Making the BID Guidelines Operational

Please turn to five other colleagues within the room and take out case studies #2 and #6 and review case studies.

After reading the cases on your own discuss them in order to make a recommendation and determination.
Making a Recommendation

What awareness and knowledge is needed in conducting a BID?

What skill sets are needed or required for conducting a BID?

What is the best way to conduct a BID?

What are the essential elements in that make up a good BID?

What rights and facts are you weighing out in order to arrive at a decision?
Principle Skills

Awareness

- Refugee population
- Camp environment
- Cultural perspective
- Community norms
- Political context
- Rights of the Child
- Available care arrangements
- Existing durable solutions
- Child protection
Principle Skills

**Interviewing Skills**

- Listening
- Observing
- Inquiring
- Verifying
- Analyzing
- Writing
- Communicating
Principle Skills

Applying these principle skills are best done from within the context of understanding the role:

- As a neutral partner
- Being objective
- A non-judgmental observer
- Being respectful
- Being an advocate for the child
- Providing resource referrals
- Be Patient
- Being sensitive
Conducting a BID

- Gather all existing documentation
- Inform the family & or child of the process and procedure
- Interview the care givers individually
- Interview the child alone (if feasible due to age and maturity)
- Interview relevant family members in and outside the home
- Interview external community members who may have contact or relationships with the family

This will allow for:

- A verification of information collected
- Develop a strong comprehensive understanding of the child’s past and present care arrangement
- Provide an opportunities to identify any inconsistencies or gaps
Key Elements for a BID

- Clear and concise chronological history of the family and care the child has had.
- Clear understanding of the current care arrangements
- Detailed family dynamics and quality of relationships
- Adequate and comprehensive input from the child based on their age and maturity
- Clear understanding of any physical or mental health issues facing the child
- Formal or informal tracing efforts outlined
- Analysis of current care options available
- Well written report with all necessary information integrated
- Relevantly short, detailed and to the point
Making Recommendation

- **Reviewing all facts**
  - names, ages, dates of birth, last known locations, current care arrangements

- **Considering the child wishes**
  - within the context of their age and maturity
  - emotional needs and feelings
  - strength of their relationship with current caregiver

- **Taking into account the reliability of external sources of information**
  - understanding who provided the information

- **Weighting an assortment of various factors**
  - age, gender, biological parents current situation, current caregivers relationship, length of time with caregivers, type of relationship
Making Recommendation

- Take into account the child's’ immediate and long term protection needs

- Feasibility of available reliable options
  - Living in camp with other relatives
  - Stay in camp in a boarding school
  - Stay in camp alone
  - Stay with a spouse
  - Stay outside camp
  - Go with care givers
  - Return
Arriving at a Decision

- Age
- Gender
- The level of maturity of the child
- Individual circumstances
- Current care arrangements, family support, relationships
- The child’s current living environment
- Length and reasons for separation
- The presence or absence of parents, culturally norm care givers or responsible trustworthy adult
- Presence of risk factors (abuse, neglect, medical…)
Arriving at a Decision

- Age (child & care giver)
- Quality of care givers
- Care giving situation (length of time, strengthen of the relationship)
- Capacity of care giver (age, interest willingness, motivation)
- Understanding of current situation (camp, urban, returning, resettlement)
- Views of children & close family members
- Family environment
- Understanding mental, physical, and psychological effects regarding decisions
Arriving at a Decision

- Understanding that specific facts may outweigh child right
- Multidisciplinary panel members reviewing a case highlighting different aspects of each case
- 3 or 5 panel members (small enough to allow for full discussion and remain focused)
- Allowing for open discussions, full expression and listening to all apposing views and perspectives without limitation
- Open mindedness and flexibility to all relevant insights perspectives
- Making a majority decision with comprehensive awareness and understanding
Conference on Protection of Unaccompanied and Separated Children
Burke, VA
October 22 – 24, 2008

Kimberly Haynes, BID Coordinator
UNHCR Regional Office Thailand
Bangkok Thailand 10200
(66) 2 288-2089
Haynes@UNHCR.org