



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

7 November 2019.

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 28 October 2019, concerning the High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child scheduled for Wednesday, 20 November 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall, I have the honour to forward revised concept note, programme and logistic note of the meeting.

Further 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](mailto:alexander.ajayi@un.org) and +1917-554-6952; [nevena.toaso@un.org](mailto:nevena.toaso@un.org)

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

  
Tijjani Muhammad-Bande.

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

## **One-Day High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly**

### **“Thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Celebration of World Children’s Day”**

**20 November 2019 – United Nations General Assembly Hall, NYHQ**

#### **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, and to support every child to reach their full potential in fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. 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.

At the heart of this Convention is enshrined the right of children to freely express their opinion, and for these opinions to be given due weight by State Parties, families and communities. This is why in addition to celebrating the successes of this 30th year milestone, the meeting will draw on the voices of children to identify the greatest challenges facing children and young people today and in the next 30 years.

In comparison with 1989, when the CRC was adopted, a much higher proportion of children born today will survive and thrive because of the strides made in child health, nutrition, education and protection. Millions of children today still continue to face obstacles in realizing their rights to the most basic of social services. In addition, children today also face multiple challenges to childhood that were not envisaged 30 years ago. In 1989, there was no world wide web shaping young lives; issues of children’s privacy and identity were seldom discussed; forced migration did not affect children and young people on the massive scale now seen; and the impact of a changing climate was not yet clear. Today, it is children who see these new challenges and opportunities most clearly for themselves. Young people are speaking out for their right to an education, demanding an end to discrimination, marching against violence in schools, striking for action on climate change, campaigning for digital reform and calling on leaders to protect their future. A case in point is climate change activist Greta Thunberg, 16, who has said: “We kids shouldn’t have to do this. I wish that the adults would take this responsibility instead. But since no one is doing this, we have to.”

#### **Format and Outcome**

This high-level meeting is designed in a spirit of non-discrimination, equality and inclusion to gather children and young people, high-level representatives from Member States,

specialists from governmental and non-governmental organizations, partners in civil society, the private sector, academia, as well as renowned international personalities championing children's rights.

This one-day event will also serve as the culmination of a series of child-centric efforts underway in regional, national and local capacities, brought together in a global space with the participation of UN Member States, civil society, children and other stakeholders – all celebrating the Convention.

In accordance with the resolution ([A/RES/73/301](#)), the one-day high-level meeting will comprise:

- **Opening Plenary Meeting** - Statements from key UN officials (as outlined in resolution)
- **Interactive Segment** - including creative elements such as musical performances, multimedia content, Goodwill Ambassador participation, a 'handover' moment with event finishing in Geneva, and an interactive panel discussion involving the youth
- **High-level plenary meetings** –statements from Member States and observers

The outcome of the one-day high-level event meeting is a summary record of interventions from member states announcing their renewed or refreshed commitments towards the fulfillment of obligations enshrined within the convention for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and a summary of discussions to act as a record of ongoing commitment to accelerate action for the full realisation of the CRC.

### **Participants**

As mandated by the resolution ([A/RES/73/301](#)) United Nations entities and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and sub-regional organizations are invited to the high-level meeting, and requested to participate at the highest possible level. In addition to the participation of ECOSOC accredited NGOs etc, the resolution also requests the President of the General Assembly (PGA) to invite relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector.

It is also requested that the meeting gives due regard to the meaningful participation of children. The meeting therefore proposes to allow an opportunity for adults and children to have a meaningful dialogue and interaction throughout the meeting.

In addition to the mandated and requested invitees, it is proposed that the target CSO invitees will include faith-based partners, as well as the traditional child focused agencies, the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and any other nominated independent experts, and representatives of the wider child rights community, such as Independent Human Rights Institution leaders, Ombudsmen and human rights defenders from inside and outside the UN system.

The resolution draws attention to the need for all participation to be based on the principles of transparency, equitable geographical distribution, and the meaningful participation of women.

The meeting will also include private sector leaders from key sectors who can have an impact on the child rights issues to be discussed.

### **Objectives**

The one-day high-level meeting aims to reflect on and renew global and national-level commitments to the Convention and commemorate this unifying moment with and for children to:

- Celebrate the milestones and successes of the Convention, since its ratification, in transforming the lives of millions of children all around the world for the past thirty years;
- Acknowledge the re-commitments made by world leaders at the global and national levels, to uphold the Convention with full consideration to the challenges and opportunities posed by the 21<sup>st</sup> century, inter alia, climate change, rapid urbanization, exploitation of natural resources, protracted conflict and humanitarian crises, forced displacement, digitalization and mass connectivity and enduring multi-dimensional and inter-generational poverty with a profound impact on children's rights and well-being;
- Provide a platform for children to meaningfully share their views and perspectives as the experts on the challenges they face, and opportunities they see for the realisation of their rights, and for world leaders to meaningfully engage with children;
- Connect celebrations across the globe to show the unity of children acting together, with the support of their world leaders;
- Inspire participants to consider how collective and concerted action from all sectors to prioritise the realisation of child rights will be critical for the achievement of the SDGs, and for results that uphold and progress the rights of the 21st century child.

