

Hadeel AL-ASMAR (Syrian Arab Republic)

Date and place of birth: 15 May 1967, Amman, Jordan

Working languages: Arabic and English

Current position/function:

- UNESCO Coordinator for developing the Early Childhood Sector in Syria
- Board member of the NGO Rainbow for a better childhood
- Board member of the Syrian Commission for Family Affairs
- Vice-President of the International Montessori School, Damascus (Syria)

Main professional activities:

- Established two charity kindergartens, one in Qunaitera Province, and the other in Orphaned Founding Care House, Damascus Province
- Established the first hall devoted to children in the Damascus National Museum as a pilot project for children to study historical ruins and museums
- Established the first Children Public Libraries in many provinces in Syria
- Member of the Committee for creating formulae and standards for books and Curricula of kindergartens as mandated by the Ministry of Education
- Member of the Principal Committee of Licensing Private Schools and institutes
- Developing a National Strategy for Early Childhood

Educational background:

- Masters degree in the Convention on 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 Center (2002)
- Bachelor's degree in Economics from Damascus University (1991)

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

- Member of the Syrian Commission for Family Affairs (SCFA) committee establishing the first child protection unit in Syria, for child maltreatment, report and referral
- Participating in the development of Child Right Law in Syria (under development)

- Participated with the Ministry of Education in deliberating and preparing the executive instructions for the national private teaching law in 2005
- Participating in the municipal law for a Syrian Child Parliament and its by-law
- Conducting training and awareness courses for children on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in many Governorates of Syria

List of most recent publications in the field:

Facts for life, co-editor. SCFA and UNICEF, 2006.

Children Hearings research in Syria, 2007.

National Child Rights Law (in preparation), 2008.

UNESCO Early Childhood Center by-law, co-editor (in preparation), 2008.