



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

29 October 2019

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to invite your Delegation to participate in the High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, 20 November 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall, as mandated by General Assembly resolution 73/301.

I invite all Member States to avail of the meeting to deepen their commitment to the advancement of the rights of the child. In accordance with the resolution, I encourage Member States to be represented at the highest possible level and to include children and young persons in their Delegations. The draft programme for the meeting is attached.

Enquiries regarding the forthcoming meeting should be directed to the designated focal points, Mr. Alexander Temitope, Senior Adviser, Office of the President of the General Assembly and Ms. Nevena Toaso, Adviser, Office of the President of the General Assembly, via email and/or by phone on the following coordinates: +1 (646) 661-0444; alexander.ajayi@un.org and +1917-554-6952; nevena.toaso@un.org

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tijjani Muhammad-Bande'.

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly
"Thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child"
20 November 2019

Background

In the 30 years since the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the lives of millions of children have been improved through the progressive realization of rights and fulfilment of obligations enshrined within the Convention and its Optional Protocols. The commemoration of CRC at 30 is a moment for bold action to ensure we leave no child behind. Children across the world have been recognized as individual rights-holders of those rights inherent to the human dignity of all people. Children have equally been recognized as having the right to special protections and safeguards from those that constitute the duty-bearers in their lives and communities. As we prepare to enter into the Decade of implementation of the SDG's, this is also an opportune moment to review progress made in supporting the rights of children.

In commemoration of the Convention, the General Assembly will convene a one-day High-level Meeting in the General Assembly Hall on 20 November 2019, which will entail an opening plenary meeting, an interactive segment with the meaningful participation of children, and a high-level plenary meeting. This meeting follows up on the one-hour High-Level Commemorative Event, which took place on 25 September 2019.

Objectives

The High-Level Meeting will involve the meaningful participation of children and will encourage Member States to reflect on and renew their commitment to the Convention. To this end, the event will provide an opportunity for the participants to:

- Celebrate the meaningful milestones and successes of the Convention in transforming the lives of children for the past thirty years since its ratification;
- Acknowledge the challenges in the 21st century for upholding the rights of the child.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 73/301 on the "Commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child", Member States and Observers of the General Assembly are encouraged to be represented at the High-level Meeting at the highest-possible level and to include children and young persons in their delegations, while ensuring the overall gender balance.

Draft Programme

**High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the thirtieth anniversary
of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child**

20 November 2019

United Nations, New York

Time and Venue	Activity
10:00 to 11:00 General Assembly Hall	<p style="text-align: center;">Opening Plenary Meeting</p> <p>As mandated by the resolution on the Commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/RES/73/301) paragraph four, key UN officials will be addressing the General Assembly.</p> <p><u>Opening remarks</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. H.E. Mr. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande President of the General Assembly2. H.E. António Guterres UN Secretary-General3. Ms. Henrietta Fore UNICEF Executive Director4. Ms. Virginia Gamba Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict5. Ms. Najat Maalla Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children6. Mr. Luis Ernesto Pedernera Reyna Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child7. Ms. Maud de Boer-Buquicchio Special Rapporteur on the Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children, including Prostitution, Child Pornography and other Child Sexual Abuse Material.8. Mr. Andrew Morley CEO World Vision, Representative from Civil Society appointed by the President of the General Assembly

11:00 to 13:00 General Assembly Hall	Interactive Segment
	The Interactive Session will operationalize the mandate in A/RES/73/301 paragraph five, to include “the meaningful participation of children” and paragraph nine and ten to invite “other representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may attend the high-level commemorative event and participate in the interactive segment of the high-level meeting.”
	<p>Handover from Geneva to New York (video link)</p> <p>Ms. Michelle Bachelet</p> <p>UN High Commissioner for Human Rights</p> <p><i>*the handover is a ‘passing the torch’ moment of the simultaneous event that is happening in Geneva to the event in New York.</i></p>
	<p>‘Kids Takeover’</p> <p>Celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child with meaningful participation of children and goodwill ambassadors through youth-led speeches, multimedia content, and artistic performances, including on the three following themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Climate Change 2. Humanitarian 3. Education
	<p>Interactive Panel Discussion</p> <p><i>Leave No Child Behind: For Every Child, Every Right</i></p>
Break:13:00 to 15:00	

High-Level Plenary Meeting

15:00 to
18 00

General
Assembly
Hall

During the High-Level Plenary Meeting, Member States will be invited to provide their interventions (3 minutes for Member States and 5 minutes for Regional Groups) on their perspectives regarding the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Ahead of the event, the President of the General Assembly will open the speaker list for Member States to register their delivery of remarks.

Member States are:

- Invited to participate at the highest level and include children and young persons in their delegations per paragraph six of [A/RES/73/301](#). Each delegation has six seats and we encourage as many of those spots to be allocated to child delegates. The PGA encourages Member States to operationalize “meaningful child participation” through their child delegates.
- Encouraged to incorporate the views and perspectives of children from their country on, including through representations of national commemorative activities on the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the regional, national and subnational levels and to consider sharing their experiences during the high - level meeting per paragraph seven of [A/RES/73/301](#).
- Highlight the ways in which Member States have implemented the Convention and will strengthen efforts for the further advancement of the Rights of the Child.