

INGO DISCUSSION GROUP – HO CHI MINH CITY

CHILD RIGHT'S WORKING GROUP

INAUGURAL MEETING 13TH MAY 2008 @ 9:00AM

AT THE OFFICES OF SAIGON CHILDREN'S CHARITY

Minutes of the meeting

Present:

Nguyen Hoai Nam	HUFO
Lan Anh	Room to Read
Le Thi My Hien	FFSC
Dana Doan	LIN Foundation
Margrit Schlosser	Terre des hommes Lausanne
Pierre Zwahlen	Terre des hommes Lausanne
Paul Finnis	Saigon Children's Charity (Chair)

1 INTRODUCTION

Each person introduced themselves and their organisation.

2 DISCUSSION ON DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Group spent the majority of the meeting discussing our Terms of Reference (ToR). We used the ToR agreed by the Hanoi CRWG as a guide and agreed that it made sense to mirror much of their approach but also to ensure that our ToR were specific to Ho Chi Minh City. PF agreed to redraft the ToR along the lines that were discussed at the meeting and to circulate these before the next meeting for any comments.

Key elements to include:

- Liaison with Hanoi CRWG
- Open to all interested parties – both local and international
- Clear objectives and action plan

3 DISCUSS KEY ISSUES AND PRIORITIES

With the majority of the meeting focussed on the ToR the following additional issues arose:

Ensuring accessibility for Vietnamese and English speakers at each HCMC – CRWG meeting

Key subjects for first year could include:

Legal recognition Education (including vocational) Healthcare

It was suggested that we could have open discussions on any subject at any time but that there could also be an annual focus.

It was also agreed that we would share the minutes as widely as possible to encourage new people to join the group and also to ensure that all topics of concern were aired and considered before selecting a key theme for 2008/09.

It was also agreed that we would all help to promote the group amongst our contacts.

4 HOW TO LINK WITH HANOI GROUP

It was agreed that the Chair of the group would take some responsibility for this but other ideas could be discussed at the next meeting.

Minutes of each other's meeting should be exchanged and referred to at each meeting.

We are also talking to The Resource Centre about how they can help with coordination and information sharing – we are hoping that our minutes will be available on the RC website for instance.

It was also agreed that all members had a responsibility for keeping themselves update with developments.

5 PLAN AND AGREE DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

We would hold a discussion about the draft complementary report on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) – to be circulated by Margrit - and invite Mr Binh from UN to the meeting as a representative and to talk about the CRC. There are still opportunities to comment on the complimentary draft report on CRC in Vietnam – the group wanted to understand the process for being included in this and other similar consultation exercises.

We would agree the ToR and an Action Plan

We would discuss the priorities for the group in more detail

We would discuss how to make the meeting more accessible to both VN and English speakers

We would discuss further how best to link with Hanoi CRWG

The next meeting would be held at 9:00am on the 15th July in the office of SCC again unless suitable alternative arrangements could be made.