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**ACTIVITY REPORT ON THE TRAINING OF CHILDREN  
PARLIAMENTARIANS**

**TO BE PRESENTED TO BIYOOM**

**FY 20**

**BY**

**SABOBA YOUTH CENTRE**

**ON 9 MARCH 2020**

<b>Name of activity</b>	Training of Children Parliamentarians
<b>Date of activity</b>	14 February – 15 February 2020
<b>Activity duration</b>	Two (2) days
<b>Venue</b>	Saboba Community Information Center

### **Description of Activity**

Having succeeded in mobilizing 33 students from 4 Junior High Schools in the Saboba town, who expressed interest in the concept of Children Parliament, upon the visits of management of the Saboba Youth Centre, it was necessary to offer a comprehensive training for them, during which they were to be provided with adequate knowledge. The facilitators for the training had indicated that two days were sufficient to exhaust the basics of the legislative arm of government, necessary for the Children Parliamentarians. Training on each day run between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. The training process had been segmented into three parts; the first part being observation of a Youth Parliamentary sitting by the Children Parliamentarians, the second part was designed to have a classroom setting which was more relaxed, interactive and participatory, and the third part is continuous observation of Youth Parliamentary sittings and practice by the Children Parliamentarians for a period of time. This report however, focuses on the second segment of the training process, which was done within two days.

### **Objectives of Activity**

1. Teach Children Parliamentarians the basic knowledge of parliament, structure of parliament and proceedings in parliament.
2. Give exposure and experience of parliamentary proceedings to the Children Parliamentarians.

### **Target Audience**

The activity targeted thirty-three students from four Junior High Schools (JHS) in the Saboba township. The selected academic institutions included two public, one private and one model schools. The public schools were St. Charles Lwanga JHS and E.P Block “B” JHS, whereas the private and model schools were Kings Gate International School and Girls Model School, respectively.

## **Reasons for selections of students and schools.**

A relatively small number of students from four schools was considered to be enough, to pilot the Children Parliament concept in Saboba by the Saboba Youth Centre. The considered ones were selected to give equal opportunity to all schools across every– and within the same– category; public and private, the space to participate and benefit from the concept. Girls Model school was selected because it's a wholly all female student school and also because it is a fairly new school, which needs to be supported in every available way to be well rooted for academic excellence. Selecting a substantial number of students from Girls Model, in relation to the number from the other schools was a practical way of living to our commitment of empowering and supporting the development of women. Since there are two well established private schools, it was fair to consider only one at this stage. Because public schools in the Saboba township alone are many and cumulatively have the largest student population, it was fair that two schools were selected to make up the target of four schools. The two schools considered were balloted for by both the management of the youth centre and the leadership of the Saboba Youth Parliament.

## **Content of activity**

During the training on the first day, which was led by the lead facilitator, Dominic Ibamondor Bakantiche, the following topics were covered:

- What is the Children Parliament?
- Importance of the Children Parliament
- Structure of the Children Parliament
- Functions / responsibilities of the various position holders in parliament
- How to identify issues for Children Parliamentary Sitings
- How to organize a Children Parliamentary Sitting
- Post Parliamentary Sitting activities

The training on the second day, led by the co-facilitator, Peace Nutifafa Kpoh, was focused on the various ways of researching for information, in preparation for a parliamentary debate. She taught and explained that, relevant information can be obtained from many and varied sources including private organisations, government agencies, departments and units. She then zoomed in on how to particularly use the internet to search for nearly any information that would be relevant in supporting the argument of the Children Parliamentarians. This session was very practical; The Children Parliamentarians were put into six smaller

groups and each group was assigned one person who had a smartphone; either a volunteer of the SYC present or any of the three teachers who accompanied some of the students. These then guided the children to use the smartphones to browse the internet for various words and phrases given by the facilitator of the session. They also searched for videos of some other model Children Parliaments in the world.

