



ANNUAL REPORT 2001 / 2002

Childwatch
INTERNATIONAL
RESEARCH NETWORK

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Childwatch International Research Network The beginning

The Childwatch International Research Network grew out of the work of the Norwegian Centre for Child Research (NOSEB) and key people affiliated with it. NOSEB was established in 1982 as a part of the Research Council of Norway. One important area of responsibility for the Centre was to develop a network between research institutions in Norway and elsewhere. Soon we learned that, in some areas, NOSEB and Norway were in the forefront internationally, not so much because of concrete results and reports but because of the multidisciplinary approach and the focus on children's own experience of their everyday lives.

By Per Egil Mjaavatn

Norway had already had a Commissioner for Children (ombudsman) since 1981. With support from the Government of Norway, NOSEB arranged several international seminars and conferences with participants from a number of countries from all continents. The conference *Growing into a Modern World* was held in Trondheim in 1987. It gathered researchers from 32 countries, many from eastern Europe (before the end of the Cold War) and from Africa and Asia. The many outcomes included the international journal *Childhood – a Global Journal of Child Research*, which was finally launched in 1993, and discussions about the need for an international network of child researchers interested in interdisciplinary research focused on children's perspectives. In 1992 NOSEB, together with the Norwegian Commissioner for Children, held another important conference in Bergen, Norway: *Children at Risk*. This conference gathered participants from 70 countries, not only researchers but also representatives from nongovernmental organizations, politicians and practitioners. Among the participants were Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland and the Executive Director of UNICEF, James P. Grant.

The idea of an international network had matured, and Grete Berget, at that time Norwegian Minister for Children and Family Affairs, addressed the conference at the closing session by formally introducing the idea of an international network for child research to improve the situation for children around the world. She promised that the Government of Norway would support the idea by some core funding. The name Childwatch was introduced by Trond Waage, at present (2002) Commissioner for Children in Norway. He was instrumental in the process of creating the Childwatch International Research Network together with Ivar Frønes, Professor, University of Oslo, Per Egil Mjaavatn, Director of the Norwegian Centre for Child Research and Per Miljet-eig, later the first Director of the Childwatch International Research Network. The formal application to the Government of Norway was sent on 28 September 1992, and the Government gave the first contribution the same year.

The founding meeting was held in Oslo, Norway on 29–31 January 1993. The Advisory Board had representatives from Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America from the very beginning. The first President was Ferran Casas from

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Spain, and the first Vice-President was Lisbeth Palme from Sweden.

The Advisory Board developed a set of objectives for the Childwatch International Research Network that can be summarized in five groups:

- to promote an interdisciplinary approach to child research and a holistic understanding of children;
- to promote more effective dissemination of the results of child research;
- to encourage and support the dialogue between researchers and decision-makers on the development of strategies to improve the situation for children;
- to identify new issues to be included in the global agenda for child research and to initiate projects to address them; and
- to contribute to capacity-building and capacity-strengthening within the field of child research.

Already after the first year of work, the Advisory Board and the Secretariat of the Childwatch International Research Network realized that, in addition to developing a network between child researchers, it was important to develop a network of child research institutions. On 1–4 September 1994, the first meeting with Key Institutions was held in Norway. Directors of 16 institutions from around the world took part in the meeting, at which the outlines of the present research network were laid out. The second meeting, with the directors of 22 Key Institutions, was held in South Carolina, USA on 26–28 September 1996. The third meeting was held in Dunedin, New Zealand on 4–6 July 1999. The fourth meeting is now scheduled for Bangkok, Thailand on 9–11 December 2002.

The Childwatch International Research Network was visible on the Internet from the beginning and launched its own Web site in 1994 with information in English, French and Spanish. A number of Key Institutions had their Web sites linked up by 1995. Developing parallel with new modes of communication such as e-mail and the

Internet has been important for the growth in the activities of the Childwatch International Research Network and is still crucial for continual communication, collaboration, expansion and follow-up. However, Childwatch International has never stopped believing that meeting one another face to face, sitting down with one another and working together is the most solid way to build good working relationships in international research.

Childwatch International Research Network 2001 - 2002 Turning potential weakness to strength

The challenge of running a network lies in the diversity of its members. In 2002, the Childwatch International Research Network consisted of 40 institutions around the world, each in its own way committed to research and services on and for children. A focus on children's well-being and an interest in the rights of the child as expressed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child unites these institutions. Unfortunately, research institutions in general and child research institutions, foundations or projects in particular also share a vulnerability to changes in political and economic priorities. Thus, an important task of the Network in 2002 is to provide institutional support and to contribute to strengthening the organizational and institutional frameworks for child research globally. Being able to do this requires turning the potential weakness of the diversity of and differences between our members into our strength.

By Randi Wardahl

Dialogue and cooperation must be based on trust, which again serves as the basis for further dialogue and cooperation. Through dialogue, researchers and practitioners can define common goals and establish frameworks for their cooperation. In many ways this is a familiar necessity of the modern world. As goals and means are changing and submitted to changing priorities, the strategies and conditions for achieving cooperation and exchange of knowledge have to be renewed and remodelled continually to fit new conditions.

This is why we choose to call networking between a diversity of members a challenge. In a world of bureaucracies and organizations we have gotten used to thinking of systems, organizational maps and fixed models as something we can lean on and trust. Within familiar frameworks and on familiar ground we can feel safe in setting goals, defining the means and doing our tasks. Stepping beyond familiar frameworks is a risk. But this risk needs to be taken, and the challenge of networking lies in creating frameworks that can be stretched and tailor-made to the task at hand: firm yet not routine.

Flexibility as a resource

The Childwatch International Research Network has taken on this challenge. Since it began in 1993, Childwatch International has organized its activities in projects in which the modes of operation have been modelled to fit the character and needs of the different institutions that take part in this cooperation. Today, the 40 Key Institutions around the world who make up the networking community are connected to the Network in ways that fit their institutional profile and serve their reported needs. Each Key Institution also serves as a bridge to other institutions in its own region, which means that the Network also has the potential to reach into areas of research, research needs and capacities that are not formally a part of the networking structure. So there is not just one way of being a Key Institution or connected to the Network as such. Some Key Institutions are involved in Childwatch International research projects and organized into Research and Activity Teams (ReAcTs); others are part of our capacity-building schemes and partnership programmes; and still others are connected to the Network

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through a system of electronic networking or by contributing their research and capacities in meetings and conferences organized by Childwatch International to enhance, exchange and identify research that aims to improve children's lives and living conditions in specific regions.

The networking philosophy of the Childwatch International Research Network is based on the assumption that child research needs international cooperation, with a holistic approach combined with creativity, innovation and vitality, carried out through a continuous networking process. Flexibility and the ability to change models of cooperation as they are tested out and used and being attentive to the diverse needs voiced by the different institutions in the Network is one of Childwatch International's main strengths. Organizing the work as a network and in a network is a way of enhancing the capacity to be flexible. A network, in contrast to an organization, has less formal obstacles to overcome. There are no recipes or "correct" way of doing things. The best way of doing things is usually the way that comes from listening to the needs of the partners involved in a project and finding a cooperative solution that best fits the project and the partners.

Dissemination of results

The Childwatch International information strategy is intended to coordinate, supplement and support, which in accordance with the objectives of the Network is intended to provide channels for exchange of information between researchers, practitioners and policy-makers and to promote more effective dissemination and use of the results of child research.

This means that Childwatch International does not publish child research. Material and reports required for a well-functioning network are disseminated internally in the Network, but the main task of dissemination is to assist members in finding ways of publishing results that can reach the audience effectively. Sometimes this is achieved by having books edited and published, and other times journals are a preferred method

of dissemination, but Childwatch International also promotes the dissemination of results that are not primarily academic. Sometimes results need to be translated to fit the needs of practitioners in children's services, both in terms of language and in terms of applicability for their work. Results may also take form as documents directed towards policy-makers and policy-making. Childwatch International will both support such dissemination of results and keep track of the outcomes to the extent possible.

