GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR ADVANCING HOLISTIC CHILD DEVELOPMENT

SOUTH ASIA CONSULTATION ON CURRICULUM AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SAC-CARD) FOR HCD

11-14TH FEBRUARY 2009, BANGALORE

REPORT OF THE SAC-CARD-HCD

The South Asia Consultation on Curriculum and Resource Development for HCD (SAC-CARD-HCD) was planned as part of the Global Alliance for Advancing Holistic Child Development to promote awareness about children at risk and HCD programmes in theological seminaries and special institutes in South Asian countries. It is a follow up achievement of the two major programmes conducted on Academic area in Chiang Mai, Thailand and Fuller Theological Seminary, USA. As the South Asia Representative of GA-HCD, I thank Dr. Dan Brewster and his team in Compassion for identifying me and giving me the responsibility of promoting HCD in South Asian countries. I am also thankful to Christian Forum for Child Development (CFCD) which is the Regional Alliance of GA-HCD and a potential source in promoting HCD in and around India. CFCD did a tremendous job in co-operating with me in arranging first the SAC-CARD from 11th to 14th Feb 09 at Frontier Management Centre, Bangalore.

I. Organizing Committee and Key Resource persons

1. *The Organizing Committee included the following representatives*:

Dr. Chris Gnanakan – Chairman of CFCD

Mr. Thomas Swaroop – Vice Chairman of CFCD and Staff of Compassion

Dr. Samson Prabakaran – Consultant, Viva-India

Pastor C. Sekar – Secretary of CFCD and Prayer Secretary of Indian Missions Association

Mr. Paterson Lamech – Treasurer, CFCD and Staff of Child Focus, Assembly of God

Dr. J.B. Jeyaraj – GA-SA –Representative and Coordinator of the SAC-CARD

2. *The Key Resource persons included the following*:

Dr. Dan Brewster – International Director for Advocacy, Compassion and General Secretary of GA-HCD, Malaysia (On HCD curriculum)

Dr. Brian Wintle – Regional Secretary, ATA – India (Bangalore) (On ATA regulations)

Mr. Chacko Chacko – Librarian, GFA, Kerala (On Resource Building)

Mr. Prasad Phillips - Staff of TAFTEE, Bangalore (on Resource Building)

Dr. Siga Arles – Director, CFCC, Bangalore (on M.Th/Ph.D. programme)

Dr. J.B. Jeyaraj – GA-SA Representative (on HCD Curriculum Development and MA-HCD)

II. NEED AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTATION

1. To discuss the nature and components (Biblical, Theological, Contextual, Ecclesiastical, Ministerial, Missional, etc) of the curriculum of HCD.
2. To discuss about fullfledged HCD programmes (with the focus on MA and M.Th and Ph.D) and list the subjects, requirements and accreditations. Some of the Core/optional courses can be used for M.Div and Diploma courses by slightly altering the standard according to M.Div or Diploma.
3. To present model syllabus from seminaries offering courses on HCD
4. To identify and request teachers to write syllabus and course material.
5. To discuss and build the Resources (Faculty training, books and journals, CDS, Rsearch topics,etc)
6. To plan for faculty training in different regions of India and Countries in South Asia.

III. List of the Participants

Totally 37 persons participated in this consultation representing different regions such as North India, South India and North East India and nations such as Sri Lanaka, Nepal and Bangladesh. Some of them could not make it due to sickness and other commitments. Thus 29 institutions and 3 NGOs were presented. Some of the participants from overseas and long distance arrived on 11th Feb . (The full list is given in the Appendix at the end). The Organizing Committee met on 11th evening for final check up of the logistics and programmes.

IV. Inauguration and Days event

On 12th Feb morning, the consultation was inaugurated with an opening worship service and devotion by Dr. Ajit Fernando, the Executive Director of Youth For Christ, Sri Lanka. This was followed by welcoming the participants and introducing them. Each day' event began with

worship service and short devotion led by key leaders viz. Dr. J. Sunderaraj, Principal, Allahabad Bible Seminary and Dr. Roger Gaikward, Principal, Aizwal Theological College, Mizoram.

V. HCD CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE BUILDING

1. Curriculum and Syllabus

Dr. Dan Brewster explained the definition of HCD, its purpose and goals and pointed out various themes such as CAR, CIC, Future Generation, Child Theology, Nurturing, Mission of the Church, Training of care givers, etc included in the broad category of HCD which is an overarching umbrella. He also explained the components of HCD curriculum and informed the programmes going on MBTS and other parts of the world.

Dr. J.B. Jeyaraj explained the need for HCD programmes in theological colleges in India and nearby countries. He presented the model syllabus of courses offered in Indian seminaries.

