

**6th BICON on Alternative Care for Children in Asia**

15 and 16 October 2025, Aloft Kuala Lumpur Sentral - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**AGENDA**

**Theme:** Care Reform for Children: A movement for building inclusive societies, resilient families, and thriving children.

**Wednesday 15 October Morning**

**8.00-9.00: Registration and Networking**

**9.00-9.15: Welcome to BICON**

*Moderator: Ms. Su-Anne Lee, UNICEF Malaysia*

- Ms. Dikshya Thapa: Co-ordinator of BICON Care Experienced Reference Group, Shine Together. (Nepal)
- Ms. Surja Chauhan: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group, Udayan Care. (India)
- Dr Kiran Modi: Founder of BICON. Founder and Managing Trustee, Udayan Care. *Setting the Context for BICON 2025.* (India)

**9.15-9.45: Opening Ceremony officiated by the Honourable Minister of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia (tbc)**

- Mr. Robert Gass: UNICEF Malaysia Representative. *Opening remarks.* (Malaysia)
- Tbc: Honourable Minister of Women, Family and Community Development. *Keynote address.* (Malaysia)

*9.45-10.00: Photo opportunity and short break*

**10.00-11.15: Building momentum for care reform for children in Asia in a challenging global context.**

*Moderator: Ms. Anju Pun, Forget Me Not*

- Dr Rinchen Chopel: Member of the CRC and Director General of SAIEVAC. (Bhutan)
- Mr. Wanchai Roujanavong: Former Representative of Thailand to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women (ACWC). (Thailand)
- Undersecretary Janella Ejercito Estrada, Executive Director, National Authority for Child Care, Republic of the Philippines (invited, tbc). (The Philippines)
- (tbc): Representative UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office -FCDO. (UK)

**11.15-12.15: Stories of Innovation 1: Early Childhood Development, Family Strengthening and Inclusive Social Protection.** *Moderator: Mr. Sachin Kumar, Hope and Homes for Children*

- Ms. Juanita Vasquez Escallon: Chief of Social Policy, UNICEF Malaysia. (Malaysia)
- Mr. Raju Ghimire: Voice of Children (VoC), (Nepal)
- Ms. Siti Masyitah Rahma: Muhammadiyah. (Indonesia)
- Ms. Ruma Budha Magar: Representative of the BICON Care Experienced Reference Group, Shine Together. (Nepal)

**Wednesday 15 October Afternoon**

**12.15-13.15: Lunch**

**13.15-14.15: Stories of Innovation 2: Kinship Care, Foster Care and Adoption.**

*Moderator: Mr. Sachin Kumar, Hope and Homes for Children*

- Mr. Subhadeep Adhikary: Thematic Lead – Child Protection, Child in Need Institute (CINI). (India)
- Ms. Ranjana Srivastava: Associate Director Advocacy, Research & Training, Udayan Care. (India)
- Mr. Anderson Selvasagaram: Executive Director, SUKA Society. (Malaysia)
- Ms. Rija Maharjan, Deputy Director, The Himalayan Innovative Society. (Nepal)
- Ms. Nimali Kumari: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group. (Sri Lanka)

**14.15-14.45: Break**

**14.45 -15.15: Amplifying and nurturing innovation:- What role for philanthropy?**

*Moderator: Ms. Anju Pun, Forget Me Not*

- Datuk Dr Hartini Zainudin: Co-Founder Yayasan Chow Kit. (Malaysia)
- Mr. Rishad Surti: Manager, DASRA. (India)

**15.15-16.15: Putting children with disabilities at the heart of care reform initiatives**

*Moderator: Ms. Dorodi Sharma, Keystone Human Services International*

- Mr. Wang Shiou Wu: Taiwan Mad Alliance, Transforming Communities for Inclusion -TCI Fellow
- Mr. Shakil Ahmed: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group, CSID. (Bangladesh)
- Mr. Sachin Kumar: Hope and Homes for Children. (India)

