Dear Friends,

The two key words for 2018 – justice as selected by Merriam-Webster and toxic as selected by Oxford Dictionaries – aptly describe the key events that shaped the year. We saw the desire for gender justice, climate justice, economic justice, and child justice, while we also witnessed the effects of toxic practices, toxic wastes, toxic policies, and toxic behavior. We saw the migration crisis that resulted in the incarceration of thousands of children separated from their parents at the borders, and then we witnessed the #MeToo movement gaining ground as more victims and survivors of sexual abuse came forward. The earth shook in Indonesia that resulted to massive loss of lives and property, while in Thailand, the whole world celebrated the successful rescue of the twelve boys and their soccer coach who had been trapped in the cave for more than 16 days.

The movement for child rights in Asia also reflected these two trends on the search for justice and the need to struggle against toxicity that stifle the realization of children’s rights.

In 2018, many children in Asia showed their interest in articulating their concerns and working together. CRC Asia supported this by empowering children. We helped them voice out concerns on their right to enjoy the digital environment while being protected from online perpetrators of abuse and fraud. We brought the Asian children’s voices to the global debate on the concept of children as human rights defenders, especially because we saw groups of children taking part in defending their rights and the rights of their communities.

CRC Asia, in the past year, also continued to be a channel to articulate the views of child rights organizations to policymakers in Asia on key issues at the national, regional, and international levels. We strengthened civil society in the region and created space for participation. One of these examples is the forum that we provided to update child rights advocates on the effects and consequences of international migration, child and early marriage, the digital environment, violence on children, the rapid urbanization of the region, as well as of medical and technological advances that have led to the increase of surrogacy.

We accomplished all these thanks to the important contributions of children and child rights advocates who participated in our various programs.

On behalf of CRC Asia, I would also like thank our main partners – Save the Children, Plan International, and UNICEF – for supporting our work and helping us achieve our outcomes.

We look forward to working with you again in 2019 as we commemorate the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Amihan Abueva
Regional Executive Director
CRC Asia
About Us

Child Rights Coalition Asia (CRC Asia) is a regional network of organizations working together for the fulfillment of children’s rights. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols serve as the foundation of our work.

OUR VISION

All children living in dignity by fully enjoying and exercising their rights

OUR MISSION

Strengthening Child Rights Movements
We build networks and establish alliances with civil society organizations, child-led groups, and other stakeholders working with children. We strengthen the capacities of CRC Asia, its members, and other partners to play an active role in upholding the rights of the child.

Promoting Innovative Approaches
We facilitate the exchange of sharing good practices and innovative approaches to the realization of children’s rights. We raise awareness through offline and online means and conduct campaigns developed for and with children.

Advocating Better Policies for and with Children
We engage with target bodies and groups to influence the policies related to children. In developing our advocacy priorities and advocacy calls, we gather inputs from civil society, children, and other partners. We conduct and provide support to research for evidence-based actions.
Key Achievements in 2018

CRC Asia reinforced the strengthening of civil society in the region.

We mobilized children from Southeast Asia to provide inputs to the development of an ASEAN declaration that would serve as a core document in guiding the long-term regional goals and actions on ending online exploitation and abuse.

We provided platforms for groups of children in Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, and Thailand and these led to the development of their agenda for community-level and national-level advocacy, identification of their strategies for the preparation of children’s report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, and sharing of their inputs to the 2018 Day of General Discussion.

We supported the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child’s Day of General Discussion on the protection and empowerment of children as human rights defenders, which highlighted the unique but less acknowledged perspectives of children in upholding human rights.

CRC Asia became the regional organization that brings the local perspectives to United Nations mechanisms.

We established a precedent on how civil society and the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights can collaborate, in which civil society is involved from the project’s conceptualization stage, to the planning and implementation, up to the follow up actions.

We initiated a platform for child rights coalitions from at least 19 countries in Asia-Pacific to engage with one another, be updated with the emerging child rights issues and efforts of the regional bodies and UN bodies, and use these information and connections in the development and implementation of their coalition’s current and future strategies.

CRC Asia empowered children to make their voices heard at the national, regional, and international platforms.

We successfully advocated for the inclusion of “children who are left behind by migrant parents” in the definition of children in the context of international migration in the UN CRC General Comment, bringing attention to the situation of vulnerability that is more common in Asia.