One current Childwatch International project aims directly at finding better communication channels between the research community and the international organizations that require knowledge and research on children to be able to handle their work more efficiently and effectively. Uses of Child Research in International Organizations, a project to promote dialogue, has focused on the Americas in 2002, but we hope to use the experience from this model on other continents in the years to come.

Major developments in 2001–2002

Major developments in the Childwatch International Research Network in 2001 included continuation and expansion of the Partnership Programme – a form of collaboration among the institutions of the Network developed in 2000. This expanded annual report describes two partnerships. One is between child researchers in the Czech Republic and Clemson University, South Carolina, USA. In addition to joint cooperation and initiation of projects, this partnership has been important for strengthening networks and capacity-building in central and eastern Europe as such. A meeting between child researchers in central and eastern Europe, hosted by the Bratislava International Centre for Family Studies in November 2002, is a direct outcome of this partnership. The other partnership presented here is between child researchers in Palestine and Norway. This initiative was taken in 2001, and the process of defining the joint mission is still ongoing. In 2001, Childwatch International has also taken initiatives to strengthen regional networks in Latin America, including

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a partnership contract between several institutions in Latin America and the start of an interinstitutional research project on Monitoring the Well-being of Children Beyond Survival in Latin America.

In 2001–2002, Childwatch International has provided support for expanding programmes child and youth research in Africa through the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), and initiatives have been taken to strengthen the Network in both southern and eastern Africa.

Asia has also been on the Childwatch International agenda in 2001–2002. The China Youth and Children Research Center in Beijing, China, became a new Key Institution at the Advisory Board meeting in September 2001, and we are hoping to add more contacts and potential new Key Institutions through the Key Institution meeting in Bangkok, Thailand in December 2002. This meeting is a good opportunity for researchers, nongovernmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, practitioners and policy-makers in Asia to meet and also connect with researchers from other parts of the world.

The Key Institution meeting in 2002 is the fourth gathering of Key Institutions in our Network. Apart from presentations and discussions on Childwatch International projects and activities, this meeting specifically focuses on the use of child research in international organizations and the status and position of children in societies in transition. The first theme is connected to a current project, which we hope to be able to duplicate in more regions of the world, building on the experiences from the first part of this project conducted in North and South America. The second theme is connected to an initiative for a large global conference on children in 2005, and we hope to create international working groups at the meeting that can work together towards this conference and further towards publications after the conference. Childwatch International is part of the conference initiative, although the main initiative comes from the University of Oslo, Norway.

Even if channels of communication are diverse and rapid in today's world of e-mail and the Internet, being able to meet face to face and interact, sit down and work together is an invaluable part of the networking challenge. Childwatch International has always encouraged real interaction between people, and enabling researchers to visit each other in their institutions and centres is an important part of purposeful exchange. In 2001 Childwatch International developed a new mode of operation called Childwatch International consultant visits, an initiative aiming to strengthen and build capacity for child research in the Network. Visits are not a new concept for Childwatch International, but the format for interinstitutional visits is new, so this report presents the first guidelines for such visits in full. These guidelines are under evaluation and will be revised when we have received enough reports from the experiences of such visits: the same procedure as for any other guideline or format for operation within the Network. Again, continuous self-evaluation, revision and change are parts of the flexibility needed to address the challenge of networking.

In 2001–2002, institutions, organizations, nongovernmental organizations and others in 16 countries on 6 continents received a visit from a Childwatch International consultant or from the Secretariat. Even more institutions have visited each other and worked closely together for periods of time through our Partnership Programme and through our projects. We feel that this form of interaction and working together towards common goals is an important form of international exchange in which the challenges each country and institution faces can be heard and discussed in common efforts to move further. This kind of work serves as a very important addition to participation in large-scale international conferences and congresses, where international exchange usually takes place.

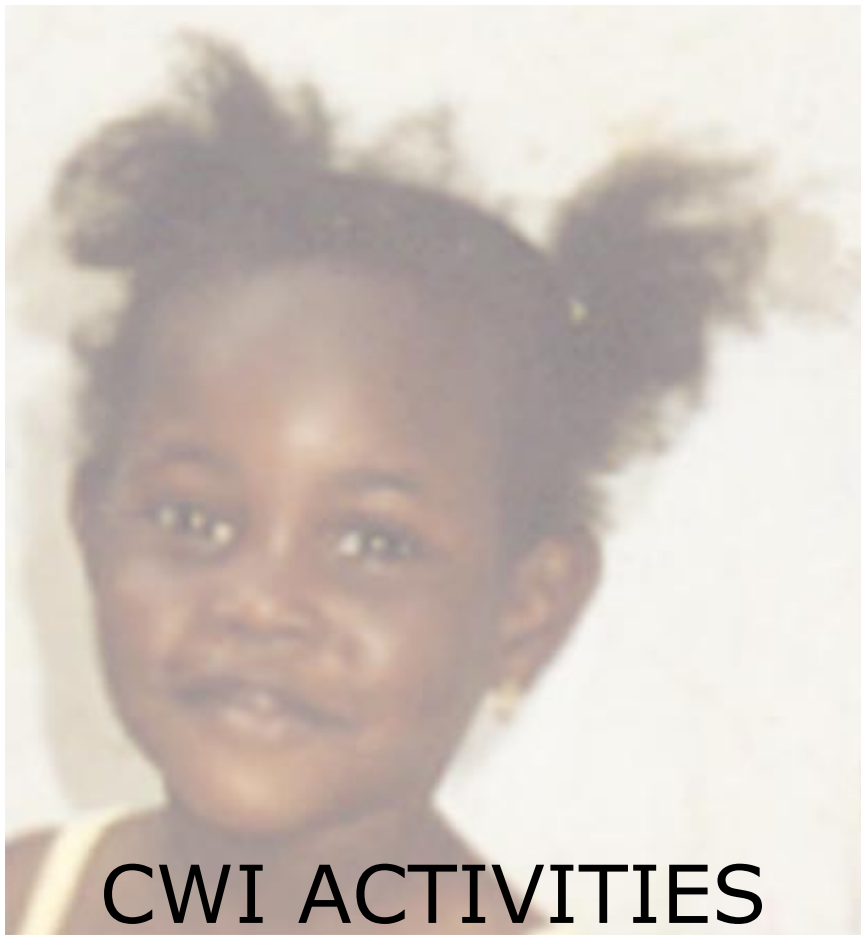
What does Childwatch International sponsor and who sponsors us?

None of our activities would be possible without the sponsorship from the Government of Nor-

way. The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has provided core funding for our Secretariat in Oslo and the activities organized through the Secretariat for several years. In addition, the University of Oslo, Faculty of Social Sciences provides the Secretariat with very reasonable office space in addition to accounting services, computer services, subsidized phone rates and office supplies.

Part of the core funding is allocated to running and staffing the Secretariat. Otherwise, the core funding of Childwatch International is used to sponsor the activities described in this report. For this purpose, Childwatch International is stretching a relatively small budget to its limits.

Childwatch International cannot fully fund the activities. Our share usually consists of seed money: the funds needed to get projects started and viable enough to continue on their own. Thus, Childwatch International mainly offers travel support and support for hosting meetings, seminars and conferences at which we can expect practical outcomes. In a few instances, we also support some institutions with money for salaries to be able to finish projects or organize events that otherwise would not happen. However, the true wealth of Childwatch International lies in the Key Institutions and the resources of personnel time, meeting facilities, knowledge and expertise that are shared within the Network every year in a joint effort to strengthen interdisciplinary research on children, promote more effective dissemination of the results from child research and develop strategies to improve the situation for children.



