



Project funded by the  
European Union

## EUROMED JUSTICE II PROJECT



### COMPONENT II RESOLUTION OF CROSS-BORDER FAMILY CONFLICTS

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Training Seminar

**“MAINTAINING PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH BOTH PARENTS, IN  
PARTICULAR VISITING RIGHTS”**

The Hague (NL), 18-20 May 2010

Lead firm: EIPA-ECR, C/ Girona 20, ES-08010 Barcelona  
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## **DRAFT AGENDA**

### **Monday 17 May 2010**

19.30 -21.00 Dinner for the representatives of the MEDA countries

### **Tuesday 18 May 2010**

08.45 - 09.00 **Registration of participants**

09.00 - 09.30 **Welcome speeches**

*Mr. Andrés SALCEDO VELASCO*, Judge, Team Leader of the EuroMed Justice II Project, Barcelona (ES)

09.30 - 09.45 **Presentation of the EuroMed Justice II Project.** Main topics suggested for discussion, the working programme and the methodology to be followed during the meeting.

*Mr. José María FERNÁNDEZ VILLALOBOS*, Judge, Course Manager of the EuroMed Justice II Project, Barcelona (ES)

09.45 - 10.30 **Tour de table. Self-Presentation of participants and presentation of the situation in the MEDA Partners.**

Each delegation will have **some 10 minutes** to present itself and to give a presentation on the current situation about the topics covered by this seminar in its own country.

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 - 13.00 **1<sup>st</sup> Presentation on “Contact with children. International legal approach”**

Speaker: *Mr. Lotfi CHEDLY*, Lecturer at the Faculty of Legal, Political and Social Sciences, Tunisia (TN)

Debate

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch

14.30 - 16.00 **2<sup>nd</sup> Presentation on “Psychological aspects of cross-border family conflicts related to the interest of children”**

Speaker: *Ms. Connie CAPDEVILA BROPHY*, PhD, Clinical Psychologist, Family Therapist and Mediator, Spain (ES)

Debate

16.00 - 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 - 18.00 **“Psychological aspects of cross-border family conflicts related to the interest of children” (cont’d)**

Speaker: *Ms. Connie CAPDEVILA BROPHY*

Discussion on practical case

End of the day

### **Wednesday 19 May 2010**

09.30 - 11.00 **3<sup>rd</sup> Presentation on “Meaning and content of ‘personal relations’: special reference to visiting rights”**

Speaker: *Ms. Flora CALVO*, Lawyer, Lecturer in International Private Law and Head of the Department of studies and investigation and Library at the Madrid Bar Association, Spain (ES)

Debate

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 - 13.00 **“Meaning and content of ‘personal relations’: special reference to visiting rights” (cont’d)**

Speaker: *Ms. Flora CALVO*

Discussion on practical case

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch

14.30 - 17.00 **Practical activity**

Visit to The Hague Conference

End of the day

### **Thursday 20 May 2010**

09.30 - 11.00 **4<sup>th</sup> Presentation on “General principles of good practices in cross-border contacts concerning children”**

Speaker: *Mr. William DUNCAN*, Deputy Secretary General, The Hague Conference on Private International Law, The Hague (NL)

Debate

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 - 13.00 **“General principles of good practices in cross-border contacts concerning children” (cont’d)**

Speaker: *Mr. William DUNCAN*

Discussion on practical case

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch

14.30 - 15.30 **“Tour de table”. Presentation of new developments in each country**

Each delegation will have **some 10 minutes** to present future developments planned in its country in the field addressed.

15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 - 16.45 **Plenary session, debate, conclusions**

*José María FERNÁNDEZ VILLALOBOS*

16.45 - 17.00 Closure

*Andrés SALCEDO VELASCO*

End of the training seminar

## **GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

### **The project**

The European Commission launched a regional project in the field of justice in the Euro-Mediterranean area, EuroMed Justice II (January 2008 – January 2011). This project is

implemented by a consortium led by the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) and composed of the International and Ibero-American Foundation of Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP) and of the Spanish General Council of the Judiciary (CGPJ).

The European Centre for the Regions (ECR), the Antenna of the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) in Barcelona, is the Programme Management Unit for the EuroMed Justice II Project.

The beneficiaries of this project are. the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Israel, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Lebanon, the Kingdom of Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Tunisia.

