

**WHO Public Hearings on the Framework Convention
on Tobacco Control
12-13 October 2000 - Geneva, Switzerland**

Identification

Salvati Copiii is a Romanian non-governmental, democratic, independent, non-profit, politically and religiously unconditioned organisation, promoting, defending and monitoring the rights of the child in Romania according to UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, document ratified by Romania in September 1990. It was established on the 20th of April 1990.

Salvati Copiii is a national NGO with 13 local branches mainly based on the volunteer activity of its members. It has 25 employees and about 6000 volunteers.

The programmes have in view the following categories of children: HIV/AIDS children, street children, disabled children, abused/neglected children, refugee children, roma children, drug addicted young people, children in institutions, children and families in difficult circumstances. Salvati Copiii also develops the Education for Health Programme that consists in informing school children on HIV/AIDS, STDs and drugs (included tobacco and alcohol). They are teaching to have a healthy life style.

Salvati Copiii is a member of the International Save the Children Alliance, Child Rights Information Network, an affiliate member of ECPAT (End of Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking in children for sexual purposes), a correspondent member of International Social Service with the headquarters in Geneva.

At national level, Salvati Copiii is a founding member of the Romanian Forum for the Children and the Families Affected by HIV/AIDS and a founding member of FONPC (Federation of the NGOs for Child Protection).

The main our financial sources came from Radda Barnen (Swedish Save the Children), Redd Barna (Norway Save the Children), PHARE Programme, UNICEF, Open Society Foundation, own fundraising

Interest in the Framework Convention process

In accordance with the statistics, smoking is a real problem of public health in Romania. After 1990, more and more school children and women start to consume tobacco. The mortality caused by tobacco has been increased dramatically. Although, Romanian Government has adopted the national strategy on health promotion, including preventing tobacco product's use there are several measures that would be adopted

faster in the event this Framework Convention will be adopted. Romania is now engaged in the process of accession in the European Union, to harmonise the Romanian legislation with the international legislation.

Conclusion

All the people have the right to the health, everybody wants to be healthy. Representative of Salvati Copiii could present (according with the time schedule of the meeting) our experiences in approaches of the phenomenon of increasing the number of smokers among the children. We consider your initiative as being of a great importance.