

CHILD MARRIAGE IN LEBANON AND SYRIA MOVEMENT

Organiser / s: The Annas Linnas Association

Date / s: 20-11-2013 at 4:30 p.m - 6:30 p.m

Venue: the SLNHA (CNTSL) Badaro , Beirut

Country: Lebanon

Other participants or organizations / NGOs / authorities : GNRC and SLNHA

Number of participants and their countries of origin (exact or approximate number) : 30 people in Lebanon representing social organizations and schools as the Sisters of the Holy Family Maronite Development Association and social reception , college st . Savior, Association of childhood Antonine sisters ... two journalists, a photographer, a TV. Ten Lebanese and Syrian children age 8-15 years

Number of facilitators (professional experience / expertise in short) : four experienced in social work with children of Syrian refugees and street children people.

Activities: workshops / role playing / seminars / group discussions / projections / songs & dances / shows / tours / lecture and group discussion.

Documents / Manuals / Tools: Common Prayer printed on a sheet , color brochures . Also displayed on the computer .

Location of Various activities: Hall / conference / Parks / theaters / schools / stadiums: Conference Room

GNRC participants / facilitators: P. Abdo Raad , representing the GNRC in Lebanon. (It should still have an official delegation of the GNRC, if accepted GNRC) .

Personalities / sponsors present and their contribution: Mayors , deputies , ministers ... / GNRC volunteers , members, employees : Three Sheikh , a priest and a social worker of Abaad Association , sisters, representatives of associations.

Goal / outcome / impact / Resolution:

The meeting had a good impact and all of the presenters expressed their thoughts to the assembly. The conclusion that everyone agreed on was the rejection of all forms of violence and coercion in marriage and child trafficking.

Journalist Sawt el Mada asked if it is dangerous for children to attend a conference of this kind. The same children responded and they recounted their personal experiences, what they hear on the street and what they see in the media. They appealed to have the right to participate in such conferences and have correct and pertinent information to lead their lives and to defend themselves in case of danger.

Children who participated are aware of what is happening in the street, they go watch TV and discuss their parents, and they want to participate in future seminars to educate and provide proper knowledge.

A number of participants stressed the importance of awareness and the creation of laws to protect children, especially against the sexual abuse and exploitation of small Syrian girls who are the prime victims.