We initiated a regional dialogue on the discussion on children as human rights defenders, which led to local child rights organizations sharing their views and experiences to inform international mechanisms.
2018 Highlights

Advancing child participation

Upholding the right of the child to be heard is at the core of CRC Asia’s work. Children should have a say in decisions that affect them and should be given support to participate.

Children’s voices in ASEAN

In 2018, CRC Asia mobilized children from member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to come to Jakarta, Indonesia and provide inputs and recommendations during the ASEAN Regional Children’s Consultation on Online Child Protection. The children presented their contributions to representatives from the governments of ASEAN Member States, ASEAN officials, participants from United Nations (UN) bodies, and representatives from the private sector that came together for the ASEAN Regional Consultation Towards Integrated National Responses to End the Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. The children – whose ages ranged from 11 to below 18 years old, with 9 boys and 11 girls, including 3 children with disabilities, and representing a wider group of children in their country – presented the advantages and disadvantages of the Internet, inspiring a wholistic approach to the rights of the child in the digital setting. They also shared their suggestions to the adults, which include, among others, the recommendation to provide budget for online child protection, the creation of a region-wide movement and campaign on online safety of children, and the involvement of the private sector to uphold children’s rights in the online setting. This joint regional consultation of children and adults resulted to two major outcomes: ASEAN will work on producing a set of minimum legal standards for the region on addressing online sexual abuse and exploitation of children and ASEAN will develop a Declaration to prevent and combat online sexual exploitation of children. The Declaration will serve as a core document that will guide the goals and actions of ASEAN and its Member States on this issue.

Building the children’s advocacy capacities

CRC Asia supported the children in strengthening their advocacy capacities. Through our member organization Mindanao Action Group for Children’s Right to Protection (MAGCRP), we gathered representatives from seven child-led groups, including a partner group from an indigenous community, to enhance the children’s advocacy agenda and campaigns for the next two years. While they have identified the issues to focus on in their respective geographical areas of work at the southern part of the Philippines, the children also selected four priority issues that all of them will work on together as an alliance: eliminating all forms of physical and humiliating punishment, realizing the right of the child against all forms of discrimination, upholding children’s ecological or environmental rights, and addressing teenage pregnancy through the promotion of adolescent sexuality and reproductive health rights. Afterwards, the children came up with their advocacy messages and activities for select target audience. They also identified the timeline and resources needed to implement their agenda. MAGCRP will continue providing support to the children in the realization of these plans at the local level, and we will also refer to these identified issues in our future advocacy actions at the regional and international levels.

We built the capacities of children in Cambodia and Indonesia in contributing to the children’s report submitted to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC Committee). Led by our member organization Child Rights Coalition Cambodia (CRC Cambodia), we helped children develop one of their questionnaires in gathering data for their report. In partnership with Yayasan KKSP, we provided a space for child-led groups in North Sumatra, Indonesia to identify action plans for the development of the children’s report.
Welcoming the Child Rights Youth Activists Network of Northern Thailand

With the leadership of our member organization The Life Skills Development Foundation (TLSDF), CRC Asia supported the establishment of a new network of children called the Child Rights Youth Activists Network. It is composed of five child-led and youth groups, including those that belong to ethnic communities and in stateless situations, that are based in three provinces of Northern Thailand. These children, supported by CSOs and local government, have been working with one another before, but in 2018, the children officially formed the network.

In late 2018, we provided a platform for children to come together, strengthen their network, and learn from each other by sharing their achievements and experiences in the past year. They talked about the conduct of the study on the situation of violence against children, the results of the participation to CRC Asia’s Regional Children’s Meeting in 2017, the child participation efforts on eliminating physical and humiliating punishment, the knowledge gained from attending a youth leadership program, and the learnings from participating a life skills training. Looking at the experience of Cambodian children supported by CRC Asia to produce a video submitted to the CRC Committee, the children also discussed how they can amplify their voices at the regional and international platforms. Aside from the establishment of a new network of children, the outcomes of this meeting include a plan to contribute to the development of the children’s report to the CRC Committee and a list of child rights issues that need to be addressed, including those related to unsafe drinking water, lack of understanding on child participation, discrimination against children without full legal status and statelessness, child marriage and early pregnancy, and vulnerabilities of children of migrant workers.

