EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
Committee on Culture and Education
Subcommittee on Human Rights
Committee on Development
Committee on Legal Affairs

JOINT HEARING:
TOWARDS AN EU STRATEGY
ON
THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Tuesday 17 April 2007
09:00 – 12:30 and 15:00 – 18:30
Hemicycle
Paul Henri Spaak Building (PHS)
Brussels
9:00 - 10:00  OPENING

Introductory statements by:

Mr Jean-Marie Cavada, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
Ms Anna Záborská, Chair of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
Ms Roberta Angelilli, Rapporteur of the lead Committee (LIBE), European Parliament
Representative of the German Presidency (tbc)
Ms Verena Taylor, Representative of the Council of Europe, Presentation of the work of the Council of Europe in the field of Children's Rights
Ms Marta Santos Pais, Director of the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre: The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs): a Universal Child Rights Framework

10:00 - 12:30  Part I: CHILDREN'S RIGHTS: SOME KEY ISSUES

Chair: Ms Angelilli, Ms Kinnock, Ms Gröner, Mr López-Istúriz

10:00-10:15  Mainstreaming Children Rights in the EU, Ms Mieke Schuurman, EURONET
10:15-10:30  An EU Strategy on children in External relations, Ms Lieve Fransen, Head of Unit, DG Development, European Commission
10:30-10:50  Debate

With the participation of children:

10:50-11:10  Implementing Children's participation in the EU: Results of the consultation based on the child friendly version of the Communication on the Strategy on the Rights of the Child in EU Member States, Ms Olivia Lind Haldorsson, Save the Children
11:10-11:30  Implementing Children's participation outside the EU: Results of the external consultation based on the child friendly version of the Communication on the Strategy on the Rights of the Child, Ms Deepali Sood, Plan Europe
11:30-11:50  Debate

11:50-12:05  The European legal regime regarding parental abduction of children: the loopholes of the current system, Ms Anne-Marie Hutchinson, Head of the Children Department, Dawson & Cornwell, United Kingdom
12:05-12:30 Debate

15:00 - 16:30 Part II: CHILDREN AND VIOLENCE
In the presence of EC Vice-President FRATTINI

Chair: Ms Angelilli, Ms Panayotopoulos

15:00-15:15 Opening Statement by Vice-President Frattini

15:15-15:30 Presentation of the UN Study on Violence against children, Professor Paulo Pinhero, UN independent expert

15:30-15:45 Presentation of the Thematic Report on the Rights of the child, Professor Maja Eriksson, Member of the former Network of Experts on Fundamental Rights

15:45-16:00 Special needs and vulnerabilities of a girl child, Ms Christa Stolle, Secretary General for the NGO "Terre des Femmes"

16:00-16:05 Prevention of infanticide and assistance to mothers at risk, Ms Erminia Cozza, Legal advisor of "Civil rights in 2000 - Saving babies and mothers"

16:05-16:30 Debate

16:30 - 17:30 Part III: CHILDREN AT RISK

Chair: Ms Angelilli, Ms Belohorská, Ms Panayotopoulos, M. López-Istúriz

16:30-16:40 Children refugees and asylum seeking children, Ms Judith Kumin, UNHCR

16:40-16:50 The problem of birth registration, Ms Marta Santos Pais, Director of the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre

16:50-17:00 Abandoned children, Mr Jozef Miklosko, President of the Society of Friends of Children from Children's Homes

17:00-17:10 The example of the hotline for children at risk in Spain, Mr Luis Estebanaz Prieto, Anar Foundation (Ayuda a Niños y Adolescentes en Riesgo)

17:10-17:30 Debate

17:30 - 18:30 Part IV: CHILDREN AND POVERTY

Chair: Ms Angelilli, Mr Papadimoulis, Ms Gröner

17:30-17:45 Child poverty and social inclusion: Presentation of a review of 23 national reports on social inclusion, Jana Hainsworth, Eurochild

17:45-18:00 Children's Economic Rights, Ms Jeroo Billimoria, Executive Director of Aflatoun, Child Savings International (10-15 min.)

18:00-18:30 Debate and concluding remarks
ANNEX

GUIDELINES FOR THE DEBATE

Speaking time will be limited to two minutes per person or per question. Speakers will be given the floor in the order in which requests to speak are received.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND:

The seminar is open to the public. However, for security reasons, participants who do not have a badge giving access to the European Parliament must apply in advance. To obtain this badge, please send an e-mail to the seminar secretariat (Mr De Groot) before 18:00 hours on 11 April 2007 indicating your name, address and date of birth. The Security Service will not issue a badge without this information. Badges can be picked up as from 08:30 hours on 17 April 2007 at the PHS entrance of the European Parliament.

Simultaneous interpretation will be available in the following languages: DE-EL-EN-ES-FR-HU-IT-NL-PL-PT-RO-SV-BG-DA-LV-SI-SV-CS-ET-LT-MT

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