

PRESENTATION

African Committee on Experts on
the Rights and Welfare of the Child
21st session
11h30 to 12h30, 15 April 2013

Mia Dambach, International Social Service
Clare Feinstein, Save the Children
George Nyakora, SOS Children's Villages



MOVING FORWARD: Implementing the 'Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children'



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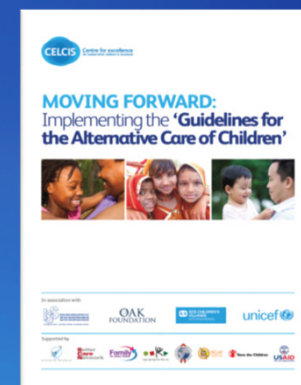


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OUTLINE

ACERWC 21st session
11h30 to 12h30, 15 April 2013



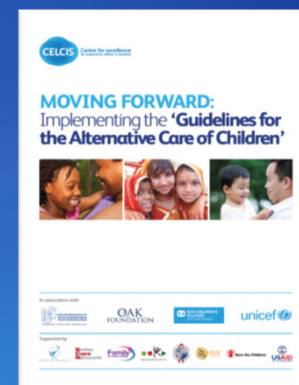
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- Brief introduction to Guidelines
- Core principles of Guidelines
- Need for and development handbook
- Handbook content and general application
- Guidelines and handbook use in Africa
- Conclusions and questions for ACERWC



INTRODUCTION

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11h30 to 12h30, 15 April 2013



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- 2004 lack of detailed international norms (UNICEF and ISS)
- 2005 UNCRC DGD (NGO group est)
- 2006-09 Lobbying efforts led by Group of Friendly States
- 2009 accepted by the UNGA
- 2010+ monitoring implementation and awareness raising

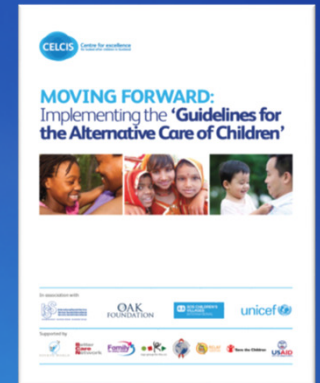


CORE PRINCIPLES

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- « Principle of necessity »
 - Participation of parents and children
 - Promoting and supporting the family
 - Address the factors creating risk

- « Principle of suitability »
 - Identifying the form of care that is the most appropriate, constructive and in the best interests of each individual child

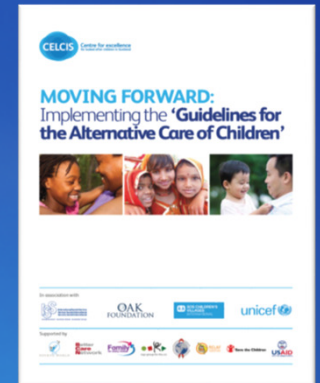


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NEED FOR HANDBOOK

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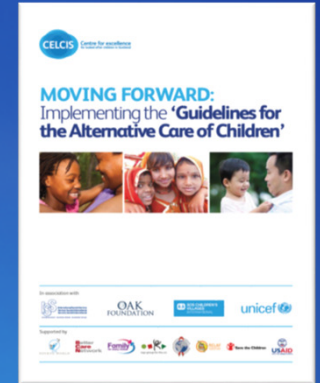
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- Law/policy is a first step but implementation is more difficult
- Professionals requesting more guidance
- What should policies ideally include
- Opportunity for experts and hundreds of professionals present “promising practices” across regions



HANDBOOK DEVELOPMENT

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- **Principal Funders**

- Oak Foundation, SOS Children's Villages International, UNICEF and ISS

- **Other contributions**

- Family for Every Child Russia, NGO Group for the CRC and Save the Children

- **Authors**

- Nigel Cantwell and CELCIS, University of Strathclyde, UK

- **Field tested and professionals**

- Argentina (RELAF) and Malawi (EveryChild, BCN and UNICEF)

