



INTERNATIONAL
BUREAU
FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

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LOS DERECHOS DEL NIÑO





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Message from the President



Jean-Pierre Rosenczveig

*President Board of Directors of the International Bureau for Children's Rights
President Children's Tribunal of Bobigny Paris (France)*

Dear Friends of the International Bureau for Children's Rights,

Over the past 12 months, our team carried out the mission of the International Bureau for Children's Rights in several countries worldwide.

As President of the Board of Directors, I warmly welcome the many collaborative projects undertaken with local nongovernmental organisations, as well as international organisations and agencies.

The Bureau has capitalised on its field experience through collaborative actions to defend the rights of children. Thus, UNICEF-Burundi was confident in our ability to carry out an initial rapid assessment on the commercial sexual exploitation of girls and boys in Burundi. The United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations called upon our expertise to improve and revise their peacekeeping training programmes. Our collaborations will continue into the next fiscal year, in particular, those with UNICEF and Save the Children West Africa.

After several years of advocacy, the Bureau is now in a position to work together with police academies in West Africa to integrate both basic and specialised training on child rights and police intervention into their curriculum.

This collaboration with training institutions will enable us to influence the approach of police officers when they encounter children in conflict with the law or child victims and witnesses of crime. We are convinced that working with the police is essential to the effective protection of children, since law enforcement constitutes the first point of contact for children, well before the intervention of legal and social work professionals.

More than ever, our main objective continues to be the promotion of the contemporary, universal Convention on the Rights of the Child, permanently integrating these rights into the practices of professionals, on the one hand, and within government policies, on the other. As President of the Board, but also a seasoned professional working towards justice for children, I can attest to the genuine desire of the Bureau's team to achieve this ambitious goal, while, at the same time, securing returns on the funds granted to the IBCR each year by development agencies and private donors.

Based on my observations, I want to congratulate the team. Year after year, under the warm and demanding leadership of Director General Nadja Pollaert, they succeed in convincing public agencies and private donors of the high quality of the IBCR's approach. More than ever, it is our responsibility to not only develop the know-how, but to also make known the work that we undertake to benefit children.

I would also like to thank our Board members who provide expertise and dedication to the International Bureau for Children's Rights.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have honoured us with their material or moral support. I encourage them to remain such indispensable pillars, no matter the size of the stone carried to the building. Once again, through reporting on its annual work, the Bureau hopes to persuade its supporters that they have made the correct choice; to invite them to continue their support and to encourage them to convince others of goodwill around them to bring their stones, no matter how small.

Paris, May 2012



Message from the Director General



Nadja Pollaert

*Director General of the International Bureau
for Children's Rights*

The whole team at the International Bureau for Children's Rights has had a year full of rich experience with our partners in West and Central Africa and the Middle East and North Africa.

We are particularly proud to have an increasing presence in the field and to be collaborating with national organisations working to defend children's rights in their own countries.

Upon reviewing the Annual Report, the attentive reader will note the diversity of our partnerships and the wealth of productive collaborations that we have established to strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols.

The International Bureau for Children's Rights has grown, both at the project level and with respect to our team. However, we continue to preserve a human approach at the organisation, which allows us to retain our flexibility and gives us room to manoeuvre in order to undertake actions in which we believe!

This year, we were particularly concerned by the fact that there are more than 300 child victims or witnesses of commercial sexual exploitation in Burundi. These children recounted their difficult experiences frankly and directly, and we were moved by their articulateness.

It was a year of great gifts as well, notably from the private sector in Quebec and Canada: Agence BCP gave its time and expertise to generate a Facebook campaign to combat the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism. Several travel agencies have committed to promote this campaign on their websites.

Over the course of the year, we were able to defend and promote children's rights through various media outlets.

This report takes stock of the activities and achievements of the International Bureau for Children's Rights (IBCR) from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012. In addition to an account of activities, the reader will find a wealth of information on the International Bureau for Children's Rights, its mission and goals, and the personal contributions of certain members of the team, whether they be staff, interns or Board members.

This document also offers, as is customary, a summary of last year's financial results. I take this opportunity to warmly thank the members of the Board for their support and always well-informed advice. I would also like to thank our funding partners for their confidence, especially the religious communities in Quebec and Canada for their unwavering support. Thanks to the governments of Canada and Sweden for their support of our projects. Finally, a thank you to the incredible team at the Bureau for its professionalism and its high quality of work, in particular, the 40 interns who, throughout the year, have generously volunteered their time and expertise to the Bureau and its cause.

Montreal, May 2012

Nadja Pollaert



International Bureau for Children's Rights

Board of directors

The Honorable Jean-Pierre Rosenczveig, *President*

Ms. Moushira Khattab (until December 2012),
Vice-president – United Nations Liaison

Dr. Najat Malla Mi'jid (from December 2012)

Sister Sheila Sullivan, *Treasurer*

Mary-Anne Kirvan, *Vice-president – Programming*

Sébastien Caron, *Vice-president – Fundraising*

Mr. Jean-Miguel Petit (until December 2012)
Administrator

Mr. Benoît Van Keirsblick, *Administrator*

The Honorable Anne-Marie Trahan, *Administrator*

Mr. Jean-Baptiste Zoungrana, *Administrator*

Team

Nadja Pollaert, *Director General*

Luc Ouimet, *Director of Administration*

Guillaume Landry, *Director of Programmes – Convention on the Rights of the Child – Children and Armed Conflict*

Catherine Beaulieu, *Deputy Director of Programmes – Children and Justice*

Emmanuel Bayeni, *Child Trafficking Consultant – Brazzaville (Congo)*

Elodie Le Grand, *Programme Manager – MENA Project*

Marco Antonio Sotelo, *Programme Manager – Child Sex Tourism*

Henri Ariston Nzedom, *Consultant – Children's Rights and Police Training*

Najla Khoury, *Administrative Assistant – MENA Project*

Hilaria Reyes, *Administrative Assistant*

Consultants and Collaborators

Arar Abderrahmane; Nazim Ahmed Ali; Docteur Salah Arafat; Marianne Bauer (DPKO); Christiane Beaulieu (Aéroports de Montréal); Semia Ben Masseoud; Michelle Berg; Sergent Détective Guy Bianchi (SPVM); Susan Bisell (UNICEF New York); Docteur Jane Blackburn; Kristina Boyce (Travel CUTS); Jenny Brasebin; Guy Bruneau (ENPQ); Christina Clark Kazak (York University); Yvan Conoir; Daniel Cyrenne (Voyages Arc en ciel); James De La Cruz (INS); Brigitte DeLay (UNICEF); Aissatou Diatta; Danielle Dugal; Emma Dunet; Ibrahim Faltas (Save the Children); Docteur Jean-Yves Frappier (CHU Sainte-Justine, Montréal); Michel Gagnon; Arlène Gaudreault (Association québécoise Plaidoyer-Victimes); Soumahoro Gbato (Save the Children); Rita Gédéon; Hamida Goufi; Nadine Grant (Plan Canada); Milena Grillo (Fundación Paniamor); Eva Aby Halaweh (MIZAN); Sameer Nooradeen Hassan; Wajdi Ali Hasson; Martin Hebert; Patricia Herdt (OIF); Srood Ismael Jalal; Sanna Johnson (Save the Children); Yves Olivier Kassoka (UNICEF Sénégal); Malek Kefif; Yahya Adnan Lafta; Charles Lajoie (CIC); Widia Larivière (Fédération des femmes autochtones du Québec); Mahamane Laouali Madougou; Djanabou Mahonde (UNICEF Niger); Ann Makome (DPKO); Claire Malbouires (Francopol); Anne Marcotte (Aéroports de Montréal); Julie Médam; Docteur Najat Maalla M'jid; Sergent Jean Yves McCann (Sûreté du Québec); Maître Annick Murphy; Martin Nagler; Maître Caritas Niyonzima; Maître Jean-François Noël; Maître Ariane Pasquier; Cheryl Perera (OneChild); Patricia Perez (Canandes International Tours); Jean Provencher (Expo media); Raymonde Provencher; Andrea Querol (CHS); Rena Ramkay; Annie Robert (GRC); Ashley Rochefort (Baxter Travel Media); Marc Rozon (ministère de la Justice Canada); Pierre St-Antoine (ENPQ); Melissa St Cyr (Gendron Voyages); Alaa Gatea Shanshool; Nina Shimimana (BAHO Burundi); Bakary Sogoba (UNICEF Burundi); Lucia Soleti (UNICEF Burundi); Tanja Suvilaakso (Plan Canada); Docteur Camelia Tepelus (The CODE); Frédérique Tessier (Éducaloi); Kathy Vandergrift (CCRC); Fanny Villalobos (Fundación Paniamor); Micheline Villeneuve (Air Canada); Christian Wahlen; Anna Wergens (ministère de la Justice Suède); Madame la Juge Renate Winter; Lisa Wolff (UNICEF); Linda Wright (Thomas Cook Canada); Docteur Samar Youssif.



Our Partners

Air Canada
 Association des femmes autochtones du Québec
 Association libanaise pour l'Enseignement et la Formation – Liban
 Bayti – Maroc
 Centres jeunesse de Montréal – Institut universitaire
 Centre international pour la prévention de la criminalité
 Capital Humano y Social Alternativo – Peru
 Coalition canadienne des droits des enfants
 Defence for Children International – Palestine Section (DCI-PS) – Palestine
 United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations
 Services de Police de la Ville de Montréal
 Sûreté du Québec
 Royal Canadian Mounted Police
 École Nationale de Police du Québec
 Francopol
 Fundación Paniamor – Costa Rica
 Government of Canada – Status of Women
 Government of Canada – Public Security (Section Québec)
 Government of Canada – Border Services Agency
 Gouvernement du Québec – Ministère de la Sécurité publique
 Iraqi Child Rights Network – Iraq
 McGill University
 Mizan -Jordanie
 OneChild
 National Film Board of Canada
 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
 Soul for Development –Yemen
 UNICEF Canada
 War Child Canada
 UNICEF New York
 NADA Réseau des droits de l'enfant Algérie
 Egyptian Coalition for the Rights of the Child (ECCR)

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to Mr. Laurent Nadeau (Brand Director) of the Agence BCP team.