2.ATA Requirments

Dr. Brian Wintle, the Regional Secretary of ATA explained the need for new programmes such as HCD in ATA colleges, the requirements to get accredited the HCD programmes at MA and M.Th level and encouraged the participants to plan for HCD education in their institutions.

3.Advocacy for Indian Seminaries

Dr. Samson Prabakaran presented a report of the Advocacy and HCD programmes held in Bangalore, Kolkata, Jorhat and the forthcoming one in Kerala. This survey of the programmes held gave encouragement to the participants that the ground preparation is going on for theological seminaries to take up offering courses in B.Th/M.Div/BD programmes with ATA or SSC.

4.M.A in HCD

The important Agenda of this consultation is to discuss and plan for full-fledged MA in HCD, M.Th in HCD and Ph.D in HCD. So Dr. J.B. Jeyaraj presented a Draft Proposal for MA in HCD with Core and Optional subjects, Practical work, minimum of 60 credits, two years with 4 semesters and course requirements to meet the ATA requirement.

a.After a lengthy discussion, it was suggested to include 4 or 5 Introductory theological subjects in the First Semester of MA for those who are coming with secular degress in order to meet the requirement of ATA. Others who have already done their B.Th or BD can be exempted from the First semester Introductory theological courses and do the courses on HCD in three semesters.

b. Strong opinion was expressed to make MA as professional course with compulsory practical work and report with theological and contextual reflection to be graded as requirement.

c. Writing a thesis is recommended but for those who will find it difficult to write a thesis, an option is suggested to offer courses in lieu of thesis but equivalent to the credit of thesis.

d. It was suggested to get ready the syllabus of all the core and optional subjects before June 2010 so that the colleges can plan to offer MA in June 2010 either in Distance or Residential mode.

5. M.Th and Ph.D in HCD

Dr. Siga Arles presented a draft proposal for M.Th and Ph.D in HCD with core and optional courses, requirements and schedule to offer Ph.D. from 2009 itself in his institute.

a. During the discussion, it was pointed out that HCD is much broader than Christian Education which is only a component of HCD and the Core and Optional courses need to be at a higher level with a difference from MA in HCD.

b. It was also suggested to plan the M.Th in HCD in accordance with the requirements of SSC and ATA if different colleges want to offer M.Th in HCD either in Distance or Residential mode.

c. Regarding the Ph.D in HCD, Dr. Siga Arles was encouraged to offer it through his Centre for Contemporary Christianity (CFCC) at Bangalore following the model of CIME programme and seek accreditation from ATA or some other agency.

6. Resource Building:

Mr. Chacko Chacko and Mr. Prasad Phillips as Resource Building Team (RBT) prepared a bibliography of the books, articles, reports, etc available on children for about 46 pages and presented them to the participants. The Librarians of different seminaries among the participants met during the Consultation and discussed about resource building. They raised an important question about updating and making the list available through web-site. The participants were convinced that there is enough material available to offer HCD courses in their institutions.

a. During the discussion, it was suggested to have a separate website section called South Asia HCD resources within the website on HCD maintained by Global Alliance from Malaysia. Dr. Dan Brewster is requested to look into this need and be in touch with Mr. Chacko and Prasad, the Resource Building Team.

b. It was suggested to request some major publishers like OM, TBT, ISPCK, CFCC, ATC to contact overseas publishers on HCD and get the rights to publish the key books on HCD in India itself for the sake of South Asian countries.

c. The participants were encouraged to write articles and books on HCD and get them published and inform the Resource building Team.

7. Groups and writing Syllabus

The participants were divided into 11 groups and provided abstract of each subject so that they can write the first draft of the syllabus for the assigned course. They were asked to follow a uniform format in writing the syllabus viz. Introduction, Objectives of the course, Goal of the programme, Learning Experience and Outcome, Course outline in 4 or 5 units and bibliography. These groups have worked out tentative draft which need to be checked and modified by a group of scholars in Bangalore.

a. It was suggested that the writing of final draft for all the basic core and optional subjects should be finalized before Jan 2010 and compiled and made available for the colleges offering courses.

b. The writing of the syllabus for the rest of the subjects should continue by identifying suitable writers and be edited.

c. It was suggested, if possible, to compile the syllabus of all the courses and get them published as a Curriculum book on HCD with Editorial comments, instructions on using the syllabus, possible teaching methods, evaluation procedures, etc.

