

UNIVERSAL MAIDENS ASSOCIATION CAMEROON



(UNIMAC)

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"Empowering Lives, Eliminating Exploitation: Together, We Build a Better Future."



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SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS FOR UNIMAC MEMBERS

UNIMAC is a civil society organization working to empower girls and women and to end child marriage. *UNIMAC* is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all individuals, especially children, young people, and adults at risk, and will seek to ensure that they are protected from all harm when working to empower girls and end child marriage.

UNIMAC recognizes a key role in ensuring that communities work together to prevent, detect, and respond to cases of abuse across the 10 regions of Cameroon. As a civil society organisation commitment to protect children and young people, *UNIMAC* members must endeavor to maintain the highest standards of safeguarding, taking all necessary measures to uphold the 'do no harm principle'. Member organisations should also promote the meaningful and ethical participation of children and young people throughout their work, in line with Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The *UNIMAC* secretariat is able to provide guidance to relevant organisations to ensure they can meet these standards if they do not yet have a safeguarding framework in place.

In order to uphold strong safeguarding principles whilst also fostering a positive participatory environment when engaging with children, young people and adults at risk, **UNIMAC members must commit to the following safeguarding standards:**

1. Have a safeguarding framework in place including an organisational safeguarding policy; ensuring all staff members are familiar with this policy, have access to it and understand the staff responsibilities it sets out.
2. Deliver all programmes and projects in the safest possible manner; undertaking safeguarding risk assessments for all activities which may involve or impact upon children and young people.
3. Have a safeguarding reporting procedure mapped out and shared with all staff members and beneficiaries who know how to make and/or receive reports if concerns arise.

4. Assign staff members specific roles in order to ensure that safeguarding policies and procedures are being followed, respected and implemented within the organisation.
5. Undertake the gathering, production, storage and use of data (including photos) in an ethical way, adhering to relevant data protection laws or standards and obtaining informed consent before the collection of any new data.
6. Maintain a detailed register of all safeguarding concerns raised as well as a record of how UNIMAC responded, including responses to historical allegations.
7. Agree to share information with other members on safeguarding initiatives as well as individual cases (with identifying information removed), as appropriate, where sharing that information will lead to learning for the Partnership, or in situations where individual cases may have an adverse impact on members.
8. Foster a working environment that encourages diversity and is safe, healthy and respectful for all staff members.

I confirm that _____[Name of Organisation]_____ fully complies with these safeguarding standards.

Name:

Position:

Signature:

Date: