

The Radio Manifesto

addressed by young people from around the world to radio
broadcasters everywhere

**Compiled by the World Radio Forum group of broadcasters,
producers, journalists & trainers in partnership with radio
stations, youth media organizations, national and international
children's rights NGOs and their facilitators**

www.worldradioforum.org

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for their help in enabling, promoting, and advising on the development of this work

Sarah McNeill World
Radio Forum
April 2004

Foreword:

By Alfonso Gumucio-Dagron

(Bolivian born journalist, film-maker and communications development specialist, Alfonso Gumucio-Dagron has worked extensively in Africa, Asia and throughout Latin America for UNICEF and other UN agencies. His published work includes 'Making Waves' 2001)

Any radio station that claims to be serving the interests of the community and representing the democratic values of a society, has to integrate children and youth into their programming. It is not just an issue of programming 'for the children' (something that usually adults do), but allowing the young to express their voices and acquire little by little the experience and commitment that will make them opinion leaders and responsible citizens. The fact that children take in their hands the radio waves is a logical consequence of any democratization process. Young people may not vote, and many of their rights may be restricted because of their age, however they are the pivotal force in any society that looks ahead for 10 or 15 years. The more responsibilities they have in participating in community life, the more today's children will become leaders of tomorrow's communities and nations. Young people still have many attributes that, often, adults have lost : integrity, optimism, faith in the future, commitment to human values, creativity, enthusiasm. Providing them the opportunity to communicate these values and attitudes through radio, will benefit the ensemble of the society.

Messages of support:

The Radio Manifesto is a clarion call of our children's intention to express themselves through the use of media, in general, and radio in particular. It clearly explains, for radio broadcasters worldwide, the important role they can play in putting children's human rights into action - not just in making sure the decision makers of tomorrow are protected and respected but also by enabling them to be actively involved in the development of their communities.

[Zane Ibrahim, Managing Director, Bush Radio, Cape Town, South Africa](#)

This Manifesto makes it very clear that children are part of the community and further enables children to voice their opinions in a world that they too inhabit and care for. The usefulness of their Manifesto as a children's rights instrument for making change is essentially in making participation a reality and creating an awareness in the communities about children's rights as well as nurturing future leaders in radio and communication.

[Charlotte McClain, Commissioner, South African Commission on Human Rights](#)

The international Radio Manifesto is an important document. Children are taking action to tell us what they want and what they need from radio. It is our duty to respond.

[John Chaloner Regional Director, Plan West Africa](#)

Most of the young people who have contributed to this Radio Manifesto are from the low income countries of the world where radio is the most widely used form of media. In it they are asking radio broadcasters to play a more proactive role to implement many of the rights enshrined in the UNCRC. The media often shows us the problems of children's lives. Now, these young broadcasters are showing that they want to be, and that they can be part of the solution.

[Cecilia von Feilitzen, Ph.D. Scientific Coordinator, The International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media, Nordicom, Goteborg University](#)

The great thing about radio waves is that they can travel across borders and build bridges. The great thing about this Manifesto is that it is a mirror image of a radio wave – it was written by young people from different parts of the world, it connects and builds bridges. It shows that working together with young people and giving them a voice is a great way of making radio programmes which can contribute to positive change in our societies.

[Chris Schuepp, Coordinator, Young People's Media Network in Europe and Central Asia](#)

Scope

The scope of the Radio Manifesto encompasses every aspect of children's lives in the same way radio, as part of the media, reflects every aspect of international, national and local community life. Twenty four hours a day in countries around the world, millions of voices representing every level of experience broadcast to billions of listeners. In many countries radio continues to be the mass media. The majority of stories featured on local, national and international radio news impact in one way or another on the lives of children. Yet the views and voices of children themselves are excluded, either because they are not deemed to be part of the community, or because broadcasters do not recognise that children would or could have anything of value to say, or because it is judged that adults would not want to listen to children. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) has been ratified by every country in the world bar two. Broadcasting authorities and public service broadcasting organisations in all of the signatory nations are obliged not only to communicate information about the UNCRC and raise awareness on child rights, but are also duty bearers for putting the articles of the Convention into action. Translations of the UNCRC can be found at:

www.unicef.org/magic/briefing/uncorc.html

Objectives

The Radio Manifesto addresses all radio broadcasters as well as those in power at every level of policy and decision making in international and national broadcasting. Its objectives are:

- 1** To develop awareness of the role of radio broadcasters as duty bearers for children's rights and the UNCRC.
- 2** To set internationally recognised, child-rights based standards for the provision of appropriate radio programming for children and youth.
- 3** To give children and young people a voice in defining what they want and what they really need from radio.
- 4** To provide those lobbying for children's rights with an effective and internationally recognized instrument for change and to involve young people as equal partners in the process of making change at policy and decision making levels of local, national and international radio broadcasting.

Development

In September 2001 the South African Government, Department of Communications, was seeking new ways to support and develop children's radio programmes at community level. Youth broadcasters at Bush Radio in Cape Town wanted to put forward their view and decided to make it the subject the focus of their annual 'Radio Kidocracy' conference. Referring to the UNCRC and also the South African Charter on Children's Broadcasting (2000), they organised discussion groups on the first ever 'Children's & Youth Radio Manifesto'. Their document, produced in 2001, provided an outline for further development.

Subsequently, youth radio groups in other countries became involved by holding discussion groups to define their own contributions. Support from the European Children's Television Centre, the Save the Children International Alliance, Plan International (West Africa Regional Office) and the Children as Partners Alliance (CAPA) helped spread information about the Manifesto to many of those working with the young in other media projects. All contributions have been incorporated into the original document to make their Manifesto international and representative. As far as possible, and within the constraints of translation, the text of the Manifesto aims to respect the integrity of the children's own words.

The role of radio in children's lives

Children are radio listeners from very early on in their lives, hearing radio in their home environment and at other locations where radio receivers are tuned to local and national stations. They are part of large in-car audiences at certain times of the day and they are also part of the remote highland, island and rural communities which rely on radio for news and information. Some radio organisations broadcast to children in schools. Some children hear radio in their place of work. But whether they hear broadcasts at home, in the market place, in a car on the way to school or sitting under a tree in an outlying village somewhere in Africa or Asia, they are not likely to hear the views or voices of people their own age.

The broadcasters' disinterest in representing children has resulted in a tendency to replicate in news and other programming, the same stereotypes of children as those perpetuated by television and the press. News stories on child rights issues may show children as the cause of a problem or as part of a problem but rarely as part of a solution. When the views and voices of children themselves are excluded, the effect is to make them the objects of anger, disapproval, pity or even fear. The media attitude becomes an accepted standard and media values become shared by the audience at large.

If, however, a radio journalist includes (as in an example taken from a war report from Angola) the words of an injured child describing how his village was attacked and the

way he became separated from his parents and how he was trying to find them, the listener is able to respond in a different way. The child is humanised as is the listener's response. Understanding is awakened. Radio can do this. It has an important effect on children's lives in the way it influences the perception of adults.

Radio's unique facility to provide actuality (such as the voice of a child) without compromising his/her identity makes it an especially effective medium for promoting children's rights AND protecting their identity, two key principles of the UNCRC. Radio broadcasters also have to take account of their role to act in the best interests of the child by careful withholding of names where children are put at risk by being identified.

The Radio Manifesto is about making the views and voices of children and young people heard in mainstream broadcasting where they can have an impact on all listeners; where adults hearing young voices speaking on the radio revise their estimation of the contribution children and youth can make in the community; and where adults re-evaluate the status of children, of the girl-child in particular and of children who are marginalised for whatever reason.

Radio can do these things because it is the most widely received, cost effective, 24 hour, national and grassroots medium of communication. It broadcasts in hundreds of different local languages, reaches beyond the perimeters of the developed world and provides a source of information, education and entertainment to all, including those who do not have access to any other mass media.

The Radio Manifesto calls on radio broadcasters to become instrumental in taking action to implement children's rights, and shows how the young can be part of that process and how radio can become a tool for making change in their lives.

Age groups

The UNCRC defines the child as being a person of 18 or under. Within this age range, categories multiply from the new born to the late teens. Producers of media for children usually target under 5s; 6 - 8s; 7 - 10s; early teens; and 'youth'. Radio production for children, where it exists, is normally organised within these parameters. Most 'children's radio' has been in the form of programming made by adults for children with some very successful examples of children being given opportunities for participation.

