

ACFID Resolution No. 1/2018

Resolution on Australia's political leaders to remove children and their families trapped on Nauru by Universal Children's Day

Preamble:

- A. A campaign initiated by World Vision Australia was launched on the 20th August by a range of Australian International Non-Government Organisations and refugee and asylum seeker advocacy and service organisations. The campaign called Australia's political leaders to bring every child and their family to Australia by Universal Children's Day on November 20.
- B. Noting that the sector was very concerned about the health of children as a result of the long-term impact of their detention on Nauru. In 2014, the Australian Human Rights Commission reported that children at the processing centre were deeply traumatised psychologically, and had even been abused. In multiple cases in the past seven months, Australian judges have ordered that young children be immediately brought to Australia for care. Three refugees in Nauru have died by suicide.
- C. Noting that The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child was ratified by Australia in 1990. There have been several calls from the UN Committee for the Australian Government to end the detention of children, a violation of their rights and of Article 27 of the Convention which says every child has a right to 'a standard of living adequate for their physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development'.
- D. Noting that since the launch of campaign, over 125 000 people have signed on to the campaign, taking over 13000 actions. Over 300 organisations are campaign supporters, including high profile individuals such as Hugh Jackman, Gillian Triggs, Archbishop Glenn Davies, Julian Burnside QC, Gang of Youths, President of ACTU Michele O'Neil, Simon Holmes a Court. Many ACFID members are also supporting and are active in the campaign.
- E. Noting that as of October 18th, there is now 77 children trapped on Nauru. Children are being medically evacuated on a case by case basis only.

Resolutions/Calls to Action:

ACFID Council resolves that:

No one should be held indefinitely on Nauru and an enduring solution must be found for everyone, especially for vulnerable children

We will work with key organisations and individuals to shine a light on the children on Nauru and raise Australian public awareness of their needs

We will advocate for political leaders to remove the children and their families from Nauru by Universal Children's Day on November 20th

ACFID calls on Australia's Political leaders to:

Bring every child and their family to Australia by Universal Children's Day on November 20th

Resettle children trapped on Nauru in Australia or in another suitable country which welcomes them

Moved: Claire Rogers

Seconded: Helen Szoke