Children's world of media ecology

In 1999, Ferran Casas of the Catalan Network of Child Researchers (X.C.I.I.I.) initiated collaboration with the Child Research Net in Tokyo to develop a framework for international collaboration on a study of the interaction between children and media. In 2000 an international applied research project was started – the Children and Media project. The project is aiming to improve the relationship between parents and children – and between students and teachers, when dealing with the culture of information and communication audiovisual technologies.

The same year, researchers from five countries linked through Childwatch International came together on the initiative of Ferran Casas, a senior researcher on social psychology at University of Girona in Spain. His research project on children and audiovisual media: between parents and children had raised new questions.

The results were very surprising in some aspects. Parents and their child frequently shared an important range of evaluation about video games, but they disagreed on some crucial ones. However, perhaps the most outstanding results came from parents: 54% of the parents of a middle-class sample in the city of Barcelona reported never talking with their child about his or her activities with video games.

This was one of the issues that raised the international researchers' interest. It was therefore decided to explore the topic more in-depth and include more countries in the research process. In addition to Spain, Norway, South Africa, India and Brazil were involved. Japan, Argentina and Poland were also involved but to a lesser degree.

The children of the new media ecology

The children of today have a different reality to deal with. They live in a new media ecology, as Ferran Casas calls it. Computers, the Internet, PlayStation, cell phones, TV and video machines

surround their everyday life, and in their world it has always been that way. Knowledge is needed about children and adolescents in the media world, their self-esteem, their thoughts about the future and their relation to the media ecology and how they look at their opportunities. A new reality also implies new risks. Linked to their future thinking is their self-esteem, how they perceive themselves and how they think others perceive them.

The research project arose from the interest in developing broader understanding about children's conditions of living in the contemporary media environment. Knowledge is needed about how media positively and negatively affect children's learning and socialization, children's rights and children's future quality of life. Such knowledge could be applied to eliminate or reduce the negative effects and to increase or support the positive ones.

The research process

The first meeting was set in 2000. The starting-point of the research was the Spanish questionnaire that Ferran Casas composed for research in Spain in 1997. It was translated into English and standardized for all the countries involved. The questionnaire was then translated into the language of the country in which the form was distributed. Today 800 pairs of parents and child in each country involved have received the questionnaire. The parents have been contacted

through the schools in one main city and in one rural community in each country.

In 2001, Childwatch International also gave financial support for a research assistant to coordinate the project from the University of Girona. This research assistant will also provide help and support to the involved parties in computing and compiling the data and supervise the process of analysis. The Universidade Santa Ursula in Brazil has also received some financial support to be able to complete the project.

Most of the coordinators of the research teams from Key Institutions involved in the research project on children and media met in conjunction with the Advisory Board meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in September 2001. The meeting generally followed a report-back format, with the different countries reporting on the progress and current status of their project. Sampling, data collection procedures, data analysis issues as well as difficulties encountered were intensely explored.

To assist one another in the process of analysis, smaller groups from the whole team have visited each other. Ferran Casas, Usha Nayar and Sieve Raja, a colleague from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, visited the team in South Africa to support and guide the data analysis process of the South African team in November 2001. A follow-up meeting was held in Girona in March 2002. The media team will also meet in Bangkok before the Childwatch International Key Institutions meeting in December 2002.

In 2001, Ferran Casas and Per Egil Mjaavatn also worked together on a research proposal to seek funds to prolong and expand the project. To finalize the proposal, Childwatch International supported one of their meetings in February 2002.

Obstacles to overcome

It has been a long way to go. Working internationally generates practical issues that have to be solved to proceed with the project. Language difficulties, financial differences between the participating countries and complications with encoding data have all been obstacles.

The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

(SPSS) is widely used within the social sciences and was used in this project. Only one country did not use this system. Brazil therefore had one consultant visit from Spain to inform about and teach the SPSS. Positive exchange of knowledge thereby conducts the spread of a common research language – a great advantage for the international research network that Childwatch International supports.

Per Egil Mjaavatn, the Norwegian researcher on the project, also points out the risk of data losing its informational value because of time delay. Because of financial limitations, the project takes time. The research is being carried out on top of other research projects. Another obstacle is the pressure on the schools because of the numerous enquiries from researchers. This fact means some research projects have to wait.

Analysis

Most of the questions asked in this survey are quantitative. A few questions are put forth as open qualitative questions.

The initial analysis surprised the researchers. The topics chosen for the survey and the results showed more cross-cultural similarities than imagined. A natural question that arose was whether this was a result of globalization. Differences were more often seen between parents and sometimes between genders. The process of collecting data ended in 2002. The first analyses were finished and a preliminary report was written. At the meeting of Key Institutions in Bangkok in December 2002, the first results and analysis will be presented for a broader audience.

CHILDREN AND MEDIA

- *The influence of information and communication audiovisual technologies (ICATs) on children's and adolescents' life and cultures – and on the relationship between adults and young people*
Project started in Spain in 1997
- *Extended to Brazil, Norway, India, South Africa (Poland, Argentine and Japan) in 2000*
- *Started by Ferran Casas at the University of Girona*
- *First analysis finished in autumn 2002*

Consultant visits

Consultant visits among the Key Institutions of the Childwatch International Research Network are an important way of strengthening the Network and building knowledge and expertise. Through the years the Network has existed, visits between researchers and their institutions have been decisive in strengthening the capacity of child researchers within the Key Institutions. In 2001, Childwatch International decided to formalize these visits. The aim, form and organization of this activity was formulated in a meeting between key members of the Network in Verona, Italy in August 2001.

Visits from a consultant will primarily be offered to existing Key Institutions. Childwatch International will support the consultant travelling to a Key Institution for a stay of up to 1 week. The goal is for the consultant visiting to learn about the institution, its vision and mission, its financial resources and administrative funding and structure and its links to other institutions in the region. Finally, the consultant will, if possible, give a seminar on substantive topics related to the Childwatch International work and also discuss current and planned projects at the Key Institution in relation to Childwatch International. The consultant will give oral feedback on the issues discussed and prepare a brief written report.

Consultant visit to New Zealand

Professor Martin Richards from the Centre for Family Research of the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom made a consultant visit in New Zealand at the Children's Issues Centre in Dunedin. The Children's Issues Centre is a research, outreach education and advocacy centre.

- Our Centre was set up in 1995, but we have never had a real opportunity to reflect on our successes, problems and goals with external assistance. We were delighted, therefore, to have the support of Childwatch International to help us with the processes of self- and external review, said Professor Anne B. Smith from the Children's Issues Centre, receiving the visit on behalf of the

Centre.

Under Childwatch International's consultancy scheme, the Children's Issues Centre was able to benefit from a visit from Martin Richards. Since Martin Richards already was in New Zealand for other commitments, it was a great opportunity for Children's Issues Centre to take advantage of his expertise, and Childwatch International did not have to pay the full cost of his travel. This is a typical example of how Childwatch International works.

Smith characterized the visit as follows:

- Consultants have probably played a different role in other Childwatch International visits, but in our case we wanted a consultant from Childwatch International to be one of a panel of three external reviewers – the other two were local people. We really needed a carefully structured external review and a report we could use in the future to help us and our administrators to move forward. Martin's expertise as the Director of a similar but much larger centre at a prestigious university was invaluable.

But, as she emphasized, preparing for the visit also puts demands on the host.

- It was quite a lot of work preparing for the three-day visit of the review team but well worthwhile in enabling us to think about what we have achieved and what our vision for the future is. We conducted analysis, wrote an informational report about the Centre, invited about 100 colleagues and associates to share their

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thoughts about the Centre, including researchers from the Childwatch International Research Network, and organized three days of meetings at the beginning of August for the review panel to meet with us, our senior administrators and a variety of other stakeholders and discuss the feedback from our colleagues and associates.

