

**8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Barents Co-operation programme  
“Children and Youth At Risk”**

**Date and time:**

Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
10.00-17.00

**Venue:**

Conference room, Hotel Radisson Blue  
Oulu, Finland

**Present:**

- Pål Christian Bergstrøm** Chair of the Steering Committee of the Programme "Children and youth at risk in the Barents region  
Director General, the Regional Office for Children, Youth and Family Affairs in Northern Norway
- Elena Krasovskaja** Deputy Chair of the Steering Committee of the CYAR programme  
Deputy Chair of the commission for juvenile and protection of their rights under The Murmansk Regional government;  
Consultant, Department for Cooperation with law enforcement authorities, Office of the Government of the Murmansk region
- Roman Kopusov** Coordinator of the CYAR programme  
Project leader, Department of international relations in the Barents region, the Regional Office for Children, Youth and Family Affairs in Northern Norway
- Anna Afanasyeva** Secretary of the CYAR programme  
Senior Executive Officer, the Department of international relations in the Barents region, the Regional Office for Children, Youth and Family Affairs in Northern Norway
- Vappu Sunnari** University lecturer, gender studies/equality, University of Oulu, Finland
- Arja Rautio** Professor, THULE-institute
- Suvi Pihkala** Project coordinator, University of Oulu, Women and gender studies, Finland
- Ingrid Löfstrand** Project Coordinator, Association of Local and Regional Authorities of the province Norbotten, Sweden
- Ilya Semiashkin** Head of the agency for social development of the Komi Republic

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| <b>Elena Dunaeva</b>      | Advisor to the Deputy Governor of the Arkhangelsk region on social issues       |
| <b>Svetlana Antokhina</b> | Deputy Minister of Health and Social development, Republic of Karelia           |
| <b>Aleksandra Artieva</b> | Representative of BEAC working group on indigenous peoples, the Murmansk region |
| <b>Elena Viktorova</b>    | The leader of SOS villages in Murmansk  |
| <b>Olga Sorvanova</b>     | Interpreter   |

## **Agenda**

### **1. Welcome speech. Opening of the meeting – Chair.**

The Chair welcomed the members of the Steering committee (SC) and opened the meeting with a short presentation of the main topics, in particular:

- funding application to Kolarctic and the second part of the CYAR programme – CYAR 2;
- more stable financial procedures and expanding activities from the Finnish side «From violence to care». The budget provides room for flexibility and new activities, proposals will be discussed;
- reporting and funding structure of the Kolarctic;
- inviting the leader of SOS in Murmansk to the last part of the meeting;
- presentation of the “Audtrain” – the program on expertise of institution in the Barents region. It is a systematic way of conducting inspection on children rights in relevant institutions. This program is a concrete proposal for implementing it further in the Barents region.
- the overall interaction of the project plan, EU Kolarctic schemes and CYAR 2, including the types of CYAR funding and adjustment of the CYAR 2 activities according to the available funding, practical conduct of the project activity plan.

The Chair encourages the SC members to raise the challenges and question on the interaction of the Kolarctic and CYAR.

The meeting is opened by the Chair.

### **2. Presentation of the participants of the meeting.**

All the SC members are present. The list of the participants is included in the minutes.

There is no need to take a round of presentations as the participants have met many times before and know each other.

Arja Rauto, a professor at the University of Oulu, Finland is also presenting at the meeting. The list of the participants is included in the protocol.

### **3. Adoption of the agenda**

The Chair presented the topics for the meeting:

1. Adoption of the protocol of the 7<sup>th</sup> SC meeting from December 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 in Murmansk, Russia.
2. Status report for 2012 – Chair
  - News from JWGHS
  - Activity plan for 2012
  - Information on EU Kolarctic application and CYAR II
3. CYAR Activity plan for second half of the 2012 - discussion
  - Project plan for 2012 and detailed planning
4. Information from the SC members – relevant news, updates on co-operation, activities and prospects in the realm of children and youth at risk.
5. Planning of next SC meeting and the CYAR seminar – proposal from the Chair.

The Chair goes through the agenda. The agenda is adopted.

#### **4. Adoption of the protocol of the 7<sup>th</sup> SC meeting**

##### Follow-up of the previous SC meeting:

There have been breaches in quality of implementation in terms of the certain method-disseminating programmes; thus, the specific focus will be set on the quality of implementation of these programmes.

