



PROBONO
ITALIA

Minutes of the



Held in Milan on Wednesday, 16 June 2021,
at the offices of Jones Day

1. Agenda:

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS
Giovanni Carotenuto, <i>Pro Bono Italia</i>
Vinicio Trombetti, <i>Jones Day</i>
PRESENTATIONS FROM NGOs NEW TO OUR NETWORK
Alessandra La Vaccara – <i>International Commission on Missing Persons</i>
Marieanne McKeown– <i>Kids In Need of Defense</i>
Paola Sinigaglia – <i>Isla ng Bata – L'isola dei bambini</i>
PRESENTATION OF THE 2020 REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM LEGAL COMMUNITY JOINT PLEDGE
Jasmine Simperingham, <i>PILnet</i>
PRESENTATION OF PIATTAFORMA PRO BONO ITALIA
PRESENTATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE EUROPEAN CLEARINGHOUSE INVENTORY – ITALY CHAPTER
WEBINAR ON ESG FACTORS (ADDRESSED TO LAWYERS AND LEGAL COUNSELS FOR NON-PROFITS) - <u>From 2 to 3 pm</u>
Patrizia Gioiosa (Jones Day), Fiorenza Marin and Martina Antoniutti (DLA Piper)

2. Attendees: 63 (see attached LoPs).

3. Introduction

G. Carotenuto, Co-founder and President of Pro Bono Italia ("PBI"), welcomed the 63 attendees to the 38th Italian Pro Bono Roundtable ("RT"), held virtually.

V. Trombetti, Partner of the Milan office of Jones Day, joined Giovanni in welcoming the participants and briefly described the firm's history focusing on pro bono activities, both abroad and Italy projects.

4. NGOs' and international organizations' presentations

International Commission on Missing Persons ("ICMP"). Alessandra La Vaccara, Program Manager of the *Programma Migranti Scomparsi*, presented the NGO. ICMP works with governments, civil society organizations, justice institutions, international organizations and others throughout the world to address the issue of people who have gone missing as a result of armed conflict, human rights abuses, disasters, organized crime, irregular migration and other causes. As the only international organization that is exclusively tasked to address this issue, ICMP is actively engaged in developing institutions and civil society capacity, promoting legislation, fostering social and political advocacy, and developing and providing technical expertise to locate and identify the missing (see the attached presentation).

Kids In Need of Defense ("KIND"). Marieanne McKeown presented the NGO. Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) is the preeminent U.S.-based nongovernmental organization devoted to protection of unaccompanied and separated children. KIND envisions a world in which every unaccompanied child on the move has access to legal counsel and has their rights and well-being protected as they migrate alone in search of safety. In 2008, KIND was founded by the Microsoft Corporation and UNHCR Special Envoy Angelina Jolie to address the gap in legal services for unaccompanied minors. KIND now has offices across the United States and in Mexico that provide unaccompanied children with holistic care that includes legal assistance and social services. Through strategic partnerships, we provide pro bono legal representation for refugee and migrant children across the country. Since its inception, KIND has received referrals for more than 21,000 cases and now serves over 5,000 children annually in partnership with nearly 700 law firm, corporate, law school and bar association partners (see the attached presentation).

Isla ng Bata – L'isola dei bambini ("INB"). Paola Sinigaglia presented the NGO. The NGO provides a safe and caring environment for orphaned and at-risk girls in Sibulan, Dumaguete City and the surrounding areas in Region VII on the Island of Negros, the Philippines. Bata ng Calabnugan, Inc is the registered name of the local NGO branch in the Philippines but it falls under the larger umbrella of the Isla ng Bata – L'Isola dei Bambini Onlus based in Italy. Bata ng Calabnugan, Inc decided to concentrate its efforts towards helping girls since they are often the most vulnerable to neglect and abuse. The girls of Bata ng Calabnugan, Inc. come from a variety of backgrounds including those who have been orphaned, were living on the street, have experienced physical or sexual abuse, or have mental or physical disabilities (see the attached presentation).

5. Presentation of the 2020 Report on the implementation of the Global Refugee Forum Legal Community Joint Pledge

Jasmine Simperingham of PILnet presented the 2020 Report on the implementation of the Global Refugee Forum Legal Community Joint Pledge ("GRF"). The GRF is the first international initiative of its scale to bring together the global legal community to support efforts to protect and find solutions for asylum-seekers, refugees and others displaced and to increase the number of those displaced around the world who have equal access to justice.

Among the progresses, J. Simperingham highlighted that, within a more connected global legal community, both public and private sector signatories moved quickly to adapt legal assistance programs and pro bono projects to accommodate Covid-19 related restrictions, allowing pledgers to continue to reach displaced communities and supporting the private sector signatories to surpass the pro bono commitments made at the GRF. The Core Group partnered with UNHCR to develop and disseminate tools to support refugee-led organizations (RLOs) and NGOs to scope pro bono projects to address the unmet legal needs of displaced communities. With support from the Core Group, RLOs and NGOs pitched a broad range of new pro bono projects that were matched with law firms, unlocking millions of dollars' worth of legal services, provided for free.

6. Presentation of *Piattaforma Pro Bono Italia*

Giovanni Carotenuto, along with Serena Ballabio of Twig, presented the [*Piattaforma Pro Bono Italia*](#).

Piattaforma Pro Bono Italia is an online platform created for the purpose of collecting, reviewing, accepting, distributing, managing and fulfilling requests for pro bono legal assistance. The platform facilitates the circulation of such requests coming from non-profit organizations and individuals, filtered by the clearinghouses active in Italy, and addressed to all lawyers and law firms registered on the *Piattaforma*.

7. Presentation of the results of the European Clearinghouse Inventory – Italy Chapter

Riccardo Favaro, Secretary General of PBI, presented the results of the Italian chapter of the European Clearinghouse Inventory.

Within the framework of the Inventory, Pro Bono Italia, along with the clearinghouses of CILD and CSVnet, carried out a survey, aimed at outlining the state of pro bono activity and clearinghouses in Italy. The survey highlighted interesting information. As to lawyers, according to the respondents to the survey, more than 65% of lawyers are aware of the existence of pro bono legal assistance; among these, more than 60% had carried out – at least once – pro bono legal assistance. The beneficiaries of pro bono legal assistance expressed their satisfaction in particular with reference to the availability of the firm/lawyer, the clearinghouse service and the timing with which the entire service was handled.

8. Webinar on ESG Factors ([see the attached video](#))