



# Community mechanisms of child protection and social cohesion in Chad

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**Koumra training and research report**


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# Context

- ❑ Community based child protection mechanisms have become a common approach to protecting children in conflict and post-conflict settings.
- ❑ Their effectiveness and sustainability are **often assumed but rarely empirically assessed**.
- ❑ Externally-driven child protection mechanisms tend to suffer from lack of context and local ownership by the community as well as **weak linkages with the national child protection system**, often resulting in **wasted resources and poor performance**.
- ❑ These shortcomings are particularly serious for children and their communities in conflict and post-conflict settings where **integrating with context is key and a deterioration of already critical conditions may compromise peacebuilding** efforts and even trigger a return to violence.

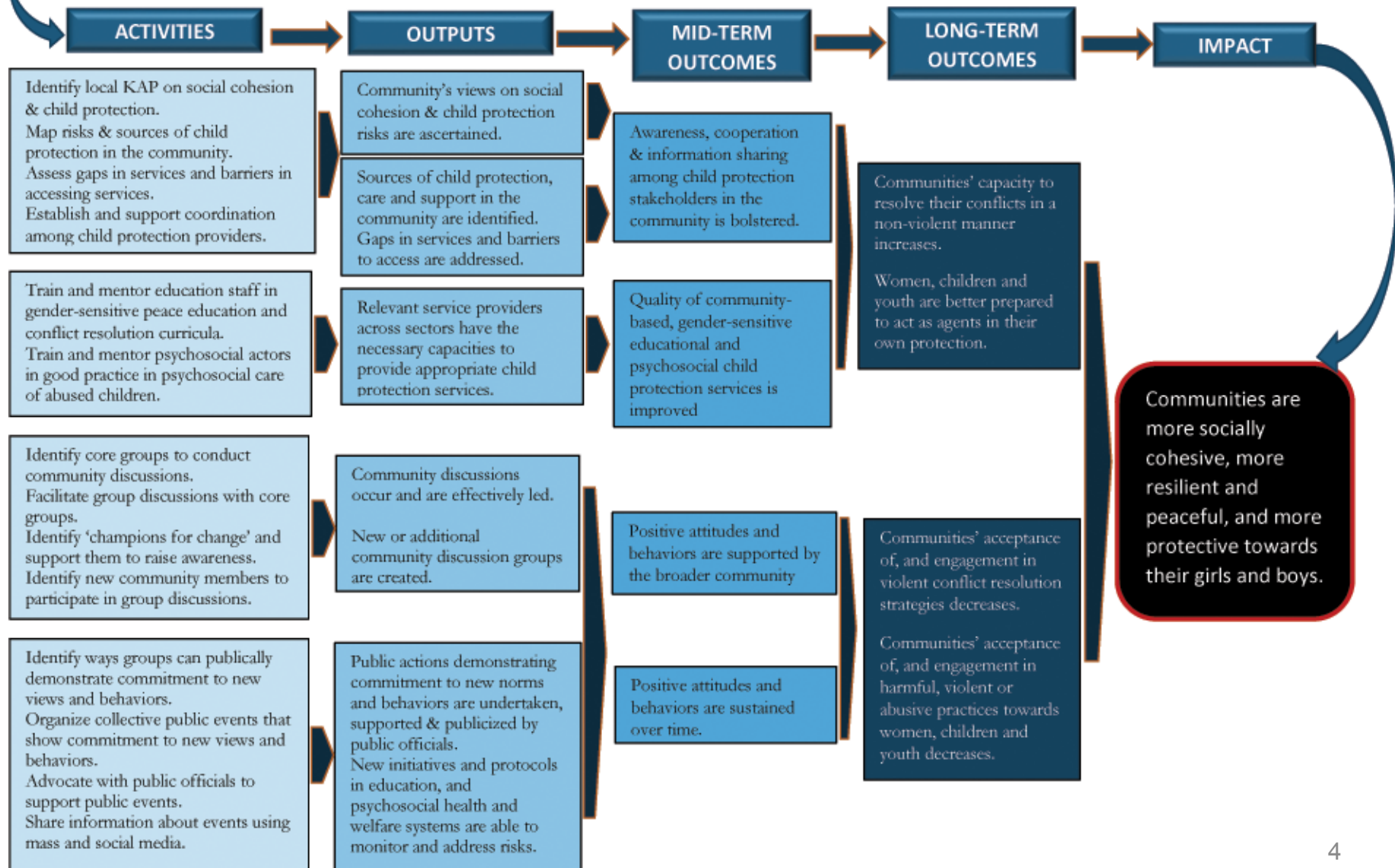


# The objectives of the overall project are two-fold

- 1) To enhance our understanding of the role that community groups play in promoting social cohesion, and their influence on children's prosocial behavior in a protective environment;
- 2) To build the capacities of individuals and groups in the communities to facilitate positive social relationships and deal with conflict in a transformative manner, contributing to promote social cohesion, child protection, and education.

