DEFENSA DE NIÑAS Y NIÑOS INTERNACIONAL DNI
DEFENSE DES ENFANTS INTERNATIONAL DEI
DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL DCI
the worldwide movement for children's rights

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

'In the celebration following the passage of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the United Nations, children from every country were asked to include their comments. When they began to make their speeches they were told that they must speak only in English. This rule bewildered and angered some children but the anger did not find a voice until a francophone child from Quebec insisted on his right to speak in French, to the delight of many in the audience'

Les Horne
Founder of DCI - Canada
(July 15, 1925-July 31, 2011)

Special thanks are due:
To all the DCI National Sections for their collaboration,
To our sponsors for their support, and
To our interns for their contribution.

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Defence for Children International
International Secretariat

Annual Report 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. A Foreword from Our Director 4

II. An Introduction from Our President 5

III. Who We Are: Actors for Justice, Advocates for Rights 6

IV. Where We Work: A Global Network of National Members 6

V. How We Work: Striving for Children's Rights, Protection and Participation 7

VI. DCI at the Global Level: The International Secretariat's Major Programmatic Activities 2011 8

1. Strategic Plan of Action on Juvenile Justice 8

a. Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice 9
b. International Child Rights Advocacy 10

2. Publications 12

3. Other Key Achievements 13

VII. DCI at the Regional Level: Regional Programmes and Projects 14

1. Americas 14
2. Africa 15
3. Middle East 15

VIII. DCI at the National Level: Key Achievements and Activities of National Sections....16

1. Africa....16
2. Americas....17
3. Asia and Pacific....20
4. Europe....21
5. MiddleEast....22

IX. An Overview of DCI-IS Funding Sources in 2011....24

X. DCI-IS Staff and International Executive Council in 2011....25

1. Staff of DCI-IS....26
2. Members of the IEC....27

ACRONYMS

ACPF	African Child Policy Forum
ACERWC	African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
ANCED	Associação Nacional dos Centros de Defesa da Criaça e do Adolescene (National Association of Centres of Defence for Children and Adolescents, Brazil)
CRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRCA	Children's Rights Centre of Albania
DCI-IS	Defence for Children International – International Secretariat
DPKO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
ECPAT	End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes
GC No. 10	General Comment No. 10 (of the Convention on the Rights of the Child)
HRC	Human Rights Council
IEC	International Executive Council (of DCI)
IGA	International General Assembly (of DCI)
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPJJ	Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice
OHCHR	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OIJJ	International Juvenile Justice Observatory
OMCT	World Organisation Against Torture
PRI	Penal Reform International
SPARC	Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (Pakistan)
SRSG	Special Representative of the Secretary General (e.g. on Violence against Children)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
WG-CAV	Working Group on Children and Violence
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association

I. A FOREWORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR: Ileana Bello

The year 2011 can be considered an important one for children: for one thing, the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), involving a communications procedure for children's rights violations, was first adopted in June by the UN Human Rights Council and then in December by the UN General Assembly. The Protocol will enable, for the first time, the Committee on the Rights of the Child to examine communications from children and their representatives that allege violations of their rights. This development is of paramount importance: child victims of abuse and rights violations will now be able to make complaints before the committee of international experts whenever they have not been able to secure legal remedies for these violations in their countries.

DCI has played an active role in the international coalition composed of over 80 international and national NGOs coordinated by the NGO Group for the CRC, which has been working on lobbying for this protocol since the very beginning. Today, the Protocol is a reality, but now it is time for campaigning: once more the national sections of DCI, represented in more than 40 countries around the world, can actively contribute to its ratification in as many countries as possible.

As for other roles that DCI has played at the International level, 2011 was the year of the international conference, "Deprivation of Children's Liberty as the Last Resort," organised in partnership with the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF), in Kampala, Uganda, in early November. The Kampala conference has marked the beginning of a new phase for DCI, coinciding with need to lobby at the worldwide level for justice systems fully adapted to children.

DCI also contributed to the Human Rights Council Resolution on the administration of justice, in particular juvenile justice, sponsored by the Austrian Permanent Mission at the UN in Geneva. The resolution, with which DCI, through the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice (IPJJ), has been heavily involved, is of fundamental importance for the work of lobbying and advocacy at international and national levels; specific mention is made of the IPJJ and its members (including DCI), especially when it comes to the financial support that states should guarantee its members.

DCI looks towards 2012, the year of its eleventh International General Assembly (IGA) with the aim of building upon a common ground of justice, seeking to ensure that justice systems are designed and adjusted to be sensitive to the particular issues faced by children when they come into contact with the law.

Ileana Bello, Director of the DCI-IS

II. AN INTRODUCTION FROM OUR PRESIDENT: Rifat Odeh Kassis

As always, it gives me pride and pleasure to address you in the pages of DCI's annual report: this account of our organisational life in 2011, and of the accomplishments, challenges, surprises, changes, exchanges, lessons, and goals we have shared together.

With respect to challenges, our contexts -- locally, nationally, regionally, and internationally -- continue to grow and shift, and so our challenges change too. But, year-to-year, many remain fundamentally the same: pressures upon NGOs and donors as a result of the global economic crisis; difficulties "selling" politically unpopular child-rights issues (such as juvenile justice, one of DCI's major areas of work) as priorities for all governments; getting children's rights unequivocally incorporated into all national agendas and legislation, etc.

Challenges notwithstanding, DCI's work continues unabated in defence of children's human and political rights. Moreover, as an institution, we continue working to ensure the effectiveness, versatility, solidarity, and sustainability of our work around the world.

As an example of our progress as a "family," as a mutually supportive and continually expansive network, we can look to an exciting international event DCI carried out this year: the conference entitled "Deprivation of Children's Liberty as the Last Resort," held in Kampala, Uganda, in November 2011, in partnership between the DCI International Secretariat (DCI-IS) and the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF). Attended by over 300 participants, including 16 national sections of DCI, the Kampala Conference was a productive and inspiring instance of advocacy and initiatives focusing on child rights throughout the African continent -- and of cooperation and collaboration among child rights actors throughout the world.

Penning this letter is particularly bittersweet for me this year, as it marks the end of my term as President at the international level of DCI. At the time of this writing, we have already held our tri-annual International General Assembly (IGA): an important platform for valuable discussion and exchange among our 43 national sections, and the occasion on which all DCI members vote for the subsequent team of international leadership.

Thus, I am gratified to announce that the next DCI President is Benoit Van Keirsbilck (our former Treasurer) of DCI-Belgium: a strong, kind and capable leader, a true friend, and a tireless advocate for children's rights in his country and in all others. With Benoit as both President and colleague, I know DCI will continue to make great strides toward equality, liberty and security for children across the globe.

Meanwhile, I am honoured to remain part of the DCI family as General Director of DCI-Palestine and as a member of DCI's International Executive Council (IEC). And, once again, I thank you -- colleagues, partners, and friends -- for your partnership in the struggle for international children's rights.

Rifat Odeh Kassis, President of DCI movement

III. WHO WE ARE: Actors for Justice, Advocates for Rights

Defence for Children International (DCI) is an independent non-governmental human rights organisation that has been promoting and protecting children's rights on a global, regional, national, and local level for over 30 years. DCI is represented in 43 countries worldwide through its national sections and associated members, each working on the child rights issues that are most directly relevant to their respective national contexts: these issues range from the eradication of child labour, child trafficking and violence against children to advocacy for the rights of children in conflict areas to the promotion of child participation. Juvenile justice is the overarching priority of the global DCI movement, with over 75% of the national sections conducting activities in this field.

