



T-ES(2013)11_en

LANZAROTE COMMITTEE

Committee of 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 6th meeting

Strasbourg, 14-15 October 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 6th meeting in Strasbourg on 14-15 October 2013.

During this meeting, the Lanzarote Committee:

1. Took note of the forthcoming entry into force of the Convention in the Russian Federation and Slovenia and the progress in the ratification process by Switzerland.
2. Agreed to hold an exchange of views on recent case-law developments concerning the right of children to be protected against sexual violence with representatives of the European Court of Human Rights, the European Committee of Social Rights, the Court of Justice of the European Union and the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.
3. Asked the Secretariat to up-date the case-law reference document [T-ES(2013)07] for one of its forthcoming meetings and to have it translated into French.
4. Held an exchange of views on the situation of States Parties not undergoing the 1st monitoring round. Agreed that, in due course, they could be assessed with respect to the theme of sexual abuse of children in the circle of trust. Agreed that at the same time the Committee could also assess follow-up given to the recommendations adopted with respect to States Parties already assessed.
5. Clarified the following issues with regard to its Rules of Procedure:
 - Rule 23§1: replies to the general overview questionnaire should be submitted within 6 to 8 months from the entry force of the Lanzarote Convention for the Party concerned.
 - Rule 24§4: any Party for which the Convention enters into force three months after the adoption of the questionnaire may be included in the monitoring round if the Party so requests and a decision to derogate Rule 24§4 is taken before the deadline to submit replies to the questionnaire.
 - Rule 27§2: since the implementation reports of the 1st monitoring round will not be country based, States Parties will have the opportunity to comment in the course of the Committee’s drafting of these reports.
6. Clarified that a State Party to the Convention that is not monitored in the course of a given round (Rule 24§4), fully participates in the elaboration and adoption of the Committee’s implementation reports of that monitoring round.
7. Approved the suggestions contained in document T-ES(2013)10 and decided to proceed as indicated in the time-table reproduced in the Appendix to these decisions.
8. Asked the Secretariat to prepare for its next meeting a document containing suggestions for the Committee’s monitoring working methods.
9. Took note of the progress in the organisation of a Conference in Madrid on “Preventing sexual abuse of children” as its 3rd capacity building activity, which will be take place on 10-11 December 2013.

10. Exchanged views on some good practices concerning prevention of sexual abuse of children and agreed that a broad understanding of the topic should be taken in selecting the practices to be shared in Madrid.
11. Took note of the progress in the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to stop sexual violence against children.¹
12. Took note of the debriefing concerning:
 - the 13th ISPCAN European Regional Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect (Dublin, 15-18 September 2013);
 - the Regional Conference on “Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe: for a better protection of children” (Chisinau, 8-9 October 2013).
13. Took note of the organisation of the mid-term Review Conference on the Council of Europe Strategy on the Rights of the Child to be held in Dubrovnik on 27-28 March 2014.
14. Took note of the progress concerning the preparation of a 2nd volume of the Council of Europe publication “Protecting children from sexual violence” and the invitation to submit the contact details of possible authors for the various topics to be covered by the publication.
15. Took note of the important role of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Rapporteurs and decided it required more time to identify the best candidate for this new role.
16. Took note that the dates for its next meetings are:
 - 9 December 2013;²
 - 18-20 March 2014;
 - 17-19 June 2014;
 - November 2014 (dates 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 For more information on the Campaign click on:
http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/children/1in5/default_en.asp
http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/children/1in5/PACE/Activities_en.asp
http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/children/1in5/Congress/ActivitiesAndEvents_en.asp

² This meeting will be held in Madrid.

APPENDIX

1ST MONITORING ROUND - INDICATIVE TIME-TABLE³	
Committee meeting	Questions examined
[18-20] March 2014	Overview of relevant replies to the GOQ (at a minimum of questions: 1, 3, 5 and 6)
1st sub-theme	
[17-19] June 2014	10 (criminal law offence of sexual abuse) 12 (aggravating circumstances) 1 (data collection) 11 (corporate liability)
November 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)
March 2015	Draft implementation report on the 1 st sub-theme
June 2015	Finalisation and adoption of the report on the 1 st sub-theme
2nd sub-theme	
November 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)
March 2016	3 (recruitment and screening) 5 (specialised training) 8 (reporting) 9.b (denial of exercise of the professional or voluntary activity)
June 2016	Draft report on the 2 nd sub-theme
November 2016	Finalisation and adoption of the report on the 2 nd sub-theme.

³ 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.).