



The 7th National Children's Conference

The 20th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

19-21.11.2009

Life - Freedom - Dignity for Children of Palestine



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In its quest to protect Palestinian children's rights and to promote the principle of child participation enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Defence for Children International/Palestine Section (DCI/PS) will hold the **7th National Conference for the Children of Palestine**, an initiative organized by children.

This year we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the CRC and the 30th anniversary of Defence for Children International. The Conference will commemorate these events and will confirm DCI/PS' commitment to the protection and advocacy for the rights of Palestinian children.


In August 2004, Palestinian children held their first conference in Ramallah, under DCI/PS' sponsorship and coordination. In January 2005, profiting from the experience gained during the first conference, the children held their second conference in Hebron under the motto **'The Rights of the Palestinian Girl Child.'** The third child conference was held in July 2005 in Bethlehem, under the title **'Children Behind Bars from the Perspective of Child Rights.'**

In August 2006, DCI/PS organized a fourth national conference for children in Bethlehem, entitled **'Protection from Neglect, Exploitation and Violence'**. The fifth conference took place in August 2007 in Bethlehem, and dealt with **'Media and Palestinian Child Rights'** under the slogan **'Towards a Media Policy that Respects Child Rights.'** Finally, in November 2008, children held their sixth conference in Ramallah with the theme **'Children's Initiatives ... Community Initiatives.'**

This year, the seventh conference will focus on the presentation of DCI/PS' significant outcomes and achievements and the real status of children's rights, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the CRC and 30th anniversary of DCI.

During the conference, children will present human rights initiatives and projects on which they have been working since the beginning of the year. Children are real partners, not only in the implementation of activities, but also in planning, decision-making and implementation.

DCI/PS Advocacy Unit will explain the international mechanisms to protect and advocate for children's rights, and the Accountability Programme will address the most highlighted violations against Palestinian children.



The Child-led Media Group will present a report on the violations of children's rights committed by the Palestinian media. Then, a group of children from Bethlehem will discuss the initiative for amendments to the Palestinian Child Law, and a group of children from Nablus will present an initiative on the right to identity and belonging.

Children from the village of Nu'man will expound an initiative on the right to life, and a group of children from Hebron will do a presentation on the rights of child refugees. Another group of children from Dura will present an initiative on the rights of children and media.

The 7th Conference will also include a presentation on the results of a child rights status survey carried out in Nablus, an account of a study on settler violence against children by DCI/PS' Advocacy Unit, and a presentation of DCI/PS Legal Assistance unit on the status of child detainees.

In addition, the conference will include a presentation on the results of a study on violence in schools carried out by Dr. Mohammad Haj Yahia, the role of child protection networks, as well as the role of municipalities in promoting and respecting the rights of children through the experience of the Children's Parliament.

Objectives of the conference:

Overall objective:

Highlight the 20th anniversary of the CRC and the 30th anniversary of DCI, and their role in advocating and promoting respect for the rights of Palestinian children.

Specific objectives:

1. Enhance the awareness of participants on advocacy and defence mechanisms of the rights of Palestinian children through relevant international institutions and bodies.
2. Highlight significant violations committed by the occupation forces against Palestinian children during the last 20 years
3. Provide an opportunity for children to participate and interact with each other, exchange experiences in issues related to their rights, and provide them with a free platform to discuss human rights initiatives.
4. Introduce participants to prominent reports, researches and studies relevant to the status of children's rights.
5. Working towards new laws, policies and practices in accordance with international standards of children's rights.
6. Understand children's opinions on the Palestinian Child Law amendments.

Conference Programme



Day 1: Thursday, 19 November 2009

Time	Activity
9:00 – 10:00	Registration of participants
10:00 – 10:45	Opening Ceremony Speeches: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Children- Minister of Social Affairs- Save the Children- UCODEP- DCI/IS- DCI/PS
10:45 – 11:00	Art Show
11:00 – 12:00	Reception & Opening of the Literature Exhibition
12:00 – 14:00	Session 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation: Outcome of Palestinian Child Law Initiative- Formal session with members from PLC to discuss amendments
14:00 – 15:00	Lunch
15:00 – 15:30	Session 2: DCI 30 th anniversary & CRC 20 th anniversary Presentation: DCI outcomes, achievements, and child status after 20 years since signing CRC
15:30 – 16:15	Session 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- International mechanisms to protect and advocate child rights- Work strategy and tools
16:15 – 16:30	Coffee break
16:30 – 17:15	Session 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Media and child rights- Report: Palestinian media violations of child rights by DCI/PS media-child focus group



Day 2: Friday, 20 November 2009

Time	Activity
9:00 – 9:30	major violations against children in Palestine
9:30 – 10:15	Presentation: Initiative of Right to Identity and Belonging
10:15 – 11:00	Presentation: Initiative of Nu'man village children on Right to Life under occupation
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:00	Presentation: Rights of child refugees initiative
12:00 – 12:45	Presentation: initiative of child rights and media
12:45 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 16:00	Presentation: outcomes of child rights status survey in Nablus + discussion

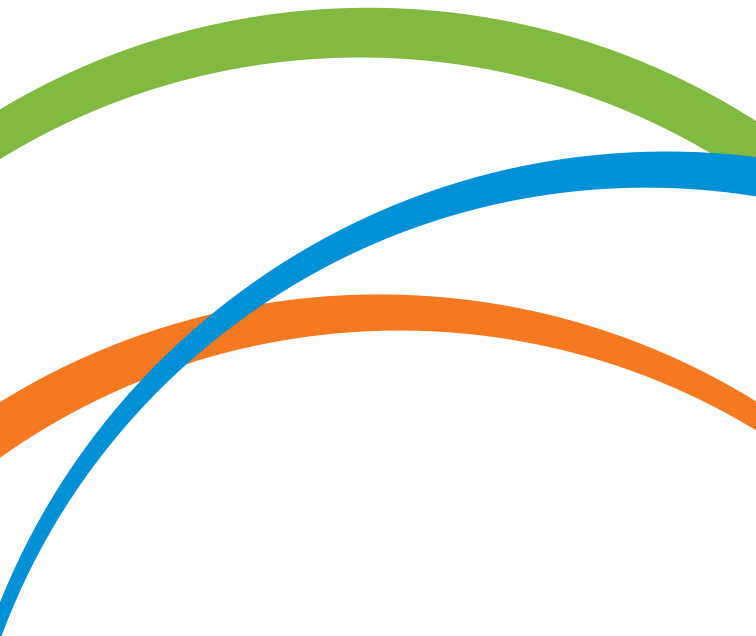
Day 3: Saturday, 21 November 2009

Time	Activity
9:00 – 9:30	Presentation: Survey on settler violence against children
9:30 – 10:15	Presentation: Report on child detainees status
10:15 – 11:00	Presentation: Report on child abuse in schools
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Child protection teams- Child Protection Network (CPN)- Palestinian Network for Children Rights (PNCR)
11:15 – 12:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Role of civil society in promoting and respecting child rights- Child Parliaments in those municipalities
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch and departure

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المؤتمر الوطني السابع لأطفال فلسطين



مع الأطفال نبني ونغير

