



**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



## **FINAL REPORT**

### **91<sup>st</sup> REGULAR MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE IIN 27-28 October 2016 SANTIAGO-CHILE**

#### **OPENING SESSION THURSDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2016**

The 91<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting of the Directing Council of the Inter-American Children's Institute, a specialized agency of the OAS in the human rights of children, was called to order at 10 a.m., and was attended by a quorum of 21 official delegations from OAS member States that are members of the Directing Council of the IIN; authorities of the State of Chile and of the Organization of American States, OAS; representatives of OAS Observer Countries; representatives of international organizations; representatives of civil society organization acting as observers; officials from Chile's National Service for Minors and from the IIN's Headquarters.

The opening ceremony was held in the Patio de las Camelias at the Palacio de la Moneda and was presided over by Her Excellency Dr Michelle Bachelet Jeria, the Constitutional President of the Republic of Chile. With her on the podium were Ms Zaira Navas Umaña, the principal representative of El Salvador and President of the Directing Council of the IIN, Ms Ideli Salvatti, Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity of the OAS, representing the Secretary General of the OAS, Dr Luis Almagro, and Felipe Briones, the chair of Chile's Consultative Children's Council.

Also at this event, as well as the President of Chile, were the Ministers of Justice and Human Rights, Jaime Campos, of Health, Carmen Castillo, of Foreign Affairs (deputy), Edgardo Riveros and the National Director of Chile's National Service for Minors, Solange Huerta Reyes.

At the opening ceremony, the President of Chile greeted all of the delegations and organizations invited to the yearly meeting of the Directing Council of the Inter-American Children's Institute and stated that Chile was proud to welcome them all at that time, recalling that in 1927, Chile had been one of the Institute's founding countries. She went on to say that the country had continued to collaborate tirelessly over the years, inasmuch as the IIN's work was essential for each of the countries and the region, in its support of the development, design and implementation of public policies that safeguard the promotion, protection and respect for the rights of children. She also indicated that the actions the country performed were in line with the IIN's Action Plan 2015-2019, which enabled them to combine efforts and achieve coherent intervention lines. They had put a specific action plan in motion: "Commitment towards Underprivileged Children", which recognizes a long-overdue debt owed to children and youth whose rights have been violated, and engages in cross-sectoral work, improving administration systems, people's policies and a number of measures to ensure the health and the right of children to live with a family.



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For her part, Ms Ideli Salvatti, Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity of the OAS, expressed her sincere and deep appreciation to the Government and people of Chile, on behalf of the Organization of American States, for their generosity in hosting this significant Meeting of the Directing Council of the IIN, in order to address the needs of children in the region. She conveyed to all present the warm greetings of the Secretary General of the OAS, Luis Almagro, and his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting, as well as his wholehearted support. She then stated that during the past two decades, they had witnessed significant progress in the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean. This had a positive effect on the well-being of millions of children and their families and many children could now enjoy their rights confidently. However, in many countries, progress had been uneven and there were still many excluded and vulnerable children who continued to encounter obstacles that prevented them from access to social services and the protection to which they were entitled. She urged her audience to work in collaboration and across sectors in order to address the many challenges that children faced; particularly those who suffered discrimination, violence, abuse and neglect, especially children living in poverty.

Felipe Briones, a teenager who is the Chairman of Chile's Consultative Children's Council, then took the floor and said that the Council, together with the National Advisory Council, had been engaged in activities to promote and increase child participation, "emphasizing the fact that our voices are as important as those of adult authorities", and that they could handle activities on their own; activities that they genuinely wished to carry out, rather than those imposed upon them by some who believe they know what they, the children, "want". Finally, on behalf of the child and youth population, he asked the authorities to "help us build our road towards protagonism" and referring to a poem by Gabriela Mistral said that "the time has come for us to plant our own trees, but this time the earth should allow the seeds that we plant to grow".

In her address, the President of the Directing Council of the IIN and Principal Representative of El Salvador, Ms Zaira Navas, thanked the Government in the person of the President, and the people of Chile for hosting the 91st Regular Meeting of the Directing Council of the IIN. In her address, she underlined the significance of the meeting and the need to continue working on achieving the full enjoyment of rights, and she mentioned particularly the importance of investing in early childhood as a priority, as well as ensuring the protection of children against all forms of violence, including gender violence, and in all settings in which children spend their time. She then congratulated Felipe Briones on his address, and in particular for reminding the delegations of children's real capacity to influence the implementation of public policies and the construction of citizenship, and of the need to listen to them in relation to issues and ways of addressing them which are genuinely of interest to them.

The opening ceremony thus concluded and the Heads of Delegation were invited to attend the meeting's official photo shoot, after which the delegations and other participants repaired to the rooms of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs set aside for the meeting's various sessions, in accordance with the Agenda and Order of Business.



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## **FIRST PLENARY SESSION THURSDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2016**

Madam President called the first plenary session to order, in accordance with the draft agenda and order of business.

### **PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

#### **Adoption of the Agenda (Article 2 of the Rules of Procedure)**

Having been submitted by the President to the consideration of the Assembly, the Draft Agenda was adopted. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, it had also been submitted to the Permanent Council of the OAS, where it had been approved.

#### **Adoption of the Order of Business (Article 18 of the Rules of Procedure).**

Having read the draft order of business, the President submitted it to the consideration of the Assembly, and it was duly adopted.

#### **Secretary's report regarding Credentials (Article 6.3 of the Rules of Procedure)**

The secretary reported that 21 Member State delegations were present and accredited under the provisions of the Statute and of the Rules of Procedure. The required quorum for deliberations and decision-making was therefore present.

#### **Adoption of the procedure, establishment of deadlines for the submission of draft resolutions and creation of a Style Committee (Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure).**

The Director General noted that the resolutions had been submitted to the States in advance for their consideration.

The committee was formed by: Barbados and Mexico.

#### **Approval of the agreements signed by the Director-General ad referendum of the Directing Council (Article 9.d of the Statutes), including the establishment of a Committee (Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure).**

The committee was formed by: Barbados and Uruguay.



## PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### **Date and developments in relation to the 92nd Regular Meeting of the Directing Council (2017) in view of the invitation extended by the Government of Barbados.**

The President gave the floor to the representative of Barbados, who indicated that at the previous meeting of the Directing Council of the IIN, Barbados had expressed its desire to host the 92nd Regular Meeting of the Directing Council of IIN, an invitation which she was taking the opportunity to confirm.

Costa Rica requested the floor and thanked the delegation of Barbados for their kind offer. After which the Director-General of the IIN underscored the fact that it would be the first time that the Directing Council of the IIN would be holding its meeting in an English-speaking Caribbean State. After these interventions, the Assembly adopted by acclamation the proposal that Barbados should be the venue for the forthcoming Regular Meeting of the Directing Council of the IIN.

### **Presentation of the Management Report by the Director-General of the IIN (Articles 9.c and 26.c of the Statutes)**

The Chair next requested the Director-General to present his annual report for the period between November 2015 and September 2016, which had been remitted to the Member State representatives in compliance with the IIN's statutory provisions.

The Director-General began his report by referring to the various activities carried out by his Office to coordinate with other OAS bodies, such as the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE), the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and its Rapporteurs for the Rights of the Child and for Freedom of Expression, as well as with other international agencies such as the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Mercosur's Niñ@Sur working group and strategic partners of civil society.

He then reported on developments during the management period, on the basis of the "planning matrices" designed when Action Plan 2015-2019 was prepared, and referred to the activities planned for 2017 in the areas of: violence and violations of child rights in different settings and life cycles; early childhood; juvenile justice; child participation; sexual violence and sexual exploitation; international child abduction; the rights of migrant children; promoting child rights in disaster risk management. He also reported on the Inter-American Training Programme (IATP) and the institutional communication strategy towards building a culture of rights.

