



Human Rights Council

Tenth session

Geneva, 2 – 27 March 2009

Order of the Day

Wednesday, 11 March 2009

Plenary meetings

16 th meeting	10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	Room XX
17 th meeting	3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.	

Item 3: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development (*cont'd*)

Annual full-day Meeting on the Rights of the Child

- Concept paper: Panel on Rights of the Child (*in annex*)

Notes:

- Delegations are requested to be in Room XX at **10.00 a.m.**
- All speakers scheduled to take the floor should provide the Secretariat beforehand with 25 copies of their statements. For general distribution, 250 copies are needed.
- The confidential files for the closed meetings on the complaint procedure are available for collection by States Members of the Council in **office E-2068** (access through 3rd floor).
- The full text of statements, as well as the audio files may be accessed at <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil>.
- Deadline to table draft proposals for action: **19 March 2009.**
- Identity photo-badges valid for the session may be obtained by all delegations, if needed, from the UNOG Security and Safety Section at the “Pregny Gate” (Palais des Nations, 8-14 avenue de la Paix) from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. upon presentation of a copy of their letter of accreditation and an identity document.

Human Rights Council (10th session)

ANNUAL FULL-DAY MEETING ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Topic

20 Years of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Achievements and Challenges for its full Realization

Date

Wednesday 11 March 2009, 10:00 – 13:00 and 15:00 – 18:00, during the 10th session of the Human Rights Council.

Background and mandate

In its resolution A/HRC/RES/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”. It also decided “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, including the identification of challenges in the realization of the rights of the child, as well as measures and best practices that can be adopted by States and other stakeholders, and to assess the effective integration of the rights of the child in its work, beginning in 2009”.

Focus and Objectives

In the context of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Annual full-day Meeting, consisting of two Panels, aims at generating a concrete, inter-active discussion on the implementation of the Convention, including achievements and challenges in the realization of the rights of the child.

Bearing in mind the present context, the full-day Meeting should identify critical areas in need for further attention and measures, as well as best practices to address existing challenges and promote the full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In this framework, two panel sessions will be devoted respectively to:

- **Promoting the implementation of the Convention at the international level**
(10:00-13:00)
- **Achievements and obstacles in implementing the Convention at the national level**
(15:00-18:00)

- Panel on Promoting the Implementation of the Convention at International Level (10:00 – 13:00)

The panel presentations will address, in particular, the current international context and main challenges to the implementation of the Convention; the integration of the rights of the child into the work of the Human Rights Council, including UPR and special procedures; the role of regional organizations.

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Delegations and other stakeholders are encouraged to share views and concrete experiences on the topic of discussion. Among questions that interventions may want to address are:

- How can international and regional mechanisms most effectively support States' efforts to implement the Convention?
- How can the Human Rights Council better integrate the rights of the child into its work and the work of its mechanisms (including regular and special sessions, the work of special procedures, UPR etc)?
- How can international mechanisms increase visibility and knowledge of the provisions of the Convention?

- Panel on National Implementation and Monitoring (15:00 – 18:00)

This panel should provide an opportunity to take stock of progress made at the national level and identify main challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

As recalled by General Comment No. 5 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, implementation requires several steps, including legislative reform, development of comprehensive national strategies, coordination of relevant actors, monitoring and ensuring child impact assessment and evaluation, data-collection, making children visible in budgets, training and capacity building, etc.

The panel presentations will address, in particular, the role of national human rights institutions; accountability for violations of the rights of the child and measures to ensure accessibility of effective remedies for violations of the rights of the child; the need for evidence-based policy-making and its continuous assessment and evaluation; the role of Parliaments in harmonizing national legislation with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Interventions may address the following questions:

- What are the main challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and how can they be addressed?
- How to ensure effective coordination among and accountability of different ministries, agencies and mechanisms involved in the implementation of the rights of the child at the national level;
- How do States ensure wide knowledge of the provisions of the convention, as well as monitoring and evaluation of their achievements in the realization of the rights of the child? What is the role of national mechanisms to monitor and promote the implementation of the Convention?
- How can children's views effectively be taken into account and how can child participation be meaningfully ensured in national efforts to implement the Convention?
- How to ensure visibility of budgets devoted to the realization of the rights of the child?

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Speakers:**Morning panel:**

Introduction: Ms. Navanethem Pillay, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Moderator: Mr. Martin Ihoeghian Uhomoibhi, President Human Rights Council

Panellists:

- Mr. Dainius Puras, Member of Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Mr. Philip O'Brien - Director Private Fundraising and Partnerships, UNICEF Geneva.
- Ms. Asma Jahangir, Chair Coordination Committee of Special Procedures
- Mr. Alan Kikuchi-White, NGO Group for the Convention of the Rights of the Child
- Ms. Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary-General of Council of Europe

Afternoon panel:

Introduction: Ms. Kyung-wha Kang, Deputy High Commissioner

Moderator: Vice-President (tbc)

Panellists:

- Mr. Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary-General IPU
- Mr. Jorge Freyre, Coordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for the Rights of the Child (REDLAMYC)
- Mr. Trond Waage, Senior Fellow, UNICEF Innocenti Research Center (former Ombudsman for Children of Norway)

Format

The presentations of the panelists (1 hour) will be followed by an interactive discussion (2 hours). This discussion will be divided in two slots of 60 minutes each (45 minutes for comments and questions from the floor, followed by 15 minutes for comments and replies by panelists). The interactive debate will be followed by concluding remarks from the moderator.

The modalities of the panel are: 7 minutes for panelists, 3 minutes for Member States and 2 minutes for Observer States, national human rights institutions, international organizations and non-governmental organizations.

Member States, national human rights institutions, international organizations and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to participate and make their contributions to the debate, subject to the modalities and the practice of the Council. In particular, NGO coordination is strongly encouraged to maximize the use of time.

Outcome

In the context of the 20th anniversary of the Convention, the full-day meeting will contribute to take stock of the implementation of the Convention, by identifying in particular best practices as well as on-going challenges and obstacles. An informal summary of the debate will be posted on the OHCHR website.