Strengthening the capacities of adults to support child participation

CRC Asia continuously builds its capacity to advance child participation. In Lao PDR, we conducted a training for the staff of our member organization Village Focus International (VFI) in December. We are looking forward to see the outcomes of this training reflected in VFI’s development of advocacy strategies, design of skills and vocational trainings, and management of shelters and centers of victims of trafficking in persons, to name a few.

If children are expected to be independent individuals who have to bear the responsibility of their own decisions in the future, then they have to practice doing so from a young age.

From Adult First? A Guidebook for child-related professionals and adults to learn about children’s right to participation & how to hear the voice of children clearly.

We pushed for attention on the role of professionals and service providers in upholding child participation by promoting the original publication of our member organization Hong Kong Committee on Children’s Rights (HKCCR) called Adult First? A Guidebook for child-related professionals and adults to learn about children’s right to participation & how to hear the voice of children clearly. Adult First is written for professionals working with children. It presents the readers with actual examples shared by professionals in Hong Kong on how they implemented child participation in their work. By showcasing attested practices, the book hopes to inspire all the lawyers, judges, community workers, teachers, doctors, civil servants, and other adults working with and for children to incorporate child participation in their profession.

Scan to view the publication  
Adult First

By Children, for Children

Our #SafeWeb4Kids Children’s Guide to Online Safety booklet is now in Korean and Mongolian!

#SafeWeb4Kids is a regional campaign on online child protection created by children for children.

Scan to view the #SafeWeb4Kids booklets and know more about the campaign
2018 Highlights
The Asia-Pacific Partnership Meeting of Child Rights Coalitions and Networks

CRC Asia’s annual Asia-Pacific Partnership Meeting of Child Rights Coalitions and Networks (APPM) continued to be a regional platform for civil society strengthening and policy advocacy. In 2018, the key outcomes of our APPM include a regional submission to the CRC Committee for the 2018 Day of General Discussion (DGD), a set of possible coordinated efforts for the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC), strengthened capacities of civil society organizations (CSOs) on emerging child rights issues and situations, and improved awareness of good practices across the region.

Running for four days with eight sessions and a field visit, we provided a venue for information exchange, bridged partnerships among CSOs, and created space for civil society, UN mechanisms, and government to dialogue. We convened participants and speakers from 37 organizations based in 19 countries and territories in Southeast Asia, East Asia, and South Asia. Representatives from the CRC Committee and two intergovernmental bodies in Asia joined us. For the first time since the APPM began in 2015, we had a child speaker.

Children in the context of international migration

We hold the APPM to facilitate the flow of information from the international to the local. In 2018, we discussed the two latest UN CRC General Comments that were jointly developed with the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW). We looked at the salient features of these instruments and their implication as Joint General Comments. We talked about the need for the dissemination to the regional intergovernmental bodies, the application of the UN CRC’s Optional Protocol on Communications Procedure for cases related to migration, and the situation of children left behind by migrant parents.

Surrogacy and the Rights of Children Born from Surrogacy

Our APPM is a venue to spark conversation on child rights concerns that are not commonly tackled. In 2018, we built on the actual cases and experiences of Thailand, the only country in Southeast Asia with a specific law on surrogacy. We discussed the concerns related to upholding the best interests of children born from surrogacy, their right to nationality, and right to information on their origin. We looked at the issues of commercial surrogacy, discrimination of surrogate children with disabilities, and surrogacy for the purpose of sale and sexual exploitation of children. We talked about surrogacy’s connection to women’s rights, its cross-border angle, and its relationship to trafficking of children, child custody, and other child rights issues.

Preparing for the 30th Anniversary of the UN CRC

In 2018, we joined forces to brainstorm on possible efforts that we can do together for the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the UN CRC. We also started the discussions on sub-regional campaigns and actions.

Regional DGD Hub

We conduct the APPM to bring the voice of the local to the international. The 2018 APPM gathered the perspectives of child rights coalitions and networks in Asia on the concept of children as human rights defenders. We submitted the results to the CRC Committee.
Eliminating Child Marriage

We make the APPM a platform to share and learn from the progress and challenges across sub-regions in Asia. Our APPM in 2018 presented updates on the regional efforts of South Asia to end child marriage. From this, we discussed the importance of efforts in the grassroots to drive the agenda and of addressing the overall sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) to end child marriage. We connected the experiences from other parts of Asia where the work focuses on addressing the social norms and culture, taking into consideration the gender perspective and the link to early pregnancy.

