

ChildFund Alliance Advocacy Task Force

Notes from Call #10

December 6, 2017

6:00am-7:30am EST

Participants:

Name	Title	Organization
Martina Hibell	Program Director	Barnfonden
Catherine Lalonde	Director, EU Office	Secretariat
Sungho Lee	Manager, Global Affairs & Relations	ChildFund Korea
Jorge Mendez	Country Director	CCFC Paraguay
Philippa Nicholson	Program Support Manager	ChildFund Australia
Stephanie Perlson	Program Coordinator	ChildFund International
Katherine Ronberg	Advocacy and Policy Advisor	Secretariat
Sarah Stevenson	Representative to the United Nations	Secretariat
Larissa Tuohy	Communications Manager	ChildFund Australia

Action items:

- **All Task Force members** to fill out this [short survey](#) regarding meeting preferences for 2018.
- **Task Force members** to send Solutions Summit CSO participation letter to offices in El Salvador, Mexico, Sri Lanka, Brazil, Cambodia and Vietnam.
- **Katherine** to develop and share a 1-page document describing the work of the working group on child-friendly accountability and advocacy.
- **Sarah** to send letter to ATF members regarding CSO participation in the Solutions Summit.
- **Katherine** to schedule a call for interested ATF members to speak with Nick Alipui about using results from child-friendly accountability for advocacy.
- **Katherine** to share more information on the regional commissions for sustainable development.
- **Katherine** to set up calls about the VNRs with Latin America (Paraguay, Mexico, Ecuador) and member headquarter countries (Australia, Canada, Ireland, Spain).
- **Katherine** to send polls to members to schedule meetings of the working groups on communications and strategy for early in 2018.

Update on November CEO Forum and Board Meeting in El Salvador

Katherine gave an update on the main outcomes of the November CEO Forum and Board meetings that have implications for the work of the Advocacy Task Force.

Feedback on the Advocacy Strategy

There were two recommendations on the advocacy strategy:

- Refine the budget objective to make it more responsive to country contexts while remaining relevant at Global level for EU and UN advocacy.
- Need to work with Members to build out how the strategy could look at the national level.

Revisions to Advocacy Objective 4 of the Strategic Plan

- Objective 4 was revised to focus on larger work in 2019- to coincide with 30th anniversary of the CRC and embrace the work being done with child-focused agencies on the Child Rights Now initiative.

Recommendations on Child-friendly Accountability and Advocacy

- There was recognition of the need for a stronger, clearer link between the child-friendly accountability initiative and our advocacy work.
 - The group agreed to establish smaller group (ATF/CF Acct) to do some work on this
Members: CCFC, ChildFund International, ChildFund Australia
 - 2) The Secretariat will arrange a call in January to speak about this with Nick Alipui, our consultant for child-friendly accountability.

Possibility to meet in person during the APC and CMC meetings in Vietnam week of April 8th

- There was a suggestion made during the CEO Forum that the Advocacy Task Force meet also during the APC and CMC meetings in Vietnam. No clear decision was made on this so Meg will follow up with the CEOs. She is mindful of the need to do this economically as this could mean additional travel for organizations with separate representatives for ATF and APC.

Regional opportunities

Subregional activities:

ChildFund Korea: Sungho reported on efforts to organize a subregional platform for EVAC in Northeast Asia. The need for such a platform became apparent after he participated in the HLPF in 2017. Outreach has been made to: Korea, Japan, Mongolia and Taiwan. He will also reach out to NGOs in China. Sungho participated in the [North-East Asian Multistakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals](#) which took place in Beijing on October 10 and 11.

ChildFund Australia: Philippa reported that following the recent ChildFund Australia Program Summit in Bangkok, they are considering a similar process in Vietnam for Southeast Asia.

Regional Forums for Sustainable Development:

The following information is available for the 2018 Regional Forums for Sustainable Development:

- Europe- March, Geneva
- Asia Pacific- 28-30 March, Bangkok
- Latin America and the Caribbean- 9-13 April, TBC
- Africa- TBC

Both ChildFund Australia and ChildFund Korea will coordinate with the Secretariat to apply for the Asia Pacific forum in March. Both organizations were represented at the Taiwan Fund for Children and Families Asia regional conference that took place last week.

Voluntary National Reviews

The table below shows where ChildFund members have a presence in countries presenting VNRs in 2018. A background document with key messages for the VNRs has been drafted and will be finalized and shared for interested offices in VNR countries. ChildFund Australia participated in the initial consultation with NGOs in Australia where the government is still in initial stages of the process but has established an NGO Working Group. CCFC is participating in a meeting with authorities on the process to develop the report and is encouraging the National Secretariat for Childhood and Adolescence to promote reporting on 16.2 and all of the targets relevant for children.

VNR Country	ChildFund Alliance member(s) present
Australia	ChildFund Australia
Benin	Educo
Canada	CCFC
Ecuador	ChildFund International, Educo
Guinea	ChildFund International
Ireland	ChildFund Ireland
Kiribati	ChildFund New Zealand
Lao PDR	ChildFund Australia
Mali	ChildFund International
Mexico	ChildFund International
Paraguay	CCFC
Senegal	ChildFund International
Spain	Educo
Sri Lanka	ChildFund International
Togo	ChildFund International
Vietnam	ChildFund Australia

Blue=Alliance Member Headquarters in VNR Country

Updates from Task Force Members and Secretariat

Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparations for the Solutions Summit in February 2018 in Stockholm are proceeding. • Sarah thanked those who supported the confirmation of participation at the ministerial level. • ChildFund Alliance representation at the Summit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jorge Mendez from CCFC Paraguay ○ Suzanne Berman from ChildFund International ○ Young people from Indonesia and Paraguay
EU Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is being done together with partners on a common approach on investing in children for the next EU Budget, with a focus on children's participation and systems strengthening. A common position paper will be developed to support this. • Alliance member Un Enfant par la Main together with a coalition of NGOs in France worked on an event at the OECD in November on investing in children. Catherine participated in one of the panels. Follow-up activities on investing in children are being planned.
ChildFund Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ChildFund Korea will participate in the Busan Democracy Forum in January where Sungho will be a speaker on SDG 16.2. The Forum will focus on how to work together in the Northeast Asia context to promote SDG 16.
ChildFund Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the Program Summit in Bangkok, ChildFund Australia discussed the alignment of programming with INSPIRE. They may hire a consultant early in 2018 to look more closely at this with a view to informing their evidence base for advocacy.
Barnfonden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnfonden is involved with a network of NGOs in Sweden that is planning to issue an article in advance of the Solutions Summit.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martina shared with the group that Bornefonden, the organization based in Denmark that was a former member of the Alliance but left in 2015, has announced that it will merge with Plan International.
CCFC Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCFC has been working with a network of children’s organizations on promoting children’s issues in the context of the upcoming presidential election in Paraguay. They are asking presidential candidates to sign 20 commitments for children and adolescents. This was an initiative led by UNICEF in the last election, but now it is led by CCFC and Plan, with support from UNICEF.
ChildFund International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ChildFund International is creating advocacy guidance for Country Offices including “how to” information and helpful templates. This will be shared with the ATF when it is finished.