



Child Protection Rules of the Indo-German Cooperation

For trustworthy relations of volunteers within the *weltwaerts* programme handling children and persons in need of protection

Agreements

I WANT

- To actively contribute to a safe, positive and encouraging environment which respects children as individuals and to listen to them.
- Never abuse my power and influence which I hold because of my position and strength over life and well-being of a child and every other person in need of protection.
- Never get involved in a relation with children or persons in need of support or protection based on sexual, physical and emotional abuse or exploitation.
- Never demand or make use of services or favours of children or persons in need of protection which could be understood as abuse or exploitation.
- Refrain from any form of harassment, discrimination, physical or verbal abuse, intimidation and preferential treatment.
- Comply to the children protection rules in case I am entrusted with a child or another person in need of protection within my *weltwaerts* service or within my sphere of influence.

I WILL

- Follow the child protection rules of the Indo-German Cooperation.
- Act according to my position. Towards children and persons in need of protection I consider myself as a positive role model.
- Treat all children and persons in need with respect and take into consideration their reactions with regard to my approach and my behaviour.
- In coordination with concerned people or relatives make use of the "Two Adults Rule" e.g. "Open Door Rule": medical rehabilitations (among others)
 - "Two Adults Rule": if possible, I try to secure the presence of another adult person or make sure, he or she is least in hearing distance during a face-by-face consultation, introduction, instruction, medical or rehabilitation measures for/on children or persons in need of protection.
 - "Open Door Rule": in case presence of another adult person is not possible or individual counselling or treatment seems necessary, I leave the door of the respective room open as far as data protection of the concerning person is not violated.
- Not introduce foreign persons into the project. I will avoid visits of family members / friend etc. during my deployment period. Exceptions will be coordinated in due time with the Indo-German Cooperation and my host organisation.

I PROMISE

- To encounter children and persons in need of protection appropriately to their cultural socio-environment and values and to not inappropriately hold, stroke, hug, caress or touch them.
- To participate in activities with intensive physical contact only if professional handling with children and persons in need of protection requires to do so.
- Neither to talk in an inappropriate, indecent or offensive way with children and persons in need of protection, nor to use such gestures towards them or give advice / assistance of such a kind.
- To avoid sexually ambiguous comments or gestures towards children or persons in need of protection, also not for fun.
- To take pictures or to film children or persons in need of protection only with their permission and to never tape them in an inappropriate, indecent situation violating their dignity and/or privacy. This applies in particular with regard to the publication of footage.
- Documentation in blogs and/or reports:
 - I will respect the anonymity of children and change their names.
 - I will never talk or write in an inappropriate or offensive way about children entrusted to me in public.
 - I will never violate the dignity of the child in my photo documentations (take pictures of genitals, inappropriate nudity).
- To not spend excessively time alone with a child or a person in need of protection (see also *"Two Adults Rule"* and *"Open Door Rule"*).
- To assist a child or a person in need of protection with tasks they manage to do by themselves (as for example going to the toilet, taking a bath, changing clothes).
- To never beat a child or a person in need of protection or to abuse or hurt them in any physically or psychologically way. All disciplining will be done without violence and will not humiliate my counterpart.
- Neither to embarrass, humiliate, disparage nor to abuse emotionally children or persons in need of protection in any other way.
- To not discriminate, treat in a different way or prefer children and persons in need of protection and thereby excluding third persons.
- To not employ children as housekeepers¹ or in any way classified as "child labour"².
- To not establish a relationship with children and persons in need of protection that could be (mis)understood as exploitation or abuse.
- To not silently tolerate or participate in illegal, neglecting, violent or abusive behaviour towards children and persons in need of protection.
- To not establish or approve a physical/sexual relationship neither with a child nor with a person in need of protection.

Name _____

Date _____

Signature _____

¹ The definition of „housekeeper“ does not include occasional babysitting or gardening, etc. on school days or during vacation.

² According to the UN convention on the rights of the child (Art. 32a) children have the *„right (...) to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.“*