Children in the Urban Setting

Rapid urbanization is an emerging area of concern and we used the 2018 APPM to improve the understanding on upholding the rights of the child in the urban setting and on achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 on sustainable cities and communities. We looked at the challenges on incorporating child participation and child rights-based approach to urban planning and budgeting. We reviewed the salient features of the UN CRC General Comment No. 20 on children in street situations. We discussed the approach that emphasizes the full respect for the autonomy of children, and the importance of using the person-first language when referring to children in street situations. We listened to a child rights advocate, Donita Ruiz, from the Philippines. Donita was selected by her peers to join us in the 2018 APPM and present the children’s statement developed during the Street Children’s Congress 2018 organized by Bahay Tuluyan.

Online Child Protection

We utilize the APPM to learn from the processes and results of studies, researches, and consultations. In 2018, we looked at ECPAT International’s study called Towards a Global Indicator on Unidentified Victims in Child Sexual Exploitation Material, conducted in partnership with the International Criminal Police Organization. The study presents recommendations that could guide the plans of child rights coalition and networks.

Children in Street Situations

In the statement shared by Donita, the children listed the challenges they face related to rescue, discrimination and stigma, vices and gangs, unemployment and lack of education, government, and police violence. They have eleven recommendations to the government to help them achieve what they need, and ten additional advocacy calls.

Ending Violence against Children

Through the APPM, we strive to deepen the understanding of civil society on globally-developed strategies. Our 2018 APPM presented the evidence-based technical package of INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence against Children (VAC), followed by the example of the Philippines in using these strategies in the development of the country’s six-year plan of action to end VAC. With this, we increased the appreciation on this set of strategies, as well as the awareness on translating the technical to practical.

We also visited the Philippine General Hospital’s Child Protection Unit (CPU) a child-friendly, gender-sensitive, hospital-based unit that uses multidisciplinary approach and networking to provide services on child abuse cases.

Sharing of achievements

The APPM is our platform to learn from the work of other groups. In 2018, we promoted the key achievements of each CSO that joined us.
2018 Highlights

Children as Human Rights Defenders

As a member of Child Rights Connect, CRC Asia pushed for the topic of children human rights defenders as the theme of the CRC Committee’s 2018 DGD. We co-signed the proposal and provided the Asian perspective in the discourse.

The 2018 DGD created a momentum for children human rights defenders, emphasizing the children’s potential, experiences, and contributions as human rights defenders and, at the same, bringing attention to the challenges they face and the support they need.

Regional DGD Hub in Asia

CRC Asia strives to bring the voices of civil society and children from Asia in the regional and international platforms. In 2018, we raised the awareness and understanding on the 2018 DGD theme during the APPM. We collected inputs and recommendations from CSOs in Asia-Pacific that contributed to the objectives of the DGD. We talked about the enabling mechanisms for children to be human rights defenders, as well as the barriers and risks that they face at different levels and settings. We discussed the safeguards to ensure their protection, and the necessary support for them to claim their rights. We also shared opinions on the State obligations to empower and protect children human rights defenders.

With technical support from Child Rights Connect and CRC Committee Member Atty. Mikiko Otani, our Regional DGD Hub was attended by representatives of 30 child rights organizations, coalitions, and networks from 18 countries and territories, as well as by representatives from two intergovernmental bodies in Asia.

Our Regional DGD Hub resulted to a set of inputs submitted to the CRC Committee. The key points of our discussions were presented months later in the 2018 DGD in Geneva, Switzerland.

Children’s views

In partnership with CRC Cambodia, CRC Asia provided a platform for children to share their contributions to the 2018 DGD in the form of a video. We assisted the child-led groups in developing their understanding on the concept of children human rights defenders, in brainstorming the video concept and script, and in producing the video. This resulted to children from Asia being able to raise their voices in an international discussion, overcoming the travel-related barriers of participation.
Empowering children as human right defenders

- A significant component of empowerment lies on making the children fully understand their rights and the rights of others. Children should be provided with child rights and human rights education that is integrated into their daily activities and school education curriculum.
- Empowering children to be human rights defenders means inspiring and motivating them to uphold human rights. Becoming a human rights defender should not be forced on them, but should be a personal choice.
- If children become sensitive to the human rights situation and decide to do something about it, they should be given proper support and protection.
- Children must be assisted in handling the outcomes of their human rights work – on developing their resilience and perseverance – whether or not they achieved the desired results.
- Children need space to freely express their views. They need platforms that become their source of peer support, give due weight to their views and opinions, help build their capacities, and allow them to be heard in public without putting themselves and their peers in danger.

