



Report of the CONGO NGO Committee on Children’s Rights

The NGO Committee on Children's Rights focuses its efforts on developing cooperative ways to work within the UN system generally and with UNICEF in particular to participate and support efforts at all levels towards the effective, and integrated, implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

During the past year the Committee has worked closely with the NGO Committee on UNICEF, as well as with the CONGO NGO Committee on the Family, and has sponsored or co-sponsored events and workshops. These include:

- Review of the General Assembly World Fit for Children +5
- Brainstorming Session to plan activities in view of the upcoming 20th Anniversary of the CRC
- Update on Key Events relating to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva - including Draft UN Guidelines on Children without Parental Care
- Meeting with Susana Villaran, Candidate (and now elected member of) the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Geneva)
- Presentation of Advocacy Activity by Lawyers Without Borders on Inheritance Rights
- Workshop during DPI NGO Conference in Paris
- Discussion of US efforts toward ratification of the CRC

In view of the upcoming 20th anniversary of the adoption of Convention of the Rights of the Child (November 20th, 2009) the Committee plans several events to highlight the impact of the CRC worldwide.

The Committee is in the process of determining a set time for resuming monthly meetings; due to a scheduling conflict involving a (non-CONGO) working group with overlapping membership the traditional “first Thursday” of the month had to be reconsidered and the Chairs are in the process of choosing a new time to accommodate key members. The Committee has an extensive “virtual” mailing list and increased efforts will be directed toward online activities and exchange of ideas and advocacy efforts.

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