REPORT
OF
THE 8th SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
(SGBM)

HULHUMALE YOUTH CENTRE
MALDIVES
17 – 19 October 2019

Organized by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat
In collaboration with
The Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services, Government of Maldives
and
Key Partners
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Recommendations of the 8th Governing Board Meeting

A. Introduction:

The 8th GBM is being convened in Maldives from the 17 to 19 October in Maldives in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services to assess progress of actions taken or being taken to achieve the desired outcomes since the 7th GBM held in Bhutan in May 2018. Despite huge financial, human and technical constraints, the SRS and SAIEVAC National Mechanisms had invested significant efforts to address the recommendations within the time available.

The 8th GBM also comes at a time when the SRS is now under significant pressure to reassess the journey of SAIEVAC given the enormous challenges of resources to keep the movement running. The Ministerial Meeting and the 7th GBM took cognizance of this and recommended that ‘the SRS to continue to pursue technical and financial support by following up on the institutional funding proposal with Member States and partners’. While tangible steps in this direction was taken starting this year by the Government of Nepal, we are still awaiting responses from different Member States to whom the proposals were tabled. The 8th GBM will therefore be an excellent platform to reassess the next steps.

The 8th GBM in consultation with the Government of Maldives has therefore scheduled a one day ‘Open Forum’ for the GB Members and other stakeholders to have a free, frank and critical discourse on the SAIEVAC Movement while taking stock of the journey till now. However, the remaining day/s of the GBM will be closed door except for exceptional agenda items such as Regional Strategy on CSAE&OS where key partners will be invited for the technical discussions and to acknowledge their contributions.

a) Objectives:

1. To review progress and challenges of the SAIEVAC Movement and brainstorm on how the movement could be better focused and accelerated;
2. To review follow up actions taken on the recommendations of the 7th GBM; and
3. To discuss the scope and venue for the 9th GBM and the 5th SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting

Day -I: 17 October 2019

1. Inaugural Ceremony:

The 8th Governing Board Meeting (GBM) of SAIEVAC was held from the 17-19 October 2019 in Maldives, hosted by the Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services, Government of Maldives. All the Governing Board Members except Pakistan (represented by Coordinator Pakistan) attended the GBM.

The Inaugural Ceremony (Agenda at Annex-1) of the 8th GBM on the 17th of October was presided over by H.E Shidhatha Shareef, Hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Gender,
Family and Social Services as the Chief Guest and attended by senior dignitaries from the Government of Maldives, President of NHRC, UNICEF and NACG Members.

The highlight of the Inaugural Ceremony was the handing over of the Chair of the Governing Board from Bhutan to India.

The text of the Inaugural Address on the Hon’ble Minister is at annex -2 to the Report

2. Open Forum:

The 8th GBM comes at a time when the SRS is under significant pressure to reassess the journey of SAIEVAC given the enormous challenges of resources to keep the movement running. The Ministerial Meeting and the 7th GBM took cognizance of this and recommended that ‘the SRS to continue to pursue technical and financial support by following up on the institutional funding proposal with Member States and partners’.

The 8th GBM in consultation with the Government of Maldives therefore scheduled a one day ‘Open Forum’ for the GB Members and other stakeholders to have a free, frank and critical discourse on the SAIEVAC Movement while taking stock of the journey till now.

The participants to the Open Forum (List of Participants at Annex-3) which followed after the Inaugural Ceremony consisted of all the Governing Board Members, NACG Members, NHRC Representatives and collaborating partners.

The Open Forum considered the following core areas:

- Objectives and Expected Outcome of the Open Forum
- Relevance and Suitability of the SAIEVAC Platform
- Current Thematic Focus Areas and approach to address VaC
- Emerging Challenges/Issues – Organizational, Thematic and Regional Dynamics

a) The following areas were highlighted by the participants:

