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7 December 2016

To the members of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Revised synopsis of the meeting held in Florence from 30 November to 1st December 2016

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Florence with Ms Sílvia Eloisa Bonet (Andorra, SOC), first Vice-Chairperson, and (for the item “Drafting social indicators and issuing an annual report on social rights / The “Turin process” for the European Social Charter”)

Mr Ögmundur Jónasson (Iceland, UEL), second Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

- **Wednesday, 30 November 2016**, as regards:
 - **Issues related to children’s rights and to current reports of the Committee:** heard statements by Ms Sarah Cook, Director, on the Research for Children at UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti, and Ms Alessandra Maggi, President of the *Istituto degli Innocenti*, and held an exchange of views with:
 - ✓ Ms Abir Abi-Khalil, Child Protection Specialist, on drivers of violence affecting children;
 - ✓ Ms Jasmina Byrne, Child Protection Specialist and Mr Daniel Kardefelt Winther, Child Protection Consultant, on children’s use of the internet - risks and opportunities;
 - ✓ Mr Dominic Richardson, Senior Education Specialist, on the Innocenti Report Card on child wellbeing in EU / OECD countries;
 - **Protecting children and young people affected by armed conflicts** (*Rapporteur: Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva, Azerbaijan, EC*): considered an introductory memorandum and agreed to change the title to “Protecting children affected by armed conflicts”;
 - **Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter:** heard a report by the Sub-Committee Chairperson on its meeting held in Paris on 28 October 2016, hosting the Parliamentary Seminar on “The right of children and young people to social, legal and economic protection”;
 - **Genetically engineered human beings** (*Rapporteur: Ms Petra De Sutter, Belgium, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report and agreed to change the title to “The use of new genetic technologies in human beings”;
 - **A European social commitment guaranteeing the rights of older people and their comprehensive care** (*Rapporteur: Lord George Foulkes, United Kingdom, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report and agreed to change the French title to “Garantir les droits des personnes âgées et leur prise en charge intégrale : un engagement social européen”;
 - **Committee’s work programme:**
 - *Addressing forced marriage: legal provisions and promising practices:* appointed Ms Maryvonne Blondin (France, SOC) rapporteur (*for opinion*)

and heard from her a declaration on the absence of a conflict of interests, as well as from Lord John Prescott as regards the report “Climate change and implementation of the Paris Agreement” for which he had been appointed rapporteur at a previous meeting;

- *The Charter of Milan: food as a fundamental human right*: took note of this motion which had been sent to it for information and decided to come back to the question at one of its next meetings;
- *Recommendation 2091 (2016) “The case against a Council of Europe legal instrument on involuntary measures in psychiatry”*: postponed the consideration of the reply of the Committee of Ministers to one of its next meetings in the absence of the Rapporteur;
- *heard reports from Committee representatives to external events as follows*:
 - 31st Session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, 19-21 October 2016, Strasbourg: Mr Luís Leite Ramos (Portugal, EPP/CD) in his capacity as General Rapporteur on Local and Regional Authorities;
 - Seminar on “Parliaments and Technology Assessment Capabilities” hosted by the Austrian Parliament and organised by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Vienna, Austria, 20 October 2016: Mr Ögmundur Jónasson (Iceland, UEL);
 - The United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 22), 7-18 November 2016, Marrakesh, Morocco, including a parliamentary meeting on 13 November 2016: Lord John Prescott (United Kingdom, SOC) and Mr Geraint Davies (UK, SOC);
 - Conference “Protecting children from violence: next steps for effective strategies”, on 9-11 November 2016, co-organised by the Council of Europe and Wilton Park, executive agency of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK: Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC), General Rapporteur on Children and Baroness Doreen Massey (United Kingdom, SOC);
 - Plenary Meeting of the LVI COSAC (Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of the European Union Parliaments), 13-15 November 2016, Bratislava, Slovak Republic: Ms Sílvia Eloísa Bonet (Andorra, SOC);
 - European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG), 14-15 November 2016, Strasbourg: Mr Luís Leite Ramos (Portugal, EPP/CD) in his capacity as General Rapporteur on Local and Regional Authorities;
 - International Conference on “International treaties, social state and autonomous communities”, 18 November 2016, Valencia, Spain: Ms Sílvia Eloísa Bonet (Andorra, SOC);
 - 16th meeting of the Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (“Lanzarote Committee”), 22-25 November 2016, INTERPOL headquarters, Lyon, France: Ms Gabriela Pecková (Czech Republic, EPP/CD);
- ***Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and its implications for social rights, public health and sustainable development*** (Rapporteur: Mr Geraint Davies, United Kingdom, SOC): considered a draft report, agreed to change the title of the report to “‘New generation’ trade agreements and their implications for social rights, public health and sustainable development”, and unanimously adopted a draft resolution as amended, with a view to presenting the report for debate in the Assembly during the first part-session 2017;
- ***Reinforcing social dialogue as an instrument for stability and decreasing social and economic inequalities*** (Rapporteur: Mr Ögmundur Jónasson, Iceland, UEL): considered a draft report and unanimously (with one abstention) adopted a draft resolution, with a view to presenting the report for debate in the Assembly during the first part-session 2017;
- ***The need for a citizenship income*** (Rapporteur: Ms Nunzia Catalfo, Italy, NR): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on her fact-finding visit to Finland;