The International Bureau for Children's Rights is the Local CODE Representative for Canada.

Interns 2011-2012

Valérie Alain, Quebec Bar Association
 Ahmed Azour, Master in Languages Paris (France)
 Imen Ben Dhafer, Certificat of International Cooperation
 Université de Montréal (Canada)
 Fatma Ben Sayeh, Political Science
 McGill University (Canada)
 Laura Burloux, Master 2, Theory and Practice in Human Rights,
 Université Catholique de Lyon (France)
 Coline Camier, International Studies
 Université de Montréal (Canada)
 Ève Deschênes, Political Science
 Université de Montréal (Canada)
 Marie Louise Ermish, International Development
 McGill University (Canada)
 Charlotte Favre, International Relations Internationale Law
 Université du Québec in Montréal, UQAM (Canada)
 Madeline Hannan, Social Work
 McGill University (Canada)
 Tina Iriotakis, International Development
 McGill University (Canada)
 Joel Kaushansky, International Development
 McGill University (Canada)
 Catherine Legault, International Studies
 Université de Montréal (Canada)
 Anna Le Goff, lawyer, Paris (France)
 Cassandra Le Van, Institut Supérieur de Communication (France)
 Jordana Loporcaro, Quebec Bar Association
 Farah Malek-Bakouche, lawyer
 Letizia Mantoan, International Relations
 University of Wales, Cardiff (United Kingdom)
 Laura Moukengue, International Humanitarian Action
 Université Paris-Est Créteil Val de Marne1 (France)
 Vienna Napier, International Studies
 McGill University (Canada)
 Sebastien Nirhou, International Relations and International Law
 Université du Québec in Montreal (Canada)
 Laurence Richard, Political Science
 Université du Québec in Montreal (Canada)
 Florent Tahou, International Relations and International Law
 Université du Québec in Montreal (Canada)
 Sabrina Tremblay-Huet, International Relations and
 International Law Université du Québec in Montreal (Canada)
 Valérie Trudel, Political Science
 Université du Québec in Montreal (Canada)



Mission and objectives

Founded in 1994, the International Bureau for Children's Rights ("the IBCR") is an international nongovernmental organisation headquartered in Montreal (Canada). The IBCR has benefitted from special advisory status at the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) since 2005.

Soon after the ratification of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* by the Government of Canada in 1991, the two founders of the IBCR, the Honourable Judge Andrée Ruffo and Dr. Bernard Kouchner, consulted dozens of international organisations to help them determine the IBCR's priorities. Two major concerns took shape: sexual exploitation of children and children and armed conflict.

Today, the IBCR is still active in these areas. And, despite having added various areas of activity, the IBCR's primary mission is still to **promote and protect the rights of the child** in accordance with the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) and its Optional Protocols.

The IBCR exists because...

...the conflicts of the last decade have killed over 2 million children and have left 6 million children with disabilities (UNESCO Report 2011, *The Hidden Crisis: Armed Conflict and Education*). Throughout the world, over one billion children under eighteen live in countries or territories affected by armed conflict – this is almost one sixth of the world's population. Of this, nearly 300 million are less than five years old. To date, approximately 300,000 girls and boys have been recruited or are used as soldiers in government armies or armed groups, and are placed at the front lines of at least 21 conflicts. UNICEF estimates that 20 million children had to flee their homes, becoming refugees or displaced persons in their own countries (UNICEF, 2010). For the basic rights of these children to be respected, the IBCR carries out its **Programme for Children and Armed Conflict**.

...millions of children suffer significant harm associated with the consequences of crime and the abuse of power. To ensure that these vulnerable children receive special protection, the IBCR established its **Programme for Children Victims and Witnesses of Crime**

...1.2 million children are victims of trafficking each year, which often results in domestic labour akin to slavery, sexual exploitation, illegal adoption or organ donations. To fight against this poorly understood and documented phenomenon, the IBCR has initiated its **Programme Against the Sexual Exploitation of Children, namely Against Trafficking of Children**.

... according to recent global estimates from the International Labour Organization, of the world's 12.3 million victims of forced labour, 1.39 million are victims of sexual exploitation for commercial purposes, 40 to 50% of which are children. To prevent and fight against these practices, the IBCR launched its **Programme Against the Sexual Exploitation of Children, namely Against Child Sex Tourism**.

...the rights of the child are indivisible and the recommendations from the monitoring systems of the United Nations on the rights and protection of the child require follow-up mechanisms. To promote national and regional challenges with commendable and innovative practices, the IBCR set up the **Programme on Country Profiles on the State of the Implementation of the Convention**.



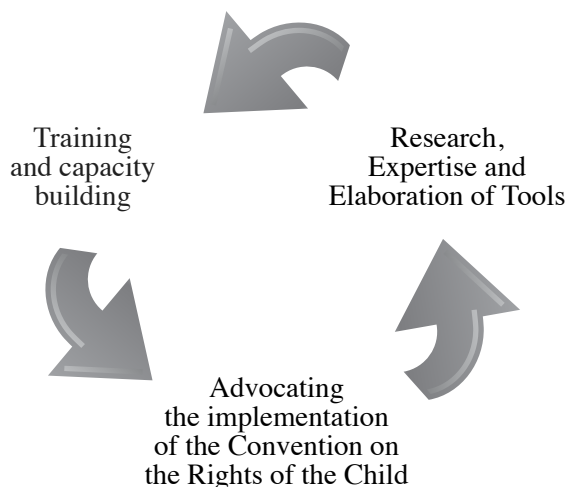
Action through four programmes:

- Promotion and dissemination of the Convention through country profiles
- Understanding of sexual exploitation of children, particularly child sex tourism and child trafficking
- Children affected by armed conflict
- Children and justice, including child victims and witnesses of crime

How?

The action of the Bureau is the result of a synergy between:

Means of action



Our areas of expertise:

- Development of models and tools to monitor the implementation of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* in various countries
- Capacity building, training of trainers and knowledge transfer to frontline stakeholders for the protection of the rights of the child, such as social workers, lawyers, security forces and teachers
- Creation of coalitions and networks with governments and civil society organisations on strategic questions
- Dissemination of legal and analytical expertise on the rights of the child recognised by various international, national and regional organisations and partners
- Participation as an active member of international working groups
- Production of methodologically rigorous research on the rights of the child
- Development of a multidisciplinary and committed team
- Provision of technical support on the rights of the child



Key Events of 2011-2012

We invite you to visit the section: **IBCR in the Media**, on the Bureau's website to view the articles, position papers and public events in which the Bureau has participated!

On **13 April 2011**, the Bureau organised the Third Forum on "The Protection of Children and Adolescents in Travel and Tourism", with the support of Air Canada's Vancouver office. We welcomed speakers with impressive professional expertise and credentials, who volunteered their time to speak on behalf of the issues. Among our speakers were: Brendan McCabe, Crown Attorney in the Kenneth Klassen case: *The prosecution of Canadian abusers under extraterritorial laws and its challenges*, Brian McConaghy MSM, BA. - Ratanak International: *Investigation and Extraterritorial Law*; Rosalind Currie, Director of Public Policy and Partner Relations, Office to Combat Human Trafficking (British Columbia): *The Human Trafficking Link*.

At the launch of the latest version of *Children and Armed Conflict : A Guide to International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law* (2010), SCS requested technical support from the IBCR to strengthen the capacity of its staff and that of its implementing partners. This resulted in workshops that enabled coalitions for child rights in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Senegal to familiarise themselves with the contents of the Guide, with an emphasis on the mechanisms to document violations, collect data and communicate information.

Soumahoro Gbato

Regional Advisor on Child Protection in Emergencies,
Save the Children Sweden,
Regional Office for West Africa



In **April and May 2011**, the Bureau set up training to better inform national coalitions and NGOs of the reality and challenges facing children in armed conflict. The Bureau facilitated its first course in Bogota, Colombia, in collaboration with Santo Tomas University, the International Organization for Migration and the Colombian Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers. Next, the Director of Programmes travelled to Amman to lead a course on monitoring and reporting systems for the worst violations of child rights as part of a regional workshop organised by Save the Children Sweden, bringing together civil society partners from Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine and Yemen.

From **2 to 6 July 2011**, the IBCR Director of Programmes visited Tunisia immediately following the Arab revolution. This mission aimed to identify potential partners who could join the *Manara* network as part of the regional project managed by Save the Children Sweden in the Middle East and North Africa. Following this mission, the Tunisian organisation, *Amal Association for the Family and Children*, was selected and began to work with the IBCR to establish a national profile on the situation of child rights in Tunisia.

From **10 to 30 July 2011**, the Bureau went to Iraq to assist in the final drafting of their National Profile on Child Rights, in partnership with the local network ICRN. The IBCR also transferred knowledge to Egyptian and Tunisian civil society organisations on research methodologies and how to analyse actions taken to implement the Convention. The Bureau organised training days with the civil society organisations *ECCR* (Egypt) and *Amal* (Tunisia) under its project framework in the Middle East and North Africa. As part of the training of Egyptians, *SOUL*, our partner in Yemen, who had already completed their National Profile and regional analysis over the previous two years, was trained to become a trainer on these issues.