Support from adults, enabling mechanisms and State obligations

- Adults should be ready to provide support to children as human rights defenders. Parents, social workers, counselors, lawyers, teachers, legislators, and all other professionals working for and with children should have the capacity to identify and attend to children’s needs.
- Adults should have a positive attitude and behavior towards listening and giving due weight to the views of children and towards upholding the children’s civil and political rights.
- In empowering children human rights defenders, child protection mechanisms must be in place and funded, with the principles of informed consent, confidentiality, and privacy fulfilled. There should be risk assessment and management. Reporting mechanisms should be functional and accessible.
- There should be a clear government focal point for children rights – a functional independent monitoring body that especially caters to child rights, such as a Commission on Children or Ombudsperson for Children.
- The State must ensure a safe space for civil society participation and collaboration. Adult-led organizations and groups must be allowed to set up and function in order to provide support to children human rights defenders.
- States must move towards the withdrawal of reservations to the UN CRC and towards the ratification of all UN CRC’s Optional Protocols, including the Optional Protocol on a Communications Procedure.
- The empowerment of family and community will lead to better understanding and appreciation of human rights and active citizenship. They must be able to access support, such as legal assistance and psychosocial interventions.

Children as rights-holders first

- Overcoming views of children as “property” and children as beneficiaries of child rights only and not as active citizens is crucial in enabling children to be human rights defenders.
- Children should be supported in making sure that their actions as human rights defenders would not hinder the realization of their other rights. They also should be made aware of their responsibilities as rights holders, mindful not to violate the rights of others as they take action.

The non-discrimination principle

- Some children may not be able to become a defender of human rights due to their socio-economic situation, culture, and gender. In some countries in Asia, girls do not receive the same encouragement as boys to participate in civil and political activities. Other marginalized groups of children – such as those who identify themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or other gender; children with disabilities; children from indigenous communities; children on the move; children in street situations; and children in early pregnancy – may not be reached or empowered to become a human rights defender.
- Some children may be hindered from participating in human rights work due to language barriers or their limited capacity to express themselves.
- Being a human rights defender could pave the way for children’s inclusion in society. At the same time, however, children who are already human rights defenders might experience discrimination, especially if adults view human rights work as an inappropriate endeavor for children.

The impact of the national human rights situation

- Children’s empowerment will be restricted and their safety and security will be at risk if adults who speak out against human rights violations could be arrested; if being a human rights defender is seen as an “enemy” of the State; if parents, teachers, and members of the community do not know about their own human rights and the rights of children; and if States refuse to accept that children can form their own independent views.
- the local, national, regional, and international communities must understand that defending human rights does not only equate to conducting public demonstrations, mass rallies, or street protests. Adults must recognize that human rights work come in many forms, especially with the creativity and imagination of children.

Sub-regional contexts

- The effective implementation of a child rights approach to the situation of children who are, or want to become, human rights defenders in Asia could vary depending on the sub-regional contexts. These contexts must be taken into consideration in the protection and empowerment of children as human rights defenders.

Views on the term “children as human rights defenders”

- The concept of children as human rights defenders still needs to be mainstreamed in order to gather positive acceptance.
- Due to the negative views of some governments on human rights work, using the term “children as human rights defenders” might subject the children to attacks or negative treatments.
- Parents and guardians who have not fully understood the concept might be scared to support their children who are, or want to become, human rights defenders.

Summary of our submission to the 2018 DGD
2018 Highlights

Investing in Children

Prioritizing the realization of child rights in public budgets has long-term positive impacts on the society’s sustainable and inclusive development. Since 2015, we have been advocating for improved public investments in children.

In 2018, we strengthened the capacity and skills of child rights organizations in the Philippines to take part in the advocacy on improving public budgeting for child rights. Our series of learning sessions also created a group of CSOs from different parts of the Philippines that became our allies in this effort. We will build on our experience in the Philippines in providing support to CSOs in other countries.