- SAIEVAC as a regional platform has provided a common platform for convergence to move the children’s agenda forward in South Asia;
- The experience so far has shown that SAIEVAC is highly relevant and a unique approach in creating a common agenda for South Asia vis a vis the other regional and global platforms;
- SAIEVAC has contributed to not only creating a higher visibility to the work/efforts of South Asia globally but also provided a greater energy among Member States for collaborative approach keeping children as our common mission;
- However, the participants also strongly felt the need for all to contribute in strengthening the institutional capacity of SAIEVAC (technical and financial) so that it can provide greater support to move the EVaC agenda, both national and regional;
- The participants also recommended the following areas for prioritization in the strategic approach of SAIEVAC Movement:
- Invest efforts in increasing visibility of SAIEVAC at local, national, regional and global;
- Focus on implementation/mainstreaming of Regional plans into national plans using experience gathered so far;
- Focus efforts on promoting cross border and bilateral cooperation among member states on the issues of trafficking and child labour;
- More concerted efforts to address the emerging challenges/wider dimensions of digital/online;
- Study how cross cutting themes are actually mainstreamed and taken forward in different plans and programmes of SAIEVAC;
- Emphasis on evidence generation for bench marking and strategic advocacy and interventions;
- Prioritize cross learning and sharing due to common issues
- Strengthen programmatic and policy components on child participation and working with young people; and
- Continue to explore and expand partnerships with wider stakeholders such as Parliamentarians, InterFaith Organizations, Judicial/Legal Fraternities, Private Sector, Youth Networks etc

b) Conclusion:

The meeting endorsed the following as the next steps:

1. The SRS to prepare a separate report on the discourse of the Open Forum circulate to all the participants at the earliest;
2. The SRS to constitute a small representative group to further dissect the points raised during the Open Forum and draw a set of core issues for submission to the next Governing Board for its consideration to expand the focus areas of SAIEVAC

Day -2: 18 October 2019

The Chairperson after her introductory remarks handed over the floor to the Director General (DG) to move forward the proceedings.

1. Review and adoption of the Agenda for the 7th GBM

The DG presented the Agenda for the review and consideration of the GBM which was adopted without any changes.

2. Review of the Recommendations of the 6th GBM, Status and Further Course of Action

The DG presented the Follow Up Report (FUR) of the Recommendations of the 7th GBM. While considering the FUR, the GBM further directed the SRS to note the following:

a) The GBM considering the submission of the DG on the closure of the SDF projects and noting that there is no merit in continuing the agenda item decided that:
The SDF Project implemented by the SRS is now formally closed and the rest of the projects with Member States is the responsibility of the SDF and not the SRS; the GBM however urges the Member States whose projects are yet to be closed to facilitate/cooperate with SDF to close the projects at the earliest feasible time.

b) On the SAIEVAC Interfaith Platform, the GBM reinforced its past stand that the SRS while moving forward the ongoing efforts must ensure that due attention is paid in terms of how religious and faith leaders are involved taking into consideration the sensitivities associated.

The GBM further directed the SRS to:

- Finalise the Terms of Reference that defines the role of NACGs on InterFaith Engagement;
- Finalise the Terms of Reference for the SAIEVAC InterFaith Regional Platform;
- Finalise the documentation of the SAIEVAC journey in engaging InterFaith actors to address violence against children;
- Undertake a mapping of collaborative initiatives with InterFaith partners in all Member States in collaboration with SAIEVAC Mechanisms

The GBM also endorsed that all these activities must be completed and tabled to the 9th GBM

c) On the follow up actions presented by the DG on the ongoing work related to child labour with focus on the Brick Kiln Industry, the GBM noted that this is an area of great priority and that there are multiple benefits to secure the rights of children and families.

The GBM accordingly directed the SRS to:

- Continue regional and national activities by ensuring that child labour stays the primary focus of interest/work for SAIEVAC;
- Continue bilateral discussion with SAIEVAC Afghanistan to explore the possibility of holding a Regional Child Labour and Brick Kiln Consultation given that SAIEVAC Afghanistan is the only mechanism that has Labour under its institutional mandate;
- Continue to explore opportunities for funding to implement the Regional Action Plan to End Child Labour in South Asia; and
- Report progress to the 9th GBM

d) Considering the follow up report on the recommendations of the 4th SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting, the GBM noted the following:

Given the relevance and value of the SAIEVAC movement to End VaC agenda in South Asia as highlighted repeatedly during the Open Forum, the GBM reinforced the need to strengthening the institutional capacity of SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS) and SAIEVAC National Chapters by:

- Member States to consider allocating funds as done by Government of Nepal to support the SRS;
- Continue to follow up on the institutional funding proposals by undertaking dedicated discussions with the Government counterparts on the strategic approach to raise funds;
- Explore project/programme tied approaches for mobilizing resources with Member States as well as with other collaborating partners.

