

Stockholm Congress Regional Meeting: Americas

In view of the validity of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the ratification of which is desirable on the part of all nations for its fundamental significance with regard to ethical and legal commitments for the entire human race, being aware of the necessity of including the subject of sexual exploitation of children in the reports for the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and taking into account the objectives of the Brasilia Charter, and in compliance with the Declaration and Agenda for Action approved by the Congress, the implementation of which should be carried out and monitored at the regional level:

Government representatives, representatives of NGOs and other institutions on the American continent propose the following:

1. That the Inter-American Information Programme on the Child and the Family (PIINFA) presented by the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACA) be utilized in order to compile and make available all information concerning the fight against the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents;
2. That sub-regional groups be formed to organize the financing of concrete programmes in America to complement the Agenda for Action against the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents as approved by the Congress, at the same time bearing in mind the negative aspects of the globalization of the economy;
3. That contacts should be intensified between official national institutions and international ones, NGOs, community groups, the media, companies, labour unions etc in order to make coordinated efforts to confront all aspects of the protection of children and adolescents against sexual exploitation.
4. That special human resources training should be developed and intensified by means of horizontal technical cooperation or other forms of inter-agency and intersectoral capacity building so that every country has the opportunity to ensure the provision of comprehensive programmes of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation for children and adolescents who have been the victims of sexual exploitation.
5. That information about the serious nature of the issue of sexual exploitation of children and adolescents should be disseminated during Children's Week or Day in every country, together with information about means of prevention, protection, rehabilitation and reintegration.
6. That participants in the Congress should inform their governments of the support that exists for quick ratification and full implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women, approved in Berlin.
7. That an appeal should be made to governments to adopt the action plans concerning tourism, formulated and implemented in collaboration with hotel associations, transport associations, travel agents and tourist organizers and NGOs in order to prevent and repress the practice of sex tourism.
8. That countries should demand that those people who beget children as a consequence of acts of sexual exploitation should fulfil not only their penal and legal obligations but also their civil responsibilities.

In particular the Members of Parliament of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela who participated in the Congress will join forces to:

- a. Create an American parliamentary front at national, regional and local levels in order to combat sexual exploitation of children and adolescents;

- b. Discuss, amend and adapt penal codes in order to more severely combat sexual offences committed against children and adolescents;
- c. To demand concrete measures on the part of the executive bodies of their States in order to implement the Agenda for Action adopted by the Congress;
- d. To establish contacts with other inter-parliamentary networks (Parlatino, the Andine Parliament, Parliamentarians for Global Action, the Inter-Parliamentary Union etc) with the aim of integrating the theme of sexual exploitation of children and adolescents into the items on their agendas;
- e. To propose another Parlatino meeting in São Paulo in Brazil where this subject should be handled specifically.