Working in the Region

We reinforced the recognition of CRC Asia as an expert of child rights in the region and banked on this to strengthen civil society and ensure civil society space.

In 2018, we successfully advocated to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) to improve the understanding on the UN CRC Optional Protocols and Its Related Instruments. This resulted to project that involved a dialogue between ASEAN representatives, current and former members of the CRC Committee, and CSOs. The dialogue reviewed the three UN CRC Optional Protocols, and the UN CRC General Comment No. 20 on the implementation of the rights of the child during adolescence. It resulted to a set of possible future action points, including the need to popularize all the UN CRC General Comments in the region.

Through this project, we also strengthened civil society space. Our coordination with the Philippine Representative to the AICHR can be argued as the first AICHR endeavor – since AICHR’s establishment in 2009 – that involved civil society from start to finish. We were involved from the project’s conceptualization stage to planning and implementation, until follow up actions. Our experience can be used as a precedent to country representatives to AICHR on how government and civil society can collaborate.

Allow me to recognize the valuable contribution of Child Rights Coalition Asia.... We are proud to say that this is the first joint project of AICHR-Philippines with a civil society organization on children’s rights. CRC Asia is one of the first few CSOs which gained consultative relationship status with AICHR.... They were also one of the few who have met the challenge of submitting a project proposal within days when such a call was made in early 2017. They did a lot of the work for this Dialogue. We will also be benefiting from their experience and technical expertise on the subject.

From the Welcome Remarks of Mr. Leo M. Herrera-Lim, Philippine Representative to AICHR, during the ASEAN Dialogue on the UN CRC and Its Related Instruments in December 2018 in Manila

We created space for CSOs to engage with the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC). In partnership with FORUM-Asia, we organized a strategic dialogue between ACWC and CSOs in Indonesia on the implementation of the ASEAN regional plans of action on women and children as contribution to achieve SDG Goal 5 on gender equality and SDG Goal 16.2 on ending violence against children. This resulted to a set of CSO recommendations, which include the strengthening of efforts by the ACWC to eliminate female genital mutilation and child marriage in the region.

With our position in Southeast Asia, we received several invitations from AICHR, ACWC, and other ASEAN sectoral bodies. We utilized this space made available to us to advocate not only for the inclusion of a child rights-based approach to regional efforts, but also for the inclusion of civil society and children in regional processes.
Amplifying the Voices from Asia

CRC Asia makes sure that perspectives from Asia inform the international mechanisms.

In the Joint General Comment No. 3 of the CMW and No. 22 of the CRC Committee on the general principles regarding the human rights of children in the context of international migration, we successfully advocated for the recognition of the situation of children who are left behind by migrant parents. This is a concern that is more pronounced in Asia, a region with a number of parents migrating for work to other parts of the world.

Back in 2017, CRC Asia proposed, supported, and facilitated the conduct of the children’s session of the 7th High-Level Cross-Regional Roundtable on Violence against Children organized in Manila, Philippines by the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC) and CRC Asia makes sure that perspectives from Asia inform the international mechanisms.

In 2018, CRC Asia issued a statement on raising the bar for children’s rights in the 2018 Asian Games. We asked the organizers and hosts of the 2018 Asian Games to:

1. Implement awareness-raising efforts to prevent sexual exploitation and child trafficking
2. Include child protection measures in the event’s security policy
3. Safeguard the rights of child athletes
4. Ensure an appropriate action plan in response to the suspension of school classes
5. Establish investigation, reporting, response, and rights-based monitoring mechanisms
6. Implement an impact assessment of the 2018 Asian Games
7. Consider establishing a human rights policy for the Asian Games

ASEAN. As a follow-up, SRSG-VAC and CRC Asia co-published the child-friendly version of the results of this Manila Roundtable. Our publication helps the readers to understand the decade-long efforts that eventually led to the children’s session. It also disseminates the recommendations on three key issues identified by the children in the Manila Roundtable: sexual violence against children; children affected by drugs and neglect of family; and physical violence against children, especially domestic violence and bullying in schools.

Excerpts from "The Voices of Children at the 7th High-Level Cross-Regional Roundtable on Violence against Children"

We are deeply grateful to all the children who participated in the Manila Roundtable discussions and we join them in amplifying what children want. “Peace, not war. Prosperity, not destruction. Hugs, not slaps and punches. Together, we can build as one.”