DCI's International Secretariat (DCI-IS), located in Geneva, is the "hub" of the movement. It represents the national sections at the international level, develops projects promoting children's rights across the globe, and provides support (institutional, technical, advocacy) for the activities and development of DCI's national sections and associated members.

In this annual report, you will read about DCI according to its structure as a movement: activities realised by DCI-IS; activities undertaken cooperatively by DCI sections across entire regions; and activities conducted by specific national sections within those regions.

Mission

DCI is dedicated to ensuring ongoing, practical, systematic and concerted international action directed toward promoting and protecting children's rights as articulated by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), its optional protocols and all other standards and instruments of human rights.

Vision

Children should enjoy and exercise their rights in a just and responsible society.

IV. WHERE WE WORK: A Global Network of National Members

DCI has national sections and/or associated members in the following countries: **Africa -** Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe (provisional section); **The Americas:** Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay, as well as a representative at the UN in New York; **Asia and the Pacific:** Australia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka; **Europe:** Albania, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Macedonia, the Netherlands, Russia (provisional section), Slovakia and Switzerland; **The Middle East**: Israel, Lebanon and Palestine

V. HOW WE WORK: Striving for Children's Rights, Protection and Participation

DCI's work at the national, regional and international levels is directed by the principles enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Based on the CRC and other relevant international standards and regional instruments, DCI national sections develop actions in response to the issues affecting children's rights in their respective countries. These actions can include monitoring the implementation of standards for children's rights; advocating and lobbying on local, national, and/or international levels; targeted research; awareness-raising and dissemination of information; training policy-makers, justice officials, police officers, social workers and educational professors; and direct interventions with children, their families and their local communities. DCI-IS works to support such initiatives, whether realised by individual sections or regional efforts, in a variety of ways; this support sometimes includes technical assistance to sections as they elaborate specific proposals/programmes or as they prepare alternative reports for submission to the CRC Committee or to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and other international human rights mechanisms.

DCI strongly believes in the importance of networking and building strategic alliances in order to strengthen its work and increase its impact. DCI therefore coordinates with many other child rights actors, including, for example, the Committee on the Rights of the Child. DCI has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 1991 (ECOSOC) and the Council of Europe, as well as working relations with UNESCO, UNICEF and the ILO. DCI is also a member of the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, also serving as the co-convener of the Working Group on Children and Violence. DCI is an elected member of the NGO Advisory Panel for Follow-up to the UN Study on Violence, and is a host and active member of the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice (IPJJ).

VI. DCI AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

The International Secretariat's Major Programmatic Activities of 2011

1. Strategic Plan of Action on Juvenile Justice

Throughout 2011, DCI's International Secretariat (DCI-IS) continued to implement its strategic plan of action on juvenile justice. Its overall goal is to "make the situation of children and juvenile justice in the world known internationally, promoting actions that aim to include juvenile justice as a priority item on political agendas on an international, regional and national level; to strengthen national juvenile justice systems, and guarantee the rights of children and adolescents in conflict with the law."

This year, with on-going and renewed support from our donors and sections, DCI was able to pursue and advance its guiding objectives:

- To monitor and report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and other human rights instruments, in order to keep abreast of achievements and challenges and to propose recommendations, particularly in the field of juvenile justice, toward achieving justice for children in accordance with the Convention.

- To uphold and lobby for the safeguarding of children's rights in juvenile justice, including the implementation of policies and practices which privilege alternatives to the deprivation of liberty, address violence and respect the dignity of all children.

- To strengthen the use of current international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms and enhance DCI's active role in the coordination of child rights in juvenile justice advocacy, maintaining a juvenile justice focus and disseminating expertise on juvenile justice in all regions of the world.

- To improve the capacities of DCI national sections in particular and children's rights activists in general; to promote and defend the rights of all children, but especially of children in conflict with the law; and to lend technical and moral support to the advocacy and lobbying efforts of the sections at the international level.

- To build and consolidate strategic partnerships and alliances to respond adequately to the challenges of the rapidly changing global context, between members of the movement and with other partners.

The following paragraphs will describe DCI-IS's major activities performed, and partnerships secured, in order to translate these objectives into action.

a. Juvenile Justice Advocacy

- DCI co-sponsored, co-organised (along with the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF)) and attended an international juvenile justice conference: "The Deprivation of Children's Liberty as the Last Resort," which was held in Kampala, Uganda, in November 2011. (For more information on the conference, please see Section VII.1.b, DCI at the Regional Level: Africa, below.)

- As described in further detail below (Section VI.1.c., International Child

Rights Advocacy), DCI-IS participated in three sessions of the HRC (16th, 17th, 18th) with several initiatives focused explicitly on juvenile justice issues. These include: an oral statement on evaluating the status of street children who come in contact with the juvenile justice system (16th); a side-event about strengthening awareness on and protection for street children within the juvenile justice system (16th); a written statement on promoting street children's rights in the juvenile justice system (16th); a side-event on the equality of opportunity in education, with a special focus on the educational rights of children in detention, and on monitoring the quality and quantity of schooling for prisons (17th); and an oral statement on upholding principles of child-friendly justice when examining the accountability of children involved in armed conflict (18th).

- DCI-IS, represented by Executive Director Ms. Ileana Bello, remains a member of the NGO Advisory Council for the Follow-up to the UN Study on Violence against Children. The Ad Council met from 11-14 October 2011, on the occasion of the Third Committee meeting of the UN General Assembly. (It also convenes at the March session of the HRC.) In New York, the Ad Council met with the Secretary General's Special Representative on Violence against Children (SGSRVAC) to present its activities, learn more about her plans and missions, and promote support for the renewal of her mandate. The Ad Council also attended the Third Committee session, which heard reports from the SGSRVAC, the SRSG on Children and Armed Conflicts, and others, with particular attention given to the links between juvenile justice and children involved in armed conflicts, alternative means of detention, restorative processes, etc.

- In collaboration with the IPJJ (see more information below), DCI-IS contributed to the Human Rights Council Resolution on human rights in the administration of justice, particularly juvenile justice (A/HRC/18/L.9), which was adopted at the 18th session of the Human Rights Council (29th September 2011).

- DCI-IS organised a Congress on Detention and Torture against Minors that emphasised the issue of violence against children in the cases of Palestinian children detained in Israeli prisons and Kurdish children detained in Turkish prisons (Rome – May 2011).

b. Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice (IPJJ)

This year, DCI-IS continued to host the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice (IPJJ). It also forms part of its Steering Committee.

With a Permanent Secretariat established in 2007, the IPJJ was mandated by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to facilitate and enhance country- and global-level coordination in providing technical advice and assistance for juvenile justice in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant norms and standards. As of June 2010, the IPJJ has been composed of twelve members: six UN bodies and six non-governmental organisations active in reforming juvenile justice. In addition to DCI, members include: the OHCHR, UNICEF, DPKO, UNDP, UNODC, CRC, the International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates, IJJO, PRI, Terre des Hommes and OMCT.

