REPORT

Proceedings of the 4th Governing Board Meeting

28th - 29th September 2013
Thimphu, Bhutan
South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC)

REPORT

Of The
Proceedings of the 4th Governing Board Meeting

Organized by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat
Supported by the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG), the SAARC Development Fund (SDF) and in collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence Against Children (SRSG-VaC)

28th- 29th September 2013
Thimphu, Bhutan

Hosted by the Royal Government of Bhutan
TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .................................................................................................................. 1

WELCOME AND GENERAL UPDATE .............................................................................. 1

HAND-OVER OF THE CHAIR OF THE GOVERNING BOARD ...................................... 1

HAND-OVER OF THE SACG GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER AND CHILD GB MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS .................................................................................................................................................................................. 2

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA ................................................. 2

REVIEW OF THE FOLLOW-UP REPORT OF THE 3RD GB MEETING INCLUDING ADDITIONAL UPDATES AND PROGRESSES MADE. .............................................................. 3

1. INCREASED CONTACT AND SUPPORT FOR GB MEMBERS AND GB CHAIR ................................................................................................................................. 3

2. SUPPORT FOR EXPANSION OF SRS TEAM ........................................................ 3

3. REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SAIEVAC BOARD AND OTHERS ............ 3

4. CSO REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BOARD ................................................. 3

5. SAIEVAC – ILO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ..................................... 4

6. SOUTH ASIA CHILD LABOUR STRATEGY DRAFT ............................................... 4

7. PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS FOR CHILD PROTECTION AND CHILDREN’S RIGHTS .................................................................................................................. 4

8. CHILD PARTICIPATION TECHNICAL GROUP AND CHILD PARTICIPATION STANDARDS ................................................................................................................ 4

9. MISSING CHILD ALERT (MCA) PROJECT – LEGAL REFORM AND REGIONAL ACTIONS ........................................................................................................ 5

10. SACG AND SAIEVAC FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION ...................................... 5

11. 3RD TECHNICAL CONSULTATION – ELIMINATING HARMFUL PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDATIONS ........................................................................ 5
REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF UPDATED TOR FOR SAIEVAC GB ............6

CHILD PARTICIPATION STANDARDS AND PRINCIPLES AND RELATED GUIDELINES ..................................................................................................................6

SOUTH ASIA STRATEGY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR – “PROMOTING CHILD RIGHTS, PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT” ..........................................................7

FOLLOW UP MEETING OF THE TRILATERAL CONVENTION ON MCA ..8

REGIONAL ACTION PLAN (RAP) FOR ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE (CM) IN SOUTH ASIA ........................................................................................................8

SAIEVAC ACADEMY – THE PROPOSED FRAMEWORK ...........................8

ANY OTHER ISSUES- NACG PROGRESS AND CHILD HELPLINES: A COORDINATED EFFORT ........................................................................................9

DATE AND VENUE FOR 5TH AND 6TH GB MEETING ..........................9

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4TH SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ...................................................................................................................11

TENTATIVE AGENDA .............................................................................14

   DAY – 1 (28 SEPT 2013) ..................................................................14
   DAY - 2 (29 SEPT 2013) ..................................................................15

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS .......................................................................17

ANNEXES

   ANNEX 1: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4TH SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

   ANNEX 2: REMARKS BY OUT-GOING SAIEVAC GB CHAIRPERSON
ANNEX 3: REMARKS BY IN-COMING SAIEVAC GB CHAIRPERSON

ANNEX 4: STATEMENT BY OUT-GOING CHILD BOARD MEMBER, WIJESINGHE RASHMI VIDYANI, SRI LANKA

ANNEX 5: STATEMENT BY OUT-GOING CHILD BOARD MEMBER, GOKUL PANDEY, NEPAL

ANNEX 6: STATEMENT BY RON POUWELS, OUT-GOING SACG REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD

ANNEX 7: AGENDA OF THE MEETING

ANNEX 8: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD

ANNEX 9: SAIEVAC - ILO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ANNEX 10: SOUTH ASIA STRATEGY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR, PROTECTING CHILD RIGHTS AND PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT

ANNEX 11: CHILDREN’S PARTICIPATION PRINCIPLES, PRACTICE STANDARDS AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

ANNEX 12: LEGAL REFORMS AND REGIONAL ACTIONS FOR PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF MISSING CHILDREN (PRMC)

ANNEX 13: FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN SAIEVAC AND SACG

ANNEX 14: 3RD TC RECOMMENDATIONS

ANNEX 15: REGIONAL ACTION PLAN TO END CHILD MARRIAGE IN SOUTH ASIA

ANNEX 16: SAIEVAC ACADEMY FINAL PROPOSAL

ANNEX 17: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE SAIEVAC 4TH GB MEETING
INTRODUCTION

The 4th SAIEVAC Governing Board Meeting was hosted by the Government of Bhutan and organized with the technical and financial support from the South Asia Coordinating Group against Violence Against Women and Children (SACG) and the SAARC Development Fund.

Eight Governing Board Members and Coordinators from South Asia Countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) participated in the Governing Board Meeting along with 2 new Child GB Members (Afghanistan and Bangladesh) and 2 new Child GB Observers (India and Bhutan) along with the new Chair of the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence Against Women and Children (SACG). The GB members from India and Sri Lanka were attended by their designated Representatives.

The 4th Governing Board Meeting followed a two-day 3rd Technical Consultation held in Bhutan, “Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children Based on Tradition, Culture, Religion and Superstition and focused upon agreed recommendations and follow-up actions endorsed at the 3rd GB Meeting held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. In addition, the Board also addressed a number of new issues outlined on the agenda.

WELCOME AND GENERAL UPDATE

Dr. Rinchen Chophel, SAIEVAC Director General (SAIEVAC DG) of the SRS welcomed the GB Members to the 4th GB Meeting, stating it was a great honour to be hosting the meeting in Bhutan. He also highlighted that with now 4 rounds of GB meetings, the Board was moving into a transition phase with turn-over of both GB Members and the Chair and hoped that the transition won’t affect efforts or progress. He also noted that many of the GBM have participated in both Meetings and events before – including the Preparatory Meeting, the Technical Consultation and that the GB Member from Nepal also attended the Trilateral Convention as well. He also reported that the 3rd Technical Consultation concluded effectively and productively the day before but during the meeting over the next two days, would share and review recommendations from both the Trilateral Review and the Technical Consultation.

HAND-OVER OF THE CHAIR OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

The SAIEVAC DG next explained that the current GB Chair is now transitioning from Afghanistan to Bangladesh while also noted that the tenure has been extended from one to two years. He also mentioned that the Board would now also include 2 CSO GB Members in addition to the Child GB Members as well. Noting that for this meeting, CSO participants are filling the role as Observers but that next year one of these persons will graduate and become a full-fledged GB Member and that this is the process agreed at previous GB Meetings.

He next invited the Out-going SAIEVAC GB Chairperson, H. E. Wasil Noor Muhmand, Deputy Minister, MOLSDM, Government of Afghanistan, to share his thoughts and provide remarks prior to handing over his duties to the new Chair from Bangladesh.

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1 List of Participants at Annex-2
HAND-OVER OF THE SACG GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER AND CHILD GB MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS

Following the Out-going Chair’s statement, he welcomed the In-coming Chair by offering khada (ceremonial scarf). The SAIEVAC DG then invited the new SAIEVAC GB Chair, Tahmina Begum, Joint Secretary of Women and Children’s Affairs, Government of Bangladesh to address the Board.

Welcoming the new Chair, the SAIEVAC DG welcomed the new Chair and stated his commitment to working closely with her in the days ahead and that as the shift of focus now goes to Bangladesh but also keeping all other countries inform and active as part of the Board and outlined process.

He then highlighted that there are two new Child Observers joining the Board based on country rotation: Anmol Mittal from India and Bhim Prasad from Bhutan. At the same time, there are two close friends who will be graduating out of their service as Child GB Members, Rashmi Vidyani from Sri Lanka and Gokul Pandey from Nepal as they have completed their term. They handed over their positions to Nabila Noori from Afghanistan and Mamun Bokaul from Bangladesh and presented welcome scarves to the two in-coming Child Board Members. The outgoing Child Board Members were also presented with Certificates of Appreciation from the Board.

Next the SAIEVAC DG explained that the South Asia Action and Coordination Group to End Violence Against Children (SACG) GB Member, Ron Pouwels, Regional Child Protection Advisor, UNICEF ROSA, is also handing over his duties to the new SACG GB Member, Sherin Khan, Senior Specialist (Child Labour), ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia. Ron shared his remarks and presented a khada to welcome Sherin in to her new role on the Board. A Certificate of Appreciation was also presented to Ron.

The SAIEVAC DG remarked that Ron had been a great support to not only the GB but to also the overall SAIEVAC mission, both in his official and his personal capacity right from the start. He expressed his hope that though he hands over the responsibility of the GB Membership to Sherin who has assumed the Chair of the SACG, the SRS is confident that Ron will continue to support the SAIEVAC mission as he has done in the past.

Dr. Chophel then introduced two new members also joining the Board, from the Government of Pakistan, Mr. Aftab Ahmed Jamal and Mr. Ananda Prakash, from the Ministry of Women, Child and Development in Nepal who will represent Dr. Vivek Joshi in his absence. A formal welcome was also extended to Mr. Upendra Adhikari, Nepal, to his first GB Meeting. He also introduced the two CSO Observers, Mr. AKM Mausd Ali from Bangladesh and Mr. Md. Yousef from Afghanistan.

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA

The SAIEVAC DG then reviewed the proposed agenda with the GM team. The Board suggested that first it would be important to review the Follow-up Report of the 3rd Governing Board Meeting and then move on to new initiatives. It was also suggested that adding Annex numbers to the file which contained all support documents highlighted on the agenda would
REVIEWS OF THE FOLLOW-UP REPORT OF THE 3RD GB MEETING INCLUDING ADDITIONAL UPDATES AND PROGRESS MADE.

1. INCREASED CONTACT AND SUPPORT FOR GB MEMBERS AND GB CHAIR

With regard to increased contact and interaction from GB Members as well as the Chair, it was stated that the SAEIVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS) organized a number of regional events, which included the participation of GB members and also sought input and comments from GB Members as part of the process. It was further explained that on any new initiative coming up, implementation is undertaken after bringing it to the attention/approval of the Chair.

2. SUPPORT FOR EXPANSION OF SRS TEAM

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with the Government of Nepal, was reported as a significant milestone and now the SRS is focusing on building and expanding its team as part of the Secretariat. Thanks also to Government of Nepal, work visas have been provided in order to fill SRS positions but along with this, the SRS is also seeking additional support for resources to ensure that new staff can remain in place and would like to request GB to explore and further support this as well.

3. REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SAEIVAC BOARD AND OTHERS

The draft Terms of Reference for the SAIEVAC Governing Board was included in the Annexes for the GB Members. The Board reviewed this and suggested a few small changes which would be incorporated and then the TOR would be reviewed and discussed on Day 2 of the meeting.

It was also noted that there had been on-going discussion related to the Children’s Participation Forum but the processes associated with the national level forums is complex thereby delaying the finalization of the TOR. The SAIEVAC DG requested the Board for its consideration to discuss the other TORs (see those listed below) at the next GB Meeting.

1. Terms of Reference of SACG at Regional and National level
2. Terms of Reference of Civil Society representation in the Governing Board
3. Terms of Reference for the Regional and National Child Participation Network

4. CSO REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BOARD
Regarding the role of the two current CSO Observers and noting that at this time, the Board has no permanent representatives from CSOs on the Board (only Observers), the Board after protracted discussions agreed that it was more appropriate to follow standing rules and regulations specifying the process for Observers to later become full Board Members and that the CSO Representatives would remain as Observers during the period.

5. **SAIEVAC – ILO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

The SAIEVAC – ILO MOU that has been signed was circulated to all the GB Members for information.

6. **SOUTH ASIA CHILD LABOUR STRATEGY DRAFT**

The South Asia Strategy against Child Labour has also been drafted and will be discussed in more detail on Day 2 of the GB Meeting. The SAIEVAC DG requested Board Members to review this prior to the discussion in order to take additional feedback and comments.

7. **PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS FOR CHILD PROTECTION AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS**

It was reported that the SRS together with UNICEF ROSA held two rounds of discussions and met with Speaker of Parliament in Pakistan but then election process started up and work had to be put on hold. Also further discussions have taken place regarding holding preparatory meetings in either Maldives or Colombo in support of the Parliamentarian’s Caucus, which is planned for December of this year. The SAIEVAC DG further highlighted that perhaps it might be better to wait until 2014 instead because Nepal, the Maldives and other countries are now entering election periods and it may be more prudent to wait as systems and representatives may be changed.

He further highlighted that this should be done working together with SAARC and the process would embody a two-stage process. First a core group would be convened in order to define what is needed and the approach then as part of the second stage, a larger meeting is held which features the Parliamentarians themselves meeting and discussing on child protection and issues affecting children. The SAIEVAC DG requested that when planning begins for the preparatory meeting, he would need support from the GB Members to identify those who should be included and then further assistance would be required once the caucus take place.

8. **CHILD PARTICIPATION TECHNICAL GROUP AND CHILD PARTICIPATION STANDARDS**

Highlighted that the Child Participation Technical Group had been formed and two members of this team participated in the opening and hand-over ceremonies of the GB Meeting. While yet uncertain about the longevity of this group, he reiterated that it is important to consider recommendations related to this but also that it would be an excellent opportunity to make
use of various members of the team for capacity building and support at both National and Regional levels as well.

He also mentioned that the Child Participation Standards, Principles and Guidelines are included in the GB Members reference kit and should be reviewed prior to discussion planned on Day 2.

9. MISSING CHILD ALERT (MCA) PROJECT – LEGAL REFORM AND REGIONAL ACTIONS

The SAIEVAC DG highlighted that work in this area was well underway and referred GB Members to review a detailed report on progress included in their binder. He also mentioned that a ‘Follow-up Meeting’ was held on the 24th and 25th in Paro this month involving the three countries involved in the activities (Bangladesh, India and Nepal).

10. SACG AND SAIEVAC FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION

The Framework for Cooperation between SAIEVAC and SACG, which was signed on 17 December 2012, was also highlighted and a copy of the document shared with GB Members. The agreement outlines elements of cooperation, meetings and workshops, capacity development and technical assistance, country-level assistance, bi-lateral cooperation between SRS and SACG agencies, communication and coordination mechanisms.

It was further mentioned that all regional agencies working for children come together under this umbrella but that it doesn’t prevent the SRS from initiating bilateral arrangements (such as with ILO, ECPAT and others) in order to expand the SAIEVAC regional platform.

11. 3RD TECHNICAL CONSULTATION – ELIMINATING HARMFUL PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The SAIEVAC DG shared that there were 12 recommendations, which were revised, based on the draft presented at the close of the Technical Consultation (TC) on Friday. He indicated that he would open the floor for further discussion on these at the GB Meeting in order to gain approval first from the GB Members in order to take them forward. Once this is done, a period of 4 -6 weeks will be provided for all to submit comments (on both the TC report and recommendations) in order to finalize the documents.

GB Members agreed but also provided a number of specific recommendations or additional Action Points related to the finalization of the TC Recommendations. These included a proposal that the next TC on children with disabilities be harmonized with the Convention on the Rights of Disabled People and to try and make the theme more focused. With regard to Corporal Punishment (CoP) work, while the GB endorses this – it also directs the SAIEVAC to consider other settings (besides home, school and the wider community).

The SAIEVAC DG pointed out that regarding the number of recommendations, the only new recommendation concerns disability as a possible theme and that the rest were related to
building upon on-going activities and contribute to the strengthening our continued work.

**REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF UPDATED TOR FOR SAIEVAC GB**

As described earlier, the SAIEVAC GB TOR was reviewed and a revision was suggested by GB Members. These included formatting of the TOR, frequency of meetings, additional Members of the GB and the tenure of various GB Members.

There was also extensive discussion on how to define “a quorum” based on SAARC procedures but also considering representation of other members beyond the Member States. While changes or alteration to the criteria was not effected immediately, in order to demonstrate greater inclusiveness, the GB suggested that this issue be re-visited later in 2016 but as an Action Point or note for the record, it was highlighted that the presence and involvement of CSO and Child GB Member as part of the SAIEVAC GB is a great achievement and we should continue to support this in whatever ways possible.

In addition, the GB felt it would be important to invite NACG Coordinators to GB meeting as Observers if they were available when GB Meeting were being held. Rationale for this supported the fact that if they were present and heard discussions, it would be easier for them to take back recommendations and support processes more easily if involved. The one except here related to the case of India where one person fills both roles as the Board Member and the SAIEVAC Coordinator. The Board also discussed how it would be valuable to have two separate persons to fill this role. The Action Points to consider to invite NACGs Coordinators who are present to sit in as Observers at upcoming SAIEVAC GB Meetings; and to make a formal recommendation to the Government of India to have two persons assigned to the two different roles (e.g. GB Member and SAIEVAC Coordinator) in order to maintain uniformity of SAIEVAC structures.

**CHILD PARTICIPATION STANDARDS AND PRINCIPLES AND RELATED GUIDELINES**

As highlighted during Day 1 discussions, the Child Participation Standards were circulated to the Board with the request to review although this is the responsibility of the SAEIVAC Coordinators and Technical Coordinators. The SAIEVAC DG highlighted that the standards have been aligned with other international documents and standards but that SAIEVAC felt that it was important to have our own guidelines down on paper and ready for sharing or dissemination. He also mentioned that they continue to be “work in progress” and that different Member States (MS) can adapt them to suit contexts and settings for use.

