



FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROTOCOL ON THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

Monday, 28 April 2025

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. New York / 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Geneva

Hybrid event: Labouisse Hall, UNICEF Headquarters in New York and online

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

The [United Nations Protocol on the Provision of Assistance to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse](#), endorsed by the UN on 12 December 2019, elaborates a common set of norms and standards based on existing frameworks aimed at strengthening a coordinated, system-wide approach to the provision of assistance and support, prioritizing the rights and dignity of victims, regardless of the affiliation of the alleged perpetrator. This approach is aligned with broader United Nations efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and takes into account established good practices to address gender-based violence.

The commemoration of the Fifth year anniversary of the Protocol signing is co-hosted by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate. The event will take place on **28 April 2025** and will be conducted in a hybrid format. It will feature two panel discussions and presentations from diverse speakers, including UN leaders and NGO partners, focusing on progress made in implementing the Protocol, sharing good practices in supporting victims, and highlighting the need to strengthen assistance and support moving forward. This event will also serve as an opportunity for a collective recommitment to the Protocol and to our commitment to supporting victims and survivors and placing them at the center of all efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse.

OBJECTIVES

The event will provide an opportunity to:

- Recommit to the UN Protocol through concrete action.
- Reflect on progress made in the last five years and identify gaps and challenges.
- Promote accountability for victim assistance and facilitate a discussion on roles and responsibilities.
- Share good practices and innovative approaches on victim assistance.
- Reflect on future strategies for strengthening the provision of assistance.

TARGET AUDIENCE

UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes' personnel including leadership, Missions, interagency PSEA coordinators and networks, the IASC, CSOs/NGOs, and Member States.

OUTCOME

- A **joint statement declaration** demonstrating a strong recommitment from VRA, USG DMSPC, USG OSCSEA, DED UNICEF, DED UNFPA. This will be prepared ahead of the event and issued after the discussion to be sent to the Secretary-General.
- As suggested to the EOSG, the Secretary-General could record a video on the joint declaration. The video will be disseminated after the event with UN entities system wide.

LOGISTICS

- **Location:** In-person event will be held at **Labouisse Hall, UNICEF House, 3 UN Plaza, New York, NY.**
- **Online:** Event will be on Zoom. A **link** will be emailed to registered participants upon registration.
- **Language:** The event will be conducted in English.