During the **month of September 2011**, the Director of Programmes was selected by Yvan Conoir, the team leader of the Final Evaluation of the National Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) Programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo, funded by the World Bank, to evaluate the component of this programme related to children. The Director of Programmes will be visiting Kinshasa to meet with dozens of actors involved in children's DDR to document their experiences and assess programme performance.



From **11 to 24 September 2011**, the IBCR was in Algeria to introduce the *Manara* project to *Nada*, a network of civil society organisations, and offered a five day training course on the National Profile methodology to support the launch of the drafting process for the Algerian National Profile.

In collaboration with UNICEF and Save the Children Sweden, the IBCR organised a high level workshop, bringing together international experts on child rights, in Dakar, Senegal, from **19 to 23 September 2011**. During this workshop, some forty participants worked on the theme of training security forces in child rights in order to strengthen the list of core competencies that every police officer and gendarme should master to adapt his or her practice to protect children's rights. The results of this workshop were the subject of a report published in French at the end of September 2011.

On **4 October 2011**, for a second consecutive year, the IBCR conducted a course on the situation of children in emergencies as part of a professional seminar on Health Management in Emergencies, offered at McGill University.

At the beginning of **October 2011**, the IBCR signed an agreement with UNICEF in Burundi to carry out a rapid assessment on the commercial sexual exploitation of girls and boys in Bujumbura, the capital, and in three other regions. The Director General of the IBCR went to Burundi for three weeks to consult stakeholders, develop research and analytical tools, train investigators and determine which analytical strategy they would use.

From **10 to 14 October 2011**, the IBCR Director of Programmes participated in a week of meetings and work in New York as part of an agreement with the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The IBCR's role included conducting a survey and compiling a list of the training tools for child protection used by peacekeeping centres.

From **19 to 21 October 2011**, the Bureau was invited to participate in the "International Tourism and Travel Show" by the show manager, Jean Provencher, free of charge. Our organisation was able to distribute campaign material and to educate a large number of private sector members, as well as the general public, in the Montreal area.

From **26 to 29 October 2011**, the IBCR embarked on a mission to support its Egyptian partner, ECCR, in the research and writing of its National Profile on the State of Child Rights in Egypt.

On **27 and 28 October 2011**, the IBCR took part in strategic meetings with the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights, UNICEF, Save the Children and authorities from the government ministries of the Interior and Defence, to discuss plans to develop training materials on human rights and the rights of children in Senegal.

Thanks to renewed support from the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Department of State and Ministries of the Interior, Public Security, Decentralisation and Religious Affairs, of the Republic of Niger, the largest delegation ever assembled for the West and Central Africa security forces' training schools met from **31 October to 4 November 2011** in Niamey, Niger, in the third regional workshop for training police and gendarmes in children's rights. More than sixty participants attended, among them those responsible for training security forces from 14 francophone countries in the region, as well as from Haiti, and representatives of UNICEF and Save the Children Sweden. A major achievement of this workshop was that the 15 countries present adopted, by consensus, the six core competencies which had been endorsed by international experts in Dakar one month earlier.

In November 2011, [the International Organization of la Francophonie] wished to join the efforts that resulted in the IBCR initiative and continue the programme of capacity building of trainers and the development of tools for police training in children's rights as part of a joint approach with key leaders of the West and Central African police training schools. The regional session held in Niamey successfully brought together the leaders of the security forces' training schools from sixteen francophone countries in West and Central Africa.

M. Hugo SADA

Responsible for Peace, Democracy and Human Rights at the International Organization of la Francophonie





From **31 October to 25 November 2011**, the IBCR completed more than 350 interviews with child victims or witnesses of the sexual exploitation of children in Burundi, as part of its collaboration with UNICEF Burundi.

On **22 November 2011**, the Director General was invited by the Canadian Women's Foundation to share her knowledge and information about activities against child trafficking for sexual exploitation.

On **21 and 22 November 2011**, the IBCR's Director of Programmes led a workshop with child protection experts in New York to examine training tools from peacekeeping training centres worldwide, as part of its agreement with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

From **6 to 8 December 2011**, Mr. Guy Bruneau and the Director General delivered a training session to trainers on combatting child trafficking at the National Police School of the Democratic Republic of Congo in Brazzaville.

From **6 to 15 December 2011**, the Bureau visited two of its partners from the Middle East and North Africa regional project, the *Algerian network for the Defence of Children's Rights (NADA)* and the *Amal Association for the Family and Children*, to help them refine the research for their respective National Profiles.

On **15 December 2011**, the Bureau signed an agreement with Save the Children Sweden to conduct an evaluation of the implementation strategy for the West African regional military training programme. The final report was submitted in March 2012.

Throughout the **fall and winter of 2011**, the IBCR Director of Programmes continued to collaborate with the National Film Board by hosting various public debates, immediately following the screening of Raymonde Provencher's film entitled *Grace, Milly, Lucy... des fillettes soldates (girl soldiers)*.

From **9 to 12 January 2012**, the IBCR travelled to Amman, Jordan, to take part in a strategy meeting for the *Manara* project in the Middle East and North Africa, organised by Save the Children Sweden. Along with all the directors of partner organisations, the IBCR analysed the results achieved to date and prepared a strategy to conclude the project implementation.

From **15 to 20 January 2012**, the Bureau returned to Tunisia in order to finalise that country's National Profile with its partner, *Amal*.

On **8 March 2012**, the IBCR's Director of Programmes facilitated an online course on the standards and international law related to children and armed conflict with War Child Holland, as part of a certificate course sponsored by the network, *Human Rights Education Associates*.

From **12 to 15 March 2012**, the IBCR's Director General travelled to Bujumbura to present the final report of the rapid assessment on the commercial sexual exploitation of girls and boys in Burundi and discuss the many recommendations in the report with relevant international and national authorities.

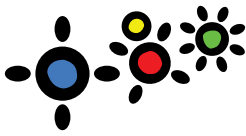
For the second consecutive year, the IBCR joined Éducaloi to sponsor a competition for Quebec francophone and anglophone youth in their fourth and fifth years of high school. Youth were invited to write opinion papers on one of four scenarios depicting children's rights. The winning writers were presented with awards at a ceremony held at the Quebec Superior Court, in Montreal, in **March 2012**.

From **28 to 30 March 2012**, a workshop of experts in training peacekeeping operations personnel on child protection was held at the United Nations military base in Brindisi, Italy. The IBCR's Director of Programmes had worked with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations since October 2011 to compile and analyse training tools used by these centres. He was in Brindisi to lead the workshop and present his findings.

The IBCR is a highly professional organisation, deeply committed to children and with significant knowledge related to their rights and protection.

Andrea Querol L.
CHS Alternativo Peru





Promotion of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

– Country Profiles



Guillaume Landry
Director of Programmes

Manara Project

The Bureau works with the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa of the NGO, Save the Children Sweden (SCS), on a project targeting **nine countries in the MENA region**. The Bureau and SCS have built a common vision, resulting in the signing of a framework agreement with the Swedish International Development Agency to support the project for three and one half years. The two main project components for which the Bureau is responsible include **capacity-building of organisations** and the publication of analysis and research to serve as the basis for activities to implement the Convention.

MANARA Project “The Lighthouse” in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

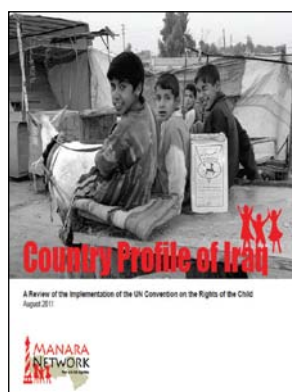
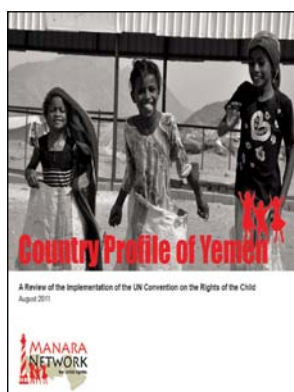
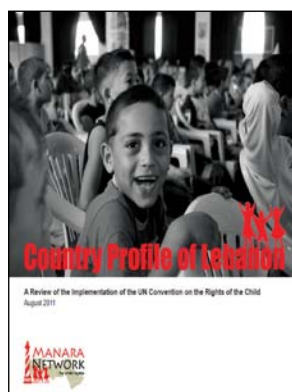
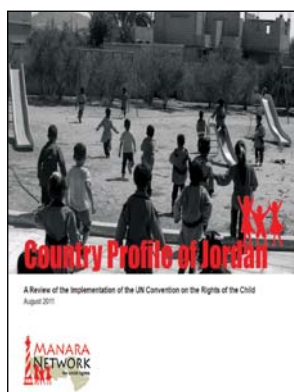
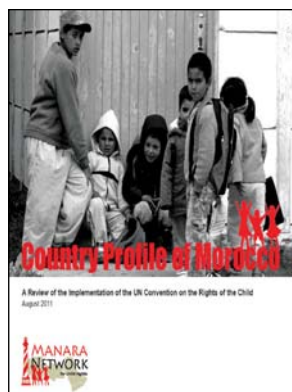
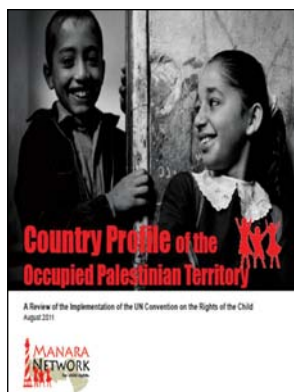
Objective: To promote promising and hopeful practices to protect and defend children's rights

The work carried out by the IBCR is distinguished by the fact that it shares its analysis of information and data with policy makers and national and regional actors to support their activities on behalf of children's rights. “Promising” practices for the protection and promotion of children's rights are emphasised.