The Director-General concluded his address by reporting on the IIN's financial situation. He pointed out that owing to the financial difficulties encountered by the OAS, budget reductions of about 14% had been applied in all of the Organization's areas, that figure being the amount that the OAS's general budget was reduced. However, a higher budget cut amounting to 33% had been applied to the IIN, which left the Institute in a very difficult budgetary situation.

Once the Director General had concluded his remarks, the Chair opened the floor to the States.



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The delegations of Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Costa Rica, Honduras, United States of America, Colombia, Bolivia, Canada, Brazil, Uruguay, Canada and Saint Lucia requested the floor in turn and made a number of observations in relation to the subject.

During the discussions it was suggested that draft resolution CD/PRES. 04 (91-R/16) on the IIN's financial situation, submitted by the delegations of Chile and El Salvador, including the changes proposed by the delegations during the debate, be read out and voted on. It was decided by the Assembly to address this resolution when it convened for the second plenary session.

Without further ado, the Chair adjourned the meeting and requested that the delegates return to the meeting at 3 p.m.

## **SECOND PLENARY SESSION THURSDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2016**

The Chair called the Second Plenary Session to order with a quorum of 20 Member States. The Chair gave the floor to the Director-General of the IIN, who pointed out that there was a delay in addressing the points in the agenda, and that he therefore proposed a modification according to which the next point – the Programme for 2017 according to Action Plan 2015-2019 – should be dealt with at the third plenary session, and that after the voting to be carried out as decided at the first plenary session, they should continue with the first item on the agenda planned for that second session. The Chair submitted this proposal to the Assembly and it was duly approved.

Before proceeding to vote on draft resolution CD/PRES. 04 (91-R/16), the Chair gave the floor to the Representative of Canada, who thanked the Assembly for having given her some additional time to conduct some enquiries on the matter, and then stated that Canada was unable to join in the consensus regarding point 4 of the resolution as they were of the opinion that the IIN could not determine the percentage of the reduction to its budget that the OAS might apply.

The Chair indicated to the Assembly that two votes would be held; one on the draft resolution as it appeared in their folders, and another to include the following phrase suggested by Colombia: "...to instruct the Directorate-General to maximize efforts to optimize these resources". The two proposals were put to the vote and the draft resolution was adopted with 19 votes in favour, one abstention and the inclusion of a footnote from Canada in point 4.

The Chair gave the floor to the Representative of Uruguay, who expressed his satisfaction at the adoption of the resolution and added that they should avoid analysing budgets from the perspective of an economist, but that they should do so on the basis of rights.



The Chair thanked the Representative of Uruguay for his remarks and moved on to the next item on the agenda.

#### **Presentation on the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the IIN's foundation.**

The Chair gave the floor to the Director-General, who reminded the Assembly that the IIN would be celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2017, in view of which they had drawn up a proposal based on two criteria: austerity and the participation of children by traditional and alternative means. He underscored two main aspects in his proposal: To support the creation of consultative councils as the IIN has been doing in recent years and to set up "CORIA", a network of teenage correspondents for children's issues, composed of two children from each consultative council. Their role would be to produce articles and communications on subjects they find of interest, to be published by the IIN. To organize a call for children and youth from States in the Inter-American System to send photographs, out of which a selection would make up a digital album called "The Rights Album". To organize a call for short stories under the title "Rights Should Not Be a Tall Tale", written by children and, like the previous proposal, would be classified in two age groups: 6 to 12 and 12 to 17.

As there were no comments from the Assembly regarding this proposal, the Chair thanked the Director-General for his presentation and moved on to the next item on the agenda.

#### **Election of the officers of the Directing Council for 2016-2018 (Article 17 of the Statutes and Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure).**

The President of the Directing Council read the articles in the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure that refer to the election process.

The Director-General reported that the Government of the Republic of Paraguay had nominated Dr Ricardo González Borgne, Principal Representative of Paraguay and Minister of the National Children's Secretariat, to the position of President, and that the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia had nominated Mr Raúl Escalante Flores, Principal Representative of Bolivia and Director-General for Children and Adults of the Ministry of Justice, to the position of Vice-President.

The Chair invited the representative of Paraguay to address the Assembly briefly. Dr González Borgne stated that he considered undertaking this candidature was an important step in providing follow-up to Action Plan 2015-2019 and that he had been an Alternate Representative to the IIN since 2009 and on this occasion he was acting as Principal Representative. He remarked that his reason for agreeing to be a candidate was his wish to continue the significant and commendable work being carried out by the President and the Director-General of the IIN. He noted that as President, he would be open to receiving the proposals of the States to improve the positioning of the IIN and its field of work as a priority, not only in administrative, technical and political aspects, but also as regards national and international investment, and that, in fact, he would view obtaining investments as one of the key priorities of his management. He concluded by indicating



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that those were the motives underlying the presentation of his nomination on the part of Paraguay.

The Chair thanked the representative of Paraguay and gave the floor to the representative of Bolivia, who mentioned that he had been Director-General for Children and Adults for two years and that working for human rights in those areas was important for their countries and that opportunities such as those in which to share experiences were valuable and it was essential to participate actively in them.

The Chair thanked the representative of Bolivia for his remarks and requested the Assembly to determine how the voting should be conducted. She asked for a vote on whether voting could be carried out by a show of hands, which was approved.

The Chair asked for votes on the position of President and Dr Ricardo González Borgne was elected by acclamation for the period 2016-2018.

The Chair then moved on to the vote on the position of Vice-President and Mr Raúl Escalante Flores was elected by acclamation for the period 2016-2018.

The Chair then took the floor in her position as President and thanked the Assembly for the period during which she had acted as Vice-President and then President of the Directing Council. She stated that it had been a pleasure to work with the Office of the Director-General of the IIN, with his team, and with Mr Víctor Giorgi himself. She was grateful for the cooperation of all of the representatives and wished the President and the Director of the IIN every success in the future.

The Director-General then took the floor and expressed his warm gratitude to the President and the Vice-President, who had supported his office at all times and shown their strong commitment towards children. He wished them success in their present and future endeavours.

The President elect took the floor and thanked the representatives for his appointment and indicated that it would be an honour to represent the Institute. He said that he could do no less than refer to the commendable task that the President and the Vice-President had performed and requested a round of applause for them. He concluded by saying that he hoped for the support of the representatives for his administration and that he considered that the position of the IIN in the region needed to be enhanced and that this would not be achieved only through the actions of the President and the Vice-President, but through those of each of the representatives as actors in the realization of their objectives.

The Vice-President then took the floor and expressed his appreciation for the vote of confidence of all the countries present. He indicated that he had made a commitment, which was on behalf of the children of every country in the organization, as well as a commitment to continue working for the Institute, in order to obtain resources, and to support the President and the actions he undertook.

Dr Ricardo González then assumed the Presidency and the next item on the agenda was addressed.



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### **Presentation of the IIN's audiovisual material**

The videos were screened and Ms María Julia Garcete, Alternate Representative of Paraguay, briefly presented the work performed by the National Children's Secretariat and the IIN on editing the videos on child rights in Paraguayan sign language and Guarani, as part of the project on "Generating synergies and strengthening early education". She also gave a description of the work carried out to produce a short film about toy weapons and violent games and adults' responsibility in putting an end to their prevalence.

Three video films were screened; Stop the Game, I Want to Play, I Want, and then an explanation was provided of the primer available for the educational use of this audiovisual material.

