



Organization of
American States



**2nd CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM PRIOR TO THE
XXI PAN AMERICAN CHILD CONGRESS**
San Salvador, El Salvador – August 12-13, 2014

PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

Civil society organizations play an important part in the definition and achievement of the objectives of the Organization of American States (OAS) with regards to democracy, multidimensional security, integral development and the promotion and protection of human rights in the region. The contributions of civil society actors in the framework of the OAS and its specialized organizations are key to define and guarantee the attainment of these objectives as well as the fulfillment of mandates and commitments at the international, national and local levels.

In this context, the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), in coordination with the Government of El Salvador and with the support of the OAS Secretariat for External Relations (SER) and the Global Movement for Children of Latin America and the Caribbean, will carry out the *2nd Civil Society Forum prior to the XXI Pan American Child Congress* to grant civil society organizations that monitor the implementation of OAS initiatives – particularly in the area of violence against children and adolescents – the opportunity to dialogue and exchange ideas and experiences on this topic. In addition, participants will be able, with the support of IIN and SER, to formulate and compile recommendations that will be presented for the consideration of National Delegations. The recommendations will be submitted as conclusions in the plenary session of the XXI Pan American Child Congress which will take place in Brasilia, Brazil on December 10-12, 2014.

This document presents the objectives, expected results, methodology and format of the sessions, as well as a draft Agenda for the 2nd Civil Society Forum prior to the XXI Pan American Child Congress.

OBJECTIVE

In preparation for the XXI Pan American Child Congress, the Department of International Affairs, the Inter-American Children's Institute and the Global Movement for Children of Latin America and the Caribbean will host the 2nd Civil Society Forum on August 12 and 13 of 2014 in San Salvador, El Salvador for the purpose of generating a dialogue and grant civil society actors the opportunity to exchange ideas and elaborate proposals and recommendations on the central theme of the XXI Congress – violence against children and adolescents 25 years after the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results of the 2nd Civil Society Forum prior to the Pan American Child Congress include:

1. Generating a dialogue and recommendations on the theme of the theme of the XXI Pan American Child Congress for the consideration of Member State Delegations;
2. Reviewing and evaluating the advances and challenges in the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child 25 years after its adoption; and,
3. Promote the participation and engagement of civil society organizations, including organizations of children and adolescents, in the monitoring and promotion of issues pertaining to children and adolescents within the Inter-American Agenda.

METHODOLOGY AND FORMAT

The 2nd Civil Society Forum will have a duration of a day and a half and will take place in San Salvador, El Salvador on August 12 and 13 of 2014. The event will focus on questions related to the central theme of the XXI Pan American Child Congress, "violence against children and adolescents ", with a special emphasis on 1) violence against children and adolescents 25 years after the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 2) adolescents in conflict with the law and criminal liability systems; and 3) the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents.

The morning of the first day will consist in an Inaugural Session; an introduction to the XXI Pan American Child Congress by the IIN; a presentation of the Department of International Affairs (DIA) of SER on the background of the Forum, followed by a brief explanation of the Forum methodology; and, the First Plenary Session of the Forum on the issue of violence against children and adolescents 25 years after the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). During this First Plenary Session, the Latin America and Caribbean Movement for Children will present its actions in the framework of the regional agenda of children in the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Study on Violence against Children.

The Second Plenary Session will take place in the afternoon of the first day and will focus on the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents.

The Third Plenary Session will take place on the morning of the second day, on the question of adolescents in conflict with the law and criminal liability systems.

This will be followed by an exchange on the identification and strengthening of mechanisms for the follow-up of civil society forum declarations in the framework of Pan-American Child Congresses. During this session, DIA will present the newly approved instruments to strengthen civil society participation in OAS activities.

Presentations will be given in each Plenary Session, followed by a dialogue with the participants. The 2nd Civil Society Forum will conclude with a Closing Session.

Recommendations from the groups of each session will be compiled and consolidated in a document which will be presented to the Member States in the framework of the OAS Permanent Council as well as to the participants of the XXI Pan American Child Congress.

Panelists will include adults expert in the topics jointly defined prior to the forum as well as delegates from organized groups of children and adolescents of the region.

Participants will work in plenary sessions as well as working groups on the different themes.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

For the purpose of enhancing the discussion on each thematic area, participants are encouraged to become familiarized with the following documents:

- [Draft Agenda - XXI PAN AMERICAN CHILD CONGRESS](#)
- [Resolution CD/RES 05 \(88-R/13\): XXI PAN AMERICAN CHILD CONGRESS](#)

LANGUAGES

The plenary sessions and working groups of the 2nd Civil Society Forum will be in Spanish.

LOGISTICS

Participants will pay for transport from their country of origin to San Salvador.

