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ADI-INT (2022)3inf

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE INTERCULTURAL INTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS (ADI-INT)

A quick guide to ADI-INT terms of reference and working methods

The aim of this document is to provide the ADI-INT members with a simplified overview of the functioning and working methods of the Committee. It is recalled that Resolution [CM/Res\(2021\)3](#) on the working methods and procedures of intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies is the reference text in this field.

1. INTRODUCTION TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORK

What do the CDADI and the ADI-INT stand for?

Committees set up by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers are known by the French acronym of their full name.

CDADI stands for: Steering Committee (CD) on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (ADI).

ADI-INT stands for: Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (ADI) – Intercultural INTegration of migrants. ADI-INT full name is “Committee of Experts on the Intercultural Integration of Migrants”.

Which categories of Committees exist?

There are two categories of committees set up by the Committee of Ministers:

- a. steering committees with planning and steering functions such as CDADI, which are *directly answerable to the Committee of Ministers; and*
- b. subordinate bodies of steering committees, such as the ADI-INT Committee, with specific and limited tasks.

What are the expected tasks and deliverables of ADI-INT?

As per its [Terms of Reference](#), ADI-INT is instructed to deliver – within a 4-year period - the following expected outputs:

- A capacity-building programme and tools for migrant integration supporting the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)10 on multilevel policies and governance for intercultural integration at the national level;
- A feasibility study and possible new legal and/or benchmarking instrument on comprehensive strategies for inclusion

2. ADI-INT COMPOSITION

How is ADI-INT composed?

Unlike steering committees which gather all member states, committees that are subordinate bodies are usually composed of appointed representatives of only a limited number of member states and/or independent experts. The subordinate body further remains open to participation of representatives from other member states, however, at their own expense. ADI-INT has - in addition - the specificity of a multilevel membership, comprising 10 representatives of national authorities, 2 representatives of regional authorities, and 8 representatives of Intercultural Cities member municipalities. This multi-level composition is at the moment unique in the Council of Europe.

What is the role of the Chair?

Subordinate bodies shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair (by a two-thirds majority at the first ballot, a simple majority at the second ballot and the highest number of votes at the third ballot) to conduct

the proceedings, represent the Committee before the relevant Steering Committees and other institutions, as well as to take procedural decisions. For instance, the Chair may propose to hold a plenary meeting by videoconference. Moreover, the Chair acts as an honest broker in case of divergent opinions, with the view to seek compromise. The ADI-INT does not require the setting-up of a Bureau.

What is the role of ADI-INT members?

Whether elected as members by CDADI or appointed by member states to represent them in the Committee, ADI-INT members are selected based on their specialised knowledge in intercultural integration and diversity management. They are required to provide comprehensive information on the context and framework of the level of government they represent, share knowledge on the topics to be dealt with by the Committee, promote good practices and inform on innovative initiatives. They are also encouraged to regularly exchange and coordinate positions with other members of the subordinate body, the CDADI member of their country, but also to keep regularly informed their own capitals, hierarchies and – whenever appropriate – permanent representations of their countries before the Council of Europe.

Members further contribute to drafting working documents and or provide written comments or amendments prior to consideration in the plenary.

Finally, the ADI-INT can appoint a Gender Equality Rapporteur whose role will be to identify relevant gender equality issues within the activities of the ADI-INT and to make sure they are addressed within standard setting and policy-making activities. This role is also essential to ensure that everyone understands the need for gender mainstreaming and to provide the impetus needed for its appropriate and effective application.

3. MEETINGS AND WORKING METHODS

Who can participate in ADI-INT meetings?

ADI-INT meetings are held *in camera*. Convocation letters are sent to elected members and to Council of Europe member states (via their Permanent representations to the Council of Europe), as well as to “Participants” and “Observers”. Both Participants and Observers can attend ADI-INT meetings without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses.

