

**AN EVALUATION OF
THE CHILDREN PARLIAMENT EXPERIENCE
2000-2010
DEMOCRACY SCHO
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introduction

This study was prepared to evaluate the children parliament for the importance of this project. Children Parliament is considered to be one of the most important projects in Democracy School in the last 10 years. The support and fund of Save the Children , UNICEF and other international organizations was the reason for the continuity and success of the children parliament along with the partnership with the government and NGOs. Because of this we made this study transparently and honestly to show the duration of this project , negatives, and positives from our prospective and our partners perspective.

We hope that this study shows the impression of the small parliament members and partners in order to transfer their hopes and to improve the children parliament in the future honestly, clearly, and transparently.

Jamal Abdullah Al-shami

Founder of the Children's Parliament

Chairman of the Democratic School

Introduction

The Children Parliament (CP) in the Republic of Yemen (ROY) is one of the attempts that granted a bigger participation for the children in expressing their views regarding their issues and questioning many governmental and non – governmental sides about their rights. The past period of the CP experience have witnessed five rounds of elections since the start of the CP in 2000 until the last elections in 2010. Members of the CP were able to meet many governmental and non – governmental sides and draw the attention to several issues related to their rights forcing the recognition of these problems as serious threats for the children that have direct impacts on their lives, health and stability such as the issues of; children in dispute with the law; child trafficking; child labor; child rights in national legislations; compulsory education; fighting against violent punishments in schools and other child related institutions; early marriage; corruption and its impact on children; the status of displaced children; children soldiers and children involvement in armed conflicts; child health and nutrition; the rights of children with special needs; and the urgency of increasing children share of the state general budget. CP has presented the first shadow report about the children situation which was prepared by the children themselves and conducted various field inspections that ended in detailed reports about child related issues including (registering newly born, the status of children in detention, the status of children in health centers and hospitals, children in care houses and refugee children). Members of the CP have also discussed reports prepared by the Government in relation to the extent to which the obligations International Child Rights Treaty (ICR) and the two protocols are applied in addition to other reports.

Democracy School – the NGO responsible for organizing the CP elections and sponsoring its activities – along with its most important partner in this issue – Save the Children – decided to conduct this evaluation of the CP experience ten years after it began. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the impacts of the experience on the children members and to pin point developments, strengths and weaknesses that would help enhance the experience in the future. The evaluation was focused on finding out the extent to which the CP has achieved its objectives as mentioned in its documents especially that the Yemeni experience is distinguished from other Arab similar experiences by being systematic and its continuity since the year

2000, 2004. It is also organized and implemented throughout all its stages by a civil society organization (Democracy School) in cooperation with various sides in both the government and non government as well as the international organizations.

The evaluation used several tools to cross check the information including; personal interviews with a number of child members, partners, donors, and CP program staff; questionnaires; FGDs that involved several members of the CP as well as other children who took part of the CP activities; and desk reviewing the CP documents, files as well as the Democracy School (DS) website. DS website is supposed to provide all the information related to the CP and the CP public link on the face book was also reviewed.

The evaluation has covered the following points: the pros and cons of the CP from the children's point of view, the level of participation in decision making, the levels of protection and consideration given to children's interests, ways to improve the experience, the level to which children appreciate their participation in such an experience, the role of DS – the General Secretariat – in the implementation of the experience and in qualifying the children members for their role, the way the experience is envisioned by partners and ways to enhance the CP experience.

The Evaluation Methodology

The evaluation depended on attempting to follow and trace; the CP experience; what was written about it; the various stages in its development and the mechanisms employed in the implementation. The evaluation aimed at identifying the positives and the negatives of the experience as well as the problems that are facing its progress and expansion. The report presented a number of recommendations that are aimed at enhancing the role of DS – the General Secretariat – and other partners in making this experience a success and in developing it. Due to the time limits of this evaluation, the CP coordinator helped contacting the members and sent the questionnaires to them while the questions were placed on the CP's face book public link. Questionnaires were sent via email to all governmental sides and donors.

A number of interviews were conducted with several partners and staff responsible in DS – the General Secretariat – whom were possible to contact within the potential provided by the time frame available for conducting the

evaluation. To clarify, the evaluation has been implemented depending on various levels of evaluation that are summed up in the following:

Levels of Evaluation

No	Tool	Objective	Target	Evaluator
1	Field Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying the CP members evaluation of their experience Identifying teachers and school principals evaluation for the CP Identifying DS local representatives evaluation for the CP Identifying the level of participation and involvement 	CP members, DS representatives, school principals and students	The evaluation consultants
2	A questionnaire for CP members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying their opinion and attitude towards the CP Identifying their own evaluation of the program Identifying the extent they benefit from training provided before sessions Identifying their expectations for progress The level of participation in making decisions 	CP members from previous terms	Identifying DS local representatives
3	Personal interviews and meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying the opinion of different parties about CP Identifying their attitudes towards CP Identifying their evaluation of the program Identifying their suggestion for progress The extent benefited from training accompanying the sessions The cooperation of schools and parents with them The level of participation in making decisions and transparency 	CP members, partners from GOV and Non-GOV sides, Donors and DS team	Evaluation consultant

4	FGDs	Getting the participant to comment on positives and negatives of the program Getting their opinion about the continuity of the program and ways to go forward Verifying the achievement of the CP program objectives	A number of CP members and other child activists who were part of several activities of the program	The evaluation consultant
5	Meetings with the General Secretariat of CP	Their evaluation of the program Ways of developing it Their future vision for progress Obstacles that stops them from developing the program as they wish Levels of involvement of children and transparency	DS Chairperson, program coordinator, program secretary, and the financial officer during the period	The evaluation consultant
6	Files and reports of CP in the General Secretariat	Desk reviewing the files and the type of archiving Identifying the level of documentation of different activities and events Identifying the quality of archiving	The files containing the CP documents (archives)	Evaluation consultant
7	Samples of media coverage and CP members blogs on face book	Identifying the way CP program is dealt with in media outlets locally and regionally Identifying the CP members own impressions and how they describe their own program	Websites, newspapers and CP members own face book page	Evaluation consultant
8	Meetings with partners	Identifying their opinions and evaluation of the program Identifying the level of partnership between them and DS Identifying their vision to improve the program and the potential for expanding it	Sponsors, MoE, the House of Representatives and the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood	Evaluation consultant

9	Questions for partners and sponsors	Their evaluation of the program (positives and negatives) Identifying their attitudes towards CP Identifying their evaluation of the program Identifying their suggestion for progress The extent benefited from training accompanying the sessions The cooperation of schools and parents with them The level of participation in making decisions and transparency	The most significant funders of CP who attended most of it activities	Evaluation consultant
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In summary the evaluation consultant has conducted the following in order to implement the evaluation:

- Conducting 6 interviews with the partners and the CP program donors
- Sent six questionnaires via email to donors but received no response
- Sent questionnaires to CP members via email through the program coordinator
- Placed the same questionnaire on the public face book link of the CP
- Held an FGD that included members of different terms of the CP as well as child activists who participated in various activities
- Desk reviewed the documents and files provided by DS – the General Secretariat
- Reviewed the DS website with the supposition that it is where all events and activities related to the CP are made public

A Background about the program

The CP started in Yemen in 2000 through a program organized by Nushatta Foundation with 31 members (male and female) from 31 schools in the city of Sana'a. The election was done by twenty thousand students both male and female and was done in the same day all over Sana'a. the experiment was not able to find the proper support or fund and was ignored by state owned media and was not mentioned in any media despite the success in the elections.

Things improved and door were opened for the CP members after a meeting with the Ex-President and with support from the former Speaker of the Parliament but

the 2000 CP did not last more than a year as Nushatta Foundation collapsed and as a result of interference by the government in its affairs. After the foundation of Democracy School, the CP program was its first program and was re-launched country-wide in 2004. Elections are held every second year regularly and the program saw continuity, regularity, and progress between elections and has now included member children representing the children with special needs, the children of the marginalized and the orphans. These special group members are usually elected from Sana'a, which takes the biggest share. The way the program progressed has gained a lot of support and respect by many partner organizations both governmental and non - governmental

The CP of 2010 – 2012 is the fifth and the number of members reached 50 who were elected by 30 thousand children in an election conducted in April 2010 in all the governorates as well as the Island of Socotra. The elections were held on the same day. The total number of CP members in the five rounds reached 200 with 73 female members and 127 male members and with the participation of 200 thousand children in the elections. The election and membership is focused on the 12-15 years age group.

During the CP sessions that last for three days and are held in the capital Sana'a, the members get the opportunity to express their needs and draw the attention to issues that impact them and impact their lives. The training program that comes before each session and lasts for two days is usually tailor made to improve the CP members' skills in monitoring, follow up, dialogue skills and other skills in order to enable the members conduct their role at the governorate level as well as in the CP as a whole. It also enable them be active in the sessions that are held every three months as well as in their local and international events.