## PROBLEM:

Limited knowledge and availability of quality gender-sensitive child protection mechanisms; limited social cohesion and cooperation among community groups; and, harmful social norms that contribute to poor outcomes for survivors of violence against women, girls and boys, and to acceptance/tolerance of inaction against child abuse and neglect.





# **Specific Objectives of the IICRD's Second Field Visit to Chad**

- 1) To conduct training in partnership with ARED to strengthen non-formal child protection systems in promoting social cohesion in Koumra (Mandoul)**
- 2) To develop locally grounded indicators to assist ARED monitor implement the outcomes of the workshop**
- 3) To continue research on child protection and social cohesion**
  - a) examining the main institutional and community stakeholders; and,**
  - b) analyzing the role they play in promoting social cohesion and child protection including their respective objectives, priorities, strengths and weaknesses, etc.**
- 4) To plan next stages in the project**



# TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES

Date	Activities	Location
15/02/2016	Meetings with UNICEF Child protection unit & orientation	N'Djamena
15/02/2016	Travel to Mondoul/Koumra	Koumra
16-18/02/2016	Deliver training with ARED	Koumra
19/02/2016	Develop indicators with ARED and UNICEF	Koumra
20-21/02/2016--24-02/2016	Data collection	Koumra
22/02/2016 23/02/2016	Travel to N'Djamena For De-briefing	N'Djamena



# ARED Training Objectives

- Share findings from first research visit
- Discuss relation between social cohesion and child protection
- Enhance “non-formal” CP systems in strengthening “formal” CP systems
- Prepare participants to pilot new community engagement and monitoring tools and create action plan
- Pilot tools and discuss next steps in context of ongoing support for ARED







# Training Participants

- Community based child protection staff from ARED
- Local Government (Magistrate, education, health care)
- Civil Society members (TOB radio)