The IPJJ also seeks to strengthen its role as a platform for the exchange of information and expertise on juvenile justice at the national, regional, and international levels. It is in this spirit that its members have chosen to bring juvenile justice issues onto the agenda of the international community.

As the co-convener of the Working Group of the NGO Group for the CRC on Children and Violence, DCI worked closely with other Panel members involved in the group's activities (OMCT, Terre des Hommes and OHCHR), paying particular attention to the follow-up to the recommendations of the UN Study on Violence against Children concerning children in detention.

Outcomes in 2011

- As a host and Steering Committee member of the IPJJ, DCI was active and involved in all the instances where the CRC Concluding Observations were referring to technical assistance in juvenile justice in those countries where DCI has sections. This also entailed efforts to ensure coordinated follow-up action at the national level, including by means of CRC Concluding Observations follow-up meetings at the international level with States parties. The IPJJ Secretariat also underlined the specific countries in which the Committee recommended that State parties contact the IPJJ and its member organisations for assistance.

- As part of the overall effort to enhance the IPJJ's visibility, consolidate and increase its membership, and raise the profile of juvenile justice issues at the international level, it worked on an information note on the Panel itself to be shared with its country/regional offices; dentified potential members and contacted those selected; supplied/ circulated copies of Panel presentations and key publications; and organised Panel side-events in parallel to sessions of the HRC (including one co-led by DCI on the streetchildrenandjuvenilejusticeduringtheHRC's16thsession),GeneralAssembly,andotherbodies.

- Throughout the year, the IPJJ worked in a variety of ways to increase the availability of existing technical assistance tools and resources on juvenile justice. This involved coordinating and generating a new website (www.ipjj.org); editing, publishing and disseminating a monthly electronic newsletter in the Panel's three working languages English, French and Spanish); updating and expanding the online Juvenile Justice Expert Roster; designing a new brochure; and coordinating the general flow of information among Panel members, especially with respect to informing them of new reports/resolutions on juvenile justice and answering requests for documents.

- The Panel produced a new publication entitled "Criteria for the Design and Evaluation of Juvenile Justice Reform Programmes and the Identification of Good Practices," as well as a factsheet on justice for children and a concept note on pre-trial detention, circulating them among members for approval and coordinating their publication. The Panel also worked to coordinate ad hoc common statements of its members and circulate them to relevant forums.

- When the Embassy of Switzerland in Senegal, planning to launch a project on human rights in partnership with Senegal, in seeking to evaluate the needs/priorities of this project, requested collaboration with the IPJJ in May, the Secretariat Coordinator recommended DCI (along with several other Panel members) to provide assistance in assessing juvenile justice issues.

- Following up on recommendations posed to specific States for technical assistance and information exchange, DCI and the IPJJ Secretariat Coordinator met with the Ambassador of the Czech Republic in July in order to present the IPJJ, its members and their activities, as well as to share information and promising practices with the State's representative.

- Together with other Panel members, DCI contributed to the preparation of the CRC Day of General Discussion (DGD), "Children of Incarcerated Parents," in September 2011.
- DCI, and the IPJJ overall, maintained collaborations with the SRSGVAC, Ms. Marta Santos Pais, who made the issue of "children and justice" one of her priorities for 2011-2012. Her staff contacted the Secretariat to request feedback on her working paper about "Children and Justice During and in the Aftermath of Armed Conflict," which was presented at the 18th session of the HRC. As mentioned above, DCI Executive Director Ms. Ileana Bello, along with the IPJJ Secretariat Coordinator, met with the SRSGVAC in New York in October, where she requested support from the IPJJ in acquiring first-hand information on diversion and data on detained children in countries affected by armed conflict.

- Since the end of 2011, DCI, the OHCHR and the Panel Secretariat have been planning a photographic exhibition on "Minors Behind Bars." This event will be presented as part of the 21st session of the HRC in September 2012.

- As mentioned above, DCI-IS and the IPJJ contributed to the HRC Resolution on human rights in the administration of justice, particularly juvenile justice (A/HRC/18/L.9).

c. International Child Rights Advocacy

In addition to its thematic focus on juvenile justice, DCI has maintained broader attention to other child rights issues and, where possible, has responded to serious violations of children's rights on a case-by-case basis – particularly in countries where DCI has a national presence. [For more information on the statements and press releases that conveyed DCI's positions, please see Section IV.2, Publications, below.]

The following are some of DCI-IS's primary child rights advocacy efforts during the past year.

Outcomes in 2011

- DCI-IS participated in the 16th, 17th and 18th session of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC). Its contributions, realised jointly with a number of other NGOs, are as follows:

UN Photo

UN Photo

UN Photo

16th Session

- Oral statements on the importance of birth registration and the need to ensure this right to children living and/or working on the streets; a holistic approach to the protection and promotion of the rights of street children; the importance of evaluating the status of street children who come in contact with the juvenile justice system; the right of girls living and working on the street to be protected from violence; the need for states to provide adequate health services to street children; the obligation to protect street children from human rights violations (physical and sexual abuse, exploitation, trafficking, various forms of exploitative labour); the obligation toward the care, protection and social reintegration of street children; states' duty to address the root causes of violence against children in general and against street children in particular, prioritising prevention measures; and the need to protect Palestinian children from various forms of violence to which they are subjected.

- Written statements on the right to education of children living and/or working on the street; the need to promote street children's rights within the juvenile justice system, particularly with respect to the decriminalisation of status offenses, setting a suitable age of criminal responsibility, guaranteeing adequate social services, and other keyissues.

- A side-event co-organised with the IPJJ Secretariat and the OMCT, on situations and particular rights violations that street children face; the problem of status offences; the need to raise awareness on and enhance protection for street children within the juvenile justice system; and the roles of security forces, local communities, and states in assuring this protection.

17th Session

- A side-event focused on equality of opportunity in education, with a special emphasis on the educational rights of children in detention; the importance of monitoring the quality and quantity of schooling in prisons (especially for girls, a particularly vulnerable group); and the need for parents to provide their children with both formal and informal education to enable their access to equal opportunities upon leaving prison.

- An oral statement on the importance of freedom from violence in schools and the right to a violence-free education.

18th Session

- Oral statements on the importance of upholding principles of child-friendly justice when examining the accountability of children involved in armed conflict and on the need to protect the human rights of children in contexts of migration and asylum, including the right to be heard.

UN Photo

- As of June 2010, DCI-IS has served as co-convenor (together with War Child Holland),of the Working Group on Children and Violence (WG-CAV), which forms an integral part of the NGO Group on the CRC's work in ensuring that children's rights are actively advanced within the UN system and other international forums. Below are some of the WG-CAV's key activities in 2011:

  - Continued support to the SRSGVAC Ms. Marta Santos Pais, including periodic meetings held in Geneva.

  - A "food for thought" document supplying criteria for field visits and assistance to the SRSGVAC in selecting countries for field missions.

  - A document mapping different statements submitted by Special Procedure mandate-holders, identifying references made to violence against children in hopes of promoting greater partnership between the SRSGVAC and various Special Procedures.

  - Contributions to the SRSG Global Progress Survey on Violence against Children 2011, designed to evaluate progress in the implementation of the UN Study recommendations.

  - A statement on violence against children in education as part of the SR's presentation on education during the 17th session of the HRC (detailed above).

