



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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Dear Ziba Vaghri, Stuart Hart and Philip Cook,

The Committee on the Rights of the Child would like to express its support for developing GlobalChild; a monitoring tool for the Convention on the rights of the Child. The work is undertaken by the Global Reference Group for Accountability to Children's Rights and Well-Being (GRGA), with HELP and IICRD as the two secretariats of this group. The GRGA consists of former members of the Committee, academics, members of UN agencies and INGOs, all with an expertise in children's rights and children's indicators. The GRGA will provide ongoing support to the Committee in its work to promote accountability.

Accountability of states may be seen as the overall challenge to the realization of children's rights. States need to develop systems of monitoring, measurement and evaluation to fulfil their obligations to children. For measurement of states' efforts and results in the three major accountability areas, structure, process and outcomes, indicators are a central tool.

Very valuable work in this respect has been carried out by international teams of experts, led by HELP and IICRD, in developing indicators for parts of the Convention, starting with General Comment No. 7 on Implementing Child Rights in Early Childhood and continuing with General Comment No. 13 on the Right of the Child to Freedom from All Forms of Violence, respectively.

The Committee would like to see this important work continued in 2014 in other areas of the Convention, with the ultimate goal of covering the entire Convention. The indicators will assist states in the reporting process as they specify the questions that the Committee would like to see states answering. They will lead to more concrete information provided, not least with regard to outcomes – how the acts of states contribute to children's health, development, protection and well-being. And not least, they will be helpful in the process of implementing the recommendations of the Committee once the Concluding Observations have been issued.

The GRGA has recently contributed greatly to an important workshop of the Committee where the work on accountability was taken forward and the importance of indicators as an indispensable tool was discussed, recognised, and promoted.

The Committee encourages your further work in this respect, strongly supports any proposal for funding to do this very important task, and looks forward to continuing our fruitful cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Mme. Kirsten Sandberg
Chairperson
Committee on the Rights of the Child