

# Terre des Hommes International Federation

*For children, their rights  
and equitable development*

Accountable Now  
Independent Review Panel  
Secretariat - International Civil Society Centre  
Agricolastraße 26  
10555 Berlin  
Germany

Geneva, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Dear Independent Review Panel,

The International Secretariat of the Terre des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF-IS) is grateful for your feedback on our second Accountability Report. We intend to make a response plan with regards to your valuable comments and to implement it in the course of the coming years.

Regarding the general comments of the Panel, the TDHIF-IS is well aware of the trends mentioned in your letter and our main feedback mechanism is for the moment through our membership in the Keeping Children Safe network which has granted "Level one Certification" to the Terre des Hommes network on 8 April 2016. However responding to feedback from stakeholders, for example in the context of our Destination Unknown Campaign to protect children on the move, is also seen by the TDHIF-IS as a crucial project in construction and we are improving it year by year with increased participation from children and youth on the move.

Working in partnership with local communities is one of the main features of the Terre des Hommes programmes. As the Terre des Hommes network is fairly decentralised, there are several channels through which this is realised and they are to be brought closer together along the path of increased collaboration between the Terre des Hommes organisations at field level. In this regard, the role of the TDHIF-IS is to support the Terre des Hommes organisations to consolidate collaboration in their programming. The TDHIF-IS is also well aware of the fact that measuring impact outlines the Terre des Hommes contribution to the improvement of the lives of communities we support which is driven by the communities themselves. This is why integrating the views and opinions of children to influence policy making and implementation is a key strategy of our work and the acceleration of the child and youth networks are putting the organization on a steep learning curve. The Child's Best Interest Determination and taking the children's views and opinions in all what concerns their future is being mainstreamed in all operational programmes.

The TDHIF-IS also thanks the Independent Review Panel for its specific comments to Terre des Hommes. It has so far joined Accountable Now as an International Secretariat and is therefore reporting on that basis. The Terre des Hommes organisations member of the network abide by different accountability mechanisms and thematic certifications, often but

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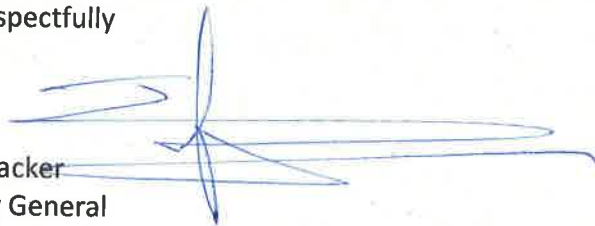
*An international non-governmental network in consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC, UNICEF, the ILO and the Council of Europe.*

not only, at national level. Accountability and transparency are high on their agenda. The TDHIF-IS can progressively include reporting on these in its future reports, possibly in taking one TDH organisations as a start. The role of an international Secretariat in the network is also to provide opportunities for Terre des Hommes organisations to share their best practices and progress towards common frameworks for activities and measurement.

The TDHIF-IS has taken good note of all your other comments. It will strive to take adequate measures to respond to them or, if applicable, to explain why they cannot yet be put in place. Areas such as reporting on internal controls, providing further detailed evidence, strengthening direct accountability to affected children all are in development.

The TDHIF-IS sees the path towards accountability and transparency as a journey. We are aware that this process is also a learning exercise and we thank the Independent Review Panel for its support in this regard.

Yours Respectfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ignacio Packer  
Secretary General