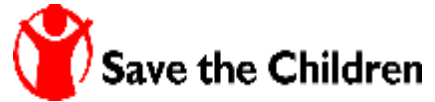




Ministry of State
for Family and Population



Child Protection Procedure

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



CAIRO, EGYPT

21ST - 24TH NOVEMBER '09



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STATEMENT

Child abuse is a global phenomenon. It occurs in all countries and in all societies. It involves the physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect of children. It is nearly always preventable.

This procedure outlines specific steps to ensure safe participation of children in this international event.

BACKGROUND

Abuse and violence against children occur globally and in all settings. Accidents and incidents affecting children usually occur suddenly and unexpectedly. These are events which cause disruption to the normal functions of work and bring significant danger or risk. They include events that involve:

- Assault, including physical or sexual assault
- Severe verbal aggression, including threats
- Robbery or destruction of personal belongings
- Traffic accident
- Serious injury
- Natural disaster e.g. earthquake, flood, electrical storm
- Fire
- Bomb or hostage threat
- Explosion, gas, or chemical hazard etc.



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In many instances Emergency Services such as police, fire department or emergency medical personnel may be involved in the critical incident response phase and have their own procedures for dealing with children and young persons affected by the incident. It is essential that all their actions are fully aligned with specific needs of children and respecting confidentiality of disclosures.

STEPS TO ENSURE CHILD PROTECTION

I Awareness and alertness: anyone involved in international events involving children needs to be briefed on forms and nature of abuse, importance of child protection and their respective role in the event. Supportive adults bear responsibility to undertake risk assessment, create safe environments and provide assistance needed, while keeping alert throughout duration of children's involvement.

II Disclosing child abuse or harm: in case of abusive incidents or accidents affecting their physical or mental wellbeing, children should immediately approach their accompanying adults or a designated child protection focal point. They will organize and provide immediate and appropriate assistance in accordance with the nature of incident, while ensuring confidentiality of sensitive issues disclosed.

III Taking action: having assessed the specific kind of support needed, assistance to children affected by the incident is offered without delay, which may also involve arranging medical assessment. Family should be contacted and informed of the incident and assistance provided. Incident report is compiled to document details of the incident and clinical support persons from appropriate services are contacted and consulted with. Principle of 'best interest of the child' is applied throughout the process.



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IV Follow-up and debriefing: relevant services should be approached in the aftermath of the incident to develop appropriate supports for children and others directly affected by or involved in the incident. Depending on the circumstances, this may involve:

- holding incident debriefing session(s) for all those directly affected by or involved in the incident
- arranging for extended counselling as required
- supporting relevant persons responding to the incident
- holding a review meeting for the purpose of reviewing the incident from an administrative perspective to guide future responses to similar events

CHILD PROTECTION FOCAL POINTS

Child Protection Focal Points, are available throughout the duration of this event (21st – 24th November) to ensure the safety and well being of the Under 18 delegates. Any concerns will be addressed in confidence keeping the best interest of the child in mind.

Please contact Noha EL Ashry :

Email: crc.20anniversary@gmail.com

Mobile :0101346279

RULES OF BEHAVIOUR

All delegates and support staff are asked to abide by the following 'Rules of Behaviour'. Adults and children at the event must never:

- hit or otherwise physically assault or physically abuse children
- develop physical/sexual relationships with children



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- develop relationships with children which could in any way be seen as exploitative or abusive
- act in ways that may be abusive or may place a child at risk of abuse
- use language, make suggestions or offer advice which is inappropriate, offensive or abusive
- behave physically in a manner which is inappropriate or sexually provocative
- sleep in the same room as a child (if this has not been agreed by their Parent/Guardian)*
- do things for children of a personal nature that they could do on their own
- permit or participate in, behaviour of children that is illegal, unsafe or abusive
- act in ways meant to shame, humiliate, belittle or degrade children, or otherwise commit any form of emotional abuse
- discriminate against, show differential treatment, or favour particular children to the exclusion of others.

This is not an exhaustive or exclusive list. The principle is that delegates and staff should avoid actions or behaviour that could be seen as poor practice or potentially abusive.

*Adults are not permitted to sleep in the same room or bed as children. With the previously agreed permission of both Guardians, Under 18 and young participants may share rooms with other Under 18 and young participants. Accompanying Adults stay in the same hotel, as the Under 18 participant in their care, but stay in separate rooms. Only with written and signed agreement from the Under 18 Delegate and his/her Guardian(s), may Accompanying Adults share a room with the Under 18 participant(s) (of the same sex) in their care.