Radio-in-development projects have involved children as young as 8 in learning how to use digital recording equipment and work with microphones. Radio is also of particular value to disabled children. At the upper end of the age range it has been demonstrated that young people who have had the experience of participating in radio production and broadcasting are adept at passing on their skills to their peers and to younger would-be broadcasters. Some groups, such as CREW at Bush Radio in Cape Town, also receive technical training for their weekly live show and put the programme on air themselves.

Consequently, young people contributing to the Radio Manifesto have included children as young as 8 and have involved all ages up to 18. But the demands they make and the needs they articulate relate to the provision of appropriate radio programming for

children of all ages. They also call for the views and voices of the young to be heard in mainstream broadcasts because children are affected by the social, environmental and economic issues discussed by adults and want to make their own positive contribution to the debates.

Key events

1995 Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) thirteenth session, general discussion - the child and the media (Geneva)

1997 CRC working group on the child and the media (Paris)

1998 CRC working group on the child and the media (London)

1999 The Oslo Challenge workshop (Oslo)

2001 3rd World Summit on Media for Children - World Radio Forum (WRF) founded. (Thessalonika)

2001 "Radio Kidocracy Konference", Bush Radio - work started on a children's & youth radio manifesto (Cape Town)

2002 United Nations Special Session on Children (New York)

2002 AGORA meeting of children's & youth media professionals (Athens)

2003 AGORA meeting of children's & youth media professionals (Bologna)

2004 4th World Summit on Media for Children & Adolescents (Rio de Janeiro)

Key actions

The concept of a young people's radio charter arose from statements put forward at the 1995 CRC general discussion on the child and the media that called for dialogue with media professionals on how the younger generation could be given a greater voice in the media; how children could be more effectively protected from harmful influences from the media; and what could be done to ensure that the media did not abuse children, either individually or as a group, in their reporting. "*It is believed that it should be possible to give children a voice which would be genuine and not merely a 'token' voice, particularly through radio.*" (Thomas Hammarberg 1997)

The Oslo Challenge workshop (an outcome of the 'Child and the Media' working group meetings) emphasized the need to enable children's participation in the media and noted consistent references to radio as a particularly suitable medium for children's participation.

In 2001 the 3rd World Summit on Media for Children, hosted by the European Children's Television Centre, included radio on their agenda and welcomed the participation of

delegates from this field of children's media. Radio delegates formed the group that was to become known as the World Radio Forum (WRF).

Bush Radio in South Africa held the first 'Radio Kidocracy Konfrence' in Cape Town that same year, and youth participants were invited to put into their own words what they needed and what they really wanted from radio. Their discussions produced the first outline for a Radio Manifesto.

In 2002, during the UN Special Summit on Children, the WRF website was launched, featuring information on the development of an international children's & youth radio manifesto.

The same year, at the annual AGORA conference organised by the European Children's Television Centre, the World Radio Forum (WRF) presented work in progress involving children's radio groups from other countries in contributing to the Radio Manifesto. At the 2003 AGORA conference the WRF was invited to present the completed Manifesto at 4WSMCA, the Rio Summit, in Brazil.

Theoretical basis

The process of developing the Manifesto internationally through collaboration with children's & youth media groups, working at grassroots level as well as in partnership with national radio broadcasters, has been shaped and informed by the research, fieldwork and literature on child participation and participatory research methodology which burgeoned during the 1990s.

The content of the manifesto is founded on the principles of protection and participation encoded in the UNCRC. From its inception, the Manifesto was based on Articles 12, 13 and 17 which refer to the child's freedom to express an opinion and right to be heard; the right to have access to the media of their choice; and the right to information on all issues affecting their lives.

Those taking part in early Manifesto discussion groups drew further on the Convention with reference to the rights to health, security, education and freedom from discrimination. At a later stage, when debating how radio can put into action the rights of marginalised children, Article 39 was also included.

Similarly, Article 31 which enshrines the child's right to leisure was highlighted when discussion turned to the role of radio in providing fun and entertainment for children whose lives are deprived of any opportunity for play.