In short, we focus on what “works”!

*The Middle East and North Africa Region :
Depoliticise children's rights and promote the work
and experience of national NGOs...*

The **Arab Spring** marked the year 2011 and had an impact on the Bureau's activities. The MENA project had to shift its focus towards Tunisia, Egypt, and Algeria during the course of the year. The Bureau intended to go to Syria to produce a National Profile on Children's Rights, however, given the internal conflict gripping the country, this component of the project was first delayed, then cancelled. Initially, the instability in Egypt and Tunisia postponed project activities since it was not possible to travel there at the beginning of the year. The Bureau was unable to visit these countries and initiate project activities until the summer. The new context in Tunisia and Egypt has created much instability, but, at the same time, great opportunities. The opening of public space for expression, the questioning of established dogma that has existed for decades and the demands for greater recognition of rights and freedoms have led to major upheaval and change. These countries are at a crossroads since they are just now drafting their Constitutions. Implementing this project in both countries has been very timely, since civil society organisations have a great need for the tools to ensure that children's rights are recognised and respected in this new context.



To be published soon:
Country Profiles from
Algeria and Egypt

Manara Project: Achievements in the Third Year

In the context of this project, the Bureau will have trained ten organisations in nine countries of the region:

1st year : The Lebanese Association for Education and Training (ALEF), Development Action without Borders (Naba'a), both established in **Lebanon**, the NGO, Bayti, based in **Morocco**, Soul for Development in **Yemen**

2nd year: Mizan Law Group for Human Rights in **Jordan**, Defence for Children International - Palestine Section in the **occupied Palestinian territories**, and the Iraqi Child Rights Network in **Iraq**

3rd year: Amal Association for the Family and Children in **Tunisia**, The Algerian network NADA for the Defence of Child Rights in **Algeria**, The Egyptian Coalition for Children's Rights (ECCR) in **Egypt**.



**Elodie Eva
Le Grand**

*Programme
Manager – Middle
East and North Africa*

To be able to argue for child rights, there is a need for facts and statistics. The IBCR has, through its careful, qualitative work, developed a methodology for NGOs to use to collect data in order to demonstrate best practices in complying with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Building on this evidence, the partners of Manara have built strong advocacy campaigns across the region and are ready to push the work even further. Save the Children Sweden thanks the IBCR for all of its efforts, for its accompaniment and commitment and we hope for continuous good cooperation in the future.

Sanna Johnson

*Regional Director of the
Middle East and North Africa,
Save the Children*





The capacity building trainings received from the IBCR on the technical guidelines for drafting reports (whether the Country Profile or the Regional Analysis) have been highly useful and enriching. The methodology used enabled Alef staff to work with clear guidance, tempered only by the constant coaching and mentoring of the IBCR when further assistance was needed. Often these trainings and meetings would exceed the deliverables expected from the IBCR; information sharing on different related topics took place. The IBCR demonstrated throughout the project consistent preparation and the flexibility to deal with unforeseen scenarios and questions. The approach used was participatory and very cognisant of the practical challenges faced by Alef. Furthermore, the IBCR played a great role in facilitating the discussions between Alef and its partner, the Palestinian organisation Nabaa, on the two reports produced. Aiming to establish common ground on divergent views of the partners and pertaining to reporting approaches, the IBCR was always able to persuade both partners in a highly professional manner. The process undertaken by Alef, in partnership with the IBCR, was a great learning experience. Additionally, it has produced great results; the final reports issued under the supervision and support of the IBCR were of a high quality and received positive feedback among many stakeholders that Alef deals with.

Darine El Hajj

Executive Director of the Lebanese Association for Education and Training (ALEF), Lebanon



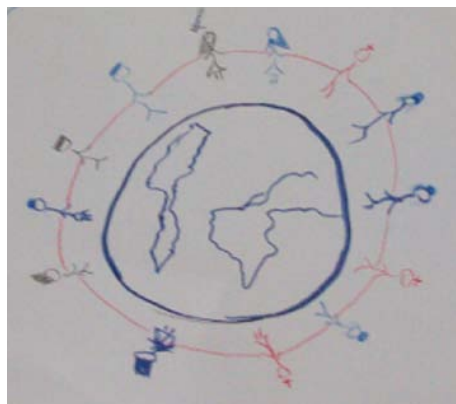
Training and Knowledge Transfer: Act with All Information at Hand!

To encourage our partners to **independently produce** their own country profiles and use the results to fully implement the Convention in their countries and region, the Bureau has **prioritised knowledge transfer** through training and capacity building of local partners, among other methods. Over the course of this year, the Bureau trained **three civil society organisations in three new countries of the MENA region** on the Rights of the Child (through week long training sessions facilitated by the Bureau, which may have been supplemented with additional training), but also in methodologies to conduct research and analysis of the actions taken to implement the Convention.

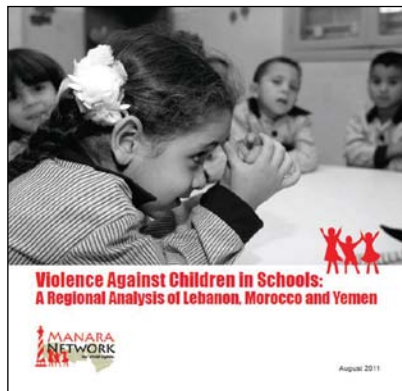
Training in Algiers (Algeria), October 2011

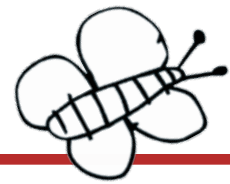


Elodie Legrand explains the methodology for developing National Profiles



The Algerian participants illustrate the concept of children's rights through drawings and diagrams





SOUL's understanding and perception of children's rights moved to a higher level through our work with the IBCR. SOUL's strategy and work changed substantially after joining the Manara Network; with child rights advocacy and training making up over 40% of SOUL's projects today.

SOUL and the IBCR did work and are willing to continue working on different projects for the realisation of children's rights in Yemen.

One more success story for SOUL, that was initiated and supported by the IBCR, is their identification and support for SOUL's Manara Manager to develop skills as a co-trainer and later as a fully qualified Child Rights' trainer for the new partners joining the Manara Network, and also for SOUL's projects in Yemen. A skill that our Manara Manager is successfully sharing with her child rights' colleagues.

Dr. Arwa AL Deram

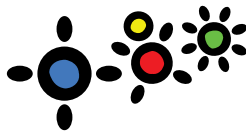
Executive Director, SOUL for Development, Yemen



Ensuring the Sustainability of Results

In 2012, the Bureau travelled to Beirut, Lebanon, to launch all the reports produced with our civil society partners and to conclude this component of collaboration with Save the Children Sweden and the Swedish International Development Agency. A workshop to share experiences will be organised, in partnership with the League of Arab States, to bring together government and civil society representatives from the nine participating countries and highlight the promising practices that have been documented by the *Manara* network, hopefully inspiring neighbouring countries to do likewise.





Making Children's Rights a Reality: Initial and Specialised Training in Police Academies in West and Central Africa

In the early 2000s, the International Bureau for Children's Rights was brought in to work with law enforcement in the context of its activities for the prevention of child trafficking and the defence and promotion of the rights of child trafficking victims in Canada. Exchanges with officials from the police, border agencies and federal services increased our awareness of the complex and broad mandate of these institutions with regard to children's rights. In 2008, strengthened by these partnerships, the Bureau was pleased to establish a partnership with the newly constituted headquarters of the network of francophone police agencies: Francopol. Convinced of the importance of a more detailed focus on the integration of child rights into the training of police and gendarmes, Francopol placed its confidence in our organisation to support their development of regional seminars bringing together police and gendarmes. These seminars were held in November 2009 in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) and in December 2010 in Cotonou (Benin).

As an advocate of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Bureau for Children's Rights remains convinced that lasting change in support of children's rights will have to first go through those who are responsible for applying the law.

After several years of collaboration with police training institutions in North America, West and Central Africa and Europe, the Bureau is confident that mobilising these individuals and institutions who believe that children have the right to live free from violence, exploitation, abuse and abandonment, has already made a difference in the plight of child victims, witnesses or perpetrators of crime.



I reaffirm the excellent cooperation that has prevailed between the National Police and its partners, in particular the International Bureau for Children's Rights. I also, and above all, mention the quality of expertise and experience of the IBCR in the field of child protection and the ability of its leaders to make available their knowledge and expertise to their partners. Finally, if all the meetings held could be deemed a success, it is assuredly due to the undeniable competence of the Director of Programmes at the IBCR, Mr Guillaume Landry.

**Mr. Madougou
Mahamane Laouali**

Police Commissioner of the Republic of Niger, currently on mission as part of peacekeeping operations in Haiti





However, a paradigm shift is needed!

Our work and exchanges have resulted in the consensus that police and gendarmerie academies should integrate mandatory initial training for law enforcement to protect children's rights, aiming for sustainability and real ownership of these principles in the work of the authorities responsible for maintaining the law. Accordingly, the designation, by a group of multisectoral and interagency experts, of the core competencies in children's rights that every police officer or gendarme should practice is at the core of this ambitious process of change.

November 2009 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

The lively discussions held during this symposium identified two striking realities:

- 1) First of all, security forces seemed, for the most part, to master the vocabulary and terminology associated with children's rights, but had serious deficiencies in their understanding of its practical meaning and application. Furthermore, the Convention and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, as well as other international standards of justice for minors, were generally unknown to the police forces.
- 2) Secondly, it turned out that several security forces had committed to provide training on the rights of the child, but these training sessions were all ad hoc, offered by external trainers, not evaluated, short and did not have an apparent impact with regard to the integration of children's rights in the work of policing agencies.