Sincerely,
Marta Santos Pais
UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN
# Finance Report

## Statement of Financial Position
As of 31 December 2018, in PHP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
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<td>Other Current Assets</td>
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<td>Non-Current Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment</td>
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<td>172,413</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>1,515,880</td>
<td>723,925</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</th>
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<td>Non-Current Assets</td>
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<td>Property Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</td>
<td>1,515,880</td>
<td>723,925</td>
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## Statement of Financial Activities
As of 31 December 2018, in PHP

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<td>28,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>14,879,889</td>
<td>15,204,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess (Deficit) of support over expenses</td>
<td>(718)</td>
<td>(458)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Comprehensive Income</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest income from bank account</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized foreign exchange gain (loss)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXCESS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social Report

CRC Asia’s Policies and Procedures
This guides the governance structure of the organization. The General Assembly, composed of CRC Asia’s member organizations, is the highest decision-making body of the organization. It is supported by the Board of Trustees and the Secretariat.

This stipulates CRC Asia’s vision, mission, and core values.
CRC Asia’s Policies and Procedures was updated in September 2016.

CRC Asia’s Child Safeguarding Protocol and Code of Conduct
This protects the rights of children who may be directly or indirectly involved in CRC Asia’s programs and activities. It ensures that staff, representatives, and staff of member organizations take all judicious steps to ensure that children they are in contact with are treated with respect and dignity, are protected, and are kept safe from harm. It contains the reporting and responding standards.
CRC Asia’s Child Safeguarding Protocol and Code of Conduct was updated in 2013. A review was conducted in 2018.

CRC Asia’s Finance Policies and Guidelines
This guides the effective implementation of CRC Asia’s financial management system. It describes the various components of financial management such as finance procedures, budgeting, internal controls, procurement, accounting, and bookkeeping.
CRC Asia’s Finance Policies and Guidelines was updated in 2017.

CRC Asia’s Anti-Fraud Policy
This provides guidelines for the organization to prevent, detect, investigate, and act on fraud against the organization or that may be committed by anyone associated with the organization. It includes policies on whistleblowing and retaliation.
CRC Asia’s Anti-Fraud Policy was adopted in 2017.

CRC Asia’s Policy against Workplace Harassment
This ensures that CRC Asia provides a work environment that is free from sexual harassment and other types of discriminatory harassment. It has a reporting procedure and a protection against retaliation.
CRC Asia’s Policy against Workplace Harassment was adopted in 2013

In 2018, CRC Asia did not receive any reports covered by these policies.
The Organization

Our Members
1. Child Rights Coalition Cambodia
2. Hong Kong Committee on Children’s Rights
3. Sahabut Perempuan dan Anak Indonesia
4. Yayasan KKSP (Indonesia)
5. Yayasan SEJIWA (Indonesia)
6. Village Focus International (Lao PDR)
7. Protect and Save the Children (Malaysia)
8. Equality Myanmar
9. Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre*
10. Group Development Pakistan
11. Civil Society Coalition on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Philippines)*
12. Mindanao Action Group for Children’s Rights to Protection (Philippines)
13. Child Welfare League Foundation (Taiwan)
14. The Life Skills Development Foundation (Thailand)
15. Childline Thailand Foundation*
16. Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children’s Rights
17. ChildFund Korea*

*New member in 2018

Our Board of Trustees
Chairperson
Elizabeth P. de Castro

Secretary/Acting Treasurer
Lourdes Balanon

Treasurer
Helen Grace Ortha-Conol (until September 2018)

Members
Sanphasit Koompraphant
Penh Son
Aung Myo Min

Our Affiliations
Consultative Relationship with AICHR since 2015
Member of Child Rights Connect since 2016
Member of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children since 2017

Our Funding Partners and Supporters

Our Secretariat
Regional Executive Director
Amihan Abueva

Program Manager
Hazelyn Joy Bitaña (since November 2018)
Ethel Fortaleza (until October 2018)

Advocacy and Communications Coordinator
Hazelyn Joy Bitaña (until October 2018)

Policy Advocacy Officer
Luz Indah Abayan

Communications Officer
Louie Anne Mapa

Finance Officer
Irma dela Cruz

Admin and Finance Assistant
Francis Copino