e) On the issue of the proposed compendium of laws on ‘Foster Care’ and taking note of the experiences since the 4th SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting, the GBM endorsed the proposal of the DG on the following areas:

- To convene a Regional Consultation on Alternate Care that will address the foster care aspects;
- Undertake a mapping of Alternate Care services in all countries or selected countries before the regional consultation with technical support of the SAIEVAC National Mechanisms; and
- To continue the work on the development of a compendium of laws on child rights/VaC with the technical support of the National mechanisms with the target of completing this before the 5th SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting.

f) The GBM noting that the SRS has already developed a regional trafficking project with a comprehensive plan, directed the SRS to:

- Continue efforts to advocate/promote the issue of cross border trafficking through both regional and bilateral consultative processes;
- Continue to explore funding opportunities through both Governments and other sources with support of SAARC Secretariat and other collaborating partners;

g) On the issue of setting/linking up existing Forensic Laboratory for women and children and noting the reasons for delay in moving the recommendation forward due to the delays in convening the SAARC Technical Committee on Women, Youth and Children in Pakistan as committed during the 7th GBM, the 8th GBM directed that the progress/status be reported to the 9th GBM for further consideration.

h) On the status report of the Financial Rules and Regulations, Administrative Management of the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat including the expanded annexures of Financial Policy, Human Resource Policy and Administrative Policy, Risk Matrix and the critical need to strengthen the institutional capacity as well as Internal Control Systems, the GBM agreed that these are essential procedures and must be subject to periodic reviews and refinement. The GBM further noted that these will greatly enhance the confidence of donors/partners and opportunity to secure resources.

i) The GBM considering the progress updates on the NACG presented by the DG reiterated that the NACGs are very important component of the SAIEVAC National and Regional Mechanism and has played very important role in driving the SAIEVAC Movement by fostering a very unique partnership/coordination with the government mechanisms without compromising on the independent operational function/ nature of the Civil Society platform. However, the GBM also noted that given the sensitivities associated the CSOs, SAIEVAC must ensure that clearly defined procedures for
eligibility and operational frameworks are maintained and monitored periodically. Accordingly, the GBM directed the SRS and the NACGs to:

- Ensure that the principle of NACG as a SAIEVAC CSO Mechanism is not compromised and that the NACGs must function with the established procedures in place or will be developed periodically with the SRS;
- Continue to work towards strengthening the NACGs by reinforcing the regular and transparent interfaces with the Government mechanisms and ensure that their work is in harmony with the National and Regional VaC priorities;
- The NACGs also develop proper guidelines for accessing institutional support that has implication on other NACGs besides a guideline that clearly defines the procedures/mechanism for collaboration with Government mechanisms;
- Strengthen communication and coordination among NACGs in order to create convergent approaches to sharing and learning and to create a common agenda for the NACGs to support the SAIEVAC movement;
- The SRS may consult the SACG and any other interested partners to explore opportunities to convene the Regional NACG Consultation that can take a comprehensive review of the NACGs and its strategic direction.

j) The GBM considering the status report and possible next steps on the Monitoring Framework for thematic areas of the FYP and Child Marriage endorsed that:

- The M&Es must be adapted and finalized once the 8th GBM considers the RAPs on CSAE&OE and Child Marriage and tabled to the 9th GBM along with the final version of the 2nd FYP

k) The GBM noted that all the activities have been implemented except for the Regional POCSO Seminar which will be considered under the relevant agenda item of the 8th GBM.

3. **Presentation of the Final Draft Regional Action Plan (RAP) on Child Sexual Abuse, Exploitation including Online Exploitation (CSAE&OE).**

a) The GBM reviewed the milestones covered during the journey of the drafting process of the RAP starting with the directives of the 4th SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting including the different regional and expert Review Meetings to draft and finalize the RAP. The GBM further noting that the RAP was a product of extensive joint efforts by all Member States and collaborating partners unanimously endorsed the RAP with the following directives:

- The RAP will be for the period 2019-2023 with a review to be undertaken in 2021; and
- The provisions of the RAP must be mainstreamed into the 2nd FYP

b) On the parallel process of developing National plans using the learning of the development of the RAP, the GBM noted with much appreciation the finalized National Plans in Nepal and Srilanka lead by the Government mechanisms and in collaboration with SRS, NACG and wider stakeholders. The GBM also noted with encouragement that different Member States are in varying stages of finalizing child
rights acts and policies that mainstreams the CSAE & OE issues and that South Asia can expect a concerted drive in addressing the issue as we move forward.

c) The GBM also took note of the submission of the DG that in 2020 efforts will be made to undertake follow up actions on the national plans including the finalization of a National Plan in Bangladesh.