# Training Participants (Cont'd)

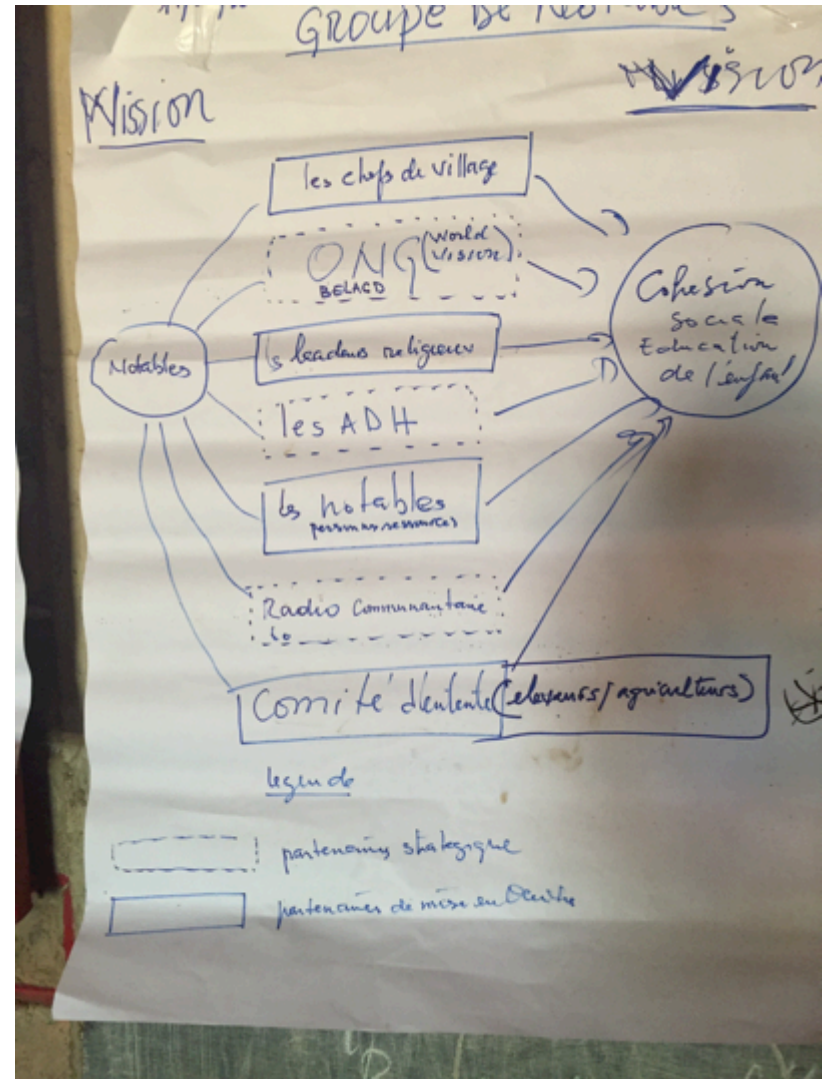
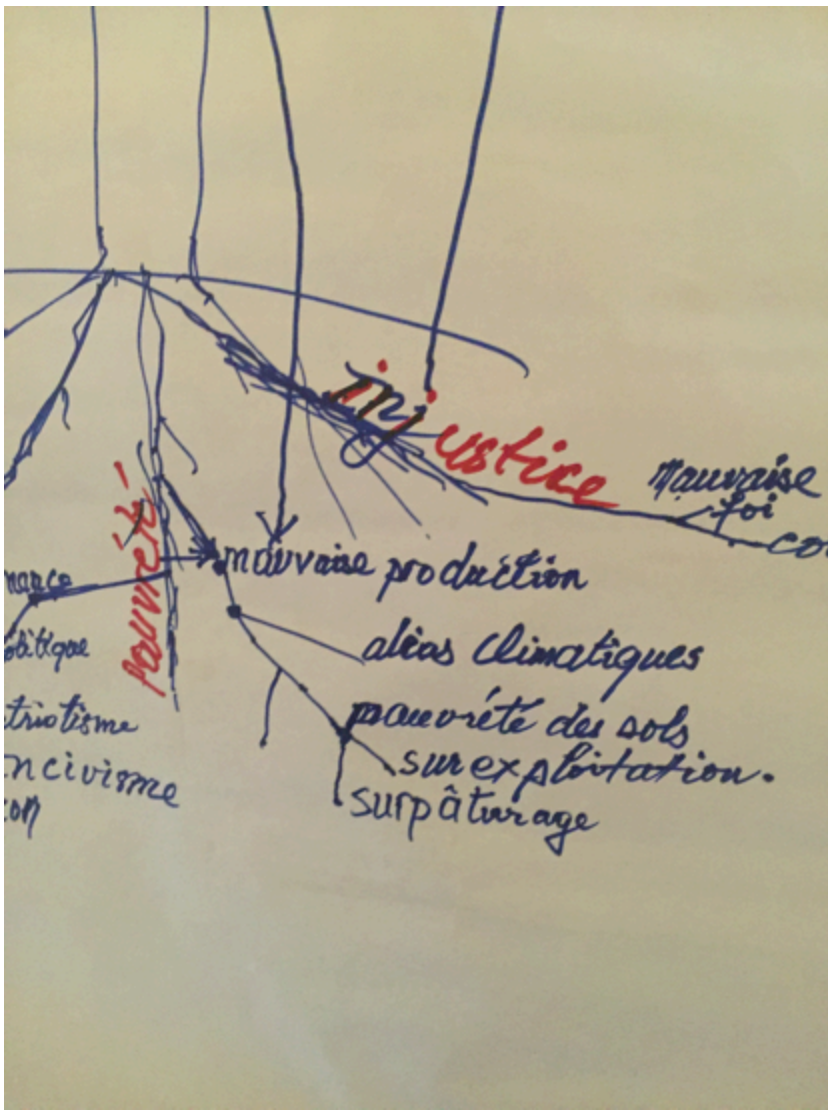
- Youth and adolescents  
(AARMOK, School children)
- Women's Groups  
(CERIAF...)
- Community, faith and traditional leaders  
(*Mbang, Imam...*)





# Tools Applied

- *Experiential activities* exploring social cohesion and child protection (e.g. unity circle)
- *Understanding risk and protective factors* and their inter-relationship (risk mapping)
- *Assessing root causes* of social incohesion and assets that can enhance cohesion (root mapping)
- *Outcome mapping* to create local “vision” and “mission” for program and develop local program indicators of SC and CP





# Key Outcomes

- Strengthened engagement of non-formal CP systems in building social cohesion
- Better coordination between local groups
- More systemic approach to child protection, psychosocial recovery and creation of social cohesion
- Community monitoring of partners (action and strategic), actions and outcomes
- Increased role of ARED as key local CP actor