These videos were produced with the cooperation of local institutions and cooperation agencies: IIN, OEI, CAF, MEC, SNNA, STP Centro de Relevo, Fundación A Puro Canto, Colegio de la Asunción.

Contact information was provided for the World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI), with affiliates in every country. This was done through ANILSPAR of Paraguay.

Upon the conclusion of this item, the Chair adjourned the meeting for a 15-minute break.

After which the Chair then called the meeting to order once again and the next item on the agenda was addressed.

### **TECHNICAL WORK AREA**

#### **Chile presiding the head table**

#### **Presentation by the Committee on the Rights of the Child**

The table was led by Ms Maria Estela Ortiz Rojas, Ad hoc Representative of Chile and Executive Secretary of the National Children's Council, who introduced Mr José Ángel Rodríguez, member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and Mr Luis Pedernera, member elect of the Committee.

The floor was then yielded to Mr Luis Pedernera, who pointed out that the region had three representatives on the Committee, but as from the following year there would only be two. He mentioned the need to push for the voice of children to be present in dialogue and noted the IIN's commitment to the issue of participation. He also referred to the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which allows every child to file individual petitions, and noted that there was an opportunity to make these petitions reach the Committee, so that the Committee, together with victims and States, could make progress in finding amicable solutions regarding this point. He concluded by stressing the need to move forward with discussions between all of the States, the Committee and human rights protection systems.





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Mr José Ángel Rodríguez then took the floor and stated that it was his duty to maintain open dialogue with civil society and with the States, basically, and that reports had emerged from these discussions which show reason for concern. In particular, the Committee made recommendations to the States, not with the intention of reprimanding them or telling them how badly they were doing, but as advisers making recommendations to the States on the best practices they could apply in relation to the rights enshrined in the Convention and its Optional Protocols. He noted that he had observed a willingness to maintain a relationship with the Committee in order to publicize the comments the Committee made with regard to youth, and those in another paper they were working on, on street children, but said that the same relationship should be maintained in order to move forward in applying the Committee's comments. He stated that he had also observed the difficulties encountered by the IIN owing to a lack of funds, that he was unfamiliar with the budget procedure, but was alarmed at the fact that the IIN's budget was being cut. He concluded by expressing his gratitude for the opportunity to address the Assembly and indicated that the task before them was to determine how best to make use of the coordination opportunities mentioned.

The Chair then opened the floor to remarks from the States. The States of El Salvador, Honduras and Paraguay took the floor in turn and underlined the importance of the contributions made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its reports.

Chile concluded by agreeing on the importance of these reports and comments and thanked the members of the Committee.

The next item on the agenda was then addressed.

### **Technical table on violence against children and youth**

Ms Maria Estela Ortiz invited the representatives who would be presenting their experiences to join the head table.

### **Presentation on the *Nobody's Perfect* programme (Canada)**

Ms Karen McKinnon, Principal Representative of Canada, took the floor and expressed her satisfaction at being able to share the Nobody's Perfect programme with the Assembly. She stated that with her was her esteemed colleague from Chile, Ms Lucía Vergara, of the Ministry of Health, from whom they would hear at first-hand about the success of the programme when it was adopted and adapted, thus reinforcing her own presentation. She stated that this was a tool that worked and that perhaps other countries in the region might be interested in having a look at it. She also noted that in the region, in addition to Chile, the programme was also working in Mexico, as well as in Japan in other parts of the world. Ms McKinnon explained that it was a preventive parenting programme, designed to meet the needs of parents of children from birth to age five, who are young, single, socially or geographically isolated, or who have low income or limited formal education. She observed that the programme was in line with the concepts of adult and experience-based learning and used a learner-centred, strengths-based approach. More than a single programme, it was a philosophical approach offering parenting programmes.



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She then remarked on the cooperation established with IIN with the purpose of fostering the adoption of the programme by other countries in the region which might be interested in implementing it. She provided the Assembly with a general overview of the programme's objectives and operating mechanisms, its key concepts and resources available. Ms McKinnon concluded by describing the steps to take if any State should be interested in the programme and underscored the role played by IIN in support of such multilateral relations, stating that should they have any questions, they were welcome to contact her.

She then yielded the floor to Ms Lucía Vergara, the coordinator of Chile Crece Contigo, of the Ministry of Health, who described how the Nobody's Perfect programme was implemented and in what context, and then showed some outcomes of the programme.

After this intervention, the moderator introduced the next presentation.

### **Presentation on *Effective strategies in the prevention of violence (Costa Rica)***

Ms Ana Teresa León, Principal Representative of Costa Rica took the floor and stated that her presentation was more in the nature of a reflection. She pointed out that her country's *Patronato Nacional de la Infancia* [National Children's Board] was a very old institution and for many years devoted itself to stopping the violation of rights using the special protection approach. However, special protection itself infringed child rights, inasmuch as it was the duty of the States to provide comprehensive protection; that is, they should not wait for situations to develop, before addressing them. She explained that her presentation had four parts. The first was to reflect in general on the issue of violence; the second focused on the dynamics involving forms of violence against children; then she would talk about prevention and finally about some strategies that appeared to be promising.

Ms León stated that violence occurred in the four areas of children's lives: the community, schools, families and, more recently, the virtual world. She mentioned a number of issues relating to this subject and that prevention was essential, citing some findings that neuroscience had recently produced. She then referred to some of Costa Rica's plans, such as parenting academies, working with Maslow's adapted Hierarchy of Needs pyramid, educational campaigns, and intervention centres that enabled children in whom risk factors had been identified to engage in a weekly activity with a psychologist, a pedagogue, an occupational therapist and a physical therapist. She also referred to mobile units that toured rural communities and to the process of early identification at birth to facilitate preventive work.

The moderator thanked the Representative of Costa Rica and moved on to the next presentation.

### **Presentation on *Protection begins at home – with good treatment and positive discipline (El Salvador)***

Ms Zaira Navas, Principal Representative of El Salvador took the floor and began her remarks by saying that in 2014, at the Regular Meeting of the IIN, she undertook to reform article 38 of the Comprehensive Child Protection Act, which, by empowering parents to discipline their children moderately, failed to prohibit corporal punishment unambiguously. She pointed out that



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significant efforts had been made, with regard first to awareness-raising, then to education on the subject and finally, the introduction of the amendment. She provided some information on the number of cases of infringement of the personal integrity of children and some data from the national survey conducted among children on the subject.

She went on to describe some of the awareness-raising activities carried out to encourage good treatment and positive discipline. Ms Navas then referred to a radio programme called *Habla Conmigo* [Talk to Me], which gave guidelines on good parenting and positive discipline in the education of children, as well as providing assertive communication tools for the resolution of conflicts arising between adults and children, in order to prevent all forms of child abuse and neglect. She also gave an account of the campaign on Protection Begins At Home, with good treatment and positive discipline, which sought to break away from the cultural concept of violence. She added that the campaign included a great many graphics, as well as commercials and radio spots. She concluded by noting that a Consultative Children's Council was operating in El Salvador, which had analysed the country's parenting patterns and undertaken to address the matter of education without corporal punishment as a priority. She added that the National Children's Council had adopted the legal reform she had mentioned earlier.

The moderator opened the floor to debate and questions, upon which the delegations of Honduras, Colombia, Chile and Bolivia took the floor in turn. They all congratulated the speakers on their presentations, made a few remarks and asked some questions, which were answered by the presenters.

Ms Maria Estela Ortiz, Ad hoc Representative of Chile, who was chairing the technical table, made some final remarks, noting that the presentations indicated that the States were shifting away from a relationship with children based on unequal power relations, which included violence, and she stressed that they should now advance towards eliminating violence from all areas.