## **Agenda**

### Opening Plenary Meeting 10:00 to 11:00, General Assembly Hall

As mandated by the resolution, key UN officials will be addressing the General Assembly with opening and keynote remarks

	Opening Statements
10:00	H.E. Mr. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande <b>President of the General Assembly</b>
10:05	H.E. António Guterres, Secretary-General <b>UN Secretary General</b>
10:10	Ms. Henrietta Fore <b>UNICEF Executive Director</b>
10:15	Ms. Virginia Gamba <b>Special Representative of the Secretary-General for children and armed conflict</b>
10:20	Ms. Najat Maalla <b>Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against Children</b>
10:25	Mr. Luis Ernesto Pedernera Reyna <b>Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child</b>
10:30	Ms. Maud de Boer-Buquicchio <b>Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material</b>
10:35	Mr. Andrew Morley <b>CEO World Vision, Representative from Civil Society appointed by the President of the General Assembly</b>

Interactive Segment, 10:50 to 13:00, General Assembly Hall

The Interactive Session will highlight the important role of children as human beings with rights, as agents of change, owners of the future and torch-bearers for child rights and sustainable global development. It is envisioned that a diverse range of child speakers will be invited to take center stage (physically or virtually) and address the UN community. This segment will serve as the culminating event of the public engagement for CRC's 30th anniversary which will link together all efforts from different parts of the world in demonstrating the global call for the realisation of children's rights. This segment will also serve as the main event to celebrate World Children's Day in New York – UNICEF's annual day of action *for* children, *by* children.

	ACTIVITY	
10:50	Informal - handover from Geneva to New York	Ms. Michelle Bachelet  <b>UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva</b>
11:00	Welcome Remarks	David Beckham (TBC)  <b>UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador</b>
11:05	Introductory Video on the Convention of the Rights of the Child	
11:08	Opening Remarks	Millie Bobby Brown (TBC)  <b>UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador</b>

CLIMATE CHANGE SEGMENT		
11:13	Introduction and keynote Address by Child Advocate on 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Challenge – climate change	Child Advocate on Climate Change
11:19	Poetry reading by Wole Soyinka	Wole Soyinka (TBC)
EDUCATION SEGMENT		
11:23	Introduction and keynote address by Child Advocate on 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Challenge – education	Child Advocate on Education
11:30	Musical Performance	Skip Marley (TBC)
HUMANITARIAN SEGMENT		
11:33	Introduction and keynote Address by Child Advocate on 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Challenge – humanitarian crises	Child Advocate on Humanitarian Crises
11:40	Musical Performance	Keala Settle (TBC)
PANEL DISCUSSION		
11:45	Introductory remarks	Millie Bobbie Brown and David Beckham (TBC)
11:50	<p><b>Panel Discussion: “Leaving no child behind: For every child, every right”</b></p> <p>A panel of young activists who have overcome challenges in their own lives and are now working to support and advocate on behalf of their peers will share:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their insights on the importance of leaving no child behind;</li> <li>• Their personal experiences overcoming challenges or identifying solutions to inclusion; and</li> <li>• Their call to actions to meaningfully include children and young people from all</li> </ul>	<p><b>SDG Linkage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ <b>Goal 1</b> End poverty in all its forms everywhere</li> <li>▫ <b>Goal 3</b> Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</li> <li>▫ <b>Goal 4</b> Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</li> <li>▫ <b>Goal 5</b> Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</li> </ul>

	<p>backgrounds in decision-making processes.</p> <p>Keynote “listeners”, from civil society, government, the private sector and the UN system, will be requested to ask the panel a question about inclusion and meaningfully listen and respond to the panelist’s response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ <b>Goal 10</b> Reduced Inequalities</li> <li>▫ <b>Goal 16</b> Peace and Justice</li> </ul>
--	--	---

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-minute maximum) on their perspectives regarding the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Member States will be encouraged in their statements to consider the following:

- Highlight the ways in which Member States have implemented the CRC and will take action and strengthen efforts for the further advancement of the Rights of the Child;
- Share their experiences on implementing child rights, including best practices and areas for increased effort;
- 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.



