

**Submission of Kids' Dream**  
**to the Panel on Constitutional Affairs**  
**on the Hearing of the Second Report**  
**of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("HKSAR")**  
**under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child ("UNCRC")**

**18 November 2013**

Kids' Dream is the first child-led organization established in Hong Kong. We have the mission to promote the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Kids' Dream has submitted shadow report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and has sent representatives to attend both the Pre-Sessional Working Group meeting of the committee in February 2013 and the 64<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee in September 2013.

Full text of the shadow report can be found on our website.

[http://www1.kidsdream.org.hk/20121200\\_ChildrenReportToUN.pdf](http://www1.kidsdream.org.hk/20121200_ChildrenReportToUN.pdf)

In addition to the shadow report, we have prepared a briefing note "What children think about Children's Rights Forum" and submitted it to the members of the Committee in the 64<sup>th</sup> Session.

The briefing note states clearly that **the Children's Right Forum failed to function well and it cannot be a substitute for an independent Children's Commission.** The briefing note is annexed to this submission for members of Panel's reference.

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## **What children think about Children's Rights Forum**

presenting discussion topics, leaving little discussion time, not aimed to help children understand issues involved before seeking their views.

- Did not provide specific questions to ask for our opinions. Children always get lost.
- Chairman was appointed and not selected by children.
- After the Forum, there is little feedback on what views were adopted and what were not, and why.

### **4. No authority**

- Forum is hosted by Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, however, it only takes a coordinating role of inviting other bureaux and departments to present their services. It has no power to influence which action is taken or not taken by these bureaux and departments after the Forum.

**WE DO NOT THINK THE CHILDREN'S RIGHTS FORUM GAUGE CHILDREN'S VIEWS OR SUGGESTIONS IN A WAY THAT IS CLOSE TO THE FUNCTIONS OF A CHILDREN'S COMMISSION.**