The President then took back the chair and thanked the presenters. He suggested that the first item on the agenda for the third plenary session should be the planning of 2017, and that they should later continue the technical presentations under the honorary leadership of Chile, a proposal which was approved by the Assembly. Upon which the President adjourned the session thanking all of the delegates for their work.



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### **THIRD PLENARY SESSION FRIDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2016**

After greeting the delegations and other attendees, the President called the meeting to order and gave the floor to the Director-General so he could explain the dynamics according to which they would be working on the programme for 2017, in the context of Action Plan 2015-2019.

The Director-General of the IIN noted that the forthcoming discussions would be essential for the IIN, inasmuch as they would give rise to the work programme for 2017. He explained that the Assembly would be divided into three groups; the first would be composed of the delegations of the English-speaking Caribbean States, together with Canada and the United States; the second, the countries of Central America, plus Mexico and the Dominican Republic, and the third group would include the States of South America. One of the IIN's officers would be taking part in each of the groups, and they were requested to give their opinions and make comments. They could offer to host some of the activities planned, but, in particular, they were asked to make specific proposals within the thematic lines, in order to put together the IIN's Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for 2017.

Work in the groups suggested duly began and went on for about 45 minutes.

The Chair took the floor and requested the delegations to return to the Assembly in order to continue their work. Each group then described the key aspects of the work it had carried out and 15 November was fixed as a deadline for any additional contributions which any of the delegations might wish to send to the Director-General's Office.

Upon the conclusion of this item on the agenda, the Chair drew the Assembly's attention to the proposal regarding making use of the IIN's 90th anniversary to provide the Institute with greater visibility and improve its standing in the OAS. After which, the Chair requested the Chilean delegation, as host State, to chair the work of the technical tables, which was the next item on the agenda.

#### **Technical table on abuse and sexual exploitation of children and youth**

Prior to beginning with the work of the technical table, the Director-General of the IIN read out a note sent by the Under Secretary of Tourism, Ms Javiera Montes, in which she apologized for not being present that day and reiterated her interest in working with the IIN on the issue of sexual exploitation in travel and tourism.

Ms Maria Estela Ortiz Rojas took over the conduction of the technical table and invited the presenters to join her. She then gave the floor to Ms Ana Barrera, who read a message sent by Ms Marta Santos Pais, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative on Violence against Children, who was unable to be present at the meeting.



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After the Dr Santos Pais's message had been read, the floor was given to Dr Solange Huerta, Director of the National Service for Minors, for the next presentation.

### **Presentation on *Sexual abuse in children under the age of six (Chile)***

Ms Solange Huerta, Principal Representative of Chile, began her address by observing that the States had made progress in terms of the law on these issues. That it had been possible to increase and diversify knowledge of these offences, disseminate good practices applicable to the cycle of detection, reporting, protection, punishment and reparations for the victims, but that greater specialization was still required on the part of operators, particularly judges, in order to understand the sexual abuse situation. She pointed out that despite progress, child sexual abuse was still finding victims and causing serious damage to their development. She then referred to the magnitude of this problem in Chile and provided some statistical data, highlighting the importance of increasing disaggregated data in order to achieve greater clarity regarding the problem, which would facilitate action. She indicated that in this regard, the President Michelle Bachelet's government programme was committed to the comprehensive protection of children, and in this issue in particular, one of its actions was the strengthening of the Specialized Ambulatory Programmes.

In relation to the specific response given by the National Service for Minors (SENAME), she stated that in 2015, there had been 13,807 children and youth who had been victims of sexual abuse (excepting commercial sexual exploitation) and had received care in programmes specializing in sexual abuse reparation, and of these, 72.2% were women and 67.4% were under the age of 13. Ms Huerta described the action being taken by "Prevention, Early Warning and Reporting" with measures offered by the local Child Rights Protection Offices (OPD). Children, as well as schools and families, could approach them to consult on this subject. She mentioned other available programmes: Focused Prevention Programmes (PPF), the Sename helpline and Information Offices (OIRS); "Protection and Reparation" had a network of residential centres and host families for the protection of victims (Residences and FAE); Specialized Ambulatory Programmes that aimed to turn around the sexual abuse experience (155 Programmes for Abuse Reparation) and Legal Representation Programmes (16 programmes). She also mentioned the sexual abuse observatory, the existence of procedures to address sexual abuse involving children in alternative care, the production and dissemination of guides for the prevention of sexual abuse (2013 and 2015), the filing of complaints and participation in criminal proceedings on behalf of children, a network of experts (Ambulatory Diagnosis Programme).

She concluded her remarks by pointing to some of the challenges the country is facing, such as the need to streamline legal procedures to avoid revictimizing children (recorded video interviews); improve the Public Prosecutor's statistics, to provide disaggregated data by victim age group and type of offender; promote studies and assessments as inputs in the design of specialized policies; strengthen the preventive aspect of sexual abuse, by means of ongoing dissemination campaigns and training for judicial officers with an approach based on rights.

The moderator thanked Ms Huerta for her presentation and moved on to the next item on the agenda.



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### **A study on sexual exploitation in travel and tourism (ECPAT)**

This presentation was conducted by Ms Milena Grillo, Executive Director of PANIAMOR. She spoke about the Global Study on Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism carried out by a group of partner organizations.

She explained that the term “global” referred to the fact that the study was conducted in at least two countries in each region and observed that the input for the report was obtained with a particular focus on interviews with children. She shared several of the findings of the study, such as the fact that sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism had increased, and although its scale and scope were not known, no region was free from this problem and the risks were increasing. This used to be an issue related to the movement of people from a developed country to a less developed country, but it was now found that it also affected regional movement and movement within countries. Ms Grillo stated that this type of exploitation affected all of the tourism sector and said that applying strict controls in the formal sectors only transferred the issue to informal sectors. She remarked that organized crime networks tended to operate in international tourism and that the resources they handled were greater. She indicated that the aspect that drove sexual exploitation in travel and tourism was a greater chance of impunity and anonymity. She also referred to the new forms of travelling and tourism, such as large-scale sports events, conferences or occasional workers, and that all of them posed risks which should give rise to new strategies. She then stated that the causes that were established in Stockholm were still valid: the unequal distribution of resources, organized crime, tolerance and ambivalent social norms which failed to assign responsibility appropriately, and placing the blame on victims, as well as corruption and the new technologies.

In conclusion, Ms Grillo mentioned five priority areas of action: awareness-raising, which demanded reliable information; prevention; doing away with impunity, which implied that the States should take the fight against this offence seriously, inasmuch as it was by no means minor and affected other issues in the region, such as inequality, violence and corruption; improving access to justice for the protection of victims, and work performed in the region, regarding which ECPAT welcomed the efforts made by IIN.

### **Presentation by the Regional Action Group of the Americas**

The technical table chair thanked the previous presenter and gave the floor to Ms Verónica Aguilar, Head of the Human Capital Area of Chile’s National Tourism Service.

Ms Aguilar stated that the significance of the issue gave rise to the creation of a Regional Action Group of the Americas (GARA for its acronym in Spanish), to prevent sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism. It was established in 2005 at the 1st Meeting of Ministers and Senior Authorities in Tourism of South America for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism and included Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Mexico, with IIN-OAS and ECPAT acting as observers. She explained that the Group was headed by an Executive Secretariat, which had been occupied by Brazil, was currently



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occupied by Ecuador and would be occupied by Uruguay in the forthcoming period, to which the transition was under way.

She then went on to say that GARA's principal actions were assistance and technical cooperation; conducting campaigns for the prevention of the commercial sexual exploitation of children, based on promoting the concept of sustainable tourism as a tool for child protection; drafting an outcomes paper which would include technical comments recognizing the position of GARA as an advisory body to propose actions to member countries on the prevention of CSEC in the region, and other topics deemed necessary by each country.