In October 2002, Martin Richards provided the Centre and Childwatch International with a written report in which he writes: "The review group was very impressed by the Centre's research, teaching, promotion of children's issues, voices and perspectives and the influences it has had on government policies and professional practice in New Zealand." The Review Panel thereby suggests a number of recommendations for the Centre to support further existence and growth.

Some of the recommendations include resourcing core staff positions, revised and renegotiated roles of the senior staff positions, a new strategic plan and other changes in human resources.

- It is rare to have the opportunity to receive feedback from colleagues who work in similar settings who can give time to reflect on the important issues we face every day. We have yet to see whether the report's recommendations will be heeded, but we are hopeful, says Anne B. Smith.

- We would like to thank Childwatch International for their input, and would encourage them to continue to arrange consultant visits.

What will be gained from these visits? The intent is to increase validity and credibility, to assist in initiating projects with international partners and to create affiliations between Key Institutions. From this, Childwatch International will gain better awareness of the strengths and skills located in the Network, information about resources and difficulties and an overview to assist approaches to capacity-building.

CWI ACTIVITIES

CHILDWATCH INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT VISITS

February/March 2002

Gary Melton, Consortium on Children, Families and the Law, USA

- *Community Studies Program, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA (a member of the Consortium)*
- *Korea Youth Development Institute, Republic of Korea*
- *National Institute for Child & Family and Development, Bangkok, Thailand*
- *Unit for Child and Youth Research, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India*
- *National Institute for Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, India*
- *CODESRIA, Dakar, Senegal*

March 2002

Usba Nayar, Unit for Child and Youth Research, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India

- *National Institute for Child & Family and Development, Bangkok, Thailand*

August 2002

Martin Richards, Centre for Family Research, University of Cambridge, England

- *Children's Issues Centre, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand*

SECRETARIAT NETWORK SUPPORT AND VISITS

June 2002

Per Egil Mjaavatn, CWI, Norway

- *Centre for the Child and Society, University of Glasgow, Scotland*

May 2002

Per Egil Mjaavatn, CWI, Norway

- *Budapest, Hungary and Bratislava, Slovakia: preparing a conference, 2002*

August 2002

Per Egil Mjaavatn, CWI, Norway

- *UNICEF and other organizations, Tashkent, Uzbekistan*
- *UNICEF and other organizations, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan*

September 2002

Per Egil Mjaavatn, Randi Wardabl, CWI, and Ivar Frones, University of Oslo, Norway

- *China Child and Youth Research Centre, Beijing, China, visiting and reviewing a new institution for collaboration with others in the Network*

November 2002

Per Egil Mjaavatn, CWI, Norway

- *Deutsche Jugend Institut, München, Germany*

CWI ACTIVITIES

Guidelines for consultant visits were formulated in 2001 as presented below:

CONSULTANT VISITS

Mission

The mission of the CWI Consultants is to strengthen the capacity of child research within the Key Institutions of CWI. The consultants will:

- discuss specific needs and potentials of KIs
- be a resource in capacity building
- facilitate cooperation between international partners
- enable study of child issues relevant to the global community
- if possible make recommendations relevant to CWI Key Institutions.

Who benefits from the work of a Consultant?

Visits from a CWI Consultant will primarily be offered to existing Key Institutions in the CWI network, both those that are well established and those that are new members. However, by facilitating cooperation with other institutions, locally, nationally and internationally, other child research communities could also benefit from the consultants' work.

How will the Consultants work?

The KI will be offered a consultant visit for up to one week. During this time the consultant will:

- learn about the institution, what their visions, missions and specific projects are
- learn about the economic resources of the institution and discuss funding strategies and possibilities
- learn about and discuss the administrative structure of the institution
- learn about how the KI is situated and linked to other institutions in the country or region and discuss how working together is organized
- discuss the relationship to Key Stake Holders with whom the KI work with in the country or region, such as funders and administrators
- possibly give a seminar on substantive topics related to CWI work
- also discuss present and planned projects at the KI in relation to Childwatch

Preparing for a visit, the KI should

- undertake a short self-study of the institutional well being
- give a brief description of the KI's activities and goals and include this in a small portfolio for the consultant (containing e.g. the Annual Report and other documents describing the work of the institution)
- list a set of expectations for the visit and for the future
- prepare oral presentations of work done by the institution
- consider if this could be an opportunity to make a seminar open to other parties

The consultant will give oral feedback on issues that are raised during the discussions and provide a brief written report.

What can be gained from these visits?

The intent of the visits are to provide:

- validation and credibility to ongoing tasks and projects
- assistance in initiating projects with international partners
- independent consulting on specific challenges of the KI, such as funding, relationship to external organizations, institutions, administrators or other local interests.

Other possible research outcomes for the KIs and for the Childwatch Network are:

- to create affiliations between KIs which can be consolidated through further networking
- to co-ordinate expertise amongst the KIs

CWI will gain:

- a better awareness of the strengths and skills located in the KIs
- information about what difficulties and challenges are faced by KIs, and suggestions for effective ways to meet challenges
- an overview to assist approaches to capacity building, by pooling the experiences of the different consultants from their visits to members of the network

Who are the consultants?

The consultants are senior members of the CWI Network. CWI will assign a consultant to the KI that best fits the needs and schedules of both KIs and consultants. All consultants are dedicated to sharing and consolidating their experiences to benefit the CWI network as a whole, and the individual KIs who are a part of the network.

Partnership programs

One of the ways Childwatch International Research Network connects Key Institutions, strengthening international collaboration and building the foundation for further research on children is the Partnership Programme. The Partnership Programme was formally established in 2000 to increase international cooperation, academic exchange and experience. Since then, Childwatch International has supported several partnerships.

One of the first successful partnerships to be initiated was the cooperation between the Institute on Family & Neighborhood Life of Clemson University in South Carolina, USA and the Center for Family Environments (formerly the Center for Substitute Family Care) in Prague, Czech Republic. This partnership is just finishing as a project in 2002 and moving into other modes of cooperation. Another partnership, just in its first phase, is between child researchers in Palestine and in Norway.

Partnership between research teams from the United States and the Czech Republic

The partnership between Clemson University and the Centre for Family Environments is fruitful. The partnership has succeeded in building a child research network and helped in institutionalizing the network in the Czech Republic. Also, both parties have gained great knowledge from the academic exchange between the two countries.

It started a few years ago when Clemson University set up a partnership with a developing consortium of child research centres in the Czech Republic. Through mutual visits sponsored by Childwatch International, both in South Carolina and in Prague, substantial outcomes have led the academic work and the building of a child research centre in the Czech Republic a significant step further. A specific outcome is the Center for Family Environments, which is a new and transformed Center for Substitute Family Care. It is a “virtual” centre with researchers from many separate child research centres in the Czech

Republic. The Center has three research programmes, each with a corresponding organizational division: Substitute Family Care, Children’s Rights and Community Development. Another goal is to develop collaboration with child researchers in other countries in central and eastern Europe. In November 2002, a meeting between child researchers from 12 countries, both eastern and western countries, was held in Bratislava, Slovakia. This meeting is a direct outcome of the partnership between the institutions in the Czech Republic and the United States. The Bratislava International Centre for Family Studies hosted the meeting. Based on the enthusiasm noted among the 40 participants, Childwatch International hopes that this will spur more activities and new Key Institutions in the region in the coming years.

The Center for Family Environments became a Key Institution in 2001.

Partnership between child researchers in Palestine and in Norway

The initiative to support child research in Palestine was first introduced in 2000. Dr. Mohammad Shaheen, director of the Center for Development in Primary Health Care at Al-Quds University, raised the question as a Childwatch International member. Researchers from NOVA – Norwegian Social Research and the Norwegian Centre for Child Research were involved from Norway. The initiative resulted in a conference in Palestine in May 2001 with members from the Norwegian and the Palestinian child research

teams present. The meetings in Jerusalem and Ramallah provided a valuable basis for future collaboration. The Palestinian Child Research Group (PCRG) was at that time in the process of formation. The group has professional independence while working under the umbrella of Al-Quds University organized through the Center for Development in Primary Health Care. A conference in Norway a year later was planned, but the political situation in Palestine did not allow the researchers to travel abroad and the meeting was postponed. A new meeting in Norway is being planned for spring 2003.