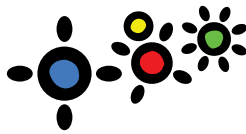
Juvenile Justice – developing international standards for national level implementation

For SCS, the partnership with the IBCR is a fruitful and successful one. Proactivity and flexibility are dimensions that make the collaboration with the IBCR easy and its staff are true professionals. These qualities have been of benefit to the initiatives we have undertaken together in West Africa since 2010. In 2011, we laid the groundwork for more comprehensive cooperation on the issue of training police and gendarmes on the Rights of the Child. Thus, Save the Children has been regularly involved in the planning and discussion workshops initiated by the IBCR and its partners, first in Cotonou and then, in Niamey. Better still, SCS and the IBCR, in collaboration with UNICEF, organised a workshop that brought together forty international experts in Dakar in September 2011. It was a defining moment that led to the identification and validation of core competencies for the training of police and gendarmes on the Rights of the Child. Logically, this cooperation will continue in 2012 as part of the operationalisation of the action plans adopted by police academies and police in late 2011. This vote of confidence is also embodied in the selection of the IBCR to evaluate our military training programme on children's rights that we have been implementing in the fifteen countries of West Africa since 2000. We are convinced of the expertise of the IBCR on issues of child rights and protection, on which it follows progress at a global level. This leaves consideration of several avenues of collaboration in the future.

Soumahoro Gbato

*Regional Advisor on the Protection of Children in Emergencies
Save the Children-Regional Office West Africa*





December 2010 in Cotonou, Benin

The International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF), Francopol and the Bureau organised a workshop on police training in West and Central Africa to address the application of international standards in juvenile justice. The Bureau suggested that it would be more efficient to support the development of consistent, integrated and practical training in partnership with police and gendarmerie academies through a process of knowledge transfer and ongoing monitoring to achieve a real sustainable impact. The workshop resulted in the development of an action plan outline for the coming years, and benefitted from the endorsement of the academies that were in attendance¹. The workshop highlighted the fact that substantial work remains to be done in order to strengthen the integration and understanding of children's rights among the participants.

1. Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Congo (Brazzaville), Mali, Niger, Central African Republic, Senegal and Togo

The IBCR has provided impressive leadership in West and Central Africa to promote and support child friendly policing in francophone countries. Under their coordination, a new network of francophone advocates and senior security officials has been created, and a new partnership fostered between the IBCR, UNICEF, Save the Children and national police academies. In 2011, the IBCR organised a regional consultation, resulting in a region-wide agreement among academies on Core Competencies required for child friendly policing, as well as recommended training modules. Work has now shifted towards the national level, with plans to provide technical support in at least six countries with the aim to institutionalise child friendly training modules into standard national police training curricula.

Brigitte de Lay

*Child Protection Specialist (Protection Systems for Children and Justice)
UNICEF Regional Office for West and Central Africa*



Working on Long Term Change

The Bureau supported the action plan that was developed by the police and gendarmerie academies during the Cotonou workshop, and hoped to construct a development programme out of it. In April 2011, the Bureau received support from the UNICEF Regional Office for West and Central Africa to allow it to carry out the background work necessary to implement subsequent phases of the project.

The International Organization of la Francophonie, Save the Children Sweden, UNICEF Niger and UNICEF Senegal, all contributed financially to the implementation of activities in 2011. In addition, ten of UNICEF's country offices (Benin, Cameroon, Congo - Brazzaville, Ivory Coast, Haiti, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Chad and Togo) covered the participation fees for delegates from their countries to attend the workshops held this year in connection with the action plan.

Equipped with this support, the Bureau has been able to:

- 1) Conduct a literature review in order to identify the competencies and key knowledge that all gendarmes or police officers should master to adapt their practices to children and meet the standards and laws in this area
- 2) Produce a detailed global and regional analysis of existing tools used to train police and gendarmes on practices that are appropriate for children
- 3) Prepare a synopsis of courses to strengthen the knowledge and interpersonal skills of police and gendarmes (savoir-être)

September 2011 in Dakar, Senegal

The Bureau brought together a committee of 40 experts to validate and improve the list of core competencies, the training programme and the analysis of existing tools. Following the workshop of experts, the Bureau incorporated the recommendations on the developed tools, and published a report on the results of the consultation.



Opening panel from the left: Commissaire Abdoulaye Diom, Deputy Director Police academy, representing the Minister of Interior, Giovanna Barberis, representing UNICEF Sénégal, Benoit Van Keirsbilck, Director of Defense for Children International and member of the Board of Directors of the IBCR, Nadja Pollaert, Director general of the IBCR, Eva Molt, Director general Save the Children regional office West Africa.



A collective effort : last touches before the validation of the list of key competences every police and gendarme should possess when working with children.

October – November 2011 in Niamey, Niger

Thanks to the support of UNICEF Niger, sixty representatives of police academies, the gendarmerie, the National Guard and the armies of 15 West and Central African countries (in addition to Haiti) attended the Niamey workshop. **This workshop led to the consensus adoption, by all 15 delegations represented, of six core competencies that must now be taught to police officers and gendarmes to adapt their practices to incorporate children's rights.**

The six core competencies adopted at the Niamey workshop for security forces working with children are the following:

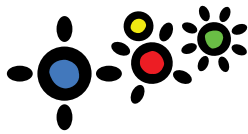
- Knowledge, promotion and implementation of children's rights
- Knowledge and practices consistent with ethical rules and deontology
- Knowledge of the child
- Interaction and communication with children and the key actors in his or her family and community
- Collaboration with all stakeholders, formal and informal, for effective coordination of the intervention
- Effective use of working tools suitable for children

Each country has also developed a **national action plan** identifying the steps needed to take in order to incorporate at least one compulsory initial course taught to all police officers and gendarmes in the participating countries.

On the basis of this action plan developed by participants at the regional workshop in Niamey, the International Bureau for Children's Rights has pursued, through discussions with several partners, including UNICEF, Save the Children Sweden and the International Organization of la Francophonie, new projects supporting a half dozen interested countries to integrate a competency-based approach and mandatory courses on child protection in the academies of its security forces in early 2012.



Opening session of the regional workshop on security forces practices October 2011.



Programme for Children and Armed Conflict

The International Bureau for Children's Rights has been involved in the prevention and protection of the rights of children in armed conflict since 1999 and has been the coordinator of the Canadian Forum on Children and Armed Conflict since 2006. The Bureau is thus regularly consulted for its profound expertise on the subject and has a solid network of experts located all over the world.

A guide to facilitate the monitoring of violations against children in armed conflict in order to make representations to the United Nations Security Council

In 2010, the Bureau published a guide on international humanitarian and human rights law related to children and armed conflict. To date, more than 4500 people have downloaded the English and French versions of this guide, providing evidence of its relevance and its appropriation by various actors in the field.

To increase awareness among national coalitions and NGOs on the issue of children in armed conflict, and more particularly on the application of law and international standards on this theme, the IBCR organised training sessions based on the content of this guide on children and armed conflict and the training modules presented in different chapters of the book.

Technical Training for Those Working in the Field

In April 2011, the first series of training sessions was organised in **Bogota**, Colombia, with support from Santo Tomas University, the International Organization for Migration and the Colombian Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers.

War Child Holland (WCH) is very happy to have strengthened collaboration with the IBCR during the last year. The [Guide] was presented at an international advocacy workshop and has become a reliable content resource for WCH's 11 Programming Areas, including Afghanistan, Colombia, DRC and Republic of South Sudan, providing WCH employees with a reliable content resource on key issues relating to children and armed conflict. Guillaume Landry has provided direct support to the development of War Child's Global Advocacy Initiative "From Neglect to Protect" on the (re)integration of children who are marginalised as a result of armed conflict.

Annabel Trapp

*Child Rights and Advocacy Coordinator
War Child Holland*



In May 2011, a second training session took place in **Amman**, Jordan, within a regional workshop organised by Save the Children Sweden, which included representatives from Iraqi Lebanese, Palestinian and Yemeni civil society. These courses were designed to teach coalitions how to operate their national monitoring and reporting mechanism for the most serious violations against children's rights.

The Bureau has supported numerous screenings of the documentary, "Grace, Milly, Lucy... des fillettes soldates [Girl Soldiers]", directed by Raymonde Provencher and co-produced by Macumba Doc and the National Film Board of Canada.



Our expertise in the service of the World Bank ...

In September 2012, the Bureau continued its collaboration with Mr. Yvan Conoir, notably on a final, independent evaluation of the National Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Programme (PNDDR) in the Democratic Republic of Congo, supported by the World Bank. The IBCR Director of Programmes participated in this exercise by taking responsibility for the child component of the study. Hundreds of reports, evaluations and publications were then analysed to better evaluate programme performance since its inception in 2003. A field mission was undertaken in Kinshasa to meet dozens of stakeholders involved in this programme in order to substantiate our conclusions. The final report was submitted to the National Programme and the World Bank in late September 2011.

Our expertise in the service of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations...

In October 2011, the Director of Programmes at the IBCR initiated a partnership with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to carry out a comprehensive review of training materials on child protection for staff members who will be deployed in peacekeeping missions.

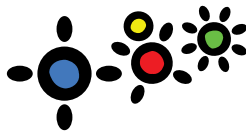
The purpose of this initiative is to update the basic training module currently used prior to deployment. In addition, it will develop targeted training materials to strengthen the implementation of the child protection mandate specified under the resolutions of the UN Security Council on children and armed conflict and confirmed in the most recent report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. This review process will include consultation with Member States' military advisers and trainers in peacekeeping training centres worldwide.