4. **Outcome and recommendations of the Pre-technical Session on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights;**

The SRS as part of the ongoing efforts to creating capacity building opportunities and reinforcing certain priority/emerging issues that affect the thematic areas of SAIEVAC, scheduled a Pretech session on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SHR) using Child Marriage as an entry point. The GBM considering the submission of the DG on the discussions of the Pretech and noting that the SRS will put together a separate report on the Pretech, endorses the following to move the discussions forward.

- Given the wide range of issues around SRHR that impacts on our work around VaC, the Pre-tech recommends for a dedicated Regional Workshop on SRHR that can identify key challenges and areas for focus within the SAIEVAC thematic focus areas; and
- Take forward the decision of the 4th SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting on POCSO Seminar and the decision of the 8th GBM Open Forum on the development of a ‘Compendium of Laws’ before the 5th SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting

5. **Presentation and endorsement of the Regional Action Plan to End Child Marriage in South Asia, 2018-2023 (attached separately)**

Taking note that all activities directed by the 7th GBM to strengthen/update the RAP on Ending Child Marriage 2015-2018 has been successfully undertaken and since the 7th GBM has already provided in principle approval to the RAP 2018-2023, the 8th GBM formally endorsed the RAP for implementation.

6. **Emerging Concerns, Challenges and Priorities of SAIEVAC National Mechanisms**

The GBM noted that these issues were dealt in great detail during the Open Forum of the GBM on the 17th October and directed the SRS to put together a separate Report to carry forward the following conclusions drawn during the Open Forum:

a) The SRS to prepare a separate report on the discourse of the Open Forum circulate to all the participants at the earliest;

b) The SRS to constitute a small representative group to further dissect the points raised during the Open Forum and draw a set of core issues for submission to the next Governing Board for its consideration to expand the focus areas of SAIEVAC
Day -3: 19 October 2019

1. Follow Up Actions on the Institutional Funding, the Next Steps and the 2\textsuperscript{nd} FYP

a) Continuing the discussion on the subject matter from Day -1 and after elaborate discussions on strengthening the coordination and implementation capacity of SAIEVAC in the Government mechanisms and the possibility of appointing a dedicated person for this purpose, the GBM endorsed that:

• The coordination should rest with the SAIEVAC National Coordinators identified through an institutionalized process;
• While the issue is crucial and merits close attention, this should be left to the respective Member States to strategize how to keep the SAIEVAC mission meaningfully active;
• However, as and when the financial capacity of SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat improves, this can be further reviewed by the GB and consider practical options.

b) On the submission made by the DG on the 2FYP milestones, the GBM endorsed the revised timelines targeting the 9\textsuperscript{th} GBM (Annex-4) and the 5\textsuperscript{th} SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting

2. Upcoming Major Regional Events

After significant discussions the GBM endorsed the following events for the last quarter of 2019 to 2020.

a) Launch of the Srilanka National Plan on CSAE&OS: 7\textsuperscript{th} Nov 2019, Colombo
b) Launch of the Nepal National Plan on CSAE&OS, Dhulikhel Declaration on Ending Child Marriage and Celebrate Complete Ban on Corporal Punishment: 20 Nov 2019 (?), Kathmandu;
c) Asian Children’s Summit (ASEAN/CRC Asia & SAIEVAC): 25-30 Nov 2019, Bangkok
d) Regional Seminar on POCSO – Feb 2020 (?): New Delhi
e) Regional Consultation on Alternate Care in South Asia, SAIEVAC & SOS: Feb 2020 – Srilanka (?)
f) 9\textsuperscript{th} GBM and the 5\textsuperscript{th} SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting – 1\textsuperscript{st} half of April 2020: Maldives (?) and Nepal as alternate venue
g) Regional Workshop on SRHR – Mid Jan 2020 in BKK
h) Regional NACG Consultation – Mid Jan 2020 in BKK back to back SRHR
i) Regional Consultation on the Brick Kilns in Kabul – sept 202