# Examples of Risk Factors

- Corruption, inégalité sociale et exclusion
- Non acceptation de la diversité culturelle, religieuse
- La persistance des pratiques néfastes (l'excision, mariage précoce, le trafic des enfants, le travail des mineurs...).
- Fiable implication des femmes dans les instances de prise de décision
- L'ignorance des populations
- Manque d'éducation de base





# Examples of Protective Factors

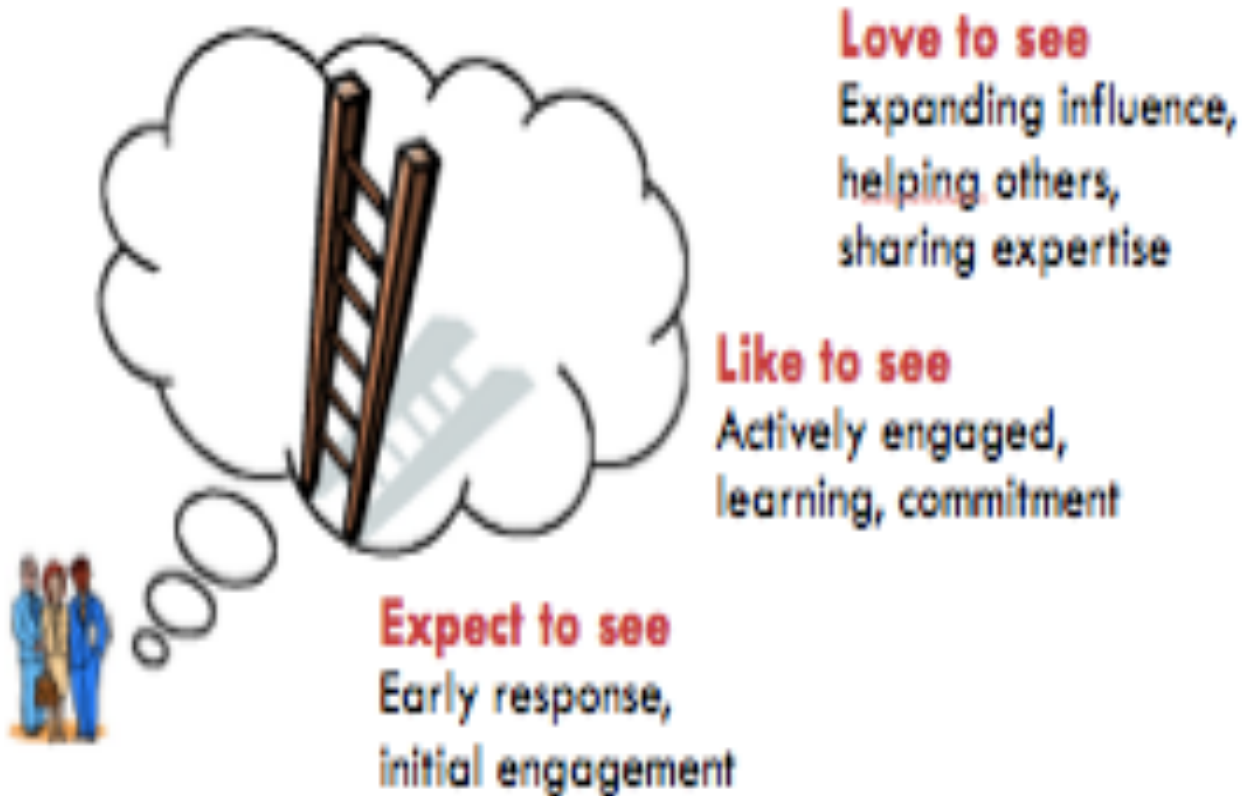
- L'école, considérée comme lieu d'éducation et de brassage intercommunautaire
- La ratification par le Tchad des textes et lois protégeant l'enfant (CDE)
- Existence des textes réprimant les violations des droits humains
- Entre-aide sociale - les relations communautaires
- L'esprit de tolérance, de pardon et prise de conscience manifestée par les communautés



# Examples of Root Causes

- Instabilité politique vécue par le pays (rébellions, coup d'état, guerre civile, les différentes guerres tribales, ethniques, claniques)
- Division Nord-Sud, chrétien-musulman.
- Non respects des couloirs de transhumance par les éleveurs
- Non respects des us et coutumes
- Le clientélisme
- La mauvaise gouvernance

# Outcome Mapping: Community Progress Markers (Indicators)





## Examples of Action Plans:

Plan d'action des Jeunes: Sensibilisation des communautés sur les questions liées à la traite des enfants, les migrations et la résolution pacifique des conflits **entre Agriculteurs et-Eleveurs**

### 1. Expect to see

- Un comité de pilotage installé
- Rencontres préparatoires avec les différents partenaires
- Messages clés rédigés
- Scenarios des théâtres élaborés
- Spot radios enregistrés.



