REPORT OF
THE 3RD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

31ST MAY, 2012
TAJ SAMUDRA, COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
Governing Board Members.
REPORT OF THE 3rd GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF THE SOUTH ASIA INITIATIVE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN (SAIEVAC)

31st May, 2012
Taj Samudra, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Organized and Showcased by SAIEVAC Secretariat
Supported by the SACG
Hosted by the Government of Sri Lanka
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1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

**Welcome remarks by Dr. Rinchen Chophel, Director General, SAIEVAC**

The Director General, SAIEVAC warmly welcomed all the Governing Board Members from the government, CSO Board Members, Child Board Members, the Child Observers and the SACG Chair to the 3rd SAIEVAC Governing Board Meeting. He also acknowledged the presence of Ms. Marta Santos Pais in the opening of the Board Meeting. In his welcome address, he gave a brief overview of the events pertaining to the Regional Children’s Consultation, 26-27th May, 2012 and the Follow up Technical Consultation, 29-30th May, 2012. He also reported that due to time constraints he will be able to present only the brief and raw recommendations from these consultations. He also informed the Board that the term of the current Chairperson will end by the 4th Governing Board meeting tentatively scheduled towards the end of this year. Thereafter, Bangladesh being the next Member State alphabetically will take over as the new Chair. Given that, he proposed that the duration of the 4th Board Meeting needs to be at least 2 days to provide the Board Members adequate time to address all the issues comprehensively.

He concluded his welcome address by expressing his gratitude to all the Hon’ble Board Members for their participation and the SACG for their support.

2. OPENING REMARKS

**H. E. Wasil Noor Muhmand, Chairperson, SAIEVAC Governing Board**

The Chairperson of the SAIEVAC Governing Board welcomed all the Board Members to the 3rd Meeting of the Governing Board. He also expressed his appreciation to Ms. Marta Santos, UN SRSG for gracing the opening session of the Board Meeting. He also extended a special welcome to the Child Observers, CSO members and the SACG Chair. He thanked the Government of Sri Lanka for co-hosting the Meeting.

The Chairperson highlighted the proceedings and the key outcomes of the Regional Children’s Consultation and the Technical Consultation and said that he was highly encouraged and impressed by the overwhelming commitment and support of the 8 Member States to end violence against children. He mentioned that SAIEVAC, with a mandate of protecting children from all kinds of violence, has been progressing significantly and requested the continued support and guidance of the Governing Board Members and utmost consideration to the proposed recommendations of these consultations.

The Chair underlined the fact that the agenda for the 3rd Governing Board Meeting is quite substantive and urged the Board Meeting for their active participation and productive outcome of the Board Meeting.

3. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The meeting reviewed the agenda tabled by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat with the addition of two additional agenda items under any other issues viz.

- **A brief report of the SACG Retreat Meeting;**
- **TOR of the Governing Board.**

The Agenda is placed at **ANNEX 1.**
4. REPORT OF THE FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS ON THE 2ND GB RECOMMENDATIONS-DIRECTOR GENERAL

The Director General presented the Follow up Actions taken on the 2nd Governing Board Recommendations. He highlighted the progress of achievement of the different recommendations and also apprised the Board of the different issues and challenges pertaining to the different recommendations. He also reported that while the SAIEVAC Secretariat was able to follow up/address all the recommendations quite conclusively, the formalization of the NACGs, the process for institutionalizing the selection of the CSO Board Members and the finalization of the SAIEVAC logo are yet to be completed. In his report, he acknowledged the very active support of the Board Members in achieving the status of SAARC Apex Body for SAIEVAC. In this regard, he acknowledged the leadership and critical support of the Government of Maldives in achieving this historical milestone. He also reported that the successful negotiation of the SDF Project has not only provided a critical lifeline for SAIEVAC to ground its institutional mechanisms both at the regional and national level but, also provided SAIEVAC recognition and acceptance with the larger political institutions of the Member States, for e.g. Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The SDF Project according to the Director General has been critical in reinforcing the credibility and the institutional sustainability of SAIEVAC to other partner agencies both within and outside SACG.

The Follow Up Report is presented at ANNEX 2.

The Board undertook elaborate discussions on the different aspects of the Follow Up Report and the key decisions are incorporated in the set of recommendations, which are detailed below.

5. STATUS REPORT ON THE SAIEVAC-SDF PROJECT AND THE NATIONAL OPERATIONAL PLANS

The Director General briefed the Board on the process, scope and the status of the project. He highlighted that the SAIEVAC and SDF also successfully conducted the Strategic Planning Workshop in Bhutan in March 2012 to formulate the Regional Implementation Framework and the national implementation frameworks for difference Member States. He reported that while India is not a participating Member State for the project due to India’s policy considerations related to SDF, however, he hoped to continue the discussions with the Hon’ble Board Member from India on setting up SAIEVAC institutional mechanisms in India.

The Board discussing on the submission made by the Director General expressed its appreciation to the SDF Board and the Secretariat for their most critical and valuable support to SAIEVAC and the Children of SAARC. The Board also stressed the need to activate the projects as early as possible so that the SAIEVAC country chapters can be established and SAIEVAC activities can be initiated. The Board also endorsed that clear Terms of Reference (TOR) must be defined for SAIEVAC national mechanisms and the SAIEVAC country chapters to avoid confusion in executing the different activities, be it at the national level or the regional level.

The Board also endorsed the proposed SAIEVAC –SDF M&E workshop to be held in Male towards the end of June 2012 and directed the Secretariat to share the final project with the Board Members thereafter.

6. NEWER INITIATIVES

1. BRIEF ON THE SAIEVAC-IL0 MOU

Under this agenda item, the Board considered the submission of the Secretariat to bring the issues and challenges of child labor into focus in the coming days. Under this, the Secretariat
submitted the proposal for negotiating a MoU with ILO besides the proposal to formulate a project on Child Labor to be submitted to the Hon’ble Board Member from India for possible consideration for Government of India funding. The same project proposal will also be circulated to other Board Members for their consideration. The Board considering the submission directed that the Secretariat pursue the finalization of these proposals after taking due consideration of the specific situation of the Member States particularly in relation to the ILO instruments. The Board also welcomed the proposal to frame a project on child Labor and directed the secretariat to undertake the necessary steps to achieve this. The initial draft MoU is at Annex 3.

2. PARLIAMENTARAIN CONFERENCE ON CHILD RIGHTS

Introducing the proposed collaboration with the parliamentary conference on Child Rights in Pakistan, the Director General submitted that the SAIEVAC National Mechanism, Pakistan and the SAIEVAC Secretariat had discussed the opportunities presented by this initiative and therefore decided to bring it to the attention of the Governing Board for its consideration. The Director General also stated that as of now, the proposal is to secure/ensure the participation of SAIEVAC in this conference and thereafter to explore possibilities of collaborating with the Parliamentarians in future to jointly undertake legislative review on Child Rights in general and violence against children in particular. The Governing Board Member and the Coordinator of Pakistan also supplemented the submission made by the Director General by reinforcing the critical opportunities presented by such a partnership/collaboration. Her Excellency, Ms. Rubina Saadat Qaimkhani, Parliamentary Secretary on Human Rights, National Assembly of Pakistan, who was also invited for the decisions on the agenda item expressed her keen interest to work for children and to collaborate with SAIEVAC to generate a greater momentum of parliamentarians in supporting the SAIEVAC Movement. The Board after deliberating at length endorsed the proposal and expressed its appreciation to the Hon’ble Parliamentarian for her commitment and support.

