



FINAL AGENDA

ADDRESSING THE PROTECTION GAP FOR UNACCOMPANIED AND SEPARATED CHILDREN IN THE EU: ROLE OF THE STOCKHOLM PROGRAMME

Brussels, September 15, 2009

**At the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the EU
Square de Meeûs, 30, 1000 Brussels**

8.30 REGISTRATION

9.00 – 13.00 MORNING SESSION

Introduction to the day

Chair: Terry Smith

First Session: How to address the situation and child protection concerns of unaccompanied and separated children

- Committee on the Rights of the Child: General Comment No 6 on the rights of separated and unaccompanied children outside their country of origin - *Lothar Krappmann, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child*
- Save the Children: Addressing the Protection Gap for Unaccompanied and Separated children in the EU – the role of the Stockholm Programme – *Elisabeth Dahlin, Secretary General, Save the Children Sweden*
- Swedish Presidency: The Situation, Challenges and Developments – *Mikael Ribbenvik, Director of Legal Affairs, Swedish Migration Board*

Second Session: Perspectives from the refugee and anti-trafficking regimes: the need for horizontal measures applying to all unaccompanied and separated children

- Current and evolving EU measures as regards unaccompanied and separated children – *Diane Schmitt, Head of Immigration and Integration Unit, DG JLS, European Commission*
- Asylum seeking separated children – *Judith Kumin, UNHCR's Regional Representative in Brussels*
- Trafficked children who are unaccompanied and separated – *Lena Karlsson, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre*

COFFEE BREAK 11.00 – 11.20 followed by

First hand perspective from a young person who came to Europe as a separated child

Zaina Karekezi

Panel Session: Key Issues for Separated Children: Good Policies and Practices

Introduction to key issues confronted by separated children in the EU, followed by a short presentation from panelists including:

*Tin Verstegen, the Director of Nidos,
Simone Troller, Human Rights Watch,
Olivier Geissler, International Social Services*

with a discussion on good practices and policies at EU and national level as regards:

- Interim care and assistance;
- Procedural guarantees;
- Finding best interest solutions for children, including returns, integration into the host country, transfer to a third country

LUNCH 13.00 – 14.15

AFTERNOON SESSION 14.15 – 16.30

The Situation of Unaccompanied and Separated Children: Some National Perspectives

Discussants from Member States governments and organizations, including:

Spain: Maria Joaquina Larraz (Ministry of Labour and Immigration)

Belgium: Bernard Georis (Ministry of Justice) and Sven Van Loos (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

The UK: Sir Al Aynsley-Green, the Children's Commissioner for England

Italy: Claudio Tesauro, President of Save the Children Italy

Panel Session: EU and regional initiatives, tools and measures in the field

Panelists to include *Jean Lambert MEP, Anna Zito (European Commission Child Rights Coordinator), María Amor Martín Estébanez (the Fundamental Rights Agency), Humbert de Biolley (the Council of Europe Liaison Office with the EU)*

Conclusions and recommendations to the EU and Member States

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