

SOS Children's Villages International Call with the IRP, 30.04.2019

Minutes

Participants:

- Norbert Meder, CEO, SOS Children's Villages International (SOS CVI)
- Mahan Amarnath, Head of Organisational Development, SOS CVI
- Kristina Ver Foley, Chief of Staff, SOS CVI
- Manuela Radelsböck, CEO Office, SOS CVI
- Jeremy Sandbrook, Independent Review Panel (partly unable to attend due to electronic connection issues)
- Ezgi Akarsu, Programme Manager, Accountable Now

The call allowed an opportunity to discuss the Independent Review Panel's feedback on SOS CVI's 2017 accountability report. The Independent Review Panel **had overwhelmingly positive feedback on the report** and as there were no major areas for improvement, the call served as a chance to agree on what points to focus on in SOS' next interim report.

SOS CVI shared that the **Panel's feedback has been motivating**, and that the reporting process is worth the additional workload it can create. SOS CVI has shared parts of its report and of the Independent Review Panel feedback with its legal body of the International Senate, ensuring top-level awareness.

In future, **SOS CVI will focus on improving the structure and succinctness of their reports**, and is considering how to make their reports easier to share. The Secretariat offered to share examples of some different reporting formats, as well as good practice examples on question 4.4 regarding internal stakeholders.

A point of clarification was around the Panel's recommendation on Conflicts of Interest. The Secretariat confirmed that a new policy document is not necessarily needed, but that examples of how conflicts of interest are tracked and handled would be helpful. SOS CVI said they could provide such examples in their next report.

In addition to providing an update on conflicts of interest as requested by the panel, it was agreed that in their **next interim report**, SOS CVI will provide more information on resource allocation. The development of a consolidated financial report is planned for 2019. They will also focus on advocacy positions and public awareness campaigns, as there are several relevant activities taking place this year which they can report on.

SOS CVI will aim to submit their interim accountability report in December 2019, and **will work towards quicker submission timelines** in future years. This will be



challenging as internal systems and processes will need to be adjusted, but a submission in autumn of 2020 could be feasible. SOS CVI will look further into internal processes, and whether a June/July deadline could be possible for 2021. The Secretariat is happy to help SOS CVI in their efforts.

Minutes established by: Ezgi Akarsu, Programme Manager, Accountable Now