**爭取成立兒童事務委員會聯盟**

2015年5月26日

**就逾期留港十二歲男童獲入境處發行街紙等候調查而引發的一連串事件之**

**聲明**

1. 根據聯合國《兒童權利公約》第三條，「關於兒童的一切行動，不論是由公私社會福利機構、法院、行政當局或立法機構執行，均應以兒童的最大利益為一種首要考慮。」我們深信絕大部分的香港人和我們的政府，希望看見一個和諧、包容、關愛的社會，不會把弱勢兒童的權益置之不理。我們期望有關的政策部門能嚴格遵從《公約》中最重要的理念 - 「以兒童的最佳利益為依歸」去處理十二歲男童肖友懷及有關的個案。
2. 十二歲男童肖友懷沒有可以選擇自身處境的決定權。我們強烈譴責有關人士惡意中傷未成年人士，侵犯他和婆婆的個人私隱。私隱專員公署應嚴正調查。
3. 受教育是每位兒童的基本權利，我們欣賞孔教學院大成學校在男童肖友懷的艱難時刻予以協助。我們尊重示威人士表達意見的權利，但我們認為所有成年人在任何場合下均有責任去保護十八歲以下兒童。我們不能認同有關人士用任何方法滋擾學校的正常運作，滋擾校方和學生，及為校方、學生、家長造成壓力。
4. 我們不願見倡議並捍衛兒童權利者受到攻擊，我們期望不同意見人士能多與兒童權利倡議者溝通，共同守護所有香港兒童的基本人權。
5. 事件反映部分社會人士對兒童權利認識不深，我們深信成立「兒童事務委員會」是最佳的應對策略以彰顯兒童權利，我們促請政府儘快落實經立法會兩次通過的議案，成立兒童事務委員會為本港110萬十八歲以下的兒童發聲及倡議應有的權利。

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**爭取成立兒童事務委員會聯盟**由多個關心兒童的非政府機構、專業團體、兒童組織及個人組成。聯盟於2007年成立，以捍衛兒童權利，建立一個兒童為本的文化為目標，聯盟認為成立兒童事務委員會是達至目標的最有效方法。目前，聯盟共有廿四個組織成員及六位個人成員，他們包括：

防止虐待兒童會, 愛嬰醫院香港協會, 浸信會愛群社會服務處, 明愛向晴軒危機專線及教育中心–小耳朵兒童輔導服務, 明愛賽馬會德田青少年綜合服務, 兒童權利關注會, 香港中華基督教青年會–顯徑會所, 基督教香港信義會社會服務部, 維護家庭基金, 香港兒童安全促進會, 香港兒科醫學院, 聯合國兒童基金香港委員會, 香港兒童權利委員會, 香港幼兒教育及服務聯會, 香港唐氏綜合症協會, 香港保護兒童會, 童夢同想, 智樂兒童遊樂協會, 香港救助兒童會, 香港社區組織協會, 宣美語言及聽覺訓練中心, 香港小童群益會, 香港社會服務聯會, 親切, 陳芝瑛女士, 陳鑑銘先生, 張超雄博士, 郭家麒醫生, 李寧衍博士, 雷張慎佳女士

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**ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN’S COMMISSION**

26 May 2015

**Statement on a series of incidents originated from an undocumented 12-year-old boy issued with temporary identification paper by the Immigration Department for further investigation**

1. According to Article 3 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), “ In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.” We deeply believe that majority of the Hong Kong public and our Government wish to see a harmonic, tolerant, and caring society, and would not brush aside the rights of the deprived children. We hope the authorities concerned would strictly adhere to the most important notion of the CRC – “The Best Interests of the Child” to handle the case of the undocumented 12-year-old Siu Yau-wai and the related cases.
2. The 12-year-old boy Siu Yau-wai has no choice of his own circumstances. We strongly condemn those who slandered underage people, and infringed the privacy of the boy and his grandmother. The Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data should unfold serious investigation.
3. Education is the basic right of every child. We appreciate Confucian Tai Shing Primary School to provide the timely assistance to Siu during his difficult moments. We respect the right of protesters to express their views, but we recognized that all adults under any circumstances shall have the responsibility to protect the children under the age of 18. We could not agree to the use of any means that would upset the normal operation of a school, cause troubles to the school and students, and give pressure to the school, students and parents.
4. We do not want to see child rights advocates would be attacked in whatever ways. We hope people of different views could communicate more with the child rights advocates, and join hands to uphold children’s basic human rights.
5. The incidents reflected that the lack of awareness and understanding on children’s rights in the society. We deeply believe that the establishment of a Children’s Commission is the best response and solution to uphold the rights of children. We reiterate our appeal to the Government to set up a Children’s Commission, a motion that was passed twice unanimously by the Legislative Council. In this way, the voice of 1.1 million children under the age of 18 could be heard and their rights be upheld.

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**The Alliance for Children’s Commission** is a coalition of NGOs, professional groups, children’s groups, and individuals concern for children. The Alliance was formed in 2007 with the aim to advocate for children and put their interests in focus. The Alliance sees the establishment of a Children’s Commission as the most effective means to achieve this. At present, Alliance has 24 agency members and 6 individual members. They included:

Against Child Abuse, Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative Hong Kong Association, Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service, Caritas Family Crisis Line & Education Centre, Children Counseling Services, Caritas Jockey Club Integrated Service for Young People – Tak Tin, Children Rights Association, Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong – Hin Keng Centre, Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service – Hong Kong, Family Value Foundation of Hong Kong Limited, The Hong Kong Childhood Injury Prevention and Research Association, Hong Kong College of Paediatricians, Hong Kong Committee for UNICEF, Hong Kong Committee on Children’s Rights, Hong Kong Council of Early Childhood Education and Services, Hong Kong Down Syndrome Association, Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children, Kids’ Dream, Playright Children’s Play Association, Save the Children Hong Kong, Society for Community Organization, Suen Mei Speech & Hearing Centre, The Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs Association of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service, TREATS, Ms. Chan C.Y. Eliza, Mr. Ken Chan, Dr. Cheung Chiu Hung, Fernando, Dr. Kwok Ka Ki, Dr. Li Ling Hin, Mrs. Priscilla Lui

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