



Building a Europe
for and with children
Construire une Europe
pour et avec les enfants

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

CDENF/Bu(2022)PV3
7 June 2022

**Eighth meeting of the Bureau
of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF)
16 May 2022**

Meeting report

1. Opening of the meeting

1. The Bureau of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) held its eighth meeting on 16 May 2022 (via videoconference).
2. Ms Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou (Greece), CDENF Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed the other Bureau members.

2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business

3. The agenda was adopted as it appears in Appendix I. The list of participants appears in Appendix II.

3. Adoption of the draft report of the 7th Ad hoc Bureau meeting

4. The Bureau adopted the draft report of its 7th meeting.

4. Information by the Secretariat

5. The Secretariat updated the Bureau about the follow-up currently given to the [High Level Launching Conference for the Strategy for the Rights of the Child \(2022-2027\)](#) held in Rome on 7-8 April 2022). A comprehensive report on all sessions of the Conference was being finalised and would soon be available online. The Secretariat had received very positive feedback from participants, and the strong political support and commitment to the implementation of the new Strategy from member States was highlighted.

6. Bureau members equally expressed their satisfaction with this successful event, and additionally referred to very positive feedback received from young delegates from their respective countries. The Bureau members warmly thanked the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers for having hosted this important event, and the Secretariat of the Children's Rights Division for having co-organised it.

7. The Bureau was informed about the state of play regarding the preparation of the following documents relating to the protection of the rights of children in migration:

- Draft Explanatory Memorandum of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)11 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on Effective guardianship for unaccompanied and separated children in the context of migration, as adopted by the CDENF in February 2022: submitted to the Committee of Ministers for information, together with the abridged report of the February plenary session, to be examined by the Rapporteur's Group (GR-SOC) on 31 May 2022, and subsequently submitted to the Committee of Ministers;

- Draft Recommendation relating to Human Rights Principles and Guidelines on age assessment for children, and its Explanatory Memorandum: Due to a slight delay in the final revision of the Draft Explanatory Memorandum (circulated for adoption by the CDENF by 20 May 2022) and the fact that the CDENF had decided, in line with the practice of the Committee of Ministers, to submit the Draft Recommendation together with its Explanatory Memorandum, once adopted, the Draft Recommendation would be submitted to the Committee of Ministers for adoption in September 2022, accompanied by its Explanatory Memorandum (for information).

5. CDENF workplan: Overview of main activities, priorities and meetings

8. The Secretariat presented a document including a proposal for a comprehensive CDENF workplan, mainly for the first biennium (2022-2023) of its Terms of Reference, but already outlining some of the milestones of the following biennium (2024-2025) which may have an impact on the current work programme. The Bureau examined the workplan and agreed with its overall structure and content. It instructed the Secretariat to review and update the document in the light of the Bureau discussion, before sharing it with Bureau members again for last comments/approval in writing along with this meeting report.

6. Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027)

9. The Bureau took note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the advanced state of play of the final report on the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016-2021), to be presented to the CDENF for information and approval at its upcoming plenary meeting.

10. With regard to the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027), the Secretariat informed the Bureau on the state of advancement of implementation tools being prepared, including an action plan, a results-chain containing indicators, and an electronic form for taking stock of national and international action under the Strategy in a user-friendly format. A communication strategy was also under development. The Bureau welcomed the elaboration of such tools and took note of the fact that they would be further advanced and submitted to the CDENF for information and comments at its fifth plenary meeting.

7. Fifth CDENF Plenary meeting (4-6 July 2022)

12. The Bureau examined and approved the draft agenda for the fifth CDENF Plenary meeting, which follows the structure of the Strategy, with each strategic objective systematically appearing in this and upcoming agendas, thus allowing the Committee to keep track of ongoing activities throughout all priority areas. For the next meeting, and in light of the particular relevance of the subject matter, it was suggested to foresee an exchange on the situation of children in and from Ukraine under point 7.8., that would appear quite high up in the order of business yet to be prepared.

8. CDENF Subordinate bodies and groups: update on current activities

14. The Bureau was informed about the progress made in the work of the Working Group on responses to violence against children (CDENF-GT-VAE), and in particular on the Draft Recommendation on strengthening reporting systems for professionals on violence against children, and its Explanatory Memorandum, planned to be presented to the CDENF at its fifth plenary meeting for general information and comments.

15. The Bureau took note of the state of play of the work of the Committee of Experts on the Rights and the Best Interests of the Child in Parental Separation and in Care Proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE), particularly on the follow-up of its fifth meeting (4-5 May 2022). The Secretariat also updated the Bureau on the outcome of the call for tenders for consultancy services, the preparation towards a stakeholder event to be organised in October 2022 under the Irish Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, back-to-back with a High-level segment and the sixth meeting of the CJ/ENF-ISE, as well as the child consultation process currently being carried out in three member States.

16. The Bureau was also informed about the progress achieved by the Drafting Group on Developing a Guide to good practice concerning the participation of children in the decision-making process on matters regarding their health (BIO/ENF-CP), with a first draft guide to be presented to the CDENF at its fifth Plenary meeting for comments and suggestions of further practice examples.

9. PACE Recommendations: preparation of draft opinions

17. The Secretariat informed the Bureau on the Committee of Minister's request for opinions on PACE Recommendations 2025(2022) on "For an assessment of the means and provisions to combat children's exposure to pornographic content" and 2227(2022) on "Deinstitutionalisation of persons with disabilities", with an extended delay until the beginning of July granted informally to allow the CDENF to adopt its opinions in plenary.