8. Academic Programme Committee for HCD Education in South Asia (APC-HCD-SA)

There were a few important questions in connection with promoting HCD education viz. Who owns the HCD programmes of MA,M.Th and Ph.D? How do we facilitate the HCD education in South Asian seminaries? The CFCD, one of the regional alliance of GA and the main organizer of this consultation felt that it should be owned and facilitated by a common Academic Council with representations from the institutions offering HCD full-fledged programmes. So the co-ordinator of the Consultation sought the advice of the Regional Secretary of ATA. It was suggested to avoid the term Academic Council but to form an Academic Programme Committee of HCD education to facilitate it in South Asia. This was brought to the discussion in the consultation and the following arrangement is made for the time being to facilitate the HCD education in South Asian seminaries with the co-operation of GA-SA and CFCD..

Members of the APC-HCD-SA

Core members:

i. Mr. Thomas Swaroop – representing Compassion and CFCD, Bangalore
ii. Mr. Prasad Phillips – Resource Building Team, Bangalore
iii. Mr. Chacko Chacko - Resource Building Team, Kerala

iv. Dr. Paul Mohan Raj – Curriculum Consultant

v. Dr. Roger Gaikward - Curriculum Consultant

vi. Dr. J.B. Jeyaraj – representing GA-SA (Coordinator of APC-HCD-SA) and CFCD.

Institutional Members:

i. Indian Pentecostal Church – Kottayam Seminary – Kerala (represented by the Principal or Academic Dean)

ii. Allahabad Bible Seminary, Allahabad, UP (represented by Dr. J. Sunderaraj, Principal of ABS)

iii. Centre for Contemporary Christianity, Bangalore (represented by Dr. Siga Arles, Director of CFCC)

iv. Clarks Theological College, Nagaland (represented by the Principal or Academic Dean)

Some more seminaries in India and nearby countries planning to offer MA/M.Th/Ph.D shall also join the APC-HCD-SA after they finalize their decision.

The following responsibilities are suggested for APC-HCD-SA:

i. To prepare syllabus and curriculum for HCD education

ii. To build resource material and make it available to colleges

iii. To prepare Reader material for each subject.

iv. To organize Faculty Training in various regions.

v. To help institutions in enabling and developing their HCD progrmmes (MA.M.Th,Ph.D).

vi. To inform and encourage colleges to make use of Visiting professors to teach courses in their institutions.

vii. To consult ATA and SSC to facilitate HCD education and accreditations.

viii. To inform the developments and progress of HCD education in SA to the Global Alliance of HCD as APC-HCD will be part of GA-SA region.

We may have to add more roles for the APC-HCD-SA as it develops in the near future. The key policies regarding fees, mode of education, semester or term system, network with churches and

NGOs for practical work, etc are left to the individual institution, discuss and make policies suitable to their institutions and context when they meet in APC-HCD-SA..

VI. MAJOR OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATION

In addition to initiating the First Curriculum Consultation on HCD bringing various scholars form different countries and all over India, bringing more awareness about HCD education, and fostering fellowship and uniting on the cause of children, the following major outcome can be listed.

1. The aims and objectives of the consultation presented on the first day, were reviewed on the last day and they were achieved to a certain extent of 75-80 % within the short period of three days. Offering full-fledged M.A, M.Th and Ph.D in HCD was accepted in general and affirmed and the requirement for each programme was discussed.

2. Two institutions (Allahabad Bible Seminary and IPC Kottayam seminary) have come forward to offer MA in HCD from June 2010 and One institution (CFCC, Bangalore) is to offer M.Th and Ph.D in HCD. Two more institutions (CTC, Nagaland and SIBS, Bangarapet) have expressed their interest to offer MA but will consult their Board of Management and make a decision.

3. Syllabus writing began in this consultation. Various writers are identified for further writing of syllabus. Contextual realities were regarded and to be included in the curriculum. Faculty training in different regions to be organized once the Curriculum is ready – was suggested as an important need of HCD education to be taken up by GA-SA.

4. ATA's participation gave encouragement to begin the MA in HCD meeting its requirements for accreditation.

5. Building and updating of resources on HCD began by RBT were made available to all the participants through CD.

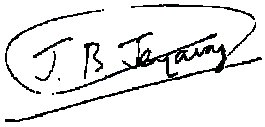
6. Academic Programme Committee for HCD education in South Asia (APC-HCD-SA) is formed with Core and Institutional members to facilitate the HCD education. It will be part of the South Asia regional alliance of GA.

7. The special dinner inviting 35 key local leaders of seminaries, churches and NGOs to join the participants and the information passed on to them during the dinner brought awareness about the need of HCD education, Curriculum and Resource development already going on and the forthcoming MA, M.Th and Ph.D in HCD education in India and nearby countries. They were encouraged to send their staff to do HCD education and teach subjects on HCD in their institutions.

8. The sharing and feed back of all the participants challenged us to improve our network and develop quality HCD education in various regions of India and South Asian countries.

