

THE CHILDREN'S FORUM-C8

July 1-8, 2005, Scotland

REPORT

I. Background of C8

In July 5-8, 2005 The G8 meeting took place in GLENEAGLES Hotel in Scotland. The UNICEF had prepared the Children Forum call C8 in Scotland before the G8 meeting date in order to give opportunity to children and young people from developing and developed countries to meet together to formulate message key points for the G8. The C8 worked for 5 days in HILTON HYDRO Hotel in DUNBLANE (July 1-5, 2005) and 3 days in HOLLIDAY INN Hotel in EDINBURGH city (July 6-8, 2005).

There were 17 young people (8 children and 9 young people) around the world had come to work together. There were 11 Chaperones to help for looking after their own child and translation

II. The C8 2005

On June 30, 2005 under the financial support from UNICEF Cambodia, Child Assistance for Mobilization and Participation (CAMP) had sent a girl child name SOU Thida as representative of children in Cambodia, East Asia and the Pacific to participate in “**C8 Children Forum**” on 01-09 July 2005 in Scotland, United Kingdom where is the host of the G8 meeting.

Objectives of the C8 children forum:

- To provide meaningful opportunities for children and young people to influence key international processes that have such enduring effected on their lives all over the world.
- To work with children and young people to give them a genuine forum to express their view and state which issues they think the G8 leaders should address.
- Ensure that their voices are heard by the G8 leaders and the United Kingdom and international public.
- Begin a process which can be passed on and used by future host G8 UNICEF country offices.

C8 2005 Main Activities:

During the C8 Forum, child representative of each country and region took a presentation on children's problems in their country. Several issues were spoken out by the child representative.

1. Poverty
2. HIV/AIDS Infection
3. Lack of clean water
4. Health and hygiene
5. Nutrition
6. Children trafficking and exploitation
7. Education
8. Drugs abuse
9. Corruption
10. Lack of children's participation
11. The convention on the right of children are in the limited of the respecting
12. Environment and water system

After the presentation on various issues had been shown, participants got to know what C8 means.

What is C8 and G8 meaning?

- C8 is the children and young people version of the G8 meeting.
- G8 is an intergovernmental organization including eight of the world's richest nations. G8 stand for the 'Group of Eight Nation'. Members include: United Kingdom, United States of America, Germany, France, Italy, Japan, Canada, and Russia.

All participants understood the meaning of “**Make Poverty History**” campaign. This campaign first started in England and there are million of people participated and supported.

One lesson learnt made participants better understand about the rights and responsibilities of people and children through an example, which had been given by the facilitator. The example was talked about a small unfair trade of making income by growing banana trees.

It was related to the rights practicing and abusing. The bananas grower did many efforts and did in a long time in growing, watering, fertilizing, and caring to get the bananas. But when the bananas were sold out, the bananas grower got a low price and this low price didn't include their labor. Every time the bananas were sold to the businessmen, the businessmen always set the price for the seller, and when bananas were taken on the weight, the businessmen always hold the weight. When the businessmen sold the bananas out the price was set out to be high which the profit is double or triple.

This example expressed human right abuse, don't understanding the human rights and no human rights practicing that make such trade become the unfair trade.

According to the example given as case study above, people must understand and practice their rights to reduce the poverty.

After studying the example situation above, the child representative from each country spoke out problems that happen in their country as the following:

1. HIV/AIDS and Children (Reitumelse from Lesotho, Africa)
2. Children exploitation and Violence (Polina from Moldova)
3. Children labors (Aissatou from Guiana)
4. Health, Nutrition, and Children (Nabil from Yemen)
5. Good governance and democracy (Zoya from Russia)
6. Education (Aminata from Sierra Leone)
7. Clean water and Sanitation (Dechen from Bhutan)
8. Children and poverty (Thida from Cambodia)

After the issues were presented, the group discussed to find and do the recommendations for G8. The 8-point recommendations were found as below:

1. Poverty - No more!!!
2. Education – Now!!!
3. Violence Against Children – Time's up!!!
4. Participation, Democracy and Governance – More and More!!!
5. HIV/AIDS – Out!!!
6. Working Children – Work On It!!!
7. Healthy Environment, Water and Sanitation – Enough for All!!!
8. Health And Nutrition – Have It!!!

C8 Recommendation:

Participants reached GLENEGLE, the meeting hall of G8. On the July 06, 2005, children sent a message of the children recommendations to leaders of G8 through the prime minister of the United Kingdom of England. While they were sending the message of the children recommendations, teachers and students group exhibited pictures of children more than 5,000, which made from paper to represent to hundreds of million of ignorant children in the world who asking for education. Meanwhile, there was a campaign on "Leaving out Poverty and Keep it as a history". This campaign was joined by hundreds thousand of English people and students in England.

At that time, a child representative who came from Africa presented about the problems in Africa. In Africa, there were 50,000 children and old people died per day because of HIV/AIDS.

After received the message of children recommendations, the prime minister of the United Kingdom, strongly promised that he will bring all words in recommendations to G8.

The forum had organized the evaluation meeting which the result was interesting.

Children and youth group were ready in preparing a statement to reflect to the G8's decision. The statement contained two meaning; the first one was positive idea if the G8 respond to the recommendations. The second one was negative idea if the G8 doesn't respond to the recommendations.

Every participant knew the result of the G8 and the result was positive step by step in each part. In conclusion, G8 aid on HIV/ AIDS Infection, Eliminate Poverty, Education and police in 3 millions dollar and G8 will help Africa until the year 2010. Children and participants joined the campaign on "Leaving out poverty, End Slavery, Long Way in Finding Justice".

In Edinburgh, a concert was helped on with hundreds thousand of people joined. Many slogans were spoken out as the following:

1. We all want justice but not charity from G8
2. This campaign not only to end poverty but also slavery.
3. The poverty in the world results from doing unfair trade. Please G8 cares about fair trades.
4. In Africa, 50,000 people have died per day. How many people will die per moth, per year?
5. Around 3 minutes, a child and baby die of illness and foodless.
6. In Africa, women are mothers and wives suffer because of the HIV/AIDS
7. Head of children in Africa are bigger than their body because of illness, foodless, and no clean water.
8. The world changes depend on G8
9. G8 poverty maker. So G8 has to end poverty.
10. We don't have the third-world or the third country. We have only one world, we have the same blood, we meet each other, and we love each other.
11.

During the concert, a child representative of C8 spoke out the recommendations, which was sent to G8 in front of hundreds thousand of people. Beside this, the C8 child representative was interviewed with the BBC TV and other TVs in the United Kingdom, and the news were fully advertised and broadcasted.

III. Conclusion

Although G8 did not carry out recommendations in one hundred percent, but the result of C8 was acceptable and admired by the prime minister of United Kingdom. The news was advertised in TVs

and big newspapers that could be known and found the solution in the future. The G8's responds are around C8 recommendation.

Children's voice in front of hundreds thousand of congratulated people made C8 absolutely proud of the first C8 creation in July, 2005. In the next year, C8 would get more experiences. A bout the G8 reply will be coming soon.