Proposal for the next SC meeting: the next SC meeting will take place in Petrozavodsk.

##### Comments and remarks on the protocol:

All the regional comments were added to the protocol. The protocol includes updates on news and comments from the regions.

No objections to the following. The protocol is adopted.

#### **5. Status report for 2012 – Chair**

- **Activity plan for 2012**

The Chair presented the activity plan adopted for the year 2012.

The following comments were brought out:

1. Two relevant alternatives: The conference devoted to the 10th Anniversary of cooperation between Norway and Karelia or the conference on the rights of the child.
2. Komi and Karelia republics expressed a great interest in activities within the field of “Children and Punishment” topic and it has to be integrated in the programme.
3. Changes in the secretariat of the SC: Roman Kuposov is the current project leader of the CYAR programme and Anna Afanasyeva – senior executive officer of the program. The programme secretariat will undergo following changes: Roman Kuposov will become the advisor and the expert on quality of methods dissemination and research (40% occupation); Marina Zyryanova will be employed as the project leader, taking responsibility for the operative part of the CYAR. Anna Afanasyeva is leaving her position at CYAR for another job at the Barents secretariat.

##### **Proposals on the theme:**

- 1) The next SC meeting will take place in autumn in Petrozavodsk, Republic of Karelia, Russia;

2) The more systematic and close collaboration with the Expert Group for Cooperation on Children at Risk - Baltic Sea States. There had been carried out two meetings and elaborated the joint project group with the purposes of Audtrain program;

3) The meeting with the NDPHS working group in order to discuss the partnership closely related to bilateral cooperation on children and punishment and other related programmes in CYAR, autumn 2012;

4) At the last meeting the members of the NDPHS working group underlined the positive results of the CYAR activities and results from the application to Kolarctic. The NDPHS working group is eager to collaborate further on the joint projects;

5) Professional quality: there is a great concern on the professional quality of the activities. The quantity of activities is high, however the more social centres are integrated in competence sharing the more resources are required to ensure the quality of the following competence.

#### Main issues:

- mechanisms for integrating the new social centres in the activity plan;

- available resources: The level of professionalism in the centres. There have been spent large amount of resources to provide teaching in the centres, which do not provide the corresponding services to the population. The amount of the centres in this respect appears to be too big. The question will be brought up further on the meeting in detail;

6) The webpage is continuously updated. The NDPHS has a very good webpage and CYAR started to regard it as an example to follow.

7) Positive reply from EU Kolarctic. There are very few applications, which get through the system of the EU Kolarctic. The application was submitted in October 2011, the whole budget applied for was allocated with the exception for Norway where the Norwegian part of the application was cut to 500.000 Euro.

#### Comments:

##### **Quality of implementation:**

- Increased role of the SC members responsible for better coordination and control of the activities in the region;
- The local and regional administrations in Petrozavodsk, Karelia on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May had a meeting with the Norwegian delegation for discussing the issues related to the current and future cooperation. One of the important questions discussed during the meeting was the sustainability of the competence by means of establishing the methodological centre for evidence-based programmes.

##### **Certification of the trainers:**

- UFSIN would like have educated master trainers on the ART program within the FSIN. The coordination role will be transferred to Vologda Institute (VIPE) ;
- Arkhangelsk region has trainers in mediation. The trainers from Arkhangelsk will participate at the end of October 2012 the educational seminar in Trondheim (Norway) and Sweden in order to share their experiences with the colleagues;
- The first ART trainers from the colony for female juvenile offenders were certified in Ryazan. The previous work only concerned male juvenile offenders, thus this practice in Ryazan demonstrates development of evidence-based programmes on the different target groups when it comes to the gender. The research on the result of these measurements has to be carried out.

- **The CYAR programme Support project – presentation of the activities**

1) Quality control – a number of given programmes were provided to the centres, which do not provide the following services to population in practice, therefore, leading to unproductive use of the CYAR resources.

The proposed solutions: To strengthen the control over the selection of participating institutions or to exclude the number of centres from implementation of the programme.

The implementation of the programmes "Family Group Conferences" and "ART" have very good control of quality and practices in the centres, but in the "Incredible Years" requires quality assessment.

2) The list of institutions on the regional level will be sent to each of the SC members, including the questionnaire: the required comments on status and situation of the involved centres and decision if they should be excluded from the list.