The International Bureau for Children's Rights (IBCR) has been associated with initiatives of the Raoul Dandurand Chair and the Faculty of Political Science and Law to develop in-depth seminars on peace, humanitarian and consolidation of peace operations, which have been open to not only Master's students, but also professionals from different backgrounds since 2007. The presence of the IBCR helped to highlight the developments made in recent years in the international protection of children, both in peacekeeping missions and within humanitarian operations or disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration programmes. This expertise – rare – is a fundamental contribution to understanding the challenges and needs that await field operators in managing complex operations – civilian, military, post-conflict, international – as implemented by the United Nations, national actors and / or other international intergovernmental actors (World Bank, UNICEF, peacekeeping missions), as well as the private sector. The IBCR also allowed us, in another context, to complete the final evaluation of the National DDR Programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in which the component “Children” represented a fundamental group, with more than 30,000 children “getting out of the bush” before being assisted and monitored by national and international agencies present. The work to consolidate and interpret the available data was essential to develop an acceptable reading of efforts in this area, under the aegis of World Bank funding.

Yvan Conoir

*Academic Coordinator – Summer Seminars on peace, humanitarian and peacebuilding operations UQAM
International Consultant*





The IBCR's Director of Programmes has been recruited to take command of this review, carried out in partnership with UNICEF, Save the Children Sweden and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict. Over 225 training tools have been analysed as part of this project, and nearly 80 training centres were surveyed on their teaching styles and strategies with respect to child protection.

An experts' retreat was organised in **New York in November 2011** to guide the development of the programme. At the end of March 2012, a workshop was held at the United Nations military base in **Brindisi, Italy**, with approximately forty experts, including a dozen representatives of UN Member States, to present the results of these analyses and determine the way forward in consolidating and harmonising the training of peacekeeping operations' personnel in child protection. During each of these two events, the IBCR's Director of Programmes acted as a facilitator, and was able to fuel the exchanges, armed with the strong work undertaken by the Bureau team on these issues.

In October 2011, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the Department of Field Support (DFS) initiated a comprehensive review of training for peacekeeping personnel in collaboration with UNICEF, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict and Save the Children Sweden. In the implementation of the project, DPKO/DFS worked with Guillaume Landry, the Director of Programmes at the International Bureau for Children's Rights, to conduct an analysis of existing training tools and activities and to survey peacekeeping training centres about their approach to child protection training. In the past six months, the IBCR collected and analysed over 225 training tools and materials on child protection used to train peacekeepers from all around the globe. It also analysed 79 responses to a survey from peacekeeping centres and trainers on child protection. The findings of the analysis informed discussions at the Experts Consultations on Child Protection Training for Peacekeepers convened by DPKO/DFS in Brindisi Italy from 28 to 30 March 2012. The Director of Programmes of the IBCR co-facilitated that consultation. The consultations brought together 42 participants from National Military Peacekeeping Training Centers, Regional Peacekeeping Training Centers, Peacekeeping Missions, UNICEF, OHCHR and Save the Children to discuss the current "state of training" of peacekeepers on child protection and to share lessons learned and good practices in the field of work.

The collaboration with the IBCR enriched this process since the IBCR is conducting similar reviews of training materials for national police and gendarmerie in West and Central Africa. The IBCR also has important networks and a deep reach with both national actors and UN agencies and programmes that we hope to continue to build upon in our collaboration. We are glad to continue this collaboration in 2012-2013.

Ann Makome

*Child Protection Focal Point Policy, Evaluation and Training Division
Department of Peacekeeping Operations/Department of Field Support United Nations*





Programme on Children and Justice



Catherine Beaulieu

*Deputy Director
of Programmes*

Child Trafficking

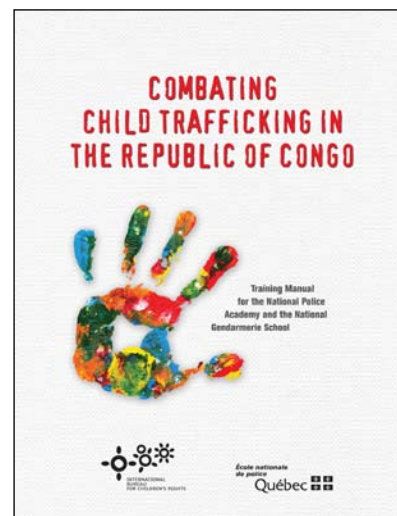
The IBCR's project combatting child trafficking: "Prevention of trafficking and protection of child victims in the Congo – Police officer and social worker training"

Since fall 2010, the Bureau has implemented a project entitled, "Prevention of Trafficking and Protection of Child Victims" in the Democratic Republic of Congo, with funding from the U.S. Department of State.

This project, which extends over two years (October 2010 to October 2012), aims to train key stakeholders, such as the police, gendarmes and social workers, to better equip them to combat trafficking and prevent and protect child victims.

This project reinforces the Congolese national strategy to combat the trafficking of children, which was previously limited to Pointe-Noire. The drafting of documents, such as mapping the state and non-state actors involved in this struggle and analysing the training needs of social workers, has helped to clarify the different mandates of these actors. This work has also enriched our knowledge of child trafficking in the Congo and its various manifestations.

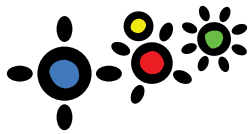
The Bureau has joined the Ministry of Social Affairs, Humanitarian Action and Solidarity (MASAHS), as well as UNICEF, to support the implementation of the project. We have also partnered with the National Superior School of Police (NPHS) and the National Gendarmerie School (EGN), both of which are among the main beneficiaries of the project.



In Quebec, the Bureau has partnered with the National Police School to draft a police training manual for the EGN and the NPHS. This manual was adapted to the Congolese context and takes into account the country's existing legal framework. At each stage of writing, the contents of the manual have been subject to validation by Congolese partners. The subjects covered meet the needs expressed by Congolese beneficiaries and include topics such as the different manifestations of child trafficking in Congo, interviewing a trafficked child, multisectoral collaboration, repression and a methodology for police intervention in contexts of child trafficking.



During the closing ceremony of a training workshop, with Mrs. Margaret Diop, Deputy Chief of Mission at the United States' Embassy in the Democratic Republic of Congo



I was a privileged witness of your devotion to the cause of children. Your ability and skill to deliver your message to policymakers, media, stakeholders and participants will undoubtedly open the path to a better world for children.

Mr. Guy Bruneau

*Interim Director
Professional Development Directorate
National Police College of Quebec*



The Congolese take the training in hand...

In February 2012, the Bureau trained a second group of police officers and gendarmes in Brazzaville. This training will be extended until September 2012 and will likewise be offered in Pointe-Noire. In all, 80 police officers and gendarmes will be trained on the prevention of trafficking, prosecution and victim protection. The Bureau hopes that, in the long term, these courses will be integrated into the regular programmes of both schools to ensure their sustainability.

Training of Trainers for Social Workers

In parallel, the Bureau began the second phase of the project to develop and deliver a training programme for social workers in this country so that they can provide effective assistance to child victims. A second manual has been developed by the Bureau, in partnership with UNICEF and MASAHS. The training of trainers and their colleagues will take place in the spring and summer of 2012.

Training of Trainers for Law Enforcement

In December 2011, Mr. Guy Bruneau of the National Police School of Quebec (ENPQ), Mr. Emmanuel Bayeni (IBCR consultant residing in Brazzaville, Congo) and the Director General jointly delivered a training workshop to 12 trainers from the National Gendarmerie School and the National Superior School of Police in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

This training was received with a great deal of interest and enthusiasm from the two participating institutions, as well as the participants.

The closing ceremony of the training workshop was presided over by the **Director of Cabinet of the Ministry of the Interior and Decentralisation (MID), Mr. Séraphin Ondélé**. He reiterated the firm commitment of Congo to fight against trafficking and to protect children who are victims of crime.

The child is not only a legal, but a fragile, being whose protection must resonate in us in terms of requirements, that is to say, of moral duty.

Mr. Seraphin Ondélé

*Director of Cabinet
Ministry of the Interior and Decentralisation*



Group picture with the Congolese trainers, Brazzaville, December 2011.



Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime

A Study on the Application of the *Guidelines* in Quebec

The Bureau team completed a multidisciplinary research and literature survey on how Canada, and particularly Quebec, upholds the rights of child victims and witnesses. The project, unique in the field, was made possible through the financial support of the National Office for Victims of Crime at the Department of Justice Canada.

The research report, entitled, *The Protection of Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime in Quebec : A Study on the Implementation of the Guidelines in Justice on Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime*, was published in the spring of 2011.

It illustrates the different points of view of several professionals involved with child victims and witnesses who generously agreed to participate in the study: lawyers, judges, social workers, medical personnel and others. This project shed light on the progress made, current good practices and a better understanding of the challenges that professionals, children themselves and their parents face in upholding their rights.

The IBCR Gives Voice to Child Victims of Crime

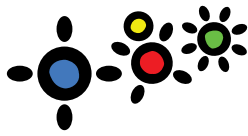
In a continuing effort to protect the rights of children and ensure that they are heard, as provided for under Article 12 of the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, the Bureau is set to launch the next phase this project, which consists of documenting the experiences and perspectives of child victims and witnesses of crime.



When conducting the CURE-project on child victims in the EU countries in 2009-2010, the IBCR inspired us throughout the project. The IBCR was helpful in providing us with useful comments on our recommendations. After the completion of the CURE-project, we enjoyed having a representative of the IBCR at our conference in Sweden and we were impressed by the report on how the UN guidelines on child victims and witnesses can be applied in a Canadian context. We are happy to have had the opportunity to share the knowledge and expertise of the ICBR.