- **Drafting social indicators and issuing an annual report on social rights / The “Turin process” for the European Social Charter** (*Rapporteur: Ms Sílvia Eloïsa Bonet, Andorra, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum, agreed to change the title to “The ‘Turin process’: reinforcing social rights in Europe” and held an exchange of views with Mr Michele Nicoletti, Chairperson of the Italian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly and General Rapporteur of the High-Level Conference on the European Social Charter (Turin, 17-18 October 2014);

- **Other business:**

- agreed to submit to the Bureau a request for an extension of the reference for the two following reports until 30 June 2017:

- ✓ Parental authority conflicts (*Rapporteur: Ms Martine Mergen, Luxembourg, EPP/CD*)
- ✓ The need for a citizenship income (*Rapporteur: Ms Nunzia Catalfo, Italy, NR*)

- accepted an invitation from the Parliament of Azerbaijan, to hold a meeting in Baku (Azerbaijan) from 31 May to 2 June 2017, including a plenary meeting, a parliamentary seminar on children’s rights, and a national seminar on the European Social Charter (*subject to authorisation by the Bureau*);

- **on Thursday, 1st of December 2016:**

27th meeting of the Network of contact parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children on “Sexual violence against children in the digital environment and other challenges”

- held an exchange of views with Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dracconi, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, on the recent activities of the Council of Europe to stop sexual violence against children;

- heard a thematic introduction by:

- ✓ Ms Jasmina Byrne, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti;
- ✓ Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva, General Rapporteur on Children of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- ✓ Mr Johan van den Hout, Spokesperson on Children of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;

- held exchanges of views as follows:

on “Identification of current trends in child sexual exploitation and abuse linked to the use of information and communication technologies”

- ✓ Mr Claude Janizzi, Chairperson of the Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection of children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Committee);
- ✓ Ms Cécile Diot, Criminal Intelligence Officer, INTERPOL ;
- ✓ Ms Jasmina Byrne, Child Protection Specialist, and Mr Daniel Kardefelt Winther, Child Protection Consultant, UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti;

on “Equipping and empowering children to prevent, stop and survive on-line sexual violence”

- ✓ Dr Elena Martellozzo, Criminologist; specialist in sex offenders' use of the internet and online child safety, Middlesex University of London, United Kingdom;
- ✓ Ms Elena Pompò, Senior Official of the Post and Communications Police of the Tuscany region, and Mr Gianluca Massetini, Engineer, Technical Director, State Police, Italy;
- ✓ Ms Mechtild Maurer, General Director of ECPAT Germany;

- held a roundtable on the achievements of the Network and future challenges, and adopted a declaration (appended);

– ***Date and place of next meetings:***

- First part-session 2017 of the Assembly, 23-27 January 2017, Strasbourg;
- Friday, 24 March 2017, Paris, Council of Europe Office;
- Second part-session 2017 of the Assembly, 24-28 April 2017, Strasbourg;
- Wednesday 31 May 2017, Sub-Committee on Children and parliamentary seminar on children's rights, Baku, Azerbaijan (*subject to authorisation by the Bureau*);
- Thursday, 1 June 2017, Plenary meeting, Baku, Azerbaijan (*subject to authorisation by the Bureau*);
- Tuesday, 19 September 2017, Council of Europe Office (*date to be confirmed*);
- Wednesday, 6 December 2017, Council of Europe Office (*date to be confirmed*).

T. Kleinsorge, A. Ramanauskaite, M. Lambrecht-Feigl, A. Elveriş, R. Mallaina, J. Devaux

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Director and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

Appendix

Florence declaration, 1 December 2016

Adopted by the **Network of Contact Parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children of the Parliamentary Assembly**

We, the members of the Network, convened at our 27th and final meeting held at the UNICEF Office of Research *Innocenti* in Florence (Italy), on the theme of “sexual violence against children in the digital environment”,

- i) Aware of the continuous need to support children who have been victims of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, to prevent any form of sexual violence against children - which we consider as the most serious violation of children’s human rights - to prosecute the perpetrators, and establish effective policies and take appropriate action;
- ii) Aware of the fact that the digital environment, including social media, and their active use by children, make it easier for offenders to reach out to children and create ever new forms of abuse of children which are difficult to tackle (grooming, child abuse images, etc.);
- iii) Upholding the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (“Lanzarote Convention”) as the most comprehensive legal instrument in this field worldwide, and recommending that not only all Council of Europe member States, but all countries in the world sign, ratify and implement it;

Undertake to:

- iv) Promote sound legislative frameworks, based on the Lanzarote Convention, in our respective countries, to outlaw any form of sexual violence against children - including in the digital environment - and improve the collection of specific data to allow for the development of targeted policies with a victim-centred approach;
- v) Ensure that parents, families and professionals working with children receive support in providing positive education empowering children against sexual violence, including in the digital environment, thus enhancing their physical and psychological wellbeing;
- vi) Continue to promote the aims and values of the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to combat sexual violence against children (2011-2015) at local, national, and international level;
- vii) Promote multi-stakeholder co-operation involving public authorities at various levels, law enforcement agencies, industry and civil society organisations;
- viii) In our respective parliaments and constituencies, initiate or contribute to specific and thematic awareness-raising and prevention activities, including every year on 18 November, to mark the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse;
- ix) Take initiatives within our respective parliaments to ensure that national budgets provide for the funding of relevant activities, including voluntary contributions to the new Assembly project “Promoting European and international standards through parliamentary action – parliaments and social rights” (2017-2021);
- x) In all these undertakings, continue to promote an open debate on the protection of children against sexual violence and the imperative to support victims, overcoming persisting taboos and avoiding the stigmatisation of survivors.