The CP Charter has stated that "the elections for the CP are to be held in schools (governmental and private) with an obligatory representation of the groups (most poor, deaf, blind, orphans, working children and disabled children) and from all governorates including the Island of Socotra. The charter also identified the eligibility for membership as follows

- Aged between 12 and 15 (birth certificate to be attached)
- From grades eight or nine
- Born in the Governorate
- Well behaving as per a document
- Good achieving as a student (last results attached)
- Committed to attend the meetings of the CP in Sana'a
- Be part of the election process as both voter and candidate
- There are no financial privileges in case of winning
- Not chewing qat or smoking and behaving in good manner during membership period
- Parents and school administrations are not involved in the election process

DS has stated its obligations for members of the CP in the membership form that is distributed during the elections and as part of the CP Charter as follows:

"DS provides the member children with lodging, travel costs and food during the holding of sessions in Sana'a and also provide the costs of any field visit done by the children in the governorates"

The CP Charter has also pointed out that the CP is divided into four committees that are:

- The health and environment committee
- The education committee
- The human rights committee
- The media and culture committee

The CP is chaired by a speaker and two deputy speakers. The CP Charter has also stated the responsibilities of DS – General Secretariat – confirming that the role is to manage the technical, administrative and financial issues of the CP by:

1. Inviting for the sessions and setting the agenda
2. Proposing events and activities and presenting them to CP members for discussion
3. Providing the logistic support necessary to make the CP sessions a success and hold them on time and place
4. Following up the recommendations issued by the parliament with the authorities
5. Organizing the meetings of the CP members with the government and other side that are related to child issues
6. Arranging for CP members campaigns and for field visits as part of CP program
7. Communicating with care takers (parents) and school principles regarding making up for the lessons missed during the members' activities
8. Following up all the CP recommendations

As the CP program continues with accumulations of experience in DS – General Secretariat – the CP has an established operational system with a charter that is followed. The CP has become more specific in its mission related to child rights with advocacy for these rights and drawing the attention to those rights that are not granted to the children. The CP receives support from various organization that are involved with children rights like Save the Children, UNICEF, Fredrich Ebert, the EU, the Embassy of the Netherlands, the US Embassy and the Canadian Program. The House of Representatives, The Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, the Ministry of Human Rights, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Interior and SCER are the main partners and supporter from the government side.

The CP with all its activities and programs became a real window for the children participation and involvement. CP members take part in the organization of elections for new CP that follows them and in field visits along with consulting them about issues for discussions in sessions are all good examples of this participatory style. This comes as a reflection of the ICR that is considered a point of focus by it. Girls account for 30% membership of the 2010 CP while special groups and children with special needs are represented in the 2010 – 2012 CP in a way that reflects the non discrimination, which is one of the most important principles of the ICR.

On another side, the elections of the CP in 2004 represent the real start of the current CP program. In August 2003, DS (an NGO) has called for the formation of a preparatory committee for electing a children parliament from the Ministry of Human Rights, the Ministry of Education, the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood and SCER along with DS – the program creator. All sides were interested and acted in cooperation sending representatives to the committee. The first meeting was held in DS, where the program was explained along with the mechanism to hold the elections and the duties of the preparatory committee in facilitating the election process. It was agreed that DS becomes the General Secretariat for the CP. An MOU was signed between DS and the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood under the supervision and support of Save the Children, which allowed DS to supervise the CP elections and activities as well as working to expand it in further stages.

CP Elections

The CP election goes through a various list of stages and follow a procedure that DS conduct in order to make the lections a success and hold them on time in the selected schools. The schools are selected with specific requirements the most important of which are; the school is to be of a big size and that no previous CP elections were held in it. Elections are conducted on the same day nationwide and the electoral committees continue their work until the announcing of the CP members list. The process is as follows:

1. Communicating and interacting with partners

- a. Ministry of Education which contact education officials in order to select the schools that will be the constituencies in each governorate and getting a circulated letter to facilitate the election process
- b. SCER which provides ballot boxes in Sana'a and other governorates
- c. The Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood since it is the body responsible for the children and their rights

2. Election arrangements by DS – the General secretariat

- a. The formation of a work team to organize the elections in each governorate from DS local coordinators, members of sitting CP and volunteering youth from the governorates
- b. Preparing the schedule for the new CP elections and informing partners as well as media about it
- c. Preparing the printed materials (voter registration cards, voter lists, posters, ballot papers, membership forms and details and the declarations to be signed by candidates and their caretakers)
- d. Informing the selected schools about the schedules and the election day time.

3. **Elections stage:** the CP elections follow all the ordinary election stages (voter registration, nominations, campaigning, voting, vote counting, announcing primary results, receiving complaints and final results declaration). The date of the first CP session is then announced. The elections that are usually held in April are launched by; the Minister of Education; a number of his deputies; the Minister of Social Affairs; the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood; Governors and/or their deputies. The elections are attended by representatives from international organizations who become a kind of observers. CP elections are covered by local, Arab and international media.

4. **Holding Sessions:** the CP sessions are held every three months while the opening session is held usually in the Main Hall of the House of Representatives - attended by the Speaker or a Deputy Speaker, representatives from the government, NGOs and donors - with the election of the CP speakers and deputies done on the first day. On the second day the heads of the four CP committees are elected and the election process is usually managed by members of the previous CP.

The CP Operational Mechanism

- The CP holds its sessions every three months in order to discuss an issue that is of concern to children related to getting their rights stated in national laws and the ICR
- The General Secretariat organizes training workshops during the holding of sessions that are allocated for training the members on the session issue as well as life skills, the ICR, protection, monitoring and report writing

- Members of the CP are invited to events related to children locally and abroad
- Members of the CP conduct field visits to inspect the status of children and write reports about it and about their own activities

The general objective of the CP

The CP charter and the brochure has mentioned that the CP aims at "raising the awareness of the children, enhance and strengthen their comprehension of the democratic system and making them capable of raising awareness about their own rights"

The objectives of the CP

No objectives were stated in the documents reviewed during the evaluation, however, the DS own objectives declared in its documents can be considered as the objectives of the CP and these are"

- Disseminating the culture of human rights and raising awareness about child rights
- Creating an understanding among the generations about the importance of civic democratic action
- Enhancing the spirit of patriotism, transparency, voluntary work and team work
- Establishing quality groups for practicing politics in a manner based on democracy and acceptance of the different

Ambitions for Developing the CP

There is no strategy or written plan that has specific datelines to which the General Secretariat is committed in order to develop the CP and build the capacity of its members. However, members of the General Secretariat have answered this question about their ambition, strategies and hopes for developing the CP during the evaluation and their answers were as follows:

- To reach 60 CP members in the coming elections
- To get the number of CP into 301 (as the case in current Parliament) representing each constituency and group and this number matches the number of MPs in the House of Representatives

- Training the members so that they become members of the youth shoura council
- Supporting the members so that they become members of the actual parliament in the future

The Membership 200 – 2010

Year	Male		Female		Total
	Number	percentage	Number	percentage	
2000	18	60	12	40	30
2004 - 2006	25	71	10	29	35
2006 - 2008	27	68	13	32	40
2008 - 2010	27	60	18	40	45
2010 - 2012	30	60	20	40	50
Total	127		73		200

It is clear from the table that the rate of female members has increased from a term to another and that the CP has also grown from one term to another. The CP has expanded and reached remote areas like Aljauf, Sa'ada and Marib from where girls also were elected as well as places like the Island of Socotra, which was targeted in the last elections. This means that the CP is heading to expand in quality and quantity. The number of CP members increased from one election to another to reach 50 in the 2010 elections while it was only 30 in 2000. There is an increase in the number of children participating in the election process in each round. Hosting 50 children for a week every three months with all the arrangements for lodging and trainings as well as preparations for holding sessions also prove that there is an improvement in the capacity of DS team in coordination and organization of events and workshops for children. Most of those contacted have not mentioned any serious problems related to the organization of events and activities.

CP Activities

The CP conducts a number of activities aimed at advocating for children issues and drawing the attention to the practices that are part of violating child rights. The CP members demand through these activities the passing of legislations and the amendment of others in a way that take the child interest into consideration. These are the activities that DS – the General Secretariat of CP – takes the initiative to conduct and communicate with partners from local and international organizations that are active in the field of child rights in order to advocate for and support. In some cases DS – through CP – participate in advocating for issues that are adopted by other organizations working in the child rights field. Among these issues are:

Type	Objectives	Impacts and Results
Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practicing democracy - Involving children in all the steps of electoral process - Abandoning the negative practices that are witnessed in the elections by the adults - Electing representatives of the children to a parliament that represent them 	<p>The children members of the CP and their classmates pass through the electoral process (registration, campaigning, nomination, voting, vote counting and objections)</p> <p>The children have a parliament that represent them</p>
CP Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reaching out with children voices - Drawing attention to children issues - Informing school children about their issues in schools through members of the CP - Lobbying authorities in charge to adopt children issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questioning and discussing child issues with government officials and other officials - Issuing recommendations on the issue discussed in the session to the government authorities in charge. The recommendations are usually published in media and in DS website
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Orienting members of CP about their mission and the duties of the committees they join - Providing the members with the info they need 	<p>The members of the CP get to know their rights, gain information about the session issue, host experts and trainers from governmental and non-governmental sides who have knowledge in the training topics and the training contributes to</p>

	<p>about the session issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing them with outreach skills - Braking the ice between the members - Providing them with info about child rights and the status of Yemeni children 	<p>breaking the ice between the members who use the training to express themselves and show their capacities</p>
Field Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collecting information about the situation of children - Preparing reports about the status of children under certain circumstances - Involving children in collecting data, entering it and issuing reports 	<p>The CP conducted field visits and produced detailed report on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The status of the orphans - The status of the juveniles in jails and detention centers - The status of the street children - The status of the children in health centers and hospitals - The status of the in educational institutions - The CP has issued the first shadow report on the status of the children and presented it to the International Commission for the Child Rights
Issuing Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issuing reports and discussing them with the authorities in charge - Disseminating them in media - Bringing the various reports and filling the gaps in order to issue a collective report about the status of the children 	<p>The CP prepared and published reports on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The status of the orphans - The status of the juveniles in jails and detention centers - The status of the street children - The status of the children in health centers and hospitals and in educational institutions - Children in conflict areas <p>The CP has issued the first shadow report on the status of the children and presented by several members to the International Commission for the Child Rights</p>
Awareness Raising Campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involving children in raising awareness about issues related to their 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The children conducted a campaign about the dangers of early marriage among children and parents. The