  - Involvement in the preparations of the HRC annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child (16th session) on children working and/or living on the streets and contributions to the subsequent resolution; several statements presented and co-signed; an oral statement in conjunction with the presentation of the SRSG's report on violence against children; various side-events organised and co-sponsored.

  - Members of the Working Groups lobbied permanent missions in Geneva (e.g. Ghana and Niger) and explored ways of influencing other states to sign and ratify the two Optional Protocols to the CRC.

- In October, DCI-IS attended a round table on the issue of child soldiers, organised by the UN Institute for Training and Research Peacekeeping Training Programme, which emphasised why this issue needs to be on national and international security agendas.

- CI-IS attended an expert consultation in October on promoting the rights of children working and/or living on the street; the event was organised by the UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner with the support of AVIVA, Consortium for Street Children, and UNICEF.

- DCI-IS is a co-sponsor of a national campaign led by SPARC (DCI-'s associated member in Pakistan) against inhuman sentencing of children. SPARC, along with DCI-IS, the Children's Rights Information Network (CRIN), and the National Juvenile Justice Network (NJJN), launched a postcard campaign on this subject; each postcard includes a joint letter addressed to the Prime Minister of Pakistan by the co-sponsors and has been widely distributed to NGOs, media sources, and child rights committees throughout Pakistan.

2. Publications

- Several key documents generated from the international conference, "Deprivation of Children's Liberty as the Last Resort," co-organised by DCI and the African Child Policy Forum in Kampala, Uganda, in November 2011: the conference website itself, www.kampalaconference.info; the Munyonyo Declaration, on children's rights in the juvenile justice contexts; two texts, "Towards Child-Friendly Justice n Africa" and "Guidelines on Action for Children in the Justice Systems in Africa"; and a documentary, 10, on children deprived of liberty across Africa. These materials can all be accessed on the conference website. [For more information on the conference and its resulting resources, see Section VII.1.b, DCI at the Regional Level: Africa, below.]

- Two newsletters were written, published, and disseminated by DCI-IS throughout 2010: first, the DCI Newsletter, which compiles updates about DCI sectional activities and those of DCI-IS, as well as publishing articles and information produced by the sections themselves; second, the Juvenile Justice Newsletter, which deals specifically with events and discussions in the field of international juvenile justice, predominantly those in which DCI participates. In September, DCI-IS also produced a special newsletter on children of incarcerated parents. All of these publications can be downloaded on the DCI website, www.defenceforchildren.org.

- Among DCI-IS's press releases in 2011 one was published (July) on the urgent plight of children affected by the severe drought in the Horn of Africa. The statement discussed various political conflicts and financial injustices that contributed to the crisis and called upon governments and international aid organisations to provide and increase supplies and support -- not just at the peak of the crisis, but also sustainably and into the future.

VII. DCI AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL: Regional Programmes and Projects

1. Americas

The DCI Regional Programme on Juvenile Justice for Latin America, established in 2004, promotes specialised systems of juvenile justice in accordance with the CRC and other international human rights standards. Its three priority thematic areas are:

1) Defending the rights of adolescents in conflict with the law in Latin America, with a strong emphasis on preventing and reducing institutional violence in Latin American penal systems;

2) Non-custodial sanctions, socio-educational measures and alternative solutions to the legal process, with the goal of promoting wider application;

3) The age of criminal responsibility, with the goal of promoting a reduction in the age rage for criminal responsibility by raising the minimum age and maintaining the maximum age at 18 years old, as per the recommendations of the CRC.

A combination of national projects and both regional and international activities, the Regional Programme's activities complement each other in a coordinated process of mobilisation, lobbying, denunciations, and proposals. Headquartered at DCI-Bolivia, the programme is realised by DCI sections in Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Uruguay, and involves the additional participation of DCI sections in Brazil, Chile, and its associated member in Mexico.

Among the key achievements of the DCI Regional Programme on Juvenile Justice for Latin America in 2011 are as follows:

- The Regional Programme's new website was launched: www.dnijusticiapenaljuvenil.org.

- On 27-29 June, the Regional Programme held its annual regional meeting in Asunción, Paraguay. This encounter allowed its representatives to make numerous administrative and programmatic decisions with respect to the programme's new upcoming website, e-bulletins, regional reports, analyses of the Latin American context, advocacy efforts, fundraising opportunities, and the plan to establish a regional juvenile justice observatory (with physical headquarters to be established in DCI-Uruguay). DCI-IS participated in this regional event as part of the Supervising Committee.

- In anticipation of the HRC's 17th session in June, the Regional Programme worked to promote a resolution on the administration of juvenile justice.

- In September, the Regional Programme released a report, "Violations of Human Rights in the Juvenile Justice Systems," gathering research from countries represented by DCI sections across the entire region. The report can be accessed here: http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/LTD/G11/162/69/PDF/G11 16269.pdf. The study, presented to the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights (IACHR) in early November, also promotes socio-educational measures that do not involve imprisonment, encourages restorative resources, and advocates regarding the minimum age of criminal responsibility. This last point has been included in the text of the HRC resolution (see link above).

VII. DCI AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL: Regional Programmes and Projects (ctd)

2. Africa

Since 2009, DCI sections in Africa have met to build a regional juvenile justice programme that seeks to promote a peaceful and cohesive environment: one aimed at fostering advocacy at national, regional and international levels in order to achieve child survival, protection, participation and development, always working in the child's best interest to enhance non-discrimination, access to justice and the rehabilitation of children in conflict with the law. In particular, this programme intends to strengthen the DCI network in order to influence positive changes in the spheres of law and practice throughout Africa, where there are still numerous and alarming gaps in local legislations, policies, structures and resources that affect the administration of child justice.

In 2011, DCI and the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) carried out an event that seeks to achieve these goals: an international conference, "Deprivation of Children's Liberty as the Last Resort," which took place in Kampala, Uganda, in November 2011. This conference yielded a number of important outputs:

- The Munyonyo Declaration (available at www.kampalaconference.info), which urges all relevant actors to "ensure that all children enjoy their rights in child justice and that deprivation of liberty is used as a measure of last resort" and were submitted at the upcoming Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Forum in Addis Ababa (November, 2011).

- Two texts, "Towards Child-Friendly Justice in Africa" and "Guidelines on Action for Children in the Justice Systems in Africa," which will eventually be submitted to the African Union for formal adoption in 2012.

- A documentary, 10, on children deprived of liberty across Africa.

Both DCI and ACPF are subsequently advocating for the enforcement of the abovementioned guidelines by African states through the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), as well as the African Union.

Over 300 people attended the Kampala Conference. Its panellists included the Vice President of Uganda; the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children; two members of the UN CRC; the Chairperson and two members of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child; and many other experts active in the field of juvenile justice. In addition to the IS, DCI had 16 national sections in attendance -- primarily from Africa, but with at least one representative from each region.

This conference, and the entire process of developing guidelines for child-friendly justice, have been and continue to be an important opportunity for DCI sections in Africa to exchange experience and expertise (among themselves, as well as with other international juvenile justice actors) and to work cooperatively toward the establishment of a regional juvenile justice programme in Africa.

DCI, through its Vice-Presidency in Sierra Leone, is part of the Civil Society Forum on the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, and is working to collaborate more closely with the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

VII. DCI AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL: Regional Programmes and Projects (ctd)

3. Middle East

DCI's regional work is increasing in the Middle East. The strengthening of the DCI network in this region is still very much a work in progress: seeds were planted in 2011, and we are confident that this coming year we will see them grow.

One important initiative focused on DCI sections already in existence: in January, DCI-Belgium (in collaboration with DCI-IS and the DCI-Europe Vice-Presidency) held a seminar in Brussels on juvenile justice in Europe and the Middle East. Addressed to DCI's European and Middle Eastern sections, the conference promoted the exchange of information, an inventory of current trends, and the creation of an action plan to ensure better compliance with the CRC in the implementation of juvenile justice within these two regions. The seminar sought to encourage regional development for DCI between the different sections of the same areas.

At this time, the Middle East is a small region within the DCI network, encompassing only three sections: Lebanon, Israel and Palestine. The Brussels seminar, then, afforded them an opportunity to strengthen communication and collective planning.

An important initiative in the Middle East, however, focuses on the creation of new DCI sections -- on expanding and enriching the DCI network in this region by encouraging the formation of new members. In December 2011, DCI-Palestine spearheaded a workshop held in Amman, Jordan, which was attended by the IS, and the Treasurer (also President of DCI Belgium) in representation of the International Executive Council. Entitled "Juvenile Justice in the Arab World," the event also included the participation of organisations from Jordan, Egypt, Yemen, Bahrain, and Libya; the Palestinian juvenile police; and a representative from the Palestinian Ministry of Social Affairs.

The workshop served two important purposes: one, as a training session for the organisations in attendance; second, as a means of using the resources DCI already possesses to maintain cooperation, strengthen coordination, and increase impact within the DCI family.

We look forward to keeping you updated as regional work continues and grows in the Middle Eastern region.

VIII. DCI AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL: Key Achievements and Activities of National Sections

By Region

1. Africa

- **DCI-Angola** has organised events with over 500 primary school children on topics such as crime, child labour, sexual exploitation and child trafficking; it has also held various seminars in churches, schools and police stations across three municipalities on these issues, as well as on the topic of children in conflict with the law. DCI-Angola is planning further educational projects within schools.

- **DCI-Benin** organised themed days based on key documents related to child trafficking and children's rights, conducted radio broadcasts on the rights of the child, and organised a legal and educational clinic for women and girls with disabilities; this last event was realised as part of celebrations of African Women's Day 2011. DCI-Benin also participated in multiple collaborative activities on the national and international scale: sessions of the National Advisory Council for Human Rights; sessions of the National Steering Committee against Child Labour; activities of the Office for Children and Adolescents (DEA); the project WIND (Work Improvement in Neighbourhood Development); the closing ceremony of a project against child trafficking in Benin; and various national activities in support of street children and against child labour, to name a few.

- **DCI-Cameroon**, through its three areas of activity across the country, organises training sessions on child rights, social surveys in collaboration with the national International Social Service body, and monitoring/documentation/educational activities in coordination with COCADE (the Cameroonian NGO Coalition for the Rights of the Child).

- DCI-Ghana is part of the regional "Girl Power" project, which deals with equal rights and opportunities for girls and young women through three DCI sections in Africa and three ECPAT sections with support from the Dutch Foreign Minister. (This project was submitted by the Child Rights Alliance in the Netherlands, of which DCI-Netherlands is a member.) DCI-Ghana has also conducted research/studies on violations of children's rights in Ghana, trained a range of relevant stakeholders in the field of child rights, and conducted awareness-raising activities through symposia, seminars, press releases, posters, and so on.

- **DCI-Liberia** has continued its extensive monitoring, documentation and reporting work on child rights violations in the justice system. It has also conducted 150 follow-up exercises on reunified children following diversion measures; held a child protection training workshop in selected communities with relevant stakeholders; and realised a poster campaign on subjects like the role of police in the juvenile justice system, the role of Liberia's Child Welfare Committee, and others. DCI-Liberia continued to advocate for the passing of the Child Act Bill in the Liberian Parliament, including meetings with the country's Child Protection Network and appearances on several UN Mission Radio Programs. Additionally, it co-facilitated (together with Child Fund-Liberia) psychosocial interventions with children referred from police stations, a situation of particular urgency in cases when parents refuse to accept the children after their release from rehabilitation centres.

- **DCI-Mauritius** (Halley Movement) continued its BETA (Basic Education to Adolescents) Program, which provides literacy and numeracy courses each year to 50 rural students who have dropped out of the formal education system, ultimately helping them secure job placements as well. DCI-Mauritius also runs a mentorship programme for young entrepreneurs (the mentors themselves are trained by DCI-Mauritius)

and has led a nationwide awareness campaign on the subject of child safety online; this campaign consisted of twenty-five workshops for parents, teachers, students, and stakeholders in the internet/communications technology field.

- **DCI-Niger** has carried out numerous radio and television programmes on topics of child begging, children in conflict with the law, child labour, child trafficking and education, among others. DCI-Niger has also conducted training sessions for twenty teachers on central child rights issues.

- **DCI-Nigeria** has bolstered its relationship with the Lagos State Government toward increasing grassroots educational development; its work has focused on two specific geographical areas through various capacity-building trainings, mentoring activities, and monitoring programmes. It also inaugurated its "World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse," focusing specifically on sexual abuse. DCI-Nigeria's continued plans include community sensitisation meetings on the inclusion of young people in local government programmes, as well as holding forums in public schools to encourage youth interest in child protection issues (e.g. access to education, reproductive rights, and juvenile justice). DCI-Nigeria also strengthened collaborations with the State Universal Education Board, the Local Government Education Authority, school administrations, and other relevant civil society organisations, likewise aiming to strengthen two important governing boards within the public school system: the School-Based Management Committees (SBMC) and Parent Forum (PF).

- **DCI-Senegal** visited the reception centres for minors which are run by the Spanish NGO 'Project Solidarity for Children'; both organisations have carried out a work session together and are currently exploring possibilities of further collaboration.

- **DCI-Sierra Leone**, home of the Vice Presidency of the DCI African region, has worked in collaboration with other organisations (including the input of children and youth groups) to develop age verification and diversion guidelines, subsequently approved by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs. Other means of advocating for national policies on children's rights have involved radio programs, newsletters, posters, school assemblies, and formal research. DCI-Sierra Leone has also worked to build the capacity of quasi-judicial structures in Freetown communities by "training trainers" on child abuse via Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and supporting CWCs in handling cases involving children. Working to prevent child delinquency and abuse, DCI-Sierra Leone screened films on these subjects in various communities and conducted programme assessments before creating new child rights programmes for boys and girls. It continued monitoring the cases of children in conflict with the law, as well as providing free legal service and mediation and facilitating diversion; DCI-Sierra Leone has also organised successful psychosocial and educational programmes at Remand Home and Approved School (detention centres). It is part of the regional "Girl Power" project mentioned above.

- **DCI-Uganda**, together with DCI-IS and the African Child Policy Forum, co-hosted the international children's rights conference "The Deprivation of Liberty as a Last Resort: African Experience" in November 2011. This year, DCI-Uganda moved into the last year of its three-year project, "Empowerment for Children in Conflict with the Law," the project provides vocational training to 200 former child offenders between 12 and 19 years old. It also increased child participation in advocacy events, such as a campaign against child sacrifice, and has strengthened its collaboration with government ministries (since most beneficiaries are from state-run rehabilitation centres).

