

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY FOR SUPPLIERS/STAKHOLDERS

POLICY STATEMENT:

General principles

At Handicap International we are committed to a set of principles that derive from the UN Convention on the Rights of a Child:

- All children have equal rights to protection from abuse and exploitation
- Everyone has a responsibility to support the care and protection of children
- Organisations have a duty of attention to children they and their representatives work close to. They have to do their best to provide the children receive the care and support they need.
- Children are actors in their own protection and development, which does not exempt parents and educators from their responsibilities.
- Handicap International is committed to the rights of children and will not tolerate or accept any form of child abuse. Our Internal regulations state that:

"The suppliers/stakeholders must show respect and consideration towards his/her contacts (beneficiaries, partners, colleagues...), with particular attention for people in vulnerable situations. In no circumstances should he/she commit an act or adopt behavior liable to injure one of his/her contacts either physically or psychologically, or cause him/her harm of any sort.

The suppliers/stakeholders should respect and promote respect for the fundamental principles contained in:

- the international conventions concerning child labour, prostitution and people trafficking, and also the traffic of drugs or psychotropic substances (see appendix).
- the child protection policy implemented by the association, including in particular that owning or consulting child pornographic materials is strictly forbidden.

If he/she observes any breach in these principles or behavior liable to contribute towards any of the crimes cited above, appropriate sanctions may be applied.

As supplier/stakeholder he/she is also required to guard against any abuse of authority. In no circumstances should he/she profit from his/her situation in order to divert assistance from its final destination or obtain favors of any nature (notably sexual)."

Awareness

Handicap International is committed to raising awareness amongst its staff and its partners including stakeholders/suppliers so they understand the principles, policy, reporting, and monitoring framework of the Child Protection Policy.

if there is a breach of policy, supplier/stakeholders are aware of the disciplinary procedures that would follow.

- owning or consulting child pornographic materials is strictly forbidden.
- gender sensitiveness is essential when addressing child protection issue.
- all disabled children have equal rights to be treated with dignity, respect, sensitivity and fairness.
- community programs strongly emphasize the commitment we make to ensuring all disabled children attend school, that they are not forced into child labour and that they have an opportunity to be heard.

1.3 Prevention

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1.4 Responding

Handicap International is committed to ensuring correct actions are taken to support and protect children in accordance with the policy.

1.5 Definitions of child abuse and neglect

Child abuse is a general term and made up of all forms of physical and or/emotional ill treatment, sexual assault, neglect or negligent treatment or exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power.

• Physical abuse

The actual or likely physical injury to a child, or failure to prevent physical injury or suffering to a child. This may include, burning, hitting, punching, shaking, kicking, or beating a child. The worker may not have intended to hurt the child, however the injury is not an accident. It may have been the result of over-discipline or physical punishment that is inappropriate to the child's age.

• Emotional abuse

- Also known as: verbal abuse, mental abuse, discrimination, forlornness and psychological maltreatment. This refers to the actual or likely adverse effect on the emotional and behavioral development of children caused by persistent or severe emotional ill treatment or rejection. This can include health providers/rehabilitation workers using extreme and or bizarre forms of punishment, such as confinement in a dark room or being tied to a chair for long periods of time or threatening or terrorizing a child or the tremendous promises beyond capacity. Less severe behavior, but just as harmful is mocking, using insulting names for a child, or blaming.

• Sexual abuse

- This refers to inappropriate sexual behavior between a child and an adult who is in a relationship of responsibility, trust or power. It includes fondling a child's genitals, making the child fondle the adult's genitals, intercourse, rape, sodomy, exhibitionism, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and pornography.

• Child labor

- Child labor includes full-time work done by children under 15 years of age that prevents them from going to school (getting an education), or that is dangerous to their health (International Labor Organization, Convention 138). Child labor is permitted from 15 years old, except for activities that could in any way undermine health or morals of the child. Handicap International will be very cautious concerning this limit of age, and, in full respect of national legislations, will nevertheless urge its staff to contract with people over 18.

• Child work

- Children's participation in economic activity - that does not negatively affect their health and development or interfere with education. No economic activity is allowed for children under 12 (International Labour Organization, Convention 138).

2.1 Procedure in case of breach of the policy

- Handicap International reserves the right to immediately terminate the contract, without notice and without penalties if the organization discovers that this rule is not respected by the Supplier.
- Handicap International will be particularly monitoring this issue

2.2 Confidentiality

In all matters relating to this policy, it is essential to respect the duty of confidentiality. This means no information offered by children and / or other individuals about any form of child abuse should be made public.

Declaration:

I the undersigned, certify that I have read the policy carefully and I respect and assure to be bound to the policy. I commit not to contract any employee, agent or subcontractor who is under 18 years old or without NIC card. I also understand the laws defined by the International Labour Organization (ILO), in particular regarding child labour, discrimination, freedom of association, respect of the minimum wage, slave labour issues and compliance with work conditions and hygiene.

Name of supplier/stakeholder: _____ Organization Name: _____

Sign & Stamp: _____ Date: _____