	<p>rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing the CP members with skills to lecture and manage discussion groups - Involving members in education "from a child to a child" 	<p>campaign was conducted on two stages and included collecting signatures, lectures, meetings with children, a march to the Parliament and a meeting with members of the committee in charge in the House</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The children participated in a campaign to raise awareness about the dangers of damaging girls sexual organs - The CP members participated in raising awareness about child trafficking ...etc
<p>Marches and Advocacy Protests</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drawing the attention to issues related to child rights and interests - Demanding the issuance of legislations or the amendment of other ones - Advocating for child issues 	<p>The CP has conducted several marches aimed at improving child rights and limiting violations against children including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demanding a legislation that establish an age for marriage - Increasing the amounts allocated for children in the state budget - Supporting Palestinian and Lebanese children in 2006 war - Demanding the enforcement of the law for obligatory and free education
<p>Participations in workshops and conferences in the country and abroad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involving the children in expressing their issues - Reaching out with the voices of Yemeni children to those concerned - Advocating child issues - Learning from the experiences of others 	<p>Participation in workshops, meetings and conferences that were for discussing child issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - " A World Fit for Children" conference in New York - Attending the discussions of the report by the Child Rights Committee in Geneva in 2011. - Participating in the consultation meeting to discuss the UN study about violence against children in 2005 - Attending the inauguration of the UN first Report on fighting against violence against children in 2006 - The primary preparatory conference for Arab Children Parliament

<p>Meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivering the children point of view regarding issues related to them - Getting to know the role of different sides in protection - Advocating for specific issues 	<p>Members of the CP have met with representatives from government sides and nongovernmental sides in order to deliver the voices of the children</p>
<p>Issuing statement and informative letters in the name of the CP "usually issued by the General Secretariat of the CP"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocating for specific issues - Asserting the CP's point of view on issues that are directly affecting children and child rights 	<p>The CP has issued a number of statements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcoming the stoppage of qat consumption in the village of Maqwallah - Demanding the stopping of execution of a number of children - Demanding the Parliament to issue laws - Welcoming the issuance of a law that specifies the marriage age by the Parliament before it was withdrawn
<p>The CP Newsletter</p>	<p>It was aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publishing news about the CP events and the recommendations issued by its sessions - Covering files related to child issues which are mostly also covered by the sessions - Involving members of the CP in writing and editing the newsletter 	<p>The General Secretariat issued nine copies of the newsletter then stopped due to a lack in funds</p>

The Results of the Evaluation

No one can dispute that a human being is a creature that influences and get influenced by any experience he/she passes through regardless the density or the time length of that experience. Children would also be influenced by an experience in either a positive or a negative way depending on factors among them the psycho nature, the mental capacities and the physical capacities. The CP membership of the children that continues for two full years exposes the children to new situations where they meet adults and other children they have not met before. They also go through several first time activities during their membership like travelling, sleeping away from home, being part of activities that include girls and boys, engaging in serious dialogues with adults and children from same age group and questioning those in charge about issues of the children. The experience related to competing for CP seats and the elections is also an important one. All mentioned must have had an impact on the children in addition to the impact the already 10 years old CP program has had on children.

The evaluation started by identifying the impacts on the children involved in it and their answers to the question were as follows:

1. The positive impacts

- Increasing the self confidence levels
- Practicing democracy
- Reinforcing the social status
- Gaining new knowledge and skills
- Increasing their families believe in them
- Being listened to by adults without underestimation
- Increasing knowledge about child rights and realities
- Being taken more seriously by teachers
- Being treated with respect by class mates
- Becoming the spot of focus of other students

It is obvious from the responses of the CP members that the experience has impacted them very positively and that they benefited from the program. We can assume that DS has achieved some of its objectives by creating a selective grouping for practicing politics based on democratic norms and accepting others as well as making real the involvement of children through the CP.

2. Negative Impacts

On the other side some members have pointed out deficits that have accompanied their membership in the parliament and the time after. These are repeated from one term to another, which indicate a low level of responsiveness by the General Secretariat in addressing these issues that are summed up as follows:

- Some members feel that there is preference given to Sana'a City members and the speaker in participations locally and abroad
- Some members not understanding their roles
- A believe that there is some financial return for membership that is not given
- The travel and maintenance costs are not sufficient
- There is a feeling that DS is not transparent with CP members
- Some members feel that the speaker is favored compared to the rest
- Some feel that they have not achieved much during membership
- Some feel that the General Secretariat neglects their suggestions
- The standards for selecting members for events abroad are not clear and that they are not consulted
- Some have pointed out that mixing boys and girls is a great disadvantage of the parliament

In general we notice that the positive impacts were clear in the answers of the CP members without real negative impacts on them while the negatives are mainly mistakes that took place and that their sensitivity to them is a positive impact by itself. However, pointing out that mixing is a negative side raises questions about the quality of training they received about equality, gender and the importance of women participation. Regarding their suggestions and the lack of response from General Sec, it was blamed on the lack of funds when the General Secretariat was asked about as well as the absence of a clear strategy that takes new ideas into consideration.

Secondly: The Pros of the CP

- a. From the point of view of the members they are:
 - i. Practicing freedom of expression through elections
 - ii. Draw members attention to child issues
 - iii. Qualifying members in several knowledge skills
 - iv. Meeting children from other areas and knowing their main problems
 - v. Participation in local and international events that gave the CP a good reputation
 - vi. Involving children in managing sessions and field visits
 - vii. The CP members were involved in many workshops about different issues and topics
 - viii. The CP members were able to establish initiatives and activists groups in schools
 - ix. The program has turned children into person with interest in child issues
- b. The Pros from Partners and Donors Point of View.
 - i. The election stability since 2004 and holding them every 2 years
 - ii. A real experience of involving children in discussing their issues
 - iii. The development from one term to another in number and geographical coverage
 - iv. The CP program is respected among child related organizations
 - v. There is an intention by Arab League to adopt it and make regional
 - vi. Children practice the electoral and democratic process
 - vii. The CP session are held in the Parliament premises

- viii. The issues addressed by the CP get the support of those working with children and a number of members of the Parliament
- ix. The session issues are well covered by media
- x. The CP program is under supervision of a CSO which made it stay away from partisan interests and political rivalries making it different from its likes in other Arab countries
- xi. Mentioned in school curricula is a Yemeni contribution to children rights
- xii. The CP has issued the first shadow report on child status and participated in discussing it with the International Commission for Child rights
- xiii. The CP has a permit to visit jails and inspect the children status
- xiv. It was mentioned in the Presidential program as a program that deserves support
- xv. The CP is recognized by the Gov and the civil society
- xvi. The former President has issued instructions to the Gov to send officials to the CP sessions after he met them in June 2000
- xvii. The CP has been associated with DS as its first program and DS became one of the CSOs that are working in child rights and a member of several local and regional networks
- xviii. Members of the CP are invited to workshops and conferences that are addressing child rights
- xix. Many sides invite the CP to represent Yemeni children locally and abroad
- xx. Members of the CP across its various stages became part of Future Leaders Program
- xxi. DS has established a child protection policy
- xxii. The CP program contribute to bringing up a strong generation that is aware about its rights and believe in participation
- xxiii. No discrimination based on gender is practices in all CP activities

The previous pros made it clear that the CP has actually succeeded in; reaching out with the voices of the children; drawing the attention to their issues; spreading a culture of human rights among members and raising their awareness about the obligations and values of the IRC; establishing awareness among generations about the importance of civic democratic action; and reinforcing a spirit of nationalism, transparency, voluntarily work and team work. The CP has contributed to building the capacities of those involved in managing its activities in event organizing, conducting training workshops, managing work groups in addition to skills in communication and coordination to implement different activities and programs. The CP program has increased the recognition of the child rights and the need to involve children and listen to them when discussing their issues by all sides working with children. The CP program has also contributed to involving the children in real rights experiences that are based on reality in the field and increased the knowledge of those working in DS in working with children and dealing with them during hosting them for session or during field visits. The activation of the protection policies that DS has established is another gain. The CP after its continuity has gained the acceptance, support and then the recognition of the government sides which considered it as an important addition for the children related activities. The CP was mentioned in school curricula and in governmental reports on the levels of implementation of the ICR while the Arab League and some Arab countries are working to copy the CP in their own states and make it a raw model to follow in getting children participate and work for their rights

Cons from the CP Members' Point of View

1. The CP has more words than actions
2. The four committees are not activated
3. Members of the CP were met with disrespect when inspecting some police stations and hospitals in the field
4. Not involving the members in choosing the sessions topics or the field visits issues (a workshop was conducted in cooperation with SCS during the 2004 CP term but the General sec has nor respected its outcomes)
5. The CP members have not done activities among the children or targeting them in the way the CP members have envisioned

6. Some CP members feel ashamed because they feel they have not much
7. There are no specific requirement for choosing members for participation abroad and that creates jealousy among members
8. The session titles are repeated from one CP to another
9. No one knows the CP when the member introduce her/himself
10. CP members face sarcasm under the idea that "what has the House of Reps or the parliament of adults done?"
11. The General Sec does pay enough effort to follow up the CP recommendations
12. There are no precise mechanism to protect children MPs during field visits to jails or to the streets
13. There is a general feeling among children that their recommendations are not given attention by state officials
14. There is a general feeling among children members that the training is not to the point in some cases
15. There are no communications with CP members out of the sessions time to follow up their activities and to encourage them
16. The accommodation given for those coming from outside Sana'a is not suitable most of the time
17. Meals are obligatory (limited choices)
18. The benefits of membership are limited to them
19. Being absent from classes without any alternatives to fill the gaps of knowledge
20. Neglecting the reports issued by the CP like the report on orphans
21. There is a general feeling that the children are not involved in the planning stage
22. The sessions of the 2010 were not regular due to the political turmoil the country has been through

23. There is not a sufficient level of transparency regarding the resources received for the CP
24. The weak presence of supervision in the accommodation has caused repeated complaints by members of the CP and against each other
25. Some said that they have not been contacted since the end of their membership
26. There is a general feeling among children members that DS does not give much interest in the CP between the sessions

It is obvious from the cons described by the members that most of them are mainly related to administrative and financial procedures and to the weak communication between the General sec and the CP members and between the CP members themselves. CP members confirmed that they are contacted by the program coordinator when there are activities or field visits. The feeling of jealousy among some members about participation in events is related to the no clarity behind the reasons that are justifying choosing some child MPs to be part of an event locally or internationally despite that the program coordinators and DS local representatives have made clear to the members that the type of interaction and responsiveness during the sessions is the main reason behind the choice for participation. The suspension of the "Future Leaders Program", which formed a real guarantee of communication, training and meeting for the CP members after their membership comes to an end has caused a loss of trained youth who have been capable of becoming youth leaders and activists in the field of child rights and human rights in general according to the General Sec

The 2006 – 2008 CP and the one following it have received more attention as indicated by the members' feeling of belonging to the program and expression of pride for what they have done. This is a result of the availability of resources for the General Sec that allowed it to implement many programs during that period and despite political turmoil the 2010 CP has done various activities.

