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# Quarterly Bulletin of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Family

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Vienna NGO Committee on the Family

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Dear Readers of Families International.

This issue aims to draw attention to the preparations for the upcoming 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSD) of the United Nations to be held from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2011. The provisional agenda is included inside this issue. The priority theme will be 'Poverty Reduction'. The CSD will also receive and debate a "Report of the Secretary-General on the appropriate way and means to observe the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (in 2014)."

Also enclosed in this issue is the Statement for the CSD, prepared by the Board of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Family, and distributed to member organisations, which are in official relations with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations for possible signature. The signed document is then forwarded to the Secretariat for submission to the CSD.

As was mentioned in the previous issue, Nr. 73, the term of office of the Board of the Committee expires on Nov. 4th 2010, when a new Board will be elected at a Full Committee Meeting, which will follow an International Forum, at the United Nations Vienna International Centre, entitled. "Family Violence Defies Basic Human Rights with Dr. Tara Pir, Los Angeles. Cf. inside this issue for further details.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation and support of the endeavours of the Committee and also for your contributions to Families International.

With kind regards,

Dr. phil. Peter Crowley

Editor

(Deputy Chairperson)



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# 49th Session of the Commission of Social Development

United Nations E/CN.5/2010/L.2



### **Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: Limited 9 February 2010

Original: English

**Commission for Social Development** 

Forty-eighth session

3-12 February 2010

Agenda item 5

Provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-ninth session of the Commission for Social Development

- 1. Election of officers.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
- 3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
  - (a) Priority theme: poverty eradication;

### Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on poverty eradication

- (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
- (i) World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;
- (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;
- (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;
- (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;

### Documentation

- Report of the Secretary-General on the appropriate ways and means to observe the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (in 2014)
- Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth
- Report of the Secretary-General on the strategic implementation framework for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002 E/CN.5/2010/L.2





Note by the Secretary-General on the monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

(c) Emerging issues (to be determined).

### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General on the emerging issues

- 4. Programme questions and other matters:
  - (a) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013;
  - (b) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

### **Documentation**

- Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
- Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
- Note by the Secretariat on the draft programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2012-2013
- 5. Provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission.
- 6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-ninth session.



Statement prepared by the Board of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Family for submission to the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Commission for Social Development and signed by member organisations (cf. below)

Commission for Social Development 49<sup>th</sup> Session 2-11 February 2011

Agenda item: 3 (a): Priority theme: poverty eradication

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"We commit ourselves to the goals of eradicating poverty in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation, as an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind" (World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen 6-12 March 1995, Copenhagen Declaration Commitment 2).

There is a persistence of poverty situations, in spite of commitments and programmes of action to eradicate poverty, at both national and international levels. The distance existing between respective administrations and the social reality of hunger and malnutrition could point to a possible cause of the lack of solutions and the resultant persistence.

Widespread poverty particularly affects developing countries. Deficient or non-existent infrastructure services, injustice and corruption can create social dysfunction, which can be further exacerbated by natural disasters, such as drought, as well as by armed conflicts, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which can wipe out vast population areas in numerable countries.

The eradication of poverty requires universal access to basic social services such as education, health care, safe water supply and sanitation measures.

Poverty, however, is also part of the social structure of severable developed countries, that "fourth world" that arises unexpectedly before our eyes.

The not seldom considerable distance between the dehumanizing situation of poverty and a remote administrative system calls for interceding agencies, and there is no more effective gobetween than the family; the safety net where the basic needs are met, even in crisis situations such as, poverty, unemployment, delinquency, drug addiction, and HIV/AIDS. Children, youth, the disabled and elderly members all benefit from a readily available network, such as the family, concurrent to state infrastructures.

All over the world, families are as different as they are alike. Families are essential to the world's future, and are the cradle of generations to come. Everywhere the strengths and weaknesses of families reflect the fabric of society. As the world's basic human relationship, the family has survived thousands of years, adapting to changing socio-economic conditions and the progress of humanity.

Greater attention should hence be focused on families and on promoting awareness of the contribution made by families the world over.

A family dimension, should therefore, also be implicit, in all policies and documents related to poverty.