The resources should be concentrated on centres, delivering their services to families in need. Before the entrance of new centres on the list, there should be a profound control of already involved institutions. After receiving the updated lists and information, there will be prepared a proposal and brought up to the next SC meeting.

This proposal is regarding those activities have already being implementing in the CYAR I since 2008.

Comments:

Vappu Sunnari proposed two topics for inclusion in the focus of the program for 2012:

1. Cooperation on human trafficking, particularly women trafficking. 2. Corporal punishment and child abuse.

Pål Christian Bergstrøm:

The dissemination of the information on these topics have not been previously emphasized, rather than the focus was set on the issues in the field of penalty system and children in conflict with law, the question has to be taken in consideration with relation to a possible manner of integration of the following topic.

- **Information on EU Kolarctic application and CYAR II**

The following issues were discussed:

- Need to review the plan and its request corresponding relation to the size of the requested funding.
- The total volume of funding, how funds will be spent on what activities and how will it be implemented in practice in accordance with new requirements that are not operated during the first the CYAR program.

Comments:

The Secretariat will review the relationship between the scheme and the system Kolarctic CYAR program where the emphasis is placed on compliance with the requirements of the program's objectives and goals Kolarctic.

The novel is Kopusov presentation requirements and criteria for application in Kolarctic. Roman Kopusov informs that at the request of Kolarctic in the application criteria for the 1st order of the criteria were changed to the 2nd order.

These criteria have been described in detail in the meeting:

- general conditions of the EU funding;
- private funding: important for the Russian side.

Total financing of the project consists of:

- public financing;
- private financing.

Roman Kopusov provides an overview and a report on the budget for each country. Project costs are divided into 4 countries and 2 groups, where Norway stands independently.

### **Additional criteria:**

The number of activities for the CYAR 2 represents a challenge, which has to be resolved. The Norwegian Kolarctic fund provided the budget of 168.000 EUR less than it was expected.

It means that we will have to reduce the number of activities. The data should be rearranged in accordance with reduction of the budget (note the table of priority indicators CYAR 2).

### Comments:

Mrs. Dunaeva: is interested in when starts the CYAR 2 and if it is necessary to combine the activities of the current year of CYAR 1 with the activities of the first year of CYAR 2.

Mr. Kopusov: The CYAR 2 starts as soon as the grand contract will be signed with the Kolarctic.

Mrs. Löfstrand asked for additional information on the Swedish budget. The specific comments on the budget will be sent to the Swedish SC member.

Mrs. Krasovskaja is interested if "Foundation for Support of Children in difficult life situations" under chairmanship of Marina Gordeeva will take part in financing the programme.

Mr. Kopusov: The fund has given very positive feedback and impressions on the activities of the CYAR programme. The resources of the fund may be used in case the regions take part as the applicants, i.e. the only eligible applicants to the fund are the regional sides.

## **6. CYAR Activity plan for 2012 – discussion**

### **• Project plan for 2012 and detailed planning**

Mr. Bergstrom proposes to be precise in discussing the issue of flexibility in the choice activities. There are ready-made proposals for specific activities. Mr. Bergstrom presents the adjusted plan in accordance with the budget for 2012 (note table), it is proposed to go through each year in detail from 2012 - 2014.

Priority in the CYAR 2 focuses rather on quality of the implemented programs than on quantity, as well as the bigger amount of supervisions will be offered to the regions. The follow-ups will be prioritized. During the meeting should be taken decision on the total number of program units.

"Incredible Years"- to ensure that the activity includes those centers, which offer similar services to the population;

"What about us"- 3 supervisions and 3 training courses a year;

“Cooperation with the UFSIN and related to the topic of juvenile offenders”- integrating into project activity Karelia and Komi republics, the activities in the regions can be included in the project plan, and it is first necessary to obtain permission from Moscow. There is available budget for project group meetings.

Comments:

1) Training seminars on the program “From violence to caring.”

Suvi Pihkala presented the FVC-program (From Violence to Caring).

Mrs. Sunnari: The program is not a training course but a program of 5 courses and our aim is to update further content of the program for the relevant local purposes on the basis of what was promised in the project plan.

Mr. Bergström: Concerning the proposal on the program “From violence to care” it has to be found an applicable routine for communication about the eligibility criteria for participants of the course as well as the question of further usage of their competence according to the purposes of the program, thus in benefit for the children and youth in the Barents region.