7. BRIEF ON THE PROPOSED SAIEVAC-MCA PROJECT

The Director General presented the draft proposal of the SAIEVAC-MCA Project. He highlighted that through the proposed project, SAIEVAC will cultivate closer collaboration with the SAARCLAW another Apex Body of SAARC to explore opportunities to undertake legal review and reform. The Project also expects to strengthen the capacity of the media to undertake more sensitive and ethical reporting on Children, particularly issues pertaining to violence against children.

The Board after taking into consideration the proposed draft supplemented by the Director General, directed the Secretariat to finalize the project and circulate to the Board Members for endorsement. The draft is at Annex 4.

8. OUTCOME REPORT OF THE FOLLOW UP REGIONAL CONSULTATION AND DISCUSSIONS

1. REGIONAL CHILDREN’S CONSULTATION

The Director General reported that the Regional Children’s Consultation held on 26-27th of May, 2012 was concluded successfully and that the outcome of the children’s consultation was presented to the plenary of the Technical Consultation on 29th May 2012. Since the Coordinators and some of the Board Members participated in the children’s consultation and since the report was presented and endorsed in the plenary, the Board formally endorsed the recommendations of the Children’s Consultation. This report will also be a separate report on Children’s Consultation, which will be circulated to the Board Members in due course of time.

The Board also endorsed the proposal of the Director General to constitute an Experts’ Committee
to finalize the Child Participation Principles and Standards, the draft of which was supposed to 
be discussed in the Technical Consultation which could not be done so due to constrain of time.

2. FOLLOW UP TECHNICAL CONSULTATION OUTCOME

On the Follow up Technical Consultation outcome, the Director General reported that the 
outcome of the 4 breakout sessions was presented and endorsed in the plenary of the Technical 
Consultation on the 30th where all the Board Members were present. However, due to time 
constraint, the Secretariat was not able to put the outcome reports in an appropriate structure for 
submission to the Board. The Director General sought the permission of the Board to circulate the 
outcome report of the breakout sessions after putting it into a standard professional format. The 
Board endorsed the submission made by the Director General. The documents as presented by 
the different groups are at ANNEX 5.

3. SOUTH ASIA CALL FOR ACTION ON VAC

The Director General tabled the South Asia Call for Action draft as presented and endorsed in 
the plenary during the Closing Day of the Technical Consultation for the consideration of the 
Board. The Board after taking into consideration the views and sentiments expressed during the 
discussion on this endorsed the draft as adopted in the plenary session on the 30th May, 2012. 
The Call for Action so adopted is at ANNEX 6.

4. NATIONAL ACTION PLANS FOR CORPORAL PUNISHMENT 
CAMPAIGN/ INITIATIVES

The Director General reported that a parallel exercise to the Governing Board Meeting was 
undertaken to develop a national plan for each Member State to operationalize the Corporal 
Punishment Campaign. He reported that this exercise was undertaken by the coordinators and 
the civil society partners and the expectation was to table the outcome to the Board. However, 
time did not permit this. The Board considering that the campaign was formally launched and 
the exercise was just to generate an operational plan for the campaign, the Director General 
was directed to circulate the operational plans to the Board Members for their kind attention and 
endorsement.

9. PROPOSAL FOR INSTITUTING SAIEVAC GOODWILL ADVISORS 
AND CRITERIA

Under this agenda item, the Director General submitted the criteria for appointment of SAIEVAC 
Goodwill Advisor/s and the formalization of Ms. Jahanara Wattoo, Ambassador for Orphan 
Children, Pakistan as the first SAIEVAC Goodwill Advisor.

The Board reviewed the proposed criteria in great detail and adopted the criteria with the necessary 
amendments.

The amended criteria are placed at ANNEX 7.

The Board also welcomed and approved the candidature of Ms. Jahanara Wattoo as the First 
SAIEVAC Goodwill Advisor to be governed by the conditions so laid down in the selection criteria. 
Ms. Jahanara Wattoo who was invited to be part of the discussions on the agenda item expressed 
her joy and appreciation in being appointed as the First SAIEVAC Goodwill advisor and expressed
her full commitment to serve the cause of Children and SAIEVAC in the near future.

10. ANY OTHER ISSUES

1. A BRIEF REPORT OF THE SACG RETREAT MEETING

Mr. Ron Pouwels, Chairperson SACG, briefed the Board on the SACG Retreat Meeting that was undertaken on 27-28th March 2012. He said that the rationale / objective of the Retreat Meeting was to review and redirect the SACG's institutional functions in relation to SAIEVAC as it evolves so that the SACG and SAIEVAC can have a productive and meaningful partnership. He also said that the SACG is very keen to support SAIEVAC in its endeavor to operationalize its Five Year Work Plan and to chase the vision and objectives of ending violence against children in South Asia. He also stated that SACG and SAIEVAC needs to develop a clear Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to maximize the opportunities of this mutually reinforcing partnership. The Board expressed its appreciation to the SACG for its support and urged the SACG to continue to extend its invaluable support to SAIEVAC in taking forward our common agenda.

2. TOR OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

The Director General in continuation to what was reported under the Follow up Actions, submitted that the scenario from the 1st Governing Board to the current one has changed significantly and that there is a definite need to review the Terms of Reference of the Governing Board to make it more realistic, robust and meaningful. The Board after considering the submission directed the Secretariat to propose necessary amendments and circulate the draft to the Board Members so that it can be endorsed during the 4th Governing Board Meeting.

3. INSTITUTING AN AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Hon’ble Board Member from Pakistan proposed that SAIEVAC should institute an annual Award of Excellence to individuals for service to children particularly in ending violence against children. The Board after substantive deliberations on the proposal recommended that a proposal be prepared on this and the agenda item be re-tabled for consideration in the 4th Governing Board Meeting.

4. THEME FOR THE NEXT (4TH) TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON ’HARMFUL TRADITIONAL PRACTICES’; TIME AND VENUE

The Director General apprised the Board that the decision to this effect was taken during the 2nd Governing Board Meeting and in order to follow up on this, a breakout session on the theme was also undertaken during the Follow up Technical Consultation on 30th May. The Board further reinforced the decision to hold the next technical consultation on this theme. However, the Board recommended that the theme be reformulated as “Traditional Practices that are Harmful for Children”.

On the issue of date and venue for the consultation, the Board directed the Secretariat to consult the respective Member States and announce it by circulation.
5. DATE AND VENUE FOR THE 4TH GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

The Board discussed the need to consider the Board Meetings separate to the Technical Consultations given the experiences so far. The Board also felt that while holding Board Meetings separate to the Technical Consultations does have financial implications, the ability for the Secretariat to prepare for the Board Meeting and to hold effective Board Meetings will greatly be enhanced. The Board therefore, directed the Secretariat to explore such possibilities for the future Board Meetings. The Board also endorsed that the date and venue can also be announced after consulting the respective Member States who may come forward to host the meeting.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 3RD SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

The Third Governing Board meeting of SAIEVAC was held on 31st May, 2012 in Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The meeting was attended by all the Governing Board Members.

The meeting adopted the agenda tabled by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (hereafter referred to as the Secretariat) with the addition of two agenda items under Any Other Issues viz a) A Brief Report of the SACG Retreat Meeting; and b) ToR of the Governing Board.