The project has a long-term perspective of strengthening child research in Palestine. The extreme situation in Palestine today puts pressure on the research community. The partnership is meant to support and strengthen the Palestinians' own research capacity and development of research. The main project activities will consist of institution-building at Al-Quds University and building methodological and theoretical capacity.

The researchers involved have defined four groups of topics that especially need research. The first is the effects the current *Intifada* has on children, including topics such as imprisonment, living conditions, education, psychological trauma and treatment methods. The second topic is the child protection system and such issues as the inadequate statistical systems, child maltreatment and neglect and children living in orphanages. A third topic is children's access to physical and psychological space. The fourth topic is the conceptualization of childhood, both theoretically and methodologically.

To get the project moving, the institutional development of a research programme for children in Palestine needs support. In addition, networks and joint workshops will be an important base for the reciprocal resource the Norwegian and Palestinian researchers comprise for one another.

The project is still in the initial phases. Financial support was applied for in summer 2002. Conclusions and plans from the conference in

Palestine have been worked into the project application. Childwatch International is devoted to supporting the partnership in its efforts to create a sustainable working relationship.

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

- *Established in 2000*
- *Childwatch International has initiated four partnerships:*
 - *Children's Issues Centre, University of Otago, New Zealand – Childhood and Youth Policy Research Unit, University of Western Sydney, Australia;*
 - *Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life, Clemson University, USA – Center for Family Environments, Prague, Czech Republic;*
 - *Norwegian Centre for Child Research and NOVA – Norwegian Social Research, Norway – researchers linked to the Center for Development in Primary Health Care, Al-Quds University, Palestine; and*
 - *International Center for Research and Policy on Childhood (CIESPI), Brazil – International Center for Education and Human Development (CINDE), Colombia – Centro de Investigaciones para la Infancia y la Familia (CENDIF), Venezuela.*
- *In the spirit of the mission of Childwatch International, the Programme aims:*
 - *to encourage and support collaborative research activities among Key Institutions; and*
 - *to encourage and support organizational development, including infrastructure and activities to develop skills among Key Institutions.*
- *A committee consisting of four Advisory Board members supported by the Secretariat coordinates the Programme. The costs of the Programme are distributed as follows: Childwatch International supports transport and communication and the host Key Institution supports the lodging and living costs of the visiting team. The participating institution supports personnel costs. The Advisory Board meeting in 2001 called for a revision of the cost distribution of the Partnership Programme. This revision is meant to facilitate partnerships between institutions that otherwise would find it impossible to commit to such collaboration for financial reasons. The revision says that the host institution should be encouraged but not required to pay for food and lodging. If food and lodging are not provided, the host institution must make some other type of tangible contribution.*

The Measuring and Monitoring Children's Well-Being in Latin America

The Measuring and Monitoring Children's Well-being project has been vital and popular for many years. The project started almost as soon as Childwatch International was established and is still going on.

The first phase of the project took place between 1994 and 1998 and was led from the Centre for Family Research at the University of Cambridge. Eighty experts from 27 countries were involved in this internationally innovative and unique research, but the core was the five countries Nicaragua, Senegal, Thailand, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. The goal of the project in its first stage was to develop better methods and methodology for measuring the well-being of children. Through discussions and cooperation, the members of this project discovered that finding common methods required redefining the whole concept of children's well-being. The project resulted in a book published in 2001 entitled *Measuring and Monitoring Children's Well-being* by Asher Ben-Arieh, Natalie Hevener Kaufman, Arlene Bowers Andrews, Robert M. George, Bong Joo Lee and J. Lawrence Aber.

After the project formally ended, there was great demand for information about the project, and individual case studies based on these indicators were prepared in many different countries. In addition, a continuation of the first project took shape within the Childwatch International Research Network. The new Childwatch International research project is called Monitoring the Well-being of Children Beyond Survival in Latin America. Professor Ferran Casas from Spain agreed to lead the project.

In July 2002, experts involved in the project met in San José, Costa Rica to discuss and plan for the research project; Childwatch International sponsored the meeting. The researchers made several basic agreements, discussed and analysed the system of indicators, also indicators that were not included in the in-

ternational project but that are solely important for the project in Latin America.

Several basic agreements were made at the meeting. The need to promote a positive perspective on childhood was emphasized. It was therefore agreed to add *beyond survival* to the title; indicators of well-being beyond survival were crucial in the continued project. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child was made a starting-point.

The meeting underlined the importance of building and functioning as a network: exchanging and sharing information about activities in the institutions and focusing on the research and projects that can be related to indicators of well-being beyond survival. International, cross-cultural and interdisciplinary aspects are enriching factors for the project.

Another aim of the project is to include other current Key Institutions that are interested in the project and also other United States partners that are potential Key Institutions and have significant Latin American programmes.

The significance of political and economic transformations in the lives of children

Kluwer Academic Publishers published *Globalization and Children: Exploring Potentials for Enhancing Opportunities in the Lives of Children and Youth* in 2002. It is one outcome of a research project started in 1998.

Natalie Hevener Kaufman of the Consortium on Children, Families and the Law and Irene Rizzini of the International Center for Research and Policy on Childhood (CIESPI) are the editors of this book. The book outlines how global changes affect the lives of children in many different countries today. It is meant to help in understanding these effects and to show and explain how children have been excluded from our conceptualization of the world and the research on these subjects. The book is addressed to other researchers in the field, policy-makers, practitioners and other child advocates.

The starting-point

In 1997 the Childwatch International Research Network Advisory Board met in Trondheim, Norway. The Advisory Board decided to initiate a new Research and Activity Team (ReAcT) project. In a ReAcT project, an interinstitutional approach and working groups are the mode of collaboration. This new ReAcT project was on the significance of political and economic transformations in the lives of children.

The starting-point of the project was several political and financial events and changes in such countries as South Africa, Palestine, former Soviet countries and various Latin American countries. The impact on children of the national democratization processes in all these countries were thought to have profound implications for children's lives. Also, the Urban Childhood conference in 1997 especially focused on linking research on child labourers, child immigrants, child refugees, child soldiers, street children and other vulnerable children to large-scale perspectives on the international

transformations mentioned above.

Gary Melton, Irene Rizzini and Sharon Stephens, linked through the Childwatch International Research Network, initially formed the group of researchers.

Identifying global transformations

A meeting initiated and sponsored by Childwatch International was held shortly after the Urban Childhood conference. The host was the Institute for Families in Society of the University of South Carolina, USA. Several other researchers from the international network joined in. Among them were Natalie Hevener Kaufman (international law and family issues and an editor of the first book), Clarence Shubert (economics and UNICEF work) and Sue Limber (applied developmental psychology, law and community development).

Through meetings, brainstorming and workshops, the most significant political and economic transformations in recent decades were identified. In relation to these outlines, attempts were made to link the specifications of the transformations with children's lives. The challenge has been to see the apparently contradictory trends of unification and dissolution, new wealth and poverty, opportunities and risks within a framework that would allow the researchers to connect macro-level political and economic changes to the everyday worlds of children. The next step after outlining principles and identifying the relevant transformations was to link the macro level to the settings in which children live, such as schools, the family, the local community and youth institutions. The focus has not only been on how

these changes adversely affect children but also on opportunities, new understanding and supportive environments.