Dunaeva: There is less interest in educating students rather there is an interest in training the professionals. Expresses that the content of the program is relevant and interesting, however, the activity should preferably be targeted at specialists, who are practically engaged in the work with families. Proposed to separate the study groups of students and educated specialist. Students can be trained within the collaborative projects with local universities.

Mr. Semiashkin: The responsibilities of some of the SC members from the Russian side do not provide close cooperation with the universities; this might be a reason for necessity of separation in amount of involved students and specialists.

**Decision:** To wait for the proposal from the Finnish side on which routine would be appropriate to use for addressing the raised questions on the course.

2) The meeting with the Kolarctic fund

The precise plan of activities should be presented. There might be made adjustments on the participation of the “SOS Children’s villages” with “Family Group Conferences” programme and the “Audtran” with the focus on monitoring the rights of child in relevant institutions.

**Decision:** The more detailed project and budget plan will be forwarded to the SC members after its final approvement.

3) The preliminary date for the next SC meeting: the 6-9 th of November in Petrozavodsk.

The chaimanship of NDPHS was funding the CYAR 1 activities and will be present in Petrozavodsk during the proposed time. The NDPHS representatives would like to meet CYAR and get more information about the conducted activities, for implementation of which was allocated the budget.

**Proposal:**

- ✓ to combine 3 events: conference of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of cooperation between Norway and Karelia republic, the annual CYAR conference and the 9th CYAR SC meeting;
- ✓ On the 8th of November - to arrange the annual CYAR conference;
- ✓ to start planning on the content and organization of the annual CYAR conference;
- ✓ to take a look at the process of establishment of the methodological centre and certification of super trainers in Petrozavodsk;

- ✓ to make a list of the key persons involved in the CYAR and invite them as participants of the CYAR next annual conference.

#### Comments:

Mrs Antokhina on behalf of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Karelia, Valentina Ulich, sends her agreement for arrangement of the annual CYAR conference on the 8th of November 2012. Respectively SC meeting should be conducted on the 7th or the 9th of November.

Mrs Antokhina leaves to CYAR secretariate the proposal plan for annual conference, the activity report for the I quarter of 2012 and the budget for necessary equipment, required for establishment of the methodological center. The methodological center is required for further development, all the specialists are already trained. Mrs Antokhina expresses agreement to focus the CYAR 2 on better quality of implementation, priority in follow-up and monitoring.

**Decision:** Dates defined: the 6th - 9th of November 2012, including the travelling. Responsibility for organizing and coordinating the activities will be appointed to the CYAR secretariat and to the CYAR Steering committee member from the Karelia republic.

**Decision is approved.**

## **7. Information from the regional representatives – relevant news, updates on co-operation, activities and prospects in the realm of children and youth at risk.**

### **1) The Republic of Karelia**

Mrs. Svetlana Antokhina informs about the CYAR activities in the region.

#### Totally in the 5 implemented in the region programs take part:

- 127 professionals from 24 state and municipal, educational and social services institutions for families and children;
- The implementation of methods is carried out in 12 municipal and urban districts of the Republic of Karelia;
- The certified super trainers (training of trainers) - 4 specialist in “ART”, 2 specialists in “Family ART” and 1 specialist in “Incredible Years”.

#### ”The Incredible years”

- From 01.02.2012 - 15.06.2012 was educated 9 specialists from the centres of social services in 3 municipal districts;
- During I half of 2012 in the centers of social services there were conducted 8 parent groups, which were attended by more than 65 parents and support persons.

The results of the conducted groups show the following effects: 90% of children whose parents were participants in the program showed improvement in behavior, the parents noted a decrease in stress level - 92%.

At the same time by the super trainer Karelia was carried out the supervision for specialists from the social institutions of the Komi republic, Murmansk and Arkhangelsk regions:

- Totally were conducted 8 consultations and supervisions, 2 training seminars.

#### “ART- aggression replacement training”

- In the I half of 2012 was carried out the group rehabilitation work for 94 juveniles;



- During the mentioned period the super trainer of the center “Revival” held 3 supervisions;
- Simultaneously the super trainer from Karelia participated in the training seminars in Arkhangelsk and Syktyvkar.