The meeting after elaborate deliberations on the different agenda items recommended the following:

1. The meeting considering the report on the follow up actions of the 2nd Governing Board recommendations directed that;
   
   a. The duration of the Governing Board Meeting needs to be at least 2 days taking into consideration the large number of issues that the Board needs to consider and also to provide the Secretariat adequate time to prepare for the Meeting;

   b. The proposed draft annotated agenda be circulated along with the announcement of the meeting dates at least 6 weeks ahead. The Board also endorsed that the comments received on the agenda be re-circulated after incorporating the comments that may come from the Governing Board Members at least 2 weeks before the meeting with relevant background documents.

   c. The Board also endorsed that as proposed by the Secretariat, the regular functions of the Secretariat while being executed by the Director General based on the framework approved/endorsed by the Board, the Secretariat will keep the Board Members apprised regularly and seek necessary guidance and approval from the Chairperson where necessary. The Board also directed the Director General to take necessary steps to strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat in light of the increasing demands placed on it.

   d. The Board also deliberated on the Terms of References of the Governing Board and other mechanisms and recommended that the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat review and reformulate the TORs of the Governing Board, the CSO Participation, the Children’s Participation, the Regional Secretariat and the SAIEVAC National Mechanisms/Country Chapters and circulate for the consideration of the Board Members at an appropriate time but no later than two weeks before the next Governing Board meeting. The Board also recommended that the Terms of References be on the next agenda of the Governing Board for its consideration and adoption.

   e. The Board also recommended that the Secretariat complete the processes for selection of the CSO Board Members keeping in focus the recommendations of the 1st SAIEVAC Governing Board Meeting. In the event the process is further delayed,
the nominations may be proposed from the Member States where the NACGs are already formed. The Board however also stressed that the nominations are eligible only for CSOs with a national character and mandate.

f. The Board also took cognizance of the need for a dedicated Logo for SAIEVAC and directed the Secretariat to circulate a proposed logo among the Board Members which can then be formalized/endorsed through circulation and with approval of the Chairperson.

2. The Board considering the status report on the SAIEVAC-SDF project and the national operational plans submitted by the Director General expressed its appreciation to the SDF Board and the Secretariat for their invaluable support and consideration. The Board directed the Regional SAIEVAC Secretariat to accelerate the operationalization of the SDF Projects in the participating Member States and also endorsed the proposed SAIEVAC - SDF M&E Workshop to be held in Male towards the end of June 2012. Following this Workshop, the Secretariat will share the SAIEVAC-SDF project with the Board members.

3. The Board considering the agenda item on some of the newer initiatives proposed by the SAIEVAC Secretariat considered the following:

a. The Board after deliberating on the SAIEVAC-ILO MoU, endorsed that the Secretariat will prepare a comprehensive MoU taking into consideration the specific situation of Member States related to some of the ILO instruments and circulate for comments within a specified time frame among the Board members following which the Secretariat will seek clearance of the Chairperson to formalize the partnership;

b. The Secretariat will also formulate a comprehensive regional Child Labour Project and submit it to the Hon’ble Board Member from India to explore possible funding. The project will also be circulated to other Board Members for their possible contribution and participation.

c. On the proposed collaboration with the Parliamentarian’s Conference on Child Rights in Pakistan, the Board after substantive deliberations endorsed that the Regional Secretariat will coordinate with SAIEVAC Pakistan to coordinate the invitation and participation from the SAIEVAC national mechanisms in the Conference. The Board also directed the Secretariat to prepare a framework of collaboration with the parliamentarians on child rights and circulate to the Board Members for its consideration. The Board also expressed its appreciation to H.E. Ms. Rubina Saadat Qaimkhani, the Hon’ble Parliamentary Secretary on Human Rights from Pakistan for her keen interest to collaborate with SAIEVAC and work towards creating a better environment for Children of SAARC.

4. The Board also considered the following reports of the South Asia Follow Up Regional Consultation:

1. Regional Children’s Consultation
2. Follow Up Technical Consultation Outcome
   a. Recommendations of the Breakout Sessions
   b. South Asia Call for Action on VAC

The Board after considering the submission of the Secretariat, endorsed that the Secretariat will review the reports and structure the recommendations appropriately and
submit it to the Governing Board Members for its consideration and finalization through
circulation. The Board also endorsed the proposal of the Director General to constitute an
Experts’ Committee to finalize the Child Participation Principles and Standards, the draft
of which was supposed to be discussed in the Technical Consultation which could not be
done so due to constrain of time.

The Board also deliberated further on the paragraph pertaining to mandate of the SRSG
on Violence against Children, and approved the South Asia Call for Action as per the
decision of taken during the Technical Consultation.

5. On the proposal for instituting SAIEVAC Goodwill Advisors and the criteria, the Board endorsed
the criteria with necessary amendments and also endorsed the candidature of Ms. Jahanara
Wattoo, Ambassador for Orphan Children, Pakistan as the first SAIEVAC Goodwill Advisor.

6. On the proposed SAIEVAC Missing Child Alert (MCA) Project, the Board considering the
submission made by the Secretariat directed the Secretariat to proceed with the finalization of the
project and circulate to the Board Members for endorsement.

7. Under ‘any other issues’, the Board considered the following items:

a. Report on the Outcome of the SACG Retreat Meeting: The SACG Chairperson
provided a short brief on the SACG Retreat Meeting and among others reported on
the need to establish formal partnership between the SACG and the SAIEVAC to
ensure continued collaboration towards ending violence against children in South
Asia;

b. ToR of the Governing Board: The Board after considering the agenda item directed
the Secretariat to propose necessary amendments and circulate the draft to the
Board Members so that it can be endorsed during the 4th Governing Board Meeting.

c. Instituting an ‘Award of Excellence’:
On the agenda item proposed by the Hon'ble Board Member from Pakistan, the
Board after much deliberation recommended that a proposal be prepared on this and
the agenda item be re-tabled for consideration in the 4th Governing Board Meeting.

d. Theme for the next Technical Consultation on Harmful Traditional Practices – Date
and Venue:
On this agenda item, the Board recommended that the theme be reformulated
as “Traditional Practices that are Harmful for Children.” The Board also directed
the Secretariat to consult the Member States in terms of the time and venue and
announce by circulation.

e. Date and Venue for the 4th Governing Board Meeting
The Board after discussing various options recommended that the Secretariat after
consulting all the Member States finalize the date and venue for the Board Meeting
through circulation.
12. CLOSING CEREMONY

Director General, SAIEVAC expressed his appreciation to the Government of Sri Lanka for their unstinted support and help rendered in organizing all these meetings. He commended the Chairperson for the efficient manner in which he guided the deliberations of the Meeting to a successful conclusion. He also appreciated the valuable contributions of the Governing Board Members during the Meeting and their meaningful participation.

The Chairperson in his Closing Remarks extended his appreciation to all the Hon’ble Board Members for their very active participation in addressing the important issues concerning SAIEVAC and children. He also thanked all for extending their support to him and the Director General in conducting the Board Meeting. He also thanked the SACG for their support and the Government of Sri Lanka for hosting the SAIEVAC Follow Up Consultation very successfully. He hoped that SAIEVAC will be able to in the days to come fulfill our dream of making South Asia free from violence against children.