**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 General Assembly Hall, New York**

**Logistics Note**

---

**1. Overview**

This high-level meeting is convened in a spirit of non-discrimination, equality and inclusion to gather children and young people, high-level representatives from Member States, specialists from governmental and non-governmental organizations, partners in civil society, the private sector, academia, as well as renowned international personalities championing children's rights. Recognizing that, while progress has been made, the situation of children is critical in many parts of the world and many challenges remain to ensure the full realization of their rights, and that in this regard the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention is an occasion for States to reflect on implementation gaps and to undertake additional measures to ensure children's rights.

This one-day event will also serve as the culmination of a series of child-centric efforts underway in regional, national and local capacities, brought together in a global space with the participation of UN Member States, civil society, children and other stakeholders – all celebrating the Convention.

In accordance with the [resolution 73/301](#), the schedule of the meeting will be as follows:

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.     | Opening plenary meeting    |
| 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Interactive segment        |
| 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.       | High-level plenary meeting |

The outcome of the one-day high-level event meeting will be in a form of a summary by the President of the General Assembly of interventions from Member States announcing their renewed or refreshed commitments towards the fulfillment of obligations enshrined within the convention for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and a summary of discussions to act as a record of ongoing commitment to accelerate action for the full realization of the CRC

## **2. Opening plenary meeting, interactive segment, and high-level plenary meeting.**

The opening plenary meeting will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, as well as a representative of civil society engaged in the promotion of the rights of the child.

The interactive session will operationalize the mandate in [resolution 73/301](#), paragraph 5, to include “the meaningful participation of children” and paragraph 9 and 10 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.”

The high-level plenary meeting will comprise statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly. It is also encouraged that Member States operationalize “meaningful child participation” through their child delegates in their statements.

Seating for Member States will follow the General Assembly seating protocol. Each Member State delegation has six seats (three primary and three secondary) and is encouraged to allocate as many of those seats to child delegates and their chaperone.

### *List of speakers*

The list of speakers for the high-level plenary meeting at 3 p.m. is open for inscription through the e-Speakers system at <https://delegate.un.int>. For inquiries regarding user names and passwords, kindly contact the DGACM help-desk (e-mail [help-desk@un.org](mailto:help-desk@un.org)). For any other inquiries regarding the list of speakers, please contact the General Assembly Affairs Branch (Mr. Carlos Galindo (e-mail [galindo@un.org](mailto:galindo@un.org); tel. 1 (212) 963-5063), with copy to e-mail [gaspeakerslist@un.org](mailto:gaspeakerslist@un.org)).

The time limits for the statements will be *three minutes* for individual delegations and *five minutes* for statements made on behalf of a group of States. Delegations are reminded of the limited time allocated to the high-level plenary meeting.

## **3. Participation of Member States and observers**

Member States are encouraged to participate at the highest possible level and to include children and young persons in their delegations per paragraph 6 of [resolution 73/301](#). All Member and Observer States will have six seats and are encouraged to allocate as many as possible of those seats to child delegates and their chaperone. The PGA encourages Member States to operationalize “meaningful child participation” through their child delegates. It is also encouraged to incorporate the views and perspectives of children from their country, 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 7 of [resolution 73/301](#). Member States are also requested to highlight the ways in which they have implemented the Convention and will strengthen efforts for the further advancement of the Rights of the Child.

Observers of the General Assembly are also invited to be represented at the highest possible level.

#### **4. Participation of other stakeholders**

All relevant United Nations entities and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations are encouraged to participate in the high-level meeting at the highest possible level.

Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council with relevant expertise are being invited to register with the Secretariat to attend the meeting.

The President of the General Assembly has drawn up a list of other relevant representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, and the private sector who may attend the high-level meeting and participate in the interactive segment. This list was submitted to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis. The final list of approved organizations was circulated to Member States on August 2019.

#### **5. Registration of members of official delegations**

Members of the parties of Heads of State or Government, Vice-Presidents, Crown Princes or Princesses and Ministers will be registered by the Protocol and Liaison Services. Mission/offices are required to submit their registration requests by using the online system “eRegistration” available through the e-DeleGATE Portal at <https://delegate.un.int>. Delegations wishing to obtain information on the system may refer to the updated “Guidelines on eRegistration” and “Frequently asked questions” sections posted on the Protocol and Liaison Service website (<http://protocol.un.org>). The deadline for registration is Wednesday 13 November 2019.