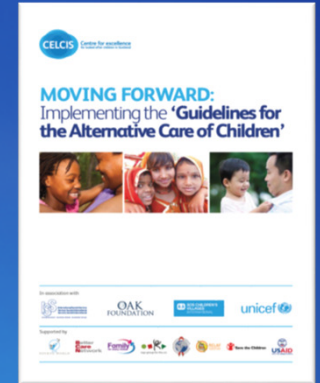
- **Steering group members**

- ATD 4th world, BCN, FFEC, ISS, SOS-CVI and UNICEF



HANDBOOK CONTENT

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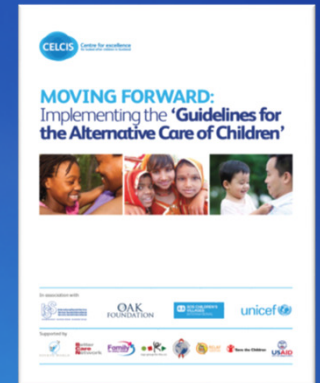
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- www.alternativeguidelines.org
- Policy and practice considerations
- 15 focus issues such as:
 - Strategies for de-institutionalising the care system
 - Protection and support for child-headed households
 - Supporting families to prevent abandonment and relinquishment
 - Supporting appropriate traditional care responses
 - Promoting sustainable reintegration
 - Developing family-based alternative care settings



GUIDELINES IN AFRICA

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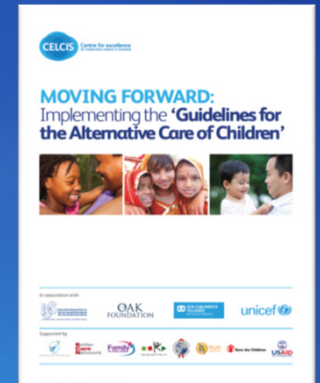
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- Family Based Care conference, Nairobi 2009
- Francophone Conference on Family Strengthening and Alternative Care, Dakar 2012
 - Introduction to the Guidelines
- ICA Conference, Dakar 2012
 - Ratification of HC-93 and promote quality family based care
- AU Family systems meeting, 2012
 - African common position on the family



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The Principle of Necessity

- Preventive Initiatives
- Social Protection Policies
- Child participation
- Example: Protection and support for child-headed households in Rwanda
- Example: Foster care in Togo

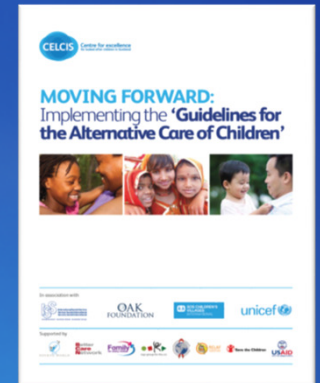


HANDBOOK IN AFRICA

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Principle of Suitability

- Best Interest Determination (BID)
- Engagement of biological families in decision making
- Care-givers capacity
- BASE concept
- Example: Minimum standards for residential and foster care in Namibia

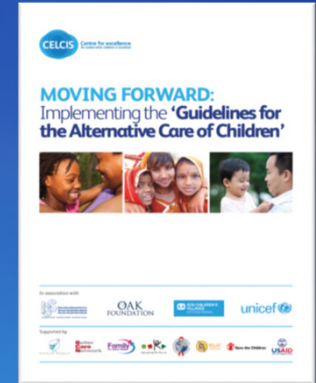


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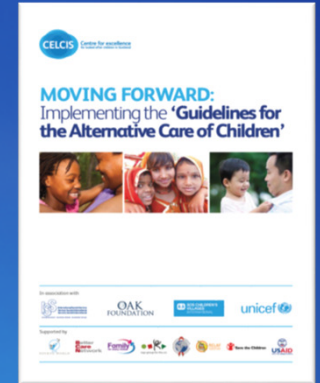
Promoting the guidelines and monitoring their implementation

- Role of the AUC
- Role of DSA
- Role of ACERWC (refer to Guidelines)
- Role of AMC and other CSO in Africa



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Promoting the guidelines and monitoring their implementation

- Q & A
- Plenary discussions

