

Minutes Child Rights Working Group Meeting

Date: August, 18th 2006

Venue: NGO Resource Center

Chair: Ms. Deepali Khanna

Participants: 17(see the attached list)

1. Introduction of participants and opening
 - All participants introduced
 - Main purpose of meeting: - Finalize the TOR for working group, sharing the UN study on Violence against Children, Child protection document.

2. Review the first group meeting minute

Ms. Lan - Plan-international

- Minutes sent out and no comments received.
- The TOR revised base on some comment of Ms. Margrit - TDH Foundation and sent out for comment of network. No further comment received.
- The second draft report on Optional Protocol on Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Children in Arm conflict was sent to network by Plan, no comment received from network. VCPFC has submit the government and sent out.

Ms. Minh – Unicef:

- Unicef had sent a separate comment on the government report
- The official name of the group “Child rights” has not agreed last time – it should be corrected in the minute

Ms. Ngoc Anh – Oxfarm Quebec:

- Received the report but no comment as all most the information relating to the data and provided by the Government themselves, it is difficult to give comment.

Mr. Do – SCS:

Can be flexible to call the name of group is Civil society group so the theme is larger and more organization can be part of this.

Ms. Margrit:

- Some correction on the email and Web address on minute should be adjusted
- Lots of time on the first meeting spends on the name of the group and initial agreed on the Child rights group and theme for meeting should be agreed for period of time.

Conclusion:

- Discussion on TOR will be continued in this meeting

3. Finalization of TOR of working group:

Mr. Minh – Unicef:

Still not clear on the legal status of group – it is the informal or formal group? How about the government’s participation in the group? whether the group can produce some official document? If the group under the NGO resources center, only NGOs be part of it or UN can be part of it or just the observers?

What is the group management and connect to other working group?

Ms. Deepali – Plan:

As agreed, this working group is unofficial and under the management of NGO resource center. As another working group (up to now 12 active one) need to report regularly and under the supervision of NGO resource center. It is open for anyone interested as UN, government agencies to be part of it. As usual, the initiative from NGO and will be the Chair. The Working Group can be a partner of UN, Government on related program or activities. Recently, World Bank start interested in Street and Working children and had call Plan as well as Unicef for meeting and ask for the experience. If the working group function well, is will be the good destination for the UN agencies to approach, ask experiences and may become the partner on the project/progam. The Micro-finance group has been well developed with 80 to 100 member and participants from both governments, UN and NGOs.

Ms. – Chair of NGO Resource Center

The entire Working group which is under RC is informal and this Child Rights Working is also informal, however, the participation can be any one from any NGOs, UN or Government agencies

who interested. In principle, it is the initiative of NGO and should be lead by NGO. RC will support the establishment of the working group

Ms. Ha – RC:

Will sent the guideline of working group so all people will have reference document and understand more on working group.

Ms. Pauline – Unicef:

Did not attend the first meeting of working group but find the TOR is too general and be confused of activities. A Child right is large area and is the interest of many organizations. It should define in the specific area as sharing information. The TOR is not clear mention the mechanism and result of the working group and how the working group can be function.

For child rights implementation, it mobilize the participant of the whole society, the TOR mention “ support the government in implementing the CRC” – should chose another word to show the responsibility of the government and make it not sensitive.

Ms. Deepali:

The TOR has been discussed long time in the first meeting and it should be build on the contribution of participant. For mechanism: Each organization can be the chair for 1 year. The group can be agreed and focus on 1 or 2 theme for the years and they should be come out from interested concern of participating members. All the questions are important but we can spend 10 meeting for develop the TOR and agreed on the name. It is better to start with activities and define the name after working period. It should be review after 3 months and can make final decision. Depend on the theme of the meeting, the participants can be flexible. Information is very important and let's starts with sharing information. All most of organization conduct different kind of research and studies but sometime it is overlap.

Conclusion:

Plan will take note all the comment and in cooperate in second draft TOR, send back again to network for input.

3. Sharing on UN studies on Violence against children and discussion on possibility of joint campaign this year

Ms. Lan – Plan

Feb 2004, General Secretary launches the UN study on Violence against children

All Governments needs to answer the Questionnaires which refer to the situation of legislation system, law enforcement and prevalence of violence against children. Unicef, SCS and Plan has supported VCPFC to fill in the Questionnaire with supplemental research in Hung Yen and An Giang and also input for the questionnaires. Up to June, 2006 the deadline for submitting the Questionnaire, Vietnam has not sent the questionnaire due to disapproval by the Government.

In year 2005, Unicef and Plan has cooperated and worked with VCPFC to launch the National Campaign on Child abuse which focus on Physical and Emotional Abuse. The launch on 18th November – one day before the World Day on Child Abuse Prevention. Series of activities had organized to promote the message of Campaign “Spare the rod, help the child, Love is better than harmful words”

On 10,11th October, 2006 UN Committee will launch the Report of UN study on VAC. Viet Nam and all the countries in the world is encouraged to launch the national study or organize different activities to response to the Global movement to stop VAC.

This meeting would like to call for more organizations to be part of this year campaign which will be happened around October to December, 2006.

Ms. Hong – Unicef:

This year campaign is the follow up of last year campaign which most of activities are recommended for the improvement of Communication campaign like Workshop with Policies makers, Training journalist, Special column on newspapers, Children forum.

Violence against children is a specific theme but as the Government of Vietnam has not been approved the Child Protection Strategy so the umbrella of campaign can continues with theme on Child protection.

Last year, only Plan and Unicef cooperated on the Campaign but this year, we welcome all organizations to be part of this year campaign as the larger audient and more activities need to be supported by these organization at the province, district and commune level. In addition, more

participation and the workload will be shared, last year, all the person who in charged in campaign had been work intensively for nearly months to bring the campaign done.

Conclusion:

Plan and Unicef will share all the document on last year campaign for reference information
Plan will share the initial idea for this year activities and any interested organization can be part in the discussion how to be participate.

4. Sharing the toolkit on Child Protection

Ms. Margarit – TDH Foundation

It is the standard on Child protection which including 11 criteria. The document focus on How to implement the Child Protection standard and also Training tool kit on child protection. There is also a VCD attached to the full document. Unlucky, there is only one hard copy available.

Suggestion: It may be translated in Vietnamese for using. The working group can discuss the possibility on sharing the cost of translating document and published for applicant in Vietnam.

5. Organizations sharing the Child Protection Document:

Plan:

- "Say no to child abuse" booklet on English, French and Vietnamese version for Visitor to come project site
- Child friendly booklet on Child protection Policy for children
- Reporting procedure on Child sexual abuse case applies for all staff and encourage partner to use it.
- Child protection include in Code of Conduct for staff
- Child protection policy statement attached to Co-operational Contract and supplier contract.

Terre De Homme

- A Child protection for staffs
- Code of conduct with statement on Child protection
- All the document available in website both in Vietnamese and English.

Save children UK:

- Available Child Protection Policy similar to Plan

6. Next meeting

Date and Time: 29th Sept, 2006, at 9:00 -11:00 am.

Venue: NGO resource centre, La Thanh Hotel.

Suggestion for the agenda:

- Discussion on Joint activity on UN study on VAC
- Cooperation on translating toolkit "Keeping children safe"

The tentative agenda will sent by Plan two weeks prior to the meeting (all participants also asked to add possible themes

List of Participants of Child rights WG meeting 18 August 2006

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