



## COMPREHENSIVE PROTECTION SYSTEMS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Submitted by the Delegation of Mexico

### THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

#### WHEREAS:

Recognizing the duty of the States in terms of promotion and protection of human rights, means that the old models of special protection should transition to strategies of comprehensive protection, which includes all children and adolescents and reflects the protection of their human rights.

That said change became a process of reflection on several aspects, among them, the existence of organisms of different levels and functions, programs and actions oriented to an operation with a systemic approach.

There are diverse operation models of systems and subsystems for the promotion and protection of rights in the region, to the extent that they are dynamic and change according to the sociopolitical context of the region, in view of the advances and agreements entered into in inter-American forums, the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) considers that, when referring to systems for the promotion and protection of children's rights [SIPPINNA, for its acronym in Spanish], the following is meant: "...a set of concepts (rights, principles, etc.), processes, entities (State, civil society, family, children, adolescents) acting in a differentiated, orderly, coordinated and complementary way in order to implement universal and targeted laws and public policy and achieve the promotion and comprehensive protection of child rights in all areas of society."<sup>1</sup>

That at different times, the States of the region have modified their existing regulatory and institutional frameworks or adopted new special laws to address these issues, which are characterized by having many complex variables that interact with one another and that cannot be addressed independently, but, to the contrary, require interdisciplinary, inter-agency and cross-generational attention.

That, in addition to other reference documents, it may facilitate the work on Systems for the Promotion and Comprehensive Protection of Children's Rights (SIPPINNA), the IIN-OAS's programme for the consolidation of these promotion and protection systems (created through CD/RES. 12 [93-R/18]), together with SIPPINNA Mexico's Executive Secretariat, prepared a paper aimed at people who carry out public and decision-making functions linked to the operation of said systems, which should be interpreted taking into account the singularities of each State, the internal processes, as well as the situation of its normative, programmatic dimensions, and institutions. It is emphasized that the document incorporates the opinion of children and adolescents, considering that they are actors in the systems and not just its users.

#### BEARING IN MIND:

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<sup>1</sup> IIN-OAS' work document 2018



OAS General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 2887 (XLVI-O/16) Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and AG/RES. 2908 (XLVII-O/17), through which the General Assembly reiterates and strengthens the provisions of its previous resolution, resolving “(...) To help strengthen comprehensive systems for promoting and protecting the rights of children and adolescents in the region by fostering universal and inclusive public policies that pay special attention to groups that have traditionally been excluded and/or are vulnerable, including girls, indigenous and Afro-descendent children, and children with disabilities. (...)”.

Resolution CPNNA/RES. 1 (XX-09) of the Pan American Child Congress, which urges “(...) member States to renew their commitment to children by strengthening comprehensive protection systems for children, through close coordination among institutions and sufficient, timely resources to improve their conditions for development and social inclusion and to ensure that their rights are fully respected (...)”.

That the conclusions and recommendations arising from the Special Meeting of the Directing Council of the Inter-American Children’s Institute (IIN-OAS), held in Quito, Ecuador, in 2007, was “(...) There has been heterogeneous and unequal progress in the definition and implementation of Comprehensive Protection Systems for children and adolescents. Joint work needs to be done to promote horizontal cooperation among countries towards the strengthening of existing systems, as well as the design and implementation of these in countries which have not yet developed them. (...)”.

Resolution CD/RES. 12 (93-R/18) of the Directing Council of the Inter-American Children’s Institute “Comprehensive Protection Systems for Children and Adolescents”, reaffirms the said above.

The opinion of children and adolescents participating in this intergenerational technical table, state that: the response of the systems is slow, there is a lack of knowledge about the reporting processes and about the institutions to which help can be requested, therefore they recommend improving their operation, channels, and reporting mechanisms, to the extent that there are different types of violence that infringe upon children and adolescents in the region such as: threats, bullying, domestic violence, abandonment, sexual and labor exploitation, manipulation, discrimination, racism, different forms of discrimination, among others, mainly in the family and educational environment.

## RESOLVES<sup>2</sup>:

1. To invite Member States to reaffirm their commitment to continue to work on consolidating systems and subsystems for the promotion and comprehensive protection of the rights of children and adolescents, within their singularities and possibilities.<sup>3</sup>
2. To reaffirm that the “Guiding Document to Review and Strengthen SIPPINAs” provides clear references to review the current status of existing systems and subsystems in the region.

<sup>2</sup> Guatemala abstains.

<sup>3</sup> The Argentine State considers that the resolution should not have contained the phrase "within its singularities and possibilities". The commitment requested from the States is below the principle of effectiveness established in Article 4 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.



3. To request the General Directorate of the IIN to continue strengthening its technical assistance activities within the framework of the Inter-American programme for the consolidation of systems for the promotion and comprehensive protection of children and adolescents, in the search for the regional coordination and cooperation that this issue deserves.
  
4. To take note of the opinions and recommendations made at the intergenerational thematic table held within the framework of the 96th meeting of the Directing Council and to entrust the IIN with their analysis and study for the purpose of deepening this line of work in its next plan of action, adding the possibility of generating discussions and instances of exchange among the States of the region, to generate follow up and articulation of the efforts developed as well as to guide their consolidation and strengthening.