He also noted that Guidelines for Chaperones have also been included as this was an urgent need. Past experiences indicated that chaperones had not been screened or selected properly but were nominated in good faith by other agencies but because they didn’t understand or know about relevant standards, they were unable to fulfil their roles and responsibilities. The development of these standards also included feedback from Child GB Members and there has already been favourable response from SAIEVAC Coordinators on this.
The Child Participation Standards included the following:

- Guidelines for Basic Conduct Related to Meetings and Events
- Media Guidelines / Guidelines for Journalists
- Child Protection Checklist and Risk Assessment
- Guidelines for Translators Country Consultation Guidelines and Selection Criteria for Consultations

Seeking endorsement of the Board for these documents with the caveat that they are also subject to continued work and development as we move forward in our work, the SAIEVAC GB Members endorsed this set of documents for implementation and use within the SAIEVAC mechanism.

**SOUTH ASIA STRATEGY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR – “PROMOTING CHILD RIGHTS, PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT”**

The GB had time for additional discussion on the draft strategy, which was presented to the team for their review and feedback. The SAIEVAC DG reiterated that there had been collective effort invested in the development of the draft but that there was also the need for additional guidance from Board in order to move ahead and submit the proposal to the Government of India as they have taken the lead in this area and can support wider capacity building in the region. Taking note of the 3rd GBM, the SRS was directed to share the strategy with Government of India, and based on their supportive response, will follow up by convening a stakeholder’s meeting to move this forward.
FOLLOW UP MEETING OF THE TRILATERAL CONVENTION ON MCA

As this was covered in discussions on Day 1, the SAIEVAC DG reminded that a two-day meeting took place in Paro with the three countries involved – India, Nepal and Bangladesh – and at the meeting a decision was taken to set up an interim Technical Advisory Board (TAG) to oversee activities. If the pilot is successful we would like to explore the possibility of expanding this to all countries in the region.

REGIONAL ACTION PLAN (RAP) FOR ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE (CM) IN SOUTH ASIA

The Board reviewed the Regional Action Plan for Ending CM in South Asia along with expected outcomes. One key point discussed was related to Outcome 6: Improved evidence, monitoring, reporting and evaluation and the proposal to establish a Regional Ombudsperson to monitor and evaluate the status of child rights in each state. To this, an additional Action Point was generated that the draft Regional Action Plan (RAP) be prepared for tabling at the next BM (first quarter) and if the meeting gets delayed; an alternative process for seeking approval will be explored.

In addition, activities related to the International Day for Girl Child (11 October) was raised including the focus on eliminating early marriages and that a number of countries are also involved with this. A follow up Action Point that SAIEVAC will encourages all member states to celebrate the International Day of the Girl in a meaningful and sustainable way. The SRS will prepare a message on behalf of the Governing Board which can be posted on our website in solidarity with this.

SAIEVAC ACADEMY – THE PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

The SAIEVAC DG also reviewed the proposed framework for the SAIEVAC Academy, which builds on the vision that SAIEVAC establish a long-term institute that can be linked to other academic institutes in the region in order to benefit and mutually support one another. He highlighted that possible linkages are being explored with Kathmandu University in Nepal, the Tata School of Social Sciences in India, Chiang Mai University and Chulalongkorn University in Thailand and also the Institute of Child Rights in Geneva so that designated training courses on social work or counselling can be access so that South Asia professionals can continue to learn and upgrade their skills and credentials.

He further explained that as there is more and more demand for South Asian experts, there is a need to support the development of South Asia experts who can address issues here in the region. In addition, such an academy could help to strengthen documentation and research. Through linkages with various institutes, it would be possible to engage researchers to undertake studies on issues and areas that we are interested in but also support of capacity building as well.

Highlighting that within the next 2 -3 months it would be useful to hold a planning meeting
to further brainstorm on the proposal, the draft is being tabled for the consideration of the Board and to explore how SAIEVAC can move forward with the idea by at least getting parts of it underway.

GB discussion was quite supportive of this initiative however some asked if the timing was right while others felt there was need to re-visit the concept or title of the institution and needed further clarification on where it might be based – either physically, geographically or virtually.

The SAIEVAC DG further clarified that there are three phases or streams to the proposal including a virtual training program emanating through universities and institutes, on campus short-course participation with specific academic institutions, and thirdly, the physical establishment of the academy hopefully in one of the member states where both the Resource Hub and Center for Excellence (training component) can be based. He further stated that even in Sri Lanka, there is a university, which offers courses on Child Rights, and it would be good to also visit and learn more about their program. First off, it would be important to explore how linkages and support to training programs can be made.

Finally the GB would provided clearance and an Action Point was made for SAIEVAC to further define the way forward and by holding of a consultative meeting in order to explore and address refinement of the proposal for SAIEVAC Academy.

ANY OTHER ISSUES- NACG PROGRESS AND CHILD HELPLINES: A COORDINATED EFFORT

Related to discussion on NACG progress, the SAIEVAC DG highlighted that there have been many informal meetings on NACGs and how they should be structured. Following the first NACG Conference in 2012 hosted by Bhutan and which included CSO partners, SAIEVAC Coordinators, UN agencies and others, the second NACG Consultation was held in Male. Between April and up until now, there have been other in-country structures or networks now requesting NACGs because they are maturing and gaining more interest with organizations and governments looking at this. In Maldives, there is a proposal for another meeting to take place before the end of the year in order to support this process.

The SAIEVAC DG also reported that the SRS with support of the SACG is considering holding the 3rd NACG Consultation towards the end of the year (perhaps in Colombo) so things in 2014 can start off on a more firm footing.

Discussion then turned to Child Help Lines where it was noted that all MS now have these in place (at different levels and capacities). In Colombo the decision was taken to set up a regional network of country Child Help Lines but at this time, not much progress has been made. There has been the realization that unless SAIEVAC helps to support this, it may not work out.

DATE AND VENUE FOR 5TH AND 6TH GB MEETING

Following discussion on where to set the next meeting, it was noted that Sri Lanka could
host in March or April of next year, that Bangladesh could host the second meeting of the year in September and that for the record, India also expressed interest to host a GB Meeting at some point time. Accordingly, tentatively the 5th GB Meeting will be held in April in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh will host the second round in September. Finalized dates will be circulated to all once they are finalized.
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4TH SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

The 4th Governing Board Meeting (GBM) of SAIEVAC was held from the 28-29th of September 2013 at the Convention Centre, Thimphu, Bhutan. The GBM was attended by the full bench of the Governing Board Members (however it may be noted that the GB Member of India and Sri Lanka were attended by their respective Representatives).

The highlight of the 4th GBM was the transition of the Chair of the Board from Afghanistan to Bangladesh and the handing over of the Board membership of the SACG and the Child Representatives. The outgoing SACG and the Child Board Members were also awarded 'Certificate of Appreciation' for their contribution as Board Members and for the cause of SAIEVAC. The statements made by the outgoing Members and the acceptance address made by the Incoming Chairperson of the Board are placed in the Annexes.

Following this, the 4th Board Meeting reviewed and endorsed the agenda placed before it by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS) after ensuring certain structural changes. The adopted agenda is at Annex 7.

The GBM after intense and elaborate deliberations on the different agenda items adopted the following recommendations, attached as Annex 1.

1. The meeting while endorsing the report on the Follow up Actions of the 3rd Governing Board Recommendations directed that;

1.1 The documentation prepared for the GB Meetings be organized in a much more reader/user friendly manner;

1.2 Taking into consideration the structure and Rules of Procedure for the Governing Board, and giving due cognizance to the submission made by the SRS on the current status of the CSO GB membership selection, it was endorsed that the status of the 2 CSO Observers will remain unchanged;

1.3 Considering the initial draft of the logos, the Board after extensive deliberations including significant contributions from the 2 Child Members endorses that the SRS will:

   a) Involve the SAIEVAC national mechanisms to develop ideas/drafts for a SAIEVAC logo by involving different groups including children to create a wider social mobilization and awareness on SAIEVAC;

   b) Based on the ideas presented by the different Board Members move ahead to put together the next set of drafts and circulate to the GB Members for their additional inputs and guidance;

   c) Consider the possibility of instituting a logo competition among children in the Member States with a small incentive prize through the national mechanisms.

1.4 On the issue of the status of the SAIEVAC Goodwill Advisor, the Board after carefully considering the various dimensions and implications associated
with the position in general and the position of Ms. Jahanara Wattoo in particular, endorsed that the SRS will further consult with SAIEVAC national mechanism Pakistan to arrive at a clear position/decision and accordingly inform the GB Members.

2. The Board while endorsing the recommendations of the 3rd Technical Consultation on ‘Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children based Tradition, Culture, Religion and Superstition’ (Annex II), directed the SRS to:

   2.1 Ensure that adequate focus is brought on corporal punishment in work settings in the Regional Campaign on Corporal Punishment;

   2.2 Finalize the theme of the proposed technical consultation by maintaining harmony with the Convention on the Rights of People with Disability and to also make the theme more focused to achieve better outcome.

3. On the issue of the National and Regional Child Participation Forums, the Board taking cognizance of the importance as well as the challenges of setting up such mechanisms, directed the SRS to ensure that dedicated efforts are made to accelerate the process with the support of the national mechanisms;

4. Considering the updated ToR of the Governing Board, the 4th GBM endorsed the ToR after making amendments to 4.1, 4.2, 5.7 and 6.7. The amended version of the ToR is at Annex 8.

5. The Meeting noted with appreciation the development and finalization of the Child Participation Standards and Principles and the different guidelines and; endorsed the documents to be used in the driving the Child Participation activities within the SAIEVAC mechanisms both at the Regional and National levels;

6. The Board taking due consideration of the draft Child Labour Strategy tabled by the SRS and noting that the draft was prepared with the involvement of different stakeholders, directs the SRS to submit the draft to the Government of India for their guidance, feedback and consideration. The SRS is also directed to ensure that the progress of the finalization of the Strategy is reported to the GB in subsequent meetings.

7. Reviewing the draft Regional Action Plan (RAP) for Ending Child Marriage and taking into consideration the discussions held around it while considering the Follow Up Actions of the 3rd GB Meeting, the Board endorsed the proposal for SRS to move forward with the finalization of the RAP. However the SRS will ensure that the Final Draft of the RAP is tabled to the 5th GB for its approval or in the event the 5th GB is delayed to get endorsement through circulation after seeking due clearance of the Chairperson;

8. Considering the draft Concept of the SAIEVAC Academy and the proposal for moving forward, the Board after taking note of the different aspects of the Academy, including the title itself, endorses that SRS move forward the process to firm up the Academy including the Brainstorming Meeting. However the Board also directs the SRS to keep the Board informed through subsequent Meetings on the progress of the Academy;

9. The Board after taking into consideration the submission made by the SRS endorses
the proposal to move forward in strategizing and holding the Parliamentary Caucus Meeting as approved by the 3rd GBM;

10. The Board noting the submissions made under Any Other Issues agenda, endorsed that:

10.1 The SRS take additional measures to further reinforce the institutionalization process for the NACGs and to also work towards holding the 3rd NACG Conference at an appropriate time;

10.2 The SRS take whatever steps essential to facilitate the Child Helplines;

10.3 The different Member States will make continued efforts to observe the International Day of the Girl Child on October 11 every year meaningfully; and that the SRS will also place a message from the Chairperson and GB commemorating the Day on the SAIEVAC Website

10.4 The SRS will continue to forge ahead with the Missing Child Alert Project activities as approved during the 3rd GBM

11. The Board considering the date and venue of the next GB Meeting, endorsed the offer of Srilanka to host the 5th GB Meeting in April 2014 and the offer of Bangladesh to host the 6th GB Meeting in September 2014. However the SRS will finalize the dates after consulting the Member States before announcement.

"In Solidarity with the Children of SAARC"

4th Governing Board Meeting

Dates: 28-29 September 2013

Hosted by the Royal Government of Bhutan

Organized and Showcased by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat

Supported by: the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG), the SAARC Development Fund (SDF) and in Collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VaC)
# TENTATIVE AGENDA

## DAY – 1 (28 SEPT 2013)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
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<tr>
<td>09.00-09.45</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>All Seated</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction – Director General</td>
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<td>Handing Over Ceremony of the Chairpersons of the Governing Board</td>
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<td>• Remarks by the Outgoing Chairperson, Afghanistan</td>
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<td>• Remarks by the Incoming Chairperson, Bangladesh</td>
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<td>New GB Members take Seat: Short Statements from the outgoing Board Members</td>
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<td>• Child GB Members and Observers</td>
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<td>• SACG GB Member</td>
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<td>• CSO GB Observers</td>
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<td>10.30 – 11.00</td>
<td>Group Photograph</td>
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<td>TEA BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00 – 13.00</td>
<td>Review and Adoption of the Agenda</td>
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<td>Outcome Report of the Technical Consultation</td>
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<td>Discussions and Outcome decisions</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.00 – 14.30</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.00 – 15.00</td>
<td>Draft Revised ToR of the Governing Board</td>
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<td>- Discussion and Adoption</td>
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<td>15.00 – 15.30</td>
<td>Reports of the 2012 -13 Major SAIEVAC Events with special focus on the Outcome of the Follow Up Meeting of the Trilateral Convention on MCA</td>
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<td>15.30 – 16.00</td>
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### DAY - 2 (29 SEPT 2013)

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<tr>
<td>09.00 – 09.30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.30 – 10.30</td>
<td>Child Participation Standards and Principles and related guidelines</td>
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<td>• Discussion and Endorsement</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30 – 11.00</td>
<td>TEA BREAK</td>
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<td>11.00 – 11.30</td>
<td>South Asia Strategy against Child Labour – ‘Protecting Child Rights, Promoting Development’</td>
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<td>• Discussion and Way Forward</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.30 – 12.15</td>
<td>Regional Action Plan for Ending Child Marriage in South Asia</td>
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<td>• Discussion and Way Forward</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.15 – 12.45</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Academy – The proposed Framework</td>
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<td>• Discussion and endorsement</td>
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<td>12.45 – 13.00</td>
<td>Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights – An update</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.00 – 14.00</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
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- Discussion and endorsement

Dinner hosted by the Governing Board Member of Bhutan
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>14.00 – 14.45</td>
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<td>• NACG Progress</td>
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<td>• Child Helplines: Coordinated Effort</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.45 – 15.00</td>
<td>Date and Venue of the 5th GB Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.00 – 16.00</td>
<td>TEA BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00 – 17.00</td>
<td>Presentation of the Draft Outcome of the 4th GB Meeting</td>
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<td>17.00 – 17.30</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
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# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>H.E Wasil Noor Muhmand</td>
<td>Deputy Minister, Chairperson, SAIEVAC  Governing Board Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ms. Tahima Begum</td>
<td>Joint Secretary, SAIEVAC Governing Board Member</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Shri Ananda Prakash</td>
<td>Deputy Secretary Child Welfare, representative for SAIEVAC Governing Board Member</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Ms. Smiriti Kaul</td>
<td>Consultant, MWCD</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Mr. Aftab Ahmed Jamal</td>
<td>Joint Secretary (HR), representative SAIEVAC Governing Board Member</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Dr. Aishath Rameela</td>
<td>Minister of state, SAIEVAC Governing Board Member</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Mr. Upendra Prasad Adhikary</td>
<td>Joint Secretary, SAIEVAC Governing Board Member</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ms. Anoma Dessanayaka</td>
<td>Chairperson, National Child Protection Authority, SAIEVAC Coordinator and GB Member representative</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Dr. Rinchen Chophel</td>
<td>Director General, SAIEVAC Secretariat, Nepal</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Ms. Phintsho Choeden</td>
<td>Governing Board Member, Bhutan</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Ms. Wijesinghe Rashmi Vidyani</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member, Sri Lanka</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Mr. Gokul Pandey</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member, Nepal</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Ms. Nabila Noori</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member, Afghanistan</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Ms. Victoria Ghauri</td>
<td>Chaperon</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Mr. Mohammad Mamun Bokaul</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member, Bangladesh</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Mr. Erik Aurther Thipthorpe</td>
<td>Chaperon</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Mr. Bhim Prasad</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member, Bhutan</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Mr. Kuenga Norbu</td>
<td>Chaperon</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Mr. Anmol Mittal</td>
<td>Observer., Child Governing Board Member, India</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Mr. K. K Tripathy</td>
<td>Chaperone</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Ms. Sherin Khan</td>
<td>Chair, SACG</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Mr. Ron Pouwels</td>
<td>SACG, UNICEF</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Ms. Madhu Munasinghe</td>
<td>Chaperone</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Mr. AKM Mausd Ali</td>
<td>ED, INCIDIN, NACG Chair</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Mr. Mohammad Yousef</td>
<td>NACG</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Mr. Norbu Gyaltschan</td>
<td>NCWC</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Mr. Nim Karma Sherpa</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Sec.</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Ms. Tshering Zangmo</td>
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<td>Ms. Pema Gyalmo</td>
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<td>Ms. Priti Sharma</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Sec.</td>
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<td>Mr. Rajan Burlakoti</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Sec.</td>
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<td>Mr. Roshanlal Chitrakar</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Sec.</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Ms. Tenzin Kuenzang</td>
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<td>Ms. Shera</td>
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<td>Ms. Yeshi Lham</td>
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<td>Ms. Pema Choki</td>
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<td>Mr. Tashi Jamtsho</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>Mr. Chenga Dawa</td>
<td>NCWC</td>
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<td>Mr. Kesang</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>Mr. Leki Dorji</td>
<td>Photographer</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>Mr. Tshering Samdrup</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Mr. Dorji Namgay</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
ANNEXES
ANNEX 1: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4TH SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4th SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

The 4th Governing Board Meeting (GBM) of SAIEVAC was held from the 28-29th of September 2013 at the Convention Centre, Thimphu, Bhutan. The GBM was attended by the full bench of the Governing Board Members (however it may be noted that the GB Member of India and Srilanka were attended by their respective Representatives).

The highlight of the 4th GBM was the transition of the Chair of the Board from Afghanistan to Bangladesh and the handing over of the Board membership of the SACG and the Child Representatives. The outgoing SACG and the Child Board Members were also awarded ‘Certificate of Appreciation’ for their contribution as Board Members and for the cause of SAIEVAC. The statements made by the outgoing Members and the acceptance address made by the Incoming Chairperson of the Board are placed in the Annexes.