3. Any Other Issues

a) Out of the Shadows Report – Shining Light on the Response to Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

The DG introduced the Out of the Shadows: Shining light on the response to child sexual abuse and exploitation which is an Economist Intelligence Unit research
programme supported by the World Childhood Foundation and the Oak Foundation with additional support from the Carlson Family Foundation;

It is based largely on a country-level benchmarking index that evaluates how stakeholders are responding to the scourge of sexual violence against children in 40 selected countries;

The GBM noting the submission of the DG that the report presents an exciting insight into the work on child sexual abuse and exploitation and the opportunity of linking SAIEVAC’s national and regional efforts to global efforts particularly with the endorsement of the RAP directed the SRS to share the report with the Members and also upload on the website for future reference and considerations.

b) The Srilanka delegation apprised the GBM on the nomination of Dr. Rinchen Chophel to the CRC Committee and emphasized the importance of having a representation from South Asia in the CRC Committee and requested the GBM to endorse support.

The GBM noted that the issue of recommending candidate/s from South Asia to the CRC Committee was endorsed during the 6th GBM and further reinforced the crucial need to have such a representation to better represent or understand South Asian perspectives in the CRC Committee. Accordingly, the GBM endorsed the need to support the candidature of Dr. Rinchen Chophel by taking necessary advocacy steps with their respective Governments.

4. Closing Remarks

The Chairperson in her closing remarks highlighted that significant areas were covered during the 8th GBM that will drive the SAIEVAC movement forward. She urged all Members to ensure adequate follow up of the decisions taken during the GBM and provide continued support to the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat.

She also thanked the Maldives delegation, the Ministry and the Government of Maldives for hosting the 8th GBM and for the very warm hospitality.
South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children [SAIEVAC]
SAARC Apex Body
“In Solidarity with the Children of SAARC”

8th Governing Board Meeting (SGBM): 17-19 October 2019

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Tentative Agenda

Day – 1 : 17 October 2019

08.00 – 09.00 : Registration

Inaugural Session : 08.55 – 10.30

Chief Guest: H.E Shidhattha Shareef, Hon’ble Minister
Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services

0855 : All Seated
0900 : Arrival of the Chief Guest

Welcome and Introductory Remarks
- H.E Ifham Hussain, State Minister/GB Member, Maldives

Introducing the GBM - DG SAIEVAC
Handing over of the Chair of the SAIEVAC Governing Board from
Bhutan to India
Remarks by the Outgoing and Incoming Chairpersons
Remarks by the Child GB Member, Maldives
Remarks by CSO/NACG GB Member, Maldives

Key Note Address by the Hon’ble Chief Guest
Vote of Thanks – SAIEVAC National Coordinator, Maldives

Group Photograph

Hi Tea

Open Forum : 10.30 – 16.30

Objectives and Expected Outcome of the Open Forum
- DG SAIEVAC
Relevance and Suitability of the SAIEVAC Platform
Current Thematic Focus Areas and approach to address VaC
Emerging Challenges/Issues – Organizational, Thematic and Regional Dynamics
Conclusions and recommendations

19.00 : Official Dinner hosted by the Hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services

Day – 2 : 18 October 2019 - CLOSED DOOR SESSION

13.00 – 14.00 : LUNCH & Registration

14.00 – 14.30 : Opening remarks, review and adoption of the Agenda for the 8th GBM by the Chairperson

14.30 – 15.30: Review of the Recommendations of the 7th Governing Board Meeting, Status and Further Course of Action
 : Discussions

15.30 – 16.30¹ : Presentation of the Final Draft Regional Strategy on Child Sexual Abuse, Exploitation including Online Safety (CSAE&OS).
 : Discussion and Endorsement
 : Reports on National Plans on CSAE&OS

16.30 – 17.15² : Outcome and recommendations of the Pre-technical Session on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
 : Discussions
 : Presentation and endorsement of the Regional Action Plan to End Child Marriage in South Asia, 2018-2023

17.15 – 18.00 : Emerging Concerns, Challenges and Priorities of SAIEVAC National Mechanisms
 : Discussions and Conclusions of Day - 1

Day – 3 : 19 October 2019 - CLOSED DOOR SESSION

08.30 – 09.00 : Registration

09.00 – 10.00 : Follow Up Actions on the Institutional Funding, the Next Steps and the 2nd FYP
 : Discussions

