ROLE OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS IN CHILD PROTECTION

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At the International Expert Consultation to Address Harmful Practices Against Children, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 13th to 15th June, 2012
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS

• Part of Good Governance in a democratic country
• Based on Paris Principles
• Generally established through Constitutions and Acts of Parliament
• Independent
• Non-Partisan
• “promoting and monitoring the effective implementation of international human rights standards at the national level.”
Mandate and Role of NHRIs

• Protect and promote human Rights in the broadest sense possible
• Investigate Human Rights Violations on its volition or upon receiving complaints from individuals or group of people
• Make recommendations e.g. Parliament, President
• Provide human rights information to the public
• Monitor compliance with international instruments
• Submit reports to Parliament and stakeholders
NHRIs and CHILDREN

- Investigate Child related complaints
- Monitor compliance of international human rights instruments focusing on children
- Advocacy on Child rights
- Educate masses/population on child rights
- Source of information on child rights and emerging issues on children
- Promote the rights of children at all levels
NHRIs and Children rights

- To examine any judicial, legislation decisions in force in relation to child rights.
- To comment publically as it sees fit on any or specific situation of child rights violations.
- To promote ratification of any IHR Instruments on child rights.
- To contribute to State party on child rights such as CEDAW.
- To assist in the formulation of programmes for the teaching of child rights.
NHRIs and CHILDREN

• Deliberate on issues of children
• Conduct research on matters concerning children
• Visit prison/police/detention center to check the status and cases on children
• Study the status of legislation on children.
• Recommend adoption of new laws on children
• Comment publicly on matters on children i.e. where necessary condemn bad practices
NHRIs and CHILDREN

• Promote ratification of protocols, convention, and other international instruments on children
• Promote harmonisation of national legislation and international instruments
• Contribute to the submission of state party reports.
• To co operate with agencies of the UN, AU, Commonwealth and others on the protection and promotion of children rights
• To assist in the formulation of programmes for the teaching of, and research on issues of child rights and
• To publicise child rights with the aim of increasing public awareness.
WAY FORWARD FOR NHRIs and Child Protection.

• Freely and without any hindrance consider questions falling within its competence for the protection and promotion of child rights
• Hear any person and obtain information or any other evidence necessary for child rights protection
• Carry out investigations in matters in connection with matters of child rights.
• Lobby for Nation policies for the promotion and protection of child rights.

• THANK YOU