Following this, the 4th Board Meeting reviewed and endorsed the agenda placed before it by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS) after ensuring certain structural changes. The adopted agenda is at Annex 7.

The GBM after intense and elaborate deliberations on the different agenda items adopted the following recommendations.

1. The meeting while endorsing the report on the Follow up Actions of the 3rd Governing Board Recommendations directed that;

   1.1 The documentation prepared for the GB Meetings be organized in a much more reader/user friendly manner;

   1.2 Taking into consideration the structure and Rules of Procedure for the Governing Board, and giving due cognizance to the submission made by the
SRS on the current status of the CSO GB membership selection, it was endorsed that the status of the 2 CSO Observers will remain unchanged;

1.3 Considering the initial draft of the logos, the Board after extensive deliberations including significant contributions from the 2 Child Members endorses that the SRS will:

a) Involve the SAIEVAC national mechanisms to develop ideas/drafts for a SAIEVAC logo by involving different groups including children to create a wider social mobilization and awareness on SAIEVAC;

b) Based on the ideas presented by the different Board Members move ahead to put together the next set of drafts and circulate to the GB Members for their additional inputs and guidance;

c) Consider the possibility of instituting a logo competition among children in the Member States with a small incentive prize through the national mechanisms.

1.4 On the issue of the status of the SAIEVAC Goodwill Advisor, the Board after carefully considering the various dimensions and implications associated with the position in general and the position of Ms. Jahanara Wattoo in particular, endorsed that the SRS will further consult with SAIEVAC national mechanism Pakistan to arrive at a clear position/decision and accordingly inform the GB Members.

2. The Board while endorsing the recommendations of the 3rd Technical Consultation on ‘Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children based Tradition, Culture, Religion and Superstition’ (Annex 14), directed the SRS to:

2.1 Ensure that adequate focus is brought on corporal punishment in work settings in the Regional Campaign on Corporal Punishment;

2.2 Finalize the theme of the proposed technical consultation by maintaining harmony with the Convention on the Rights of People with Disability and to also make the theme more focused to achieve better outcome.

3. On the issue of the National and Regional Child Participation Forums, the Board taking cognizance of the importance as well as the challenges of setting up such
mechanisms, directed the SRS to ensure that dedicated efforts are made to accelerate
the process with the support of the national mechanisms;

4. Considering the updated ToR of the Governing Board, the 4th GBM endorsed the
ToR after making amendments to 4.1, 4.2, 5.7 and 6.7. The amended version of the
ToR is at Annex 8.

5. The Meeting noted with appreciation the development and finalization of the Child
Participation Standards and Principles and the different guidelines and; endorsed the
documents to be used in the driving the Child Participation activities within the
SAIEVAC mechanisms both at the Regional and National levels;

6. The Board taking due consideration of the draft Child Labour Strategy tabled by the
SRS and noting that the draft was prepared with the involvement of different
stakeholders, directs the SRS to submit the draft to the Government of India for
their guidance, feedback and consideration. The SRS is also directed to ensure that
the progress of the finalization of the Strategy is reported to the GB in subsequent
meetings.

7. Reviewing the draft Regional Action Plan (RAP) for Ending Child Marriage and
taking into consideration the discussions held around it while considering the Follow
Up Actions of the 3rd GB Meeting, the Board endorsed the proposal for SRS to
move forward with the finalization of the RAP. However the SRS will ensure that
the Final Draft of the RAP is tabled to the 5th GB for its approval or in the event the
5th GB is delayed to get endorsement through circulation after seeking due clearance
of the Chairperson;

8. Considering the draft Concept of the SAIEVAC Academy and the proposal for
moving forward, the Board after taking note of the different aspects of the Academy,
including the title itself, endorses that SRS move forward the process to firm up the
Academy including the Brainstorming Meeting. However the Board also directs the
SRS to keep the Board informed through subsequent Meetings on the progress of the
Academy;

9. The Board after taking into consideration the submission made by the SRS endorses
the proposal to move forward in strategizing and holding the Parliamentary Caucus
Meeting as approved by the 3rd GBM;

10. The Board noting the submissions made under Any Other Issues agenda, endorsed
that:
10.1 The SRS take additional measures to further reinforce the institutionalization process for the NACGs and to also work towards holding the 3rd NACG Conference at an appropriate time;

10.2 The SRS take whatever steps essential to facilitate the Child Helplines;

10.3 The different Member States will make continued efforts to observe the International Day of the Girl Child on October 11 every year meaningfully; and that the SRS will also place a message from the Chairperson and GB commemorating the Day on the SAIEVAC Website.

10.4 The SRS will continue to forge ahead with the Missing Child Alert Project activities as approved during the 3rd GBM.

11. The Board considering the date and venue of the next GB Meeting, endorsed the offer of Srilanka to host the 5th GB Meeting in April 2014 and the offer of Bangladesh to host the 6th GB Meeting in September 2014. However the SRS will finalize the dates after consulting the Member States before announcement.
ANNEX 2: REMARKS BY OUT-GOING SAIEVAC GB CHAIRPERSON
Remarks by Out-going SAIEVAC GB Chairperson
H. E. Wasil Noor Muhamand, Deputy Minister, MOLSDM, Government of Afghanistan

Your Excellencies, Friends and Respective GB Members and Child GB Members and Observers, SACG GB Members and Observers and CSO GB Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am extending my respect to all of you. I welcome all of you and have the pleasure to participate in the 4th GB Meeting. As you know we started this SAIEVAC new structure in Nov in 2010 as I was selected as the Chair by your votes. Since two years and several months, I had this responsibility and now I am very happy, based on the respect, rules and regulations of SAIEVAC, for the periodic handing over to country to next country as the Chair of the GB. During my responsibility, with kind cooperation from all of you and my near brother, Dr. Chophel, there were many tasks completed in the initial stages.

I now hand over my responsibilities to the new Chair from Bangladesh and hope that they will follow in this manner and regard. I am very thankful to all the GBM for their support and I remain committed as your colleague and supporter in the future as well.

During my responsibilities, many achievements have been made and they include the following: Board Members have been specified and recommendations shared with country members and ministers and Dr. Rinchen was selected as the Director General of SAIEVAC and the GB was established as specified. Two members became GB Members and two as Observers and also CSO representatives were added as Observers. The central regional office was established in Kathmandu and the work plan of SAIEVAC developed around 5 serious issues affecting children of South Asia – Corporal Punishment, Child Marriage, Child Labour, Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and Trafficking. A strong cooperation was also established between SACG and SAIEVAC, and the Technical Consultation on Care Standards in Child Friendly Services took place and was very much appreciated. We have also set up the rotation of Chair of the Board for each two years taken; Afghanistan has served as the first Chair. SAIEVAC became an apex body of SAARC and we thank the SAARC Secretariat for this.

For the support and implementation of the SAIEVAC work plan, more than 5 million USD was granted by the SAARC Development Fund (SDF) for this project based on a technical meeting taking place in March 2012. The administrative structure has been developed and implemented by the General Secretary and GB. It was decided that State members would develop country plans following the regional plan. In the Kathmandu meeting taking place in 2011, it was also agreed that member countries should provide a report on ending violence based on UN recommendations. A MOU between SAIEVAC and ILO was signed, the Nepal government approved hosting the SAIEVAC Secretariat permanently, NACGs were established, and many consultation meetings took place in the region.

Finally I would like to thank you very much and wish you good luck and all the best. I will now transfer my responsibilities to the new Chair from the government of Bangladesh.
ANNEX 3: REMARKS BY IN-COMING SAIEVAC GB CHAIRPERSON
Remarks by In-coming SAIEVAC GB Chairperson
Tahmina Begum, Joint Secretary of Women and Children’s Affairs, Government of Bangladesh

Honorable members of GB of SAIEVAC, dear Child GB Members and Observers, Representatives of NACGs and SACG to the SAIEVAC Board, Respected DG of SAIEVAC, and concerned SAIEVAC Staff of the Regional Secretariat:

This is a delightful moment for me to accept the responsibilities as Chair of the SAIEVAC Governing Board. We are respectful to the procedure set by SAIEVAC of chairing the board for 2 years. I deeply appreciate the past Chair for his visionary leadership to carry forward the various activities during his tenure.

I thank the officials of SAIEVAC especially Dr. Rinchen for the hard work and assistance they have given to implementing the decisions of the SAIEVAC Board. I am confident that this meeting will enable the sharing of innovative ideas and effectively address children’s issues in the region.

I firmly believe we should build a strong partnership across South Asia include government, private sector, civil society, academia and other development partners. Together we will work to establish children rights and ensure their protection.

I would like to assure you all of my fullest support in line with commitment of the region, I request all delegates, members, child board members, SACG and NACG staff, the DG and officials to assist me through your scholarly thoughts and experience and invaluable suggestions.

I once again thank you all for providing me this opportunity to serve as the SAIEVAC GMB Chair and wish us all the most success. Thank you.
ANNEX 4: STATEMENT BY OUT-GOING CHILD BOARD MEMBER, WIJESINGHE RASHMI VIDYANI, SRI LANKA
Statement by Out-going Child Board Member, Wijesinghe Rashmi Vidyani, from Sri Lanka

I am so pleased to give my remarks on this occasion.

I wish to thank SAIEVAC for giving us this chance to represent all the children of South Asia for one year and you all gave us great support to do our best to end violence against children in South Asia. Thank you for this chance and for listening to us.

I would like you to give your attention to two matters – we had a meeting in Dhaka last year where we consolidated all the recommendations from the children and I would like to know if these have been included in the SAIEVAC work plan? Moreover, we were discussing the last few days, children’s forums – the Regional Children’s Forum is very important helps to strengthen our voice in various SAIEVAC forums, we feel more attention should be paid to the regional children’s forum as this is very important.

Related to our experience when we go back to countries, there is need for more of a support system at the national level as this would help us to do better in our role as SAIEVAC GB Members. This has provided a great chance for us to raise our voice and is a milestone in child participation and I would like to thank the DG and SAIEVAC GB – we have made great achievements due to this.
ANNEX5: STATEMENT BY OUT-GOING CHILD BOARD MEMBER, GOKUL PANDEY, NEPAL
Statement by Out-going Child Board Member, Gokul Pandey, Nepal

I am from Nepal and an outgoing Child GBM.

We had so many experiences and learned so much in this capacity particularly in both regional and national consultations. We also attended GBM and shared here.

We have been involved to end violence against children in SA – in this meeting we will hand over our role and responsibilities to Mamun and Nabila.

We also welcome the new Child Observers – do not forget your roles and responsibilities because you rep all children in SA.

At last I would like to give my thanks to all of SAIEVAC.
ANNEX 6: STATEMENT BY RON POUWELS,
OUT-GOING SACG REPRESENTATIVE ON
THE SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD
Statement by Ron Pouvels, Out-going SACG Representative on the SAIEVAC Governing Board

To my fellow Board Members:

It has really been a privilege and honor to be part of the GB and to do this on behalf of a larger group working with and supporting SAIEVAC since its inception. It is a very unique body bringing together international organizations, governments and children to work on child protection.

I would like to thank the Out-going Chair for all his efforts and his role and being such a good example for all of us and hope that the new Chair will receive the same support.

Much has been achieved in a very short time with SAIEVAC, we’ve set in place many new structures, held various Technical Consultations, had good debates within the GB and it is a good forum to continue discussion on how to move forward on ending violence against children in South Asia and I trust we’ll be able to make the next step and end violence against children in the region.

I want to thank the children who have been part of this as it is your voice which needs to be heard and you have good solutions to address these issues so I request the board to listen to them and let them speak as this is very important and take their voices seriously.

We have a unique body with civil society also involved – hearing your voice and learning from your exp with children working at the grassroots level so very good have to you here with us in these meetings.

I would like to thank DG as without your commitment and support, I am not sure where we would be without you but you have made sure that working against violence against children in the region is because of you and thank you for moving this issue forward.

I am happy to hand over to Sherin – you will be in good hands - and I wish you all the best as the new SACG member in the GB.
ANNEX 7: AGENDA OF THE MEETING
"In Solidarity with the Children of SAARC"
4th Governing Board Meeting
Dates: 28-29 September 2013
Hosted by the Royal Government of Bhutan
Organized and Showcased by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat
Supported by: the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG), the SAARC Development Fund (SDF) and in Collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VaC)

Agenda
Day – 1 (28 Sept 2013)

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<td>• Remarks by the Outgoing Chairperson, Afghanistan</td>
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<td>• Awarding Scarf to the Incoming Chair by the Outgoing Chair</td>
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<td>• Remarks by the Incoming Chairperson, Bangladesh</td>
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<td>New GB Members take Seat: Short Statements from the outgoing Board Members</td>
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<td>• Child GB Members and Observers</td>
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<td>• SACG GB Member</td>
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<td>• CSO GB Observers</td>
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<td>10.30 – 11.00</td>
<td>Group Photograph</td>
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<td>TEA BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00 – 13.00</td>
<td>Review and Adoption of the Agenda</td>
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<td>Follow Up Report of the 3rd GB Meeting Recommendations</td>
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<td>Recommendations of the 3rd Technical Consultation on Eliminating Harmful Practices</td>
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<td>Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.00 – 14.30</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.00 – 15.00</td>
<td>Draft Revised ToR of the Governing Board</td>
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<td>- Discussion and Adoption</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.00 – 15.30</td>
<td>Reports of the 2012-13 Major SAIEVAC Events with special focus on the Outcome of the Follow Up Meeting of the Trilateral Convention on MCA</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.30 – 16.00</td>
<td>TEA BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00 – 16.30</td>
<td>- Discussion and endorsement</td>
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<td>TIME</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.00 – 09.30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>09.30 – 10.30</td>
<td>Review and adoption of the Updated ToR of the GB Child Participation Standards and Principles and related guidelines - Discussion and Endorsement</td>
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<td>10.30 – 11.00</td>
<td><strong>TEA BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00 – 11.30</td>
<td>South Asia Strategy against Child Labour – ‘Protecting Child Rights, Promoting Development’ - Discussion and Way Forward</td>
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<td>11.30 – 11.45</td>
<td>Reports of the 2012 -13 Major SAIEVAC Events with special focus on the Outcome of the Follow Up Meeting of the Trilateral Convention on MCA</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.45 – 12.00</td>
<td>Regional Action Plan for Ending Child Marriage in South Asia - Discussion and Way Forward</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00 – 12.30</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Academy – The proposed Framework -Discussion and endorsement</td>
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<td>12.30 – 12.45</td>
<td>Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights – An update</td>
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<td>12.45 – 13.00</td>
<td>Any other Issues</td>
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<td>- NACG Progress</td>
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<td>- Child Helplines: Coordinated Effort</td>
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<td>- Follow Up Meeting of the MCA, Paro</td>
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<td>- International Day of the Girl Child</td>
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<td>13.00 – 13.30</td>
<td>Date and Venue of the 5th GB Meeting</td>
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<td>13.00 – 14.00</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14.00 – 15.00</td>
<td>Review and adoption of the Recommendations of the 4th GB Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.00 – 15.30</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
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<td>15.30</td>
<td><strong>TEA BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>Dinner Hosted by GB Member, Bhutan, at Hotel Phuntsho Pelri</td>
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ANNEX 8: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD
“In Solidarity with the Children of SAARC”

Terms of Reference for the SAIEVAC Governing Board

A. SAIEVAC’s Mission:

Vision

SAIEVAC’s vision is that all children, girls and boys, throughout South Asia enjoy their right to an environment free from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect and discrimination.

Aims

SAIEVAC aims:

a. To ensure the realization of children’s rights as stated in the UNCRC and its Optional Protocols, the different SAARC Conventions and Resolutions;

b. To prevent and respond to all forms of neglect, abuse, exploitation and violence against children in all settings;

c. To promote the adoption, implementation, and monitoring of integrated national strategies with adequate budgets and resource allocation to prevent and protect children from violence and ensure response; and

d. To reinforce regional cooperation to end violence against children in South Asia

B. Terms of Reference

1. **Scope:** To end all forms of Violence against Children in all settings in South Asia

2. **Mandate:**

   To review, approve and facilitate SAIEVAC processes and operations that ensure protection of children against violence in the region
3. Roles and Responsibilities:

The Governing Board during its biannual meetings and through the Chairperson will:

3.1 Ensure that SAIEVAC meets its goals and objectives;
3.2 Review policies, legislative frameworks and programme interventions in line with SAARC and international instruments;
3.3 Approve work plans, projects and programmes which will be tabled by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS);
3.4 Ensure SAIEVAC’s principles/work complements SAARC’s existing initiatives and avoid duplication;
3.5 Facilitate and monitor the implementation of the SAIEVAC’s Strategic Framework and its impact through the establishment of “bench marks”;
3.6 Support the SRS and the SAIEVAC National Mechanisms to undertake resource mobilization;
3.7 Support the SRS in the development and implementation of advocacy and communication strategies for SAIEVAC; and
3.8 Guide/monitor the provision/submission of reports, presentations and other inputs to the relevant SAARC mechanisms.

4. Frequency of the Board Meetings and attendance required

4.1 The Board shall meet twice a year. However the Chairperson may convene special sessions as and when required.
4.2 For a Board Meeting to be convened, there must be a minimum of 5 Board Members Representing the Governments present. The SRS will however make every effort to secure the participation of the other stakeholder representatives.