This project has a total duration of 36 months, between January 2008 and January 2011, with 12 Working groups meetings (already done in 2008-2009), 18 training sessions and 10 study visits to be developed during this period. The project is structured around three different components. Access to justice and legal aid; Resolution of cross-border family conflicts; and Criminal and prison law.

### **The training seminar**

This meeting takes place under the second main component of the project "Resolution of Cross-Border Family conflicts". Most experts consider that training is the core issue in any process of change affecting adequately functioning institutions and good governance. A complete training, balanced and plural, is a prerequisite if the Judiciary wants to be respected and worthy of respect. For this reason this second part of EUROMED JUSTICE II project acquires a relevant role through the training activities in order to contribute to strengthening the Euro-Mediterranean justice area. The title of this seminar "Maintaining personal relations with both parents, in particular visiting rights" was agreed during the Working Group meetings held related to this component. In this respect this session is focused on cross-border family conflicts and contacts concerning children. In this respect, the different subtopics will enable us to carry out an in-depth analysis of several relevant aspects which are directly linked with the main issues under consideration. We are going to share the international experts' opinion and the participants' approach on these topics from their own perspective, experience and respective competences. Through an in-depth and detailed discussion, we will know the current situation related to the topics under discussion, among others Contact with children: international legal approach; Psychological aspects of cross-border family conflicts related to the interest of the children; Meaning and content of "personal relations": special reference to the visiting rights; and General principles of good practices in cross-border contacts concerning children. In this way, we will know what the different features in the region are and we will learn from each other through an exchange of experiences and views.

### **Working Method**

Participants should be aware that they are the main players in the training seminar as they will be able to share their respective experience and views related to the topics under review. We expect the experts participating in this seminar to have an in-depth knowledge of the topics under discussion and to be able to provide us with a detailed vision of the current situation in their respective countries. We also expect them to have previously prepared themselves for the discussion in order to achieve the most fruitful results. In this context and to ensure a good preparation, the Project Team will provide the participants, at least two weeks before the date of the seminar, with the agenda, the documents and a list of the relevant documents on the topics addressed. These documents will also be made available on the EuroMed Justice II project website for the participants to download them and will be handed over to the participants in a folder on the occasion of the training seminar.

Moreover we would like to stress that the methodology of the training sessions does not rely on a traditional methodology based on *ex cathedra* classes; rather, the idea is to put a strong emphasis on interactive presentations allowing for a transfer of knowledge and experience. We should not forget that although it is the expert who will determine the framework of the presentation, the objective of the training seminars is not just a transfer of knowledge, but rather to give the participants the possibility of sharing their experience and viewpoints on the issues being addressed. This methodology will then enable them to take advantage from the experience of the other colleagues and, in our opinion, the working atmosphere should facilitate relationships between the participants. In this respect and in order to trigger the debate, practical cases or workshops will be introduced in the different training seminars depending of the topics being discussed.

The quality of the various sessions will be assessed by means of evaluation forms distributed to the participants at the end of the seminar. After each training seminar, its results will be evaluated by the participants, including the knowledge and skills gained and the subjective perception participants have both about the contents and the trainers. It is very important from the very beginning to know the opinion of the participants because we are aware that although we are doing our best to guarantee the quality of each activity, the participants' viewpoints will help us to perceive some details that can be improved for the next sessions.

### **Experts**

Four (4) experts from each Mediterranean partner country are expected to attend each training seminar.

The experts should have the appropriate profile, a comprehensive knowledge and vision, and a sound experience in this field. They should also be willing to make an effective contribution to the training seminar. Bearing in mind that a "Tour de table" is scheduled both on the first and last day of the seminar, a short presentation prepared ahead of the seminar by each delegation will be required. The quality of the experts proposed is the main guarantee that our joint efforts during the seminars will result in a good analysis

and diagnosis of the situation in the fields addressed, and in an exchange of useful, reliable and accurate information.

### **Documentation**

A list of the basic documentation will be provided by the Project Team at least two weeks ahead of the seminar.

- Relevant international documentation on the topic produced by the European Union, the Council of Europe, the United Nations, etc.
- Other documents, possibly those provided by the participants of the Mediterranean partner countries.
- Reading documents.

These documents will be sent to the participants ahead of the meeting together with the list of basic documentation; they will also be handed over to the participants at the training seminar.

### **Working languages**

English, French and Arabic, with simultaneous interpretation during the whole seminar.

## Venue and accommodation



The seminar will take place at  
the  
**HOTEL CARLTON AMBASSADOR**

Sophialaan 2  
2514 JP Den Haag  
The Netherlands

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