As more groups became involved in the Manifesto discussion process, further contributions reflecting many facets of the UNCRC were articulated and categorised under the five headings which now shape the main text presented in this document.

The way ahead

The Radio Manifesto is open for further contributions from children's & youth radio groups wishing to add to, change or elaborate on its content. The text of the Radio Manifesto is posted on the World Radio Forum website on the Internet at (www.worldradioforum.org) and can be downloaded together with notes for structuring discussion workshops which enable young people to develop their thoughts on the issues involved. A process of adoption will also be set in motion by the World Radio Forum, involving radio broadcasters, organizations and associations in endorsing the Manifesto and supporting its aims and aspirations.

Sarah McNeill
World Radio Forum
April 2004

PART II - MANIFESTO

SECTION 1 Declaration

What we believe and really want to say on radio:

- We want to speak out against all forms of violence - killing, abduction and sale of children, rape and every other kind of child abuse and exploitation
- We want to speak out against the causes of violence such as power-seeking, drug addiction and alcohol abuse and poverty
- We need our voices to be included in denouncing war and in speaking out against the exploitation of children in armed conflict
- We would like to speak up for people to love and respect each other
- We would like to speak up for peace in the world
- We would like radio to give us the space for more smiles and less sadness and for singing songs, laughter and play
- We want our voices to be heard in the fight against homelessness, poverty and disease
- We need our voices to be heard in the fight against HIV and AIDS
- We would like our voices to be included in the building of safe and secure environments for everyone
- We want to speak up for the care and conservation of our environment and against deforestation, desertification and pollution
- We would like radio to show how it is possible to treat everyone (including children and especially including girls) equally
- We want to speak out against all kinds of discrimination and ensure that radio gives disabled children the opportunity for their voices to be heard

- We need radio to bring tolerance to our world of different nations, religions and cultures
- We would like radio to reflect the way children and young people everywhere are collaborating to help build a better world

SECTION 2 Children's rights and radio

Our Manifesto recognizes:

that each state is obliged to make the rights contained in the UNCRC widely known to adults and children and to translate the rights of the Convention into reality

that radio is the mass medium which can best deliver information to all and implement the rights of the Convention for all including those who, for whatever reason, have no access to other media

that children's rights to access to the media, freedom from discrimination, freedom to express an opinion on issues that affect their lives, rights to health, education, information, leisure, and, for those who are excluded, the right to social reintegration, and other rights articulated in the Convention, can all be effectively put into action and delivered by radio

We call on radio broadcasters:

to recognize that young people have a right to express themselves freely on radio by including their views and voices on issues that affect them

to give children courage to speak up on radio by creating safe conditions and, if necessary, protecting their identities

to use field recordings to include youth views and voices to target different age groups in appropriate ways with suitable programmes to broadcast child-rights related information for children and parents

to enable the voices of abused and marginalised children to be heard

to avoid stereotyping children in news reports and ensure that positive news values are included in coverage of child-rights stories by including positive as well as negative aspects

to ensure that radio stations set up combined efforts to make the voices of young people heard to empower a stronger voice for them by promoting youth shows and demonstrating young people's ability and wish to work together

to broadcast discussion on different aspects of the UNCRC to educate and inform adults about children's rights

SECTION 3 Young people's participation in radio

Our Manifesto recognizes:

that public service radio is for the public and local communities

that children and youth, as well as their parents, are an integral part of the public and of the local communities served by radio broadcasters

that children's rights organizations and others are supporting young people in forming their own radio groups that children's and youth radio groups offer a relevant resource for radio broadcasters' programme content

that children and youth involved in radio have responsibilities as well as rights

We call on radio broadcasters:

to ask what are the most important things producers and reporters can do to make the voices of children & youth heard in the community

to produce more programmes which involve the participation of young people and broadcast more programmes made for children

to broadcast what is necessary for children (in terms of information and education) as well as what is fun, interesting and enjoyable

to encourage children and youth to participate in managing, developing, producing and presenting their own shows to provide mainstream radio programmes that focus on issues concerning the young and give young people the opportunity to take part with adults to express their views and help in constructing solutions to problems

to liaise and collaborate with children's & youth NGOs as a resource for mainstream programmes dealing with child rights related issues

to produce radio programmes which encourage understanding and break down barriers between generations

to help parents listen to what their children have to say by enabling discussion between children and parents on subjects that may not be talked about at home such as excision, early marriage, HIV & AIDS to respect children's views and experiences

