

## Annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child

### Theme: Protection of the rights of the child in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

*Concept note (as of 21 February 2017)*

**Date and venue:** 6 March 2017, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 3 - 6 p.m., Palais des Nations, Room XX, Geneva  
(will be broadcast live and archived on <http://webtv.un.org>)

**Objectives:** The annual full-day meeting will constitute an opportunity to discuss how the fulfilment of the rights of the child can contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, and the importance of integrating a child rights-based approach in all aspects of its implementation, follow-up and review, identifying good practices and challenges in this respect.

The meeting will contribute to the discussion on how the 2030 Agenda can advance the rights of the child, in particular by leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first. It will stress the importance of mainstreaming children's rights in the implementation, follow-up and review of all Sustainable Development Goals through:

- Deepening the understanding of the strong connections and complementarity between all rights of the child and the 2030 Agenda as an integrated framework of commitments;
- Discussing what a child rights-based approach to implementing and monitoring the 2030 Agenda is through the lens of the pledge of leaving no one behind and reaching those furthest behind first;
- Noting that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable: highlighting practical recommendations for the integration of a children's rights perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at implementing all goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Highlighting the key role of civil society including children in the implementation, monitoring and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for the realization of their rights;
- Highlighting the importance of accountability mechanisms at the national, regional and global levels, to ensure a child rights-based implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Exploring the role of United Nations human rights mechanisms to strengthen accountability for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda from a child rights perspective;

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**Morning panel (9 a.m. - 12 p.m.)** **rights-based approach to implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

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**Chair:** H.E. Mr. Joaquín Alexander Maza Martelli, President of the Human Rights Council

**Opening statement:** Ms. Kate Gilmore, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Moderator:** H.E. Mr. Ricardo González Arenas, Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

**Panellists:**

- **Mr. Benyam Dawit Mezmur**, Chairperson, Committee on the Rights of the Child  
*Links and complementarity between international children's rights law/Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) general principles and the Sustainable Development*

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*Goals (SDGs) – how the four general principles of the CRC cut across the whole 2030 Agenda and should be used as guidelines for its implementation, follow-up and review*

- **Mr. Olav Kjørven**, Director of Public Partnerships Division, United Nations Children’s Fund

*“Leaving no one behind”: realizing the rights of all children by reaching the furthest behind first*

- **Ms. Maud de Boer-Buquicchio**, Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

*The role of United Nations human rights monitoring mechanisms, including the special procedures system of the Human Rights Council, in ensuring accountability for delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and realizing children’s rights*

- **Ms. Delia Pop**, President, Child Rights Connect and Director of Programmes and Global Advocacy, Hope and Homes for Children

*An implementation of the 2030 Agenda based on inclusive and participatory processes that include civil society and children*

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<b>Afternoon panel (3 - 6 p.m.)</b>	<b>Agenda and opportunities to reinforce children’s rights through the implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda</b>
<b>Chair:</b>	<b>H.E. Mr. Amr Ramadan</b> , Vice-President of the Human Rights Council
<b>Moderator:</b>	<b>H.E. Mr. Peter Sørensen</b> , Head of the European Union Delegation to the United Nations in Geneva
<b>Panellists:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Mr. Rodolfo Succar</b>, Defensoría de Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes de la Provincia de Santa Fe, Argentina</li></ul> <p><i>Bridging the gap between international commitments and their implementation at national level: the role of National Human Rights Institutions in ensuring accountability for child rights in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Dr. Flavia Bustreo</b>, Assistant Director-General for Family, Women’s and Children’s Health, World Health Organization</li></ul> <p><i>How multi-stakeholder initiatives are key to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda from a children’s rights perspective: “The Global Strategy for women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Ms. Marta Santos Pais</b>, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children</li></ul> <p><i>Delivering on the SDGs as an integrated framework: implementation of the 2030 Agenda as a path to prevent and respond to violence against children</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Ms. Marie-Chantal Coulibaly</b>, Citizen Voice and Action Coordinator, World Vision Mali</li></ul> <p><i>Best practices of civil society to ensure and strengthen in-country implementation of the 2030 Agenda for the realization of children’s rights in consultation with children and local communities</i></p>
<b>Outcome:</b>	The sharing of informed, fact-based and expert knowledge will provide concrete suggestions as to how a child rights-based approach to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development can be further integrated and mainstreamed in the United Nations agenda.

**Mandate:** In its resolution 7/29 on the rights of the child adopted in March 2008, the Human Rights Council affirmed “its commitment to effectively integrate the rights of the child in its work and that of its mechanisms in a regular, systematic and transparent manner, taking into account specific needs of boys and girls” and “to incorporate into its programme of work sufficient time, at a minimum an annual full-day meeting, to discuss different specific themes on the rights of the child.” In this vein and on the basis of its resolution 31/7, the Human Rights Council decided to convene at its 34<sup>th</sup> session a panel discussion on the protection of the rights of the child in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Format:** Opening statements and initial presentations by the panellists (estimated to take 1 hour) will be followed by two rounds of interactive discussion. The list of speakers for the discussion will be established at the beginning of the panel and, as per practice, statements by high-level dignitaries and groups will be moved to the beginning of the list. States and observers, including representatives of civil society, will take the floor for a 2-minute intervention each (45 minutes in total), followed by responses from panellists (15 minutes). A second round of interventions from the floor (45 minutes) will be followed by responses and concluding remarks from the panellists (15 minutes). To make the panel interactive, speakers are encouraged to focus their interventions on the themes raised by the panellists, either by asking the panellists questions or by sharing relevant national experience. The panel discussion will be advertised on social media, and children will be encouraged to actively participate in the debate by sending in their comments. The moderator will moderate the discussion between the panellists and make closing remarks. Interpretation will be provided in the six official languages of the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

**Background:** After the historic adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by all United Nations Member States, it is now time for the implementation of all its goals and targets in order to realize these commitments by 2030. Human rights, including children’s rights, are at the core of the 2030 Agenda, which is explicitly “grounded in the Universal Declaration of human rights and [...] international human rights treaties”. In this context, the promotion of, respect for and realization of international children’s rights standards is paramount. The integration of children’s rights in the implementation of the Agenda will be fundamental to bringing about its achievement for all children in all countries, in accordance with their rights and with the core 2030 Agenda commitments to universality, to leaving no one behind and to reaching those furthest behind first.

It is therefore essential to take stock of the complementarity between international children’s rights standards, as defined by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the 2030 Agenda, including best practices for its implementation at national level in a manner in which States and other stakeholders can advance the realization of children’s rights. As discussions on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda begin to take place at all levels, it is a critical moment to reflect on the key considerations that should guide its implementation from a child rights perspective, and on how the rights of the child can be promoted by ensuring accountability for delivering on all of the 2030 Agenda commitments for all children.

**Background documents:**

- [Human Rights Council resolution 31/7](#) of 23 March 2016, “Rights of the child: information and communications technologies and child sexual exploitation”
- Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the protection of the rights of the child in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2017) ([A/HRC/34/27](#))