The Hon’ble Governing Board Member from India offered the Vote of Thanks.
ANNEX 1: TENTATIVE AGENDA 3RD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
3RD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

31 May 2012

TENTATIVE AGENDA

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<td>0930-0945</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>0945</td>
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<td>Welcome and Introduction – Director General</td>
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<td>Opening Remarks - Chairperson</td>
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<td>Review and adoption of the Agenda</td>
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<td>Report of the Follow Up Actions on the 2nd GB Recommendations</td>
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<td>1030 - 1100</td>
<td>Group Photograph</td>
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<td>Tea Break</td>
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<td>1030 – 1130</td>
<td>Discussions on the Follow Up Report</td>
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<td>1130 – 1200</td>
<td>Status Report on the SAIEVAC - SDF Project and the national operational plans</td>
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<td>1200 – 1300</td>
<td>a) Brief on the Proposed SAIEVAC - MCA Project</td>
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<td>b) Brief on the Proposed SAIEVAC – ILO MoU</td>
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|         | c) Proposed collaboration with Parliamentarians on setting up a ‘SAIEVAC (?)
|         | Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights’                                    |
| 1300 – 1400 | LUNCH BREAK                                                             |
| 1400-1530 | Outcome Report of the Follow Up Regional Consultation and Discussions |
|         | a) Regional Children’s Consultation                                      |
|         | b) Follow Up Technical Consultation Outcome:                             |
|         | c) Recommendations of the Break Out Sessions                             |
|         | d) South Asia Call for Action on VAC                                    |
|         | e) National Action Plans for Corporal Punishment Campaign/Initiatives    |
| 1530 – 1600 | TEA BREAK                                                              |
| 1600 – 1630 | Proposal for instituting SAIEVAC Goodwill Advisors and Criteria         |
|         | Discussion and Endorsement                                              |
| 1630 - 1700 | Any Other Issues                                                        |
|         | a) A brief report of the SACG Retreat Meeting;                          |
|         | b) TOR of the Governing Board.                                           |
|         | c) Instituting An Award Of Excellence                                    |
|         | d) Theme for the next (4th) Technical Workshop on ‘Harmful Traditional Practices’; time and venue |
|         | e) Date and Venue for the 4th Governing Board Meeting                    |
| 1700    | Closing Remarks                                                          |
ANNEX 2: FOLLOW UP REPORT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 2ND SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Follow Up Report On The Recommendations of the 2nd SAIEVAC Governing Board Meeting

Background

The 2nd SAIEVAC Governing Board Meeting was convened in Kathmandu from the 29-30 September 2011 following the 2 days Regional Children’s Consultation on 25-26 September 2011 and the 2nd SAIEVAC Technical Consultation on Care Standards and Child Friendly Services on 27-29 September 2011. The Board Meeting was attended by the Governing Board Members, which includes the Board Members of the 8 Member States, Child Board Members, one CSO provisional Board Member, the SACG Board Member and the 2 Child Observers. The Director General of SAIEVAC Secretariat as the Member Secretary of the Governing Board facilitated the proceedings of the meeting, supported by the Co-Chair of SACG as the co facilitator.

The 2nd Governing Board after considering the different agenda items provided decisions, directives and recommendations under 11 substantive areas. The follow Report presented here substantiates action taken to operational these decisions, directives and recommendations.

Considering the Follow Up Report of the Recommendations of the 1st GB Meeting, the Board members endorsed that:

All Board Members make efforts to institutionalize SAIEVAC activities within the national agenda and raise budgetary support. To this effect, the Board Directs the SAIEVAC Secretariat to initiate discussions with the respective Governing Board Members and Coordinators to identify the opportunity;

The institutionalization process of the SAIEVAC National Mechanisms being undertaken in all the MS. With the approval of the funding support from the SAARC Development Fund, the SAIEVAC process of setting up SAIEVAC Country Offices with dedicated funding for 3 years in close linkage with the SAIEVAC National Mechanisms is already initiated in all the participating countries. This was further reinforced during the SAIEVAC – SDF Strategic Planning Workshop in March in Paro, Bhutan. India is currently not a participating country under the SDF Project due to existing policy of India in relation to the SDF funding mechanism. However, the SAIEVAC Secretariat hopes to initiate discussions on this with the Hon’ble Governing Board Member in due course of time. Some Member States have also initiated national level resource mobilization activities in coordination with the national level collaborating partners.

The SAIEVAC Secretariat to find ways and means of enhancing the communication and linkages with the Governing Board Members and the Coordinators;

Since the 2nd SAIEVAC Governing Board Meeting, the SAIEVAC Secretariat has significantly enhanced linkages and communications with the Governing Board Members and the Coordinators. With the approval of SAIEVAC as a SAARC Apex Body during the 17 SAARC Summit in Maldives in November 2011 and the subsequent approval of SDF funding in December 2011, the Secretariat has also invested increasing efforts to institutionalize the SAIEVAC Regional and National level mechanisms resulting in closer contact with the GB Members and Coordinators.

The Governing Board Members to also ensure proper coordination and handing over of the SAIEVAC responsibilities as and when they relinquish the position.

From the 2nd Governing Board Meeting to the build up to the 3rd GB Meeting, there have been number of changes of the GB Members (Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal Pakistan) and the Coordinators ( Maldives, Nepal, Srilanka). However as endorsed in the 2nd GB Meeting, the Member States have been very prompt in communicating/instituting the new Members with very minimal lapse of time.

The Board considering the Report and the outcome of the 1st Technical Workshop on Legal Reform:

Adopted the report including the outcome after directing that appropriate amendment as per the text provided be made on page 6 under India section, last line;

The revision proposed pertains to Page 6, para 3 referring to India: “the last line relating to provisions on “assault” in the Penal Code may be deleted, because subsequently Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection
of Children Act 2000 has been enacted in December 2000 and amended in August 2006. The JJA clearly provides under section 23 punishment for cruelty to a juvenile or child.”

Directed the Secretariat to create an interactive portal for children on the SAIEVAC Website;

Advanced stage of completion. Please visit http://www.saievac.org

Directed the Secretariat to develop a guideline on e-networking for child representatives to educate other children on the benefits and the risks.

Work underway and will soon be uploaded on the SAIEVAC website

The Board considered the Recommendations of the 2nd Technical Workshop on Care Standards and Child Friendly Services and endorsed the recommendations in total. However, the Board raised the importance of working together with the media to promote effective interventions for ending violence against children through sensitive reporting and capacity development of the media.

To address this recommendation, the SAIEVAC Secretariat is currently in the process of creating a SAIEVAC Media Coalition at the National and Regional Levels. A start is being made by bringing Media Representatives from each MS to the Follow Up Regional Consultation with the aim of creating a better understanding of the initiatives in this direction. Media Representatives will also be provided briefings on sensitive and ethical reporting during the period of the Colombo Consultation.

Deliberating on the Organizational and Operational Issues for the SAIEVAC Secretariat:

The Board unanimously endorsed the extension of the duration of the Chairperson and the Auditing Committee to 2 years 1 and execute necessary amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Governing Board;

The tenures initially defined are part of the recommendations of the 1st Governing Board and based on the decisions as stated above, appropriate inclusions have been made in the respective ToRs.

ToR of the Governing Board with inclusion of the revised tenure is at Annex 8

ToR of the Auditing Committee with the revised tenure is at Annex 9

The Board also endorsed the participation of the Child Board Members and CSOs Members to one year as observer and one year as full-fledged members;

Appropriate amendments also made in the ToR of the Governing Board placed at Annex 8

The Board endorsed that for an initial period of two years it will convene Board Meetings twice a year subject to availability of resources.

In line with this directive, the Secretariat has scheduled the 3rd GB Meeting (first of the 2012) on the 31st of May 2012 and the 4th GB Meeting (2nd one for 2012) date will be proposed to the 3rd GB Meeting.

The Board after receiving the report on the parallel meeting of the NACG held on 29 September under the agenda item of SAIEVAC National Mechanisms and Coordination, expressed their appreciation to the positive effort in that direction and directed the Secretariat to report to the Board Members as soon as some tangible progress is received from the SACG/NACG.

