

Strasbourg, 6 November 2014

DECS-ENF (2014) OJA1 rev 2

# Committee of Experts on the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (DECS - ENF) 1<sup>st</sup> meeting

#### **REVISED DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA**

Opening of the meeting: Thursday, 13 November 2014 (9.30 am)
Close of the meeting: Friday, 14 November 2014 (4.00 pm)

Council of Europe, Agora, Room G03, Strasbourg

The Committee of Experts on the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (DECS-ENF) was set up by the Committee of Ministers as a subordinate body to the European Committee for Social Cohesion, Human Dignity and Equality (CDDECS).

The Committee is entrusted with the preparation of a report on the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2012-2015 and the preparation of a draft Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2016-2019.

In so doing, the Committee is expected to build on the experience of the Council of Europe Network of National Focal Points on the Rights of the Child and to conduct a consultation with member States, international organisations, experts and NGOs with a view to fostering synergies and complementarity.

The expected results are:

- Take stock of the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2012-2015;
- Undertake consultation to assess needs and opportunities in the field of children's rights and advise on action to be taken by the Council of Europe in this area;
- Agree on a draft Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2016-2019 to be presented to the Committee of Ministers for adoption by 31 December 2015.

The Committee will have three meetings in total. The second meeting is foreseen to take place in spring, the third meeting in autumn 2015.

## 1. Opening of the meeting

### 2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business

**DECS-ENF(2014)OJA1 rev.2** – Draft annotated agenda **DECS-ENF(2014)OB1** – Draft order of business

## 3. Presentation of the participants

#### 4. Election of the Chair and the Vice-Chair

Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods

## 5. The Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2012-2015: Information by the Secretariat on the state of implementation

Text of the Strategy 2012-2015 Progress Report on the Strategy 2012-2015 Report of the Mid-Term Review Conference, Dubrovnik, 27-28 March 2014

The Council of Europe Coordinator on Children's Rights and members of the Intersecretariat Task Force on Children's Rights will inform the Committee about the state of implementation of the current Strategy within the following objectives:

- 1. promoting child-friendly services and systems;
- 2. eliminating all forms of violence against children;
- 3. guaranteeing the rights of children in vulnerable situations;
- 4. promoting child participation

#### 6. The Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2016 and beyond:

DECS-ENF(2014)2 – Information document and work plan
DECS-ENF(2014)3 – Analysis of the replies to a questionnaire to the
Network of Children's Rights Coordinators
Recommendation 2056(2014) of the Parliamentary Assembly on the alternatives
to immigration detention of children, and Committee of Ministers' decision
Recommendation 2044 (2014) of the Parliamentary Assembly on Ending child poverty in Europe
and reply by the Committee of Ministers

## a) Possible elements of the next Strategy

The mid-term conference on the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (Dubrovnik, 27-28 March 2014) provided a first opportunity for member States and other stakeholders to assess the implementation of the current Strategy and identify issues that the Council of Europe should focus on under its next Strategy. The wish was expressed that the Council of Europe place stronger focus on three particularly compelling issues: firstly, the consequences of the economic crisis on children, secondly, the risks and opportunities of children's use of new information and communication technologies and thirdly, the "hyper-sexualisation" of today's society.

Prior to the mid-term conference in Dubrovnik an informal survey was conducted to consult the member States (through the national coordinators for children's rights) to identify those issues that governments would like the Council of Europe to address as a matter of priority for the coming years. The responses from the Survey show that Internet and media related issues as well as the impact of the economic crisis are of major importance for member States.

Alongside these "new" areas on which the Council of Europe could place more emphasis, it was also underlined that the work being done within the existing strategic objectives continues to be of high relevance to member States and therefore needs to be continued.

Participants are invited to exchange views on which objectives of the current Strategy should be taken further and how possible "new" areas should be addressed in the next Strategy.

#### b) Process of developing the Strategy

The next Strategy shall be based on a broad input from different kinds of stakeholders. The participants are invited to discuss ways to obtain the views of NGOs, other international organisations and children throughout the process leading up to the new Strategy.

#### 7. Panel discussion on children's rights in the digital environment

**DECS-ENF(2014)4 rev 2** – Children and ICTs in the Council of Europe **CDMSI(2014)Misc10** – Protecting children's rights in the digital environment

One of the outcomes of the consultation with national coordinators on children's rights as well as the Dubrovnik conference was the wish that the Council of Europe focus more on the opportunities and challenges that come with children's use of the Internet and other new information and communication technologies.

Participants are invited to discuss how the Council of Europe could provide an added value in protecting children's rights in the digital environment.

To provide a basis for this discussion, international experts, representatives of selected Council of Europe bodies, other international organisations and NGOs and will be invited to share information with the Committee. Furthermore, participants will be asked to present national good practices that either (a) make use of the Internet in enhancing children's rights in specific areas or (b) respond to risks and challenges brought about by children's exposure to new information and communication technologies.

#### 8. Dates and places of the second and third meetings in 2015

#### 9. Other business

## 10. Closing of the meeting