The misunderstanding of the role of a CP MP that was reflected in the feeling of failure to act for other children that was expressed by some CP members is due to high expectations and big dreams by the CP member when running for membership in addition to pressures on them from the surrounding class

mates and family members. This feeling, however, indicates the sensitive nature of the members and their feeling of responsibility to their

Good Practices

- The continuity of the program and holding the lection regularly every two years
- The progress by increasing members and target groups
- Involving children in the electoral process
- Holding the CP session in the House of Representatives
- Training the CP members on various skills
- Issuing recommendations at the end of every session
- Dividing the members on various specialized committees
- The DS team accompanies the CP members when moving and on the buses
- Representing children with special needs and establishing a quota for girls
- No discrimination between members when conducting activities, training and field work

Practices that Needs Changing

- The mechanisms to involve the child MPs in selecting topics and field visits
- Taking the suggestion made by MPs and looking for resources and means to implement them
- Specifying the standards followed for choosing child MPs for participation abroad and clarifying them for the child MPs
- Setting a clear strategy and a specific work plan for the CP
- Searching for a permanent supporter for the CP away from depending on external sponsoring
- Increasing the number of girls to match that of boys

- Setting a mechanism for following the CP recommendations up
- The CP archives system
- Increasing the number of supervisors in the hotel and training them for dealing with emergencies
- Increasing the number of qualified supervisors during the sessions and in the lodging sites
- Working for contacting members of the previous CPs and activating the "Future Leaders Program"

Difficulties facing the CP

- The House of Representatives cannot host the CP in some cases like the increase of armed presence near the the House
- The lack of sufficient and sustainable resources to hold the sessions of the CP
- Attempts by some sides to steal the CP name and claiming rights over the CP
- There is not enough insurance to deal with emergencies during the holding of the sessions and field visits
- There is no permanent hall that is owned by the CP, which enable it implement its activities (holding sessions and conducting training) and that put the CP under the conditions of the hosting sides.

Recommendations

Firstly: Participation

- Working to establish clear mechanism that ensure the child MPs are involved in identifying the sessions' issues and the field visits topics
- There is a need to activate the role of the CP special committees so that all feel their importance
- Involving the previous child MPs in the implementation of the CP at the governorate level
- Communicating with DS coordinators at the local levels when implementing CP activities at the governorate level

- Increasing the number of CP members in order to include rural children and including more child voters by joining several schools to elect a one MP
- Looking for working mechanisms with partners and holding meetings with them that clarifies roles in documented meeting minutes
- Organizing a camp that bring in all members at the times of holding the sessions especially the first session when the speaker is elected
- Organizing a program of activation between the sessions and during school holidays that in which child voters take part.
- Activating the role of the CP committees and issuing reports about them
- Coordinating with others sides a leisure program for the child MPs during the sessions like visiting the city of Sana'a landmarks and the suburbs
- Searching for effective communication mechanisms between the various child MPs and the General Sec
- Establishing a plan to make members active in their governorates between sessions
- Establishing clear standards for selecting members for events to avoid creating jealousy among them
- Working for increasing the number of girls to reach 50%

Secondly: Protection

- Specifying a qualified person to receive complaints and deal with them
- Orienting the children about rights and duties as well as their role at the first meeting
- Training and qualifying the supervisors in the hotel to deal with emergencies
- Training DS team and the CP members on protection policies
- Not lodging the company of the female members in the same room unless they are the fathers

- Establishing a code of conduct with the members participation to ensure they are aware and committed to it
- Allocating an amount for emergencies in the sessions budgets
- Reminding the child MPs about the code of conduct and the protection policies at the start of every session
- Ensuring that members are not chewing qat or smoking and verifying complaints that are sent to the General Sec on that issue
- Following up the school competence of the members by contacting their teachers
- There is a need for allocating sufficient time in the first holding for the General Sec to explain the protection policy and explain its duties towards the members and their caretakers

Thirdly: Allocating the available resources for the interest of children

- Preparing a well studied program of training to improve the skills of the members
- DS needs to present an accurate report about the resources and how they are spent
- Searching for permanent funding for the CP activities from "the Youth Fund, the House of Reps budget or the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood" while preserving the CP independence
- Increasing the number of training days to allow better training for members
- Building DS capacity in strategic planning and in implementing child protection policies
- Arranging for an insurance to face emergencies during the sessions

Fourthly: Anti Discrimination

No discrimination is one of the major principles of ICR and DS – as an NGO operating on child rights - shown keenness in involving all children including those with special needs, those living in special conditions like orphans and child laborers, and those marginalized in addition to the presence of an allocation quota for girls' schools to ensure a 40% representation out of the entire membership. There is a mechanism in the election of the speaker that grants the right for all. In two consecutive term girls were elected speakers.

We can add the following recommendation in that field

- Making efforts to raise girls representation to 5%
- Electing representatives of special categories like orphans, the marginalized and people with special needs from different regions

Conclusive General Recommendations

- The need for building DS staff capacity in setting strategies and designing programs
- The need for making the face book page of the CP active and encouraging the members to communicate by putting new topics about the CP and other discussion topics
- Ensuring the establishment of clear mechanism that guarantees involving the children in choosing the session's issues and the field visits topics
- Making use of the previous members through activating the Youth Shoura Council and the Future Leaders programs to ensure a continuous communication with them and it is a plan in the way to implement DS objectives
- The need for allocating a permanent funding scheme that ensures its continuity
- DS needs to archive the CP in specific files that document all the activities of the CP and its recommendations in a way that is accessible for seeking information
- Conducting the elections in a cluster of schools in a given district so that more children are involved in the process
- The importance of representing the rural and urban areas in the CP membership
- Involving CSOs in supervising the elections and in monitoring the CP
- Involving the student councils in schools in the election process like registration committees and vote counting ...etc

- Improving the level of members performance by putting more care in training programs
- Increasing the number of training days especially on ICR
- Electing representative of the categories and children with special needs from the governorates
- There is a need that the CP recommendations are corresponded to the authorities and sides in charge especially the Supreme Council for Childhood and Motherhood as part of following the recommendations up
- Working to secure permanent premises for the CP
- Making a stamp in the name of the CP that is placed on all statements by the CP
- Activating the CP preparatory committee that includes sides working with children and electoral sides

END

The Former Children's Parliament members tell their stories and draw their future projects with great expectations

During the last two years 2010- 2011, fifty members participated in the Yemen Children's Parliament (CP). They were involved in many activities and campaigns, especially relating to the emergency and the unstable political situation. These experiences brought about changes in their lives and proved to be a stepping stone for them to plan for their own projects in the future. Here is how they share their ideas ...

Ahmad Al-thawar, 15 years old, represents the children in Sana'a capital city:

I was like any other child till the time idea of Children's Parliament made the impossible come true in my life. In the beginning I thought it to be impossible to become a member of the Children Parliament. I remember the morning when I won the election with 348 votes from my school in 2010. It was a strong competition. It proved to be the best day of my life. I will never forget this great experience that made me a new person who has a better understanding for the future. Now I know how to plan for my future and advocate for issues I believe in. We are working on the second alternative Report that the Children Parliament will submit to the International Committee for Human Rights in Geneva.



Azaah Abdullah Balam, 15 years old, represents the children of Marab:

The first issue that I have advocated for was the violence against children in school. I started with the Student Council in my school. We decided to do regular meetings to discuss the main issues students face and they ways to solve them through reporting. We faced many challenges while the students refused to talk about their problems, especially with respect to teachers. They were afraid of being punished by teachers if they came to know about these discussions. It seemed to be something impossible to be achieved, but now it has become a reality. This was the start and I know I will challenge many things to reach my goal ,but I am ready for that. I have plans to to implement a project in my community in Marab governorate. I will work with a multipronged approach and am sure will ultimately bring about a change.



Ebtihal Fadl Al-Shamiri, 15 years, represents the children in Taiz:

Early marriage is one of the issues I am interested to work on. It all started from my school. I was very excited and motivated. Initially I thought that awareness sessions for students would solve the problem however that did not prove to be enough. I realized that it will take a long term approach and everyone will have to play a role to achieve the goal of stopping early marriages in Yemen.



