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International Cooperation Strategies – background paper for the Rio Congress

A presentation of the paper prepared by Dr. Norberto Liwski

Florence

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For every child
Health, Education, Equality, Protection
ADVANCE HUMANITY

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The Rio Congress Theme Papers

There are five papers:

Commercial Sexual Exploitation

Legal Frameworks and Enforcement

Coordination Strategies

Corporate Social Responsibility

International Cooperation Strategies

Components of the Framework for International Cooperation

States with priority responsibility for international and regional commitments

Cooperation based on a platform of democratic governance, and human rights principles

Considering children and adolescents as protagonists of change

Strengthening child friendly, inclusive and democratic institutions

A Rights Based Approach to International Cooperation

“At the international level a rights based approach provides the community with a solid moral base to claim various forms of assistance and to advocate for an international economic order that is respectful of human rights”

*Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
Ms. Mary Robinson*

7 Sections in the Liwski Paper

- Background and context of intl cooperation
- The CRC and its Optional Protocols as a basis for international cooperation
- States as main actors in international cooperation
- Regional and sub-regional cooperation
- Role of civil society and the private sector
- Thematic fields of international cooperation
- Conclusions and recommendations

Background and Context for Intl Cooperation

- Description of the 1990s and the shifting nature of intl cooperation
- General Comment No. 5 of the CRC Committee establishing importance of intl cooperation
- UN Charter, art. 55 and 56, establishing general objectives of intl cooperation
- The Millenium Declaration vis. intl cooperation
- The UN Special Session on Children and WFFC document noting intl cooperation
- Intl cooperation in the CRC, Optional Protocols and other relevant intl instruments

Background and Context for Intl Cooperation

- Need more resources to fund Plans of Action
- Need more resources for research to make sure actions are making a difference for children

The CRC and its Optional Protocols – the basis of intl cooperation

- The Liwski paper recalls the general principles of the CRC
- Particular emphasis on art. 4 of the CRC: resource allocation
- Art. 34 emphasis on cooperation
- Mentions the holistic nature of the CRC
- Writes about some of the intl dimensions issues raised in art. 34 – child trafficking, the exploitation of children in travel and tourism
- Also internationally shared concerns such as: child pornography on the internet, harmful traditional practices and sexual exploitation etc.

The CRC and its Optional Protocols – the basis of intl cooperation

- The Liwski paper comments on the OPSC and its call for steps in international cooperation
- Specific references to child pornography, travel and tourism, sale and child prostitution
- Comments on the OPSC and root causes, provision of technical and financial assistance etc.

States – the main actors in international cooperation

- Coordination among states critically important
- Need to share definitions
- Common indicators needed
- International financing mentioned

Key Recommendations from the Liwski Paper

- Use the CRC and OPs as the basis for action
- Take a rights approach to intl cooperation – recognizing the participation of children and adolescents
- Engage civil society actors in the international cooperation framework

Key Recommendations from the Liwski Paper

- Avoid fragmentation and duplication by having international coordination mechanisms
- Develop protocols providing restitution for children who are victims of transnational crime in the context of sexual exploitation
- Address poverty, violence, social exclusion etc.

Key Recommendations from the Liwski Paper

- Guarantee the migration policies in intl cooperation are addressed
- Engage the corporate sector in the context of intl cooperation, in particular to address sexual exploitation in travel and tourism, and child pornography