### **“What about us?”**

21-22 May 2012 was held a training seminar for 17 professionals, working with parents who are raising disabled children, from 6 municipalities.

### **“Family group conferences”**

- was trained 20 professionals of educational and social centers in the Republic of Karelia. Since 2008 the program was attended by nine families.

**Totally** since 2008 the implemented programs were attended by more than 890 minors and more than 370 families in difficult situations.

## **2) The Arkhangelsk region**

Elena Dunaeva representing the Arkhangelsk region informed the SC about the news and presented information about the implementation of the CYAR Programme in the region:

On the June 1st 2012 Russian President Vladimir Putin signed the Decree № 761 “Concerning the National Strategy for Actions in the interests of Children 2012 – 2017”.

### **The decree mostly presupposes:**

- development of network of the mediation services in order to implement restorative justice;
- the organization of the school mediation services;
- introducing reforms in the activity of the commissions for minors and protection of their rights,
- inclusion of the courts in the system of prevention of juvenile delinquency, units of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, agencies and bodies of the correctional system, authorized representatives for children's rights and non-governmental organizations;
- the definition of coordinating federal executive body for the purposes of formulation and implementation of national public policies as related to children.

The activity within the CYAR framework fully complies with the National Strategy for Actions in the interests of Children, and in some ways even is a little ahead of the Decree provisions.

### **The introduction of mediation in criminal proceedings with juvenile offenders in Arkhangelsk region:**

- At the end of 2011 - February 2012 was conducted a workshop on training of mediators with the assistance of Norwegian experts and specialists from the Centre of judicial and legal reform from Moscow. 20 trained people from 9 institutions of 6 cities and districts. By decision of the Regional Commission we have approved them as pilot experimental arenas.
- By the Working Group on the implementation of juvenile justice in the Arkhangelsk region was elaborated the Document on regulations for interacting institutions, participating in the

mediation program in criminal cases involving minor offenders, which the parties signed and the agreement was sent to all the departments in April 2012.

- On the 30-31st May the project team from Norway was participating in the seminar to discuss the status of the mediation. Trained mediators were invited to this workshop.
- The problem still lies in the fact that the population knows little about mediation and believes that if a parent of minor has paid financial compensation for the damage or crime, the mediation procedure has taken place. It is needed more work on informing the population about the principles of mediation.

There was a proposal from Iren Sørkjordmo to invite in the end of October 2012 the mediators from Arkhangelsk to a joint seminar with Norwegian mediators. It would be great. If the decision on this participation is approved, we would like to receive an official invitation and distribute it to the institutions, where the mediators work.

#### **”ART- aggression replacement training”**

- training of 1 group of specialists;
- In the II half of 2012 it is planned to train a new group of specialist in ART and Family ART as well as certification of super trainers.

#### **“Family group conferences”**

- training of 2 groups of specialists.

In all of these methods, including “The Incredible years” were conducted supervisions and follow-up seminars.

**The request to the CYAR Steering Committee:** to continue providing books for the institutions, which have received training in “The Incredible years”. There is a necessity in additional training of specialists in the program “The Incredible years”. The method shows profound effect and is very popular among parents (parents sign up for the queue).

### **3) The Murmansk region**

Mrs. Krasovskaja presented the news and information on the activities from the Murmansk region.

In the I half of 2012 in the Murmansk region was carried out the following programs:

**”The Incredible years”** is implemented in 5 centers for social services of children and families in the Murmansk region.

- **The center of social help to families and children in Murmansk**
  - From the period since 2008 until today were trained 26 groups of parents, 199 persons.
- **The social center in Lovozero**
  - From 06.03.2012 - 24.05.2012 in training have participated 5 groups of parents (7 parents, 6 families). The trainings take place twice a year depending on the availability of participants in a group, thus in September - November and March –May;
  - In May 2012 were conducted meetings with parents from 2 centres in Lovozero and 1 in Revda. There have been received 6 applications for the group trainings in September 2012.
- **The social center in Montchegorsk**

- The trainings were conducted with the group of 6 parents. The next course will start in October 2012;
- During the 2 conducted courses in the program "The Incredible years" took part 9 families, which received the certificate about the fulfilment of the program;
- In the result of trainings the improvements in behaviour showed 25 % of children, 75% of parents increased the level of their parental skills and competence;
- In the beginning of October 2012 it is planned to start the 3rd course. The group includes at the moments 8 families;
- From the start of implementation "The Incredible years" in the Murmansk region was trained 32 specialists, the training received 38 groups, 266 parents. In the II quarter of 2012 there was received requests for participation from 24 parents.
- On 14.05.2012 were received 2 requests from the social centres: from the centre in Apatity – request on the program "Incredible years" and from the centre in Polianye Zori – request on the program "ART- aggression replacement training" and "Family ART".

