Expert meeting on the legal framework required to prohibit, prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children

6-7 July 2011

Inter-Parliamentary Union
5, Chemin du Pommier
Grand Saconnex, Genève

6 July 2011

8:45 - 9:00  Registration of participants

9:00– 9:10  **Welcoming statements**

Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Bacre Waly Ndiaye, Director of the Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

9:15–10:00  **Setting the scene; i) objectives of the meeting; ii) the international legal framework and the comprehensive prohibition of violence against children**

*Moderator: Bacre Waly Ndiaye, Director, Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights*

Ensuring legal protection for children from violence, Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children

Overall progress, opportunities and challenges, Peter Newell, International NGO Advisory Council for follow-up to the UNSG’s Study on Violence against Children

Reflections and discussion

10:00–10:45  **Session 2 – Legal reform on violence against children in different settings**
Opportunities and Challenges in developing appropriate legal frameworks to prevent and address FGM; lessons learned to address other harmful traditional practices, Moushira Khattab, International Expert on Children Rights, Former Vice-Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child

Reflections and discussion

10:45-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-11:45 Session 2 – Legal reform on violence against children in different settings (cont)

Legal protection of children from enforced or involuntary disappearances, Jeremy Sarkin, Chair of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances.

Legal mechanisms for prevention of violence, Hatem Kotrane, Expert, Member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child

The Role of Independent Institutions in Law Reform, Vanessa Sedletzki, Child Rights Specialist, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre

Reflections and discussion

11:45-12:30 Session 2 – Legal reform on violence against children in different settings (cont)

International Standards and Norms on Juvenile Justice and law reform, Alexandra Martins, Crime Prevention Officer, UNODC

Law reform to challenge violence against children in different settings, including the juvenile justice system, drawing on the South African experience, Ann Skelton, Director, Centre for Child Law, University of Pretoria

Juvenile Justice and legal safeguards – drawing on experience from Brasil, Renato Roseno de Oliveira

Reflections and discussion
12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 -15:00 **Session 2 – Legal reform on violence against children in different settings (cont)**

*Prohibiting effectively corporal punishment in the home: global progress, opportunities and challenges*, Peter Newell, Coordinator, global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children

*Legal protection from violence in the light of national experiences in Africa and Latin America* – Bobby Mkangi, Independent Consultant on Children rights and Cecilia Anicama, Office of the SRSG on Violence against Children

*Law reform to prevent and address violence in care and alternative care*  
Susan Bissell, UNICEF Associate Director, Child Protection

Reflections and discussion

15:00-15:15 Coffee break

**15: 15-17:30 Sessions 3 – Process and challenges in developing and achieving law reform on violence against children**

*Moderator: Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary-General, Inter-parliamentary Union*

Reflections and discussions with members of Parliament: focus on the legislative process as a whole; identification of key actors for the development of comprehensive legislation on VAC and its enforcement, challenges, needs and requirements.

**7 July 2011**

09:00-9:30 Highlights and conclusions from previous day

9:30-11:30 **Session 2 – Legal reform on VAC in various settings (cont.)**

*Moderator: Najat Maalla M’jid, Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography*

*Legal protection of children from sexual exploitation: The Lanzarote Convention and One in Five Campaign*, Tanja Kleinsorge, Head of the Secretariat, Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Legal protection from trafficking – No easy answers, Muireann O Briain, EU Group of Experts on Trafficking

Combining law review and reform processes to strengthen children’s protection from trafficking and other complex child protection issues, Daja Wenke, International Consultant on Children Rights

The legal framework to prohibit and eliminate violence against children in places of work, Yoshie Noguchi, ILO

Reflections and discussion

11:15-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 - --- Accelerating the legal reform process - conclusions and recommendations: roundtable