The finalized report of the September meeting was circulated to the Governing Board Members,

The process of instituting the NACGs and the process of finalizing the CSO coalitions that would culminate in defining the process for the CSO GB Member selection is currently underway.

The Board considering the agenda item on Regional and National Level Advocacy for Apex Body Consideration and the SAIEVAC Charter: appraisal and approval In- Principle endorsed that:

The Board Members will support the application process by initiating advocacy on the SAIEVAC Apex Body Application with the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs;

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1 Tenure started on 10 November 2010 with the 1st Governing Board meeting.
Achieved with the application sponsored by the Government of Maldives and support from the other Member States

The Board also expressed appreciation to the Governing Board Member of Maldives on the interest of Maldives to host the Secretariat incase the Government of Nepal is not in a position to do so. However the Nepal Governing Board Member assured that within a period of one month the Government of Nepal will arrive at an appropriate decision;

SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat established in Kathmandu, Nepal

The Board approved in-principle the SAIEVAC Charter tabled by the Secretariat and directed that the Secretariat also circulate the Charter to the Board Members for their feedback. The secretariat will also prepare the final draft for the consideration of the next Board Meeting.

The SAIEVAC Charter was circulated further to all the GB Members. The Charter was also circulated to all the Governments by the SAARC Secretariat, through the External Affairs as part of the Apex Body Application. The 34th Session of the Council of Ministers during the 17th SAARC Summit approved SAIEVAC as a SAARC Apex Body.

The final copy of the Charter is enclosed for the consideration of the 3rd GB Meeting.

Considering the briefing on the Global Progress Survey on Violence Against Children, the Board directed the Secretariat to circulate the soft copy to the Board Members so that they can initiate work to complete the survey within the stipulated timeframe.

The SAIEVAC Secretariat took this up with different Member States on different occasions, encouraging each Government to accelerate the work on the GPS. However since the activity was initiated through a different process the SAIEVAC has no direct accountability for its ultimate completion and submission, the Hon’ble GB Members may have the latest status report to share.

Considering the agenda item on Follow Up Regional Consultation on Violence Against Children 2012, the Board endorsed that:

The Secretariat initiate formal communication with Colombo to finalize the hosting of the conference;

The tentative time frame for the consultation will be the 2nd week of May 2012 to be able to provide input into the global agenda;

The SAIEVAC Secretariat and the SACG will at the earliest circulate a detailed proposal on the consultation for the information and guidance of the Board Members;

The FURC completed successfully after almost 5 months of preparatory work. The preliminary reports being tabled to the 3rd GB Meeting for its consideration.

Possible linkages be explored of the consultation with other SAARC Children’s events to maximize the opportunity.

Number of consultations on this was held with the SAARC Secretariat as well as with the Government of Maldives as the current Chair of SAARC. However due to various reasons, this could not be realized.

Under the agenda - Special Proposed Activities for 2011 – 2012 to follow up on 1st and 2nd Technical Consultation, the Board:

Endorsed the Draft Progress Review on Corporal Punishment. The Board also directed the Secretariat to circulate the draft to the Member States with a deadline to revert back by end October 2011;

The report published and circulated with minimal feedback from the Member States

Sample of the report further tabled for the kind attention of the Board.

The Board also endorsed the concept note for the End Corporal Punishment Campaign 2012 -2013 and the proposal to explore it being launched in Maldives under the leadership of the Maldives GB Member;
The Concept Note finalized and Project operationalized;
The Plan to lunch the campaign in Maldives aborted due to various reasons;
The Campaign finally launched during the Inaugural Session of the FURC.
The Board also approved the brief concept note on Children of SAARC: How child-friendly are the South Asian Governments? An Assessment and directed the Secretariat to circulate a detailed proposal to the GB members as soon as it is ready to initiate the process.

A comprehensive proposal of the Children of SAARC project circulated to the Member States;
Resource mobilisation and finalisation of the project agreements being prepared.
A complete status report of the Project to be submitted to the 4th Governing Board Meeting

Under the Any Other Issues the following aspects were raised and considered:
That SAIEVAC come up with a logo if after November 2011 the Apex Body Application is further delayed;
Currently the adapted version of SAARC logo used as a standard practice of all SAARC recognized institutions;
However, a dedicated SAIEVAC logo is under development. A sample is presented for the appraisal of the Board with the submission to approve it through circulation at an optimal stage of finalization.
That the Children’s participation be further reinforced by strengthening the processes and linkages with the respective governments including the setting up of effective networking for children at the regional level;
The SAIEVAC GB and Coordinators have taken full responsibility to strengthen the processes for Children’s participation;
The SAIEVAC Child participation principles and Standards being applied uniformly and also presented during the FURC Technical Consultation;
These is further being reinforced through the NACG/CSO institutional processes being established and a more comprehensive report will be submitted to the 4th Board Meeting.
That the data and information pertaining to SAIEVAC thematic areas be strengthened through a dedicated follow up with Member States and that the SAIEVAC Website provide a portal for housing such data;
The SAIEVAC Website has been revamped to be able to house more data and information pertaining to the different thematic areas.
With dedicated projects being activated, the SAIEVAC Secretariat will find increased opportunities to support the Member States to enhance generation of increased data and information on the different thematic areas in the near future.
That the Secretariat also follow up with the SAIEVAC National mechanisms to initiate the generation of a baseline for the SAIEVAC 5 year workplan, including the thematic areas;
Ref section C above.
That the Secretariat communicate with the respective Board Members to initiate Registration of SAIEVAC National Chapters;
SAIEVAC Secretariat continuously following up with different MS. The original registration document in Maldives circulated to all. In some countries (Afghanistan, Bhutan, Pakistan), Cabinet approvals to establish the SAIEVAC Mechanism already obtained.
SAIEVAC National Offices readied to be launched in all MS except in India in the next few weeks
That the future technical consultation be convened on harmful traditional practices.
The FURC Technical Consultation undertook one Break Out Session on 'Harmful Traditional Practices' to reinforce the decision of the Board.

Seek further directives to the Secretariat to undertake resource mobilization and preparatory work to hold the consultation;

Under the agenda item Dates for the 3rd Governing Board Meeting, the meeting endorsed that it will be held during the Follow Up Regional Consultation tentatively scheduled in the 2nd Week of May 2012 in Colombo

As directed being held on the 31st May 2012
ANNEX 3: PROPOSED SAIEVAC – ILO COLLABORATION
PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of establishing a collaboration/ Memorandum of Understanding will be to enhance institutional cooperation with a view to promoting child rights and child protection as articulated in the SAARC Conventions and 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.

It is further expected to promote and support other regional Commitments on Children made by the SAARC Member States as they relate to rights of the child, key among these Commitments being the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (2002), 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);

This will also 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.

ELEMENTS OF COOPERATION

a) 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.

b) 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.

c) 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.

d) 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.

e) 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.

f) 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.
ANNEX 4: DRAFT PROJECT PROPOSAL - LEGAL REFORMS AND REGIONAL ACTIONS FOR PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF MISSING CHILDREN (PRMC) TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN SOUTH ASIA
DRAFT PROJECT PROPOSAL:

LEGAL REFORMS AND REGIONAL ACTIONS FOR PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF MISSING CHILDREN (PRMC) TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN SOUTH ASIA

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 Women and 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.

The overall aim of SAIEVAC’s program interventions and responses will be to reduce the incidence of child trafficking and all forms of abuse and exploitation arising from it including forced/bonded labour-through legal reforms and advocacy for implementation, strengthened protection mechanisms and increased capacity of stakeholders, girl and boy children and their immediate duty bearers to participate in identifying and sustaining solutions.