5. Composition of the Board:

5.1 Appointed Government Representative from each SAIEVAC member country – 8
5.2 SACG Chair – 1
5.3 Child Representatives - 2
5.4 Civil Society Organization (CSO) Representatives – 2
5.5 Child Observers – 2
5.6 CSO Observers – 2
5.7 Director General of the SRS who will also serve as the Member Secretary
6. **Other Conditions for the Governing Board:**

6.1 The Chairperson of the Governing Board will be from the Government Representatives;

6.2 The Chairperson will be appointed on a rotational basis on alphabetical order;

6.3 The Chairperson will serve for a tenure of 2 years;

6.4 The Child Board Members will also be appointed on rotational basis;

6.5 The Child Board Members will serve one year as Observers and one year as full fledged member;

6.6 The CSO’s will also follow the same pattern as the Child Board Members

6.7 The SACG Board Member will be subject to the changes/procedures within the SACG
ANNEX 9: SAIEVAC - ILO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC)
and
The International Labour Organization (ILO)

Whereas, the South Asian Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC), an Apex Body of the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), is a regional initiative led by the governments of South Asian countries, namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, in partnership with children, civil society organizations, and the SACG (South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children which is an interagency group consisting of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and agencies of the United Nations (UN));

Whereas, through its Regional and National Mechanisms, SAIEVAC influences policies, plans and programmes of the SAARC Member States in the area of child rights in general and ending violence against children in particular;

Whereas, child labour and work-settings are an integral part of the legal and programmatic framework of Violence against Children and the work of SAIEVAC as they are of the ILO’s core labour standards and mandate;

Whereas, SAIEVAC is the recognized SAARC entity to represent the cause of children of South Asia and provides an opportunity for collaboration in the larger framework of SAARC;

Whereas, at the international level, SAIEVAC is mutually supported by the mandate of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) on Violence against Children (VAC) and is extending its cooperation and exchanging views with other similar regional frameworks and initiatives, thereby promoting south-south cooperation;

Whereas, the International Labour Organization (ILO), represented by the International Labour Office, is a specialized agency of the United Nations, promoting social justice by promoting rights at work;

Whereas, the ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team (DWT) for South Asia, under the strategic guidance of the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, provides technical support to ILO constituents and key stakeholders in countries in South Asia to promote the Decent Work Agenda at the

1 United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children (UNVAC Study), which was presented at the UN General Assembly in October 2006.
2 SAIEVAC Workplan 2010-2015
3 The mutually reinforcing fundamental principles and rights at work are comprised of freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the elimination of forced or compulsory labour, the abolition of child labour, and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.
country level, and supports South Asian regional partnerships with a view to strengthening coherence and integration on issues of mutual interest and significance;

Whereas, the ILO supports countries to put in place and upgrade legislation, strengthen enforcement of national laws, demonstrate concrete measures to end child labour, raise awareness on the issues and promote social mobilization efforts;

Whereas, the ILO and its partners promote ratification and effective implementation of ILO child labour Conventions and other key international standards and declarations, including the UN Convention on Rights of the Child;

Whereas, strengthening of regional bodies and mainstreaming child labour issues in their mandates and work is an important goal of the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), a technical cooperation programme of the ILO, that supports ILO member States to pursue their goal of the elimination of child labour, and meet their national, regional and international commitments;

Whereas, IPEC pursues the goal of progressive elimination of child labour, with a priority on the elimination of all worst forms of child labour by 2016

Now therefore, the SAIEVAC and the ILO, being desirous of cooperating with each other within the framework of their respective constitutional mandates, have agreed as follows:

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding will be to enhance institutional cooperation between SAIEVAC and ILO with a view to promoting child rights and child protection as articulated in the UN Convention on Rights of the Child, ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182), ILO Convention on Minimum Age to Employment, 1973 (No. 138) and their respective Recommendations and Protocols in the SAARC countries, taking into consideration the specific situation of each country.

It will further promote and support other regional Commitments on Children made by the SAARC Member States as they related to rights of the child, key among these Commitments being the Social Charter (2004), Colombo (Ministerial) Statement (2009), The Rawalpindi (Ministerial) Resolution on Children of South Asia (1996), SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution (2002), and the SAARC Development Goals (SDGs).

The cooperation will involve effective collaboration with other key stakeholders in the SAARC region, particularly the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG) of which the ILO is a member, workers’ and employers’ organizations operating at the SAARC regional level, civil society organizations and children engaged in the work of SAIEVAC and the ILO. SAIEVAC and the ILO will actively pursue the engagement of other SACG members in collaboration arising out of this Memorandum of Understanding.

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2 2010 Global Action Plan and technical cooperation priorities (on child labour)
II. ELEMENTS OF COOPERATION

1. Mutual Consultation
The ILO and SAIEVAC Secretariat will maintain regular consultation on activities of mutual interest for the purpose of furthering the effective achievement of common objectives. They will seek to meet at least once a year.

2. Exchange of Information
The ILO and the SAIEVAC Secretariat will exchange non-confidential information and documentation on matters of common interest, will keep each other informed of current and planned activities of mutual interest for the purpose of identifying areas of potential cooperation, and strengthening and expanding SAARC regional partnerships.

3. Meetings and Workshops
SAIEVAC and the ILO will seek to continue dialogue through participation in meetings relevant to the cooperation between them. In this regard, particular reference is made to the SAIEVAC Technical Consultations and to ILO technical and partnership meetings of relevance to SAIEVAC’s work. The SAIEVAC Secretariat and the ILO will seek to organize, resource permitting, joint meetings with the purpose of sharing lessons learnt and good practices and disseminating them to partners in the SAARC countries, and promoting south-south and triangular cooperation.

4. Technical Advisory Services
The SAIEVAC Secretariat and the ILO may, on conditions to be mutually agreed in each case and within the limits of available resources, provide the services of its staff or consultants as the case may be. To the extent feasible, the ILO will provide advisory services for the implementation of SAIEVAC’s workplan and the organization of SAIEVAC’s Technical Consultations, particularly in support of its work related to child labour and mainstreaming child labour issues and concerns in the work of SAIEVAC as relevant.

In order to strengthen capacity on issues covered by this Memorandum of Understanding, the ILO will extend invitations to the SAIEVAC Secretariat and its representatives for participation in relevant technical meetings and training programmes organized by the ILO, particularly at the ILO International Training Centre in Turin, Italy. Similarly, SAIEVAC Secretariat will seek opportunities to extend invitations to the ILO for relevant programmes.

5. Administrative and financial arrangements
Activities to be implemented under this Memorandum of Understanding will be discussed between the SAIEVAC Secretariat and the ILO and must be consistent with the policies, rules and regulations of SAIEVAC and the ILO. These activities will be articulated in a brief programme of action note that will be jointly elaborated, keeping in view financial and programme cycles of the respective bodies.

Noting that the SAIEVAC Secretariat and the ILO are not funding agencies, they may collaborate on joint fund-raising initiatives in support of the goals of this Memorandum of Understanding.

The use of the emblems of each organization shall be subject to their respective regulations, rules, policies and procedures.
6. Focal Points

Cooperation between SAIEVAC Secretariat and the ILO under this Memorandum of Understanding is an institution-wide responsibility, however SAIEVAC and the ILO will designate focal points for liaison and coordination of action falling within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding. For the purpose of this Memorandum, the focal points of the parties will be:

For SAIEVAC Secretariat: Director General, SAIEVAC
For the ILO: Director, ILO DWT for South Asia

The Director General of SAIEVAC will make efforts to advance further partnerships for the ILO within SAARC and vice versa, the Director of DWT for South Asia will make efforts to advance further partnerships for SAIEVAC within the ILO and UN system.

III. Final provisions

Nothing in or relating to any provision in this Memorandum of Understanding will be construed as constituting a waiver, either expressed or implied, of the policies, rules and regulations of either SAIEVAC or the ILO, nor of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the ILO.

The arrangements described in this Memorandum of Understanding will commence on the date on which it is signed by the authorized representatives of the SAIEVAC and the ILO.

The present Memorandum of Understanding may be modified by an appropriate written amendment signed by both parties and annexed to this Memorandum of Understanding.

The present Memorandum of Understanding will remain in place for 5 (five) years and may be terminated by the written consent of the two parties or by either party giving the other party 3 (three) months written notice.

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably by the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized representatives of the ILO and of the SAIEVAC, have signed the present Memorandum of Understanding.

SIGNED this day of 28 August 2012, in three originals, one copy each for SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat, ILO Headquarters Geneva, and ILO DWT for South Asia.

For the International Labour Organization

Tine Staermose
Director, ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team (DWT) for South Asia

For the South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children

Rinchen Chophel
Director General
SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat
ANNEX 10: SOUTH ASIA STRATEGY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR, PROTECTING CHILD RIGHTS AND PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT
South Asia Strategy against Child Labour
Protecting Child Rights, Promoting Development

For Consideration and Review by SAI EVAC Governing Board Members

Working Draft 17 September 2013

BACKGROUND AND THE SOUTH ASIAN CHILD LABOUR CONTEXT

This South Asia Strategy Against Child Labour (SASACL) is the outcome of multi-stakeholder consultations and recommendations articulated by participants during at least three meetings\(^1\) held in 2012 and 2013 and as recommended by the South Asia Coordinating Group on Violence against Children (SACG) to the SAI EVAC Governing Board. Participants of these meetings, including representatives of the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Governments, employers’ and workers’ organizations, and civil society representatives, recognized that despite the economic and social gains which have been achieved in South Asia, ending child labour, together with addressing other forms of child rights issues, has remained a continued challenge. Nonetheless, the South Asian countries are determined and committed to bringing accelerated change through invigorated collaboration and strategic action focused on the prevention and elimination of child labour and the protection of child rights, building on experiences and partnerships.

South Asia remains the region with both the greatest number of children and with those children engaged in child labour. A large number of these children falling within the age group of 7 to 17 years old are employed and engaged in some of the worst forms of child labor with girls and marginalized populations' facing particular disadvantage and greatest risk. Considering this, the critical global fight against child

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\(^1\) These are the Second SAARC Tripartite Workshop on Child Labour, organized by the Government of India, Ministry of Labour and Employment and the VV Giri Labour Institute in collaboration with the ILO in May 2013 in New Delhi; the South Asia Regional Consultation on the UN Study on Violence against Children and Follow-Up Actions, organized by SAI EVAC, hosted by the Government of Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the SACG in May 2012 in Colombo, Sri Lanka; and the Workshop on the UN CRC and ILO Child Labour Conventions - Towards greater coherence in reporting and action Organized by the ILO in collaboration with SAI EVAC and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRSG VAC) in June 2013 at the ILO International Training Centre in Turin.
labour must be won in South Asia if goals related to elimination of child labour, promotion of education and protection for all children with equity are to be achieved.

The Asia and the Pacific region has over a 100 million of 5 - 17 year olds engaged in child labour; this is the highest number of any region and likewise, represents the highest number of children involved within the 5 - 14 year old range. As highlighted earlier, the region also has the highest number of children involved hazardous work – over 40 million (40 percent of the global total).

Research and data indicate that the majority of these working children are located in the South Asian countries, which are also home to one-third of the world’s children and are nationalities that are coping with numerous contextual challenges. These include household poverty, extensive informal economies and an unregulated agriculture sector, vulnerabilities caused by conflicts and natural disasters, movement of persons in the form of migration and trafficking from rural and agricultural areas to cities and across borders as well as internal displacement of persons. In addition, practices related to bonded labour, exclusion and insufficient reach of social protection measures, youth unemployment, inadequate capabilities for enforcement of law, uninformed public, lack of coordination and continued service delivery bottlenecks all contribute to continued challenges.

Notwithstanding these challenges, South Asia countries have demonstrated successful and innovative strategies and initiatives in the areas of policy, multi-stakeholder partnerships – including public-private partnerships. These countries have tested models focusing on the urban informal economy, agricultural informal bonded labour contexts, specific manufacturing sectors, response to natural disasters, skills training, community-based and convergence-based models, and numerous other initiatives. Different variations of an array of strategies have been conceived and tested in the region.

The Worst Forms of Child Labour

While the ultimate goal remains the progressive elimination of all forms of child labour, the priority is the Worst Forms of Child Labour, which are categorized in Convention No. 182 as follows:

a) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflicts (Corresponds to Article 35 of the CRC);

b) The use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or pornographic performances (Corresponds to Article 34 of the CRC);

c) The use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties (Corresponds to Article 33 of the CRC); and,
d) Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

SAARC Commitments

The South Asia Strategy against Child Labour will further promote and support other regional commitments for children made by the SAARC Member States. Among these are The Rawalpindi (Ministerial) Resolution on Children of South Asia (1996), the SAARC Convention on Regional Arrangements for the Promotion of Child Welfare in South Asia (2002), the SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution (2002), the Colombo (Ministerial) Statement (2009), and the SAARC Development Goals (SDGs), and the South to South Cooperation on Child Rights, 2010.

Commitments to International Treatise


SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF THE SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL STRATEGY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

Child labour is a multi-dimensional phenomenon requiring a multitude of solutions to be planned and delivered in harmony and coherence by a range of stakeholders from policy makers to families and community members and children at the grassroots level. This multi-dimensional approach requires that action against child labour be an integral part of the range of human rights and development frameworks. Primary among these are the policies and frameworks on and related to child and social protection, violence against children, education and training, youth employment, decent work and various poverty eradication efforts.

Within countries, a number of different ministries at the central level and their respective departments and offices at the sub-national levels are mandated to deal with child labour. Among the key ones are the ministries of labour and employment, child development, social welfare, education and a host of ministries focusing on sectors which are confronted with the problem – agriculture, mining, tourism, and urban development, as well as agencies dealing with internal and external migration and trafficking. Non-state actors, including employers’ and workers’ organizations, civil society organizations, and business entities also cover child rights and child labour issues within the scope of their mandates and work.

In view of the above, the purpose of the SASACL is not to duplicate national efforts but to reinforce and re-invigorate them through approaches that promote and nurture a culture of coherence and synergy to prevent and eliminate all forms of child labour, with a priority on the worst forms and the special situation of girls and
excluded and vulnerable populations. Through such approaches, the SASACL will enhance knowledge generation, information and best practices dissemination and utilization; capacity development supporting both implementation and enforcement; innovative and strengthened partnerships; and effective resource mobilization so as to accelerate the pace and scope of action and policies that will ensure children’s rights and end all violence against children.

The SASACL envisions a series of actions through the following streams:

- **The SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat**: to strengthen institutional capacity of SAIEVAC to implement the SASACL as part of its Work Plan (2012-2016) and in coherence with the other strategic objectives and thematic areas also highlighted in the Work Plan. Such coherence will maximize impact by drawing from their collective strength and value, promoting wide-spread implementation through its national mechanisms.

- **The SAIEVAC National Mechanisms and Civil Society Partnerships, including with children**: to foster synergies across South Asia regional and national levels for collaborative and coordinated policies and programmes implemented across ministries, departments, agencies (national and international), training institutions and resource centres to ensure seamless protection for all children, in all settings, at all times.

- **SAARC, South Asian and South-South and Triangular cooperation mechanisms**: to promote and implement innovative, do-able and sustainable solutions within the SAARC region and with other regions, encouraging the sharing of social policies, experiences and successful measures.

**PRIORITIES AND ACTION UNDER THE SASACL**

The following priorities, identified by multi-stakeholders in South Asia, are applicable at the policy and action programme levels, both horizontally and vertically across administrative and institutional levels. Given the varying degrees of development and contexts from country to country and within each country, from region to region, the level of focus on the various priorities at any given time will differ accordingly.

1. **Universal Ratification by SAARC Governments of core international treatises related to child labour and their effective implementation.**

   - Ratification of international conventions against child labour, particularly ILO Conventions No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour and No. 138 on Minimum Age to Employment by all SAARC countries to which ratification applies.

   - Harmonization of national laws based on the international standards, including the definitions of child labour, by all SAARC countries.
• Awareness creation, through various media, about national laws and related international treatises and promoting compliance, with particular attention to engaging with those with diverse perspectives.

• Resource allocation for addressing child labour through integrated inspection/enforcement systems based on collaborative and synergetic action by the various types of inspections, such as school, labour and police inspections, with due involvement of civil society and communities.

• Bringing issues to the attention of parliamentarians and groups that influence policy, and engaging in dialogue with them.

(Key agencies and institutions to be identified)

2. Realization of the right to education for all children and appropriate skills training

• Legislated free, compulsory, accessible and appropriate education, to at least 15 years of age; with due consistency between the age for compulsory education and the legal minimum age for employment, apprenticeships and training.2

• Upon completion of compulsory education, and at the appropriate age, provision of skills-based education commensurate labour market demands.

(Key agencies and institutions to be identified)

3. Integration/mainstreaming of child labour in issues and concerns in key national and regional development agendas and policies

• Integrating child labour in rural and urban poverty reduction strategy, and policies and programmes on education, training, youth employment, health, social welfare, child and social protection, employment and enterprise promotion, and sector specific policies and programmes among others.

• Reviewing selected, policies, plans and programmes, identifying key entry points, as well as resources and linkages for mainstreaming child labour issues including those related to the economic and social empowerment of the families and identification of beneficiaries for services. Preparing briefing notes on the recommended mainstreaming and advocating with the concerned agencies and actors.

• Emphasis on mainstreaming and convergence at sub-national levels (state and district).

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2 The Commitment Statement of the Workshop Participants at the Second SAARC Regional Workshop on Child Labour (May 2013, New Delhi) expressed “...concern that despite gains in school attendance, education spending in South Asia continues to trail the rest of the world, including developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia.”
• Mainstreaming in related regional plans and polices on Violence against Children and Child Protection.

(Key agencies and institutions to be identified)

4. **Scaling-up and replicating effective re-integration and social protection schemes for the children involved in or vulnerable to child labour and other forms of child labour and families**

• Liaison and partnerships with parliamentarians and think-tanks to promote successful initiatives and good practices and highlight policy issues, concerns, and knowledge regarding child labour and child rights.

• Promote and support the scaling-up and replication of effective schemes, such as cash transfers, school stipend, child-friendly spaces in communities and at work place; income generation and skill development initiatives, health insurance and health checks for vulnerable families.

• Liaison and partnerships with institutes and bodies that develop and promote basic technological adaptations which can make processes to be child labour free and to make them safer for older children/youth at legal working age.

(Key agencies and institutions to be identified)

5. **Multi-agency coordinated and coherent system for supporting rehabilitation and reintegration of children withdrawn from the child labour and rescued from other abusive situations**

• Rescue and removal must be followed by rights-based support for rehabilitation and reintegration of the exploited children.

• Special child-friendly measures put in place to support internal and cross-border trafficked and migrant children (including separated and unaccompanied children) to facilitate their return, rehabilitation and reintegration processes.

• The bi-lateral MOUs (rescue, repatriation, rehabilitation and reintegrated) that have been developed between Bangladesh, Nepal and India should be followed up by bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements by other SAARC countries as well.

• Existing Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols should be assessed (if deemed inadequate), or new ones developed if needed involving all the key actors; and their implementation promoted.

(Key agencies and institutions to be identified)

6. **Enhancing the knowledge base and data collection tools on child labour for a more precise understanding and clarity of concepts and operational
indicators to identify trafficking of children for labour exploitation and children affected by or at-risk of child labour and other forms of violence.³

- Improved data collection with consistent and comparable data collection systems across the SAARC countries.
- Centralized database center, with links to national data centres, on child labour for monitoring and reporting on common indicators and the SAARC Development Goals related child labour and other aspects of violence against children.
- More readily-available tools that focus on the worst forms of child labour and provide information on the gender dimensions of the problem.
- Compilation and dissemination of good practices against child labour within and across regions/globally.

(Key agencies and institutions to be identified)

7. Capacity development, raising awareness and social mobilization

The SASACL recognizes that adequate and relevant capacities of institutions, networks, and individuals are critical to achieving and sustaining positive results. It, therefore, encourages a range of capacity development activities including training, the adaptation and development of tools and training materials, exchange visits, learning from experience and good practices, awareness raising initiatives, campaign at all levels and across media, and others. Institutions within and outside the region that can contribute to this effort are to be identified and partnerships developed.

Specific target groups for the training are to be identified, among them civil society, workers and their organizations, employers and their organizations, public officials including law enforcement officials, members of the National Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (NACG), youth and children’s groups.

8. Strengthened coordination and implementation mechanisms at the Regional and National Levels

Regional Level

- Strengthen institutional capacity of South Asia Initiative for Ending Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) to integrate and implement the South Asia Strategy against Child Labour as part of its Work Plan (2012-2016).

³ This point draws from the Commitment Statement of the Workshop Participants at the Second SAARC Regional Workshop on Child Labour (May 2013, New Delhi), stating: “Realizing the fact that only by accurately identifying problem areas and vulnerable populations can SAARC member states take effective action against child labour and child trafficking, WE commit to enhance data collection tools and building knowledge resources to derive a more precise understanding of child labour and to have clarity of concepts and operational indicators to identify trafficking of children for labour exploitation.”
• Mobilize adequate resources from international and regional donors in support of the South Asia Strategy against Child Labour.

• Promote greater collaboration and convergence with other SAARC Mechanisms such as SAARCLaw, SAARC Human Resource Development Center, SAARC Information Center, and Parliamentarians Caucus.

• Engage the ILO Tripartite partners in appropriate SAARC/SAIEVAC mechanisms.

• Create greater visibility of child labour issues within national and regional Children’s Forums related to SAIEVAC.

• Mainstream child labour in other regional plans and policies related to SAARC Convention on the Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (and related mechanisms such as SAARC Regional Task Force).

• Promote the realization of commitments in the SAARC Social Welfare Charter.

• Engage with other regional centres/bodies to learn from experiences.

• Promote successful strategies and lessons within and outside the region.

**National Level**

• Create broad-based partners involving key actors, including the employers’ and workers’ organizations (social partners) in the NACGs including in the reporting and follow-up processes for UN CRC Reporting.

• Promote the engagement of NACG/CSO inputs to the Reporting and Follow-up processes for the ILO Child Labour Conventions.

**INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

This South Asia Strategy against Child Labour complements other child rights and child protection strategies and action in South Asia and draws from experiences within and outside the region. As the inter-governmental SAARC Apex Body on Children, working through national mechanisms that include governments, civil society, children and multi-lateral agencies, having a mandate that includes child labour elimination, and having signed an MOU on the subject with the ILO, SAIEVAC is well-placed to promote the implementation at the South Asia regional level through it Regional Work Plan and the SAIEVAC Governing Board and its partnership with the SACG, and at the national level through its national mechanisms.

The SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat, in cooperation with other SAARC mechanisms and entities, the SACG and other entities will mobilize resources for the implementation and promotion of the SASACL in a manner that is coherent with the framework and Action on Violence against Children.

Implementation and progress will be reviewed annually and will be monitored regularly as part of the SAIEVAC workplan and the implementation of the SAIEVAC-ILO Memorandum of Understanding (2012).
In Solidarity with the Children of SAARC

CHILDREN’S PARTICIPATION

PRINCIPLES, PRACTICE STANDARDS AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK
I. Introduction

The South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) has since its inception included ‘Children’s Participation’ as an integral part of its structure and programmes. Children’s Participation is part of children’s citizenship rights as described in articles 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The engagement and ethical and meaningful participation of children in SAIEVAC is an essential precondition to ensure that children’s perspectives on violence are taken into consideration in systems and institutions, and decision-making processes affecting them. Institutionalising Children’s Participation is equally crucial to ensure the quality and credibility of SAIEVAC’s work in ending violence against children, along with its accountability towards the children of SAARC. SAIEVAC reiterates its commitment to empower children as citizens, participants, and agents of change in their own well-being, and to minimize any risk of harm or consequences resulting from their participation in activities promoted by SAIEVAC & its mechanisms.

II. Goal and scope

This document outlines SAIEVAC’s child participation principles, practice standards, and institutional framework to ensure child safety, meaningful & ethical participation, quality and consistency throughout SAIEVAC processes, mechanisms and activities involving children. This document applies to SAIEVAC, the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG) and the National Coordinating Groups on Action against Violence against Children (NACG) in the South Asian countries. Whilst contexts may vary across South Asian countries, this document is meant to provide a common platform, a set of minimum standards and a shared understanding of child participation in SAIEVAC. For the purpose of this document, the word "child" refers to every person under the age of 18.

III. Overarching Principles

In all child participation processes under SAIEVAC, SACG and NACG, child participation must comply with the following overarching principles:

1. **Ethical**: the "do no harm" principles and the best interests of children must be protected at all times in the plan, design, implementation, and follow up of any child participation process.

2. **Voluntary**: children must not be pressured to join activities or processes, and they should have the option of refusing to participate or withdrawing from a child participation process.

3. **Informed**: children and their guardians/caregivers should be timely & well informed about the background, purpose, roles of their child, level of engagement, possible risks and expected outcomes of the participation process, activity or initiative.
4. **Meaningful**: participation should have realistic and constructive purposes that benefit children across the region, keeping in mind the heterogeneity among children across the region.

5. **Accessible, inclusive and non-discriminatory**: participation processes should be accessible to, and intentionally include, children from different genders, religions, ethnicities, castes, classes, nationalities, economic status, abilities, and other backgrounds. Children's contributions are valued, prioritised and their comments are listened to without discrimination on any grounds, including those mentioned above.

6. **Respectful**: child participation activities and processes respect children's age, evolving capacity, preferred form of expression, language, cultural, and religious background.

7. **Child friendly**: the activities and methodologies used shall be easily understandable to children, enabling children to contribute to the best of their abilities through age-specific information and inclusive approaches.

8. **Safe** participation activities and their venue should not put children or adults in danger of physical, psychological or emotional harm.

9. **Consistent and accountable**: all processes and activities with children are designed and implemented to ensure appropriate follow up. This includes providing children with information about the outcome of their participation and progress on how their contributions and inputs have been put to use. Mechanisms are established for children to evaluate their participation experience and make recommendations for improving child participation practices.

10. **Child Led**: children are supported and empowered to take a leading role in determining the agenda, the nature and the modalities of the participation process.

**IV. Practice Standards**

Practice Standards are operational guidelines that describe the expected level of performance and quality to be upheld in all the aspects of SAIEVAC, SACG, and NACGs Child Participation processes, in line with the guiding principles above.

In order to ensure meaningful children’s participation within SAIEVAC processes and programmes, the following practices should be followed:

- Any potential risks of physical, social, emotional, or other harm to children that may arise from the child participation process should be carefully assessed, considered, prepared for, and minimized, prior, during, and following child participation activities.

- Children representatives (including to the Governing Board) are selected from national consultations through democratic processes and comply with the regional selection criteria ensuring proper representation of each country. Children are supported in influencing the nature of such selection process. They are provided with child friendly and appropriate information, background documents, and support to understand and carry out their responsibilities as child representatives prior to, during and after the events or meetings.
• Plans are established and implemented to obtain informed consent from child participants and their caregivers. Children participating (and their parents or guardians) in the national/regional consultation/SAIEVAC meetings receive adequate and clear information on the participation process at least 2 months in advance. Children and adults are informed, in ways that they can understand, about each of the following:

1) The purpose and expected benefits or outcomes of the child participation process;
2) The potential risks and consequences of being involved in the process;
3) The time commitment and other expectations of participants;
4) The possibility of refusing to participate or to withdraw from the activity at any time;
5) The logistics (including communication, transportation, and supervision arrangements);
6) Their responsibility in representing the views of children from their respective constituencies.

• Intentional plans are established to ensure the inclusion of the most vulnerable children, and children from different genders, religions, ethnicities, castes, classes, nationalities, economic status, abilities, and other backgrounds in participation processes. Children participating at the regional and national levels represent larger constituencies of children’s groups associated with the national child rights coalitions, for example NACGs. Appropriate child friendly preparations and consultations are held to ensure that children representatives have the opportunity to gather and meaningfully represent the views of the children from their respective constituencies. Children participating are supported in understanding and performing their responsibility to represent others, ensuring that diverse views are taken into consideration, including those from the most vulnerable or marginalized children. Preparation for children participating in the national and regional consultations is consistent across countries.

• Children’s national/regional consultation reports and documents are disseminated to a larger audience and archived within the SAIEVAC Secretariats at national and regional levels.

• Supporting adults such as staff, chaperones, facilitators and coordinators are informed on how to effectively carry out their responsibilities and how to keep SAIEVAC Secretariat and national counterparts, such as NACG, informed. Supporting adults receive appropriate orientation on child safe participation principles to ensure the protection of participating children. The risk of facilitators and chaperons being a threat to children is minimized through appropriate local background checks prior to their involvement in child participation processes. Due consideration is given to the ratio of number and gender of children per chaperon in child participation activities.

• A child friendly complaints and response mechanism exists to report and respond to child protection issues that may arise in the child participation process. Such mechanism is known and accessible to children and adults.
• Cultural traditions, knowledge, and customs should be respected at all times in participation processes. Adults involved in the child participation processes should be aware and sensitive to differences among participants. Facilitators should always strive to speak and act in ways that are child-friendly and that minimize as much as possible power inequalities with and amongst participants. Facilitators and children are encouraged to agree on behaviour protocols addressing appropriate and inappropriate behaviour during the participation process. Adults involved in child participation processes should: avoid raising unrealistic expectations, avoid making promises to children that they cannot keep, and follow up on all commitments made to participants.

• Resources are allocated for regional meetings and also for follow-up. Child friendly debriefing activities are planned, budgeted for, and implemented to ensure that children have the opportunity to provide feedback on their participation experience and recommend how to improve participation processes.

V. Institutional framework

This chapter describes the institutional framework, mechanisms, roles, and responsibilities of SAIEVAC and NACGs in relation to child participation at national and regional level.

V. a In all matters related to National Level Child Participation:

1. Child participation at the national level will be organised through children’s forums in collaboration with the respective SAIEVAC national chapter and NACGs.

2. The respective SAIEVAC national chapter and NACG collaborate in supporting and preparing children for meaningful participation in national and regional meetings.

3. The SAIEVAC national chapter and NACG map children’s groups and activities and send regular updates about SAIEVAC and its processes to these groups and vice versa.

4. The SAIEVAC national chapter and NACG ensure that a meeting is organized at least once a year with representatives of children’s groups to discuss and plan initiatives to address VAC, discuss national priorities of SAIEVAC, and select children to participate at the regional level.

5. Selected child representatives to SAIEVAC’s regional consultations will be supported by their chaperones to take part in meetings and represent all children in South Asia.

6. Communication and coordination mechanisms are to be ensured by the SAIEVAC national chapter and NACG to promote and sustain children’s participation.
7. Allocation of resources for children’s participation, especially funds to design and implement activities on violence against children, is to be ensured by the SAIEVAC national chapter and NACG.

8. SAIEVAC national chapters and NACGs are accountable for and exchange regular updates on the actual implementation of the child participation principles and standards outlined in this document.

V. b In all matters related to Regional Level Participation through the SAIEVAC Secretariat:

1. SAIEVAC national chapters and NACGs ensure preparatory meetings for children prior to the regional consultation to facilitate their meaningful participation at the technical consultations.

2. SAIEVAC and NACGs commit to give equal status, recognition and visibility to child representatives in all SAIEVAC events and forums (e.g. speaking roles, representation at the dais, etc.).

3. SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat allocates a focal person within the Secretariat to ensure appropriate focus, communication and coordination to support and strengthen children’s participation and:

   • Develop a work-plan on children’s participation as per SAIEVAC’s 5 year work-plan, Governing Board Decisions, Technical Consultations and Priorities identified by children themselves;

   • Support necessary capacity building of children and support adults to effectively promote and implement/support children’s participation;

   • Allocate adequate resource to ensure effective communication and coordination mechanisms among children on SAIEVAC issues in the region to share information, good practices and lessons learnt;

   • Support Child Governing Board members in fully understanding and executing their duties and responsibilities;

   • Sensitize the SAIEVAC Governing Board members to accommodate and support meaningful and ethical participation of children during their meetings and ensure that their voices are heard and opinions taken into due consideration in decision-making processes;

   • Officially assign the SAIEVAC National Coordinator to support and guide the Child Governing Board Representative;

   • Provide an opportunity for the Child Governing Board members to represent SAIEVAC in VAC related forums and platforms in the region and internationally.
• Mobilize resources to establish and sustain a permanent child and youth forum on violence against children, to ensure continuous involvement and effective follow-up actions by children and young people under the auspices and with full support of SAIEVAC regional and national mechanisms.

VI. Resources

Additional resources on child participation can be found below.

GENERAL COMMENT No. 12 (2009): The right of the child to be heard, UNCRC Committee: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/AdvanceVersions/CRC-C-GC-12.pdf


“Participation is a virtue that must be cultivated: An analysis of Children’s Participation working methods and materials within Save the Children Sweden”, Save the Children Sweden: http://resourcecentre.savethechildren.se/sites/default/files/documents/2684.pdf
ANNEX 12: LEGAL REFORMS AND REGIONAL ACTIONS FOR PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF MISSING CHILDREN (PRMC)
Legal Reforms and Regional Actions
for
Protecting the Rights of Missing Children (PRMC)
to
End Violence against Children in South Asia
TABLE OF CONTENTS
Situational context .................................................................................................................. 3
The problem ........................................................................................................................... 4
PROJECT PROPOSAL ............................................................................................................. 4
Promoting the best interests of the trafficked Child ............................................................... 5
Putting Article 12 into Practice ............................................................................................. 5
SAIEVAC Programme log frame: .......................................................................................... 6
Main Partners ....................................................................................................................... 8
Risk Analysis and Counter Strategies ............................................................................... 10
Budget .................................................................................................................................. 11
Conditions and Break up for release of installments to SAIEVAC .................................. 12
Schedule of Disbursement ................................................................................................. 13
Legal Reforms and Regional Actions for Protecting the Rights of Missing Children (PRMC)

Situational context

South Asia is home to 700 million children and 35 percent of the world’s poor. South Asian children face many common problems that make them more vulnerable to violence in different settings. South Asian children experience violence at home, in schools, in care and judicial systems and institutions, at workplaces and within their communities. South Asian children are more prone to violence because of poverty, caste, ethnicity, religious beliefs and disabilities which prevents children from accessing necessary child protection and social welfare services and harmful traditional practices such as early marriage. Violence is exacerbated when children lack the protection of a parent or a caregiver or are affected by natural disasters and armed conflict, which is common to the region. Violence is also perpetrated in a continuum because of the limitations of the governments to invest dedicated focus to address it both through institutional mechanisms and adequate and proactive legal protection.

The governments of South Asia however followed up on the recommendations to the UN Study on Violence Against Children in 2006 by launching the South Asia Forum for Ending Violence against Children, which has now evolved into the South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC) with clearly defined and institutionalized mechanisms. Over the years the Initiative with the support of the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG) has been able to converge the 8 governments of South Asia to work towards ending violence against children and striving towards adopting strategies to end violence against children through a child protection systems approach. To this end SAIEVAC accords high priority on promoting and integrating through its 5 year work plan strategic approaches that cover policies, plans, laws, regulations and services across all social sectors — especially social welfare, education, health, security and justice — to support prevention and response to protection related risks.

The SAIEVAC currently focuses on five key areas of violence against children in the region as defined by consensus in 2006 through the Islamabad Declaration. These include early marriage, sexual abuse and exploitation, trafficking, child labour and corporal punishment. The core areas of focus to address the above settings of violence include legal review, data and information management system, capacity development, communication and advocacy and promoting regional cooperation and networking.
The problem
In South Asia, 48% of young women are married before 18 years. Sexual exploitation affects millions of children. Persisting legal and social acceptance of corporal punishment explains its high prevalence and an estimated 44 million children are involved in child labour. Of children less than 5 years old, 36% are not registered at birth, increasing children’s vulnerability to trafficking since tracing children without birth registration and identity proof becomes extremely difficult.

Child protection systems at regional, national and community level are still fragile. While South Asian Governments have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the SAARC Conventions on Trafficking and on Child Welfare, laws and policies on child protection are not systematically implemented or monitored. There is a lack of capacity as well as expertise on how to systematically prevent, identify, report and follow-up child protection issues and the absence of regional and national data and information management systems and, comprehensive and accurate research hinders the development of appropriate programmes and services.

