



CD/RES. 11 (91-R/16)

## SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, SMUGGLING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN CHILDREN

(Adopted at the Fourth Plenary Session, held on October 28, 2016)

### THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

#### RECALLING:

That 2016 marks the twentieth anniversary of the First World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Stockholm, 1996); a fundamental milestone in the history of the development of and approach to this problem;

That the Stockholm Declaration and Agenda for Action against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, which arose from that Congress (widely known as “The Stockholm Declaration”), *calls for action from States, all sectors of society, and national, regional, and international organisations, against the commercial sexual exploitation of children*”, by defining lines of action that are still in force: coordination and cooperation; prevention; protection; recovery and reintegration; and child participation;

#### WHEREAS:

Sexual exploitation, and the smuggling of and trafficking in children constitute a serious violation of their rights;

There have been developments in the Member States over these twenty years: approaching the issue from a perspective of rights, updating regulatory frameworks (including the criminalization of the legal concept of “client-exploiter”), designing public policies for prevention, establishing services for the care, restitution and reintegration of child victims;

New forms and scenarios have emerged for the sexual exploitation, smuggling and trafficking in children (particularly in the context of travel and tourism, and the Internet and cyberspace), which require a constant updating on the part of the Member States, in order to effectively prevent and eradicate these violations;



## BEARING IN MIND:

The resolutions related to the “Prevention and Eradication of Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children”, adopted annually by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which mandate the Inter-American Children’s Institute to promote actions in this area;

The *Inter-American Programme for the Prevention and Eradication of Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children*, of the Inter-American Children’s Institute, which is organized into three areas of work: 1) Compiling and synthesizing meaningful and updated SEC-related information, with particular emphasis on material produced in the region, and placing it at the disposal of States, organizations and other interested parties; 2) Producing knowledge and tools to boost the States’ capacity to address the sexual exploitation of children; and 3) Training human resources and providing technical assistance to State parties;

Resolution AG/RES. 2883 (XLVI-O/16) *Inter-American Programme for the Promotion and Protection of the Human Rights of Migrants, including Migrant Workers and their Families*, adopted at the 46th Regular Session of the General Assembly (Dominican Republic, 2016), in which the IIN is included as one of the programme’s actors, suggesting as a specific activity that it should “*Include in its programmes and activities consideration of protection and reintegration of child and adolescent victims of trafficking in persons*”;

The *Unified Resolution on the Twenty-First Pan American Child Congress. “Childhood and Adolescence: Building Peaceful Environments”* (CPNNA/RES 1 (XXI-14)), adopted at the 21st Pan American Child Congress (Brazil, 2014), which urges States “[...] to prioritize actions against sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, in all its manifestations [...]”, as well as to “*strengthen regional and national mechanisms to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially children and adolescents, [...]*”;

The recommendations of the 2nd Pan American Child Forum (Brazil, 2014) regarding the fact that, “*...institutions should provide specialized services in education, health, protection and justice, with qualified staff to handle registration, and swift and efficient care for victims. The States should continue to ensure that services exist to deal with the reinsertion of victims and their families in society.*”;

## ALSO CONSIDERING:

That despite progress made, sexual exploitation, smuggling and trafficking in children continue to affect the Member States of the region, making it necessary to remind States of the international commitments and continue implementing policies to combat these criminal offences, as well as to cater to and restore the rights of children who are victims,

## RESOLVES:

1. To invite Member States to strengthen their commitment to the protection of children against violence, especially sexual exploitation, smuggling and trafficking, and to the eradication of these acts, taking into account the gender perspective. It includes the prevention of crime of sexual exploitation, smuggling and trafficking; the enforcement of laws, prosecution of offenders, and assisting victims in need, among others.



## 91<sup>a</sup> IIN OEA/OAS

Reunión Ordinaria del Consejo Directivo del Instituto Interamericano del Niño, la Niña y Adolescentes

Santiago, Chile

27 y 28 de Octubre de 2016



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2. To reaffirm the currency of the Inter-American Cooperation Programme for the Prevention and Eradication of Sexual Exploitation, and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children.
3. To promote both from the IIN and from the States the incorporation of new stakeholders, from both the public and the private sectors in the fight against sexual exploitation, smuggling and trafficking. Among these: personnel associated with travel and tourism (migration, travel agencies, hotels, etc.), personnel involved in communications (ministries of telecommunications, data protection agencies, technological industry representatives), institutions linked to work and employment, the education system and community based organizations (parish organizations, neighbourhood organizations).
4. To entrust the IIN with the production of knowledge and tools for the protection and reintegration of children and adolescents who are victims of trafficking in persons consistent with international legal instruments, as well as to compile successful experiences which have been developed by the Member States so that they may be disseminated in the region.
5. To instruct the IIN to promote the organization of discussions and working agreements with the United Nations system and civil society organizations involved in these issues.