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.

SAIEVAC’s Child-focused protection strategies will aim facilitate regional mechanisms that address the direct protection needs of trafficked children through legal, policy, or program responses. Activities may include: programs to facilitate the identification and “recovery” of victims; facilitating services that meet the children’s immediate needs for security, accompaniment, food, accommodation, health care, counseling, and legal support after their initial identification/recovery, during the initial reflection period and during and after their return to their home country; facilitating the strengthening and/or creating of operational referral mechanisms once trafficked children are identified; and, strengthening legal frameworks to protect them in countries of transit and destination and upon their return to their home country.

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.

Program objectives and expected outcomes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1: To strengthen the institutional capacity of the SAIEVAC Secretariat to achieve its mission and goals through the implementation of its workplan</td>
<td>Result 1 : A Child Protection Specialist to support the SAIEVAC Secretariat in the programme implementation;</td>
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<td>Result 2 : Advocacy and documentation capacity strengthened by strengthening research, data and information and IT services in the secretariat;</td>
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<td>Objective 2: To create institutional linkages between SAIEVAC and the SAARCLAW to promote legal reform to end violence against children</td>
<td>Result 3: Pre-process Consultative Meeting with the President of SAARC Law Form that defines the way forward for the SAIEVAC-SAARCLAW Collaboration</td>
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<td>Result 4: Draft, negotiate and sign a Memorandum of Understanding between SAIEVAC and the SAARCLAW to collaborate in launching the legal reform for ending violence against children</td>
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<td>Objective 3: To review, define and endorse a Regional strategic Plan for undertaking legal reform to end violence against children in South Asia</td>
<td>Result 5: National SAIEVAC chapters and SAARCLAW undertake a mapping exercise on existing legal provisions and identify gaps or areas for amendments</td>
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<td>Result 6: Regional Conference formalises SAIEVAC and SAARCLAW institutional linkages to collaborate to end violence against children</td>
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<td>Result 7: Endorsed Plan of Collaboration with clearly defined scope of activities and time frame to implement legal reform to end violence against children in South Asia</td>
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<td>Result 8: Review and endorsement of the Plan of Collaboration by the Governing Board Meeting. Integrating activities into the SAIEVAC and SAARCLAW Workplan</td>
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<td>Result 9: Proposals for National laws to be fully harmonised with the CRC</td>
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<td>Objective 4: To Review and propose reforms to existing legislations on Trafficking, Child Labour and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)</td>
<td>Result 10: Technical consultations on Trafficking, Child Labour and CSEC held and recommendations drafted and submitted to relevant authorities</td>
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<td>Objective 4: To Institutionalise Child Participation (CP) into the SAIEVAC mechanisms</td>
<td>Result 11: CP Forum fully mainstreamed into SAIEVAC</td>
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<td>Result 12: SAIEVAC institutionalises CP related documents and protection guidelines</td>
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<td>Objective 5: To strengthen SAIEVAC’s research capacity and knowledge base</td>
<td>Result 13: At least two evidence based research carried out per year</td>
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<td>Result 14: SAIEVAC has a roster of experienced researchers from South Asia, including children and young people</td>
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<td>Result 15: At least two multi stakeholder roundtable learning meetings and discussions carried out per year</td>
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<td>Result 16: Documentation strengthened</td>
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<td>Objective 6: To conduct Child Rights Education Training Programmes</td>
<td>Result 17: SAIEVAC acquires affiliations with recognised Child Rights Education Training Institutions in Asia and abroad</td>
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<td>Result 18: At least 20 persons per year from member states trained in Child Rights</td>
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</table>
Objective 7: To work aggressively with the mainstream, vernacular and popular media for:

a. Generating mass awareness
b. Developing media capacity on child rights and sensitive reportage

Result 18: Furthering positive media campaigns and networks in the region against Violence against Children
Result 19: Developing Media capacity on Child Rights and sensitive reportage
Result 20: Building positive partnerships with the media to further SAIEVAC mandates

MAIN PARTNERS
The Principal Partner Organisations to implement the project are:

1. SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat;
2. SAARCLAW; and
3. MCA Regional Project Unit

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

a) SAIEVAC:
- SAIEVAC 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
ANNEX 5: BREAK OUT SESSIONS
BREAK OUT SESSIONS

WORKING GROUP ON ADDRESSING CHILD LABOUR AT THE SAARC REGIONAL LEVEL

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. SAIEVAC to support and promote coordination and cooperation with and amongst concerned agencies – horizontally and vertically. Workable interfaces for smooth operations and exchange of information.

2. SAIEVAC to encourage governments to generate routine, updated and credible data and information on child labour that is consistent across the South Asian countries.

3. SAIEVAC to mainstream child labour issues in all aspects of its strategies and planning processes (as per workplan) as relevant.

4. SAIEVAC to encourage mainstreaming child labour in related national and regional policies and budgets.

5. SAIEVAC to facilitate multi-lateral and bi-lateral agreements on trafficking and migration (including for labour) of children below 18 years in South Asian countries.

6. Utilize SAARC/other agency training facilities for capacity building

7. SAIEVAC to promote and facilitate funding from governments’ development budget for child labour, capacity devpt and other child protection issues.

8. SAIEVAC to promote child participation through national level child-lead and participatory research process on child labour and other issues.

9. To establish and maintain a SAIEVAC working group on child labour.

10. SAIEVAC to encourage and support sharing of experiences of good practices and experiences on child labour among South Asian countries

11. SAIEVAC to promote the inclusion of specific relevant components (good practices) in national strategies, such as school-dropouts, vocational training, conditional cash transfers and other incentives.

12. SAIEVAC country presentations to reflect efforts and progress at the regional level.

13. SAIEVAC to organize a South Asia regional consultation on child labour to bring the South Asian perspective to the Global Child Labour Conference (Brazil, 2013).

WORKING GROUP ON ADDRESSING CROSS BORDER ISSUES AT THE SAARC REGIONAL LEVEL

OBSERVATION

South Asia shares commonalities in terms of causes and factors leading to violence against children. SAIEVAC, as an apex body of SAARC, allows for sharing of learning and good practices. It also provides for a space for multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral cooperation, advocacy, and harmonization of mechanisms and procedures across the region. Violence encompasses different forms which all need to be addressed, as per the SAIEVAC 5-year work plan. However, the group felt that the issue of trafficking and children on the move should be a priority area of intervention.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. SAIEVAC should continue working towards strengthening its role as a clearing house for coordination, communication and collation of data and good practices with regard to all forms of violence against children in the region.
2. All throughout, strengthening of platforms for children's participation should be an overarching principle and strategy.

3. Yet, with regard to cross-border issues, the group recommends that SAIEVAC prioritizes on trafficking of children and children on the move.

4. SAIEVAC should dedicate its next yearly meeting to trafficking/children on the move – during the meeting it should advocate for an agreement on the issue among the countries.