Anna Wergens and Anna Sigfridsson

The Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority, Sweden



Programme Combatting Sexual Exploitation of Children

Rapid Assessment on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Girls and Boys, in Burundi

The Bureau was contracted as an international consultant to UNICEF Burundi to conduct a rapid assessment on the sexual exploitation of girls and boys in Burundi. This innovative project was implemented from 26 September to 25 December 2011. More than 300 children, including those in prison, living off prostitution, living in the streets, domestic workers and those found in the fishing industry and other fields, participated in this study. Moreover, children participated in some of the stages of project design and implementation. The rapid assessment was part of an initiative launched by the Government of Burundi, which aims to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by 2015 through its National Action Plan.

The objectives of this rapid assessment included determining whether commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) exists in Burundi and, if so, which children are more likely to be victims of it. The study also identified who is involved, where

this takes place, the process by which children become victims and how to prevent the phenomenon. The Bureau was responsible for creating the tools and the research protocol, developing questionnaires and documents to protect confidentiality, training workers to conduct the interviews and coordinating the work with an advisory committee.

After an initial phase of carrying out the research and consultation with key informants, 307 children were interviewed in five survey areas: Bujumbura, Makamba and Rumonge (south), Gitega (center) and Muyinga (north). The series of interviews was conducted over a period of four weeks. Of the children interviewed, some were intimately affected as victims, while others were affected as witnesses. The survey was also intended to shed light on the perceptions of child victims and witnesses of the phenomenon. It appeared that children needed to first speak about commercial sexual exploitation and then have their own stories heard. They were completely clear and fully conscious that their rights had been violated and, consequently, that their futures had been truly compromised.

It is also clear that the commercial sexual exploitation of children exists in all places and environments, and that all children are susceptible: at school, at home, in prison, in the streets,

Better knowledge on the situation of child victims of the worst forms of child sexual exploitation was what we gained in Burundi in 2012 with technical support from the International Bureau for Children's Rights. Indeed, the Government of Burundi initiated this study, with financial support from UNICEF, as part of the implementation of its National Action Plan to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labour 2010-2015. The Bureau was retained to conduct the work.

The Bureau conducted the large study, the first of its kind in Burundi, with the firm hand of professionals worthy of the task. From the development of questionnaires to the production of the final report, everything was conducted in compliance with international standards of protection for children's rights, assuring the delivery of a reliable and credible report in the field of child protection in Burundi.

This allows me to testify to the seriousness and professionalism of the IBCR. Therefore, allow me to recommend this organisation here to anyone who wants to lead the same kind of initiative as ours.

Mr. Bakary Sogoba

Chief of Protection, UNICEF Burundi



in refugee camps, displaced or in rural villages, at work, etc. Moreover, this phenomenon affects children at a very young age. Although the children we encountered were between 13 and 17 years of age, some indicated that they began to be sexually exploited before they reached the age of ten.

The commercial sexual exploitation of children in Burundi takes many forms: child prostitution, child sex tourism, forced early marriages, blackmail by teachers for better grades or to pass into the next grade. There are many causes of this phenomenon: poverty, the need for survival, and above all, the lack of alternatives, inadequate sex education, the inability to go to school, the erosion of values, widespread impunity and prolonged pre-trial detention of minors, as well as poor conditions of detention.

The report also highlights the children's living context, their journeys, the manner of their victimisation or how they witnessed commercial sexual exploitation, the people involved, their counterparts, the outcomes of the cases reported by children and their perception of available exit strategies. The survey also took testimony from government institutions, local and international NGOs on the phenomenon and the mechanisms in place to combat it.



With Mr. Boniface Ndayiragije, Director General of Work and Professional Development, responsible for the Evaluation Steering Committee.

Although the Government of Burundi has developed a National Plan of Action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, including the commercial sexual exploitation of children, other stakeholders must be involved: the private sector, the media, organisations responsible for law enforcement, teachers and principals, families and communities. Each has a role to play so that the children of Burundi can finally fully enjoy their rights as children. To present the report's recommendations, the Bureau visited Bujumbura in March 2012.

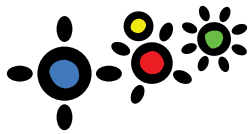


With the Burundian interviewers.

The International Bureau of Children's Rights, IBCR, is a truly reliable partner! I had the honour of working with the Bureau for a study on the "rapid assessment of the commercial sexual exploitation of children, boys and girls in Burundi" on behalf of the UNICEF mission in Burundi. For the duration of the study, I saw the commitment of the team to the cause of children, their mastery of tools, a team of professionals, all highly skilled, demanding and rigorous in their research, but always remaining an attentive partner, very easy to work with and always in good humour. I am proud to have been fortunate to work with some members of the IBCR team and hope with all my heart to repeat such an experience. Every encouragement to the team of the IBCR, you are a role model!

Caritas Niyonzima

*Lawyer-Consultant on Human Rights
Bujumbura, Burundi*



The Fight against Child Sex Tourism



Marco Antonio Sotelo

*Manager of the Programme
against Child Sex Tourism*

The National Coalition to Combat Child Sex Tourism

Together with the actions we have undertaken since 2009, we are proud of our collaboration with Toronto's OneChild youth organisation, which is involved exclusively in the fight against child sex tourism, and the organisation, Plan Canada. We also count on the support of UNICEF Canada.

The integrated communications agency BCP is pleased to partner with the International Bureau for Children's Rights. The nobility of the causes defended by the organisation is matched only by the passion of the people who devote themselves, body and soul, to this cause everyday. The fruitful collaboration between BCP and the Bureau resulted in a striking creation that will ultimately help to fight a scourge affecting thousands of children around the world: sex tourism. BCP wishes to reiterate its support to the International Bureau for Children's Rights and will continue in the future to help combat sex tourism with the final goal no less than the eradication of this problem in future years.

Laurent Nadeau

Brand Manager, Agence BCP



The Vancouver Forum

On April 13th 2011, the third forum on the "Protection of Children and Adolescents in Travel and Tourism" was hosted by Air Canada in its Vancouver offices. We were able to welcome guest speakers with impressive professional expertise and credentials in the field, who volunteered their time to speak on behalf of the issue.

Our guest speakers included:

- Brendan McCabe, Crown Prosecutor for the Kenneth Klassen case: *The prosecution of Canadian abusers under extraterritorial laws and its challenges*
- Brian McConaghy MSM, BA. – Ratanak International: *Investigation and Extraterritorial Law*
- Rosalind Currie, Office to Combat Human Trafficking (BC) Director of Policy and Stakeholder Relations: *The Human Trafficking Link*

Photo below taken at the Vancouver Forum in April 2011



Bonaventure Place, Montreal (Quebec): 19-21 October 2011 International Tourism and Travel Show, Montreal

The IBCR was invited to participate in the International Tourism and Travel Show by the show manager, Jean Provencher, free of charge. Our organisation was able to distribute campaign material and to inform a great number of private sector members, as well as the general public, in the Montreal area.

The Fair in numbers

- Circulation : 35,000 people on average
- Exhibitors : 153 (from the tourism private sector, tourism bureaus and consulates)
- 4 campaign posters were strategically placed at all 4 corners of the event hall
- 5,000 pamphlets were distributed among exhibitors and circulators
- Individual meetings were held with travel agencies

The Online Campaign: December 2011

The Banner Advertisement



The banner consisted of an animated sequence of images, shot and edited by Agence BCP, which, at the end of the animation, was programmed to link to the Facebook campaign page once clicked on. The final frame of the banner (image above) instructed viewers to join the cause and remain vigilant while travelling.

IBCR plays a critical role in raising the profile of child rights issues in Canada and in particular on some of the most difficult issues. IBCR's both global and national expertise on child rights and child protection issues has gained the organization an instrumental voice in influencing and forming partnerships with key actors and champions in the sector. Plan Canada has had the opportunity to work closely with IBCR on the campaign against sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism where IBCR has managed to bring together a broad range of partners from law enforcement to corporations to work together toward the same end goal. IBCR has been a leader in exploring new approaches to raising awareness amongst Canadians of these child protection crimes.

Nadine Grant

Programme Director Plan Canada



The IBCR was able to secure enthusiastic partnerships with Montreal and Toronto-based travel websites. After many communication efforts and significant follow up with an extensive list of online travel agencies and tour companies, we were successful in partnering with eight companies who were extremely motivated and thoroughly involved in the programming.

The Facebook Page: *Eyes on Patrol/Restez vigilant*

The campaign's Facebook page acquired 1,800 followers, either directed to the campaign from the electronic banner, the Facebook advertisement, or from the IBCR's, Plan's or OneChild's pre-existing online followers.

"Eyes on Patrol/Restez vigilant":

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Eyes-on-Patrol-Restez-vigilant/247577048638804>



The Secretariat of the Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct (TheCode.org), congratulates the IBCR for their ongoing and dedicated efforts to put forward the importance of preventing CST within Canada and in destination countries. We look forward to further develop our collaboration expanding the Canadian tourism industry engagement in the cause of child protection.

Dr. Camelia Tepelus

*Regional Manager – Americas and Europe,
Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children
from Sexual Exploitation*

Media coverage 2010-2011

For more information on media coverage, please see the IBCR website: www.ibcr.org

- Radio coverage from CBF FM, CHMP FM and CJAD AM
- Television coverage from CBFT, CFCF, Télé V (Face à face), and Télé Québec (Les francs-tireurs)

More needs to be done...