Raheel Al-marzoqi, 15 years old, represents the children from the marginalized group:

I am from a marginalized group in Yemen called *Alakhdam*. Alakhdam are considered to be at the very bottom of the social ladder in Yemen and face discrimination in most aspects of their lives. I represent the Alakhdams .My message is to advocate for equal rights for them in Yemen. I try to reflect the beauty of life in the marginalized children's eyes. I have campaigned in particular for the marginalized children as they face many challenges - violence, sexual harassment, early marriages, lack of education, and the spread of diseases. I will keep advocating for their rights and will plan small projects to do for them.



The Children Parliament Recommendations From 2004 To 2012

Recommendations of the second session -2004 – about Child labor

1. Eradicating child labor and subjecting child laborers to medical checks according to the law while providing them with the proper medical insurance and health units in their work places. Entities that are making children work under bad conditions must be placed under supervision.
2. Establishing educational programs – in media – that help limiting child labor and stopping programs and series that encourage child labor. The talents of the children need to be exposed and developed by media and through the increase of the number of educational papers and books that help educating children
3. Activating the Labor Law and the Child Rights Law and banning using children as labor in Chemical plants as well as all other works.

Recommendations of the third session -2004 – about compulsory and free education (Dec. 5-7, 2004)

1. Activating the laws and legislation that are related to free and compulsory education
2. Imposing penalties on parents who block their children from schooling
3. Building schools in villages, providing highly qualified teachers and revising school books
4. Banning verbal and physical punishments against children in schools
5. Adding Child Rights and Democratic Education as part of school curricula
6. Upgrading school classes and improving the schools so that they can include the biggest number of children
7. The government should be committed to MDGs and achieve them by 2015
8. Applying the suitable remedies for limiting child labor and the street children phenomenon, which are major causes of dropping out

Recommendations of the fourth session -2005 – about child trafficking: the child status between legislations and the reality (April 9-13, 2005)

1. Activating and implementing the international and local laws related to child rights
2. The government has to recognize the trafficking issue as an existing problem that needs to be addressed especially by Ministries of Interior and Defense.
3. Imposing punishments against the caretakers or parents how collaborate or help the trafficking of children abroad in order to involve them in begging or abuse
4. Activating the TRIBAL VALUES in the border areas so that tribesmen are discouraged from trafficking children
5. Forming a CP committee that visits the border areas
6. Demanding the government to coordinate efforts with KSA to place surveillance points in these areas and put those involved responsible in front of the law
7. Conducting medical checks on the children deported from KSA to check their mental and physical status and to study their cases so that they receive care
8. Adding the child trafficking issue to the House of Representatives' agenda and demanding that the Rights and Liberties Committee and the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee submit reports on the issue in order to eliminate it
9. Providing the material support necessary for the Ministries of Interior and Defense so that they can limit violations against child rights, establish a special police force for juveniles and train officers on handling children
10. Conducting a revision of the child rights law by the Parliament and other bodies so that it includes punishments against parents who; do not teach

their children; get their children married early; put their children to labor; or traffic them abroad to abuse

11. Forming committees in schools to fight against violence against children and establishing a hotline in order to receive informant alerts on time
12. Supporting poor families in the border areas and providing projects and work for the locals
13. The government needs to implement the CP recommendations as soon as possible so that they do not mount up and make the government become like a bad student

**Recommendations of the third holding session (Nov. 27-29, 2006)
about the Recommendations of the International Commission for
Child Rights (Genève) about the Status of Children in Yemen**

1. Conducting field visits to poor neighborhoods inspecting their populations and establishing small health facilities for them.
2. Establishing hospitals specialized for children in the remote areas, where medical services are provided free of charge
3. Conducting environmental education in schools and neighborhoods
4. Providing libraries, schools and health specialists in schools
5. Providing first aid kits in schools (school health)
6. Establishing a polytechnic for the students who graduate from the orphanages
7. Granting the right to express self and providing advanced educational tools for children since they are basics in the society
8. Considering education technologies and telecom technologies and making them main educational tools
9. Organizing the relations between the student and the teacher in schools by a special charter
10. Raising the awareness via all types of media about child trafficking, begging and street children and the risks of these problems

11. Activating the role of mothers and fathers Councils through providing a communal education about the importance of girls' education
12. Demanding more interest in the CP events from the state owned media through putting the news of the CP meetings as front pages headlines every three months (during its sessions) and disseminating child rights in media
13. Hosting CP members by TV in order to discuss the issues of concern during the sessions and see what has been achieved and what has not in addition to the difficulties the Child MPs face
14. Allocating a special program to educate about HIV and the way it is transferred
15. Applying all laws that state child protection
16. Providing centers to protect street children
17. Increasing the amounts of social security for the poor and visiting the rural areas that were not checked before to reach with social security funds there
18. Establishing special juveniles centers instead of using prisons
19. Approving a legislation that protects children and criminalize violence against them in homes, streets and schools
20. Conducting field inspections to juveniles centers and orphanages – in a random surprising way – to know the real situation
21. Establishing supervision committees at governorate level with direct connection to the emergencies and operations room of the governorate
22. Establishing centers to train the disabled and marginalized children
23. We demand that the Ministry of Interior take all necessary steps regarding juveniles' cases and to establish special operation room in all its institutions that care and defend them
24. The media ought to publish the Geneva recommendation so that the children know their rights

25. Doing all efforts to include the CRC in the school curricula and raising awareness about it
26. Demanding the Yemeni government and the special bodies to activate and respect the provisions and treaties related to child rights

**Recommendations of the fourth holding session (March 12-14, 2007)
about the "prisons and detention centers free of children"**

1. Establishing centers, courts and prosecution offices for juveniles in all governorates
2. Establishing special sections for juveniles in police stations
3. Providing post-punishment care for juveniles
4. Bodies in charge conducting random inspection on juveniles centers and courts
5. Speeding the juveniles cases in courts and avoiding delays in the process
6. Activating the roles of the "Children in Dispute with the Law" and "Anti-Violence against Children" networks
7. Taking measures against those involved in using violence against children in jails and juveniles centers
8. Improving the judicial systems in the criminal courts and the juvenile courts and educating the court staff on how to deal with child issues
9. Ensuring that juveniles in centers are not banned from continuing their schooling
10. Addressing the cases of children in jails and releasing them immediately
11. Establishing the age of 18 as a legal age of a child especially in criminal charges
12. Raising awareness on continuous basis that jails and detention centers should be free of children
13. Organizing lectures in schools by CP members about jails and juveniles
14. Establishing a network of children to improve child related activities and conduct field visits

15. Identifying a body responsible for taking care of children accompanying their mothers in jails and ensure they get birth certificates
16. Establishing a 24 hours hotline to receive information about violence issues
17. The Ministry of Health should provide specialized physicians in child sicknesses in all health facilities at the levels of governorate and district
18. Discussing the issues of the children in jails by the parliament and solving them
19. Activating supervision over the governmental and non-governmental institutions working with the children
20. Classifying abuse of children as major criminal activity that are to be transferred to special courts and adopting laws for that
21. We demand that the government establishes detention centers for the children that separates them from adults
22. We demand that the government give great consideration for the health and the environmental status of the juveniles' detention centers and the orphanages
23. The Ministry of Human Rights and the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood should undertake their responsibilities in protecting children in detention and guidance centers
24. Considering the children cases as urgent for processing in courts according to laws

25. Special Recommendations

- a. Finding a settlement for the case of Saema the child detained in Rada'a Jail in Al-Baydha Governorate
- b. Solving the issue of the child Elyan Al-Muae'ad in Hajja Governorate
- c. Reconsidering the verdict of execution issued against Waleed Haykal, who is considered a juvenile by the medical reports
- d. Assigning the state resources – in the air, the sea and land – to locating the two children; Ameer adeen and Noor adeen Al-Ghurbani

The CP recommendations for the fifth holding session August about Child labor, 6 – 8, 2007

1. Establishing a care fund in all governorates to assist poor families in facing the living requirements
2. Adopting laws that punish families that push its children to undertake dangerous jobs
3. Helping poor children to get the basics that are needed for education
4. Increasing the amounts allocated for poor families by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor so that it becomes sufficient for living needs
5. Establishing orphanages in the governorates that lacks them so that orphans do not turn to begging
6. All parties must activate the laws related to child labor and integrate the practical agreements for labor into the Yemeni laws
7. The Capital Secretariat must close the Counter-Begging Center in Al-Hitaresh as it forms a violation of child freedom
8. The authorities in charge need to supervise the working places that hire children to ensure that the work environment is child friendly
9. All bodies need to help street children by establishing qualified accommodation centers
10. The Capital Secretariat must train its municipal staff on how to treat children
11. The authorities need to integrate the international treaties and legislation related to children in the school curricula
12. The government is demanded to reconsider the way it addresses child labor issues by conducting awareness raising campaigns as well as field visits and organizing educational and cultural camps for children
13. We demand help from international NGOs and Donor countries to eliminate the child labor phenomena using all educational and media means like conducting awareness raising and cultural campaigns that aim

at raising the level of cultural, social and rights understanding among the families

14. Establishing health centers in accommodation and detention centers and conducting medical checks on street children when they are admitted into centers and the child victims of trafficking when they return
15. Training children in schools on first aid and providing free medication for families while accepting any child cases that come to hospitals with attention to be given to hygiene in hospitals.
16. Conducting intensive awareness raising campaigns about hygiene and risks that emerge from not caring about it
17. Raising awareness about the damages for children from smoking and chewing qat
18. Supporting the preparation of a training manual and trainers from the Ministry of Education in order to eliminate child labor and its risks
19. Allocating sufficient funds for the rehabilitation centers of the labor children
20. Amending the Juveniles Law and changing the minimum legal age to 18
21. Punishing those trafficking children.

