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6 June 2017

## **LANZAROTE COMMITTEE**

Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe  
Convention on the protection of children against sexual  
exploitation and sexual abuse

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**List of decisions**

**18<sup>th</sup> meeting**

Strasbourg, 10-12 May 2017

Adopted by the Lanzarote Committee on 31 May 2017

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 18<sup>th</sup> meeting in Strasbourg on 10-12 May 2017.

**During this meeting, the Lanzarote Committee:**

1. Took note of and welcomed the decision of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to accept Tunisia’s request to accede to the Lanzarote Convention.
2. Entrusted its Chairperson to write a letter to the five Council of Europe member States which have not ratified the Lanzarote Convention yet, in order to encourage them to do so in a near future.
3. Examined in depth and adopted the Interpretative Opinion on *“Applicability of the Lanzarote Convention to sexual offences against children facilitated through the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs)”*.
4. Examined in depth the Thematic Questionnaire to launch its 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring round and decided:
  - That the title of the round would be: “Protection of children against ICT facilitated sexual exploitation and sexual abuse”;
  - To entrust the Secretariat to prepare a revised version of the draft questionnaire on the basis of the comments made during the meeting;
  - To send this revised version to the members of the Lanzarote Committee on Friday 19 May 2017 at the latest;
  - To consider the text as adopted if no objection to this revised version is submitted to the Secretariat ([lanzarote.committee@coe.int](mailto:lanzarote.committee@coe.int)) by Friday 2 June 2017<sup>1</sup> agreeing that:
    - a) Should a Party object to the adoption by 2 June 2017, it should highlight the questions raising substantial problems for it as only these will be examined during the Committee’s 19<sup>th</sup> meeting (25-27 October 2017) in view of the adoption of the questionnaire as a whole (as the other parts where no substantial problems have been highlighted will be considered as adopted);
    - b) Should no Party object to the adoption of the questionnaire by 2 June 2017, it will be considered adopted on such date and it is agreed that:
      - 25 October 2017 will be set as a deadline for Parties to reply;
      - Representatives of civil society and any other bodies involved in preventing and combating sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children will have two months to submit comments on Parties’ replies starting when the relevant reply is registered by the Secretariat.

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<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that no objections were made by 2 June 2017.

5. As to the situation of children (in particular unaccompanied children aged 14 or more) in the transit zone in Hungary after the adoption of Bill No. T/13976 “On the amendment of certain acts related to increasing the strictness of procedures carried out in the areas of border management”:

- Took note of the letter addressed on 22 March 2017 by the Chairperson of the Lanzarote Committee to the Prime Minister of Hungary, on the basis of Rule 28§3 of its Rules of Procedure, requesting additional information;
- Analysed the additional information sent by Hungary on the basis also of the presentation by the representatives of the Hungarian authorities and other sources;
- Welcomed the invitation made by the Hungarian authorities to visit the Hungarian transit zone in order to have a better understanding of the situation on the spot;
- Decided that a delegation of 3 members of the Lanzarote Committee accompanied by the Secretariat will conduct such a visit;
- Called on those members of the Lanzarote Committee who would be interested in being part of this delegation to inform the Secretariat ([lanzarote.committee@coe.int](mailto:lanzarote.committee@coe.int)) by Friday 19 May 2017 at the very latest.

6. Decided to postpone the exchange of views and decision on follow-up to recommendations of the special report on “Protecting children affected by the refugee crisis from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse” to its 19<sup>th</sup> meeting (25-27 October 2017) due to lack of time.

7. Heard presentations from and exchanged views with:

- Ms Katarzyna STACIWA, Strategic Analyst - FP Twins, Europol, on the EUROPOL Preventive Campaign on Sexual Coercion and Extortion;
- Mr Sébastien BROCHOT, Founder of the project, on the [PedoHelp project](#) about offering understanding and support to prevent child sexual abuse;
- Ms Clothilde TALLEU, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), on the project Pro Safe Sport +: Put an end to sexual harassment and abuse against children in sport;
- Ms Petya NESTOROVA, Executive Secretary of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), on [GRETA's 6<sup>th</sup> General Report](#) relevant findings concerning children;
- Mr Luca SCHIO, Director of Department, International Cooperation and Partnerships, Directorate for European Cooperation and Strategy, the CEB, and Ms Giusi PAJARDI, Head of the Secretariat of the Partial Agreement of the CEB, on the [Council of Europe Development Bank \(CEB\)](#);

8. Held a de-briefing by Ms Maria José CASTELLO-BRACO (Portugal) and Ms Zsuzsanna RUTAI (Secretariat) of their participation in the European Commission TAIEX Workshop on challenges and best practice to counteract child sexual abuse online (Minsk, 16-17 March 2017).

9. Decided to postpone the following de-briefings to a forthcoming meeting due to lack of time:

- De-briefing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Rights of the Child (CAHENF) by Mrs Ina VERZIVOLLI (Albania) (Strasbourg, 29-31 March 2017);
- De-briefing by Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI (Executive Secretary of the Lanzarote Committee) of her participation in the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) meeting (Strasbourg, 21 April 2017);
- De-briefing by Ms Gioia SCAPPUCCI of the Kick-off meeting for the INTERPOL Project to Counter Migrant Smuggling in the Balkan Region (Podgorica, 24 April 2017).

10. Took note of the recent activities of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly in the context of the work carried out by its new Sub-Committee on Children by Baroness Doreen MASSEY (United Kingdom, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Children, Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development).

11. Took note of the recent activities of the Council of Europe's Congress of Regional and Local Authorities of the Council of Europe by Mr Johan van den HOUT (The Netherlands, Thematic Spokesperson on Children).

12. Adopted its 3<sup>rd</sup> activity report covering the period 18 March 2016 - 12 May 2017 and entrusted the Secretariat to transmit it to the European Committee on Crimes Problems (CDPC) and the Committee of Ministers for information.

13. Decided to invite the International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates as an observer to its forthcoming meetings.

14. Decided to postpone the discussion on enhancing visibility of the role and impact of civil society's representatives in the work of the Lanzarote Committee to a forthcoming meeting due to lack of time.

15. Decided to postpone the discussion on the Council of Europe cooperation projects on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse to a forthcoming meeting due to lack of time.

16. Took note that the dates for its next meetings are:

- 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration conference: 24-25 October 2017, Lanzarote
- 19<sup>th</sup> meeting: 25-27 October 2017, Lanzarote
- 20<sup>th</sup> meeting: 4-6 April 2018, Strasbourg
- 21<sup>st</sup> meeting: 20-22 June 2018, Strasbourg
- 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting: 7-9 November 2018, Strasbourg

In accordance with Rule 10, paragraph 5 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 6 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.