Additionally, all civil society representatives will be responsible for reserving and paying for their own accommodations. Participants are advised to reserve their hotel rooms as far in advance as possible. Please see below information about the Hotel Sheraton Presidente, where the 2nd Civil Society Forum will be held:

Hotel Sheraton Presidente

Final Avenida la Revolución

Colonia San Benito

San Salvador, El Salvador

Tel: (503) 2283-4000

Fax: (503) 2283-4040

Email: sansalvador.presidente@sheratonpresidente.com.sv

Website: [Sheraton Presidente San Salvador](#)

Price: Single or double Room: US\$ 159 + VAT

The OAS will not be responsible for the cost of transportation, accommodations and other costs incurred by the participants during their stay in San Salvador, El Salvador.

August 12, 2014

**2nd Civil Society Forum prior to the
XXI Pan American Child Congress**

Time: 9:00am - 4:30pm

Place: Hotel Sheraton Presidente
Salón Presidente 4
San Salvador, El Salvador

8:30am Registration

9:00am Press Conference

9:30am Inaugural Session

- Dolores Aguilar, Director General of the Inter-American Children's Institute
- Ronalth Iván Ochaeta, Representative of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States in El Salvador
- Beat Rorh, Director General of Save the Children International – Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Movement for Children (MMI-LAC)
- Two Representatives of children and adolescents (Names TBC)
- Zaira Navas, Executive Director of the National Council on Children and Adolescents, El Salvador Representative to the Directing Council of the Inter-American Children's Institute

10:00am Introduction to the XXI Pan American Child Congress

- Dolores Aguilar, Director General of the Inter-American Children's Institute

10:20am Background and Methodology for the 2nd Forum

- Jorge Sanín, Director, Department of International Affairs, OAS

- 10:45am** **Coffee Break**
- 11:00am** **First Plenary Session: violence against children and adolescents 25 years after the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**
1. Report on the progress and challenges in the follow-up of the UN Violence against Children (UNVAC) study – Rocio Valencia, Program Coordinator, MMI-LAC
 2. Lessons learned in the framework of the approval and follow-up of the law against physical punishment and humiliation in Brazil – Red Nao Bata, Eduque
- 11:20am** Dialogue facilitated by Amanda Rives, World Vision
- 12:20pm** **Compilation of civil society recommendations**
- 1:00pm** **Lunch**
- 2:30pm** **Second Plenary Session: the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents (SECA)**
1. Regional panorama of SECA: challenges and opportunities in the short and medium terms – Lesly Zambrano, Latin America Representative to the International Board – End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual purposes (ECPAT)
 2. Challenges on rights protection – Lyda Guarin, Regional Advisor on Childhood Protection, Plan International
 3. Access to justice for SECA victims
- 3:00pm** Dialogue – *Facilitator to be determined*
- 4:00pm** **Compilation of civil society recommendations**
- 4:30pm** **Closing**

August 13, 2014

**2nd Civil Society Forum prior to the
XXI Pan American Child Congress**

Time: 8:30am - 1:00pm

Place: Hotel Sheraton Presidente
Salón Presidente 4
San Salvador, El Salvador

- 8:30am** **Third Plenary Session: adolescents in conflict with the law and criminal liability systems**
1. The perspective of adolescents on juvenile justice and human rights of children in the Americas – Hamilton Steven Sandoval Portillo and Roció Abigail Linares Palacios, adolescents of the National Networks of Children and Adolescents of El Salvador (RENAES) and Georgina Villalta, General Manager of the Salvadorean Child Network (RIA) , member of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for the Defense of Children and Adolescent Rights (REDLAMYC)
 2. Report “The establishment of nonviolent juvenile justice systems” – Milena Grillo, International Council of NGO on violence against Children and Adolescents, Latin American Representative of REDLAMYC
 3. Threats and challenges in the Latin American and Caribbean Region, Defence for Children International (DNI)
- 9:00am** Dialogue to be facilitated by TBC
- 10:00am** **Compilación de las recomendaciones de la Sociedad Civil**
- 10:30am** **Coffee break**
- 10:45am** **Identification and Strengthening of mechanisms for the follow-up of civil society forum declarations in the framework of Pan-American Child Congresses.**
1. New Strategy and instruments to strengthen civil society participation in OAS activities – Jorge Sanín, Director, Department of International Affairs, OAS
 2. Exchange of best practices and lessons learned
- 11:45am** Compilation and editing of civil society recommendations
- 1:00pm** **Closing**
- Matthew Carlson, Acting Regional Director of Plan International, Representative of the Latin American and Caribbean Movement for Children (MMI-LAC)
 - Dolores Aguilar, Director General of the Inter-American Children’s Institute
 - Jorge Sanín, Director, Department of International Affairs, OAS
 - Child or adolescent (TBC)