ombudswork for children

Conference organised jointly by

the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe,
the Ombudsman for Human Rights in the Russian Federation,
and the Greek Ombudsman

in the framework of
the Chairmanship of the Russian Federation of the Committee of Ministers
of the Council of Europe

Athens, 29-30 September 2006

Venue: Holiday Inn Hotel, Athens, 50 Michalacopoulou St

PROGRAMME

Friday, 29 September 2006

9.00 – 9.30   Participants' registration

9.30 – 10.00   Opening Ceremony

Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece
Vladimir Lukin, Russian Federal Ombudsman for Human Rights
Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
Yorgos Kaminis, Greek Ombudsman

10.00 – 11.00   **GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

"To what extent do European and global instruments rely on ombudspersons for the protection and the promotion of children's rights?"

Chair: Vladimir Lukin
- "European instruments"
  Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General, Council of Europe
- "Global instruments"
  Marta Santos-Pais, Director, UNICEF Innocenti Centre

Discussion

11.00 - 11.30   Coffee break and "family picture"

11.30 – 13.30   **OMBUDSPERSONS DEALING
                WITH CHILDREN'S RIGHTS**

"Establishing independent offices for children's rights: the different models"

Chair: George Moschos
President of ENOC, Greek Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights

- Nikiforos Diamandouros, European Ombudsman
- Ankie Vandekerckhove, Children's Rights Commissioner of the Flemish Parliament
- Tone Dolčić, Deputy Slovenia Human Rights Ombudsman
- Alexei Golovan, Ombudsman for Children in the City of Moscow

"Impact of the model chosen on the various interactions: between the general ombudsperson and the children's rights department, between the

general and the specialised children ombudsperson, between those in charge of children's rights and the authorities"

Discussion

13.30 - 15.00   Lunch

15.00 – 17.00   **CHILDREN PARTICIPATION**

"Listening to children, involving them and strengthening their voices"

Chair: Trond Waage
Special Adviser, UNICEF Innocenti Centre
Former Norwegian Children's Ombudsman

- "How does the Greek Ombudsman access and listen to children?" Children and young persons from Greece
- Peter Clarke, Children's Commissioner for Wales
- Susann Olsson, Save the Children - Sweden

(Examples of issues to be dealt with: Listening to children whose rights are violated (receiving complaints, communicating through telephone lines, reporting children's views before issuing recommendations); reaching out to children (advertisements, discussions in schools and youth clubs, visits of schools, care institutions, hospitals and detention centres etc.); usefulness of children's advisory boards and panels)

Discussion

17.00 - 17.30   Coffee break

Continuation of the discussion

17.30 – 19.00   Good practices, results of ENOC annual meeting
                  - open discussion

Chair and introductory statement: Xavier Bonal
Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights of Catalonia

20.00   Dinner hosted by Mr. Vladimir Lukin, Russian Federal
                  Ombudsman for Human Rights, in the name of the
                  Chairmanship of the Russian Federation of the Co-
                  mittee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

Saturday, 30 September 2006

9.30 – 11.15 **CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN THE DAILY OMBUDSWORK**

"How can an ombudsperson benefit from the work done on and with children by intergovernmental organisations and NGOs?"

Chair: Yorgos Kaminis

- Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, UN Secretary General's Independent Expert on violence against children
- Brent Parfitt, Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Veronica Yates, Child Rights Information Network (CRIN)
- Peter Newell, Co-ordinator of the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment to Children

Discussion

11.15 – 11.45 Coffee break

11.45 – 12.30 **CONCLUSIONS**

Chair: Yorgos Kaminis

Presentation of the draft Conference Conclusions by the General Rapporteur, Vladimir Lukin

Adoption of the Conference's Conclusions

Close of the Conference
Thomas Hammarberg

13.00 **PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE THREE CO-ORGANISERS**