SECTION 4 Traditional stories and culture on radio

Our Manifesto recognizes:

that by featuring traditional storytelling, radio can promote cultural diversity, tolerance and understanding

that traditional stories appeal to adult as well as child listeners that in broadcasting traditional stories, poetry, rhymes and games, radio can preserve and promote different languages and ensure that children can continue to enjoy the culture and oral traditions of mother tongue languages

that radio drama is an effective way to provide successful forms of entertainment for different age groups

We call on radio broadcasters:

to broadcast more traditional stories, rhymes and song-games for the very young at times when they can listen

to reflect the contribution children can make in the performance and retelling of traditional poems and stories to provide a source of fun and enjoyment for children and youth as well as for adult audiences

to make sure there is a place for poetry in people's lives and that poetry for and by young people is included to reflect the way traditional forms of entertainment are made relevant to young people in new forms such as hip-hop

to respond to the needs for entertainment of marginalised and deprived groups such as children in refugee camps to give airtime to the issue of children's need for recreation with discussions about every child's right to have time for leisure as well as spaces for play and for sports activities

SECTION 5 Education programmes on radio

Our Manifesto recognizes:

that radio can provide programmes which put into action children's right to education

that children and young people need education programmes on radio which are appropriate for their age range and which are clear and informative

that radio can enable free education for all children especially for those who cannot attend school

that radio can provide education programmes in different languages

We call on radio broadcasters:

to make appropriate provision of learning programmes for children of all ages for those in school and for those unable to be in school

to educate adults, especially parents, about every child's right to education and about the importance of including girls

to broadcast debate on the need to build schools and train teachers to help advocate against corporal punishment in schools

to support radio clubs organised by, with and for the young, by making available technical expertise, access to airtime and opportunities for children to learn radio making skills.

PART III - ANNEXES

Participating children's & youth radio groups

SOUTH AFRICA. Childrens Radio Education Workshop (CREW), Bush Radio, Cape Town. (The Radio Manifesto pioneer group of 2001) Ilhaam Jamal,14; Vuyo Halom,14; Lucille Julius,14; Thando Magaqa,15; Leonie Louw,17; Wendy Burnell,16; Michael Tshoko,17; Cikizwa Njana,15; Tasmin Salies,14; Kelan Linden,12; Namhla Nabe,15; Springs Mahlutshana,15; Natasha Dole,15; Akhona Ngoqo,15; Gabriel Marchand,14; Mongezi Mtebele, 15. Coordinator: Nashira Abrahams *"We want this Manifesto to stand as a testament to the resourcefulness and competency of children in the world today. And also as a launch pad for their future exploration of the media as youth communicators."*

INDIA. Butterflies Broadcasting Children (BBC), Butterflies Organisation of Street & Working Children, New Delhi. Sonu-1; Muslim; Imran; Rajinder; Raju-1; Raju-2; Subodh; Abdul; Babloo; Pappu; Ehsan; Sonu-2; Aizy; Yadunath; Shahid; Bilal; Govinda; Karim; Anuj. Facilitator: Sunil Kumar Director: Rita Panniker *You can listen to radio everywhere; we cannot watch TV while working but we can listen to radio while working. Not everybody can read books. For TV, electricity is required, but it is not required for radio.*

WEST AFRICA. "I am a Child but I have my rights too!" Plan West Africa Media Project:

SENEGAL, Radio Gune Yi. Aminata M'bodji,9; Atta Dramé,12; Thiémokho Traoré,17; Alimalore Doulahansy,15; Cheikh N'Diaye,8; Ndoumbé Diop,17; Papa Malick Barros,11; Moustapha Sidibé,15; Olivier Kwizera Gasigwa,14; Awa Coumbaëlle Mballo,10; Kippré Moctar,10; Nassima Hanni,11; Fatou Gueye,15; Aissatou Ndiaye Diagne,11. Plan facilitator and Radio Manifesto project coordinator for West Africa: Florence Cisse Plan Radio Gune Yi facilitator: Khéwé Mbaye Plan Regional Media Programme Advisor: Mimi Brazeau Plan regional radio campaign coordinator: Aminatou Sar *They should also broadcast programmes made with children affected by HIV & AIDS who are marginalised. Invite them in to the radio studio together with medical experts or NGOs to make listeners understand that these children are just the same as we are but that they are unwell and that we have to help them and be with them in their loneliness*