The Terms of Reference of the ADI-INT provide participant and observer status to the following organisations:

PARTICIPANTS:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets:

- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- European Court of Human Rights;
- Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe;
- Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe;
- European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI);
- Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH);
- Steering Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG);
- Committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as appropriate.

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- European Union (one or more representatives, including, as appropriate, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA));
- Observer States to the Council of Europe: Canada, Holy See, Japan, Mexico, United States of America;
- Representatives of other international organisations, including Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), United Nations (including Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM); and other relevant UN agencies), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD);
- European Regional Authorities.

OBSERVERS:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- Non-member states with which the Council of Europe has a Neighbourhood Partnership including relevant co-operation activities.

In addition, observer status may be requested in accordance with Article 8 of Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

External experts including from international organisations, NGOs, research and academic institutions, specialists, specialist organisations and professional organisations may be invited to attend specific meetings or hearings, on an ad-hoc basis, whenever ADI-INT decides so for the purpose of the implementation of its Terms of Reference.

How are ADI-INT meetings convened and held?

The ADI-INT shall hold two meetings per year, in principle in person. These are convened under the authority of the Council of Europe Secretary General (i.e., by the ADI-INT Secretariat, in consultation with the ADI-INT Chair). Convocation letters are circulated at least six weeks before the proposed date to elected members, permanent representations of Council of Europe member states, participants and observers. Convocations shall include the draft agenda and a provisional list of working documents. The working documents shall be sent out twenty days before the meeting, in both official languages, i.e. English and French. The meetings will be held in English and French with simultaneous interpretation.

Which type of documents can ADI-INT prepare?

Within the scope of its terms of reference, the ADI-INT can prepare information and other documents, draft studies, draft handbooks, and draft Committee of Ministers Guidelines and Recommendations. The draft documents on which the ADI-INT agrees upon are submitted to the CDADI for consideration, information, adoption or – depending on their nature - with the view to being transmitted to the Committee of Ministers for information or adoption. This is for instance the case of draft CM/Recommendations.

The working documents are prepared by the Secretariat under the authority of the Chair and are based on the contributions of ADI-INT members. In specific circumstances, the ADI-INT can set up a dedicated drafting committee or working group. It can also have recourse to consultants for tasks that cannot be fulfilled by the members or the Secretariat.

What is a written procedure?

A written procedure is launched when the contribution of ADI-INT members is requested in between plenary meetings. This is for instance the case when ADI-INT is asked to provide opinions on texts of other subordinate or Council of Europe bodies and mechanisms or when – due to extraordinary reasons – consensus could not be reached during a plenary meeting. In these cases, the Secretariat, in consultation with and under the authority of the Chair, sends a proposal for written adoption to all ADI-INT members. In case of comments, an updated draft is prepared with a view to its adoption by all delegations in a second written procedure.

How can members and participants submit proposals?

Members, Participants and Observers are encouraged to put forward their proposals as early as possible in the discussions of the ADI-INT. In the course of those discussions and the adoption process, members can submit proposals (e.g., of amendments) in writing, in one of the official languages of the Council of Europe. In the intergovernmental committees of the Council of Europe, it is common practice to search for consensus solutions. Where a subordinate body is not able to reach such consensus, it shall make a majority recommendation and indicate the dissenting opinions. Votes can be taken only on procedural matters. In this case, proposals made by participants and observers may only be put to the vote if sponsored by a committee member. Such proposals must be put forward with sufficient time for the members with voting rights to properly assess them.

It should be noted that, as per the agreed working methods of the CDADI, the ADI-INT can decide to launch a public consultation with other relevant Council of Europe bodies, as well as external stakeholders, for instance following the provisional approval of draft CM instruments, as a way to collect advice from experts and beneficiaries.

Who can take part in elections and vote?

Only members of the ADI-INT (elected member or representatives of member states) can take part in elections and vote. If a government designates more than one member, only one of them will be entitled to take part in the election or vote. Elections and voting require the quorum of the two-third majority of the members.