- Bilateral collaboration between Canada and destination countries is necessary in order to enhance the prosecution of sex offenders, as well as greater coordination efforts between Canada and the main Canadian travel destinations where high incidents of CST have been reported.
- This collaboration should take the form of a bilateral campaign where travelers receive information on the existence of Canadian extraterritorial law and the local child protection laws in a given country from both travel agencies and airlines in Canada, as well as from hotels in destination countries.
- Canadian and local authorities should coordinate in sharing information; this would include RCMP liaison officers, embassies and consulates, etc. A bilateral campaign such as this one must include evaluation mechanisms in order to assess its impact and to determine its success in leading to increased arrests and convictions.

A plea for action against the sexual exploitation of children by promoting the actions undertaken by the private sector

On the Facebook page, we are able to promote the best practices from tourism, hotel and airline companies which have implemented policies to fight against child sex tourism.

- They have either demonstrated good corporate social responsibility through the signing of the Code of Conduct, creating their own social programme and outreach to children affected by sexual exploitation, or
- They have supported our campaign by posting our banner on their travel websites.
- The Facebook page contains information about the issue of CST for individuals, members of the tourism industry and NGOs
- It also provides instructions and the link to the official witness reporting channel: www.cybertip.ca
- The page also contains albums consisting of images from campaigns by other NGOs, photos from the campaign launch, media coverage of Plan Canada, as well as OneChild's projects to prevent CST and their work for child victims of CST.



The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism

The Code of Conduct is an industry-driven, responsible tourism initiative co-funded by the Swiss Government (SECO) and by the private tourism sector and supported by the ECPAT International network. Advisory partners are UNICEF and UNWTO.

The IBCR is now the Local Canadian Representative of the Code. Companies are able to sign on through the IBCR and become leaders in Corporate Social Responsibility policies.

To this day 1030 companies from 42 countries have signed the CODE.

Suppliers of tourism services adopting the Code commit themselves to implement the following six criteria:

- 1) To establish an ethical policy regarding the sexual exploitation of children
- 2) To train personnel in the country of origin and travel destinations
- 3) To introduce a clause in contracts with suppliers, stating a common repudiation of commercial sexual exploitation of children
- 4) To provide information to travellers by means of catalogues, brochures, in-flight films, ticket slips, home pages, etc.
- 5) To provide information to local “key persons” at the destinations
- 6) To report annually

We would like to encourage the Canadian Government to actively promote the signing of The Code and the implementation of other child protection practices that can be adopted by the private sector in tourism, consistent with Corporate Social Responsibility policies.

The IBCR’s next steps: Child participation and working bi-nationally, thanks to the support of the Canadian International Development Agency

Costa Rica

The IBCR, in collaboration with Fundacion Paniamor and with the support of World Vision Canada, is beginning a new project in Costa Rica, which aims to improve collaboration and enhance the prosecution of these kinds of crimes against children. Moreover, the project will focus on working directly with children, families, and communities of the most affected areas in Costa Rica, providing information, tools and the creation of a support network for the victims of this exploitation. Adolescents will receive information about mechanisms of self-protection and income generating alternatives to commercial sexual exploitation.



The International Bureau for Children's Rights' Fundraiser in November 2011

In November, two members of the Board, Madam Justice Anne Marie Trahan and Sebastien Caron, organised a benefit event for children and adults under the auspices of the International Day for the Rights of the Child, with the generous support of Cinemas GUZZO at the Mega-Plex Central Market 18 (Guzzo Cinemas).

Two episodes of *The Parent*, produced by La Presse TV and broadcast on Radio-Canada, were aired for the guests. We were able to count on the presence of actors from the famous TV series, which is a huge hit at home and around the world. We also secured the participation of the programme's writer, Mr. Jacques Davidts.

A cocktail party prior to the screening gave the guests the opportunity to meet Jacques Davidts, Joey Scapellino, Raphaël Grenier-Benoit and Louis-Philippe Beauchamp, the actors who play the three children, Thomas, Oli and Zac, respectively.

The event raised \$23,024 CAD for the Bureau.

BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DES DROITS DES ENFANTS

SOIRÉE BÉNÉFICE

Octobre 2011

Chère Madame, cher Monsieur,

Nous avons le grand plaisir de vous convier à la première soirée bénéfice annuelle organisée au profit du Bureau international des droits des enfants.



Le lundi 14 novembre 2011 à 18 h 30
au Mega-Plex Marché Central 18 (Cinéma Guzzo)
 901, boul. Crémazie Ouest, Montréal (Québec) H4N 3M5

Nous vous présenterons deux épisodes de l'émission *Les Parent*, produite par La Presse Télé et diffusée sur Radio-Canada. Ces épisodes auront été choisis par Jacques Davidts, l'auteur de cette émission qui connaît un immense succès chez nous et à travers le monde.

Lors du cocktail qui précédera la projection, grâce à la collaboration de La Presse Télé, vous pourrez rencontrer, outre Jacques Davidts, Joey Scapellino, Raphaël Grenier-Benoit et Louis-Philippe Beauchamp, les interprètes de Thomas, Oli et Zac, les trois enfants.

Votre présence à cette soirée permettra au Bureau international des droits des enfants (www.ibcr.org) de poursuivre sa mission et d'entreprendre des projets novateurs et catalyseurs de changements significatifs en matière de respect et de mise en œuvre des droits de l'enfant partout dans le monde.

Les billets sont actuellement en vente au coût de 150 \$ l'unité. Vous recevrez un reçu d'impôt pour la portion éligible de ce montant. Les fonds recueillis bénéficieront directement aux activités du Bureau.

Nous espérons que vous pourrez être des nôtres le 14 novembre pour souligner de façon festive et joyeuse le 22^e anniversaire de l'adoption de la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant et nous vous prions de croire à nos sentiments les meilleurs.

Le comité d'organisateur
 RSVP: info@ibcr.org







Revenues and Expenditures



Luc Ouimet

Director of administration, MBA

Financial statements 2011-2012

The budget of the International Bureau for Children's Rights for the period 2011-2012 was CAD 1,033,227 \$.

The surplus of expenditures over revenues as of 31 March 2012 was CAD 106,470 \$.

Revenues

April 1st 2011 to March 31st 2012

During the period 2011-2012, activities were made possible through private contributions (21,1 %), contributed services (20,6 %), government contributions (24,7 %) and international organizations contributions (33,6 %), for a total revenue of CAD 1,033,227 \$.

Expenditures

April 1st 2011 to March 31st 2012

Governance and administrative expenditures amounted to CAD 60,705 \$ and CAD 856,286 \$ was invested in program development. Total expenditures amounted to CAD 916,991 \$.

Sister Sheila Sullivan, cnd, Treasurer

Auditor:
Rocheleau Labranche and
Associates Chartered Accountants

Note : Copies of the official audited Financial Statements will be made available during summer 2012 at the International Bureau for Children's Rights.



Acknowledgements

The daily work of the International Bureau for Children's Rights is made possible thanks to the generous contributions of donors:

Our Institutional Donors

- Caisse de dépôt et de placement du Québec
- Centraide
- Clarisses-Valleyfield
- Comité Central de Partage (Les Œuvres Le Royer)
- Congrégation de Notre-Dame
- Congrégation de Notre-Dame de Charité du Bon-Pasteur
- Congregation of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Dominicaines de la Trinité
- Les Filles de Jésus
- Filles de la Charité de Saint-Vincent de Paul
- Filles de La Croix
- Filles de La Sagesse du Canada
- Filles de Marie de l'Assomption
- Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
- Institut de Notre-Dame du Bon Conseil de Montréal
- Missionnaires Oblates de St-Boniface
- Moniales Carmélites Déchaussés
- Oblates Franciscaines de St-Joseph
- Petites Sœurs de la Sainte Famille
- Servantes du Saint Cœur de Marie (Fonds Marie François)
- Sisters of Charity of St-Louis-Calgary
- Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception-St-John's
- Sisters of Providence of Saint-Vincent de Paul
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- Sisters of Saint Joseph (Diocese of London)
- Société de Marie Réparatrice
- Sœurs de l'Assomption de la Ste-Vierge (Œuvres Hedwige Buisson)
- Sœurs de la Charité d'Ottawa
- Sœurs de la Charité de St-Louis
- Sœurs de l'Institut Jeanne d'Arc
- Sœurs de la Présentation de Marie du Québec
- Sœurs de la Providence
- Sœurs de Notre-Dame Auxiliatrice: (Œuvres Louis Rheume)
- Sœurs de Notre-Dame du St-Rosaire
- Sœurs de la Congrégation de Ste-Anne
- Sœurs de Ste-Croix
- Sœurs de St-François d'Assise
- Sœurs de St-Joseph de Ste-Hyacinthe
- Sœurs de St-Noms de Jésus et Marie
- Sœurs Franciscaines Missionnaires de l'Immaculée Conception
- Sœurs Trinitaires
- Ursulines of Chatham
- Ursulines-Québec-Maison Générale
- Gouvernement du Canada – Agence canadienne de développement international
- Gouvernement du Canada – Ministère de la Justice
- Gouvernement du Canada – Ministère des Affaires Étrangères et du Commerce International
- Gouvernement du Québec – Ministère de la Justice
- Organisation internationale de la Francophonie
- Patrimoine Canada
- Plan Canada
- Save the Children Canada
- Save the Children – Sweden
- UNICEF, Bureau régional pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
- UNICEF Sénégal
- UNICEF Niger
- UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire
- UNICEF République du Congo
- UNICEF Tchad
- UNICEF Burkina Faso
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- Ms. Micheline Stringer

Every year, the International Bureau for Children's Rights is fortunate and privileged to be able to count on professionals, interns and students who volunteer their time and their services to effectively implement our programmes. Thanks to them and a small, but efficient, organisation, the Bureau is able to continue its mission while minimising certain costs, among them, administrative. Special thanks go to those who have agreed to be interviewed, who participated in focus groups or who have shared their constructive comments in connection with the implementation of our projects.