

NGOs Meeting on Federation of Children

Date: 14.08.07

Venue: CSt. Office

Introduction;

Sr. Mercy, the president of CSt. officially welcomed all the participants and it was followed by the self introduction of the Participants. Then Mr. Jerald Secretary of CSt gave an introduction and explained in detail about the CSt's aim in federating the Children's Parliament / clubs at District level. 18 NGOs participated in this gathering.

After the introduction, the NGOs came forward to share their experience with the children in the children parliaments / clubs. The sharing brought out some of the positive aspects in the children parliaments. The following are some of the reflection came during the sharing

- The dropout children are easily identified by the children.
- Children are able to identify some of the local issues in their villages (Noon Meal Program at the school)
- Children are able to meet the higher officials.
- Children are able to think creatively.
- Children are attending the gramsaba meetings in the villages and able to raise their voices.
- Children are made aware of their rights and the responsibilities.
- Information reaches the other children very faster.
- It enhances the leadership quality of the children.
- Children are willing to learn new things.
- Gender inequality in minimized
- Higher officials respond to the needs of the children promptly.
- Children are learnt to respect the others.

Based on the sharing, every body felt the need for federating the children clubs/ parliament at the district level. Though many of the NGOs spell out the positive impact of the children parliaments on the lives of the children, some felt that there is no uniform approach among the NGOs in the formation and giving training to the children in the Children Parliaments. Discussion also came weather we can use school as a platform for conducting the CP meeting.

But conducting a meeting in the school may not be a proper platform, because school atmosphere will affect the democratic setup in the CP. Differently able children also should have a space in CP.

Decisions taken in the meeting:

1. Minimum guidelines common to all the CP should be drafted. The draft can be prepared with the available resources. The responsibility was given to Mr. Ayyappan from SAVE. The NGOs who have these guidelines should be able to send the materials to Mr. Ayyappan. The draft will be sent to all the NGOs for their comments. Suggestion came to include children also in the process.
2. The members of the CP should be gathered in block level and from them elected representatives will be sent to the district level. It was decided to select two children (Boy 1 & girl 1) from each villages and sent to the block level federation. If there are more NGOs working in a particular area, proper understanding should be cultivated among the NGOs.
3. From the block level federation, four children (Boys 2 & girls 2) from each block will be elected and sent to the District level federation.
4. To start with, this federation will be initiated in all the six blocks. The following NGOs took the lead role in federating the children in block level. They will elect the representatives from the block level and send the details to the CSt. office at the end of August. The district level federation can be organized towards the end of September.

List of NGOS

S.NO	Name of the Block	Name of the NGO
1	Sirkali	Care Plan
2	Kollidam	Save
3	Sembonarkovil	Vesa
4	Nagapattinam	Avvai & Real Plan
5	Kilvellore	Sneha
6	Vedarnyam	Create

CSt. and its Concerns:

The CSt and its activities were discussed during the meeting. NGOs were requested to join as a member in CSt. Then the secretary made a request to all the participants to give their support in conducting the study on Child Headed Families in the district. The following NGOs came forward to help voluntarily in conducting the study.

S.NO	Name of the Places	Name of the NGO
1	Kollidam	Save
2	Kilpattinacherry, Melpattinacherry, &Kallar	Real Plan
3	Sirkali	Care Plan
4	Sembonrkovil	Vesa

The meeting came to end with the vote of thanks by the Treasurer, Ms. Danalaksmi.

List of Participants

S.NO	Name of the Participant	Name of the NGO
1	Ms. Malarvizhi	Create
2	Sr. jose	DMI
3	Sr. Christy	DMI
4	Mr. Stepan charles	TMSSS
5	Mr. Vijayakumar	Avvai
6	Mr. Moni	Avvai
7	Mr. Senthilkumar	Raise India
8	Mr. Ayyappan	Save
9	Sr. Mercy Joseph	Good shepherd
10	Ms. Jamuna	Vesa
11	Ms. Uma	Real Plan
12	Ms. Dhanlakshmi	Sneha
13	Mr. Francis	Care Plan
14	Mr/ Elayakumar	Sevalaya
15	Mr. Gopinath	Vesa
16	Mr. Jerald	Child Secretariat