



INTERNATIONAL REPORT

Working Children's Meeting

In April 96, thousands of working children attended a meeting and festival, organised by the Working Group on Child Labour, in Bangalore, India.

The meeting gave a high level of involvement to the children. They discussed, marched, constructed a massive sculpture depicting exploitation and put on a play about triumphant liberation from slavery.

Child Workers in Asia
Vol 12/3

Children's Rights Violations in Burma

Although Burma acceded to CROC in 1991, the military regime has shown little political will to protect children from gross violations of their rights.

Children used by the Army as porters die from lack of medical care, beatings and exhaustion. There is routine use of forced child labour on construction sites. Girls who are trafficked to Thailand and are returned by the Thai government are subjected to imprisonment in adult jails.

The Australia Burma Council has supported Aung San Suu Chi's call to urge tourists not to visit Burma, in protest against the SLORC regime.

Human Rights Watch/Asia Report
January 1997.

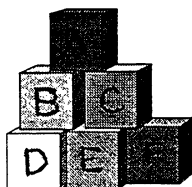
International Network on Juvenile Justice

A global network of non-government organisations will work to improve juvenile justice systems worldwide and ensure that international standards are met. This new co-operative network is sponsored by DCI and was launched at the African Seminar on Children In Conflict with the Law, in January 97.

The Network will have a strong emphasis on pro active prevention and socio-legal protection of children in conflict with the law. It plans to undertake projects in research, legal aid, legal reform, training of practitioners and the improvement of conditions in detention.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child and the High Commissioner for Human Rights have expressed strong support for this initiative. Both bodies are concerned about the lack of information in national reports about this crucial field of children's rights.

DCI is providing the initial Secretariat. Progress in developing the activities will be reported through DCI channels. However, Australian NGOs can participate in the network directly as well. Papers from the launch are available from DCI-Australia.



SECOND WORLD CONGRESS ON FAMILY LAW AND THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH, San Francisco, California, Hyatt Regency Hotel, June 3-7, 1997.

Purpose: This congress will build on the First World Congress held in Australia in 1993 with over 100 sessions, featuring experts from around the world. It will address a variety of critical issues facing children and families:

- * Children in a violent world
- * Family law, family forms and family functions
- * The effects of poverty
- * Health issues for families and children
- * The impact of culture and education

Among the invited speakers: Archbishop Desmond Tutu (South Africa Nobel Peace Prize Laureate); Janet Reno (Attorney General of the U.S.); Rigoberta Menchu (Guatemala, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate); Allan Rock (Minister of Justice, Canada); Dr. Oscar Arias (Former President of Costa Rica); Vitit Muntarbhorn (Former UN Special Rapporteur, Thailand); Carol Bellamy (Executive Director UNICEF); Marta Santos-Pais: UNCRC, etc. US First Lady Hillary Clinton, (Honorary Chair).

Further information:
AFCC, 329 W. Wilson Street,
Madison WI 53703 USA
Tel: (608) 251-4001 Fac: (608)
251-2231 email: fcc@igc.apc.org