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**Abstract # 523**

**Title: Child Protection Centers Coordination Board Model At Universities In Turkey**

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**Abstract:**

Universities have basic roles in the protection of children and ending violence against children. "Children First: Modeling Child Protection Mechanisms at Provincial Level" Project was developed in coordination of Turkish Government and UNICEF and implemented between 2008-2009.

Within the framework of this Project, a sub-project "Establishment of Child Protection Centers Within Universities" is being implemented. At the end of the project, foundation of child protection centers were completed in 7 universities and hospital based child protection units were also established within the university hospitals. Child protection units are structures established on the basis of a multi-disciplinary approach.

Although the Project has been completed successfully, centers have been faced with new problems. Establishment of new centers, improvement of the existing centers, ensuring coordination among the centers, standardization of the child protection units, minimum qualifications for the specialists working at the unit, development of training programs and training materials. With the aim of ensuring coordination among the child protection centers "Child Protection Centers Coordination Board" (CPCCB) was established.

Proposed functions for the CPCCB are:

- Developing standards for the child protection centers.
- Developing training programs for the team members of the child protection centers.
- Delivering certificates to team members of the child protection centers.
- Visiting child protection centers voluntarily and to give opinion on the training and work programs of the centers.

CPCCB has prepared a text book containing basic information on Child Abuse and Neglect and a training program including responsibilities and required competencies for the staff of child protection units. Training program consist of 5 days of basic education, 1st level certificate programme (5 months) and 2nd level certificate programme (1 year).