The recommendation of the CP in its seventh holding session under the logo "Child Trafficking is a Crime Punishable by Law" on Nov 26 – 28, 2007

1. Activating the local and international legislations and laws related to child rights and implementing them
2. Imposing punishments on children caretakers who would participate or help in trafficking children abroad for begging or abuse
3. Activating the tribal values in the border regions that encourage resisting trafficking children abroad
4. Adopting the report that was made by Democracy School and CP team after the field visit to Hodeida and Hajja governorate that was conducted last month in cooperation with UNICEF
5. Forming child groups in these areas in order to alert when children are trafficked
6. Demanding the government to coordinate efforts with KSA to place surveillance points in these areas and put those involved responsible in front of the law
7. Conducting medical checks on the children deported from KSA to check their mental and physical status and to study their cases so that they receive care
8. Adding the child trafficking issue to the House of Representatives' agenda and demanding that the Rights and Liberties Committee and the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee submit reports on the issue in order to eliminate it
9. Providing the material support necessary for the Ministries of Interior and Defense so that they can limit violations against child rights, establish a special police force for juveniles and train officers on handling children
10. Conducting a revision of the child rights law by the Parliament and other bodies so that it includes punishments against parents who; do not teach

their children; get their children married early; put their children to labor; or traffic them abroad to abuse

11. Forming committees in schools to fight against violence against children and establishing a hotline in order to receive informant alerts on time
12. Raising the awareness among citizens about the risks implicated in child trafficking through newspapers, visual media, community leaders, sheikhs, social figures and mosque preachers as well as holding awareness sessions in cooperation with specialist from the government bodies and international organizations about the issue
13. The Ministry of Education needs to give attention to the Orphanage in Sana'a taking the situations, the needs and the issues of the students into consideration.
14. Supporting poor families in the border areas and providing projects and work for the locals.

The Recommendations of the final Session held from Feb, 23 – 27, 2008 under the logo "the status of the children in Yemen – the Geneva Report"

1. The Ministry of Information should prepare an educational program on the child rights to be broadcasted and published through the various media outlets (written, visual and audio) and discussing their issues while cooperating with the Ministry of Health in producing programs that inform children about the risks of chewing qat and smoking by children
2. The Ministry of Information needs to translate the programs to the sign language so those disables can understand them
3. The Ministry of Education should; disseminate the principles of child rights within basic education school curricula; implement the decree that bans using physical punishments in schools; taking care of orphanages in all governorates (health-wise, education-wise and other); and implement the instructions of the Deputy PM.
4. The Ministry of Interior (MOI) and the Ministry of Social affairs and Labor should establish centers special for juveniles in all governorates and expand the juvenile courts while assigning lawyer for defending each juvenile
5. The Ministry of Interior should approve the issuance of birth certificates free of charge in police stations
6. The Ministry of Youth and Sports (MOYS) should establish sport clubs where children and youth can spend their free time and provide sport equipment especially for guidance homes and also care for female sports and girls
7. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor (MSAL) should supervise the implementation of legislations related to child labor and open rehab centers for street children
8. The MOH should increase the number of hospitals, provide them with qualified medical staff, implement the government resolution related to

providing medicine for Diabetes and cancer patients free of charge, increase the number of cancer centers, taking care of school children health especially in orphanages and monitor cases of violence against children and inform about them

9. Making it obligatory to vaccinate children
10. Issuing a memo to all pharmacies not to sell any medicine with side effects and not to sell them to under 17.
11. The Ministry of Water and Environment should provide safe water in order to protect children from diseases and establish alternatives for the scarcity of underground water
12. Issuing a law that obliges MOYS to provide support for rural clubs and forums
13. The Ministry of Endowments and Guidance (MOEG) should schedule a Friday for special preaching that calls for protecting child rights and the importance of good education by the family
14. All government bodies should act in order to eliminate the child trafficking and provide all necessary material supplies for those in charge at border areas.

Special Recommendations

1. The MOI should give attention to the killing and burning of the child Ibraheem Al-Humaidi arresting those responsible and turn them to justice
2. The immediate release of the children Ali Saleh Al-Kumaim and Yahya Nasser Al-Kumaim, who are detained by a tribe in connection with a tribal dispute
3. The MOI should undertake serious efforts to find Ameeradayn and Nooradayn Al-Ghurabani who disappeared since two years
4. The government should increase the amounts located for children in the state budget especially that for MOH and MOE

5. The House of Reps should amend the laws in a way that ensures protecting children from violence at home and determine the juvenile age at 18 years
6. There is a need for training forensic medial staff and make them available in all governorates
7. The Ministry of Information and MOI should make it clear to public that birth certificate are free of charge
8. The government bodies should implement the CP recommendations and implement the presidential electoral program in order to eliminate violence against children and expand the CP membership

Chairperson and members of CP, Feb, 27, 2008

The CP recommendations for the second holding on August 18 – 20, 2008 under the slogan "accreditation of the first report by the CP"

1. Raising awareness through all media outlets about the importance of protecting the environment and explaining the risks and the damages on the society as a whole and the child in specific
2. Providing medical care for children in all state run institutions like the orphanages, the juvenile centers and the detention centers)
3. Taking waste to sites far from residential areas
4. Providing child specialists in all governmental hospitals and punishing physicians who treat children without being specialists
5. The MOH should restore health facilities in a way that protect the environment
6. Providing special meals for children in all government hospitals
7. Demanding specifying the child age and getting that approved by the authorities in charge
8. Providing the child with all rights through caring for children and giving them attention in all fields
9. Expanding the social security network and increasing the payments

10. Disseminating the international human rights laws as a required subject in all schools
11. The MOEG needs to coordinate with all mosque preachers to prepare awareness lectures about child labor
12. The Civil Registry Authority should establish special committees in all hospitals public and private for issuing birth certificates
13. The ministries responsible should prepare a special strategy for children that includes the CP previous recommendations and implement them
14. The MO Info should intensify the awareness about child issues and the risks children face in all its media outlets
15. Demanding MO info to produce cartoons that raise the children awareness about their rights
16. The awareness raising about the importance of birth certificates and that they are free of charge
17. Banning the TV series and cartoons that teach children violence and bad habits
18. Demanding that the MO Info produces magazines that address child issues

The Speaker of the CP and Members, August, 20, 2008

The CP recommendations for the third holding session on Nov 17 – 19, 2008 under the slogan "trafficking children and its social and economical impacts"

1. Providing premises for the CP as recommended by late sheikh Abdullah bin Hussien Al-Ahmar
2. The government should provide the support necessary for the CP and implement the presidential electoral program
3. Allocating time to speak about the CP in state media as instructed by the Minister of Info
4. Activating the laws and legislations related to child rights
5. Forming field committees that follow the issue (child trafficking) up, studying it and proposing inclusive mitigation by the government in Yemen in order to eliminate it
6. The Rights and Liberties Committee and the Constitutional and Legal Committee in the House of Reps should prepare a report about the issue of child trafficking and issue laws that criminalize trafficking children and trading in them with maximum penalties in order to eliminate the phenomena
7. The need to raise awareness among the people about the issue through media, community leaders, sheikhs, social figures and preachers and through holding seminars about the risks of child trafficking
8. Activating the role of the national committee to fight the trafficking of children
9. All stakeholders should intensify the efforts to educate about the dangers of child trafficking
10. The government sides should commit to attending the CP sessions and answer the CP enquiries
11. The General Secretariat of the CP should follow up the previous CP recommendations

12. It is necessary that trafficked children are checked for health problems after their return (diseases, abuse, terror, traumas and killing during the smuggling process)
13. Paying efforts to implement the laws related to children and amending them
14. Establishing special places for children arrested in the borders
15. Activating the hot line in Ministry of Human Rights (MOHR)
16. Calling for establishing committees in schools that fight violence against children
17. Declaring the child trafficking as a major violation of child rights and a shame for the society
18. Establishing schools in rural areas that lack them
19. Improving the school curricula in a way that serve the children and their issues
20. Preventing violence against children in school as it is a reason behind drop out and lead to trafficking
21. Implementing the free education in the governorates
22. Raising awareness in schools about the risks of child trafficking

Speaker and MP of the CP, Nov, 19, 2008

The CP recommendations for the fourth holding session on March, 16 – 18, 2009, under the slogan "the child best interest in Yemeni laws (the moral issues)"

1. Adopting laws that specify safe marriage age and committing to such laws
2. Adopting strong punishments against parents and caretakers who get the girls marries at early age
3. Activating and amending the laws passed by the Parliament
4. Excluding children from capital sentence and issuing laws that state so
5. Ending the contradictions between local legislations and ICR provisions
6. Adopting laws that ban girl circumcision based on damage removal principles and punishing violators
7. Punishing all caretakers who would encourage children to take part in armed disputes
8. Keeping the awareness campaign about child smuggling and strengthening the legislation that punish the traffickers
9. Producing documentaries about the risks of early marriage and girl circumcision and making them public
10. Assigning health specialists in schools to educate children about the various health issues
11. Providing the basic equipments for health rooms in schools
12. Providing a small book collection for reading about health in schools
13. The MO Info and the MOEG should cooperate to raise awareness about the child issues and risks facing children among the people through mosques and media
14. Assigning a health specialist in centers for the disabled
15. Assigning a health specialist in centers for the juvenile jails and orphanages
16. Establishing homes and courts for juveniles in all governorates
17. Establishing mechanisms to impose the obligatory education

18. Forming committees in schools that fight against violence against children and providing a hotline for ongoing report of violations
19. Establishing a follow up committee from the CP to follow the recommendations of the current and the previous CPs
20. Implementing cultural activities in orphanages, juvenile homes and other children centers to discover and raise different talents
21. Holding seminars and allocating media time to discuss the disputed issues in the laws

The CP recommendations for the fifth holding session on July, 6 – 8, 2009, under the slogan

"Marriage Age and the Responsibility of the Legislator"

1. Issuing a programmatic book that includes all child rights and mentions the dangers of early marriage
2. Establishing committees in schools to educate about early marriage
3. Issuing a law that specifies the marriage age for both males and females and punish violations
4. The government should consider the CP recommendation as they are issued on timely manners
5. The MOH and the MO Info should cooperate to educate all segments of the society about the dangers of early marriage
6. The Health Committee in the House of Reps needs to explain the dangers of early marriage to the rest of the MPs
7. The authorities should issue a law that obliges pre-marriage tests
8. The MOEG should instruct mosque preachers to allocate a Friday speech for early marriage
9. The sides concerned must follow up the passing of the article that specifies the age of 17 as safe age for marriage
10. Forming a committee that follow the CP recommendations and delivering them to all concerned sides by the General Secretariat

11. The MOE and the MO Info should cooperate to include the risks of early marriage in school books
12. Coordinating a meeting with the president for the next session
13. Demanding the House of Reps to activate the child related laws in reality
14. The House of Reps and the executive branches responsible should convince the opposition for the safe marriage age on political and health grounds
15. We demand that children are included when laws and legislations concerning children are discussed
16. Imposing jail and fines on those who fraudulently take the role of trustees who act as marriage contracts' specialists and other contracts

Speaker and MPs of the CP, July, 8, 2009.