18. The Bureau exchanged on elements to be included in the draft opinions and instructed the Secretariat to prepare the draft opinions accordingly, for written approval by the Bureau, before being examined by the CDENF at its fifth plenary meeting.

10. CDENF Working methods

20. The Bureau exchanged on the basis of a first proposal prepared by the Secretariat on how best to address cross-cutting issues, through thematic Rapporteurs, to be complemented, where appropriate, by ad hoc representatives, by collaboration via existing joint subordinate bodies, as well as more regular exchanges with representatives from other relevant committees.

21. The Bureau took note of the possibility, under the CDENF Terms of Reference, to appoint up to four thematic rapporteurs, including a gender equality rapporteur, and exchanged on cross-cutting issues to be potentially addressed by the other thematic rapporteurs to be appointed. The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to revise the draft document in the light of its discussion and to circulate the revised text for Bureau approval together with this meeting report.

11. Upcoming events

23. The Secretariat provided information about the following upcoming meetings and modes of representation and participation of the CDENF:

31 May 2022: [Seminar on “Early intervention on intersex children - Promoting the Rights of the Child”](#) organised by the CDBIO: participation and online presentation by Ms Ružica Boškić, CDENF Bureau member

31 May – 3 June 2022: 1st CDBIO plenary meeting: Mr Joost van Haelst, CDENF Bureau member and Co-Chair of the drafting group BIO/ENF-CP invited to attend the relevant session on the draft guide

1-3 June 2022: 98th CDCJ plenary meeting

Ms Regina Jensdottir, Head of the Children’s Rights Division, to present the new strategy and relevant areas of work

10 June 2022: Thematic Exchange on “Child-friendly approaches and procedures in the area of migration” by the SRSG on Migration and Refugees in the framework of the meeting of the [Network of focal points on migration](#): online presentation by Ms Rosário Farmhouse, CDENF Vice Chair.

12. Any other business

24. The Bureau raised no other issues.

13. Date and place of next meetings

25. The Bureau agreed to hold its next meeting on 26 September 2022 in Paris.

14. Approval of meeting report

26. The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to prepare the meeting report and to submit it to its members for written approval.

Appendix I - Agenda

1.	Opening of the meeting	
2.	Adoption of the agenda and order of business	CDENF/Bu(2022)OJ3prov
3.	Adoption of the draft report of the 7th Ad hoc Bureau meeting	CDENF/Bu(2022)PV2 Draft report of the Ad hoc Bureau meeting (21/03/2022)
4.	Information by the Secretariat	<i>Update by the Secretariat</i>
5.	CDENF workplan: Overview of main activities, priorities and meetings	CDENF/Bu(2022)10 CDENF workplan
6.	Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation report of the previous Strategy (2016-2021) - Implementation tools for the new Strategy 	Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027) High-Level Launching Conference (Rome 7-8 April 2022) " Beyond the horizon: a new era for the rights of the child " CDENF(2021)PV03 Meeting report of the Plenary meeting dedicated to the Strategy review and approval
7.	Fifth CDENF Plenary meeting (4-6 July 2022)	CDENF(2022)OJ2prov Draft agenda of the 5 th Plenary meeting
8.	CDENF Subordinate bodies and groups: update on current activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Committee of Experts on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE) b) Working Group on responses to violence against children (CDENF-GT-VAE) c) Drafting Group on Developing a Guide to good practice concerning the participation of children in the decision-making process on matters regarding their health (BIO/ENF-CP) 	<i>Update by the Secretariat</i>
9.	PACE Recommendations: preparation of draft opinions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Rec 2025 (2022) "For an assessment of the means and provisions to combat children's exposure to pornographic content" b) Recommendation 2227(2022), "Deinstitutionalisation of persons with disabilities" 	Recommendation 2225(2022) Resolution 2429(2022) Recommendation 2227(2022) Resolution 2431(2022)

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- 10. CDENF Working methods**
Thematic mainstreaming and co-operation between Council of Europe intergovernmental Committees
- [Resolution CM/Res\(2021\)3](#)
[CDENF/Bu\(2022\)11](#)
Thematic mainstreaming and co-operation
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- 11. Upcoming events:**
- 31 May – 3 June 2022:** 1st CDBIO plenary meeting
31 May 2022: [Seminar on “Early intervention on intersex children - Promoting the Rights of the Child”](#) by CDBIO
1-3 June 2022: 98th CDCJ plenary meeting
10 June 2022: Thematic Exchange on “Child-friendly approaches and procedures in the area of migration” by the SRSG on Migration and Refugees in the framework of the [Network of focal points on migration](#)
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- 13. Date and place of next meetings**
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- 14. Approval of meeting report**
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APPENDIX II – List of participants

Bureau Members

Ms Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou (Chair)
Attorney at Law, Supreme Court of Greece

Ms Rosário Farmhouse (Vice-Chair)
President of the National Commission for the Promotion of the Rights and Protection of
Children and Young People, Portugal

Mr Joost van Haelst
Children's Rights Policy Officer
Department for Culture, Youth and Media
Flemish Government

Ms Ružica Boškić
Secretary,
Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Slovenia

Mr Alfredo Ferrante (excused)
Chief of Service
Department for Family Policies
Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers

DGII – Directorate General of Democracy – Children's Rights Division

Ms Regina Jensdottir
Children's Rights Co-ordinator, Head of the Children's Rights Division

Ms Katrin Uerpmann
Secretary to the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child
Programme Officer

Ms Maren Lambrecht-Feigl
Co-Secretary to the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child
Programme Officer

Ms Sylvie Bollini
Programme Adviser / Conseillère de programme

Ms Mireya García de Murcia
Assistant Lawyer

Ms Nadia Bouquet
Trainee