PROJECT PROPOSAL
 Trafficking in children in South Asia is to a large extent perpetrated and compounded by both the sheer absence or limited legal and policy provisions or the lack of focus or capacity of the criminal justice system. While some countries have made efforts to introduce enabling legal reforms to address the issue of violence against children, including trafficking for different purposes (CSEC, forced/bonded labour etc), there is still tremendous scope to enhance the need to link drafting and ratifying of laws to enforcing them as a regular legal and law enforcement and providing- access-- to justice practice. SAIEVAC is mandated to provide this critical impetus and drive.

SAIEVAC’s conceptualization of the problem of child trafficking is based on Articles 11, 19, 34 & 35 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention provides for children’s right not to be subjected to trafficking and sexual abuse and exploitation and places the obligation on the state to take appropriate measures to prevent trafficking of children for any purpose. SAIEVAC’s response to trafficking is built upon a child rights framework, very closely intertwined with the child’s environment.

This objective is further enhanced by the existence of the SAARC Convention on 'Prevention of Trafficking in Women And Children For Prostitution' whose importance lies in the fact that there is a regional treaty addressing trafficking. This in effect is an official acceptance of the regional nature of the problem and creates an important opening for dealing with the problem from within the formal structures of national and regional governance. The SAARC Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Implementation of SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution was negotiated at the highest SAARC mechanisms and endorsed. This SOP provides for a very clear road map in terms of what SAARC hopes to achieve/do in operationalizing the Trafficking Convention.
SAIEVAC and MCA can provide that critical vehicle to carry this process forward. SAIEVAC’s Child-focused protection strategies will aim to facilitate regional mechanisms that address the direct protection needs of trafficked children through legal, policy, or program responses.

**Promoting the best interests of the trafficked Child**

SAIEVAC will strongly promote the best interests of the trafficked child by dealing with the issue of child trafficking from a child rights perspective rather than one of crime control or border control.

SAIEVAC stresses that child victims of trafficking are first and foremost victims even if they have been involved in illegal activities. It is absolutely necessary for all policies combating trafficking in human beings and preventing and reinserting child victims of trafficking to keep this central to interventions. It is vital to place exploitation and abuse squarely at the heart of the problem – trafficking is always connected with a form of violence. It is also necessary to link different forms of abuse to different steps in the trafficking process and the different kinds of interventions (prevention, protection and reintegration).

**Putting Article 12 into Practice**

Children are not only victims in need of protection but also subjects of rights, consistent with their status under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, capable of decisions and actions, whose view should be taken into account consistent with Article 12 of the CRC. SAIEVAC will give Child Participation the rightful centrality in all processes and decisions affecting their lives.
**SAIEVAC Programme log frame:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAIEVAC Core Programme objectives</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Broad Activities</th>
<th>Means of verification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 1:</strong> To strengthen the existing regional legal framework on prevention of cross-border trafficking in persons.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Result 1:</strong> A regional legal framework is developed on the issue of cross-border trafficking and SOP are institutionalized through tri-lateral agreements.</td>
<td>National SAIEVAC chapters and SAARCLAW undertake a mapping exercise on existing legal provisions and identify gaps or areas for amendments.</td>
<td>MoU between SAIEVAC and SAARC Law</td>
<td>Report: Mapping of legal provisions in three countries gaps and opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regional/ Trilateral Network meetings with SAARC LAW and law enforcement agencies</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tri-lateral agreement on Repatriation of traffic victims.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Result 2:</strong> Regional Convention on Combating Trafficking is reviewed and linked with regional UNCRC monitoring mechanism.</td>
<td>Formation and networking of a technical coordination group consisting UN, Civil society, and State to review and redraft the convention.</td>
<td>Governing Board Meeting decision on collaboration on review of the regional convention.</td>
<td>Recommended draft Regional Convention</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Contribute to SAARC convention and introduce the recommended draft convention for accession.</td>
<td>Launching of qualitative research on traffic victims</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Endorsement to the qualitative research on trafficking</td>
<td>SAARC media protocols on covering issues related to cross border trafficking</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Effective engagement of SAARC media through regional convention and capacity building</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2:</strong> To strengthen the trilateral linkages of state service providers on the issue of repatriation and re-integration of traffic victims.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Result 3:</strong> The State and non-state service providers along the trafficking routes are mapped and strengths are analyzed.</td>
<td>Mapping of the service providers and their strength</td>
<td>Report: Mapping of service providers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Designing of uniform case management practice</td>
<td>Uniform Case Management practice and protocol for traffic victims/ survivors</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Consultations with network of the service providers and associate state representatives</td>
<td>Consultation reports and minutes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tri-lateral youth conventions are organized to enhanced their participation in strengthening service delivery performance through network.</td>
<td>Publication of youth voices..</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacity building workshops are organized for the Service delivery institutions of state from India, Bangladesh and Nepal.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Publication and Dissemination of key research outcomes and newsletters.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Result 4:</strong> Uniform case management practice is designed and introduced through the network of service providers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Result 5:</strong> Opinions of youth from the project operational areas are captured and documented to improve the service delivery mechanism for victims.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Result 6:</strong> Capacity of State recognized organizations to deliver quality services is analysed and built..</td>
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</table>

**Objective 3:** To strengthen the institutional capacity of the SAIEVAC Secretariat to achieve its mission and goals through the implementation of its work plan
| **Result 7:** The core systems of SAEVAC such as HR, Finance and Administration, Logistics and programme policies are introduced and institutionalized. | • A highly skilled resource person is seconded to SAEVAC to develop/strengthen internal control and financial-administrative systems. | • Specific policies and GB meeting minutes for institutionalization • Annual audit reports • Annual monitoring reports |
Main Partners
The Principal Partner Organizations to implement the project are:

1. SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat;
2. Office of the President of SAARCLAW; and
3. MCA Regional Project Unit, PLAN Dhaka

SAARCLAW is an association of the legal communities of the SAARC countries comprising of judges, lawyers, academicians, law teachers, public officers and a host of other law-related persons. SAARCLAW is registered with the SAARC Secretariat at Kathmandu and has been given the status of a Regional Apex Body of SAARC. The Chief Justice of Bhutan is the current President of SAARCLAW.

The South Asian Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) is a SAARC Apex Body. It is governed by a Board of Governors consisting of a government representative from each of the eight SAARC Member States, 2 Child Representatives, 2 National Civil Society Organizations and the Chair of the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG).

SAIEVAC is supported by and collaborates closely with UN agencies and INGOs including Plan, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Marta Santos Pais, and a number of national and international organizations in the SAARC, at the national and regional level. Since December 2011, SAIEVAC is also a recipient of a grant from the SAARC Development fund (SDF) enhancing its roles and responsibilities within the SAARC.

The Organizations will be supported in each of the 8 Member States by the following:

a) SAIEVAC:
   • SAIEVAC National Chapters/Nodal Agencies in the Governments spearheaded by the Governing Board Members and the Coordinators;
   • Civil Society Organizations working for children;
   • Children’s Organizations; and
   • National Coordinating Group (NACG)

b) SAARCLAW:
   • National Chapters of SAARCLAW

c) Rights Based Approaches: SAIEVAC’s vision is that all children, girls and boys, throughout South Asia enjoy their right to an environment free from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect and discrimination. As spelled out earlier, SAIEVAC has adopted early marriage, sexual abuse and exploitation, trafficking, child labour and corporal punishment as its core areas of work and these issues will be addressed through a strategic package of legal reform, data and information management system, capacity development, communication and advocacy and promoting regional cooperation and networking.

The Project will provide greater focus on strengthening existing regional initiatives for children, which includes mechanisms under SAARC and the more recent
initiatives such as the Beijing Declaration on South-South Cooperation for Child Rights in the Asia Pacific Region. The outcome generated through the Project will provide critical insights and justifications for strengthening future investments for children at national, regional and global

The project will also be catalytic in bridging SAIEVAC and SAARCLAW to ensure that legal reform for child protection issues in general and ending violence against children in particular will ensure that the rights of children and the best interest of children are the benchmarks of the collaboration.
## Risk Analysis and Counter Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Risk</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Counter strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sensitivities and legal barriers to a conducive cross border collaboration</td>
<td>Cross border issues particularly in the areas of focus for the project are still very highly sensitive. Most MS still reluctant to deal with such issues in a regional forum/platform.</td>
<td>SAIEVAC will through its established national chapters continue to advocate for the cause by: • Holding regular consultations; • Ensure that project objectives are incorporated in the overall work plan of the national SAIEVAC offices and separate dedicated activities are carried out individually; and • Monitor the implementation of the project regionally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidence building measures between the government mechanisms and the larger civil society partners on addressing issues of missing children and cross border trafficking</td>
<td>SAIEVAC consists of governments, CSOs, Children and the SACG. However, SAIEVAC is still in the process of setting the institutional framework for the involvement of the CSOs in the SAIEVAC.</td>
<td>• Need to strengthen the collaboration and partnership between the Government and other stakeholders to address the focus areas of the project. • Develop clear SOPs for the collaboration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited opportunities to network/coordination among key enforcers across border</td>
<td>There is very limited access to establish coordination mechanism between agencies across borders and establish clearly defined parameters for work and exchanging information</td>
<td>• Hold cross border consultations • Undertake joint training exercise</td>
</tr>
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</table>


## Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Budget Head</th>
<th>Basis</th>
<th>Amount (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>International / Domestic Travel</td>
<td>8 regional / trilateral Meetings X 25 Persons X 500 USD per round trip</td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Accommodation and Food</td>
<td>8 regional / trilateral Meetings X 25 Persons x 3 days x 180 USD per person per day</td>
<td>108,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Consultancies</td>
<td>4 Consultants X 6 Months X 2500 USD per month</td>
<td>60,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Conference/ Workshop/ Meeting Material development and general organization</td>
<td>8 Meetings X 2000 USD</td>
<td>16,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Communication (Internet-Telephone-Courier)</td>
<td>Ad hock USD 400 X 24 Months</td>
<td>9,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Publication and Distribution</td>
<td>Newsletter X 8 Editions X 500 Copies X 1.5 USD</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mapping of Legal provisions and services on the issue of trafficking</td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
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<td></td>
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### A. Actual Programme Cost
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### B. SAIEVAC Management Fees 18% of the total Programme Cost
- 61,668.00

### C. Secondment from Plan for Strengthening institutional system of SAIEVAC Expatriate 24 Months X 4000 USD per month
- 96,000.00

**Total Cost (A.+B.+C.)**
- 500,268.00
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1. SAARC Development Goals document
2. UNICEF, Early Marriage: A Harmful Traditional Practice: A Statistical Exploration, 2005
5. SAARC conventions on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution and on Regional Arrangements for the Promotion of Children’s Welfare
ANNEX 13: FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN SAIEVAC AND SACG
FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION

Between

South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) Regional Secretariat

And

South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG)

December 13, 2012
PREAMBLE

The South Asian Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC), an Apex Body of the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), is a regional initiative led by the governments of South Asian countries, namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, in partnership with children, civil society organizations, and the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG). SAIEVAC, as SAARC Apex Body, provides an opportunity for collaboration on children’s issues and particularly violence against children, within the larger framework of SAARC.

The South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG) is an inter-agency group of United Nations agencies (UN), International Non-governmental Organizations (INGOs) and other actors engaged in child rights and protection at the regional level in South Asia.

SAIEVAC and SACG are guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its Optional Protocols, by the Convention on all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and by ILO Convention No. 138 and No. 182. They share the common vision that all children, throughout South Asia enjoy their right to protection from all forms of violence in all settings.

SAIEVAC, with its regional and national mechanisms, aims to influence policies, plans and programmes of the SAARC Member States in the area of child rights and child protection. The SAIEVAC Work Plan (2011-2016) promotes the adoption, implementation, and monitoring of integrated national strategies with adequate budgets and resource allocation to prevent and protect children from violence and ensure timely and adequate response.

SACG’s mission is to work together with SAIEVAC, at regional and national level, the National Action and Coordinating Group against Violence against Children (NACGs), children and young people and other stakeholders to end all forms of violence against children in South Asia. Contributing to the implementation of the SAIEVAC Work Plan and to the strengthening of the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat are important goals of SACG.

Both SAIEVAC and SACG promote and support the strengthening and institutionalization of child and civil society participation in all actions against violence against children, including by having children and CSOs represented in the SAIEVAC Governing Board and by building cooperative relationships with the NACGs.

At the international level, SAIEVAC is supported by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG-Vac) and is extending its cooperation with other similar regional initiatives, thereby promoting South-South cooperation. SACG aims at exchanging knowledge and collaborating with other regional and global fora and bodies working on ending violence against children in South Asia and in other regions of the world.

SACG has supported the establishment and strengthening of SAIEVAC (and its Regional Secretariat) since 2005. The signing of this framework for cooperation represents the further strengthening of the dialogue and collaboration between the two entities.

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this Framework for Cooperation is to provide guidance and institutionalize the cooperation between the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS) and SACG with a view to accelerate the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Secretary-General Study on Violence against Children in South Asia, the implementation of the SAIEVAC five-year Work Plan (2011-2016) and national level commitments by governments and other key stakeholders.

This cooperation will promote child rights and in particular the child’s right to protection from violence, as articulated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its Optional Protocols, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182), ILO Convention on Minimum Age to Employment, 1973 (No. 138), SAARC Conventions and their respective Recommendations and Protocols in the SAARC Member States.
It will further promote and support the implementation of other regional and global commitments on children made by the SAARC Member States as they relate to children’s rights, key among these commitments being the Colombo (Ministerial) Statement (2009), the Beijing Declaration on South-South Cooperation for Child Rights in the Asia Pacific Region (2011), the Colombo Call for Action on Ending Violence against Children (2012) and the recommendations of SAIEVAC Technical Consultations, including the ones made by the children.

The cooperation will involve effective collaboration with other key stakeholders in the SAARC region, particularly the NACGs, the South Asia Representative to the NGO Advisory Council to follow-up on the UN Study on Violence against Children, civil society organizations, children and young people and other stakeholders to end all forms of violence against children in South Asia. The cooperation will also include effective collaboration with other global and regional fora and bodies working on ending violence against children, key among these being the Office of the SRSG-VaC and similar regional bodies in other regions, such as the Working Group on Violence against Children in South-East Asia and respective VaC platforms in Africa, Central and South America, Middle East and Europe.

2. PRINCIPLES FOR COOPERATION

1. Equality
SRS and SACG (members) are equal partners in this framework. They commit to respect each other’s missions, mandates, obligations, principles, independence and integrity irrespective of capacities, capabilities and funding and to recognize each other’s constraints and commitments.

2. Transparency and mutual consultation
In their cooperation SRS and SACG commit to full transparency, including financial transparency, to increase and maintain the level of fair and equitable relations amongst them.

The SRS and SACG engage in regular communication, early consultations, early sharing of information and open dialogue.

3. Accountability
Under this cooperation, SRS and SACG are ultimately accountable to the children. Furthermore, SRS and SACG are accountable to each other around mutually agreed joint actions and to ensure that the principles of their cooperation are being upheld.

The SRS and SACG will accomplish their tasks responsibly, with integrity and in a relevant and appropriate way.

The SRS is a member and a strategic partner of SACG. The SACG Chair is a member of the SAIEVAC Governing Board.

4. Complementarity
SRS and SACG share the common vision that all children, throughout South Asia enjoy their right to protection from all forms of violence in all settings. They adopt a rights-based approach and commit to the core values of the CRC and its Optional Protocols, of the CEDAW and of ILO Conventions No.188 and No.182, of the SAARC Convention on Regional Arrangement for the Promotion of Child Welfare in South Asia and of the SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution.

The respective diversities that SAIEVAC and SACG bring to the issue are an asset, as SRS and SACG engage in building on their comparative advantages and complement each other’s contributions to accelerate addressing violence against children in South Asia.

5. Results-oriented approach
SRS and SACG engage in a results-oriented approach and coordination, based on their effective capabilities and concrete operational capacities, in order to deliver results for children, and to contribute effectively to the prevention and response to violence against children in South Asia.

6. Best interests of the child, child participation and safeguarding
All actions under this framework of cooperation will be guided by the best interests of the child and by the principles of no harm and non-discrimination.
SRS and SACG commit to meaningful participation of children, girls and boys, on issues and decisions affecting their lives, in a way that also ensures children’s integrity.

3. ELEMENTS OF COOPERATION

1. Joint planning and monitoring
In order to improve coordination, enhance regional cooperation, support the implementation of the SAIEVAC Work Plan (2011-2016) and build on their comparative advantages, SRS and SACG will base their collaboration on jointly agreed annual work plans. These will be agreed upon at a joint meeting at the end of each year and updated as necessary. Activities related to bilateral cooperation between SRS and specific SACG agencies will also be presented at these meetings.

Monitoring of the SRS and SACG work plan will be conducted by both parties as per jointly-agreed modalities.

The SRS and SACG will meet at least once a year, to jointly review progress. SACG Chair and co-Chair and SRS are responsible for organizing and attending joint annual planning and review meetings.

2. Communication, meetings, consultations and workshops
Under this framework, the SRS and SACG will be in communication on a regular basis. They will exchange non-confidential information and documentation on matters of common interest, keep each other informed of current and planned activities and maintain regular communication and consultation on activities of mutual interest for the purpose of furthering the effective achievement of common objectives.

SRS and SACG will also seek to continue dialogue through participation in meetings relevant to the cooperation between them. In this regard, particular reference is made to the SAIEVAC Technical Consultations, to the SRS-SACG planning and review meetings, to the SAIEVAC Governing Board Meetings and to the SACG meetings. The SACG Chair is a member of the SAIEVAC Governing Board and will be invited to SAIEVAC Governing Board meetings.