As the Coordinator of the SAC-CARD, I express my thanks to Dr. Dan Brewster, Compassion and GA-HCD, Organizing Committee, CFCD volunteers, worship team, Resource Building team, FMC and all the participants and resource persons.

The Consultation came to a close with a brief worship thanking the Lord Jesus Christ and giving all the glory and honour to God.



Dr. J.B. Jeyaraj
GA-HCD – South Asia Regional Representative, Coordinator of the SAC-CARD-HCD.
20th Feb. 2009.

APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF THE INSTITUTIONS

INDIA

1. Allahabad Bible Seminary, Allahabad
2. Bishop's College, Kolkatta
3. Aizwal Theological Seminary, Aizwal, Mizoram.
4. SIBS, Bangarapet
5. IPC, Kottayam Seminary, Kerala
6. COTTR. Vishkapattnam
7. Bethel Agricultural Fellowship, Danishpet.
8. TTS, Arasaradi, Madurai
9. GFA, Believers' Church, Kerala
10. ICCS, OM, Secunderabad.
11. Lady Doak College, Madurai.
12. Nazarene Bible College, Bangalore
13. Bethel Bible College, Punalur, Kerala
14. Mt. Terogvu Theological College, Nagaland
15. SABC, Kothanoor
16. Child Focus India
17. AG Church, Kothanur

18. International Council for Higher Education, Koramangala, Bangalore
19. TAFTEE, Bangalore
20. Center For Contemporary Christianity, Bangalore
21. SAIACS, Bangalore
22. India Missions Association, Bangalore
23. Excel Ministries, kerala
24. Lanka Bible College, Sri Lanka
25. Kids Ministries, Sri Lanka
26. Colombo Theological Seminary, Sri Lanka
27. Nepal Ebenezer Bible College, Nepal
28. Teach Ministry, Nepal
29. CCTB, Bangladesh.

NGOs

1. Compassion and its Global Alliance-South Asia
2. Viva – India
3. Christian Forum for Child Development

APPENDIX – II - NAMES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

INDIA

1. Dr. J.Sunderaraj – Allahabad Bible Seminary, Allahabad.
2. Mrs. Elizbeth Giri – Bishop's College, Kolkatta
3. Dr. Roger Gaikward – Aizwal Theological Seminary, Aizwal, Mizoram.
4. Rev. Israel David – SIBS, Bangarapet
5. Rev. Prasanth Bansod – SIBS, Bangarapet
6. Rev. Johnson Mallichetty – SIBS, Bangarapet
7. Rev. Joy T. Samuel – IPC Seminary, Kerala
8. Rev. Abey Peter – IPC Seminary, Kerala.
9. Mr. Reji Samuel – COTTR. Vishkapattnam
10. Dr. Pari Titus – BAF, Danishpet.
11. Mr. Rohan Gideon – TTS, Madurai
12. Mr. Chacko Chacko – GFA, Kerala

13. Dr. Augustine Koshy – ICCS, OM, Secunderabad.
14. Miss Arul Rani – Lady Doak College, Madurai.
15. Jothi Simon – Nazarene Bible College, Bangalore
16. Devadoss Joy – Bethel Bible College, Punalur, Kerala
17. Binu Joseph – Excel Ministries, Kerala
18. Dr. Zanbemo Kithan – Mt. TTC, Nagaland
19. Dr. Samson Prabakaran – Viva –India, Miraj

Bangalore (Local Participants)

20. Mr. Joel Ellis – Child Focus and SABC, Kothanoor
21. Mr. Pat Lamech – SABC/CFCD/Child Focus
22. Rev. Isaac Tharian – AG
23. Dr. Paul Mohan Raj – ICHE, Koramangala
24. Mr. Prasad Phillips– TAFTEE/CFCD
25. Dr. Siga Arles – CFCC, Bangalore
26. Mrs. Mothi Mary – MA student, SAIACS
27. Pastor c. Sekar – Prayer Secretary. IMA
28. Mr. Thomas Swaroop – Compassion and CFCD.

Overseas Participants

29. Mr. Sujith Siri Kumara – LBC, Sri Lanka
30. Mr. Eupul Nishantha Silva – LBC, Sri lanka
31. Mrs. Shantha kumari – Kids Ministries, Sri Lanka
32. Mrs. Lusaka Menuri – CTS, Colombo
33. Mrs. Vanaja Rajkumar– Librarian, CTS, Colombo.
34. Mr. Devanand Kadariya– Teach Ministry, Nepal
35. Dr. Wolf Gang Stauss – CCTB, Bangladesh.
36. Dr. Dan Brewster- Compassion/GA-HCD. Malaysia (Key Resource Person)
37. Dr. J.B. Jeyaraj – Co-ordinator of the Consultation. (Hong Kong/ Madurai)