

FIRST SOUTHEAST ASIA CHILDREN'S CONFERENCE DECLARATION "Towards One Caring and Sharing Community for Children"

WAY FORWARD

We strongly recommend the formation of the Southeast Asia Children's Forum that will be the regional voice of children.

This body will work to address children's concerns with a regional perspective.

It will also link up with other children's forum in different regions of the world.

The SEA Children's Forum will also encourage governments to develop national frameworks on children's participation and create policies that promote children's rights.

We recommend that the forum to have regular annual meetings.

The forum will also seek ways how children in the region will be represented in ASEAN meeting in December 2007 in Singapore.

In order to realize this, we commit ourselves to do advocacy work to our leaders to support this cause.

We will explore various creative ways such the media and internet to convince leaders in supporting children's participation in the region.

We recommend a preparatory meeting with the following agenda: to formally form the Forum; to prepare for the 2nd SEA Children's Conference; and to review progress on action plan developed in this conference.

WORKSHOP 11: Practical Action Planing & Moving Forward with ASEAN

REGIONAL ACTIONS

Suggestions:

- Develop/ SEA Children's forum next year (Malaysia) and Organize SEA Children's Committee – work with other regional children's committee / connect or linkage. This aims to:
 - ▶ Address children's issues as a region (regional perspective); find solution; find ways to reach out our leaders and committee members in our respective countries.
 - ▶ Push to Develop National Framework on Children's Participation
 - ▶ Ensure to build a world fit for children/ Ensure that the rights on survival, development, participation and protection are addressed.
 - ▶ Recognize children's rights
 - ▶ Promulgate children's laws/ policies
 - ▶ Seek support of ASEAN (do advocacy during ASEAN Meeting like media advocacy)
 - ▶ Collect/ gather people via cyberspace/ internet to pursue children's forum, make inquiries, make comments/suggestions, allow expression of creativity of works, photos, write stories, graffiti
 - ▶ Approach print media-magazines to have a special section for children to be aware of the situations and their expressions
 - ▶ More campaign, advertisement with media on all children's issues
 - ▶ Conduct regular yearly meetings for sustainability
 - ▶ Encourage governments/ ASEAN leaders to assist the children in the conduct of this regular meeting
 - ▶ Seek support of ASEAN nations

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- ▶ Keep our exhibitions/ outputs of workshops and invite ASEAN leaders and let them sign their commitments/ support. Convince the leaders, change their perceptions by doing performances, activities to support children
- ▶ NAPC-Basic Sector – include in the Agenda meeting. Child sector representative to carry the matter to the en banc meeting to the President of the Philippines
- ▶ One child representative per country should be allowed to participate in the ASEAN leaders' meeting next year (2007)

Since ASEAN Leaders' Meeting is too close (January 2007), efforts will be geared towards preparation for the 2nd SEACC meeting parallel with the next ASEAN Leaders' Meeting on December 2007 –

- 2nd SEACC on December 2007 in Singapore
 - ▶ pre-forum process in Malaysia
 - ▶ formation of the committee
 - ▶ preparations for the 2nd SEACC
 - ▶ review/updates on action plan
- Not all children have access to internet
 - ▶ Internet/ website is something global –
- What ways to disseminate information?
 - ▶ More campaign, advertisement with media on all children's issues
- Children's forum must be sustainable
 - ▶ Conduct regular yearly meetings
 - ▶ Encourage royal governments/ ASEAN leaders assist the children in the conduct of this regular meeting
 - ▶ Continue to advocate to leaders during ASEAN meetings

How to advocate to ASEAN leaders?

- If the problem can be broadcasted into radio and television and translate into languages of different countries
- Keep our exhibitions/ outputs of workshops and invite ASEAN leaders and let them sign their commitments/ support
- NAPC-Basic Sector – include in the Agenda meeting. Alex ask the President to carry the matter for support
- One child representative per country should be allowed to participate in the ASEAN leaders' meeting
- Convince the leaders, change their perceptions by doing performances, activities to support children
- Support and participate the ASEAN leaders on children's problems/ issues
- Children's inclusion in January 2007? – no. possible is the exhibitions / continue advocating to our national leaders