¹ Invite partner Agency/s i.e ECPAT as Observer
² Tea/Coffee to be served on the table
10.0 – 10.30 : Upcoming Major Regional Events

a) Launch of the Nepal National Plan on CSAE&OS, Dhulikhel Declaration on Ending Child Marriage and Celebrate Complete Ban on Corporal Punishment: 20 Nov 2019 (?), Kathmandu
b) Asian Children’s Summit (ASEAN/CRC Asia & SAIEVAC) : 25-30 Nov 2019, Bangkok
c) Launch of the Srilanka National Plan on CSAE&OS: 7th Nov 2019, Colombo
d) Regional Seminar on POCSO – Feb 2020 (?): New Delhi
e) Regional Consultation on Alternate Care in South Asia, SAIEVAC & SOS: Feb 2020 – Srilanka (?)
f) 9th GBM and the 5th SAIEVAC Ministerial Meeting – End March 2020: India (?)/Nepal (?)/Maldives (?)
g) Regional Workshop on SRHR – mid Jan and BKK/back to back
h) Regional NACG Consultation – mid Jan and BKK to be confirmed
j) Regional Consultation on the Brick Kilns in Kabul – Sept 2020

10.30 – 11.00 : TEA BREAK

11.00 – 11.30 : Discussions Continued and the Next Steps

: Any Other Issues

: Out of the Shadows Report – Shining Light on the Response to Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

: CRC nomination of Dr. Rinchen Chophel

11.30 -12.00 : Closing Remarks

12.00 – 13.00 : LUNCH BREAK

Afternoon : Field Visit
Annex -2

Key Note Address to the Inaugural Ceremony of the 8th GBM
by
Minister Hon. Shidhatha Shareef

Honorabe Chairperson and members of the SAIEVAC Governing Board, Dr. Rinchen Chophel, Director General of SAIEVAC, State Ministers and officials of Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services, Deputy Managing Director of Hulhumale Development Corporation, representatives of Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations, representatives of the UN, INGO Partners, Child Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalaam Alaikum and a very good morning to you all.

First, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of you to the Maldives. It is indeed a great pleasure to inaugurate the 8th Governing Board meeting of SAIEVAC in Maldives. We are greatly honored to have the opportunity to cohost this important meeting with SAIEVAC and of course with the support of number of collaborating partners. Having being involved in the SAIEVAC moment during its initial stages and having participated as Governing Board Member during the 4th SAIEVAC Governing Board Meeting held in Bangladesh in 2014, I personally believe that this movement in imperative to ending violence against children un our region.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the policy framework of Strategic Action Plan of the Maldives, gives utmost importance for the social protection of vulnerable groups especially children under the policy if “leaving no one behind” whereby it ensures that inclusivity is maintained across the sectors.

To establish a child protection system that suits well for the Maldives and also to address the specific needs of children in the Maldives, Child Rights Protection Bill has been submitted to the Parliament and I am looking forward to it to be passed soon. With this Act, the Government seeks to establish a well-structured and coordinated protection system that promoted the wellbeing of children, prevents abuse and ensures that all our children are safe.

I am pleased to note the commitment across this Regional, in addressing emerging issues such as child marriage, sexual abuse and exploitation and also efforts being made to address sexual reproductive health.

These subjects has been discussed during yesterday’s pre-technical meeting, It is alarming that teenage pregnancies have become a global problem which delays in development of the child increase in school dropout, less productivity and poor health.

Along with teenage pregnancies, child marriage affects our children’s physical, mental and psychological well-being. The problem of child marriage is among both boys and girls, however, girls are disproportionately affected and it reinforces gender norms and stereotyping. Furthermore, studies reveal that this hinders their potential to achieve higher education, economic empowerment and self-actualization.
I would also like to acknowledge the support and assistance rendered by SAIEVAC Secretariat, Hulhumale Development Corporation, Event Management Team and other Key Partners in making this event a success. Let me also express my heartfelt appreciation for the very hardworking team at the Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services for the great team work shown in organizing this event.

The younger generation are not very open to talk about sensitive topics, such as sexual reproductive health. Even within the school system the topic is considered as taboo. When these topics are unspoken, adolescents and young children tend to gather information through informal means which many a times, leads to misinformation and as a result children end up in vulnerable situation which can be avoided with appropriate measures. Last week we marked International Girl Child Day and one of the key areas identified by the children was sexual reproductive health. Thus, we need to address this as a priority.