#### **6. Access arrangements**

##### *Access for Member States*

Member States will be responsible for securing access for their delegation, including their child representatives and their chaperone. Member States including children in their delegations are required to register their children representatives and their chaperone to secure a ‘child participant’ SET for the child delegate and a SET pass for the chaperone (if the chaperone is not already a part of the official delegation), emphasizing that both child delegates and their chaperones are part of the 6 seats allocated per Member State. To register child delegates and their chaperone, please fill-out the electronic form in the following link by **Friday, 15 November 2019**: <https://forms.gle/Pw4k5jk6E2gHKpCY7>

To retrieve the passes, please note of the following details:

**Pick-up location:** UNICEF House Lobby, 3 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017

**Pick-up date and time:** 19 November, 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. and 20 November, 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

#### *Access for specialized agencies*

Specialized agencies of the United Nations are invited to send an expression of interest to attend the high-level meeting to UNICEF (sbaruzzi@unicef.org with copy to pgregorio@unicef.org) no later than 13 November 2019.

#### *Access for UN entities*

United Nations entities, including funds and programmes, are invited to send an expression of interest to attend the high-level meeting to UNICEF (sbaruzzi@unicef.org with copy to pgregorio@unicef.org) no later than 13 November 2019. Access and seating will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, and participants should expect an email with details on time and location at which the secondary access cards are to be collected.

#### *Access for NGOs and other stakeholders*

The registration process for representatives of non-governmental organizations with ECOSOC consultative status and other organizations with special accreditation is open from Friday, 1 November to Wednesday, 13 November and can be completed via the UN Indico platform at <https://reg.unog.ch/event/32462/>. Once the applicant has received a confirmation email, they should expect a further email with details on time and location at which the special event ticket is to be collected. Further guidance on where and when to retrieve the Special Event Tickets will be given days prior the event date. Please note that for security purposes, a government issued photo ID is required (1) to receive the special events ticket and (2) to enter the United Nations compound. Participants should arrive one hour prior the start of the event to ensure enough time for the mandatory airport-standard security screening.

### **7. Media and Accreditation**

Media are welcome to cover the high-level meeting, in accordance with the United Nations media accreditation procedure. Media members who wish to apply for accreditation should follow the instructions on the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (MALU) website: <http://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/accreditation.shtml>. Permanent and Observer Missions to the UN can request media passes in advance through the e-Accreditation system on the e-DeleGATE portal: <https://delegate.un.int> Information on related press encounters can be found at: <http://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/alert.shtml>). For any other media inquiry other than accreditation, please contact the Office of the President of the General Assembly (Ms. Reem Abaza at [abaza@un.org](mailto:abaza@un.org)).

All members of the media, with valid pass, will be escorted to designated media areas by MALU. Questions or concerns should be directed to MALU at [malu@un.org](mailto:malu@un.org) or 212-963-6934.

### **8. Webcast**

The United Nations Webcast services will provide live streaming coverage of the high-level meeting in 6 languages as well as on-demand coverage (recorded video) in English and

original language, through the UN Web TV website at: <http://webtv.un.org>. The coverage will include the opening plenary meeting, interactive segment, and the high-level plenary meeting.

## **9. Statements, Non-official language interpretation and Accessibility**

Delegations wishing to circulate their statements are invited to submit PDF versions of their statements via email to [papersmart@un.org](mailto:papersmart@un.org) no later than two hours in advance of delivery. The name of the meeting should be indicated in the subject line of the email and in the heading of the statement. The statements will remain embargoed until their delivery and then posted.

Statements made in any of the six official languages of the General Assembly are interpreted into the other official languages. Any speaker may also make a statement in a language other than the official languages. In such cases, in accordance with rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, the delegation in question must provide either an interpreter from the non-official language into an official language, or a written text of the statement in one of the official languages to be read out by a United Nations interpreter. On the basis of this interpretation or the written text which is accepted by the Secretariat as representing the official text of the statement, it will be interpreted into the other official languages by United Nations interpreters.

When a written text is provided, the delegation concerned should make available to the interpreter someone who knows the language in which the statement is to be delivered and the official language into which it has been translated, to guide the interpreter through the translated text and to ensure synchronization between the speaker and the interpreter.

Detailed arrangements for interpretation from non-official languages, including access by non-United Nations interpreters to the interpreter booths in the conference room, must be made in advance through the Meetings Management (telephone: 212-963-7351; email: [gmeets@un.org](mailto:gmeets@un.org)). The interpreter or the guide provided by the delegation should be brought by the delegation to the conference officers' desk in the conference room 30 minutes prior to the delivery of the statement.

Closed captioning (CART services) in English and French will be provided for the opening plenary meeting, interactive segment, and high-level plenary meeting.

The United Nations Accessibility Centre offers assistive information and communication technology to support audio, visual as well as physical impairments. The assistive devices are available on-site or as a loan to participants with disabilities. The Accessibility Centre is located in the Conference Building, Room S-1B032 (Level 1B) by the Secretarial Building escalators.