3. Capacity development and technical assistance
In order to strengthen capacity on issues covered by this Framework, thematic expert committees composed of SRS representatives and of technical agencies representing SACG will be set up by the SRS and SACG, on key strategic technical themes to be jointly identified. These expert committees will provide technical assistance to SRS in implementing its commitments in relation to specific technical domains. Furthermore, the SRS and SACG will promote synergies and interfaces between the issues so the response to violence against children is coherent and integrated.

To the extent feasible, SACG will provide and mobilize technical assistance for the implementation of the SAIEVAC Work Plan and the organization of SAIEVAC Technical Consultations and will participate in them.

The strengthening and sustainability of the capacity of SAIEVAC and its Regional Secretariat is of interest to both SRS and SACG. SACG agencies may, on conditions to be mutually agreed in each case and within the limits of available resources, provide the services of their staff or consultants to the SRS as the case may be.

4. Country-level collaboration
National capacity is one of the main assets to enhance and build on to tackle violence against children in South Asia. SRS and SACG will collaborate to set up, strengthen and communicate with NACGs, civil society and children’s groups and organizations at the country level. They will keep country offices, SAIEVAC national chapters and national coordinators informed on the progress of collaboration of SRS and SACG and encourage as far as possible collaboration at the country level among their national counterparts.

SAIEVAC and SACG regional and national structures may engage in joint advocacy on child protection vis-à-vis governments and other actors in South Asia and beyond.

5. Bilateral cooperation between SRS and SACG agencies
This Framework for Cooperation applies also in case of bilateral collaborations between SRS and one (or more) SACG agencies.
For any bilateral activities involving resources, SACG agencies will need to enter into specific agreements with SRS. SRS and the involved SACG agency(ies) will inform the SACG Chair and Co-Chair in writing, prior to signing the agreement and keep them regularly updated about the implemented initiatives. Bilateral activities shall also be presented at the joint SRS-SACG annual action planning and review meetings.

In case of bilateral collaborations focal points will be identified on a case-by-case basis by the involved agencies.

6. Administrative and financial arrangements
Activities to be implemented under this Framework for Cooperation will be discussed between the SRS and SACG and must be consistent with the policies, rules and regulations of SAIEVAC and SACG (members).

Noting that the SRS and SACG are not donor agencies, they may collaborate on joint fund-raising initiatives.

In the event that the SRS and a specific SACG member agency enter into a contractual agreement involving transfer of resources (funds or human resources), the agreement will be signed by the SRS and that concerned agency.

The use of the emblems of each organization shall be subject to their respective regulations, rules, policies and procedures.

7. Communication and coordination mechanisms
For the purpose of this Framework for Cooperation, the authorized representatives of the parties will be:

For SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat:
- Director General, SAIEVAC

For SACG:
- SACG Chair
- SACG Co-Chair

SACG being chaired with a two year rotation term, the future SACG Chair and Co-Chair will succeed the current SACG Chair and Co-Chair as SACG authorized representatives for this Framework for Cooperation. The document will remain valid following the change of SACG Chair and Co-Chair without the requirement to re-sign it. However, upon request of the SACG Chair and Co-Chair or SAIEVAC DG, this framework may be reviewed.

Cooperation between the SRS and SACG agencies under this Framework for Cooperation is a multilateral and institution-wide responsibility. SRS and SACG can designate focal points for liaison and coordination of specific actions falling within the scope of this Framework for Cooperation.

The SAIEVAC Director General will make efforts to advance further partnerships for SACG within SAARC and vice-versa, the SACG through its Chair will make efforts to advance further partnerships for SAIEVAC with the UN and INGOs.

In order to monitor and measure performance of this partnership in relation to this Framework for Cooperation, discussions will be held between SACG and SRS at least once a year.

8. Final provisions
The arrangements described in this Framework for Cooperation will come into force on the date on which it is signed by the authorized representatives of SRS and SACG. This Framework for Cooperation will remain effective for four years (2013-2016).

Nothing in or relating to any provision in this Framework for Cooperation will be construed as constituting a waiver, either expressed or implied, of the policies, rules and regulations of either SRS or the SACG agencies, nor of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by certain SACG members and observers.
The present Framework for Cooperation may be renewed or modified by an appropriate written amendment signed by both parties and annexed to this document. It may be terminated by the written consent of the two parties or by either party giving the other party three (3) months written notice. With regard to the internal SACG decision, consensus is the preferred way; however, if not achievable, a minimum of half plus one member agencies (including Chair and Co-Chair) is needed.

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Framework for Cooperation shall be settled amicably by the parties. In case this is not achievable a third neutral party will be providing mediation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized representatives of SACG and of SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat, have signed the present Framework for Cooperation.

SIGNED this day of Monday December 17, 2012

For the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children

(SACG Chair)

For the Regional Secretariat of the South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children

(SAIEVAC Director General)

For the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children

(SACG Co-Chair)
ANNEX 14: 3RD TC RECOMMENDATIONS
"In Solidarity with the Children of SAARC"

3rd Technical Consultation
Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children in South Asia
Dates: 25-27 September 2013
Hosted by the Royal Government of Bhutan
Organized by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat
Supported by the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG),
the SAARC Development Fund (SDF),
In Collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VaC)

3rd TC RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

The 3rd SAIEVAC Technical Consultation (TC) on the theme of ‘Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children in South Asia based on Tradition, Religion, Culture and Superstition’ was convened in Thimphu Bhutan from the 25-27th of September 2013.

The Key Objectives are to:

1. Review measures taken and concrete results achieved by Member States in addressing harmful practices;
2. Promote learning through exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices;
3. Strengthen children’s participation in their own protection and in relevant decisions affecting them; and,
4. Formulate recommendations to strengthen the commitment and accountability of South Asian Governments and relevant actors to end harmful practices.

Key Outputs include:

1. Regional recommendations on addressing harmful practices informed by national action plans and country-specific experiences;
2. Outcome document generated outlining additional harmful practices, gaps and actions / efforts / approaches required to address these practices in order to further strengthen key stakeholder’s commitment and responsibility in ending violence against children;
3. Learning, knowledge sharing and documentation from South Asia context contributed towards strengthening global efforts and progress on combating violence against children.

The Consultation was preceded by a one and half days Preparatory Meeting of the Child Governing Board Members and Observers.

Around 105 delegates attended the Consultation, which includes SAIEVAC Governing Board Members, Child GB and Observers, Coordinators, NACG Representatives and Representatives from the SAARC Secretariat, SDF, SAARCLAW, SACG, UNSRSG VaC.

The TC after deliberating extensively on the different agenda items tabled for its consideration, which included technical discussion papers, Children’s Report as well as reports on the thematic areas from the 8 Member States recommends that:

1. Recognizing the urgent need to address harmful practices that affect children, calls for increased commitment of all the key stakeholders including the political machinery of the SAARC Member States to reinforce effective implementation strategies of polices and plans;

2. The SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS) review the country presentations made and identify key challenges and proposed recommendations so as to ensure adequate follow up;

3. Appropriate and innovative approaches be adopted to strengthen national mechanisms which includes the NACGs to reinforce their capacity to institute service provision in relation to prevention, protection, response and recovery;

4. The on-going research work being undertaken by the SRS on Corporal Punishment take into consideration the information presented by the Member States in their country reports to update the existing information used by SRS for different materials/publications;

5. Documentation of regional positive caring practices for children which can build on/contribute towards addressing harmful practices and social norms including inter-generational dimensions be taken up as a priority in collaboration with the SACG and NACG agencies;

6. The review and reform of legislation pertaining to harmful practices as well as overall VaC needs to be addressed through dedicated efforts and urgently;

7. Taking note of the ongoing efforts in strengthening child participation in all SAIEVAC activities, and taking due consideration of the outcome of the Preparatory Meeting of the Child Governing Board Members and Observers, the SRS work towards the institutionalization of the National and Regional Child Participation Forums;
8. Taking note of the ongoing efforts to refine the Regional Action Plan for Ending Child Marriage endorsed in the Regional Girl Child Review Meeting held in December 2012, the recommendations from the Technical Discussion paper and the country reports be reviewed and appropriately incorporated in the RAP;

9. There is an urgent need to improve/generate information and evidence on VaC and harmful practices and create a repository of such materials and information/data to support Member States/service providers;

10. Based on issues of the rights of children with disability reflected in all the presentations, the SRS in partnership with interested agencies of the SACG to explore the possibility of structuring the theme of the next SAIEVAC Consultation on ‘Rights and Responses for Children with Disabilities’;

11. To further reinforce the movement for children globally, and noting the encouraging initiatives in other regions such as the Council of Baltic Sea States, the SRS with support of the UNSRSG/SACG explore appropriate institutional linkages/collaboration with other similar Regional entities; and

12. The SRS take forward the current draft of the ‘Desk Review of the Faith-based Initiatives’ by circulating to the Member States for any inputs/feedback and finalizing it after incorporating the comments so received.
ANNEX 15: REGIONAL ACTION PLAN TO END CHILD MARRIAGE IN SOUTH ASIA
Regional Action Plan to End Child Marriage in South Asia
(2013-2016)
(Working Draft – 17 September 2013)
### Regional Action Plan to End Child Marriage in South Asia (2013–2016)

**Overall Objective:** (Original) To delay the age of marriage for girls in at least four countries in South Asia by 2016.

**Other option:** To raise the age of marriage to 18 for both boys and girls delaying early marriage in at least four countries in South Asia by 2016.

**Indicators:**

1. # of States showing a percentage decrease in child marriage rate nationally (agree this)

2. # of States showing an increase in the age of marriage for girls – or -

3. # of States where 18 is the legal age of marriage for both boys and girls (from SAIEVAC Work-plan)

**Baseline:** To be added ...

**Targets:** Delay the age of marriage for both boys and girls in at least 4 countries by 2016, with at least 1 country with reduction in the practice nationally.

**Additional comments / clarification on rationale:** (to be added and can include rationale behind strategy and key interventions chosen along the process for agreeing this).
**REGIONAL LEVEL**

**EXPECTED OUTCOME 1:** Effective enactment, enforcement and use of national policy and legal instruments to increase the minimum age of marriage for (both boys and) girls to 18.

**INDICATORS:**
1. # of States where 18 is the legal age of marriage for both boys and girls
2. # of States that actively enforce legislation banning forced and child marriage
3. # of States where birth registration is compulsory and free of cost and can be done by mothers
4. # of States where marriage registration is compulsory and free of cost
5. # of States which have defined an age for sexual consent that does not discriminate between boys and girls

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<td>SAIEVAC, SAARCLA, W, UNEF, UNFPA, SACG, PLAN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING OUTPUTS**

Using data on indicator targets, state progress towards achieving the outputs. Where relevant, comment on factors that facilitated and/or constrained the achievement of results.
1.2 Regional review of legislation relating to the girl child and child marriage in South Asia. SAIEVAC, SAARCLA W, UNICEF ROSA, UNFPA, PLAN

This will include gaps in relation to international instruments (it will for instance include: legal age for marriage; laws on marriage and birth registration; age for sexual consent). Its follow up will allow to move for judicial interventions, advocacy with the legislative bodies and larger social mobilisation for positive responses.

1.3 Regional workshop on child rights and protection law enforcement (with the girl child and child marriage as an important component). SAARCLA W, SAIEVAC, UNICEF ROSA, UNFPA, PLAN

This aims to ensure continued focus on child marriage, facilitate sharing, bring in regional experiences and identify convergence on the regional review of legislation.
| 1.4 | Undertake an assessment of the status of births and marriage registration in South Asia and disseminate its report through a regional workshop of the relevant agencies | SAIEVAC, National Chapters, SAARC, UNFPA, UNICEF, PLAN | The aim is to promote and support the enhancement and enforcement of compulsory civil registration of births and marriage. Suggest liaising with UNESCAP, as they conducted assessments on civil registration and vital statistics in 2012 in some countries and held a regional meeting in Bangkok December 2012 with all countries (UNICEF ROSA and Plan ARO were involved as co-organizers. UNICEF COs sponsored participation of South Asia authorities involved in Birth Registration). A regional action plan was prepared for South Asia and East Asia and Pacific including country and regional activities. |
| 1.5 | Support the participation of | SAIEVAC | |
| 1.6 | Convene a regional forum of human rights organizations in South Asia to strategize the formation of a South Asia human rights mechanism for children. | SAIEVAC |

Overall / additional comments:
EXPECTED OUTCOME 2: Improved equal access to quality primary and secondary education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATORS:</th>
<th>Review of education policies and budgets of member States</th>
<th>SAIEVAC</th>
<th>Is this feasible with current SAIEVAC limited resources and various engagements/activities on many fronts?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. # of member States included in the review</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. # of member States that have free and compulsory education. (SAIEVAC Work-plan)</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Baseline: To be added
Target: To be added

Overall / additional comments:
EXPECTED OUTCOME 3: Increased mobilization of girls, boys, parents and leaders to change discriminatory gender norms.

INDICATORS:

1. # of States and governmental organizations that implement policies and interventions to delay girls’ marriage

2. # of awareness raising campaigns in each country addressing causes and consequences of early marriage (SAIEVAC Work-plan)

3. # of States where religious leaders are involved in the regional network for girls’ rights.

4. # of religious leaders that make public statements against early marriage and encourage change in discriminatory gender / social norms.

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>SAIEVAC, SAGG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>SAIEVAC ++</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>SAIEVAC, SAGC, NACG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Develop a social mobilization guideline toolkit with a focus on addressing early marriage

As above ...

Develop partnerships with religious leaders:
- Set up a regional network of religious leaders engaged for changing discriminatory gender norms

Technical Consultation on harmful practices in 2013 is an opportunity for
| 6. # of press releases, TV and radio programmes supporting change in discriminatory gender norms | Baseline: | - Organize and facilitate dialogue among religious leaders, policy makers and children (Regional consultations with political and religious leaders; regional children’s consultation)
SAIEVAC capacity building on social/gender norms change
Regional children consultation (by the children for the children)
Develop partnerships with media coalitions/networks and support media to raise awareness and advocate for girls rights/publicize delaying marriage for girls:
- Support (or establish) regional media coalition for children’s rights
- Strengthen capacities of SAIEVAC, PLAN, SAGG, NAGs
starting this/ inviting them.
Check with UNICEF for support on this.
This will be done at the occasion of the consultation on harmful practices in 2013. | 3.6 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To be added</th>
<th>coalition to cover the issues of child marriage and gender/social norms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Targets: To be added</td>
<td>- Organize and facilitate press conferences and other media activities related to delaying marriage for girls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall comments:**
EXPECTED OUTCOME: Increased prevention of child marriage by addressing its root causes, including violence against girls and women and creating alternative social, economic and civic opportunities for girls.

INDICATORS:

1. # of States where civil society implements initiatives to change gender norms

2. # of organizations to which successful strategies for working for gender equitable norms with men and boys have been disseminated

3. # of States that have economic and social policies in place that address poverty (SAIEVAC Work-plan).

Baseline: To be added

Targets: To be added

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Responsible Parties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>Support creating and strengthening community based child protection mechanisms to strengthen prevention, reporting and response.</td>
<td>SAIEVAC, SAGG, NACGs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>Pull together and disseminate strategies that have worked with men and boys successfully (including on deconstructing masculinity and creating gender equitable norms and relationships) and how these have contributed to child marriage work</td>
<td>SAIEVAC, SAGG, Save the Children, UNFPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>Create links with the Missing Child Alert Project</td>
<td>SAIEVAC, PLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child trafficking in the name of marriage, tracking systems during emergencies and post emergencies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall / additional comments:
EXPECTED OUTCOME 5: Enhanced support of girls who are already married (through options for schooling, sexual and reproductive health information and services, including HIV prevention, livelihoods skills and recourse from violence in the home).

**INDICATORS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of States with programmes and policies supporting the rights of girls that are already married</td>
<td>To be added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>To be added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocate at governmental and non-governmental level for enhanced support of girls who are already married</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall / additional comments:**

EXPECTED OUTCOME 6: Improved evidence, monitoring, reporting, evaluation and programme support.

**INDICATORS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Existence of a regional mapping of child marriage high prevalence areas including 8 countries</td>
<td>Regional consultation on practices that are harmful to children, addressing in particular child marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. # of participants in the harmful practices consultation, by country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


and by type.

3. SAIEVAC regional and national plans and programmes are in line with lessons learned from research and monitoring findings, ombudsperson reports, successful approaches disseminated and M&E findings.

4. # of regional annual reports completed and submitted.

5. # of SAIEVAC country chapters implementing SAIEVAC MIS.

6. Final evaluation Baseline: To be added.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Regional mapping of geographic areas with high child marriage prevalence in the region</th>
<th>Based on national mapping (see country level activities).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Regional research on the impact of post emergency on child marriage</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>Monitor cross country marriages of girls.</td>
<td>SAIEVAC, SAGG, NACG, SAARCLAW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targets: To be added</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>Monitor and assess harmful practices associated with child marriage, including new and emerging forms (Self initiated marriages; Trafficking for marriage; Honour killing; Dowry)</td>
<td>SAIEVAC, National Chapters, NACG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Establish a Regional Ombudsperson to monitor and evaluate the status of child’s rights in each state (states held accountable) - each member state to submit annual reports to the Ombudsperson - linkage between the SAIEVAC and international community</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>Identify, collect, document and disseminate: - good practices and successful stories of improved equal access to education - minimum standards for</td>
<td>SAIEVAC, SACG, (UNGEI ROSA +). NACG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>Support the operationalisation of the SAIEVAC Management Information System Framework through the SAIEVAC country</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.9</strong></td>
<td>Support national mechanisms to implement the agreed regional work plan and monitor it as per agreed indicators</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.10</strong></td>
<td>Compile a brief annual report, including actions undertaken and progress achieved at the country level</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.11</td>
<td>Regular programme monitoring and review</td>
<td>SAIEVAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.12</td>
<td>Final evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall comments:**
ANNEX 16: SAIEVAC ACADEMY FINAL PROPOSAL
Annex 16
- Draft Concept Note -

“SAIEVAC ACADEMY”
SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL RESOURCE HUB AND CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE
PROMOTING BEST PRACTICES
IN
CHILD PROTECTION
CAPACITY BUILDING, ADVOCACY, DOCUMENTATION AND RESEARCH

SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat
GPO 5850, House No. 122, Sujan Marg, Lazimpat -2, Kathmandu, Nepal
00977-1-4001601/4420278
www.saievac.org
1. Introduction:

Background and Conceptual Framework

In 2001, based on the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the United Nations General Assembly called for a global study on violence against children. To follow up on this Call, a South Asian regional consultation was held in Islamabad in May 2005. The major outcome of the Regional Consultation was the formation of the “South Asia Forum for Ending Violence Against Children (SAF)” with the vision of ending all forms of violence against children in South Asia.

