

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 19 June 2020

CDENF-GT-VAE(2020)OJ1rev

**STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD
(CDENF)**

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**WORKING GROUP ON RESPONSES TO VIOLENCE
AGAINST CHILDREN (CDENF-GT-VAE)**

First meeting by videoconference

23-24 June 2020, respectively from 10 to 13 am

REVISED AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

www.coe.int/en/web/children/cdenf-gt-vae

www.coe.int/cdenf

Draft agenda

1. Opening of the first meeting

Welcome to the first (online) meeting by the Secretariat

Opening by the Chairperson, Matthew Vella, Member of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF)

2. Adoption of the revised draft agenda

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3. Tour de table of experts and observers

4. Address by:

Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, Chairperson of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF)

5. CDENF activities under priority area 3 of the Strategy and planned under the CDENF terms of reference and workplan: priorities of the CDENF-GT-VAE

Information by the Secretariat

Discussion

Required action: The CDENF-GT-VAE should take note of its responsibilities in the framework of the CDENF and discuss the specific contribution it would make to the intergovernmental work in this area.

Working documents:

- [CDENF-GT-VAE\(2020\)01](#) – Deliverables for 2020-2021 and proposed workplan
- [Task list of the working Group on responses to violence against children \(CDENF-GT-VAE\)](#)
- [List of Members of the CDENF-GT-VAE](#)
- [CDENF terms of reference](#)

Background documents:

- [Report on the third priority area of the Council of Europe Strategy on the Rights of the Child \(2016-2021\): “A life free from violence for all children”](#)
- [Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child \(2016-2021\)](#)
- [Council of Europe Policy Guidelines on Integrated Strategies for the Protection of Children Against Violence](#)

6. Contribution to the development of non-binding instruments or tools containing guidance for member states

6.1 Systems for professionals to report violence against children

Presentations by:

- Professor Ben Mathews, Queensland University of Technology, QUT (AUS)
- Professor Mariëlle Bruning, Leiden University (NL)

Discussion

Required action: The CDENF-GT-VAE should consider the study and discussion paper presented by the experts, hold an in-depth exchange about key challenges in the relevant area and decide on follow-up action.

Working documents:

- [CDENF-GT-VAE\(2020\)02](#) – Study on Strengthening Mandatory Reporting of Child Sexual Abuse in Europe
- [CDENF-GT-VAE\(2020\)03](#) – Discussion paper on mandatory reporting of violence against children

6.2 Measures and interventions aimed at preventing peer violence and sexual abusive behaviour by children

Presentation by:

Tara Beattie, Programme Adviser, Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe
(on behalf of Professor Simon Hackett, University of Durham (UK) – excused)

Discussion

Required action: The CDENF-GT-VAE should consider the study presented by the expert, hold an in-depth exchange about key challenges in the relevant area and decide on follow-up action.

Working documents:

- [CDENF-GT-VAE\(2020\)04](#) – Study on Sexual violence and harmful sexual behaviour displayed by children
- [Link to the online presentation \(summary of the study\)](#)

7. Other tasks of the working group

- Supporting the review of progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), and notably SDG Target 16.2 to end all forms of violence against children;
- Supporting the implementation of CDENF activities in related areas, e.g. the rights of the child in the digital environment and child participation;
- Supporting the ongoing development of the “Clearinghouse on responses to violence against children”;
- Advising the CDENF on further priority actions to be developed to enhance the implementation of Council of Europe standards on the protection of children from violence;
- Supporting the organisation of a thematic exchange(s) on specific challenges of violence;
- Contributing to the preparation of proposals for elements to be included into a draft Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027).

Presentation by the Secretariat, including a presentation of the “Clearinghouse” on responses to violence against children and its dedicated resource centre

Discussion

Required action: The CDENF-GT-VAE should examine and discuss the implementation of its tasks, and further develop the related workplan and activities. With regard to the Clearinghouse, the working group is invited to give substantive guidance to the development of this new tool which shall be enriched and finalised over the summer to be launched in September 2020.

Working documents:

- [CDENF-GT-VAE\(2020\)01](#) – Deliverables for 2020-2021 and proposed workplan

8. The COVID-19 pandemic, the impact on children and their protection against violence, and possible actions to be considered by the working group

Presentation by the Secretariat

Discussion

Required action: The CDENF-GT-VAE should discuss the current situation and its implications for the protection against violence and consider substantive action that could be initiated and proposed to the CDENF

Working documents:

[CDENF-GT-VAE\(2020\)05](#) – COVID 19 and children's rights: Proposals for action to be supported by the VAE working group

9. Partnership and collaboration

Information by the Secretariat

Discussion

Required action: The CDENF-GT-VAE should consider any partners to be involved in its upcoming activities, both internally at Council of Europe level and externally amongst other international organisations, including those present as observers in the working group.

10. Dates envisaged for the next meetings of the working group in 2020

- 2nd meeting: 5-6 October 2020, Strasbourg (or virtual)
- 3rd meeting: 1-2 December 2020, Strasbourg (or virtual)

11. Any other business

DRAFT ORDER OF BUSINESS

Tuesday 23 June	10h-13h	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.1,
Wednesday 24 June	10h-13h	6.2 and 7, 8, 9, 10, 11