The research is still ongoing, and more outcomes are expected in the years to come. The working group currently in charge of the project (Gary Melton, Natalie Hevener Kaufman and Irene Rizzini) have contacted other Key Institutions that are interested in participating in continuing the project, especially those in countries going through significant transition. A plan for collaborative research on political socialization, child participation and child welfare is being developed as a continuation of the experiences from this project.

Growing Up in Cities

The project published two books in 2002:

- Louise Chawla, ed. (2002): *Growing Up in an Urbanising World*, UNESCO Publishing, Earthscan Publications.
- David Driskell in collaboration with members of the Growing Up in Cities Project (2002): *Creating Better Cities with Children and Youth: a Manual for Participation*, UNESCO Publishing, Earthscan Publications.

The project uses participatory action-research methods to involve young people in evaluating and discussing their urban environment and in developing proposals for improving it. At the same time, it seeks to increase public awareness and to influence municipal decision-making related to children in cities.

The project is supported by the MOST Programme (Management of Social Transformations) in the Social and Human Science Sector of UNESCO, in collaboration with numerous other organizations around the world, including Childwatch International.

For more information, see www.unesco.org/most/growing.htm.

Children's participation

This project had publications in *PLA Notes* (published by the International Institute for Environment and Development) in 2001. The publications are the results of the Advisory Board's focus in 1999 on children's participation as a new priority area. The project had several working groups, workshops and a symposium from 1999 to 2000. For more information, see www.childwatch.uio.no/projects/participation.

Use of Child Research in International Organizations

The purpose of this dialogue project is to discover what sources of research on children the staff of international organizations actually know and use in developing policy and programmes.

What research and information do they regularly consult and use, and what additional knowledge do they feel would be useful? The findings will help to identify what research should be undertaken to respond to the perceived needs of international organizations and to describe how to get staff within international organizations to consider the results of that research.

The initial objective of the project was to assemble a committee of experts on international organizations to advise the task force on implementing the plan for the project. The first meeting of the advisory group of experts was held in Washington, DC on 16 May 2000 at the offices of the American Psychological Association. The participants identified a diverse group of experienced scholars and practitioners in the Washington, DC area (see the Childwatch International Annual Report for 2000 for further detail on this meeting).

In 2000–2001, the task force identified general principles of research use from a survey of the literature and designed a set of questions for the first meeting of the policy and programme staff members in international organizations. They are especially interested in staff that play a key role in filtering and synthesizing the research and information, which provides the basis for recommendations for policies and programming with the organization, even if these staff are not the final decision-makers. The advisory group was also in the process of developing a set of examples of effective use of research by international organizations and compiling a bibliography of literature relevant to the project.

However, while developing a list of

selected international organization staff to invite to the next meeting and to consult on the questions to be addressed, the list of people to meet and issues to address became very large because of the global scope of the project. This led to a temporary pause in the work. The Advisory Board meeting in Rio de Janeiro in September 2001 addressed the challenge of proportions. These discussions led to a regional division of the project, which had an immediate effect on the activity of the task force. The Advisory Board decided to start with the Americas (North and South). The first report will be presented at the Key Institution meeting in Bangkok in December 2002, as a model and a challenge to be picked up by Key Institutions in other regions that are closer to the relevant issues and organizations.

The two Childwatch International core members on the new project team for the Americas are Irene Rizzini, Director of the International Center for Research and Policy on Children at the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Natalie Hevener Kaufman of the Department of Government and International Studies at the University of South Carolina, representing the Consortium on Children, Families and the Law. Three consultants have been invited to join the project due to their previous experience with international organizations and their personal interest in collaborating: Steven Klees of the Department of International Education of the University of Maryland; Malcolm Bush, President of the Woodstock Institute in Chicago, and formerly a faculty member researching children and family

policy at the University of Chicago; and Tamo Chattopadhyay of Columbia University, New York.

The research team has interviewed key funders to discover what they want to know about the key children's research and policy centres, their priorities and plans and the most convenient ways for them to find about and interact with the Childwatch International Key Institutions in the Americas. The interviews took place both in South America and North America; the North American interviews in the Washington, DC area in March 2002 and the South American interviews in Bras'lia in July 2002. The funders interviewed include UNICEF, UNESCO, the Save the Children Fund, the World Bank and the Organization of American States.

Based on these interviews, the research team will write a report that describes the current contacts between the funders and the research centres, the additional mechanisms that are likely to enhance the dialogue and the children and youth issues that have highest priority in the funders' mid-term plans.

Childwatch International will discuss the report and begin the planning for the second phase at its December 2002 meeting in Bangkok. The second phase will include a brief survey of Childwatch International centres about their current and planned research in a format suggested by the interviews. It will also include the development of several ways for the funders and researchers to communicate, including an expanded Childwatch International Web site and agreements, if mutually acceptable, for funders to send representatives to Childwatch International conferences where time could be set aside for round-table dialogue between the two groups.

CHILDWATCH INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Childwatch International projects should be based on the comparative advantage of networking and on the common interests in research efforts with a global scope. The following projects were underway or in various stages of completion in 2001 and 2002:

- *The significance of political and economic transformations in the lives of children*
- *Monitoring the Well-Being of Children Beyond Survival in Latin America*
- *Use of Child Research in International Organizations*
- *Children and Media.*

The following projects have published in 2001–2002:

- *Growing Up in Cities*
- *Children's participation*

The significance of political and economic transformations in the lives of children

Inter-connected networks:

- *The International Network on Children's Health, Environment and Safety (INCHESES)*



KEY INSTITUTIONS

About the Key Institutions

The core of the Childwatch International Research Network consists of institutions and organizations worldwide involved with interdisciplinary child research and committed to international collaboration – the Childwatch International Key Institutions.

The core of the Childwatch International Research Network consists of institutions and organizations worldwide involved with interdisciplinary child research and committed to international collaboration – the Childwatch International Key Institutions. They are central actors within child research and represent major forces in their countries, regions or thematic networks. An important task of the Advisory Board and the Secretariat is to work with the Key Institutions to serve their information needs, to define research areas of common interest and to develop relevant activities.

The Key Institutions conduct research at different levels, on different topics, with various methods and with a variety of target groups. All Key Institutions are inspired by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and engaged in discussions and research on global issues that affect children's lives. Such collaboration within the Childwatch International Research Network enhances the individual institutions' own capacity and research agenda and provides opportunities for playing leading roles in developing child research.

The Key Institutions are listed in Annex 1.

New Key Institutions

In 2001, three new child research groups joined the Childwatch International Research Network as Key Institutions:

- the Center for Family Environments, Czech Republic, Director: Jiri Kovarik;
- Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour l'Enfance (CRAE), Côte d'Ivoire, Coordinator: Jean Paul Toto; and

- the China Youth and Children Research Centre, Beijing, China, contact person: Liu Yi, leader of the International Institute at the Centre.

Potential for regional expansion

In 1999, a region-by-region strategy was adopted for identifying new Key Institutions, with the aim of recruiting 10 new members by the next Key Institution meeting in 2002. By 2001, the goal was met half way. The five new members in 2000 and 2001 are from western Europe (Ireland), Latin America (Colombia), Asia (China), central and eastern Europe (Czech Republic) and Africa (CTMte d'Ivoire). Further expansion of the network in Asia, Middle East, North Africa, the Baltic region and the former Soviet countries was initiated in 2001, which has resulted in five institutions being recommended for membership at the Advisory Board meeting in December 2002.

Childwatch International is continually looking for potential new members in all regions of the world – especially Africa and Asia. The Key Institution meeting in Bangkok in December 2002 will be a good opportunity for affiliation by new partners in South-East Asia and South Asia.

The potential for regional expansion in western and southern Africa is large. Childwatch International has followed up on contacts with CODESRIA and is still working to identify strong institutions both in western and in southern Africa that can be approached.