### **Successes (what went on well)**

32 Children Parliamentarians (15 males and 17 females) and 3 teachers who accompanied some of the students participated in the two days training, and were successfully trained and empowered with the general basic knowledge of the legislative arm of government. The importance of modelling the national parliament at the local and basic academic levels was also explained and emphasized. The Children Parliamentarians were also particularly trained on how to efficiently use the smartphone to search for information relevant to parliamentary debates. Six volunteers of the youth centre who were tasked with various responsibilities were all present and active to ensure a desirable outcome.

### **Challenges (What did not go on well and why)**

No significant challenge occasioned the execution of the training.

## **Recommendations**

- Following the usefulness of the training, it was strongly recommended by the Children Parliamentarians that, upon start of their parliamentary sittings, quarterly refresher training sessions should be organized to further shape and sharpen them.
- The facilitators recommended that prior to each sitting, the two caucuses of the Children Parliament, should meet well ahead of time to organize and prepare their arguments. During these meetings, some members of the Youth Parliament should be with them to give guidance, which would help enrich and focus the arguments on the subject of debate.
- It is further recommended that, the search for information should be done, largely by browsing the internet. The Children Parliamentarians therefore appealed to the SYC and Biyoom to make available some computers and internet access to facilitate their preparation for parliamentary debate.
- The arguments of each caucus should be typed out and submitted to the clerk of the Children Parliament after each sitting, for filing.

## **Partners undertaking the activity**

1. Saboba Youth Centre
2. Biyoom

## Students' Participation

SN	NAME	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	GENDER		NUMBER OF DAYS ATTENDED
			Male	Female	
1	Mboon Gifty Mboralen	Saboba Girls Model	No	Yes	2
2	Kuchando Benedicta	Saboba Girls Model	No	Yes	2
3	Ulanja Monica	Saboba Girls Model	No	Yes	2
4	Kpadin Y. Vida	Saboba Girls Model	No	Yes	2
5	Jagri B. Agnes	Saboba Girls Model	No	Yes	2
6	Uwumborche Agnes	Saboba Girls Model	No	Yes	2
7	Bilidak N-naankola Peter	Saboba E/P Block "B"	Yes	No	2
8	M-morgnan N-nyanbini John	Saboba E/P Block "B"	Yes	No	2
9	Jato Yaw Mathew	Saboba E/P Block "B"	Yes	No	2
10	N-langlib Mpopin	Saboba E/P Block "B"	No	Yes	2
11	Ulanja Frank	Saboba E/P Block "B"	Yes	No	2
12	Buidisan Isaac	Saboba E/P Block "B"	Yes	No	2
13	Bordam Edith	Saboba E/P Block "B"	No	Yes	2
14	Binachimwab Enock	Saboba E/P Block "B"	Yes	No	2
15	Malinne Martin	Saboba E/P Block "B"	Yes	No	2
16	Bidembu John	St. Charles Lwanga	Yes	No	2
17	Nanchanja N. Abraham	St. Charles Lwanga	Yes	No	2
18	Wumbag Elisha	St. Charles Lwanga	Yes	No	1
19	Gaala-Biwiin Mayiuba Justina	St. Charles Lwanga	No	Yes	2
20	Wunada Malantiba Peace	St. Charles Lwanga	No	Yes	2
21	Maakoba Tadime Emmanuel	St. Charles Lwanga	Yes	No	2
22	Lapah Mbakpa Betty	St. Charles Lwanga	No	Yes	2
23	Nuhu Mardiya	St. Charles Lwanga	No	Yes	2
24	Nyignam Prince	Kings Gate International	Yes	No	2
25	Nyignam Norbert	Kings Gate International	Yes	No	2
26	Yamba Silas	Kings Gate International	Yes	No	2
27	Kojo Taala Enock	Kings Gate International	Yes	No	2
28	Apika Mercy	Kings Gate International	No	Yes	2
29	Nyilbabi Abigail	Kings Gate International	No	Yes	2
30	Ntanan Naomi	Kings Gate International	No	Yes	2
31	Wumbei Blessing	Kings Gate International	No	Yes	2
32	Muko Nelson	Kings Gate International	No	Yes	2

