

NATIONAL INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Need for the NICCR

The Gaborone Children's Consultative Meeting took a decision on 15 April 1990 to embark on a national campaign focusing on the plight of South African children, with the aim of alleviating this crisis. This decision emanated from UNICEF's offer of assistance in the issue of our children's plight.

It was further decided that the Campaign for Children's Rights (CRC) will be officially launched on 1 June 1990, i.e. the International Children's Day. This event will coincide with the establishing of the National Co-ordinating Committee on Children's Rights (NCCCR) proper.

However, in order to facilitate the preparation of, and the actual launch of the Campaign on a national scale, it was agreed that the NICCR was required. The NICCR was established today (15 April 1990), and would be replaced by the NCCCR on 1 June 1990.

Roles and Functions of the NICCR

From discussions at the Gaborone Children's Consultative Meeting, the roles and functions of the NICCR were determined as follows:

1. to act as a facilitating agent in the interim of the establishment of a NCCCR, and the launch of the Campaign of Children's Rights;

2. to convene meetings of the following:-

(a) the various relevant structures, regionally and nationally, motivating for the recognition of children as a special interest group;

(b) the various resource committees/groups that can contribute to the Campaign.

to organise programmes and meetings in the implementation of (2a) and (2b), as above.

to organise full-time regional and national administrators to facilitate the Campaign.

to plan and convene a mid-May evaluation meeting.

to liaise regularly with Lusaka on the Campaign's programme and progress.

It must be noted that the NICCR needs to plan the Campaign along the following guidelines:

(a) the recommendations and resolutions taken at the Gaborone Children's Consultative meeting

(b) resolutions taken at the Harare International Children's Convention;

(c) resolutions taken at the Matibonwe Conference;

(d) the U.N. Convention on the Protection of the Rights of the Child;

(e) recommendations and resolutions of the in-house Constitutional Guidelines meeting of Women, Children, and Family;

(f) the Freedom Charter;

(g) the U.N. International Standards on the Protection of Human Rights and Disabled Persons.

Composition of the NICCR

The NICCR should include the following:

1. organisations/people already active in work involving children:-

- (a) service organisations;
- (b) women's organisations;
- (c) churches and other religious groupings;
- (d) professionals (social workers, doctors, nurses, physiotherapists; psychologists; etc.);
- (e) others (e.g. Durban Co-ordinating Committee for Children's Rights).

2. national organisations active in work involving children (e.g. NAMDA, OASSSA, SAHNCO. SACC. NEUSA).

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