

Strasbourg, 6 May 2015

DECS-ENF (2015) OJA1 rev3

# Committee of Experts on the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (DECS-ENF) 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting

#### **REVISED DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Opening of the meeting: Tuesday 12 May 2015 (9.30 am) Close of the meeting: Wednesday 13 May 2015 (6.00 pm)

Council of Europe, Agora, Room G01, Strasbourg

#### DAY 1

- 9.30 **1.** Opening of the meeting by Ms Marja Ruotanen, Director of Human Dignity and Equality
  - 2. Adoption of the agenda, order of business and report of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting

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- 9.45 **3.** Presentation of elements of the draft progress report on the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2012-2015

The Secretariat is preparing a progress report on the implementation of the current Strategy. The report is based on the replies by member States on the questionnaire as well as the Secretariat's own sources of information. Once approved by the DECS-ENF and the Steering Committee on Social Cohesion, Human Dignity and Equality (CDDECS) in autumn, the report will be presented to the Committee of Ministers together with the draft Strategy in early 2016.

⇒ The Committee is invited to <u>provide comments</u> on the Secretariat's presentation of the draft progress report.

## 10.30 4. Draft Strategy for the Rights of the Child

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## 10.45 **4.1. Discussion of the draft Strategy**

The Secretariat has prepared a draft Strategy for the Rights of the Child based on the replies to the questionnaires from member States, ombudspersons for children, NGOs and other international organisations as well as the study "Challenges to children's rights today: What do children think?". It is proposed to discuss the draft Strategy chapter by chapter, each introduced by statements by key experts in the respective fields.

The discussion will be preceded by presentations of the key results of the questionnaires and of the study "Challenges to children's rights today: What do children think?".

- ⇒ The Committee is invited to <u>take note</u> of the presentations, discuss the draft Strategy for the Rights of the Child prepared by the Secretariat and <u>decide</u> on any modification to be inserted by the Secretariat for consideration at the next meeting.
- **4.1.1.** Replies to the questionnaires by member States, NGOs and Ombudspersons for Children (Presentation by the Secretariat)

11.00-11.30 *COFFEE BREAK* 

- 11.30 **4.1.2.** Presentation of the report "Challenges to children's rights today: what do children think?"
  - Ms Mieke Schuurman, independent consultant
  - 4.1.3. Conclusions of the European Conference on the "Best Interests of the Child", Brussels, 9-10 December 2014
- 11.45 **4.1.4.** Presentation of the draft Strategy and general discussion about the document

#### LUNCH BREAK

(Reception offered by the Council of Europe)

14.30

14.00: Opening of the exhibition "Austerity Bites" by Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and Mr Tam Baillie, Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People and Chair of the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC)

## 14.30 4.1.5. Current challenges to children's rights in Europe: The case law of the European Court of Human Rights

- Ms Ksenija Turković, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights

## 15.00 **4.1.6.** Equal opportunities for all children

- Ms Maria Herczog, President of Eurochild, former member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Ms Eliane Chemla, Member of the European Committee on Social Rights (ECSR)

16.00 -

16.30

#### **COFFEE BREAK**

- Ms Yekaterina Chzhen, UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti Florence, and Ms Michaela Bauer, UNICEF CEE/CIS Brussels Office
- Mr Martin Martinek, Rapporter on Roma Children of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on Roma Issues (CAHROM)
- 17.15 Discussion of the chapter "Equal opportunities for all children"
- 18.00 End of the working day

### DAY 2

## 9.00 **4.1.7. Participation of children**

- Mr Tam Baillie, Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People
- Ms Anniki Lai, Estonia, member of the DECS-ENF, presenting the Estonian experience in piloting the CoE Child Participation Assessment Tool

Discussion of the chapter "Participation for all children"

11.00 -

11.30

COFFEE BREAK

## 11.30 **4.1.8.** No violence against children

- Ms Marta Santos Pais, UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children
- Ms Ina Verzivolli, Albania, member of the Lanzarote Committee
- Mr Peter Newell, Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children

Discussion of the chapter "A life free from violence for all children"

13.00 **–** 14.30

LUNCH BREAK

#### 14.30 **4.1.9.** Justice for children

- Ms Ursula Kilkelly, professor of law, School of Law at University College Cork

Discussion of the chapter "Access to justice for all children"

## 15.30 **4.1.10** Implementation of standards

Discussion of the chapter "Making the standards work for children"

16.00 **–** 16.30

COFFEE BREAK

#### 16.30 **4.1.10. Co-operation and working methods**

Discussion of the chapter "Involving all relevant stakeholders".

#### 17.00 **4.2.** Duration of the Strategy

Initially, the four-year period of 2016 – 2019 was foreseen for the next Strategy. The Secretariat proposes that the DECS-ENF considers an extension of this duration to 6 years, i.e. to 2021.

The past months have shown that considerable resources are taken up both in member States and in the Secretariat for the preparation of a new Strategy. At the same time, the objectives proposed by stakeholders for the new Strategy are rather ambitious and risk to be challenging to implement in only four years. The consultation also showed a great extent of continuity in the children's rights issues the Council of Europe is asked to address. As the Council of Europe works in two-year budgetary cycles, a possibility could be to extend the initially foreseen period by another budgetary cycle, i.e. to 2021. This period could be split up into 2 phases with a midterm evaluation and possibility for re-adjustments after the initial three years period.

⇒ The Committee is invited to <u>decide</u> on extending the duration of the new Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child from four to six years.

## 17.15 **5. Third meeting of the DECS-ENF**

It is proposed that the 3rd and last meeting of the DECS-ENF be held on 20-21 October 2015 in Strasbourg together with the Network of National Co-ordinators on Children's Rights.

⇒ The Committee is invited to decide on the date and place of the next meeting and suggest possible themes to be discussed.

## 17.30 **6. Adoption of the abridged meeting report**

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 $\Rightarrow$  The Committee is invited to adopt the abridged report of the meeting.

## 17.45 **7. Other business**

## 18.00 **8. Closing of the meeting**