



Giving Children Back Their Childhood Since 1989

Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, May 2025

Statement by the Chief Executive Officer

Christina Noble Children's Foundation (CNCF)

Submitted to the 144th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Committee

Concerning the Review of Viet Nam's Fourth Periodic Report under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)

The Christina Noble Children's Foundation (CNCF), a British-founded international non-governmental organisation operating in Viet Nam since 1989, respectfully submits the following statement to the United Nations Human Rights Committee in the context of its review of Viet Nam's Fourth Periodic Report under the ICCPR.

For over 35 years, CNCF has worked in close cooperation with national and local authorities to advance the rights and well-being of children, with a specific focus on those most marginalised and at risk. Our mission is grounded in the conviction that every child, without exception, has the inalienable right to a life of safety, dignity, and opportunity – rights enshrined in both the ICCPR and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Viet Nam is a State Party.

We welcome the Government of Viet Nam's Fourth Periodic Report and acknowledge the significant strides taken to enhance the national human rights framework. The incorporation of constitutional protections and the development of robust legislative and policy instruments in areas including child protection, education, gender equality, anti-trafficking, and justice reform reflect Viet Nam's evolving commitment to upholding the fundamental rights of all individuals, particularly its youngest and most vulnerable citizens.

CNCF has witnessed, in practical and measurable terms, the positive impact of these reforms. In our daily work – delivering integrated programmes in education, healthcare, child safeguarding, and community development – we see how these national commitments are translating into improved outcomes for children and families living in poverty, children with disabilities, and those recovering from trauma and exploitation. In 2024, CNCF Viet Nam programmes directly and indirectly supported almost 20,000 children and families across Viet Nam and, contributing to a cumulative impact reaching over almost 900,000 individuals since our inception.

These gains would not have been possible without an enabling environment for civil society and a cooperative and principled partnership with the Government of Viet Nam. We commend the Government's efforts to facilitate meaningful engagement with INGOs and civil society actors, recognising that inclusive participation is essential to the full realisation of human rights and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

As Viet Nam pursues its strategic vision for equitable and sustainable development, CNCF reaffirms its unwavering commitment to support the Government's efforts to advance the rights of children in accordance with international human rights obligations. We stand ready to deepen our collaboration and to continue contributing constructively to national and local initiatives aimed at ensuring that no child is left behind.

We respectfully urge the Human Rights Committee to acknowledge the progress made by the State Party, while also encouraging continued efforts to ensure the full and effective implementation of the ICCPR, particularly in relation to the protection and promotion of the rights of children and other vulnerable groups.

The Christina Noble Children's Foundation remains steadfast in our partnership with the Government of Viet Nam, civil society, and the international community to build a future in which every child – irrespective of circumstance – can survive, develop, participate, and fulfil their potential as empowered and valued members of society.



Helen C Pistolas MBE

Chief Executive Officer

Christina Noble Children's Foundation

Email: helenita.noble@cncf.org

Tele/Whatsapp: +84 (0) 8230 70324 (VN)

Tele: +44 (0) 7932 517513 (INT)

-
- Address: G Tower 2, 165A Nguyen Van Huong Street, Thao Dien Ward, Thu Duc City, Ho Chi Minh City, **Vietnam**
 - Phone: +84 28 3932 6484
 - Email: vietnam@cncf.org
 - Website: www.cncf.org

Registered in England Charity No. 1007484, Company No. 02680268

Vietnam Licence 86/CNV-VPĐD