5. The agreement should involve all countries and should focus on rescue and repatriation of children. The following key steps/issues should be considered:
   - Development of a standard operating procedure across the region learning from existing good practices/initiatives
   - Advocating for speedy approval of pending bilateral agreements
   - Replicating the experience of bilateral agreements among other countries within the region
   - Include a discussion on the repatriation based on best interests of the child
   - Consider specific processes for victims of trafficking and for children on the move

6. Legislation
   - Analysis promoted by SAIEVAC of the existing gaps in the national legislations and proposal of elements of harmonization of laws across all countries (including the SAARC Convention framework)

7. Development and roll-out of a specific regional SAIEVAC initiative on trafficking/children on the move with regional financial resources (supplemented by countries and other donors) and a coordinator at the SAIEVAC level. Some of the key components would include:
   - Regional fund for rescue and repatriation of children (supplemented by countries)
   - Creation of a regional database building on existing initiatives to create robust MIS systems at the national level and tapping on current pilots at the regional level
   - Strengthening of national child helplines and harmonization of existing ones across the region (there is already existing project)
   - Promotion of technical consultations and spaces for dialogue across the region

**WORKING GROUP ON DEVELOPING MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS WITHIN SAIEVAC

RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Clear structure and frame work for civil society participation in SAIEVAC
2. At national level, NACGs or other representatives from civil society to select chair, co chair
3. Inclusiveness at national level, and wider coverage at sub national level
4. Meeting regularly, follow up of SAIEVAC work plan and preparation for the technical sessions
5. Fair representation by civil society members on decision making at national level
6. Government involvement, develop active partnerships with government bodies and in particular with SAIEVAC coordinator
7. Development partners to be invited and involved in to the process
8. New structure suggested for requesting and sharing of information, knowledge, for exchange of ideas, sharing of good practices, announcement of relevant events through SAIEVAC online platform
9. Adoption of standard procedures

10. Selection to SAIEVAC governing board – by using alphabetical order (two regulars and two observers)

WORKING GROUP ON ADDRESSING HARMFUL PRACTICES, WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON CHILD MARRIAGE

GENERAL RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that gender inequality and social inclusion is addressed as a core focus in all recommended actions by SAIEVAC. Partnering with children, men and boys, as well as religious groups, is recommended as a priority focus in addressing harmful practices and child marriage.

Specific recommendations

1. Provide technical assistance and support to national strategies for improved policy reform and services investing in girls education.
   - Providing incentives for girls’ education for delaying marriage

2. Support interventions at national level for economic empowerment of girls and women specifically in locations of high prevalence of child marriage in marginalized communities.

3. Undertake advocacy and awareness raising at community level with key stakeholders on the negative impact of early marriage focusing on health, education, domestic violence, respecting socio cultural diversity within a gender and rights based framework.

4. Support governments to collect qualitative and quantitative data and strengthening data collection and management systems and improving birth and marriage registration systems, taking into account lessons learnt.

5. SAIEVAC carry a mapping of existing good practices within the region at different levels on addressing child marriage practices.

6. Provide technical assistance to support governments to develop an integrated approach to address health, education and protection dimensions in programmes for prevention and response to child marriage.

7. Guide national governments to develop harmonization of national legislation and customary laws for an improved legal framework in line with international instruments.

8. SAIEVAC support national mechanisms to implement the agreed regional workplan and monitor as per agreed indicators.

9. Support special interventions in post-conflict and post-emergency situations to reduce the increased risk of violence and early marriage.

10. Support monitoring and assessment of other harmful practices closely associated with early marriage including new and emerging forms.

11. Support a technical consultation on harmful practices, addressing in particular child marriage to define regional interventions.
ANNEX 6: SOUTH ASIA CALL FOR ACTION ON ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST
We, the participants at the South Asia Follow Up Regional Consultation on the UN Study on Violence against Children, representatives from governments, non-governmental and other civil society organizations, regional and international organizations, and children, have gathered in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 28 to 30 May 2012, to take stock of progress made since the Regional Consultation on Violence Against Children in South Asia, Islamabad, Pakistan, 19-21 May 2005 and the endorsement of the UN Study on Violence against Children by the General Assembly in 2006, in order to strengthen measures and processes aimed at ending violence against all children in all settings.

Acknowledging SAIEVAC as an apex body of SAARC;

Reaffirming overall efforts by all stakeholders to end all forms of violence against children in all settings, and more specifically commitments by Governments to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the SAARC Social Charter, the SAARC Convention on Regional Arrangements for the Promotion of Child Welfare, the SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, the SAARC Framework for the Protection, Care and Support of Children Affected by HIV/AIDS, the SAARC Development Goals (SDGs) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

Renewing the commitment made by our Ministers in the Rawalpindi Resolution on Children of South Asia (1996) and the Colombo Statement on Children of South Asia (2009), and the Recommendations endorsed at the Ministerial Meeting of SAIEVAC in June 2010 in Kathmandu;

Recalling the Recommendations from the Regional Consultation on Violence Against Children in South Asia (2005) and the subsequent Recommendations from the UN Study on Violence against Children; the South Asia Forum (SAF) Regional Preparatory Consultation for the World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents (2008), the Kathmandu Commitment to Action for Ending Violence against Children (2010); the Technical Consultations on Legal Reform and Corporal Punishment (2010) and Child-friendly Services and Care Standards (2011) including those made by children; the Beijing Declaration on South-South Cooperation for Child Rights in the Asia Pacific Region (2010) and the Assessment of Progress in the SAARC Decade of the Rights of the Child (2001-2010) presented at the 17th SAARC Summit in Addu City (2011);

Renewing our determination as key stakeholders to consistently promote and practice a rights-based approach and collaboration to prevent, mitigate and respond to violence against children;

Noting with appreciation the collaboration with the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children for the Follow Up Regional Consultation on Violence against Children and supporting the mandate of the office of the SRSG,

Recognizing that, despite the progress made across South Asia to address violence against children, children continue to experience serious forms of violence and child protection challenges, including child labour, corporal punishment, sexual abuse and exploitation, child trafficking, migration and displacement, imprisonment, discrimination related to HIV/AIDS, disability, minorities, orphans, street children and children in need of care and protection, as well as various forms of harmful practices such as child marriage,

Acknowledging the detrimental and often long term impact of child abuse and violence, not just at an individual level but also on the socio-economic development of countries and that violence against children is not a private/family matter but a public issue concerning society at large,

Also acknowledging the launch of campaign by SAIEVAC against corporal punishment of children in all settings and noting that no violence against children is justifiable and that all violence against children is preventable,

To achieve our joint goals and shared vision that children throughout South Asia enjoy their right to be protected from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect and discrimination, we collectively call for the following urgent actions to realize the rights of all children:

1. Develop and strengthen equitable national and local child protection systems including laws, policies and standards; that prevent, mitigate and respond timely and appropriately to all forms of violence and to ensure that mechanisms and services are accessible to all children.
2. Develop and implement laws and policies that focus on safeguarding children from potential harm and that ban all forms of violence against children in all settings, including home and family, schools and educational settings, care and justice systems, work settings and the community;

3. Address social norms and practices that are harmful to children by promoting social change to end violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect of children;

4. Consolidate and validate a national system for disaggregated data collection, analysis, dissemination, and a systematic research agenda to inform policy development and resource mobilization to protect children from violence;

5. Review/adopt and implement a national plan of action to integrate the recommendations of the UN Study on Violence against Children and SAIEVAC work plan and develop a baseline to be able to measure progress;

6. Invest in and evolve policies and processes to strengthen the participation of children in decisions, through supporting and strengthening child-led organizations/forums;

7. Cooperate through structure, processes and resources in the best interest of children to address cross-border issues, such as trafficking, missing children, HIV and AIDS and drug abuse and repatriation;

8. Develop mechanisms to address the safety of children with reference to the use and engagement with digital technologies;

9. Share lessons and good practices and explore new opportunities for Cooperation to advance the protection of children through establishing a SAIEVAC centre of excellence on violence against children;

10. Strengthen regional and country-level cooperation and coordination between governments, NGOs, CSOs, children and young people, academia, independent human/child rights institutions, Parliamentarians, religious leaders, media, private sector as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies including UN agencies/INGOs;

11. Expedite the establishment of National SAIEVAC Chapters to accelerate existing efforts to end violence against children;

12. Contribute to the establishment and implementation of an operational framework/mechanism for monitoring and accountability at all levels to stimulate and accelerate effective realization of the actions mentioned above.