## Examples of Action Plans:

### 2. Like to see

- Au moins 500 cas de traite/trafic/migration d'enfants répertoriés et documentés
- Diffusion des spots et émissions sur les Radio Tob, Radio Lotiko
- Causeries, débats et jeux concours sont organisés à Kourma (au CEG 1 et 15 ans et au Lycée Moderne et Scientifique)
- Sensibilisation de masse suivie de jeux concours dans les communautés de Peni et MateKaga
- Documentation sur les migrations et la traite des enfants est partagée par IICRD.



# Examples of Action Plans:

## 2. Love to see

- Au moins 15 cas d'enfants victimes de cas résolus (réhabilitation, décision de justice rendu...)
- Amélioration de la prise de conscience collective des populations sur la traite des enfants, les migrations et la résolution pacifique des conflits
- Gestion pacifique de cas de conflits



# Significant Observations

- Significant local child protection threats (e.g. child trafficking – “enfant bouvier”, FGM, school drop out)
- Poor understanding of local assets (e.g. youth and women’s groups)
- Heightened levels of conflict between farmers and pastoralists (esp. *Miserie* tribe)
- Lack of use and undermining of local dispute resolution mechanisms (e.g. *Mbang*)



# Significant Observations (Cont'd)

- Lack of government support for local CP systems, though some support for specific issues/partners (e.g. ARED)
- Important role of UNICEF as strategic inter-governmental partner (esp. mdme. Motoyam)
- Need for capacity within ARED
- Opportunities for “bottom up”, locally owned CP systems strengthening and social cohesion



# Next Steps

- Finalize indicators and integrate in UNICEF reporting template
- Complete training report and training guide
- Monthly communication with ARED
- Support youth and women's groups and validate capacity with pilot IICRD social cohesion "stamps"





## Next Steps (Cont'd)

- Monthly IICRD check in calls with ARED, youth and women's groups
- Mdme Motoyam (UNICEF) provide ongoing support
- May 2016 visit: Conduct program monitoring, finalize research
- Complete research report
- Potential dissemination and broaden communication impact at Social Cohesion, Child Protection, Learning Forum, (tentative) Dakar, June 2016



# Recommendations

- Articulate a model of community based “non-formal” child protection systems in building social cohesion
- Address gap in reintegration and psychosocial support for victims of trafficking and violence
- Support and mobilize local social capital such as women and youth groups
- Advocate on behalf of cultural capital for traditional dispute resolution (e.g. *Mbang*)
- Reinforce capacity building of local CP actors/ARED
- UNICEF (Mdme Motoyam) play a key role in supporting ARED
- Support for local civil society and government network



# Quotes from the Workshop

- *« La formation est tombée à point nommé. Elle répond à nos attentes. La cohabitation pacifique intercommunautaire, est une réelle problématique dans la région du Mandoul. Je souhaite vraiment une continuité pour le suivi de nos actions ».*
- *« Cet atelier m'a vraiment outillé. Les travaux de groupe, les activités pratiques et les différents jeux m'ont permis de maîtriser davantage les concepts de liés à la protection de l'enfant de l'enfant et à la cohésion sociale. »*
- *« Je tiens à remercier sincèrement IIRCD et UNICEF pour leur disponibilité pour cet atelier de formation. Cela m'a permis d'avoir de nouvelles connaissances pour bien faire mon travail en communauté. Mon souhait est que nos plans d'actions soient effectivement réalisés pour le bonheur de nos populations. »*



# Quotes from the Workshop

- *« ...forts des causes et conséquences de ces conflits qui privent les enfants de leurs droits et les oppriment, vous êtes désormais mieux outillés des dispositions à mettre en œuvre pour garantir un bon climat de cohésion sociale et de paix au profit de l'épanouissement tous azimuts des enfants....Je vous exhorte donc à partager les connaissances acquises au cours de ces travaux pragmatiques avec vos entourages respectifs....Cela contribuera sans nul doute à améliorer le cadre de vie de nos progénitures qui n'aspirent qu'à la paix et à la coexistence pacifique...de vos travaux, des recommandations pertinentes ont été formulées...Nous nous ferons le devoir de les transmettre fidèlement à qui de droit et d'œuvrer pour l'application de ce qui relève de notre compétence... » **SG de la Région du Mandoul***



# Merci/ Commentaires