# News from the Vienna Committee of the Family

The following member organizations of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Family have added their signature to the above statement:

- ACWW Associated Country Women of the World
- ICCFM International Confederation of Christian Family Movements
- ICP International Council of Psychologists
- ICW International Council of Women
- IFFD International Federation for Family Development
- IFHE International Federation for Home Economics
- International Inner Wheel
- SI Soroptimist International

# www.viennafamilycommittee.org

### International Forum & Full Committee Meeting

Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup> 2010 10.00-12.00 & 14.00-16.30
United Nations Vienna International Centre Conference Room MOE 79
"FAMILY VIOLENCE DEFIES BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS"

Dr. Tara Pir, Los Angeles, clinical psychologist and diplomat in behavioural medicine and professional psychotherapy for over 30 years.

The intent is to demonstrate how so many people in the world are prisoners of cultural traditions that condone violence as a solution to social issues. The presentation will provide the scope and depth of this pandemic violence, as well as a recommendation for interventions from local community levels to global levels.

You may register at famcom.vienna@utanet.at please not later than Thursday October 28th.

Administrative Session Full Committee Meeting

# 14.00 - 16.30

## Agenda

- i. Approval of the Agenda
- ii. Approval of the Minutes of the Full Committee
- iii. Report of the Chairperson
- iv. Report of the Treasurer
- v. Elections to the Board
- vi. Reports from Member Organisations
- vii. Any other Business
- viii. Date and Place of next Full Committee Meeting



# Recent and Forthcoming events

# 21<sup>ST</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2010

NORTHERN TERRITORIES, AUSTRALIA

# Youth Futures Symposium

Presented by the Menzies School of Health Research

Facilitated by: Kate Senior and Jacqueline Boyle with invited presenters

Registration by: Wednesday 13th October 2010

### Who should attend?

- Researchers interested in adolescent health & well being
- Service providers

### The Course

Youth Futures is a two day health symposium which aims to share current research in youth health, workshop future plans and discuss how research can link with the delivery of youth health services.

### Invited Presenters will include:

- Professor Robert Power, the Burnett Institute
- Professor George Patton, the Centre for Adolescent Health
- Professor Susan Sawyer, Director of Adolescent Health, Paediatrics Royal Children's Hospital
- Associate Professor Victoria Burbank, University of Western Australia

<u>Professor Robert Power</u> is Principal for Disease Prevention at the Burnet Institute in Melbourne, Australia. He is also a Professor in the School of Population Health, University of Melbourne and an Adjunct Professor at Monash University. His main focus has been on community-level interventions for injecting drug use and in reducing the spread of HIV infection. Other areas of his work have included: the broad empirical and theoretical aspects of harm reduction; service delivery and screening for tuberculosis; marginalized populations; ethnography; the relationship between the treatment of illicit drug use and harm reduction; and the management and psycho-social implications of HIV anti-retroviral therapy. He is currently leading Burnet's Aboriginal Health Initiative.

<u>George Patton</u> is VicHealth Professor/Director of Adolescent Health Research at the Centre for Adolescent Health. The Centre is prominently involved in adolescent health research, service delivery to young people, youth development and education of professionals working with young people. Professor Patton is a psychiatrist with extensive experience of the common health, emotional and behavioural problems of young people. He has been extensively involved in studying the factors underlying these problems in adolescence as well as developing and testing the effectiveness of prevention strategies. Much of this work has taken place in the settings in which young people live and work (school, local neighbourhoods and families). As well as chairing this committee he also sits on the National Expert Advisory Committee on Illicit Drugs.

<u>Professor Susan Sawyer</u> is a paediatrician by training; she holds the inaugural chair of Adolescent Health within the Department of Paediatrics at the University of Melbourne and has helped define the field of adolescent health within Australia and increasingly internationally. In various leadership roles, Professor Sawyer has influenced the development of adolescent health into a widely accepted multidisciplinary area of practice.



# Topics to be covered

The first day of the symposium will focus on youth friendly research methods and the second will focus on youth friendly services. Youth futures involve and inform a variety of stakeholders in youth health, including service providers, researchers and service users. A vital aspect of the symposium is the involvement of young people, who are invited to attend the workshop and contribute through a youth forum which will be held on the evening of the first day. It is anticipated that the youth forum will provide a much needed space for youth to express their ideas in relation to their needs for health service and also for them to gain leadership experience.

# Morning and afternoon teas and lunches will be provided

### **APPLICATION AVAILABLE HERE:**

http://www.menzies.edu.au/education-and-training/short-courses/workshops

# FOR FURTHER DETAILS and registration contact:

# Sharon Thompson

Education Co-ordinator
Education and Training Division
Menzies School of Health Research

Phone: 08 8922 6949

Email: sharon.thompson@menzies.edu.au

# **25**<sup>TH</sup> **OCTOBER 2010**

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Note: The forum is free but places are limited. Bookings are essential for catering. Lunch is kindly provided by The Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health (CERSH).

