



OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN



International Expert Consultation

Violence against children on the move: from a continuum of violence to a continuum of protection

Universidad Iberoamericana, México City, June 27 and 28, 2017

Organized by: The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC) and the Human Rights Program of the Universidad Iberoamericana (Mexico)

In close collaboration with: The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and; the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

PROGRAM (Draft 08 June 2017/TBC)

Tuesday, June 27

09.00 - 10.00 Inauguration and introduction

- Rector Universidad Iberoamericana
- Rep. UNHCR
- Rep. OHCHR
- Rep. UNICEF
- Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children: *The Human Rights Framework and Violence as a continuum: Causes and characteristics of violence against children on the move in countries of origin, transit and destination*

10.00 - 11.45 Panel 1: Legislative and policy developments to effectively prevent and respond to violence against children, including the distinctive needs and rights of refugee and migrant children

- Rep. CRC
- Ricardo Bucio, System for the Protection of Children, Mexico
- Fundamental Rights Agency, European Union (FRA)

- Institute of Public Policies on Human Rights (IPPDH) of MERCOSUR
- Alejandro Morlachetti, UN Consultant

11.45 – 12.00 Coffee

12.00 - 13.15 Panel 2: Ensuring children's protection at borders and during reception: child- and gender sensitive identification, assessment of protection needs and assistance

- *Child-friendly information and interview*
- *Safeguards for age assessments and guardianship*
- *Special protection measures for unaccompanied and separated children*

- Pablo Ceriani, Vice-Chairman CMW
- Luis Ernesto Vargas OAS Rapporteur on Migrants
- European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)
- Council of Europe
- UNICEF
- UNHCR
- Diego Lorente Pérez de Eulate / Fray Matías de Córdova Human Rights Center

13.15 - 14.45 Lunch

14.45 - 16.15 Panel 3: Responsibilities of state institutions; the role of professional groups and actors in creating an integrated and child-centered protective environment for children on the move, especially refugee and migrant children in transit and destination countries; the role of national independent monitoring

- *Development of relevant instruments, protocols and capacities*
- *Cooperation and coordination between different sectors and actors*

- Representative Association of Pediatricians
- Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
- ENOC Representative (e.g. Sweden, Greece)
- Juan Martín Pérez García, Executive Secretary of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for the Defense of the Rights of Children and Adolescents (REDLAMCYC)
- Human Rights Program, Universidad Iberoamericana Mexico City

16.15 - 16.30 Coffee

16.30 - 18.15 Panel 4: Care, recovery, safe and secure accommodation

- *Community- and family based alternatives to detention of refugee and migrant children*
- *Preventing re-victimization, disappearances and re-trafficking*
- *Periodic review of placement and independent monitoring*

- Prof. Manfred Nowak, Independent Expert for the Development of the Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty
- Vanessa Martinez, International Detention Coalition (IDC)
- Council of Europe – the role of GRETA in preventing and addressing the risk of child’s disappearances and trafficking
- Sister María Magdalena Silva, Casa de Acogida y Formación para Mujeres y Familias Migrantes (CAFEMIN)

18.15 Closing of the day

* Possible public conference with SRSB-VAC, Universidad Iberoamericana and key participants

Wednesday 28 June

09.00 - 10.30 Panel 5: Responding to violence against children on the move, especially refugee and migrant children

- Child and gender sensitive counselling, reporting and complaints mechanisms, including effective remedies to address incidents of violence against children. Due process and legal representation.

- Denise Gilman, Co-Director of the Immigration Clinic and Clinical Professor of Law, University of Texas at Austin
- Representative of the European Network of Ombudsperson for Children (ENOC)
- Representative of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)
- Child Helpline International
- Elba Y. Coria Márquez – “Alaíde Foppa” Refugee Law Clinic, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City
- Romina Sijniensky- Senior Lawyer Inter-American Human Rights Court.

10.30 - 10.45 Coffee

10.45 - 12.15 Panel 6: Durable solutions in the best interest of the child

- Family tracing and reunification
- The principle of non-refoulement through a child protection perspective
- Cross-border cooperation and consolidation of information and data systems on children on the move in countries of transit and destination

- UNHCR
- Marist Foundation for International Solidarity (FMSI)
- Nadia Garrido, Director LAAM Programs and Advocacy, SOS Villages
- UNICEF
- Arturo González, Jesuit Service of Migrants, México (SJM)
- Observatorio de Derechos Humanos de Casa Alianza Honduras

12.15 - 13.00 Conclusions and final recommendations