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CONCEPT PAPER

21st Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (14-15 June 2016, Zaandam, The Netherlands)

Objectives: The 21st Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (CDPPS) will be hosted by the Dutch Ministry of Security and Justice and the Dutch Custodial Institutions Agency. It aims at bringing together high-ranking representatives of the prison and probation services of the member and observer States of the Organisation, as well as renowned experts and researchers and representatives of the justice sector and of the civil society.

The theme of this year's Conference is "**Community Involvement in Prison and Probation Work**". The role and place of families of offenders and the attention and care needed by their children will be among the topics discussed. Representatives of "Children of Prisoners Europe" (COPE) will be among the key speakers.

Examples of co-operation between prison and probation services and the community as a way towards better social reintegration of prisoners and probationers will also be discussed.

Prison overcrowding will again be on the agenda of the Conference, as well as radicalisation of prisoners. The role community can play in dealing with radicalisation to violent extremism will be discussed during the workshops.

Invitation to the Conference: The Conference is open only to invited participants.

The Directors General of the Prison Administration, or their high ranking representatives, as well as the Directors of Probation Services, or their high ranking representatives of the Council of Europe member and observer States are invited to participate in this Conference. Other Council of Europe bodies are also invited to take part in it: CPT, CDPC, PC-CP, PACE and the European Court of Human Rights. The EU Commission, UNODC, EuroPris and CEP are also invited to the Conference.

Format: The Conference will last two full days. It will be comprised of plenary open and closing sessions, panel discussions, several workshops and further work in small groups.

Working languages: There will be simultaneous interpretation into English, French and Russian during the plenary and panel sessions as well as at one of the parallel workshops.

Date and venue: The Conference will be held on 14 and 15 June 2016 in Inntel Hotel, Zaandam, The Netherlands (<http://www.inntelhotelsamsterdamzaandam.nl/en/Home.html>)

Practical information: Zaandam is a small Dutch town easily accessible by train from the major airports of the Netherlands. A welcome desk with the logo of the Conference will be available in the arrival hall of the Amsterdam Schiphol Airport.

Coffee breaks as well as lunches and dinners will be offered to all participants during the days of the Conference.

No fees will be charged for participation in this event.

The participants need to cover their travel and subsistence expenses for the days of the Conference.

On this web site special links will be provided so that participants may reserve hotel rooms at negotiated prices at Inntel Hotel and Best Western Hotel in Zaandam.

Side events: In the evening before the Conference there will be a side event organised by the Pompidou group related to drugs in prison.

In the morning of 16 June an optional visit to a prison near Zaandam (the judicial complex Zaanstad) will be organised by the Dutch Custodial Institutions Agency. The participants need to indicate whether they wish to participate in this visit when filling in the registration form for the Conference.