- **DCI-Zimbabwe**, a new addition to the DCI family, conducts various reintegration and rehabilitation programmes directed toward young people in conflict with the law. Among them are tutoring and remedial education programmes, career counselling and employability skills, health and mental health services, alcohol and substance abuse prevention, leadership development, and recreational services. As part of its gang and violence prevention efforts, DCI-Zimbabwe focuses on interpersonal skills, cognitive-behavioural strategies, anger management, and pro-social work ethics for the adolescents in its programmes. Additionally, it leads sustainable farming activities as a crime prevention approach; these activities serve to promote both economic and social sustainability. In 2011, in order to promote and carry out DCI's priority concern for juvenile justice, DCI-Zimbabwe also created a Delinquency Prevention Program.

2. Americas

- **DCI-Argentina,** as part of its central activities in the DCI Regional Programme on Juvenile Justice for Latin America, has developed data-collection methods as a result of this programme's research frameworks, designing and conducting surveys on juvenile justice and rights. DCI-Argentina has also carried out numerous socio-educational measures for children in conflict with the law (e.g. mediation for children in the courts, a journalism project for adolescents, support for constructive labour initiatives, etc., across various parts of the country), as well as awareness-raising campaigns and workshops for parents and local communities on issues concerning adolescents and violence.

- **DCI-Bolivia** remains the headquarters for the DCI Regional Programme on Juvenile Justice for Latin America and continues to focus on four key thematic areas: domestic abuse, sexual abuse, adolescents in conflict with the law, and child labour. DCI-Bolivia's programmes and activities, concentrated in four cities across the country and realised through a wide range of youth groups and initiatives, include radio and television programmes on children's rights; local advocacy activities for young people with disabilities; gatherings for student centres on subjects as diverse as the environment, gang violence, disabilities, the prevention of sexual violence, etc.; activism and advocacy focused on sustainable development, equal rights, and language education for indigenous communities; training sessions for young people on vocational skills and small businesses; and seminars/capacity-building for government and judicial professionals towards creating a stronger juvenile justice system. In April, DCI-Bolivia organised a national encounter for youth communities across the country to share projects and experiences; it also co-organised a regional encounter for local municipalities on the subject of defending children's rights, the role of civil society, and violence prevention and, throughout the year, published numerous newsletters, factsheets, magazines, and other materials on diverse issues of children's rights in Bolivia.
Website: www.dni-bolivia.org

- **DCI-Brazil** (ANCED) has been working on a project focused on the right to life that surveys the institutional and social contexts in which adolescents deprived of liberty in state-run socio-educational institutions are victims of homicide. The goals of this project, conducted in 11 states throughout the country, are to diagnose this phenomenon; to plan actions directed toward the state and civil society; to evaluate the impact of such murders on the adolescents' families and communities of origin; to diagnose other violations of the right to life in these institutions; and to spearhead a process of political mobilisation and defence among relevant networks.
Website: www.anced.org.br

- **DCI-Canada** has continued to advocate against a proposed amendment to Canada's Youth Criminal Justice Act; the new "Bill C-4" takes a "tough on crime" approach to juvenile justice at the national level, and DCI-Canada is working to emphasise the ways in which this will damage the rehabilitative substance of children's rights in Canada. The section has submitted a paper on this subject to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights of the Canadian House of Commons. Other efforts involve highlighting and working against various systemic inequalities suffered by First Nations (a term used for indigenous peoples of the America) children; advocating on behalf of Omar Khadr, an adolescent Canadian citizen held at Guantánamo Bay and denied the legal protection afforded by his citizenship; working toward its plan to carry out a project in Uganda; and continuing to serve as a member in the Canadian Coalition on the Rights of Children.
Website: www.dci-canada.org

- **DCI-Colombia** continues to carry out projects on its key subjects: political advocacy, children and adolescents in conflict with the law, violence against children (especially sexual violence), children/youth in armed conflict, and indigenous children/youth. Among its recent achievements are the training/capacity-building of over 100 mediators in contexts of juvenile justice; awareness-raising for 50 adolescents on issues like alcohol and drug abuse, theft, and assault; dialogues with public school teachers on the risks of "double discourse" (inclusion and tolerance on the one hand, repression and punishment and the other); political advocacy and interventions to emphasise the protection of children's rights and, specifically, to prevent a decrease in the legal age of criminal responsibility for adolescents; management of the project "Protection Mechanisms for Women, Children and Families in the Mitú-Vapués Municipality," which focuses on rights for indigenous communities as part of a larger project on armed conflict in rural areas; and maintaining an active role in COALICO, the Colombian coalition against the involvement of children and young people in armed conflict.

- **DCI-Costa Rica**'s multiple current projects include: the 'Among Friends Project' (supporting the process of social reintegration for 130 minors who had been excluded or at risk of exclusion from the educational system); the 'Artistic Nature Project' (strengthening adolescents' participation and agency in order to promote and defend their human rights in community life); the 'Helping Hand Project' (preventing child trafficking and sexual exploitation and assisting recuperation of its victims); the 'Alternate Routes Project' (co-implemented throughout Central America in promotion of specialised juvenile justice systems); participation in the DCI Regional Programme on Juvenile Justice; participation in the 'Strengthening the Global March against Child Labour in Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean' project with other national coalitions; the 'InterActing Project' (encouraging greater protection of adolescents engaged in domestic labour from abuse and exploitation); a project on 'Adolescents, Violence, and the Media' (developing tools to confront the relationship between adolescents and violence in the national print media); and participation in the 'ANDI Network on the Communicate with Respect Project' (stressing child rights in public policy and the media).
Website: http://www.dnicostarica.org/

- In 2011, **DCI-Ecuador** realised a qualitative study on the state of child labour in situations of working in the streets and a diagnostic assessment of child labour in the fields of construction, mining and masonry. DCI-Ecuador also contributed to several initiatives on HIV/AIDS prevention for young people; collected and analysed data on sexual offences committed against children and adolescents in the tourist industry; and it is currently partway through the creation of an observatory on the operation of the juvenile justice system. In addition, DCI-Ecuador is working in coordination with the national Ministry of Justice and with UNICEF to conduct training activities for personnel involved in the justice system.

- **DCI-Paraguay**, in anticipation of Paraguay's first Universal Periodic Review (10th session of the UN Human Rights Council), contributed to the national report prepared by the government, as well as producing its own report for submission on key human rights issues. Together with the Paraguayan Human Rights Institute, it also produced a report focusing on the most urgent factors affecting the state of children's rights in Paraguay, submitting a series of concrete recommendations to the government. DCI-Paraguay continues to focus its programmatic work on children in conflict with the law, and collaborates with the DCI Regional Programme on Juvenile Justice toward the prevention of institutional violence in the Paraguayan juvenile justice system.