### The forum

Annabelle and Beata have extensive experience working with refugee and immigrant women who have experienced sexual violence, including torture and trauma.

Together, they bring more than two decades of practice knowledge from the Queensland-based Immigrant Women's Support Service (IWSS) Sexual Assault Program, and from working with refugees and people from CALD backgrounds.

In this forum, the presenters will:

- highlight issues faced by counsellors and women from CALD backgrounds as they traverse two cultures:
- define and discuss some of the expectations and assumptions that women encounter when they attempt to access support services;
- discuss how one's practice can, and does, result in exclusion and discrimination for women from CALD backgrounds; and
- suggest good practice for service providers in relation to effective cross-cultural service provision for NESB and CALD women who have been subjected to sexual violence.

The presentation will be followed by group discussions of case studies and questions from the floor.

This forum will be of interest to settlement workers, multicultural services, sexual assault services, domestic violence services, and social workers in health settings and government services, including housing and Centrelink.



### The presenters

Immigrant Women's Support Service (IWSS)

The <u>IWSS Sexual Assault Program in Queensland</u> provides community education and training specifically on sexual violence to the multicultural sector, and service providers generally, as part of its service delivery.

### **Annabelle Allimant**

Annabelle has worked in settlement, torture/trauma and sexual assault counselling, rehabilitation and other projects. These roles have deepened her understandings of crucial issues for families and individuals from CALD backgrounds and the difference a supportive and well-informed client-practitioner relationship can make to long-term adjustment in Australia.

Annabelle is originally from Chile and identifies her practice to be informed by her personal, professional and researched experiences. Annabelle has an interest in issues of violence for women and has been the National NESB representative in WESNET, and held a position on the Ministerial Advisory Council for Domestic and Family Violence 2008–09. She has been a member of a multicultural NGO's Board and was the Director of IWSS for a number of years.

Beata Ostapiej-Piatkowski

Beata is the coordinator of the Sexual Assault Program in IWSS, where she has been providing counselling and advocacy to women from NESB for more than 7 years. Her professional experiences include work within mainstream sexual assault services, work with young women, and work with refugees, both overseas and in Australia. Beata has worked on various projects related to issues of sexual violence for immigrants.

Beata is of Polish background and has personally experienced a variety of dichotomies of civil rights in various countries.

# The venue

University of Melbourne Rural Health Academic Centre is across the road from GV Health and past the pedestrian crossing.

There is no available onsite parking for forum attendees.

Parking is available across the road in the GV Health Car Park at a cost of \$5.00 per day or in the surrounding streets.

Please ensure you observe the signs.

FURTHER INFORMATION: RSVP: 11 October - 03 9214 7888 or via the ACSSA website

# $4^{TH} - 5^{TH}$ NOVEMBER 2010

STIRLING, SCOTLAND

Wealth of a Nation: building smarter services for Scotland's children and young people Children in Scotland Annual Conference 2010

## Thursday 4 November 2010- Programme - Day 1

Time	Description
08:30 - 09:00	Registration, refreshments and exhibitions
09:00 - 09:05	Welcome from Children in Scotland Bronwen Cohen, Chief Executive, Children in Scotland
09:05 - 09:15	Welcome and introduction from Stirling Council Linda Kinney, Assistant Chief Executive, Stirling Council
09:15 - 09:35	Building smarter services: a Stirling perspective



