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«Les enfants d'abord»

A politically and denominationally neutral movement of providence in favour of the child.



1. Aims

The aims are of a preventive policy on international level, so that Switzerland – in case she becomes a full member of the United Nations – pledges herself to appear at the plenary session of the United Nations as advocate on behalf of threatened children, before the outbreak of war, for unfortunately it is always the defenceless and unprotected children who are the first victims.

2. Unacceptable

That is the refusal to accept the *fait accompli* and to allow mental constraint which comes from past history, to overwhelm one again and again. Such rigid ideas only further the perpetual repetition of history and the awful sufferings: the whole is in disastrous relationship to the fate of humanity, and finally based on the ignorance of the ones and the indifference of the others; or it may possibly be an exercise in alibi to calm one's «good conscience».

The most deplorable and pitiable of all tragedies which shake the world, is surely the children threatened by the horrors of war.

For some time, humanitarian organizations have been trying to lessen the regrettable lot of these children; their good efforts are recognized the world over.

Yet there is a large gap; in the field of prevention, specially in the case of armed conflict. It has been admitted by competent circles that preventive measures within international organizations are rare. It is, therefore, high time that the policy of prevention should be instituted and anchored at the highest international level.

3. The world-wide forum

«Les enfants d'abord» propose that all suffering which affects innumerable innocent children at the moment of threatening danger of war and before the actual outbreak of conflict, should be recalled most specifically in the Forum of UNO.

The call, however, must go out from our country, more exactly: «Switzerland must – in case she becomes a full member of UNO – pledge herself to appear at the plenary session of the United Nations as advocate on behalf of threatened children, before the outbreak of war, for unfortunately it is always the defenceless and unprotected children who are the first victims.»

For all additional information regarding this movement, either morally or possibly financially, please write to: «Les enfants d'abord» Case postale 80 CH-1530 Payerne, Switzerland

Drawing competition

To close the Year of the Child, we organize a grand drawing competition for Swiss children abroad, including dual nationals. Subject:

Of what does the Red Cross remind you?

Conditions

Age: from 4 to 15 years.

Maximum format of the drawing paper: A4, i.e. 21 x 29.7 cm.

Last date of sending in: 30th April 1980, date of postmark.

To be sent to: All drawings must be sent to the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad, Alpenstr. 26, 3000 Berne 16, Switzerland.

Essential: Please put name, surname, age and complete address in properly readable manner on the back of the drawing.

The results will be made known at the 58th Assembly of the Swiss Abroad in Locarno, where the drawings will be exhibited.

There will be many prizes for the promising artists.

Swiss children abroad, do join in the grand competition!

The Executive Commission on Information to and from Fifth Switzerland



Do not forget to announce any change of address in due time to the Swiss diplomatic or consular mission you belong to.