- **DCI-Uruguay** - an active member of the DCI Regional Programme on Juvenile Justice - continued to realise its online platform for distance learning, a project that - since its inception in 2008 - has trained over 750 actors largely involved in the Uruguayan juvenile justice system. The program's 2010-2011 courses focused on measures alternate to the deprivation of liberty; 230 actors took part, including many from the formal education system, members of social organisations, and various professionals from other South American countries. DCI-Uruguay is also the coordination site of the Uruguayan Committee on the Rights of the Child, collaborating with other child-focused institutions to monitor juvenile detention centres on the local level and to advocate on national/international levels against human rights violations occurring in the country. Through its 'Tools Project', it has worked to strengthen socio-educational measures in the juvenile justice system; recent efforts include preparing individualised reports for judges on the cases of children in the program in order to provide statistics on the positive impact of such measures.
Website: www.dniu.org.uy

3. Asia and Pacific

- **DCI-Australia** has continued its work as a member of the Child Rights Taskforce in Australia, recently participating in the preparation of an NGO Report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. In October, DCI-Australia's director was a lead member of the corresponding delegation to Geneva, likewise supporting a young person's travel to Geneva for the presentation of the report. In its programmatic work, DCI-Australia continues to prioritise the situation of indigenous children and youth, juvenile justice, and the state's treatment of refugee and immigrant children and youth. In its annual general meeting in December, the section re-endorsed its organisational objectives and voted in a new committee.
Website: www.dci-au.org

- SPARC (**DCI associated member in Pakistan**) has currently over 50 Child Rights Committees (CRCs) carrying out diverse advocacy campaigns across five provinces in Pakistan and which are strengthened by following a coordinated mechanism at the district level. These CRCs also provide legal aid to juvenile inmates and monitor/follow up on cases of violence against minors; SPARC has conducted capacity-building courses for CRCs on child protection and cases of violence and sexual abuse. In various parts of Pakistan, SPARC has trained police, prison officials and training judges on child rights and juvenile justice; prepared education materials for distribution on child labour and bonded labour; published, launched and shared (in English and Urdu) the Concluding Observations and Recommendations of the UN CRC with stakeholders, in addition to distributing a child-friendly version to child rights clubs and the Children's Parliament of Pakistan; consolidated and synthesised existing data on harmful traditional practices; and conducted legal reform advocacy in cooperation with the National Commission for Child Welfare and Development and multiple ministries and commissions dealing with justice and social welfare. In September, SPARC delivered a presentation at the Committee on the Rights of the Child's Day of General Discussion on the children of imprisoned parents in Pakistan; during 2011 SPARC also held a conference on "Contemporary Forms of Slavery," seeking to eliminate the practice of child labour.
Website: www.sparcpk.org

4. Europe

- **DCI-Belgium**, together with other organisations in Belgium's national coalition of child rights NGOs, contributed data, concerns and recommendations on priority children's rights issues to two reports issued in anticipation of Belgium's Universal Periodic Review at the UN Human Rights Council. In January, DCI-Belgium, together with IDAY-International, organised a two-day workshop on the situation of minors deprived of liberty in Africa, particularly focusing on their right to education. In the same month, DCI-Belgium (together with DCI-IS and the Vice-Presidency of DCI-Europe) also held a seminar on juvenile justice in Europe and the Middle East, attended by DCI sections from both regions. Additionally, along with DCI-France, DCI-Belgium co-led a coalition of national and international associations organising an opinion tribunal focusing on the case of foreign children detained in France waiting to be repatriated.
Website: www.dei-belgique.be

- **DCI-Czech Republic** (DCI-Czechia) worked through various channels to raise public awareness about the CRC, including by attending the annual assemblies of the National Parliament of Children and Youth and disseminating publications on important child rights' documents at youth meetings and NGO gatherings. Along with other NGOs, DCI-Czechia contributed to an alternative report on the implementation of the CRC in the country and organised the 15th parliamentary seminar on this subject. DCI-Czechia administers 'ANO', the Czech national coalition for children's rights, through which the section collected contributions from other NGOs for the abovementioned report. DCI-Czechia has also continued its long-term cooperation with the children's association 'Duha' (Rainbow), which runs a nation-wide participatory system of child/youth parliaments; it also initiated an exchange project, in cooperation with the Irish NGO 'Voluntary Service International', between Irish and Czech volunteers.
Website: www.dcicz.org

- **DCI-France**, as mentioned above, co-led (along with DCI-Belgium) a coalition of national and international associations to organise an opinion tribunal, composed of international experts, to discuss the case of foreign children detained in France waiting to be repatriated.
Website: www.dei-france.org

• **DCI-Italy** launched the 'Manuale Dignitas', a tool that establishes directions and guidelines aimed at reducing the vulnerability and promoting resources for people who seek protection in Italy. Created within the framework of the activities of the European Refugee Fund, the manual outlines a content map directed toward all those who work directly or indirectly in systems for the reception of refugees and persons seeking international protection. DCI-Italy also participates in the regional "Daphne III" project, specifically contributing to the programme "Closing the Protection Gap for Separated Children in Europe," which seeks to protect unaccompanied minors through various protection institutions in eight European countries. Additionally, DCI-Italy is involved in providing information, analysis and trainings through Centres for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (CARA), supporting operators of the centres themselves as well as those people they serve, especially minors. The section is also active in national initiatives and proposals submitted to the government that focus on Italian immigration law.
Website: www.defenceforchildren.it

• **DCI-Netherlands** (EPCAT) continued its multiple juvenile justice initiatives, including a research project on police detention in the Netherlands; a brochure on children in police detention; child rights training for youth probation officers; a helpdesk that provides advice on juvenile justice; a handbook on international youth law; the production of House, a magazine for children not residing at home; and participation in a working group on the issue of privacy rights versus the registration of minors in the national DNA database. Through diverse collaborations with government bodies and other NGOs, DCI-Netherlands continues to counsel individual cases of children in conflict with the law; lobby for the effective use of alternatives to detention and diversion; advocate for a special paragraph in legislation concerning privacy rights and the registration of DNA material; and provide capacity-building for minors in conflict with the law. DCI-Netherlands also produced the "Best Interests of the Child" article, establishing the ideal conditions for child development and protection; released a report on the situation of minors in pre-trial detention; and is embarking on the Girl Power Project, which works with three DCI sections in Africa: Sierra Leone, Ghana and Liberia.
Website: http://www.defenceforchildren.nl/

5. Middle East

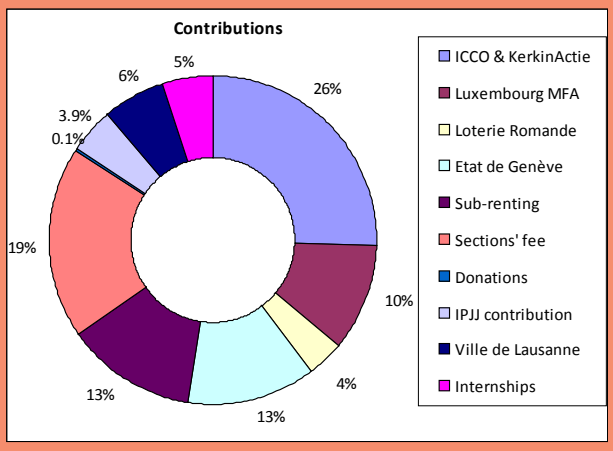
• **DCI-Palestine** celebrated its 20th anniversary this year. As part of its work to act holistically within the Palestinian context of social change, the section visited numerous West Bank governorates, holding workshops to assess their needs and gather resources; lobbied and advocated before the Palestinian Authority to intensify support for these communities according to their own priorities; and enhanced internal capacity-building, holding trainings on subjects like the CRC, advanced understanding of juvenile justice systems, etc. On the local level, DCI-Palestine took part in the Ninth National Children's Conference at An-Najah University, linking academics and child rights practitioners and working on a magazine that will serve as a tool toward this end; on the regional level, it held a meeting in Amman for NGOs from Yemen, Libya, Egypt, Jordan and Bahrain in order to encourage new DCI sections and expand regional juvenile justice work. DCI-Palestine worked to strengthen its newly established Children's Council, an elected group of children that will actively participate in the section's planning and programs. It sent a representative to the Congress on "Detention and Torture against Minors", held in Rome in May, in order to discuss the situation of Palestinian children detained in Israeli prisons. It also launched the reports "Bound, Blindfolded and Convicted: Children Held in Military Detention" and "Voices from East Jerusalem: the Situation Facing Palestinian Children", which focus on the violation of Palestinian children's rights, and continued its legal representation of Palestinian children in the Israeli military courts.
Website: http://www.dci-palestine.org/