09:35 - 09:45	Bob Jack, Chief Executive, Stirling Council Questions
09:45 - 10:00	Refreshments and exhibitions
10:00 - 12:00	Study visits and workshops
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch and exhibitions
13:00 - 13:05	Welcome from the Chair
	Inequality and welfare systems
13:05 - 13:45	Inequality and child wellbeing Richard Wilkinson, Emeritus of Social Epidemiology, University of Not- tingham Medical School and Co-Founder, The Inequality Trust and au- thor of The Impact of Inequality, How to Make Sick Societies Healthier and co-author of The Spirit Level: Why More Equal Societites Almost Always Do Better.
13:45 - 13:55	Questions
	Do integrated services improve children's outcomes and can they contribute to a shift in resources?
13:55 - 14:25	Caring and learning together: going all the way with integration Peter Moss, Professor in Early Childhood Provision, Thomas Corum Re- search Unit, Institute of Education, University of London
14:25 - 14:40	Questions
14:40 - 15:10	Refreshments and exhibitions The arts in promoting learning and understanding across communities
15:10 - 15:30	The importance of the arts in improving wellbeing and developing life- long learning Richard Holloway, Chair, Sistema Scotland
15:30 - 15:45	Questions
15:45 - 16:00	Conference close
16:00 - 16:45	Children in Scotland Annual General Meeting 2010 Children in Scotland members are invited to attend this year's AGM (ends 16:45)
18:00 - 19:00	Drinks reception Hosted by Provost of Stirling. Councillor Fergus Wood
19:00	Annual Conference Dinner After dinner speaker Jim Martin, Scottish Public Services Ombudsman



# Friday 5 November 2010- Day 2

Time	Description
08:30 - 09:00	Registration, refreshments and exhibition
09:00 - 09:10	Welcome from the Chair Sally McNair, Journalist and Broadcaster, BBC Scotland
	Workforce development - steps towards a successful multi-agency approach
09:10 - 09:25	The integrated approach to service provision: unpicking the complexity of commissioning across traditional boundaries Chris Husbands, Dean, Faculty of Culture and Pedagogy, Institute of Education, University of London
09:25 - 09:35	Questions
09:35 - 09:50	The Portel Vertical Cluster: establishing a framework for educational activities on an area-wide basis Luis Ribero, Director, Portel Vertical Cluster, Portugal
09:50 - 10:05	Questions Family and integenerational learning
10:05 - 10:20	Can engaging families lead to better outcomes? Karen Cholmley, Senior Project Officer for Family Learning, National Institute of Adult Continuing Education
10:20 - 10:35	Questions
10:35 - 11:00	Refreshments and exhibition
11:00 - 11:45	Key perspectives sessions (please select one)
	1. Child poverty: why do children's views matter and do we listen well enough to children?
	Chair: John Dickie, Head, Child Poverty Action Group Scotland

Chair: John Dickie, Head, Child Poverty Action Group Scotland Speaker: Douglas Hamilton, Head of Policy and Research, Save the Children Scotland

2. How do we deliver integrated services for a healthy future?

Chair: John Frogatt, Deputy Director, Child and Maternal Health Division in the Scottish Government

Speaker: Kate McKay, National Clinical Leader for Child Health, Scottish Government (TBC)

3. Young people leaving care: what are the pathways to more effective lifelong learning?

Chair: Mark Smith, Lecturer, Social Work, School of Social and Political Studies, The University of Edinburgh

Speaker: Sonia Jackson, Professor in Social Studies and Education, Thomas Coram Research Unit, Institute of Education, University of London

4. Working it out What qualifications do we need for staffing smarter services?

Chair:Catherine Rainey, Head of Workforce Development, Scottish Government



	Speaker: Alan Blackie, Chief Executive, East Lothian Council
11:45 - 12:10	Building smarter services: from argument to action - a panel discussion John Frogatt, Deputy Director, Child and Maternal Health Division in the Scottish Government Catherine Rainey, Head of Workforce Development, The Scottish Government Linda Kinney, Assistant Chief Executive, Stirling Council Isabel Hutton, Convenor, West Lothian Council
12:10 - 12:20	Questions
12:20 - 12:30	Chair's closing remarks
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 14:00	Ministerial Address Minister for Children and Early Years, Adam Ingram MSP
14:00 - 16:00	Scotland's National Children's Forum Put your questions to our panel of at the Forum's 'Question Time'. Hear the hot topics for the 2011 election debated and take part in what will certainly be a lively discussion. The meeting of the Forum is open to all Children in Scotland members, whether or not they are attending Con- ference. All conference delegates are welcome to attend.
16:00	Close

## 11 & 12 NOVEMBER 2010

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

# QEC's 6th International Conference

Connecting with Families: Creating Opportunities for Growth

## 10th November - Pre Conference Workshops

We are delighted to facilitate the 2010 conference to bring together professionals from a wide range of disciplines, sharing a common interest in child and family wellbeing and the essential role of supporting the development of sensitive and responsive parenting. Evidence abounds that the early care giving environment plays a crucial role in a child's healthy development: a warm, caring and nurturing relationship with the child's carers will maximise emotional, psychological, social and intellectual development and assist the journey to stable, productive and fulfilled adulthood.