### Teachers' Participation

Name	School	Gender	Number of days attended
Bajek George N.	Kings Gate International School	Male	2
Dalik M. Christopher	Girls Model Junior High School	Male	2
Naaja Michael Koyagnan	E/P Block "B" Junior High School	Male	2

### Participating Volunteers of the Saboba Youth Centre

NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT
Dominic Ibamondor Bakantiche	Programs Manager	+233 24 71 257 67
Peace Nutifafa Kpoh	Member	+233 54 72 774 66
Jeremiah Kasalku Takal	Speaker, Youth Parliament	+233 24 20 483 46
Yakubu Fushieni	Administrative Assistant	+233 54 25 662 93
Johnson Bilegan Gmagreb	Project Officer	+233 24 61 55 997
Justice Sukpen	Member	+233 54 87 717 07

### Total activity budget

The total budget approved by the board of the Saboba Youth Centre for the project was One Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Ghana Cedis (**GH¢ 1,240.00**).

**Name of partner reporting:** Saboba Youth Centre

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Figure 1: A section of the student participants at the training session of the Children Parliamentarians



Figure 2: The lead facilitator, Dominic Ibamondor Bakantiche, explaining some concepts of the legislative arm of government to the participants at the training of Children Parliamentarians



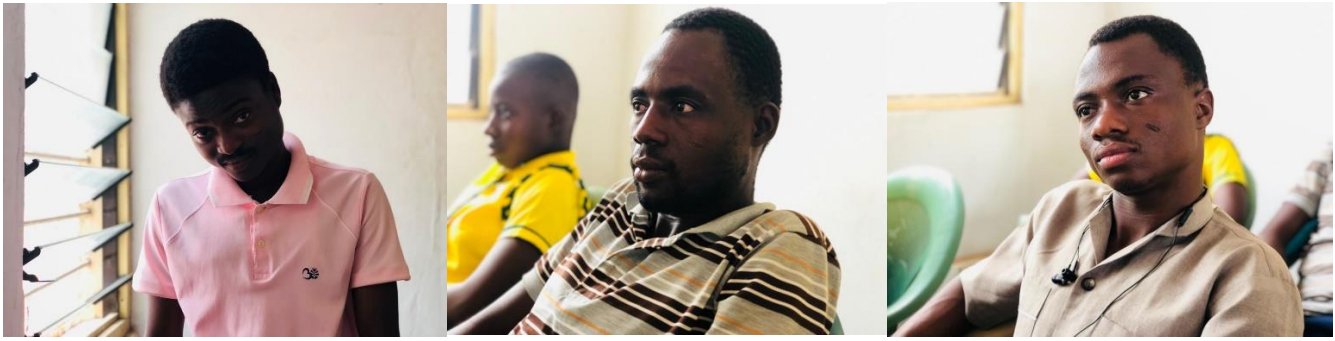


Figure 3: Teachers who accompanied students from three of the schools.

**From left to right:** Mr. Naaja Michael Koyagnan (E/P Block “B” Junior High School), Mr. Bajek George N. (Kings Gate International School) and Mr. Dalik M. Christopher (Girls Model Junior High School)



Figure 4: Some volunteers of the Saboba Youth Centre who supported in various capacities during the training of the Children Parliamentarians.

**From left to right:** Mr. Dominic Ibamondor Bakantiche (Programs Manager of the SYC and lead facilitator), Ms. Peace Nutifafa Kpoh (Member of the SYC and co-facilitator) and Mr. Jeremiah Kasalku Takal (Right Honourable Speaker of the Saboba Youth Parliament)



Figure 5: A group picture of facilitators, volunteers, teachers and Children Parliamentarians after the training on the first day