She concluded by providing a summary of the actions carried out by the GARA countries, with the exception of Argentina and Brazil, and showed a video produced by Mexico in 2016.

Once the presentations had concluded and as there were no further questions from the Assembly, the moderator thanked the presenters and stepped down from her position as Chair.

The President then resumed the chair and informed the Assembly that resolution N° 4 regarding the IIN's budget, which had been adopted the previous day, had already been formally submitted to the OAS and he hoped that it would have the desired effects.

It was then proposed that they should modify the agenda and move the technical table on the deinstitutionalization of children deprived of parental care, which was the next item on the agenda, to the first item to be dealt with at the fourth plenary session that afternoon, and instead, listen to the presentation on Child Participation and the items in any other business. This proposal being duly approved, the meeting moved on.

### **Presentation on Child Participation**

The Director-General then took the floor and explained that the activity that was about to be presented had been carried out together with the State of Colombia, through the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare. It took place in Pereira and its principal focus was working with youth on the public policy cycle. He noted that it had been a very intensive two-day activity, which led to a declaration containing recommendations for the States of the American continent on how to enhance child participation in public policies, drafted by 58 children and youth from Colombia, El Salvador, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay. The declaration containing recommendations on the three thematic focal points addressed at the event was then read out. These three focal points were the public policy cycle, participation dimensions and participation scenarios and settings. Some of the recommendations were: Implement means of consulting children, youth and senior adults on the design, implementation and evaluation of public policies; allocate effective budgets for children which should not be altered subsequently; boost children's advocacy in decision-making at different stages of public policy; provide accountability to children on specific ways to make their participation effective in the public policy cycle; develop programmes to strengthen participation and build capacity among children and youth; generate awareness-raising in the community in order to facilitate child participation; provide means and develop strategies for the participation of children of different social groups and features in the process of public policy



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design. Amend comprehensive protection laws and other relevant laws to include Consultative Children's Councils, and allocate a budget for them.

The Chair then opened the floor for comments on the document that had just been read and requested the delegations to share the contents of those recommendations. The delegations of Colombia, El Salvador, Chile, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Brazil, Bolivia and Uruguay took the floor in turn and offered remarks and experiences related to the recommendations.

The Chair pointed out that the topic should clearly be included in the agenda of the next meeting of the Directing Council of the IIN and gave the floor to the Director-General, who stated that his Office had noted the contents of the document just read and that the IIN had undertaken to follow-up on its recommendations and comply with the President's proposal.

Once that item had concluded, the next presentation began.

### **Presentation of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children**

Ms Sarah Stevenson, senior advisor, took the floor and remarked that the regional networking platform was a new network launched in 2012 by the United Nations Secretary-General, and that its Secretariat was located in UNICEF, New York. She then explained that they had a strategy for action in which the contributions of 1500 young people who had participated in a survey were considered. She went on to say that the partnership's vision was a world in which children could grow free from violence; that its mission was to develop safer societies for children and put an end to violence against them, everywhere. She referred to the principles underlying the partnership's actions; they should follow the rights-based approach, and be universal, gender sensitive and inclusive, as well as evidence-based and outcome-oriented.

She then mentioned its three objectives: to generate political will, to expedite measures and strengthen cooperation. Ms Stevenson also pointed out that they had received expressions of interest in collaborating with the partnership from countries in the region such as El Salvador, Jamaica, Mexico and Paraguay. She also referred to the seven strategies they had developed; namely: implementation and enforcement of laws; shifting norms and values; safe environments; support for parents and care-giving operators; financial empowerment; support and response through services; education in life skills. She concluded by inviting participants to approach her to discuss any concerns they might have and said that they were there to support the efforts of the States.

The Chair opened the floor to comments on Ms Stevenson's address and Costa Rica, Brazil, Mexico and Honduras took the floor in turn, making remarks and asking questions, which were answered by the speaker.

The Chair thanked Ms Stevenson for her presentation and adjourned the meeting, inviting delegations to return to the Assembly at 3 p.m.





**FOURTH PLENARY SESSION  
FRIDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2016**

The Chair called the meeting to order at the time agreed and stated that owing to a question of logistics, it was proposed to modify the order of the points to be addressed once again, beginning with the adoption of resolutions and then carrying on with the order of business as planned. The Assembly gave its approval to this proposal and began to consider the draft resolutions.

**Draft Resolutions arising from the 91<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting of the Directing Council (Presentation and Adoption)**

The Chair explained to the Assembly the procedure to be followed for the adoption of the following resolutions, which were read by the Secretary and duly adopted by the Assembly, one by one.

CD/P-RES. 01 (91-R/16) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE FOR HOSTING THE 91<sup>ST</sup> REGULAR MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegation of Argentina)

CD/P-RES. 02 (91-R/16) ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegation of Uruguay)

CD/P-RES. 03 (91-R/16) AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE IIN (Submitted by the delegations from Barbados and Uruguay)

CD/P-RES. 04 (91-R/16) THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegations of Chile and El Salvador) (Adopted at the Second Plenary Session, held on October 27, 2016)

CD/P-RES. 05 (91-R/16) ADOPTION OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE 90th REGULAR MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegation of Saint Lucia)

CD/P-RES. 06 (91-R/16) VENUE FOR THE 92<sup>ND</sup> REGULAR MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegation of Mexico)

CD/RES. 07 (91-R/16) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegations of Costa Rica and Honduras)

CD/RES. 08 (91-R/16) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegation of Barbados and Dominica)

CD/RES. 09 (91-R/16) ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegation of Brazil)

CD/RES. 10 (91-R/16) ELECTION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE (Submitted by the delegation of Brazil)

CD/P-RES. 11 (91-R/16) SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, SMUGGLING OF AND TRAFFICKING IN CHILDREN (Submitted



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by the delegation of Guatemala)

CD/P-RES. 12 (91-R/16) MAINSTREAMING A GENDER APPROACH IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN (Submitted by the delegation of El Salvador)

CD/P-RES. 13 (91-R/16) IN RECOGNITION OF DR SARA OVIEDO FIERRO, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (Submitted by the delegation of Costa Rica)

CD/P-RES. 14 (91-R/16) IN RECOGNITION OF DR. WANDERLINO NOGUEIRA NETO, MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (Submitted by the delegation of Honduras)

CD/P-RES. 15 (91-R/16) CONGRATULATIONS TO MR LUIS PEDERNERA, MEMBER-ELECT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (Submitted by the delegation of Uruguay)

These resolutions are available from <http://www.iin.oea.org/en/reunion-91.html>

In the case of draft resolution CD/P-RES. 12 (91-R/16) Mainstreaming a Gender Approach in the Comprehensive Protection of the Rights of Children, the delegations of El Salvador and Costa Rica suggested some amendments, after which the Assembly adopted the resolution.

Once the resolutions had been adopted, the President of the Directing Council went through the items of the agenda still pending and requested the delegation of Chile to once again take up the coordination of the technical table.

### **Technical table on the deinstitutionalization of children deprived of parental care**

Ms Solange Huerta, Principal Representative of Chile took over as moderator of the technical table and gave the floor to Ms Esmeralda Arosemena, Commissioner of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Commission's Rapporteur for Child Rights.