BURKINA FASO, Boulsa group. Aristide Ilboudo,15; Moussa Sawadogo,12; Arnaud Tasoba,14; Mercedes Nadié,12; Abzéta Kouéogo,16; Pascal Sawadogo,13; Moussa Kougouri,16; Halidou Nabalma,16; Arnaud Larba,16; Francois Sandwidi,16; Natacha Thiombiano,11; Bibata Kam,11; Augustine Sedogo,12; Lorraine Tapsoba,11; Doris Wemba,14. Plan Burkina Faso child rights coordinator: Allain Some *We call on radio broadcasters to invite our parents to speak with us. Our future depends on you, our parents. Forgive your children when they make mistakes. We need radio to broadcast programmes for children to help them learn what life is all about.*

BURKINA FASO, Gaoua group. Arouna Gnanou,16; Nadège Kambirè,13; Dihourotè Somè,15; Adama Lenguélegué,13; Judith Babouan,16; Clemence Dageri,15; Alima Ouatlara,11; Fatimata Ouédraogo,14; Lazare Kambire,14; Zenabo Nabaloum,13;

Dramane Sankara,16; Aboubacar Sawadogo,16; Yaliete Da,13; Marthe Kambouotlo,16.
We want to appeal to all young people to participate as much as they can in radio broadcasts to make their views known and defend their rights.

MALI, Bamako group. Niagalé Traorè,14; Mountaga Moctar Diakité,13;Lalla Touré,13; Konaté Mohamed,12;Fati Touré,19; Abdoulaye Fofana,13; Fatoumata Bah,13; Mohamed Lamine Sissoko,14. Plan Mali media project coordinator: Kadiatou Bocoum
We want to say to the adult world that children who are disabled, or orphans or homeless need to be able to join us and be part of our community life.

BENIN, Cotonou group. JeanBaptiste Zanklan16; Faridath Bissimiou15; Esaie Padonou15; El Ghaffar Biokou13; Maxime Monteiro14; Rodrigue Fannou15; Joël Hounkpatin14; Bernice Adamaze14; Carole Adjanohoun16;Faridou Bissimiou15; Ulrich Agblenon16; Sylvie Aboha16; Jadiath Osseni; Gwladys Kinsou13; Prisca Amoussou 14; Igor Amadji15; Elfried Zotcheme,13. Plan Benin child rights coordinator: Paul Fagnon
We think that radio programmes for young people could help improve children's lives if the broadcasters were serious about it and if they made good entertainment to help change attitudes and the way people live their lives...

CAMEROUN, Ndop-Bemessing group. Elvis Formunkwin,13; Eugene Nfor Labah,17; Tani,14; Chenyi,15; Olivia Ameik,13; Doris Ningbang,14; Keji Elvis Ngum,13; Nghogukeh,16; Yenji Mariatu,14; Nyenipork,15; Jeanvier Atteh Tegang,16; Fosi Ndende Ernest,16; Kumfa Raoul Bengneh,14; Melvis Yungwe,15; Gwain Lindu,15; Ondrine,14; Charles Mbengyeing Tenkang,17; Memoh Gaston Mboh,16; Cemillian Bongeh,16; Linda,16; Novert Bikeh,14; Ngwa Maurice Mimba; Gregory Wogeikike,15; Chirfung Robin Toseh,16; Melvis Meshit Tangeh,14; Linus Mbah,16; Clerance Ghansah,14; Frederick Mesekeh Bebar,18; Ivo Bonde,17; Catherine Masoh,14; Solange Mboh,17; Constantine Nchang,18; Gilbert Nkongwa Tanui,14; Valery Kemboh,16; Platini Nkeh Plashni,16; Ntanikweh Evaristus Nchewbonui,13; Ufor Ivo Tafili,13; Ruth Kenwi,13; Blandine Mboh,14; Frederick Kienda,17; Thierry,15; Yuonui Bruno Tainchua,16; Sidonie N.Mutch,16; Rita Wunyi Ngong,16; Lilian Menubanui,17; Silas Nlume Mumancho,16; Princely Yungho,15; Constance Nchuekain,15; Sylvester Muna Kotia,19; Kenyi Jaran,18. Plan facilitator: Luma Tafili Walter Plan Cameroon child rights coordinator: Bernard Ngamo
The children were in total support of all the points advanced by the South African children.

