DCI 30, CRC 20! This double anniversary should further strengthen our living relation with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. From a small NGO involved in its drafting, DCI has evolved into a global movement to promote the implementation of the CRC. Over the past decade children in conflict with the law and child friendlier juvenile justice have become our priority. This jubilee year DCI focuses especially on the right of the child in conflict with the law to be heard and participate in decisions affecting them. Child participation must be done with care for the child and in a way corresponding with its abilities and stage of development. It is a process that needs caring professionals, willing and able to use the child’s potential in his or her best interest. To share knowledge and best practices on child participation in juvenile justice DCI organises a 2 day seminar on 19 and 20 November 2009. It will provide in depth knowledge on the juridical as well as the practical aspect of participation from keynote speakers as Jean Zermatten, André Dunant, Benoît van Keirsbilck, Bernard Boëton and Sabrina Cajoly, on the juridical and practical aspects of child participation. Get inspired by best practice stories from different DCI sections and other organisations. Learn how to involve children in advocacy and lobbying. Get (re)connected with your fellow child rights advocates, lobbyists and defenders. Take home practical information, tools and tips for best implementing the right to be heard and participate of the child in juvenile justice.

Special 30th Defence for Children International Anniversary Symposium

Join us in a 2 day seminar on the right of the child to be heard and participate for children in conflict with the law. Learn from high level expert keynote speakers Jean Zermatten, André Dunant, Benoît van Keirsbilck, Bernard Boëton and Sabrina Cajoly, on the juridical and practical aspects of child participation. Get inspired by best practice stories from different DCI sections and other organisations. Learn how to involve children in advocacy and lobbying. Get (re)connected with your fellow child rights advocates, lobbyists and defenders. Take home practical information, tools and tips for best implementing the right to be heard and participate of the child in juvenile justice.

Benoît Van Keirsbilck
DCI-Belgium, Director of a Social Legal Defence Centre for children.

André Dunant
Juvenile Justice Consultant, former youth judge, Child Rights consultant.

Bruce Abramson
Child Rights consultant.

Sarah Field
Child Rights consultant, researcher on child’s and women’s rights

Bernard Boëton
Terre des Hommes Foundation - Head of Children’s Rights, & Director of Programme for Juvenile Justice.

Jean Zermatten
Member of the CRC, director of the International Institute for the Rights of the Child (IDH), former youth judge.

Sabrina Cajoly
Council of Europe- Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs
**Agenda Day 1 - November 19th**

1. The sky is for all - DCI Albania by Altin Hazizaj
   - Workshops
   - Subjects include introduction to General Comment no. 12, practice of hearing the child in the courtroom and training of justice professionals: Jean Zermatten, Benoît van Keirsbilck, André Dunant

2. Child Participation in NGO Reporting by DCI or NGO Group on the CRC. Presentation and discussion on the new guidelines, considering child participation, for reporting to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The workshop is focused on reporting on juvenile justice issues.

3. Training Youth Advocates - by Matthew Jackson (YMCA). Building the advocacy for child friendly juvenile justice by training the children to advocate for it. Good practices are introduced by the World Alliance of YMCA.

**Agenda Day 2 - November 20th**

4. Part III - Creating a culture of child participation.
   - 15:30-16:30 Presentation ‘Cinema on wheels’ - DCI Sierra Leone by Abdul Manaff Kemokai. Children participate in informing the general public, children and adults, on the Child Rights Bill 2007 of Sierra Leone. An inspiring example of involving children to educate their peers and adults on child rights by using and further developing the artistic and expressive abilities of the participating children.


**Defence for Children International**

Web: www.defenceforchildren.org
Phone: +41 22 734 05 58
Fax: +41 22 740 11 45
Email: anniversary@dci-is.org

Please RSVP by e-mail (anniversary@dci-is.org) or by mail:
Defence for Children International
1 Rue de Varembé, P.O. Box 88
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Name: ___________________________
Organisation: _____________________
Phone Number: ____________________
E-mail: ___________________________

- Yes, I will attend whole Symposium
- Yes, I will attend day 1 (including reception)
- Yes, I will attend day 2
- Preferred Language: English/French/Spanish
- Yes, I need an interpreter: EN to FR; FR to EN, EN to SP, SP to EN

Cost for 2 days: (includes documents, material, lunch, snacks, light refreshments, and reception): 120 CHF

***Reply by October 20th for a 20 CHF discount***

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