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, 7–11 December 2015)**

Under the authority of the CDDH, the CDDH-MF is called to:

- (i) Further to work already conducted in the area of human rights and culturally diverse societies, undertake work to combat and prevent female genital mutilation and forced marriage, which are serious violations of human rights. To this end, conduct an analysis of the legal situation at international level and in the Council of Europe member States (deadline: **31 March 2016**).
- (ii) On this basis, prepare a guide to good national practices aimed at combatting and preventing these affronts and, if necessary, make proposals to (a) ensure coherent policies and better implementation of the legislation aimed at preventing these affronts; (b) reinforce the national and European legal framework as well as co-operation between member States; (c) raise awareness of this issue. These proposals may result in, inter alia the preparation of a draft recommendation of the Committee of Ministers (deadline: **15 November 2016**).

**Composition:** 10 members at the expense of the Council of Europe's budget (Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic<sup>1</sup>, France, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom (Presidency)).

This activity is to be carried out ensuring appropriate co-ordination and co-operation with the relevant bodies involved, in particular the GEC, GREVIO, GRETA and the CDPC.

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<sup>1</sup> Was replaced after the first meeting by Finland.

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Rapporteur on female genital mutilation and forced marriage: Mr Rob LINHAM (United Kingdom).