**The CP recommendations for the sixth holding session on
Nov, 14 – 16, 2009, under the slogan "Jails with no Children"**

1. The needs for training forensic doctors and for improving their capacities
2. Improving the health situations in jails
3. Following up the cases presented to Democracy School by CP members and addressing them with authorities
4. Providing lawyers specialized in juveniles cases during court hearings and establishing juveniles courts
5. Observing child interests during trials
6. Doing all efforts to build juvenile homes and supply them with all needs
7. Coordinating with the Chamber of Commerce to provide jobs for juveniles after they finish serving their time
8. Following the cases of juveniles sentenced to death up
9. The need for trialing juveniles in special courts
10. Ensuring fair court process for juveniles
11. Speeding the court process for juveniles according to the law

12. Forming a joint committee from the CP, MOI, Judicial Inspector Board, General Prosecutor, MOJ and the Prisons Authority to conduct random inspection visits to juveniles centers
13. Punishing judges who violate the Juveniles Law
14. The House of Reps should issue a law that considers the age of 18 as the age of juvenile according to the ICR
15. Issuing a law that punishes caretakers who involve their children in armed conflicts
16. Providing health services for juveniles in jails and conduct first aid in prisons
17. Establishing training and rehab programs for juveniles in guidance homes and jails
18. Issuing a permit for the CP members to enter jails by Prisons Authority supplementing that issued by MOI
19. The MOF should increase allocations for juvenile homes and jails
20. Including a CP member in the Supreme Committee for Prisons in order to follow up the CP recommendations and address child cases as well
21. Providing psychological and social specialists in juvenile homes
22. Separating juveniles from adult prisoners
23. Adding lessons about violence by children into school books

The CP recommendations for the final holding session on Feb, 15 – 17, 2010, under the slogan "Inclusive Education for Children"

1. The need to press the government for adopting and implementing the CP recommendations
2. Raising awareness about girls education and the need to enroll them in rural areas
3. Activating the law that bans using physical punishments in schools
4. Raising awareness among the society about the damages made by discriminating between children

5. Developing strategies and plans to improve the education situation
6. Providing the methods and the techniques for inclusive education
7. Qualifying school teachers to handle pupils with disability
8. Developing strategies and plans to spread the concept of inclusive education
9. Allocating recruitment slots for the disabled
10. Coordination between MOE, LCs and Education Offices to spread the concept of inclusive education
11. Disseminating mechanisms for protecting children from violence and discrimination in schools
12. Conducting field visits to rural areas to educate the population about the importance of educating girls
13. Broadcasting programs about violence and discrimination against children by the MO Info
14. The MO Info should prepare for the publishing of media programs that educate the people about inclusive education and its importance
15. The authorities should produce and publish books and leaflets that educate the people about child rights and inclusive education
16. Raising the awareness of the society about the importance of including the disabled in the education system
17. The MOE should qualify the social specialists and educate them about inclusive education
18. The MOH should cooperate with the NGOs specialized in caring for the children with disabilities and provide them with medical supplies and free medical checks
19. Establishing a mechanism for partnerships and creating working coordination between SFD and the Inclusive Education Directorate
20. The authorities should provide the infrastructure necessary for including all categories in education

21. The MOEG and the MOE should cooperate in choosing the suitable places for school sites
22. The MOE should provide special books for the blind and for the deaf and mute in cooperation with Al-Amman Association for Blind Girls
23. The MOE should provide qualified teachers especially in Socotra Island
24. The MOE should include entertainment time in schools especially in Basic Education Schools
25. The MOE and SFD should conduct a study for the children outside schools in cooperation with the stakeholders
26. The Girls Education Sector in the MOE should give consideration for the rural girls so that they get their share of education
27. The Education Committee in the House of Reps should monitor the implementation of the concept of inclusive education
28. The Handicapped Care and Qualification Fund should intensify its efforts in all areas to include the disabled in education
29. The LCs in cooperation with the MOE along with all associations working in education should care for education and making it available for all
30. The MOE should mobilize all its resources to achieve Yemen's commitments to the MDGs

The Recommendations of the CP for its second holding session on August, 2 – 3, 2010 under the slogan "Violence against Children

1. Following up with the Minister of Justice to publish a list of those received court punishments for violence against children in media outlets in coordination with the MO Info
2. Establishing a TV channel for children
3. Coordinating with the MO Info and the TV and Radio Sector regarding a weekly program aiming at educating children and disseminating the ICR and implementing it
4. The Culture and Media Committee of the CP invites the TV and Radio Sector to meet in order to discuss developing a documentary that describes the children situation in Yemen
5. Holding Radio and TV seminars to discuss and spread the ICR
6. Publishing leaflets and distributing them to raise awareness about encouraging no violence against children in schools and homes
7. Conducting cultural seminars inside juvenile's centers to educate them
8. Continuous education using posters and magazines about the importance of keeping the prisons and detention places free of children
9. Demanding the educational and health rights of the children inside prisons
10. The basic needs for school children should be provided
11. The MOI should provide educational tools inside care homes
12. Providing experimental labs in schools
13. Providing some game tools in schools
14. The MOE should provide a pharmacy in schools with the supplies in all areas
15. Providing all school books
16. Providing school desks for all students
17. Providing protection in schools to stop violence against children
18. Providing the school books for the Deaf and mute
19. Providing specialized teachers for the Deaf and mute

20. Encouraging children in child labor to continue education and providing them with the necessary support to progress
21. Helping street children and admitting them to schools
22. Qualifying the juveniles as they enter jails and providing them with handicrafts and skills
23. Activating the legal provision that state no trial for child without a lawyer
24. Activating the law that requires the cases of juveniles to be dealt with within 24 hours
25. Adhering to law when investigating cases of violence against children
26. Issuing maximum punishment for those committing violations against children and speeding the punishment process
27. The MOI should improve the status of children inside prisons
28. The MOSAL should provide care homes for children victims of violence across the country
29. Qualifying the police officers in police stations and investigation offices on dealing with children
30. The government should spread awareness about the need to observe children rights and to ban violence against them
31. Training forensic doctors at the Prosecution Offices
32. Amending article (2) that determines the legal age at 15 to make it 18 in accordance with the International Human Rights Declaration
33. The MOH should inspect medicine in all hospitals
34. Training doctors to inform about potential violence against children
35. The MOH should issue the Health Insurance Law for children at least
36. The MOH should build health centers in all governorates
37. Providing hygiene workers in all hospitals
38. Training doctors on how to deal with children
39. Improving child inwards and provide them with all requirements
40. Providing doctors in orphanages, blind care centers, juvenile homes, disabled centers, and centers for deaf and mute.

**The CP recommendations for the third session on Dec, 6 – 8, 2010
under the slogan "the Status of Children in Armed Conflicts"**

1. Implementing the president's order to release the people involved in armed conflicts in Sa'ada especially children
2. The MOD, the MOI, the National Security Agency (NSA), the Political Security Organization (PSO), the MOJ and the Prosecutor General Office should provide statistics and information related to the number of children involved in Sa'ada war and the war child victims to the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood so that they can complete the GOY report about banning the inclusion of children in armed conflicts to be presented in front of the International Child Right Committee in Geneva
3. The MOD and the MOI should secure passages for international humanitarian organizations that provide aid for the displaced as a result of war
4. The NSA and the PSO should cooperate with humanitarian agencies to provide psychological support for the children involved in armed conflicts so that they do not go back to war
5. The government should not punish children involved as war criminals but rather victims of war
6. All sides of conflicts should respect the international conventions that prohibit the inclusion of children in war and respect the state sovereignty
7. The governor of Amran and the local authorities should move the Harf Sufyan camp for the displaced to a safe location and protect the displaced from any attacks
8. The local authorities in Sa'ada and Amran should cooperate with the aid organizations to care for the displaced
9. The conflicting sides should demine Sa'ada areas in order to keep people safe especially children
10. All tribes, sheikhs and notables in armed conflict areas and tribal disputes should retreat from involving children in armed conflicts or in carrying arms