The present partnership between the Center for Family Environments in the Czech

KEY INSTITUTIONS

Republic and the Institute on Family & Neighborhood Life at Clemson University initiated a large meeting in Slovakia that included representatives from several countries in central and eastern Europe. In addition, Childwatch International has worked actively in 2001 and 2002 to strengthen contacts and to get further connected with eastern Europe and former Soviet countries. We expect that these efforts as a whole will strengthen regional cooperation and that Childwatch International will formalize some of these ties in due time.

Childwatch International has also been revitalizing contacts with existing partners in western Europe in 2002. The efforts put into building strong regional ties in central and eastern Europe have made it particularly interesting to find a potential new partner in Germany, where both the tradition of cooperation and language would be an advantage for further collaboration. Childwatch International also has the challenge of strengthening contacts in Norway.

In 2002, Childwatch International has also initiated contacts with potential new partners in the Middle East, North Africa and the Persian Gulf region. The next step here will be to assist and strengthen communication and collaboration between existing research networks in the region and, through this, identify suitable partners for Childwatch International membership.

Informal networking between existing partners will strengthen links in Australia. While it would be desirable to establish contacts within the wider Pacific region, this will have to be a longer-term goal.

The Latin American partnership constitutes a base for centre expansion in Latin America. The project Monitoring the Well-being of Children Beyond Survival in Latin America will also provide an opportunity to identify new centres.

Collaboration with others

Childwatch International continues to collaborate with UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO, members of the Save the Children Alliance, the Child Rights Information Network, the International Network on Children's Health, Environment and Safety (INCHES) and others. Several of these organizations are also engaged in maintaining Children's House in Cyberspace, together with several Key Institutions.



ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Advisory Board

Eight of the ten members of the Advisory Board met in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on September 26–27, 2001. In addition to the regular review of ongoing and planned activities, the agenda items included status and future plans for the Partnership Programme; new Key Institutions; consultant visits as a new development to support Key Institutions; the Childwatch International Web site and how Key Institutions use it; orientation about the Business Board; and orientation about the new staffing situation in the Secretariat.

The meeting was organized by the Center for Research on Childhood (CESPI) of the Universidade Santa Ursula (now CIESPI) and was followed by an open day conference for researchers and practitioners from Brazil. The conference *Studying and Strengthening Community-Based Supports for Families, Children and Youth: National and International Perspectives* was held at the Universidade Santa Ursula campus and was co-sponsored by the University, CESPI, Childwatch International, PROMUNDO and John Snow do Brazil.

The Advisory Board (Annex 2) will meet again in conjunction with the Key Institution meeting in Bangkok in December 2002 to sum up their period. During this meeting, elections for a new Advisory Board will be held, and the new Advisory Board will have a chance to constitute themselves and plan for the period 2003–2006 while in Bangkok.

Throughout the year, discussions between Advisory Board members and the Secretariat are mostly carried out electronically or through phone conferences between an appointed Executive Committee. But the framework for Childwatch International goals and activities is set annually in the Advisory Board meeting. In April 2002, the Executive Committee also had a chance to meet in conjunction with the Business Board meeting in the Carolinas, USA. These meetings focused on project follow-up, consultancy follow-up and planning for the Key Institution meeting.

Business Board

The tasks of the Business Board are to supervise the administrative and financial matters of Childwatch International and thus to provide important support to the Secretariat. The Business Board has five statutory members; two representing the Advisory Board, two representing the main contributors to Childwatch International core budget or other institutions or individuals supportive of the cause of Childwatch International, and the Director of the Secretariat. The members are elected for 3 years at a time (Annex 3).

The Business Board met at the University of Oslo on 12 February 2001. At the meeting, the final report from the external consultant from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was presented. The review is based on interviews with Childwatch International representatives, representatives of Norwegian research institutions and the Research Council of Norway. The report includes specific recommendations for future cooperation and for the funding of Childwatch International. The conclusions in the report are seen as being positive overall for Childwatch International.

The staffing of the Secretariat was reviewed. Since the Director continued to work only 50% and the Senior Fellow position was not filled, the Secretariat was severely understaffed. The Business Board agreed that the Secretariat needed to be strengthened immediately to be able to support the new consultant team as well as other ongoing and new activities. The available funds enabled a full-time staff member to be hired to support the Director in his daily activities. The Business Board decided to primarily look for possible candidates from the Norwegian research community. The ideal candidate should be qualified to work administratively but also have some experience from international child research and from coordinating and initiating international processes.

The financial situation was discussed and analyzed, focusing on the accounts for 2000 and the budget situation for 2001–2003.

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

At the time of the meeting in 2001, no formal reply to the funding application was given, but the Ministry of Foreign Affairs indicated that it was likely to grant Childwatch International NOK 2 million for 2001 as applied for. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs had also indicated that it would prefer to transfer the grant through the Research Council of Norway as an earmarked amount in the future. The Business Board welcomed these developments and was positive to the invitation to enter a dialogue between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Childwatch International and the Research Council of Norway on the condition that Childwatch International does not have to compete for money with Norwegian research projects.

A contract of support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, channelled through the Research Council of Norway, was signed on 11 December 2001. The contract grants support for 2001–2003 under the condition that Childwatch International runs an international research network that encourages interdisciplinary research on children's development, well-being and rights and disseminates results from child research. Childwatch International should also aim to develop stronger ties with Norwegian child research and work to increase its international orientation.

The financial support is divided as follows:

- 2001: NOK 2,000,000
- 2002: NOK 2,070,000
- 2003: NOK 2,140,000

The Business Board met again on 23 April 2002. This time the meeting was held at Pine Crest Inn in North Carolina, close to the University of Clemson in South Carolina. The Board welcomed the grant for 2001–2003, but stressed the necessity to explore and secure continuation of core funding. The budget for 2002 was presented, and the financial framework for Childwatch International activities in general and the Key Institution meeting in particular was set. The

Board briefly reviewed the experiences so far with the new initiative on consultant visits. Consultant visits have had an overall positive effect on the Network and activities, although challenges need to be addressed in the follow-up and feedback procedures. The Board then encouraged its members to find possible external funding for the consultant visits and their follow-up.

Childwatch International Web site

In 2000, the Childwatch International Web site (www.childwatch.uio.no) was totally redesigned. With the assistance of a professional Web design agency, the Secretariat developed a new design for the pages as well as a more user-friendly site format. During this process, the Web sites of Growing Up in Cities and Children's House in Cyberspace moved to other servers and are no longer updated by the Secretariat of Childwatch International.

The main purpose of the site reconstruction was the aim of making the Key Institutions and their activities more visible. In addition to the overview of Key Institutions and links to their respective Web sites, an important part of the new site is the News section, where the Key Institutions can place information about publications, upcoming conferences and events and other activities and projects at their institutions. The Secretariat sends regular updates by mail to all Key Institutions when new material is published. The site also includes information about Childwatch International, its projects and a broad range of links to other resources on children and children's rights outside the Network.

Funding and support

The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs continued to provide funds for the Secretariat and its activities in 2001–2002. The funds were channeled through the Research Council of Norway. The Secretariat also received substantial support from the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Oslo.

Human resources

2001. Per Miljeteig worked 50% as Director through August, and started his leave of absence on 1 September. Pernille Skotte filled a half-time post as Project Assistant during the whole year. Randi Wærdahl started as Project Coordinator half time in March and full time from April through August. From 1 September 1, Randi Wærdahl was appointed interim Managing Director (100%) and Per Egil Mjaavatn as interim Programme Director (30%).

2002. Per Miljeteig was on leave of absence for the whole year and Randi Wærdahl had the position of Managing Director full time. Per Egil Mjaavatn filled 30% as Programme Director. Pernille Skotte assisted the Managing Director half time until 15 January 2002, 20% from 15 January 2002 to 15 May 2002 and full time from 15 May 2002 to 31 December 2002.

