



**THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP
ON EARLY CHILDHOOD
CARE AND DEVELOPMENT**

Annual Consultation – October 13-16, 2008

The CG's Annual Consultations are a vital meeting point for the coalition's knowledge generation processes as well as a time for critical reflection and analysis amongst peers, which in turn inform and sharpen strategic planning. As a meeting of partners, associates and invited guests also organised around a designated theme or focus, the annual consultation also provides a key opportunity for strengthening partnerships and building new alliances.

- a) **Focus Theme:** Designed around a theme that is agreed to be a current priority in the field of ECCD, CG Partners, the Secretariat, the Executive Board and invited individuals and organizations working on the agreed theme come together to review, reflect upon, debate and (eventually) synthesise current practices, gaps, and issues on the selected topic. Thematic discussion papers and/or background materials are prepared and shared at the meeting. Out of the discussions and review of what is happening (or not) on the ground, specific publications are prepared – most commonly the Coordinators' Notebook, the CG's annual publication.
- b) **Convening and Reporting of Working Groups:** Given that each of the CG's five new Key Focus Areas has a related Working Group, the Annual Consultation also represents an important opportunity for Working Groups to convene, share their progress, challenge the collective thinking, and to agree on forward plans.
- c) **Annual Business Meeting:** In addition, the Annual Consultation also enables CG partners, the Executive Board and Secretariat the opportunity to organize an annual Business Meeting for partners to review and approve work plans and budgets, identify upcoming global events/publications for the coming year and prioritize those where CG leadership and/or participation is critical.