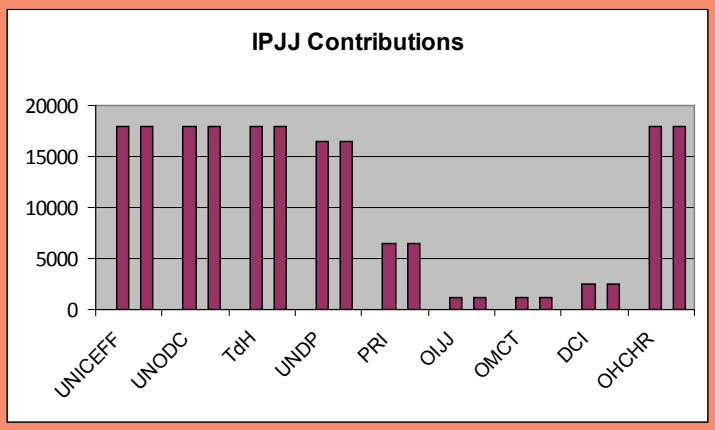
IX. An Overview of DCI-IS Funding Sources in 2011

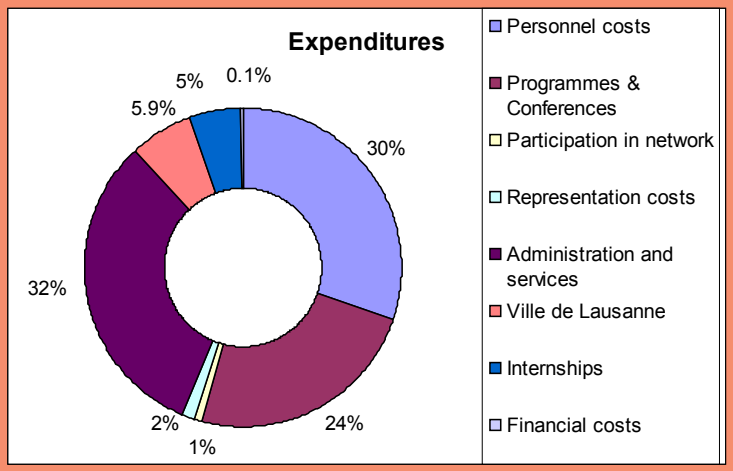
Throughout 2011, DCI's activities continued to be funded by the following organisations:

- ICCO/Kerk In Actie, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg, and Loterie Romande, Solidarité Internationale (Canton of Geneva) for DCI's Strategic Plan of Action on Juvenile Justice and for the Kampala Conference
- UNODC, UNICEF, OHCHR, UNDP, Terre des Hommes, PRI, OMCT, and IOJJ for the functioning of a permanent secretariat for the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice
- All DCI national sections that provided membership fees to support the International Secretariat.

Below are figures of contributions made to DCI's activities and organizational expenditures:







X. DCI-IS Staff and International Executive Council in 2011

1. Staff of DCI-IS

Executive Director	Ileana Bello
Advocacy Officer	Aisha Rahamatali
Communications Officer	Robin Myers
Coordinators of the IPJJ Secretariat	Séverine Joliat
Coordinator of Resource Centre	Camille Kryspin
Interns and Volunteers	Daouda Faye, Daniella De Sostoa, Lucas Orozco Martín, Anya Barry, Tommaso Atzeni, Elliot Postlewait, Elly Pello-Esso, Anna D. Tomasi, Maria André, Ana De Giorgio Susanna Langholm, Anna Mertz

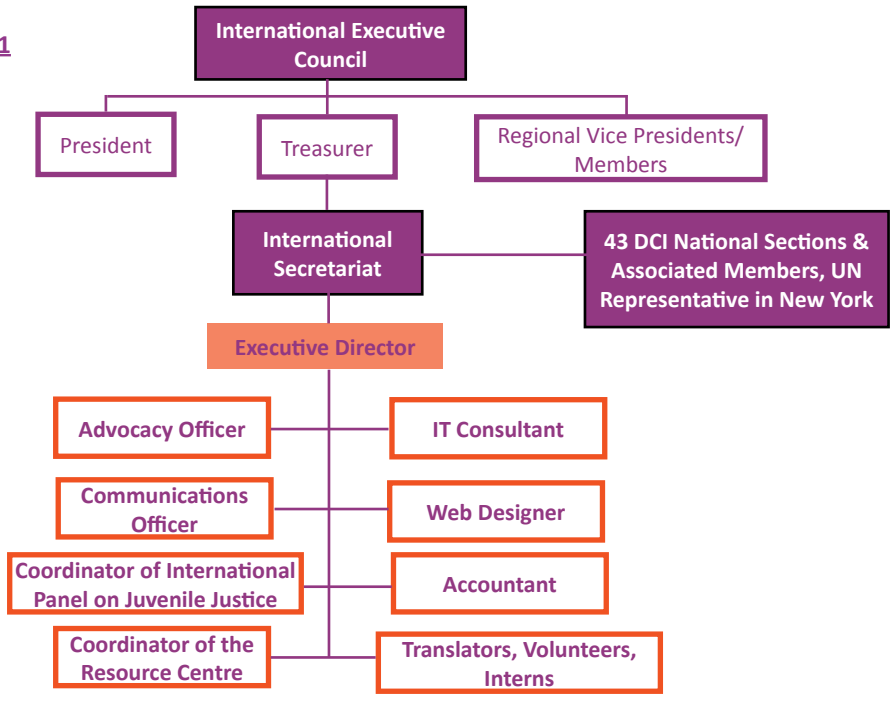
DCI-IS's work is also generously supported by a network of volunteer translators.

2. Members of the International Executive Council (IEC)

President	Rifat Odeh Kassis
Treasurer	Benoit Van Keirsbilck
Vice President, Africa	Abdul Manaff Kemokai
Vice President, Americas	Marcos Guillén
Vice President, Europe	Jean-Luc Rongé
Vice President, Asia, the Pacific and the Middle East	Rifat Odeh Kassis
Member	Laurencio Akohin
Member	Juan Pedro Fumeiro

In 2011 the IEC only met once in person in Kampala, Uganda. The other meetings were held through teleconference.

DCI Organizational Chart 2011



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