I believe that the issues that have been highlighted will be discussed during the next couple of days and it will be reflected in the Regional Action Plans on Child Marriage, Sexual Abuse and Exploitation including Online Exploitation that are going to be reviewed and endorsed by the 8th Governing Board.

I once again welcome you all to the Maldives and hope that you will find time to experience a little bit of Maldives beside your hectic meeting schedule.

I now declare the proceedings of the 8th Governing Board Meeting of SAIEVAC open. Wishing you all a fruitful and an effective discussions to safeguard and protect the well-being of our children.

Wassalaam Alaikum. Thank you.
## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
### OPEN FORUM
### 17 OCTOBER 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>President</td>
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<td>Miss Imran Haina</td>
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<td>H.E. Ghulam Haidar Jailani</td>
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<td>NGO Federation of Nepal</td>
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<td>Ms. Deepika Mittal</td>
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<td>Global March Against Child Labour International Secretariat</td>
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<td>Country Director, Bangladesh</td>
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8th Governing Board Meeting (GBM)
18-19 October 2019

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<td>SRS/GBM</td>
<td>Dr. Rinchen Chophel</td>
<td>Director General</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat</td>
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**Secretariat**
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<th></th>
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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Ms. Alisha Tuladhar</td>
<td>Regional Finance Manager</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alisha@saievac.org">alisha@saievac.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Mr. Anshumann Sahni</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
<td>SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sahnianshumaan@gmail.com">sahnianshumaan@gmail.com</a></td>
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**Observer for Agenda on CSAE&OE**

<table>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Ms. Shrinkhala Thapa</td>
<td>Regional Coordinator for South Asia</td>
<td>ECPAT International</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shrinkhalat@ecpat.net">shrinkhalat@ecpat.net</a></td>
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Annex -4

Milestones/Timelines for the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Five Year Work Plan

---------------------------------------------

1\textsuperscript{st} FYP : 2011 – 2016

- However, the SRS only initiated addressing aspects of the 1\textsuperscript{st} FYP only starting 2012 with the SDF funds

- The 1\textsuperscript{st} FYP also did not respond to the existing or emerging challenges of the Member States, but instead largely focused on priorities of the partner agencies who supported the development of the 1\textsuperscript{st} FYP

- The ongoing efforts of developing Regional Action Plans and ongoing struggle to raise institutional funding to support the SAIEVAC Mission underlines the need to ensure that the 2\textsuperscript{nd} FYP is sensitive to the VaC priorities of the Member States which are being captured in the RAPs

- Once the RAP Child Marriage is reviewed and finalized and the Regional Strategy on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation including Online Safety is endorsed, the development and finalization of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} FYP will be much more pragmatic and relevant;

- Accordingly, the following timeline is proposed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N O</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
<th>REVISION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Regional Validation Workshop on CSAE &amp; OS</td>
<td>Q3/18</td>
<td>Q4/18</td>
<td>Q1/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>RAP Child Marriage reviewed and finalized</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Initial Review of the 1\textsuperscript{st} FYP done and more in-depth review</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Key gaps and challenges of the 1st FYP identified and compiled for informing the 2nd FYP</td>
<td>Group identified/selected for the Review</td>
<td>Group became fragmented &amp; Reconstitution delayed due to Number of factors</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Frame for the 2nd FYP developed</td>
<td>Working Frame in place and can be reviewed by the select Group</td>
<td>Select Group yet to meet to review</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>1st draft of the 2nd FYP Readied for the Consideration of the 8th GBM</td>
<td>The timeline for the 8th GBM is considered in Nov/Dec 18, however number of countries have elections and this may impact the timeline considered</td>
<td>8th GBM delayed to due to reasons outlined</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Refinement of the 2nd FYP based on outcomes of the 8th GBM discussions and recommendations</td>
<td>SRS with guidance of the select Group</td>
<td>With all RAPs endorsed the SRS to target finalization of the 2FYP by the 9th GBM and 5th SMM</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Finalization and adoption of the 2nd FYP</td>
<td>8GBM and 5th SMM</td>
<td>9 GBM and 5th SMM March 2020</td>
<td></td>
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