

## CISV MISSION STATEMENT

### **CISV educates and inspires action for a more just and peaceful world.**

*This was approved as CISV's mission statement by the Membership at the General Meeting of CISV International 8 August 2015.*

## BACKGROUND

Though the 2015 statement was commonly used from 2009 onward, it was not an official mission statement, but a summary expression of the then:

### **Statement of CISV Educational Purpose**

CISV's purpose is to prepare individuals to become active and contributing members of a peaceful society. CISV endeavours to stimulate the life-long development of amicable relationships, effective communication skills, cooperative abilities, and appropriate leadership towards a fair and just world.

CISV volunteer programmes and activities are planned to promote personal, cultural, intercultural, and international learning. This enables individuals to develop awareness of and positive attitudes towards others, and the skills and knowledge to live, play and work with them, irrespective of cultural background. Through participation, individuals come to better understand themselves and their own culture as well as others and their cultures.

CISV offers opportunities for interested children, young people, adults and families to explore relevant themes through independent, short term, non-formal educational activities organized in international, national and local contexts. These may be in either residential or non-residential settings and are offered to qualified participants irrespective of gender, race, religion, ethnicity, political affiliation, socio-economic background, or distinction of any other kind.

*This summarised the educational aspect of the Goals of CISV international stated in Article 2 of the Constitution, passed in 1961 and reaffirmed at the International Board Meeting in 1995 and part of which was then included in the Objects within our Articles of Association 1999.*

Within the 2004 – 2009 Strategic Plan, the Education Officer and Educational Development and Research Committee were asked to re- write educational principles, programme goals and minimum educational standards. As reported for the Annual International Meeting (AIM) 2009, this was accomplished and the CISV Big Education Guide ("Big Ed") as well as the more accessible "Passport" were published in 2009.

As part of the process of revising the educational principles and making them more accessible for CISVers, one of the aspects that was considered was this document – (Info File R-10) Statement of Educational Purpose. The Statement of Educational Purpose was seen as excellent and comprehensive, but three paragraphs long and including a lot of additional information. The intent was not to change or replace the substantive content of the longer version, but to enable CISVers to also have a more accessible way of understanding and explaining our purpose internally and externally.

As a result, the summary phrase (**CISV educates and inspires action for a more just and peaceful world**) was developed. It was hoped that this would give CISVers another tool to help understand and explain what CISV is. It summarized the contents of the longer statement. It did not replace R-10; it could be seen as complementing it. This was accepted at AIM 2009.