Parliaments united in combating sexual violence against children

The Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to stop sexual violence against children

Liliane Maury Pasquier welcomes Germany’s voluntary contribution in support of the parliamentary campaign to stop sexual violence against children.

In October 2010 the Parliamentary Assembly decided, at the instigation of the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, to develop the parliamentary dimension of the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to stop sexual violence against children. The aim is twofold: to associate national parliaments with the campaign, and to promote the signature, ratification and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention), through concrete action.

I thus welcome the commitment of the German Government to support the Assembly’s action by making a substantial voluntary contribution to finance the launch of the parliamentary dimension of the campaign and its development up to the end of 2011. I hope that other countries will envisage the same kind of commitment in the years ahead.

Let us unite in order to combat sexual violence against children effectively.

Editorial by the Chairperson of the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee

Diary

Strasbourg, 13 April 2011
Second meeting of the contact parliamentarians

Kyiv (Ukraine), 24-25 May 2011
Sub-Committee on Children, on the occasion of the international conference organised in the framework of the Ukrainian Chairmanship of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers on “Combating violence against children: from isolated actions to integrated strategies” (subject to authorisation by the Bureau)

Strasbourg, June part-session 2011
Third meeting of the contact parliamentarians

Website

More information on the parliamentary dimension of the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign is available at the following address:

http://www.assembly.coe.int/oneinfive

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Strasbourg, 26 January 2011
First meeting of the network of contact parliamentarians

National parliaments have mobilised to contribute to the parliamentary dimension of the campaign to combat sexual violence against children. The network of contact parliamentarians first met in Strasbourg on 26 January 2011. To date (5 April 2011), 37 contact parliamentarians have been appointed.

Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier, Chairperson of the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, participated in the launch of the parliamentary dimension of the campaign to stop sexual violence against children.

Introducing the Handbook for parliamentarians

The Handbook for parliamentarians promoting the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention) was presented at the first meeting of contact parliamentarians and was made available on an information stand near the hemicycle during the first part-session of 2011 of the Parliamentary Assembly.

This handbook is a practical tool which will allow parliamentarians to better understand and promote the Lanzarote Convention. It provides the necessary means for communicating the added value of the convention and highlights the sensitive issues which need to be tackled by national legislation.

The Lanzarote Convention contains all the measures needed to prevent sexual violence, to protect children and to prosecute the abusers.

Copies of the handbook are available from the Parliamentary Assembly Secretariat and on the campaign website.

The aims of the network

- to associate national parliamentarians with the parliamentary dimension of the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to stop sexual violence against children
- to co-ordinate national and European parliamentary action to combat sexual violence against children
- to facilitate the exchange of best practices on the legislative and political action implemented in each member state

Strasbourg, 13 April 2011
Second meeting of contact parliamentarians

Theme: Fighting “child pornography” on the Internet

Mr John Carr, Senior expert adviser to the International Telecommunication Union, Child Online Protection Initiative (United Kingdom), will make a presentation on the means to fight “child pornography” on the Internet.

This presentation will be followed by a discussion on the issue.

A photo of the participants will be taken at the end of the meeting on the stairs in front of the hemicycle.