The challenge for us all is how to engage and work more effectively with diverse communities and the families which might not readily engage with our services. Working to effect improved outcomes for those children at risk of poorer life outcomes depends on us meeting this challenge. The QEC conference provides a wonderful opportunity for us to come together to share and increase our understanding of what works best, from current research findings to practical examples from the field.

The contribution of the staff providing services to children and families cannot be underestimated and has been demonstrated as the crucial element in successful outcomes. Recruiting and retaining a skilled workforce poses a very real challenge to the quality of services available to children and families in the future. We are pleased to include in our 2010 conference themes, an opportunity to explore best practice in supporting and developing partnerships between organisations and their staff in our combined efforts towards assisting families and developing community capacity.

FURTHER INFORMATION: www.qec.org.au/conference-2010\_.php?id=101



# **25TH – 26TH NOVEMBER 2010**

ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

'Developing effective integrated place-based support for children and families.'

Conference Theme

South Australia is developing some key initiatives for families with young children that offer effective integrated services and community support. The inaugural Children Communities

Connections Conference in 2008 brought together key practitioners, researchers and policy makers to further these developments.

This conference aims to equip practitioners and policy makers in some of the more challenging areas of delivering timely support to vulnerable families. There will be a strong focus on prevention, early intervention and child protection.

### Conference Streams:

- 1. Rediscovering community development
- 2. Integrated children and families centres the way forward?
- 3. System sustainability
- 4. Child and family wellbeing lessons from other cultures
- 5. Developing social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing in children
- 6. Supporting vulnerable children and their families

ABSTRACTS of up to 250 words relating to any of these streams are now invited. Please specify which stream your abstract relates to and include a brief bio of up to 50 words with your contact details.

Email abstracts to: karl.brettig@aus.salvationarmy.org

Closing date: July 31st

**FURTHER DETAILS** of full conference program will be available on the Salisbury Communities for Children's website on: www.salisburyc4c.org.au

## - Confirmed Speakers.

# **Professor Marianne Berry**

Professor Marianne Berry is an international leader in child and family welfare and the new Director of the Australian Centre for Child Protection. Professor Berry has extensive experience across the spectrum of child welfare policy, practice and research, with a particular interest in program and practice evaluation, family preservation and adoption. She began her career as a social worker, working in schools, child protection services and as a policy analyst and became co-founder and Director of the Centre for Child Welfare at the University of Texas. Professor Berry has been based at the University of Kansas School of Social Welfare since 1998, spearheading a number of major research projects and training contracts to improve child and family welfare policy and practice in the United States.

# **Professor Paula Barrett**

Paula is Professor of Educational Psychology University of Queensland and director of the Pathways Health and Research Centre. She is one of Australia's leading scholars in the area of prevention of anxiety disorders in children.

## **Professor Margaret Sims**

Margaret is currently developing training in integrated early childhood services leadership, including masters level, at the University of New England where she is professor of Early Childhood. She is highly



regarded for her work in early childhood research, Designing Family Support Programs (her first book) and multicultural issues.

### **Mr Paul Prichard**

Paul works with the Centre for Community Child Health; Murdoch Children's Research Institute and leads the learning and development strategy for the roll out of Child and Families Centres in Tasmania. He has a specialist interest in promoting the important role fathers play in the lives of Australian children.

### **Dr Elspeth McInnes**

Senior Lecturer and research degree coordinator in early childhood at the University of South Australia, Elspeth is currently doing research into the effectiveness of integrated early childhood services.

# 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER - 02<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2010

AUSTRALIA, NEWCASTLE

6th National Family and Community Strengths Conference

It is over 10 years since the Inaugural Family Strengths Conference was held in Newcastle. Over this time there has been a continued growth in the ways in which strength-based approaches are used in research, program delivery and policy development in family and community work. This conference will focus on the ways in which family well-being is promoted through effective practice, research and policy and how we can effectively measure the true impact of our work. The themes listed below highlight the multitude of ways that strengths and assets can be the building block in all aspects of family and community work. The themes also provide the opportunity for presentations that explore debates and tensions in strengths based policy and practice.

# The Conference themes for the AFaCS are:

- Promoting family well-being
- Measuring what works and why
- Learning from promising practice
- Developing effective policy
- Linking research and practice
- Understanding the power of place

FURTHER INFORMATION: www.ifsw.org/p38002108.html?force\_folder=038000084



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