### **"ART- aggression replacement training", "Family ART"**

The program has been implemented in 3 centres for public social services and in 4 municipal commissions for minors and protection of their rights, along with criminal executive inspections UFSIN in the Murmansk region. "Family ART" is so far implemented only on the basis of Murmansk center for children without parental care. In total with the program "Aggression Replacement Training" works 39 trained specialists.

- In the I half of 2012 the realisation of the ART program in the centre "Bereginya" of the Kola district stopped due to the number of reasons. In the IV quarter it is planned to arrange the full-time training course with 2 groups of children: each group consists of 6 children (12 children). The main problem lies in the often change of participants in the group.
- The centre in Monchegorsk carried out training with a group of 10 pupils in February – April 2012. The evaluation procedure showed wonderful results. In the quarter IV of 2012 it is planned to arrange the full-time training course with 2 groups of children: each group consists of 6 children (12 children). The main problem lies in the often change of participants in the group.

### **"Family group conferences"**

- In the first half of 2012 was held five training seminars (95 participants), two follow-up seminars (March, May) for specialists in social work and educational psychologists. On the 17th of May 2012 in Murmansk was conducted "FGC" with 12 participants (3 adult family members, 4 children, 5 specialists);
- The "FGC" method is also used in commissions for minors and protection of their rights in the Pechenga and Lovozero districts, were trained specialists from Kirovsk and Kovdor.

### **"What about us?"**

- In 2012 the project activity joined another centre for social help to families and children. The specialist of the centre, having certificates in this program, conducted the training session “Parents weekend”, on the 31st March – 1st April 2012. In the session took part 8 family couples;
- In the social centre of Poliarnye Zori currently has been going on the preparatory work on implementation of the program ”What about us?”

### **“Mediation”**

In 2012 it is planned to train specialists in the Murmansk region. There have been carried out a number of consultations with relevant departments and agencies about the possibility of mediation procedure in criminal cases involving juvenile offenders. The permission for implementation of the program on the territory of the Murmansk region was received. The pilot project “School mediation services” starts in the Murmansk region from September 2012.

### **Proposals for organization of the specialists training in the frame of the CYAR II program:**

1. Training in the method “Case Management”: supervision of the children (family), who find themselves in difficult situations.
2. Training in the method “Motivational interviewing”. This method is required for counseling parents, whose children return to the family.
3. Training of specialists from centers of social care in the method “Diagnostic interviewing”.
4. Conducting practice-oriented courses in the method “Sand therapy”.
5. Conducting practice-oriented courses in the method «sand-art» (sand painting).

### **4) The Indigenous peoples**

The representative of indigenous peoples, Aleksandra Artieva, presents the information on the programs implemented within the indigenous people’s issues.

- social program of the Sami Women's Forum “Let us learn to live without alcohol”. In October 2012 will be held the final conference, which will discuss continuation of the program and possible further integration of the new members. It is planned to invite health care professionals, administration representatives and other professionals involved in the issues of alcoholism among indigenous peoples.

#### **Comments:**

Mr. Bergstrøm: The information will be forwarded and regarded by the CYAR secretariate. This information will be distributed and the secretariate would be grateful to receive information on the similar conferences and events in future.

### **5) The Komi Republic**

Ilya Semiashkin presented the CYAR activity outcomes from the Komi Republic.

Currently, on the territory of the Komi republic it is implemented three programs: “The Incredible Years”, “Family group conferences” and “Aggression Replacement Training – ART”. The implementation of these programs fits into the main directions of state policy on children and youth identified by the strategy of economic and social development of the Komi Republic up to 2020.

**”The Incredible years”** is implemented on the basis of the centres for public social services in 4 municipalities of the republic.