CAMEROUN, Lossou group. Pierre 18; Dany 11; Emilienne,11; Chantal, 11; Jean Marie, 10; Rose, 15; François, 14. Plan facilitators: Michel, Basile, Blanchard,17.
The news often gives reports about children who are abandoned and other acts of criminal nature but the voices of children are rarely heard in these reports because the radio broadcasters don't think it's important.

CAMEROUN, Petit Bonando group Julie, 12; Jeannot, 16; Jules, 19; Solange, 7; Bernadette, 13; Madeleine, 15; Doriane, 12; Calvin, 16; Zacharie, 17. Plan facilitators: Louis, Paul. *Adults would be more affected if they were to hear children talking of their experiences, and in this way they would become aware of the fact that the child is a sensitive being in all these situations.*

CAMEROUN, Mayos group. Henriette, 9; Noel, 6; Paul,13; Emile 14; Ondo, 12; Ambo, 14; Emmanuel, 17; David, 18; Alamba, 14; Kombele, 12; Emmanuel, 19; Fradin, 19; Jeannette, 15; Antoinette, 12. *It doesn't take much training for a child to be capable of making recordings for radio.* Plan facilitator: Mathieu.

CAMEROUN,Nkolbikon group. Janvier, 15; Jean, 18; Nostor, 10; Elyse, 12; Michel, 19; Martine, 15; Paul, 18; Joseph, 18; Paul, 12; Simon, 24; Jean Bosco, 19; Martin, 11; Remy, 19; Sylvie, 17; Charles, 18; Corantin, 14; Pauline, 12; Rosine-Yvette, 13. Plan facilitators: Philemon, Gerard, Laurent, Joseph, Paul, Patrice. *Children should always be able to say what they think about decisions made on anything that concerns them.*

CAMEROUN, Nkolimadjap group. Florette, 10; Blandine, 16; Janvier, 12; Laurent, 17. Plan facilitator: Misseme *Children's rights do not mean that children should be insolent.*

NEPAL. Hatemalo Radio, Hatemalo Sanchar NGO, Kathmandhu. Krishma Pokharel, 16; Rajendra Pyakurel, 16; Kashav Pandya, 16; Nirijana Bhatta, 16; Binod Karki, 16; Shusila KC, 17; Nina Maharjan, 17. Programme Manager: Saurav Kiran Shrestha *We want our voices to be heard against any set of ideas that underestimate children's ability and potential; such as the idea that children cannot think or do anything because they are small.*

GHANA. "Curious Minds", Children & Youth in Broadcasting/ Child Survival & Development Action Club/Radio Production. Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, Accra. Grace Gyimah-Boateng,14; Nicolette Chachu,15; Edith Asamani,13; Godfred Kwapong,14; Esther Attipoe,16; Evelyn Fia-Kwofie,14; Obed Omari-Boateng,18; Emmanuel Ashong,17; Emmanuel Brown,18; Isaac Fuseini,12; Emmanuel TeiDjanmah,10; Godwin Amewode,14; John Paapa Awotwi,13; Emmanuel Adu-Fosu,17; Daniel Agbenoto,18; Samuel Quaye'16; Jethro Allotey,17; Judith Sackey,10; Eric Hagan,18; Sydney Hushie,19; Rose Gifty-Odoi,10; Samuel Kissi,18; David Aburabura,19; Mary Magdalene Ayikwei,17; Adelaide Awuletey,17; Kwaku Boakye-Appiah,15; Rhoda Gyimah-Boateng,11; Charity Naa Jormoh Bill,8; Gifty Pearl Abenaab,19; Lawrence Laryea; Bernice Akuamoah,17; Mayqueen Dzifa,18; Sheilla Darpoh,17; Frederick Johnson,17; Festus Mireku-Dankyi,17; Dorcas Ahiabah,14; Agnes Oparebea,18; Hilda Apreh,15; Ishmael Gyebi-Boateng,16. Facilitators: Emmanuel Arthur, Jonathan Darpoh, Philanthropist Nyame, Edmund Agebeve, Adelaide Odoi. Project Manager: Kingsley Obeng Kyereh *Our radio programme has opened the way for some parents who would not talk to their children to do so, because discussion on the radio generated further discussion at homes and in the community. Children involved in radio programmes have to show responsibility wherever they are in order not to give others any reason to speak against children being on the radio*