Office space and infrastructure support

Childwatch International continues to have offices at the Blindern Campus of the University of Oslo, as part of the agreement of collaboration between Childwatch International and the University. Through this agreement, the University of Oslo provides substantial infrastructure support to Childwatch International.



ANNEX

Childwatch International Key Institutions and directors

Canadian Institute of Child Health, Ottawa, Canada

Executive Director: Dawn Walker

Caribbean Child Development Centre, School of Continuing Studies, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica

Acting Director: Sian Williams

Catalan Interdisciplinary Network of Child Researchers (X.C.I.I.I.), Girona, Spain

Director: Ferran Casas

Center for Child Development, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China

Director: Sing Lau

Center for Children and Youth, JDC-Brookdale Institute, Jerusalem, Israel

Director: Jack Habib

Center for Family Environments, Prague, Czech Republic

Director: Jiri Kovarik

Center for Family Research, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

Director: Martin Richards

Center for Independent Ecological Programs, Socio-Ecological Union, Moscow, Russian Federation

Director: Maria Cherkasova

Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour l'Enfance (C.R.A.E.), Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Director: Jean Paul Toto

Centre for the Child and Society, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK

Co-directors: Stewart Asquith & Malcolm Hill

Centre for Research on Childhood and Family (CENDIF), Universidad Metropolitana, Caracas, Venezuela

Director: María Angélica Sepúlveda

Child Research Net, Tokyo, Japan

Director: Noboru Kobayashi

Childhood and Youth Policy Research Unit (CYPRU), University of Western Sydney Macarthur, Campbelltown, Australia

Director: Jan Mason

Childhood and Youth Programme, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, Austria

Director: Renate Kränzl-Nagl

Children's Environments Research Group, City University of New York, USA

Co-directors: Roger Hart & Selim Iltus

Children's Issues Centre, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

Director: Anne B. Smith

Children's Research Centre, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland

Director: Robbie Gilligan

China Youth and Children Research Center (CYCRC), Beijing, China

Director: Sun Yunxiao

Consortium on Children, Families and the Law, USA

Director: Gary Melton

Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), Dakar, Senegal

Executive Secretary: Adebayo Olukoshi

Department of Child Ecology, The National Children's Medical Research Center, Tokyo, Japan

Director: Masako Tanimura

Department of Educational Psychology, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya

President: Frederick Moses Okatcha

Family Life Development Center, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

Director: James Garbarino

Fundaci—n Paniamor, San José, Costa Rica

Director: Milena Grillo

Institute for Child and Family Development, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa

Acting Director: Fanie Sonn

Institute for Child Rights and Development, School of Child and Youth Care, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Director: Philip Cook

International Center for Research and Policy on Childhood (CIESPI), Pontifícia Universidade Católica, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Director: Irene Rizzini

International Center for Education and Human Development (CINDE), Cartagena, Colombia
Director: Marta Arango Nimnicht

Interamerican Institute of the Child, Montevideo, Uruguay
Director: Alejandro Bonasso

National Institute for Child & Family Development, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand
Director: Nittaya J. Kotchabhakdi

Norwegian Centre for Child Research (NOSEB), Trondheim, Norway
Director: Anne Trine Kjørholt

Programme on International Rights of the Child, Faculty of Law, Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, London, UK
Director: Geraldine Van Bueren

UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence, Italy
Director: Marta Santos Pais

Unit for Child and Youth Research, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India
Director: Usha Nayar

Affiliated institutions:

Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne, Australia
Director: David Stanton

Child Development Centre of China (CDCC), Beijing, People's Republic of China
Director: Niu Xiaomei

Children's Rights Centre, University of Gent, Belgium
Director: Eugene Verhellen

The Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development, School of Early Childhood Education, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Co-directors: Kathy Bartlett and Louise Zimanyi

Members of the Advisory Board 1999–2002

Ferran Casas

Catalan Network of Child Researchers (X.C.I.I.I.)
University of Girona
Spain

Jack Habib

Center for Children and Youth
JDC-Brookdale Institute
Israel

Nittaya J. Kotchabhakdi

National Institute for Child & Family Development
Mahidol University
Thailand

Gary Melton (President)

Consortium on Children, Family and the Law
USA

Per Egil Mjaavatn

Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Norway

Usha Nayar

Unit for Child and Youth Research
Tata Institute of Social Sciences
India

Irene Rizzini (Vice-President)

Center for Research on Childhood
Universidade Santa Ursula
Brazil

Rose September

Institute for Child and Family Development
University of the Western Cape
South Africa

Mohammad Shaheen

Center for Development in Primary Health Education
Palestine

Anne B. Smith

Children's Issues Centre
University of Otago
New Zealand

Members of the Business Board 1999–2002

Ivar Frønes (Chair)

University of Oslo

Gary Melton

President, Advisory Board
Childwatch International Research Network

Per Egil Mjaavatn

Project Director
Childwatch International Research Network

Irene Rizzini

Vice-President, Advisory Board
Childwatch International Research Network

Nadia Auriat

UNESCO – MOST Programme

**CHILDWATCH INTERNATIONAL
PROJECT ACCOUNTS 2001**

I. EXPENSES		
99000 Administration	Personell costs	657 587,00
	Daily running	107 747,00
	Publications	4 844,00
	Travel costs	105 824,69
	Conference fees	2 543,51
	Meeting costs	1 425,00
total:		772 224,20
820100 Advisory Board and Business Board	Travel costs	125 178,01
	Meeting costs	5 691,00
	Postage	5 712,16
	Reimbursements	147 787,01
total:		284 368,18
820104 Collaboration with Key Institutions incl. Partnership Programme	Travel costs	295 471,27
	Insitutional support and conference costs	107 455,87
total:		402 927,14
820105 Significance of political and economic transformation on the lives of children	Travel costs	12 454,00
total:		12 454,00
820106 Children and the Media	Travel costs	55 605,16
total:		55 605,16
820107 Research on children's participation	Publications	52 336,00
total:		52 336,00
820109 Monitoring the State of the Child	Travel costs	17 921,44
total:		17 921,44
Expenses 2001: CWI secretariat and projects		1 597 836,12
Overhead costs 2000 og 2001		236 842,91
SUM TOTAL		1 834 679,03
II. INCOME		
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs		-2 000 000,00
University of Oslo		-42 000,00
Transferred from 2000		-365 762,04
TOTAL INCOME 2001		-2 407 762,04
III. RESULT 2001		
Balance		-573 083,01

CHILDWATCH INTERNATIONAL
PROSJECT ACCOUNTS 2002 (incl. expenses spent 2002, paid Jan. 2003)

I. EXPENSES			
990000	Administration	Personell costs	884 329
		Daily running	46 392
		Travel costs	201 381
		Meeting costs	3 982
		Overhead costs	103 444
	total:		1 239 528
820100	Advisory Board and Business Board	Travel costs	169 611
	total:		169 611
820102	Project: Use of Child Research in International Organizations	Conference and travel costs	76 854
			76 854
820104	Collaboration with Key Institutions incl. Partnership Programme	Travel costs	355 450
		Institutional support and conference costs	308 876
		Personell (consultancy fees)	25 485
		Overhead costs	3 568
	total:		693 379
820105	Project: Significance of political and economic transformation on the lives of children	Travel costs	35 402
	mellomsum:		35 402
820106	Project: Children and the Media	Publications	223
		Personell	126 889
		Conference and travel costs	78 468
	total:		205 580
820109	Project: Monitoring the State of the Child	Conference and travel costs	51 947
		Personell	111 390
	total:		163 337
Expenses 2002: CWI secretariat and projects			2 476 456
Overhead costs 2002			107 012
SUM TOTAL			2 583 468
II. INCOME			
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs		through the Norwegian Research Council	-2 070 000
University of Oslo			-42 000
Transferred from 2001			-471 763
TOTAL INCOME 2002			-2 583 763
III. RESULT			
Balance			-295