- Total for 2010-2012 in training seminars on the program took part 31 specialists (psychologists and specialists in social work);
- The supervisions for previously trained specialists are carried out regularly by the trainer Elena Vorobyeva. Currently, the program is implemented by 24 trained specialists;
- In 2011 the training program attended by 8 parent groups, 42 families. The average age of participants was 25-30 years.
- According to the results of the introduction of “The Incredible Years” in 2011, 87.5% of program participants show decreased level behavioural problems among children, 80.3% of participants state decreased stress levels.
- In 2012 the training is carried out in 8 parent groups involving 53 families.

**“Family group conferences”** is implemented in 4 municipalities of the republic on the basis of 5 centres for public social services.

- In March 2012 15 professionals received the Certificate of the independent leader, giving the right to carry out the preparation work and conduct family group conferences;
- In the I half of 2012 were held 10 family group conferences, which were attended by 70 persons, including 32 adult family members, 16 minors and 22 specialists.
- 7 out of 10 families participating in family group conferences completed a plan for coming out from the current difficult situation in the family. It is encouraging that all 10 families have expressed their desire to participate in the second family group conference.
- It should be noted that the independent leaders of the programme continue working with the families after the family group conferences were conducted - once every 2-3 months it is carried out a supervision meeting with the “leader” of the family, who initiated participation in the family group conference, in order to monitor the situation in the family and provide assistance on necessity.

**”ART- aggression replacement training”** started its implementation in the Komi Republic in 2012.

- In total it was trained 11 specialists from the 3 centres for public social services;
- In June 2012 in the 3 institutions, where the specialists have become ART-trainers started the implementation of the program. The first results of the program are expected in the beginning of the II half of 2012;
- According to recommendations of Knut Gundersen, the results of 3 training seminars and a practical examination in the ART-method, we would like to nominate 20 new specialists for certification as ART-trainers as well as 3 already trained ART-trainers for certification as the super trainers;

All the three programs are mostly implemented in the city of Syktyvkar and the nearby towns and areas. Training seminars and supervisions are also held in Syktyvkar. Due to the large territory of the republic, the specialists of institutions for public social services in the northern cities and districts are not covered by the programs. However, the results of monitoring in remote areas of the Komi Republic show a great need for implementation of these programs.

Accounting on these facts, and the effectiveness of the programs, The Komi republic would like to continue training of specialists in all three programs: “Incredible Years” - 16 specialists, “Family Group Conferences” - 12 specialists, “Aggression Replacement Training – ART” and “Family ART” - 20 specialists.

## 6) Finland

Professor Arja Rauto from Finland, gave a presentation about the THULE-institute.  
Vappu Sunnari presented the regional report from Finland

### **1. From Violence to Caring (FVC) – multidisciplinary study program, Women and Gender Studies, Univ. of Oulu**

The program is located in an e-learning environment and it includes 5 courses:

1. Multidisciplinary and multiprofessional introduction to gendered and sexualised violence in schools, work places and homes
2. Multiple forms of violence in a global context
3. Sexual exploitation and trafficking
4. Measures for intervening in violent situations, supporting victims, preventing violence and creating a caring atmosphere
5. Human rights, legislation, policies in constructing equality and non-violent environments.

In 2012 the program will be further developed in the thematic areas of child sexual exploitation and trafficking and on corporal punishment of children in the Barents's Region.

Participants in the program will gain ability to explain and analyze the various forms of violence in life span in different local and global contexts; apply the theories of gender and other intersectionalities to analyze and recognize violence, to develop actions to prevent and intervene in violence and to support the victims of violence; design practical measures to intervene in violence and construct non-violent and equal practices; reflect and develop non-violence and caring in one's own practices and interaction; and to work in a group and reflect group collaboration from the perspectives of non-violence and equity.

### **2. Master's Degree Programme in Health and Wellbeing in the Circumpolar Area (MCH), THULE institute / Center for Arctic Medicine, Univ. of Oulu**

MCH is an international two-year Master's Degree program of 120 ECTS concentrating on features, and challenges related to the health and wellbeing in the circumpolar area.