### **Presentation on "Technical table on the deinstitutionalization of children deprived of parental care" (Commissioner Esmeralda Arosemena de Troitiño)**

Commissioner Arosemena took the floor and began her remarks by acknowledging the efforts that the countries were making to seek means of deinstitutionalizing children who, for their protection, had had to be institutionalized. She indicated that the first aspect she wished to underline was the importance for the Inter-American Human Rights System of considering the family to be the pre-eminent group to provide the environment, the space necessary for the protection of child rights, and stressed the fact that viewing children as rights holders to be treated in conditions of equality and non-discrimination, particularly in relation to their right to full and comprehensive development, was an element that needed to imbue all studies, research, plans and proposals carried out on this issue. She pointed out that a further significant element was how the States generated that kind of protection for children, through the protection of the family group, providing the support it required in order to perform its protective role, and she also stated that institutionalization should only be viewed as a measure of last resort. A further element to be borne in mind, she went on, in relation to separating children from their families was that the



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measure should be based on due process to determine the need for protecting children away from their families.

Ms Arosemena mentioned three essential dimensions in any progress on the subject: a comprehensive, consistent and systemic legal framework based on international standards, with a system in place to ensure the comprehensive protection of child rights; a public policy to provide special protection for the rights of children, to strengthen capacity and support families as the primary area of protection, care and development. This was a basic element to prevent separating children, facilitate reintegration and overcome the causes that led to alternative shelter. The third dimension was the existence of coordinated and necessary institutions, with all of the intervening actors and sectors, for the design and execution of universal and targeted policies, plans, programmes and services, with legitimate functions, jurisdiction and powers of intervention, as well as means of monitoring and evaluating objectives and outcomes, with full and reliable data and information.

Before concluding, she referred to the international and binding body of law on an issue which was universal and regional, and mentioned key aspects in determining and implementing special protection measures when children needed to be separated from their parents, such as the right to be heard during the proceedings; adapting those proceedings so that children could take part; that paperwork and procedures should be set in motion without undue delay; the existence of proposals for family reunification, evaluation and follow-up interventions, among others. She concluded by referring to the IACHR's report on the subject, which contained a number of guidelines for the States to work on the issue.

The moderator of the technical table thanked Commissioner Esmeralda Arosemena most particularly for her address and gave the floor to Ms Soledad Larraín, Director of the Cross-Sectoral Area of the National Children's Council, in charge of Chile's contribution to the technical table.

### **Positive experiences in deinstitutionalization (Chile)**

Ms Larraín began her address by mentioning that her presentation would focus on the following three points: children's current situation in Chile's residential system; changes in policy for children, and work being carried out on a cross-sectoral plan relating to the right to live with a family from birth to the age of three. In this regard, she remarked on some relevant aspects, such as the significant decline, between 1990 and 2016, of the numbers of children in residence, the establishment and increase of protection and care in foster families, and the increase in ambulatory care programmes in specialized protection which made it possible to take other protective measures. She then pointed out that these significant efforts on the part of the government were made possible by the creation of a comprehensive system to safeguard rights, which was composed of a number of elements. She referred to this system and its implementation, indicating that there was already a rights-based policy for children in place for 2015-2025 and that three bills were in the works: the Act on safeguarding rights; the Act to create a children's ombudsman, and the Act leading to new institutionalization in the shape of the Under Secretariat for children in the Ministry of Social Development. Ms Larraín went on to refer to some significant lines of work to prevent institutionalization, such as: supporting the early warning process, which,



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in a way, involved strengthening the Chile Crece Contigo programme; supporting families during the life cycles of children; boosting coordination between special protection and social protection; strengthening alternative care models. She concluded by reporting that the Children's Council and SENAME were currently working with the ministries on a cross-sectoral plan for the right to live in a family, targeting children from birth to three and their families, whose objective is to achieve a transition from residential placement to a specialized system based on families and communities for early childhood whose rights have been infringed.

### **Positive experiences in deinstitutionalization (Panama)**

The moderator then gave the floor to the Principal Representative of Panama and Director-General of the National Secretariat for Childhood and Families (SENNIAF), Ms Yazmin Cárdenas, who gave an account of Panama's experience regarding the deinstitutionalization of children in the context of SENNIAF's administrative jurisdiction. She referred to some of the administrative measures aimed at the inclusion of children and their families; specialized care, family support and foster care programmes, and then shared some statistical data on the subject.

She mentioned the pilot plan developed in 2015 and 2016 involving institutional restructuring and deinstitutionalization for the Soná Home, and referred to the preparatory phases and the research carried out on families of origin. Ms Cárdenas also described the profiles of the teenage girls in the Home, and the reasons for institutionalization, which included complex cases with prolonged stays and the continuous flow of cases for short periods. She went on to share the outcomes of the pilot plan, highlighting the existence of monitoring procedures as an essential part of the process.

She concluded by noting the challenges facing specialized administrative protection.

### **Positive experiences in deinstitutionalization (Paraguay)**

Once the previous presentation had concluded, the technical table moderator gave the floor to the President of the Directing Council and Representative of Paraguay for his presentation.

Mr Ricardo González shared the experience of Paraguay with the Assembly. He first related that according to a UNICEF report, in 2002 there were close to 2,000 children living on the streets in Paraguay, and that rather than wait for the relevant work to be carried out, a judge ordered them all to be rounded up and institutionalized. This decision led to a complaint being lodged with the IACHR, which resulted in the "Cristina Aguayo and others" case. In 2009, the Paraguayan State offered to enter into an amicable settlement and a number of actions took place that led to the installation of the National Policy for Special Protection in Paraguay. The National Children's Secretariat created a Directorate for Special Care (DIPROE), which is responsible for the enforcement of this policy and the oversight of shelter facilities. Mr González mentioned that there were 60 shelter institutions in Paraguay at that time, under the administration of civil society, and a total of 1,700 institutionalized children. He observed that DIPROE set this special protection policy in motion, focusing on three main focal points: maintaining family bonds, working on a plan to encourage family life; family placement as a protection model, with foster families who were meant to be temporary, but that often, owing to judicial delays in providing definitive solutions regarding foster care, were prolonged over time and families sought to transform the situation



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into a kind of pre-adoption process. The third focal point was the entire deinstitutionalization process as a strategy. He noted that that was how they had arrived at the 60 institutions he had mentioned; they were urged to have a team in place in order to work effectively on maintaining family bonds as a first strategy and also work on deinstitutionalizing children and sending them on to family placement. He concluded by pointing out that they had encountered resistance from the shelter institutions, so it had been necessary to initiate a training process which included establishing some new guidelines based on those issued by the United Nations. He also noted that it had been difficult to mainstream those focal points, which were part of the policy, but that in his view, with support and by sharing experiences with other countries, the policy would continue to gain ground.

The table moderator thanked all of the presenters and opened the floor to the Assembly, so that the delegations could give their opinions or ask questions. The delegations of Uruguay and Honduras took the floor in turn and also made some brief comments on the situation in their own countries. Uruguay requested permission to screen a video on the *Familia Amiga* programme being implemented in Uruguay.

As there were no further remarks, the technical table was adjourned and the President of the Directing Council once again assumed the Chair, moving on to the last item on the agenda for that plenary session.

### **Presentation on the Regional Platform for the defence of the rights of children and youth with adult carers deprived of liberty (NAPES)**

The NAPES representative took the floor and thanked the Assembly for the opportunity to address them, explaining that the NAPES Platform was a partnership of civil society organizations working in ten countries in Latin America and the Caribbean with the purpose of promoting and defending the rights of children with adult carers who were deprived of their liberty. He stated that when children with adult carers who were deprived of their liberty were mentioned, the first thing that came to mind were children who lived with their mothers who were in custody, and although this population, which was only 0.5%, was included, the platform worked with children who were in their communities, but whose fathers were deprived of liberty. He explained that the project emerged after a Day of General Discussion of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, in 2011, and from the need to gather information. He also observed that on this basis and inasmuch as organizations already working with street children, children at work, or being sexually exploited reported that many of these children had adult carers who were deprived of liberty, this platform had been set up, with three lines of work: building knowledge; advocating for public policies; and developing protagonism or participation among children. He then stated that regional research had been conducted as part of the first component, essentially into two aspects: firstly, the characteristics of those children with adult carers deprived of liberty, and secondly, their numbers, in relation to the region's child population. It was determined that there were at least two million children with adult carers deprived of liberty and it would take too long to refer to this in qualitative terms, but the study showed that the vast majority of adults deprived of liberty were poor and, therefore, their children were also poor, which led to the conclusion that these children were already in a precarious situation and that the deprivation of liberty of their adult carers greatly increased their exclusion.



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The representative described the requests that the platform was making of the States in its lobbying efforts: for child protection systems to place this issue on their agendas; to compile and produce statistical information regularly, as well as keep records of children whose fathers and mothers were in prison; to encourage child rights protection systems to work in coordination with judicial and prison systems (regarding this request, he described the experience in Argentina, where a number of officials came together and drafted a protocol to detail the work to be done from the moment the adult carer was arrested, until he or she was released); and finally, set actions in motion to prevent sentences from affecting children.

He concluded his address by sharing a video on children's thoughts on the subject.

The President then took the floor and pointed out that this was a significant issue which should be addressed at one of the Institute's meetings, and thanked the NAPES Platform for their presentation.

He then indicated that they would move on to the Closing Session and without further ado, adjourned the fourth plenary session.

### **CLOSING SESSION FRIDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2016**

Once the Closing Session was called to order, Dr Edgardo Riveros, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed the Assembly to close the meeting, stating that he felt a strong connection to the subjects being dealt with and to the fact that it had been possible to hold the meeting in Chile. He reiterated that for Chile it had been a privilege to host the 91st Regular Meeting of the Directing Council and hoped that the efforts they had devoted to their work had been met with a satisfactory outcome. He then referred to the developments that had been taking place in Chile in recent years in relation to child rights. He concluded by saying that he wished to ratify Chile's commitment to the international and inter-American human rights system and that, at the same time, the rights of groups requiring special protection, such as children, would continue to be encouraged. Finally, he expressed his hope that the delegations felt that their work had been fruitful and that they had had a pleasant stay in Chile.

Next, Mr Víctor Giorgi, Director-General of the IIN, took the floor and indicated that at the close of the meeting its anticipated objectives had been met and reflected that he wished to recall the words of President Bachelet when she suggested that the issue of childhood was both a political and a technical issue, inasmuch as policy without technique was inefficient and technique without policy lacked the sufficient strength to make the necessary transformations in order to make our continent a place where rights are an everyday reality. He observed that those were very wise words, as were those of Felipe Briones, who showed, once again, the capacity of youth when they



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were given the floor, when they were heard and were able to give their opinions. He stated that he considered that the time had come to not only talk about children, but also listen to them, exchange ideas with them, acknowledge their huge capacity for understanding and viewing reality from a different viewpoint and making significant contributions to improving access to rights for children and youth. He then referred to Françoise Dolto, who said that what adults could not face was thinking that children were capable of thinking as they do, and were capable of telling them things that they could not see. He observed that this was still true and reaffirmed the IIN's commitment towards working on the right to participation as a key element in recognizing children as holders of rights. Finally, he thanked the representatives of the States and participants from their countries' diplomatic delegations in Chile, who had made it possible for their States to be present at the meeting. He also thanked the State of Chile most particularly, the staff of SENAME, as well as the IIN's team, who, while less visible, made the meeting possible, and concluded by reaffirming his commitment to continue working.

The President of the Directing Council of the IIN then took the floor and in his concluding remarks thanked the State of Chile in its entirety, in the person of the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, the National Service for Minors and Chile's Children's Council, and the representatives of the Member States, whom he thanked for their confidence in appointing him President. He then underscored the three points that emerged from the meeting and that indicated how the IIN should position itself. The first, he said, was to make the work and political-technical support that the IIN provided known in each of the States, in order to gain support at the relevant opportunities to enable the IIN to improve its position within the OAS. The second was to emphasize the issue of child participation; just as efforts had been made to incorporate that right in the actions of institutions, regional efforts could be made to mainstream protagonist child participation. He then referred to the words of Felipe Briones, who said that just as officials could impose something like the construction of a football field without consulting those for whom it was intended, to see whether that was what they wanted and needed, that could also be applied to the actions they would attempt in 2017. The final point he considered to be vital was the establishment of smoother means of communication between the President, the Director-General and the members of the Directing Council. Finally, the President declared the 91st Regular Meeting of the Directing Council of the IIN adjourned and wished all of the delegations a safe journey back to their countries.



**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE 91<sup>st</sup> REGULAR MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE IIN-OAS**

**INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM MEMBER STATES**

State	Institution	Name	Position	e-mail
1. Argentina	Secretaría Nacional de Niñez, Adolescencia y Familia	1. Mariano Kierszenbaum Ad hoc Representative	National Director for Youth Deprived of Liberty	mkierszenbaum@senaf.gob.ar
2. Barbados	Child Care Board	2. Joan Crawford Principal Representative	Director	joabevdia@gmail.com; childcareboard@caribsurf.com
3. Bolivia	Ministry of Justice	3. Raúl Escalante Principal Representative	Director General for Children and the Elderly	raulalos@gmail.com
4. Brazil	National Secretary for the Promotion of Children's Rights	4. Claudia Vidigal Principal Representative	Secretary	claudia.vidigal@sdh.gov.br; caufvidigal@gmail.com
5. Canada	Division of Children and Youth / Division de l'enfance et de la jeunesse Centre for Health Promotion / Centre de la santé publique du Canada	5. Karen McKinnon Principal Representative	Executive Director	karen.mckinnon@phac-aspc.gc.ca
	Embassy of Canada	6. Helene Mayrand Alternate Representative	Second Secretary	stago@international.gc.ca
6. Chile	HOST STATE	7. Solange Huerta Principal Representative	Venue State	solange.huerta@sename.cl





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State	Institution	Name	Position	e-mail
		8. María Estela Ortiz Ad hoc Representative		estelaortiz@consejoinfancia.gob.cl  gsepulveda@sename.cl
		9. María Gloria Sepúlveda Alternate Representative		
7. Colombia	Embassy of Colombia	10. Adriana Lemos Pérez Ad hoc Representative	Councillor	echile@cancilleria.gov.co
	Embassy of Colombia	11. Magdalena Durana Cornejo Ad hoc Representative	Second Secretary	echile@cancilleria.gov.co
8. Costa Rica	Patronato Nacional de la Infancia	12. Ana Teresa León Principal Representative	Chair	presidencia@pani.go.cr
	Embassy of Costa Rica	13. Manuel Rojas Bolaños Ad hoc Representative	Ambassador	embajada@costarica.cl
	Embassy of Costa Rica	14. Randolph Coto Echeverría Ad hoc Representative	Minister Counsellor and Consul General	embajada@costarica.cl
	Embassy of Costa Rica	15. Ana Elena Pinto Lizano Ad hoc Representative	Minister Counsellor	embajada@costarica.cl
9. Ecuador	Deputy Minister of Economic and Social Inclusion	Patricia Cervantes Principal Representative	Deputy Minister	DID NOT ATTEND
10. El	Consejo Nacional de la	17. Zaira Navas Principal	Executive Director	zaira.navas@conna.gob.sv; dircionejecutiva@conna.gob.sv