11. The NSA and the PSO should respect the age of 18 as child age and not interrogate children without taking the right precautions by having a lawyer or the supervision of the Persecutor General
12. The government should deploy security forces in the displaced camp areas especially in Amran
13. The international organizations and the local authorities should allow the UAE Red Crescent to supervise all the displaced camps banking on their success in AlMazariq 2 camp
14. The MOJ should not trial children in the special criminal court but in the juvenile court
15. The government should adjoin the Alkifil camp in Haradh to the rest of the camps and assure that the IDP will return to their homes after the war
16. The MOH and the international organizations should confirm the validity of the medicine provided for IDPs especially the children and should provide free health services for them conducting health education and providing services to the people especially in Harf Sufyan and Alkifil camp in Haradh
17. The MOH and the international organizations should confirm that the clinics inside the camps are operating and are providing vaccines and medicine to the IDPs as well as cooperating in finding safe drinking water and eradicating the diseases that spread inside the camps in addition to services like electricity
18. The MO Info and the Ministry of Culture (MOC) should produce and broadcast documentaries about the dangers of war and of involving children in them. They should increase awareness raising and seminars about the risks implicated with armed conflicts expanding programs that present the problems created by wars and raising awareness of the army about not involving under 18 in combat
19. Educating IDP children about mines and explosives so that they safe themselves

20. The MOE should provide schools, free schooling and teachers in the IDPs camps providing help so that the children continue their education
21. Spreading the idea that the IDPs are displaced ordinary people from all segments of the society and not associated with the Houthis
22. Rebuilding schools destroyed by war
23. Educating the IDP children about the importance of continuing schooling

**The recommendations of the fourth Session of the CP on
Feb, 14 – 16, 2011 under the slogan "Children Health and Nutrition"
The Recommendation of the Culture and Media Committee**

1. The MOH should cooperate with MOC and MOE in spreading health education among children
2. The MO Info should activate its role in spreading health education via all its outlets and especially educating the IDPs
3. The MOH and MO Info should work to spread awareness in all government institutions especially about deadly diseases and how to protect children from malnutrition
4. The MOE should facilitate the educational roles of the MOH and the MO Info so that they educate children in schools about health and nutrition
5. The MOAI (Agriculture and Irrigation) should work to reduce qat farming and encourage farmers to substitute it by providing other plants and seeds
6. The MOAI should work in collaboration with the MOH, the MOE, the MOC and the MO Info in educating citizens about food security with focus on children
7. All media should spread the message about deadly diseases and the way how to reduce them
8. The media should intensify its work on explaining the importance of removing qat and orient citizens about the bad effects of chewing qat
9. The MO Info and the MOH should establish awareness groups that educate children about the hazards of mines and how to identify them

10. Producing posters about the importance of vaccination
11. The MOC, the MO Info and the international NGOs should work to produce films about the importance of health and nutrition
12. The MO Info and the TV and Radio Sector should coordinate with the CP to spread education with CP members participation

The Recommendations of the Education Committee

1. The MOE should collaborate with CSOs and international NGOs in spreading awareness about deadly diseases
2. The MOE should activate the role of school health offices in schools since they represent a very important tool to educate school children and provide first aid and treatment
3. The MO Info in coordination with the MOE has to educate about the diseases the children suffer
4. It is necessary that the international organizations and the governmental institutions working with children cooperate in the health field
5. The MOE should supervise the food selling inside schools and ensure their safety
6. The MOI should facilitate the work of the international organization providing health and education services in areas of disputes
7. The members of the Education Committees in the House of Reps and the Shoura Council should undertake their roles

The Recommendation of the Human Rights Committee

1. The government, the SCOs and the international organizations should unify efforts and expand their services to remote areas especially those with IDPs
2. Sides of armed conflicts should facilitate the operations of international and human orgs and allow them provide health services including vaccination to control the spread of diseases

3. The government should find resources to provide for children and not just depend on international organizations
4. The MOAI should improve the food security level and food production so that children are covered up
5. The international organizations should intensify and coordinate efforts to raise awareness and get assistance from the CP
6. The government, the SCOs and the international organizations should include children in planning education and utilize them in implementation
7. The Standards and Quality Control Authority, the Consumer Protection Association, the MOH and the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) should monitor the quality of imported materials and inspect the validity of food stuff in storages
8. The international organizations and the supervising sides should provide medical staff and education in IDPs camps especially the Harf Sufyan one
9. The MOH should provide the financial support for dangerous health cases that require treatment abroad
10. The Health Committees in the House of Reps and Shoura Council should undertake their roles in supervising the service delivery
11. The relevant committees in the House of Reps should issue the laws that punish families that refuse to vaccinate children
12. The sides of the conflict should work to demine Sa'ada so that the IDP children can go back home in safety and stability
13. The MOH should expand the Inclusive Health Pilot
14. The authorities should launch a charity fund for donations for health and medicine
15. The gov and the international orgs should increase support for poor families
16. The MOH and MOE should work to improve the situation in the state orphanages

17. The gov and the organizations should put a national plan to counter malnutrition
18. The authorities should conduct a national survey for malnourished
19. The private sector should contribute to aid for children
20. The MOH and MOE should educate school children about the dangers of sexual interactions
21. The MOAI should put a plan to reduce qat farming and provide alternatives
22. The MOF should work to establish a special budget for children
23. The gov and other sides working with children should respect international conventions and the ultimate interest of the child

The Health and Environment Committee Recommendations

1. The government, the SCOs and the international organizations should work to ensure children health and nutrition
2. The MOH should make free medicine available in all gov hospitals and health facilities
3. The MOH should inspect the quality of child vaccines
4. The MOH should ensure the validity of drugs
5. The MOH and the relevant international orgs should educate about vaccinations
6. The MOH should educate about malnutrition and diarrhea
7. The MOH and the MOE should provide clinics and first aid kits
8. The MOH should inspect vaccination facilities
9. The MOH should care the health and nutrition needs of the extremely poor children and the children with special needs
10. The MOH should eradicate deadly diseases in IDPs camps like (cholera, molasses, malaria, diarrhea and malnutrition)
11. The MOH should care for mothers nutrition and medicine
12. The MOH and MO Info should raise awareness about early marriage risks

13. The MOH should coordinate with the MOAI to educate about pesticides dangers and reduce their usage
14. The gov should take action to question those selling expired food and medical items and not cover them up
15. The MOH should educate about the values of breast feeding
16. The MOH should find vaccines for diseases spreading in Hodeida

The fifth session under the slogan "juveniles under the current circumstances" held on Dec, 17 – 20, 2011

1. All sides involved in the current events must respect laws and child rights obligations and conventions
2. The relevant authorities should find solution to relocate the IDPs from Abyan out of schools in Aden and Lahij so that children can continue education
3. The MO Info should educate about banning children from sit-ins and the way to protect children from armed activities like the ones in Sana'a and Taiz
4. The MOH should ensure the provision of health service and punish those who stop them by strikes
5. The MOI and the army should pay all efforts to protect children from violations and take actions against violators
6. The MOI and the army should control arms and ban them from streets
7. The MOE and the army should cooperate to remove armed men from schools, end using them as camps and restore them to their normal role
8. The gov institutions working with children should ensure they are free of partisan and political agendas
9. Political parties, youth groups, sheikhs and the army should ensure that children are not involved in their political disputes or armed conflicts
10. All sides should take the best interest of the child in consideration during armed conflicts

11. The army, the Central Security, the First Armored Division, Sheikhs, the Houthis, the South Movement and the political parties should release children and refrain from using them in conflict in respect for the ICR
12. The government, the SCOs and the international organizations should act to provide psychological and social support for children intensifying efforts in that direction for children under the events of armed conflicts (Hassaba, Taiz, Abyan, Sa'ada, Arhab and Nihem)
13. The CSOs should act seriously and honestly to list violations against children in all governorates and in cooperation with the CP

The Recommendations of the CP sixth session (the final) on March, 26 – 28, 2012 under the slogan "Following the Implementation of the ICR Treaty Up"

1. The MOI and the MOD should end armed presence in schools and restore them to educational purposes
2. Security institutions should release children from service immediately
3. The House of Reps should consider the suspended draft laws related to children rights including (setting an age for safe marriage with punishments for violators, banning girls circumcision and identifying the juvenile age for criminal responsibility)
4. The Prisons Authority should separate children in dispute with the law (juveniles) from adults in jails and temporary detention centers
5. The MOJ should undertake its responsibilities in providing fair trials for juveniles and not allow capital sentence according to the ICR provisions
6. All gov, military, armed groups and CSOs should respect the laws and the international treaties
7. The Civic Registry should ensure listing all children free of charge
8. All gov sides, political groups and armed groups should not involve children in their disputes and respect child rights

9. The international orgs and the gov should remove mines from Abyan, Sa'ada, Hajja and Harf Sufyan
10. The PM Office should assign a specific body responsible for the orphanages and care about orphans nationwide
11. The CSOs should provide all available information about the situation of children in Yemen so that they get included in the fourth periodical report to be presented to the International Commission for Child Rights
12. The MOE should reconsider the curricula and make school books available
13. The MOE should implement the law that bans using violent punishments in schools
14. The MOE should include the ICR Treaty
15. The MOE should cooperate with the CP in raising awareness about the ICR
16. The MOE and the international orgs should find alternatives for IDPs from Abyan and revive the school system in Aden
17. The MOE should activate the role of student councils in all schools
18. The MOH should improve inspection of the gov hospitals and provide free health services for children
19. The relevant sides should build health centers in districts and provide the necessary financial support
20. The MOE and the MOH should cooperate to establish better school health
21. The MOH, the SCOs and the international organizations should give consideration for child nutrition
22. The UNCHR and IDPs units in Sa'ada, Haradh, Aden and Lahij should work to return the IDPs to their homes
23. The authorities should give attention to the issues of the children who are; disabled, extremely poor, working and refugees
24. Local and international media are requested to cover the CP activities

25. The MO Info should prepare programs that aim at spreading awareness and serve the child rights
26. All media people should refrain from exploiting children in political causes
27. The MOI should cooperate with media in spreading a message about the dangers of involving children in armed conflicts
28. The MO Info and media personnel should respect child rights and not expose children subject to any form of violence

Speaker and members of the CP, March, 28, 2012-07-05