The core topics of the program are:

1. Characteristics of life in a Northern environment (culture, physical environment, economics, social structures and working in northern conditions)
2. Specific features of health, wellbeing, cultural transitions and illnesses of northern residents
3. Special needs of people living in the circumpolar region in connection to health promotion, prevention, care and rehabilitation
4. Specific characteristics of diseases, health care systems, and health and wellbeing services in circumpolar region
5. Connections between the northern environment and human health & wellbeing

MCH has been developed under the auspices of University of Arctic's Thematic Networks and Barents Cross Border University with participant from University of Oulu, Finland; Finnish Society for Arctic Health and Biology (ATBY); Nordic Society for Arctic Medicine (NSAM); Center for Health Education, Greenland; Luleå University of Technology, Sweden; Northern State Medical University, Russia; Pomor State University, Russia; NORUT Social Science Research Ltd., Norway; University of Lapland, Finland; University of Manitoba, Canada; and University of Southern Denmark.

### **3. New books about Barents-co-operation focused on children/youth at risk**

1. Marja Tuomi 2012: Diffusion of Social Innovations across the Borders – Social Sector Cooperation with the Republic of Karelia. Social Sciences and Business Studies 33, Univ. of Eastern Finland.
2. Sunnari V 2010: “I cannot speak about it”. Physical Sexual harassment as experienced by children at school in Northern Finland and Northwest Russia. VDM Verlag Dr. Müller

## 7) **Sweden**

Löfstrand informed about the focus in Sweden on evidence based social work, meaning that all interventions should be based on relevant research findings on what methods should be used for the benefit for the child/young person. There is also a focus on the children`s rights to be informed and to have opinions about interventions. The lead words are safe and secure care for children and youth in foster care and in institutions. Within the program for safe and secure care methods are being developed for recruiting foster families, foster family education and better assessment on children in care etc.. The need for research programs for children in care has been raised and changes in the legislation are being prepared.

## 8) **Norway**

Mr. Bergstrom briefly outlined the situation in the field of child welfare in Norway. The situation is similar to the news, which provided the Swedish side:

- Continues emphasis on the annual reports on children residing in institutions. These reports are targeted on the assessment of the quality of children's stay focused on the survey information received from the children themselves.
- Two-level system of governance - at the federal and municipal level. Discussion on the authority and responsibility for ensuring and protecting the rights of the child.
- Changes have been made at the level of legislation. The changes are focused on the Swedish model, which operates in all municipalities of Sweden. This model is considered and evaluated as a possible standardized mechanism for use in the municipalities of Norway.

## 9) **Presentation of the head of "SOS Children's Villages" in the Murmansk region, Elena Viktorova – “FGC” program in Russia**

The Chair introduces Elena Viktorova - one of the key persons in the CYAR program, Vice-Chairman of the CYAR program in 2006 in the Murmansk region, as well as the director of the “Children's Village SOS” in the Murmansk region.

Mrs Viktorova gives to the members of the SC a presentation related to programs, which are implemented in the frame of “Children's Village SOS”, including the results of the program “Family Group Conferences”.

### **Prospects and proposals:**

- Supervisions for specialists, without supervisions method would be difficult to maintain;
- Since the method is already testes, there must be created conditions for its active use;
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the method;
- There is a need for training program “Incredible Years” for special pedagogues and psychologists in the social center of Kandalaksha.

Comments:

Mr. Bergstrom: There is a need to sign an updated contract with the “Children's Village SOS”, including into its content the mentioned proposals. The contract can be prepared for the next SC meeting and confirmed at the SC meeting in Petrozavodsk.

**8) Presentation of the “Audtrain” program**

One of the main focuses and objectives of the program “Audtrain” since 2008 is to monitor the rights of children in the relevant institutions.

Thus, «Audtrain» is a systematic scheme for monitoring the rights of children residing in the institutions.

11 member-states are involved in the program, including the EU Commission. Training courses were conducted in the Baltic countries, as well as in Norway and Sweden. This program is also planned to be implemented on the territory of the Russian Federation, in particular in Kaliningrad and St. Petersburg. There are already developed guidelines for this program in all required languages.

Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Wellbeing (NDPHS) approved the use of this program, but they have no mandate to use it in the Barents region.

Mr Bergstrøm asked the SC members for permission to continue negotiations regarding this cooperation in order to include this activity to the CYAR program. The project plan and budget plan will be provided at the next SC meeting on the 9th of November 2012 in Petrozavodsk.

**The issue approved.**

**Closing the meeting.**

The Chair informed that all information and the meeting protocol will be available on the CYAR web page.

The detailed information of the budget will be forwarded to the SC members after the 20th of June.

The Chair thanked everyone for fruitful meeting. The Chair closed the meeting.

15.06.2012

Oulu, Finland