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State	Institution	Name	Position	e-mail
Salvador	Niñez y Adolescencia - CONNA	Representative		
	Instituto Salvadoreño para el Desarrollo Integral de la Niñez y la Adolescencia - ISNA	18. .. Elba Tobar Ortiz Alternate Representative	Executive Director	direccion@isna.gob.sv; dircionejecutiva@isna.gob.sv
	Embassy of El Salvador	19. Víctor Manuel Valle Monterrosa Ad hoc Representative	Ambassador	embasalva@adsl.tie.cl
	Embassy of El Salvador	20. Carla Arias Ad hoc Representative	Minister Counsellor	embasalva@adsl.tie.cl
11. United States of America	U.S. Permanent Mission to the OAS (WHA/USOAS)	21. Genevieve Libonati Principal Representative	Political Counsellor	LibonatiG@state.gov
12. Dominica	Child Abuse Prevention Unit Social Welfare Division	22. Jemma Azille Lewis Principal Representative	Coordinator	azillej@dominica.gov.dm; Jemmaazille@hotmail.com
13. Guatemala	Embassy of Guatemala	23. Rudy Gómez Ad hoc Representative	Chargé d'Affaires	embajada@guatemala.cl; embchile@minex.gob.gt
	Embassy of Guatemala	24. María Luz Enríquez Ad hoc Representative	Consul	embajada@guatemala.cl; embchile@minex.gob.gt
14. Guyana	Ministry of Social Protection	25. Oslin Crawford Principal Representative	Assistant Chief Protection Office	socialprotectionministry@gmail.com
	Ministry of Social Protection	26. Coleen Khan Alternate Representative	Child Care and Protection Agency	socialprotectionministry@gmail.com
15. Honduras	Dirección de Niñez, Adolescencia y Familia	27. Lolis María Salas Principal Representative		dircionejecutiva@dinaf.gob.hn



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State	Institution	Name	Position	e-mail
16. Mexico	Sistema Nacional Desarrollo Integral de la Familia - SNDIF	28. Laura Vargas Carrillo	Head of the Sistema Nacional para el Desarrollo Integral de la Familia (SNDIF)	laura.vargas@dif.gob.mx
	Sistema Nacional Desarrollo Integral de la Familia - SNDIF	Elva Leonor Cárdenas Miranda Principal Representative	Director-General of Child Protection and Care	DID NOT ATTEND
	Sistema Nacional Desarrollo Integral de la Familia - SNDIF	29. Lilian Espinosa Fernández Alternate Representative	Director-General for Inter-Agency Liaison	lilian.espinoza@dif.gob.mx
	Sistema Nacional Desarrollo Integral de la Familia - SNDIF	Lorena Lagarde Alternate Representative	Director of International Affairs	DID NOT ATTEND
	Embassy of Mexico	31. Sergio González Serna Ad hoc Representative	Responsible for Political and Institutional Affairs	sgonzalez@emexico.cl
17. Panama	Secretaría Nacional de Niñez, Adolescencia y Familia - SENNIAF	32. Yazmin Cárdenas Principal Representative	Director-General	direcciongeneral@senniaf.gob.pa
18. Paraguay	Secretaría Nacional de la Niñez y la Adolescencia	33. Ricardo González Borgne Principal Representative	Office Manager	snnasecretariaprivada@gmail.com; secgeneralsnna@hotmail.com
	Secretaría Nacional de la Niñez y la Adolescencia	34. Leticia Ybañez Oviedo Alternate Representative	Secretary General	snnasecretariaprivada@gmail.com; secgeneralsnna@hotmail.com
	Secretaría Nacional de la	35. Maria Julia Garcete Yergos	Early Childhood	juliagarcete72@gmail.com



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State	Institution	Name	Position	e-mail
	Niñez y la Adolescencia	Alternate Representative	Coordination Dirección de Protección y Promoción de Derechos	
19. Peru	Embassy of Peru	36. Aída García Maguiña	Responsible for Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation	agarcia@embajadadelperu.cl
20. Saint Lucia	Ministry of Health, Wellness, National Mobilization, Family Affairs, Human Services and Gender Relations	37. Elizabeth Lewis Principal Representative	Director Division Human Services and Family Affairs	huserVICES@yahoo.com; leslielew@candw.lc
21. Dominican Republic	Consejo Nacional para la Niñez y la Adolescencia - CONANI	38. Aly Q. Peña Ad hoc Representative	Head of the Legal Department	aly.pena@conani.gov.do
22. Uruguay	Instituto del Niño del Uruguay	39. Fernando Rodríguez Alternate Representative	Director	afogolin@inau.gub.uy; presidencia@inau.gub.uy

Total Number of Countries 22, Total Number of Persons 39

## OBSERVERS

State of Origin	Institution	Name	Position	e-mail
Chile	SOS Children's Villages	1. Juan Pablo Orlandini	Country Director	juanpablo.orlandini@aldeasinfantiles.cl
Costa Rica	ECPAT	2. Milena Grillo	Executive Director, PANIAMOR	milena@paniamor.org
Chile	Marist International Solidarity Foundation	3. George Alexander Raczynski	Secretary	solidaridad@maristas.cl
Uruguay	Regional platform for the defence of the rights of children and youth	4. Lia Fernandez 5. Gonzalo Salles	Coordination Team	liafernandez@gurisesunidos.org.uy



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	with adult carers deprived of liberty - NNAPES	6. Luciano Cadoni		
Chile	Observatorio Internacional de Justicia Juvenil - OIJJ	7. Osvaldo Vázquez	Contributor - Consultant	osvaldovazquezr@gmail.com
United States of America	Global Partnership to end Violence Against Children	8. Sarah Stevenson	Senior Advisor	sstevenson@childfundalliance.org
Chile	UNICEF	9. Clarice da Silva e Paula	Protection Specialist	rguzman@unicef.org
Chile	UNICEF	10. Anuar Quesille	Protection Specialist	rguzman@unicef.org
Chile	ECPAT	11. Denisse Araya Castelli		fabiog@ecpat.net
Colombia	ECPAT	12. Fabio González		fabiog@ecpat.net
Spain	Embassy of Spain	13. David Almirón		ana.duran@maec.es
Spain	Embassy of Spain	14. Ana Durán		ana.duran@maec.es

Total Number of Observers: 14

## OAS

State of Origin	Institution	Name	Position	SIGNATURE
Brazil	OAS General Secretariat	1. Ideli Salvatti	Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity	ISalvatti@oas.org

## IIN

State	Institution	Name	Position	SIGNATURE
Uruguay	IIN	1. Víctor Giorgi	Director-General	direcciongral@iinoea.org
Uruguay	IIN	2. Esteban de	Legal Area	



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		la Torre	Coordinator	edelatorre@iinoea.org
Uruguay	IIN	3. Ana Barrera	Secretary	abarrera@iinoea.org
Uruguay	IIN	4. Anne Marie Blackman	Senior Specialist	ablackman@oas.org

Total OAS and IIN: 5

## PRESENTERS

State of Origin	Institution	Name	Position	SIGNATURE
Uruguay	Committee on the Rights of the Child	1. Luis Pedernera	Member Elect of the Committee on the Rights of the Child	cairus@montevideo.com.uy
Venezuela	Committee on the Rights of the Child	2. José Angel Rodríguez	Member Elect of the Committee on the Rights of the Child	joseangel67@gmail.com
Chile	Ministry of Health	3. Lucía Vergara	Coordinator of Chile Crece Contigo	vaguilar@sernatur.cl
Panama	Inter-American Commission for Human Rights	4. Esmeralda Arosemena	Rapporteur on Childhood	esmeraldatroi@hotmail.com
Chile	Consejo Nacional de la Infancia	5. Soledad Larraín	Director of Cross-Sectoral Area	estelaortiz@consejoinfancia.gob.cl