UKRAINE. "Children's Voice", Foundation of Youth Culture & Education (FYCE) Independent Children's Media Centre, Kiev. Denis Stepura, 17; Dmytro Aksyonov, 17; Oksana Bilyk, 17; Irina Vorotyntseva, 15; Oksana Draguschak, 18. Programme Director: Tetyana Bilal *It is very important to make wider public aware of power of the radio and the possibilities it create for children - in education, children's rights promotion and protection, culture and safe and secure environments for all. Many regions of Ukraine are suffering from the lack of information - radio is the most accessible source of information for Ukrainians.*

GUINEA. Kindia Children's Radio Group, Konakry. Djenab Barry, 6; Mamadou Kourouma, 8; Aissatou Bah, 10; Wazir Diallo, 14; Eric Kali Vogui, 14; Sow Abraham Kalil, 13; Thierno Moustapha Diallo, 12; Balla Moussa Diakita, 12; Oumar Doumbaya, 10; Kadiatou Bah, 11; Mamadou Yayo Camara, 12; Sadou Barry, 9; Sonna Maimouna Diallo, 17; Hindou Gomez, 11; Hadja Mariama Sadio Diallo, 17. Project facilitator: Penda Diallo *In order for children to be able to express themselves on the radio, they need to be sure that they are not taking a risk. It is very important that they are given responsibility and that they have a role to play in the world of adults. With youth journalists, more children would listen to radio; in fact no one knows better how to talk about the problems children face than the children themselves.*

MOLDOVA. Moldova Youth Radio Group, Moldova Youth Media Centre, Kisinou.

Victoria Mocanu,14; Liliana Esanu,15; Emilia Timohin,14; Cristina Pusca,14; Cristina Vrabie,15; Nadejda Vicol,14; Natalia Castravet,14; Irina Ceban,14; Irina Popa,14; Sabina Lupascu,15; Nichifor Sasa,15; Nicu Cosovan,14; Segui Onofrei,17. Coordinator: Roxana Teodorcic *Most of the radio are listened by adults. That's why when a child wishes to express his opinion, he could be refused, or his opinion is not taken seriously. That's why if a child would like to present a broadcast he will be totally refused because for the adults he is still a child without experience*

GEORGIA. Georgia Youth Radio Group, Association of Disabled Children /

Independent Media Centre, Tbilisi George Baramidze,15; Tamar Gogichaishvili,13. Director of Youth Studio: Gunara Bibileishvili; Facilitator: Dato Borchkadze. Coordinator: Gunara Bibileishvili *We want radio to give disabled children the opportunity for their voices to be heard in the fight against social discrimination*

RADIO RULES!

A code of practice for young broadcasters

These ideas were guiding principles for the producers and concepts that were taught to youngsters they worked with at **New York Kids**, the weekly, live show broadcast for 9 years by WNYC in New York City.

Truth Never tell lies on radio

Swearing Never use bad language on radio

Slander Never say bad things about people

Accuracy Always check facts and aim to be accurate

Deception Never deceive listeners in any way. If you get caught, no one will believe you anymore.

Children's Rights Be aware of children's rights in the way we produce the programme and make the rights of all children part of our responsibility as broadcasters.

Right to Reply When you broadcast criticism of people or organizations, make sure they have the opportunity to answer the criticism. We have the right to express an opinion and also to ask questions. Everyone has the right to reply.

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