

**Hadeel Al Asmar (Syrian Arab Republic)**

**Working languages: Arabic and English**



**Current position/function:**

- Vice chair – Rainbow (NGO ) for a better childhood.(2007- 2012)
- Member of the Committee on the Rights of the child – Geneva – (2009-2012)
- Syrian representative in the national forum for early childhood development (2009 – up till now).
- Board member of the Syrian Commission for Family Affairs (2009 – up till now).
- Chairperson of the International Montessori School – Damascus-Syria (2002 – up till now).
- UNESCO coordinator for developing the early childhood sector in Syria: (2008 – 2010).

**Main professional activities:**

- Established two charity Kindergartens in Qunaitra and Damascus provinces.
- Established an interactive room at the national museum where kids can learn and explore the Syrian history.
- Established the first two public libraries in Syria for children and their families in Homs and Lattakia.
- I was appointed by the Ministry of Education to be a member of a committee whose job was to put standards for the Kindergarten curriculum where I was the author of most of it.
- Member of the main Committee in the Ministry of Education for Licensing Private Schools and Other Educational Institutions.
- Developing second Stage of the National Action Plan for developing the early childhood services.
- Author for many materials for building children's character and their daily skills in practical life. Beside that I developed educational material for education for peace.

**Educational Background:**

- PHD in Education from California University – Los Angles.
- Master degree in the Convention in the Rights of the Child from Lebanon University and the Arab Institute of Human Rights in Tunisia (2007).
- International Diploma in Early childhood Education by using Montessori Method from ICME British Centre (2002).

- Bachelor's degree in Economic and Political sciences from Damascus University (1992).

**Other main activities in the field relevant to Children's rights:**

- Board member of the Syrian Commission for Family Affairs (SCFA) who established the first protection unit in Syria for the children and women maltreatment, report and referral.
- Participated in developing the Child rights Laws in Syria.
- Participated with the Ministry of Education in deliberating and preparing the executive instructions for the national private teaching Law in 2005.
- Participated in establishing the first children parliament in Syria.
- Conducting training and raising awareness workshops and courses on Human rights in general and the CRC in specific.
- One of the senior authors for kindergarten governmental curriculum based on playing.
- Participating in reforming and putting standards for the Juvenile justice in Syria.
- Committee member for investigating children rape cases and violence.
- Conducting various training courses in Syria and other Arab countries on child rights.

**List of most recent publication in the field:**

- Facts for life, co-editor. SCFA and UNICEF, 2006.
- Children hearing research in Syria 2007.
- National Rights Law.
- Various training materials and articles for children and women rights.
- Training material for work with children in early childhood stage.
- Materials and articles for educating children on citizenship and other topics that are very important for their skills and dealing with others.
- Training materials for parents and first care givers who work with children.
- Training materials for teachers and people who work in the domain of the mass media on children's rights.
- Updating the ECD action plan for the period of time (2011 – 2015).
- Preparing child' rights action plan according to Concluding Observations that issued on the Committee of the Rights of the Child (2011) and conducting training sessions for governmental groups to fulfill the obligations in a proper way.
- Participating with the committee of the Right of the Child in preparing General Comments for (harmful practices against girl child, the right of the child to be heard, the best interest of the child, the right to play).