We unanimously adopt this, South Asia Call for Action on Ending Violence against Children. We thank the Government of Sri Lanka for their hospitality as hosts of the meeting, SAIEVAC for organizing it, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children for her collaboration and the SACG for its support to the meeting.

Colombo, date: 30 May 2012
ANNEX 7: CRITERIA FOR INSTITUTING THE MECHANISM FOR SAIEVAC GOODWILL ADVISORS (SGA)
CRITERIA FOR INSTITUTING THE MECHANISM FOR SAIEVAC GOODWILL ADVISORS (SGA)

RATIONALE

SAIEVAC is still in the process of consolidating its institutional framework both at the Regional and National levels. However as these efforts to enhance the capacity at the Regional and National levels are accelerated, there is also simultaneous efforts to create networking and linkages within and outside South Asia to further expand the mandate and functions of SAIEVAC to be better placed to address Violence against Children. It is envisaged that the SAIEVAC regional and National mechanisms will in the coming days require increased support to maintain an optimal capacity to meet different challenges in ensuring SAIEVAC’s presence and interests.

To realize this the proposal to institute SAIEVAC Goodwill Advisors was considered as a strategic approach and it is hoped that the following draft criteria can be further expanded and endorsed to achieve this.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

♦ Must be in a professional responsibility associated with demonstrated contribution to promoting rights of children in general and addressing VAC in particular;
♦ Must have institutional and personal standing, credibility within the Member State both with the government as well as other stakeholders to be eligible for the position;
♦ Must be in a position to provide/generate larger social and political support to the SAIEVAC Regional and National mechanisms to further the SAIEVAC agenda;
♦ Process for nomination/appointment:
   ♦ The candidature must be apolitical and processed though the respective SAIEVAC National Mechanisms,
   ♦ The nomination will than be transmitted to the Regional Secretariat, which will in guidance of the Chairperson, submit to the Governing Board with appropriate justifications for approval/endorsement either through circulation or by tabling to the next session of the Governing Board.

REPRESENTATION CRITERIA

♦ Each SAIEVAC Member State based on the eligibility criteria may propose one such candidate for the consideration of the GB.

TENURE

♦ The initial phase of the service may be considered for 2 years from the time of appointment in line with the duration of other responsibilities in the SAIEVAC mechanism;
♦ The Governing Board on the recommendation of the Member State could extend the tenure for another term.

REMUNERATION

♦ The Goodwill Advisors position is purely honorary as is the position of the SAIEVAC Board Members and Coordinators;
◆ Rights and responsibilities:

◆ The SGAs will have the right to participate in all SAIEVAC Regional and national level activities for which appropriate support for participation will be provided;

◆ The SGAs can also make appropriate representations to the Regional Secretariat and to the Governing Board to further reinforce the SAIEVAC mandate and functions with suitable justifications and recommended solutions;

◆ The SGAs will however ensure that they keep in close contact with the SAIEVAC national mechanism of their home country and with the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat in terms of their work related to SAIEVAC;

◆ The SGAs will also ensure that their work for SAIEVAC is at no time associated with any political activities or any activity that compromises SAIEVACs institutional standing as a SAARC Apex Body.
ANNEX 8: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SAIEVAC GOVERNING BOARD
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
   - To supervise and oversee the functions of the SAIEVAC Secretariat

3. **Roles and Responsibilities:**
   - To ensure SAIEVAC meets its goals and objectives
   - Commission or Initiate the review of policies, legislative frameworks and programme interventions in line with SAARC and international instruments
   - To approve SAIEVAC’s workplans and budget
   - To Review and approve SAIEVAC Country Coordinators Reports (biannual reports to be submitted by the SAIEVAC Coordinators)
   - To ensure SAIEVAC’s principles/work complements SAARC’s existing initiatives and avoid duplication
   - To facilitate and monitor the implementation of the SAIEVAC strategic framework and its impact through the establishment of “bench marks”
   - To support resource mobilization
   - To ensure the development of advocacy and communication strategies for SAIEVAC
   - To guarantee and maintain regular communication and coordination with the SAIEVAC Secretariat, SAARC Secretariat and the SACG Chair and distribute key documents in a timely manner
   - To provide reports, presentations and other inputs to the SAARC Technical Committee on Women, Youth and Children

4. **Frequency of the Board Meetings and attendance required**
   The Board should meet once a year, but it may have special sessions as and when required. The Board can only meet if 5 Member States are present to fulfill the quorum.

5. **Composition of the Board:**
   - Appointed Government Representative from each SAIEVAC member country – 8
   - SACG Chair – 1
   - 2 Child Representatives - On a rotational basis (2 full fledged and 2 observers who will take over after one year)
   - 2 Civil Society Representatives - On a rotational basis (2 full fledged and 2 observers who will take over after one year)
ANNEX 9 : TERMS OF REFERENCE OF INTERNAL AUDITING COMMITTEE
SAIEVAC has policies in place to prevent corruption and fraud and to ensure a safe and child-friendly environment for children involved in SAIEVAC activities. These policies are intended for staff in the SAIEVAC secretariat as well as for volunteers, SAIEVAC coordinators, SAIEVAC Governing Board members and others working directly and indirectly, or relating to SAIEVAC at a professional level such as partners working to fulfill SAIEVAC’s agenda.

SAIEVAC operates within an area that is defined by the level of confidence it enjoys and the maintenance of this level of public confidence must be reflected in all its activities. Any suspicion of irregularities, irrespectively of how serious they may be, may undermine the high level of confidence enjoyed by the organization. Consequently, the establishment of clearly-defined systems and guidelines aimed at preventing and counteracting all forms of irregularities is a strategically important issue for the entire organization.

THE SAIEVAC INTERNAL AUDITING COMMITTEE

Two persons from the SAIEVAC Governing Board are to be selected to constitute the SAIEVAC Internal Auditing Committee for the duration of one year. The Director General is to send the budgets and audited accounts as well as an annual report regarding the child safeguarding ethical standards to the Internal Auditing Committee. In these reports the Director General will inform about the process to keep a high ethical standard within the work of SAIEVAC and any anomalies in the process and action taken.

The Internal Auditing Committee must also receive complaints about irregularities as soon as they come to the attention of the organization. Any person working within the framework of SAIEVAC can submit the complaint directly to the Committee members. The Director General or a person nominated by the Auditing Committee is to investigate or suggest how to follow up the claim of irregularities.

TASKS OF THE SAIEVAC INTERNAL AUDITING COMMITTEE

1. Study the annual audit of SAIEVAC’s budgets and accounts
2. Study the annual reports from the Director General describing the progress to have high standards in preventing corruption/fraud and in safeguarding children involved in SAIEVAC’s work. The Director General is to suggest actions to further strengthen the ethical standards and the internal auditing system
3. Look into complaints and action taken
4. Ask for updates from the Director General when they feel it necessary
5. Involve the rest of the SAIEVAC Governing Board in case of serious allegations
6. Ensure that the police or other governmental bodies are involved to investigate and follow up cases as recommended by the Internal Auditing Committee
7. The Internal Committee members are to present the internal auditing report to the Governing Board members at the annual meeting

TENURE OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

♦ The two GB Members serving on the Committee will serve for a period of two calendar years
~ end ~