The 4th SAF Consultation was held in Kathmandu on 21-22 January, 2010. After taking stock of progress and the opportunities presented by this Forum, participants, in collaboration with SAARC and South Asian Coordinating Group (SACG), decided there was need to create a new institutional body to provide practical support and guidance (?) to member states in order to address and end violence against children throughout the region. As a result, regional participants endorsed the decision to evolve the SAF into South Asian Initiative to End Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC) as an active, engaged and functional networking mechanism.

Over the last two years and based upon further discussion and interaction facilitated by SAIEVAC between member states, and also because child protection remains a relatively new area of work, there has been identified need for further action, support and exchange related to both capacity building and evidence building across the region. Thus, the idea and concept of the SAIEVAC Academy emerged in order to address needs and gaps across the region through a gradually phased and mutually supportive approach.

1.1. Vision and Objectives for the SAIEVAC Academy

Overall Vision

Children, girls and boys, throughout South Asia enjoy their right to an environment free from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect and discrimination.

Overall Goal / Aim:

To enhance and further promote application of best practices and strengthening of cross-country exchange and sharing of resources, lessons learned, expertise and human resources in support of improved child protection capacity building, advocacy, documentation and research.

Overall Objectives of the Academy:

1. Enhance protection of children through establishment and strengthening of functioning, comprehensive child protection systems established at both national and regional levels.

2. Concerned duty-bearers and key stakeholders (including governments, civil society and children) formalize linkages and exchange in order to
enhance cooperation, exchange experiences and share learning and best practices to increase impact on ending violence against children in South Asia.

**Additional Aims and Objectives:**

**Short term:**

- Existing resources (both material and human) within the region are identified and shared in order to contribute to and further strengthen practical actions and learning within the region.

- Regional cross-country exchange and learning based on “best practices” and specific areas of expertise is promoted in order to increase exposure and capacity building for various stakeholders.

**Medium term:**

- A comprehensive “needs assessment” is completed in order to identify further learning and areas support and to perhaps inform the development of generic curriculums or training modules / advocacy materials which can be used and adapted based on country-specific issues and context.

- Identification of and partnership building completed with regional academic institutes (both in South and South East Asia) having expertise in child protection research or academic work in order to facilitate further learning and mutual exchange on child protection dimensions.

- A network of skilled professionals and trainers (drawing from government, university or academic institutes, civil society and / or other international agencies) is created in order to support and further evolve training and capacity building initiatives across the region.

**Long term:**

- A data base of existing research work, documentation, best practices, surveys, etc. related to child protection initiatives is established to enable sharing across the region drawing from regional and international standards / practices further contributing to knowledge management.

- Functioning as a regional center of excellence, the academy will improve and further strengthen services (prevention, detection and response) as well as inform future policy development.

- Additional funding resources is secured - in addition to SAARC’s core funds – for use in addressing or responding to emerging issues through research or other initiatives.

**1.2. Key Issues**

The following key issues have been identified for SAIEVAC to address as part of its work on establishing and strengthening comprehensive child protection systems at both regional and national levels. Based on these priorities, the focus of the SAIEVAC Academy would specifically aim to address and engage with the following issues in
terms of advocacy, capacity building, documentation and research:

1.2.1. Child Protection Systems Approach

1.2.2. Child Marriage

1.2.3. Corporal Punishment

1.2.4. Sexual abuse and exploitation

1.2.5. Trafficking

1.2.6. Child Labour

2. Proposed Institutional Framework for the SAIEVAC Academy

2.1. Rationale

Rationale 1: In order to fulfill the second overall objective mentioned above and also due to the fact that the area of child protection remains a relatively new area of work, there continues to be need for further action, support and exchange related to both capacity building and evidence building across the region. SAIEVAC Academy is envisioned as means for bringing together existing resources and identifying or developing new ones and this can contribute to cross-country learning and exchange. Through a gradually phased plan and mutually supportive approach that includes exchange and opportunity for increased dialogue, it is felt that the “Academy” will be able to support and enhance linkages and learning (by serving as a clearing house or resource hub for regional training or advocacy materials, a conduit for cross-country exchange and learning and as a knowledge management center), in order to increase impact on ending violence against children.

Also based on the capacity development needs highlighted above, Objective 6 of the SAIEVAC Work Plan (2010-2015) includes “Professional Training and Learning”. The objective itself states that by 2015, all States have built the capacity of all professionals who work with or for children (for example social workers, counselors, foster care-givers, police officers, lawyers, judges, teachers, health care professionals, school principles, youth workers, people employed by detention facilities and child-care institutions, immigration and humanitarian workers, government officials/policy makers, etc.) in order to improve prevention, detection and response.

Indicators identified for measuring capacity are:

- Number of States with regular in-service training on child protection is in place for all government employees working for and with children such as Ministry officials both national, high-level managers, police, health care professional, lawyers, teachers, care-givers working in state institutions, public information and media specialists, export and import officials, army and security forces etc.
- Number of States that provide short training on prevention and response to all forms of violence against children for politicians, members of parliament and other non-government policy and decision-makers and private sector including Chambers of Commerce etc.
• Number of States with national curriculum regulations for relevant professions should include compulsory, on-going training on prevention, identification, assessment and reporting of violence against children and the protection and continuity of care to children.
• Number of States with Bachelor’s of Social Work or Master’s of Social Work programmes.
• Number of States with Child Development and Child Counseling Bachelors and Master’s programmes.
• Number of States employing social workers as government employees.
• Number of states that provide short training on prevention and response to all forms of violence against children for religious institutions, their leaders and related opinion makers.

The indicators listed above and related to “Professional Training and Learning” clearly highlight the need to identify and draw content and methodologies from existing resources and perhaps further consider the development of a set of “generic” training curriculum or modules which can be used for various participant audiences (e.g. government employees, politician, members of parliament, influential or traditional leaders, opinion makers and religious leaders). In addition, the development of a network of skillful trainers can contribute to addressing or filling capacity building needs and gaps.

Rationale 2: In addition to existing resources and to address the need for further professional development of staff, the establishment of a concrete partnership with an academic institution at the regional level which has relevant expertise and experience would be an excellent means to explore and address these additional requirements. Through the establishment of a formalized partnership, support can be provided specifically related to additional training, research and provision academic programmes for capacity development of SAARC Member States in meeting the objectives of ending violence against children and establishing greater accountability for securing the rights of the child (as stipulated in CRC and CEDAW).

Globally the practice of forging partnerships with academics in the areas of research, training and academic programmes on key social issues are proven as best practices. In this respect SAIEVAC would explore and map potential partnerships with academic and training institutions both within and outside South Asia that can help in realizing the aims and objectives that SAIEVAC holds related to its own Vision and Objectives while at the same time creating an opportunity for mutual exchange and learning with such institutions through practical examples and challenges from various South Asian contexts.

1. **Formalization of Institutional Partnership**

3.1 **Bilateral Discussions:** It is proposed that SAIEVAC Secretariat – following the mapping exercise to be carried out and mentioned above - will as part of the framework of this draft Concept Note - initiate bilateral discussions with the institutions and individuals with a common mission or goal.

3.2 **Joint Consultative Forum and Strategy Development (JCFSD):** Once mapping and review of existing resources / trainers / potential institutions has been completed,
it is proposed that a 3 day Consultative Workshop/Meeting for all the interested potential partners and HR experts join together to further review and discuss the SAIEVAC Academy framework and further assist with the development of a strategic plan in order to address the goals and objectives of the Academy.

4. Two Dimensions of the Academy – The Dual Scopes of Work

(To be reviewed, further discussed and finalized by the JCFSD):

1. Regional Resource Hub (which SAIEVAC takes up) - Short-term Scope of Work

As highlighted earlier, SAIEVAC would begin collection of materials, resources, training curriculum/modules, list of trainers and human resources available to support this while at the same time identifying best practices and areas of expertise in various countries across the region (in order to serve as an cross-country exchange hub). These materials would be gathered together and made available through a regional web-based clearing house and in addition to helping serve or further strengthen various training / advocacy components also from the basis for the Information / Knowledge Management (IMC) dimension. If needed – and agreed useful or helpful through discussions at the JCFSD – perhaps generic training materials or proto-type outlines could be developed and hosted on the regional site in order to support both training and advocacy activities (TC).

2) Center of Excellent (in partnerships with regional academic institute) - Long-term Scope of Work

Moving forward with the identification and agreement of a partnership with a regional academic institute will require more time and thought. Partnership(s) with identified institutes will need to explore addressing both the Academic Programme (AP) required for further and more long-term professional staff development as well as the Research Component (RC) which would include both qualitative and quantitative research dimensions. In addition, work with the academic institute could assist in exploring and establishing the data collection dimension which is further discussed in section 4.2 in the next pages.

4.1. Training Component (TC)

As highlighted and mentioned earlier, in order to address and operationalize Objective 2 of SAIEVAC and the SAIEVAC Academy along with Objective 6 of the SAIEVAC Work Plan (2010-2015), Professional Training and Learning, there is an immediate need to move forward in collection, review and fine-tuning of existing resources – along with development of a list of proposed trainers who could support roll out of “generic” training curriculums.

The following draft activities and timeframe is proposed in order to begin roll out and sharing of both resources, training materials and resources and to also include consideration of cross-country visits and exchanges as another option for learning and skill development.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Gathering together of existing training / advocacy materials and training resources / develop survey tool in order to support “needs assessment”.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Joint Consultative Forum and Strategy Development JCFSD – Present findings (what’s available and what’s missing or needed) and discuss additional needs and next steps forward</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Begin work on development of generic training modules (which can be adapted / revised based on country context) for pre-testing and use</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Identification of Regional Resource Persons and Country-specific best practices or areas of expertise (to inform country exchange / learning visits)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Establish web-based Regional Resource Hub (with existing and new materials / surveys / research / articles and more) – also announcing host-country visits / exposure tours for interested participants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Begin roll out (and pre-testing) of generic training materials – revising and improving and adding this component (and upgraded versions) on the web-based Regional Resource Hub</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Continuing adding (or allow countries to add on their own) new materials / samples to the Regional Resource Hub (through a country-specific link or page) as time goes on.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 4.2. Research Component

Objective 5 of the SAIEVAC Work Plan (2011-2015), “Data Collection” states that by 2015, all States have developed and started implementing systematic national research and consolidated data collection, analysis, and dissemination systems disaggregated by sex, race, language, religion, caste, class, disability or other status, national or social origin, to inform evidence-based effective action, mobilize adequate resources and assess progress achieved.

**Indicators:**

- States who have established national databases with data collection systems at local, district and national level which include children’s births and deaths, children entering or leaving institutions, on persons convicted of violent offenses against children and other child protection issues;
- States who have carried out baseline interview studies with representative groups of children, parents and other caregivers to identify the experience of children of all forms of violence;
- States who are collecting quantitative and qualitative data on the length and outcomes of judicial proceedings involving children are collected; and
- States who have agreed regional standards for data collection to ensure comparability of data.

4.2.1. Information and data collection on the above indicators can be initiated as soon
as the IMC is established and national level researchers are identified. An Information Management Personnel has to be appointed at IMC (as part of the SAIEVAC Academy team) in order to also add this information / data onto the Regional Resource Hub website (if so desired) so that this can be accessed, seen and shared with all stakeholders and interested parties across the region.

4.2.2. In subsequent years – and perhaps in partnership with the identified / selected academic institute – both qualitative and quantitative research studies can be conducted based on emerging issues or continuing challenges as per specific country contexts. Research work might also be considered or tied together with advanced degree program work or requirements of staff selected and participating in extended professional development courses. Again, this would need to be discussed and agreed with the academic institute involved in the formal collaboration or partnership and established as part of SAIEVAC Academy.

5. Advocacy

SAIEVAC Academy will with time evolve – together in its partnership with the regional academic institute - as a Centre of Excellence not only in research work which informs policy development and highlights new or emerging trends, but also as leader in regional level advocacy. With a holistic approach to Child Rights/Child Protection/VAC and its direct access and engagement with documentation, research, data-collection, professional staff development, and the ability to release or promote information on progress, new findings, continued challenges and enhanced children’s participation in addressing child protection dimensions, it has the potential to become a leader and gold-standard example for sharing best practices, and contributing to global level learning.

a) Strategy for Advocacy:

Through continuous regional sharing of research findings, training needs, training delivery, outcome mapping and academic/pedagogical discourse; the Centre can build up issues for national, regional and global level advocacy.

b) Evidence Based Advocacy:

With a strong IMC based data/information available and information related to indicators tied directly to the SAIEVAC Work Plan (reflective of country level progress and status) Regional Advocacy will be supported and confirmed by an evidence based approach and documentation of this.

6. Function of IMC

The function of Information Management Center (IMC) will be the Monitoring & Evaluation and fulfillment of documentation dimensions as well.

6.1. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):

The M&E sub-component will regularly conduct monitoring and evaluation of
regional level training activities, national level actions on Child Rights and the Regional level advocacy activities in terms of funding, type of activity and the resultant outcomes, the learning and the documentation of the best practice.

6.2. Documentation:

As part of the Regional Resource Hub, the documentation sub-component will host training materials, reviews, sample advocacy materials, records, data and reports / research pieces on the electronic web-site available for all to access along with being able to provide hard copies upon request. The roster of Regional resource persons can also be included and announcements related to up-coming study tours / learning exchanges also announced (along with a report of the visit). In this way, the Regional Resource Hub will also serve as the knowledge-base on child protection activities, resources and actions blending child protection, gender and child rights.
ANNEX 17: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE SAIEVAC 4TH GB MEETING
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>H. E. Wasil Noor Muhmand</td>
<td>Deputy Minister, MOLSDM Chairperson, SAEVC Governing Board</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ms. Tahima Begum</td>
<td>Joint Secretary In-Coming Chairperson SAEVC Governing Board</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Shri Ananda Prakash</td>
<td>Deputy Secretary, Child Welfare SAEVC GB Member</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ms. Smirti Kaul</td>
<td>Consultant – MWCD Observers</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mr. Aftab Ahmed Jamal</td>
<td>Joint Secretary (HR) SAEVC GB Member</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dr. Aishath Rameela</td>
<td>Minister of State SAEVC GB Member</td>
<td>Maldives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mr. Upendra Prasad Adhikary</td>
<td>Chairperson, National Child Protection Authority GB Member</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ms. Anoma Dessanayaka</td>
<td>Chairperson, National Child Protection Authority GB Member</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Dr. Rinchen Chophel</td>
<td>Director General, SAEVC Regional Secretariat, Kathmandu</td>
<td>SRS Kathmandu Nepal</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Ms. Phintsho Choeden</td>
<td>Director, NCWC SAEVC GB Member</td>
<td>Bhutan</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Ms. Wijesinghe Rashmi Vidyani</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member (out-going)</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Mr. Gokul Pandey</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member (out-going)</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Ms. Nabila Noori</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member – (in-coming)</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Mr. Mohammad Mamun Bokaul</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Member – (in-coming)</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Mr. Anmol Mittal</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Observer</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Mr. Bhim Prasad</td>
<td>Child Governing Board Observer</td>
<td>Bhutan</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Ms. Victoria Ghauri</td>
<td>Chaperone</td>
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<td>18. Mr. Erik Aurther Thorpe</td>
<td>Chaperone</td>
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<td>19. Mr. Kuenga Norbu</td>
<td>Chaperone</td>
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<td>20. Mr. K.K. Tripathy</td>
<td>Chaperone</td>
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<td>21. Ms. Madhu Munasinghe</td>
<td>Chaperone</td>
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<td>22. Ms. Sherin Khan</td>
<td>SACG Representative and GB Member (in-coming) Sr. Specialist, CL – ILO</td>
<td>India (office)</td>
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<tr>
<td>23. Mr. Ron Poupelws</td>
<td>Chair, SACG Representative and GB Member (out-going), UNICEF ROSA Child Participation Advisor</td>
<td>Nepal (office)</td>
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<tr>
<td>24. Mr. AKM Mausd Ali</td>
<td>ED, INCIDIN, NACG Chair and CSO Observer</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. Mr. Mohammad Yousef</td>
<td>NACG – and CSO Observer</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<td>26. Mr. Nim Karma Sherpa</td>
<td>SRS – Information and Communication Officer</td>
<td>Nepal (office)</td>
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<td>27. Mr. Rajan Burlakoti</td>
<td>SRS – CoP Officer</td>
<td>Nepal (office)</td>
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<tr>
<td>28. Ms. Susan Roe</td>
<td>SRS – CP Interim Officer</td>
<td>Bhutan (office)</td>
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</table>
Proceedings of the 4th Governing Board Meeting

REPORT

28th - 29th September 2013

Thimphu, Bhutan

Organized by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat

Supported by the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG), the SAARC Development Fund (SDF) and in collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence Against Children (SRSG-VaC)

Hosted by the Royal Government of Bhutan

South Asia Initiative To End Violence Against Children

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Regional Secretariat SAIEVAC (South Asia Initiative To End Violence Against Children)
GPO 5850, House No. 122, Sujan Marg, Lazimpath - 2
Kathmandu, Nepal
Phone: + 977-1-4001685, + 977-1-4001602
Email: saievac-sec@saievac.org
Web: http://www.saievac.org

“In Solidarity with the Children of SAARC”