

Minutes of CRWG Meeting held on Feb 9, 2007, 1400-1700 in NGO Resource Centre

Date: Feb 9, 2007

Venue: NGO resource center

Chair: Ms. Shikha - Plan in Vietnam

Organizations Present: Plan, WVI, SC Sweden, CFDA, CEPHAD, NGOC

Participants: (see the attached list)

Main purpose of meeting: a discussion on the initiative of forming a Data base on Child rights working group and possibility of producing an alternative report on CRC.

Chairperson confirmed circulation of minutes of last meeting by email. There was no additional comment. Meeting agenda was circulated via email. TdH (Terres Des Hom) suggested item to be discussed which was added to the agenda.

Welcome Michael of SC Sweden and Marc of CFDA. SCUUK and TdH sent their apologies.

Item discussed:

1. CRWG matrix

Neeraj Rana of Plan, Eddy of NGOC presented the proposed matrix. Plan, WVI and TdH have sent in their data. It was discussed that the objective of creating the matrix is to get to know where different organizations are working, with whom, on what, impact and challenges, so that we can learn from each other and also build partnerships. It was suggested that the present matrix could be circulated and to remind CRWG members to contribute. Karen agreed to check from the EMWG matrix to identify organizations working with children and to invite them to contribute.

2. CRC Alternate Report

Michael of SC Sweden shared experience of the process for CRC optional protocol. It was a long process and involved desk-based studies and research of different organizations including Vietnamese media. Some final changes were made to the report after receiving comments from the Vietnamese government and the final report was renamed to "complementary report" instead of "alternate report". Learning from the experience, Michael suggested to involve more parties, including government and local civil society / organizations to participate the process as early as possible in order to enhance transparency and active participation.

The 3rd and 4th CRC report is to be presented in September 2007. SC Sweden agreed to take the lead to organize meetings and reporting. A concept note would be prepared and circulated by mid-April. It was suggested to involve children as an important stakeholder.

3. Translation project of training toolkit

It was mentioned that there were email exchanges between TdH and SCUUK concerning the need for translation of a training toolkit. Michael Hall of CEPHAD showed some translated work by ISDS (Institute for Social Development Studies) on HIV/AIDS. Karen would check the contact details and inform TdH and SCUUK. It was pointed out that the translation should be contextualized to accommodate the situation in Vietnam.

4. Physical and Emotional Punishment Project (PEP) / Reform schools

Plan talked about its Physical and Emotional punishment project. It gave information on how the project was conceived after the UN violence study. Before implementing the project, input was taken from children, teachers, government officials including youth union and parents. There will also be training on Positive Discipline and Parenting. Plan's proposal and work on Children in Conflict with the law was also shared. Plan is working in 4 national reform schools.

Plan presented a summary of its project on Physical and Emotional punishment. It gave information on how the project was conceived after the UN violence study. Before implementing the project input was taken from children, teachers, government officials including youth Union and parents. There will also be training on Positive discipline and Parenting. Plan is planning to produce a Manual which will be a compilation of different manuals on Positive Discipline and Positive parenting.

Save Sweden said that they had produced a manual on Positive Discipline in late 2006. The manual has been piloted in Vinh Phuc Province with Scientific Institutes of Vietnam CPFC. They also plan to work on Positive discipline for teachers which will be in cooperation with MOET.

Discussion was raised around the issue of INGO's doing the same work for eg. on area of Training manual on Positive Discipline and working with the same government partner which is VCPFC. This was linked to the necessity of having the data base to avoid duplication of work and promote sharing of good practice.

Information from Plan was also provided on the project on Children in Conflict with the Law. Plan is working with V26 - Ministry of Public Security to support for 4 National Reform schools in Vietnam and to develop a 3 year program. The main aim of the program is to reduce the level of crime amongst juvenile offenders and to increase their opportunity to be reintegrated in the communities.

Save provided information on their work on CICL. Their work was more specific in looking at the legal aid, child relevant specific support, capacity building of people involved in the process, training on CRC and child

psychology. SC Sweden, UNICEF and WPF have provided input into the section on JJ in the Governments CRC report.

The question was raised about how one could promote CRC in the reform school and continue to have access there.

There are centers that keep children and adults together (so called the "Social Protection Center"). The staff is poorly trained. They give vocational training but there is no market research on what is good and what is not.

Question was raised about how to promote CRC in the reform school and continue have access there. World vision has worked in similar area looking at transit homes. They noticed that the government has a strategy on how to reintegrate children back into their communities but the children did not want to leave the transit homes.

CFDA (Marc) is also working in this area. They train vulnerable children on rights, life skills, how to be strong.

5. Suggestions for next meeting

Plan is currently chairing the CRWG. It was suggested to form a core group that compiles members of 3 to 5 NGOs who would take turn to chair the group. Member organizations should be encouraged to share their ongoing programs with CRWG. It was also suggested to go over past minutes to see if there is any issue that has been overlooked and needs follow up. Date and time of next meeting is suggested for the 19th or 20th of April, please find below a draft agenda.

Draft Agenda (OPEN FOR COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS)				
Venue: NGO Center				
Date: 19th or 20th April (suggested)				
For the next meeting we would like to focus on one issue - the complimentary report and the government report on CRC so that we can discuss in detail and make a concrete plan on how to move forward. However any member would like to make any other suggestion it will be welcomed.				
Time	What	Who	Comments	Feedback/Input/Suggestion
9.00-9.30	Introduction Review of last meeting and other meeting notes	Plan	It was decided in the meeting of 9 th February to review our TOR, meeting note and see if we are going in the right direction as a network.	

			We need to discuss participation of members as well	
9.30-10.30	Presentation by the government on their report and discussion	In a workshop held in CPFC on 9 th March to introduce their Child Protection site as well as summary of CRC report, Plan met up with Madam Cao Thanh Thuy, Vice Director International Relations Department. She was very interested in being invited to the network meeting to discuss and present the CRC report.	Please let us know if anyone is interested in this and then we will coordinate with Madam Thuy	
10.30-12.00	Decision on the Complimentary report and how to move forward	Save Sweden (Michael) to circulate the concept note. We would be grateful if the participants discuss in their office before so that some decision can be made at the meeting.		
For this meeting we would like to concentrate on one issue (Complimentary Report)and make a clear strategy on how we want to move forward.				

Participants list

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