**16.15-17.00: Crisis and the Resilience of Families and Care Experienced**

*Moderator: Ms. Vuthaya Charoenpol, SOS Children's Villages International*

- Mr. Sushil Babu Chhetri: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group. (Nepal)
- Datin Elya Lim Abdullah: Trustee, OrphanCare Foundation. (Malaysia)
- Ms. Mausumi Das: Representative of the BICON Care Experienced Reference Group. (India)

**17.00-17.30 Closing Session of Day One**

*Moderator: Mr. Biranchi Upadhyaya, SOS Children's Villages International*

- Dr Farah Nini Dusuki: Malaysian Children's Commissioner. *Closing remarks.* (Malaysia)
- Ms. Pooja Udayan: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group. *Close and Housekeeping.* (India)

**17.30: Close Day One**

## Thursday 16 October Morning

### 8.00-8.30: Creating the BICON Recommendations

*Moderator: Ms. Gemma Gilham, Family for Every Child*

- Interactive session for all BICON participants.

### 8.30-10.30: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group Takeover

*Moderator: Ms. Gemma Gilham, Family for Every Child*

- Speakers from across Asia.

10.30-10.45: Short Break

### 10.45-11.45: Well-being and mental health - supporting children in alternative care and care experienced young people.

*Moderator: Dr Kiran Modi, Udayan Care*

- Mr. Eric Sivanesh: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group. (Malaysia)
- Ms. Rashila Anisa BK: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group. (Nepal)
- Mr. Shankar Pradhan: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group. (India)

### 11.45-12.45: The power of evidence to unlock care reform

*Moderator: Ms. Ranjana Srivastava, Udayan Care*

- Ms. Louise Cox: Head of Programmes, Martin James Foundation (UK)
- Ms. Khadijah Madihi, Founder, Asia Family First & Senior Advisor on Child Protection Issues (Asia) / International Social Service (ISS). *Example from the Philippines* (Singapore)
- Ms. Andhita Nurul Khasanah, S.Psi., M.Psi., Psikolog: Department of Psychology, Bandung Islamic University. *Research into the drivers of family separation with SOS CVI*. (By video). (Indonesia)
- Dr Gurneet Kalra: Manager, Research and Advocacy, Udayan Care. *Launch of ICB journal*. (India)

12.45-13.45 Lunch

## Thursday 16 October Afternoon

### 13.45-15.45: Delivering systemic approaches to care reform.

*Moderator: Ms. Mikiko Otani, President of Child Rights Connect and Former Chair of the UN CRC*

- Mr. Md Saidur Rahaman Khan: Director General of Social Services (Bangladesh)
- Ms Indra Devi Dhakal: National Child Rights Council Nepal , invited tbc (by video). (Nepal)
- Tbc: Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development. (Malaysia)
- Ms. Apinya Chompumas, Director General, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (invited, tbc). (Thailand)
- Undersecretary Janella Ejercito Estrada, Executive Director, National Authority for Child Care, Republic of the Philippines (invited, tbc). ( The Philippines)
- Mr. Phi No, Director of Child Protection Department, Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (by video). (Cambodia)
- Mr. Prabhat Kumar, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF (India)
- Tbc: Representative of Department of Women & Child Development. ( India)

15.45-16.00 Break

### 16.00-16.30: Presentation of BICON 2025 Recommendations

*Moderator: Ms. Tessa Boudrie, Hope and Homes for Children*

- Ms. Junu Lama: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group, Co-founder, Shine Together (Nepal)
- Tbc: Representative of BICON Organising Committee

### 16.30-17.00: Final Reflections and Close

*Moderator: Ms. Tessa Boudrie, Hope and Homes for Children*

- Ms. Mikiko Otani: President of Child Rights Connect and Former Chair of the UN CRC (Japan)
- Mr. Albert Justin: BICON Care Experienced Reference Group, Miracle Foundation. (India)

17.00 Close of Conference