



Convention on the Rights of the Child

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Meeting of States parties

Sixteenth meeting

New York, 30 June 2016

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Election of nine members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in accordance with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as amended (see General Assembly resolution 50/155)

Election of nine members of the Committee to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 28 February 2017

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In conformity with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the sixteenth meeting of the States parties to the Convention is to be held at United Nations Headquarters on Thursday, 30 June 2016 for the purpose of electing nine members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child from a list of persons nominated by States parties (see table), to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 28 February 2017 (annex I). The nine members who will continue to serve on the Committee until 28 February 2019 are listed in annex II.
2. In accordance with the procedure set out in article 43 (4) of the Convention, the Secretary-General, in a note verbale dated 2 March 2016, invited the States parties to submit their nominations for the election of nine members of the Committee by 2 May 2016. All the curricula vitae received by that date are included in the present document. Addenda to the present note will be issued for nominations received after the deadline.
3. In compliance with the provisions of article 43 (4) of the Convention, the Secretary-General has the honour to list below, in alphabetical order, the names of the persons nominated for election to the Committee, and the States parties that nominated them. Biographical data of the persons nominated, as furnished by the States parties concerned, are contained in annex III.

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Persons nominated by States parties

<i>Name of candidate</i>	<i>Nominated by</i>
Ms. Amal Salman Aldoseri	Bahrain
Mr. Oumarou Bocar	Mali
Ms. Karla Cueva	Honduras
Ms. Milena Grillo Rivera	Costa Rica
Ms. Olga A. Khazova	Russian Federation
Mr. Cephas Lumina	Zambia
Mr. Benyam Dawit Mezmur	Ethiopia
Mr. Joseph Ndayisenga	Burundi
Mr. Wanderlino Nogueira Neto	Brazil
Ms. Mikiko Otani	Japan
Ms. Sara Oviedo Fierro	Ecuador
Mr. Luis Ernesto Pedernera Reyna	Uruguay
Ms. Ann Marie Skelton	South Africa
Ms. Velina Todorova	Bulgaria
Ms. Nazgul Turdubekova	Kyrgyzstan
Ms. Renate Winter	Austria

4. In compliance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 68/268, information regarding the current composition of the Committee, reflecting the balance in terms of geographical distribution and gender representation, professional background and different legal systems, as well as the tenure of current members, is contained in annexes I and II to the present document and in the biographical data of current members, which can be found on the web page of the Committee (www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/Membership.aspx).

5. In paragraph 13 of its resolution 68/268, the General Assembly encouraged States parties, in the election of treaty body experts, to give due consideration, as stipulated in the relevant human rights instruments, to equitable geographical distribution, the representation of the different forms of civilization and the principal legal systems, balanced gender representation and the participation of experts with disabilities in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies.

Annex I

Members of the Committee whose terms expire on 28 February 2017^a

<i>Member</i>	<i>Country of nationality</i>	<i>Member since</i>
Ms. Amal Salman Aldoseri	Bahrain	2013
Mr. Peter Gurán	Slovakia	2009
Ms. Olga A. Khazova	Russian Federation	2013
Mr. Benyam Dawit Mezmur	Ethiopia	2013
Ms. Yasmeen Muhamad Shariff	Malaysia	2013
Mr. Wanderlino Nogueira Neto	Brazil	2013
Ms. Sara Oviedo Fierro	Ecuador	2013
Ms. Maria Rita Parsi	Italy	2013
Ms. Renate Winter	Austria	2013

^a With regard to professional background and different legal systems, biographical data of the members may be found on the web page of the Committee, under “Membership”, by clicking on the name of the individual members. See www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/Membership.aspx.

Annex II**Members of the Committee whose terms expire on 28 February 2019**

<i>Member</i>	<i>Country of nationality</i>	<i>Member since</i>
Ms. Suzanne Aho Assouma	Togo	2015
Ms. Hynd Ayoubi Idrissi	Morocco	2015
Mr. Jorge Cardona Llorens	Spain	2011
Mr. Bernard Gastaud	Monaco	2011
Mr. Hatem Kotrane	Tunisia	2003
Mr. Gehad Madi	Egypt	2011
Mr. Clarence Nelson	Samoa	2015
Mr. José Angel Rodríguez Reyes	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	2015
Ms. Kirsten Sandberg	Norway	2011

Annex III*

Amal Salman Aldoseri (Bahrain)

Date and place of birth: 22 December 1959, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

Current position/function:

- Member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child since 2013
- Vice-chairperson of the Committee, (Candidate for chairperson of the Committee in June 2014), member of the Bureau of the Committee
- Member of the Working Group on the 3rd optional protocol on a communications procedure
- Member of the Arab Committee on the Rights of the Child, League of Arab States, Cairo
- Ex member and present resource person of the National Committee for Childhood, headed the team to draft the first National Child Strategy and plan of action

Working languages: Arabic, English, French and first certificate in German

Main professional activities:

- Participated in developing 4 General Comments for the CRC: Harmful Practices (jointly with CEDAW), Children in Street Situations, Children's rights in public spending, Children in Migration Situations (with CMW).
- Member in the 25th anniversary of the CRC working group and participated in hangout meeting with children from different parts of the world.
- Participated in the preparation committee for the special session on children, New York 2001.
- Headed a professional team to draft the "Child Law" in accordance with the CRC, which was adopted in August 2012.
- Manager of the first National Youth Strategy 2005-2009 and the update 2011-2015, including young people's participation and rights.
- Manager of National Child Strategy in Bahrain and Action Plan 2012-2016.
- Manager of Situation Analysis (Sit-An) 2003 and 2011, focusing on the challenges facing the implementation of the Convention.
- Project Manager of Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, in coordination with UNICEF.
- Main contributor in writing Bahrain's initial, second and third periodic reports on CRC and member of the delegation for the dialogue with the CRC Committee, Geneva.
- Teacher, head of department, and then advisor on teaching methodology in the Ministry of Education.

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

Educational background:

- B.A., double major English Literature and translation, Kuwait University
- Post-graduate Diploma in Education, Bahrain University
- Master in Education- Sheffield University UK
- Course in “Innovation in Governance”, School of Government, Harvard University

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

- Initiated dialogue and lobbied to incorporate the CRC in the school curricula with Ministry of Education.
- Participated in the strategic planning for young people living in Bahrain in all fields, including human rights and civic participation.
- Founder of Bahrain Youth Parliament (age group 14-19 years).
- Founder of Y-PEER Education-Bahrain, the first and only in the region, in coordination with UNFPA to educate and train young trainers on sexual and reproductive health.
- Recognized trainer on capacity building and development of youth, children and women (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, League of Arab States (LAS)).
- Lead organizer of the Arab Child Festival.
- Launched Short Story Competition for Children to encourage writers and new young writers to produce story books for children.
- Lead organizer of the first Child Theatre Festival.
- Ex-Vice-president of International Council on National Youth Policy (ICNYP), Vienna.
- Ex-Board member of World Leisure Organization (WLO), USA.
- Member of non-profit Bahrain Society for Child Development, and member of Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Centre for speech and hearing, helping children with hearing disabilities.

List of most recent publications:

- “Child and Law in Bahrain”, 2003
- “Children’s Books in Public Libraries”, survey
- “Children’s Programmes in G.C.C. Television Channels”, survey

Oumarou Bocar (Mali)

[Original: French]

Date and place of birth: 25 May 1954, Kirchamba, Diré, Mali**Working languages:** French**Current position/function:**

Inspector of Judiciary Services

Consultant providing short-term technical assistance and expert advice

Coach (part-time) in skills-building for practising professionals

Main professional activities:

In my current functions as Inspector of Judiciary Services, I conduct systematic inspections of courts and other services under the Department of Justice to monitor their operation, quality of services provided, quality of decisions handed down, handling of cases and the general overall situation of the court system and its setting. These systematic inspections also provide an opportunity to offer advice on technical, methodological and ethical matters to judges and other court system staff.

I also conduct investigations into reports of acts committed by justice officials

Educational background:

Diploma in juridical science, National School of Administration, Bamako, Mali

Diploma, National School for the Judiciary (international section), Paris, France

Diplôme d'études approfondies (advanced studies diploma) in criminal science and criminal law, Toulouse, France

Doctorate in criminal law and criminal science, Social Sciences University, Toulouse, France

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

Consultant providing expert advice on children's law at the UNICEF office in Bamako, Mali (several years)

Oversaw the study on harmonizing national legislation with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The study reviewed the entire corpus of national legislation with an eye to identifying inconsistencies and gaps and proposing appropriate amendments.

Led consultative processes aimed at Mali withdrawing its reservations to the Convention

Proposed the idea of a Malian Child Protection Code and prepared the initial draft of the Code as part of a consultancy with UNICEF-Mali

Chaired the national commission that prepared the report which received the Ciwara Award of Excellence

Conducted numerous missions in the subregion

List of most recent publications in the field:

None as yet. However, I have authored several reports, analyses, contributions and studies on children's law and how it has evolved and is applied in different national and international contexts (cultural, economic, political etc.). I have also moderated numerous conferences and seminars in Mali and abroad.

Karla Cueva (Honduras)

[Original: Spanish]

Date and place of birth: 5 October 1970; Copán Ruinas, Copán, Honduras**Working languages:** Spanish and English**Current position/function:**

Under-Secretary for Human Rights and Justice, Government of Honduras, 2014-present

Main professional activities:

Coordinates human rights public policy and the National Human Rights Action Plan 2013-2022. Oversees the programme to provide human rights training to civil servants, the police, local governments and others. Has coordinated a study on preventing social conflict using a human rights approach; provides coordination for the mechanism to protect human rights defenders, journalists and justice officials; and coordinates the preparation of country reports to the human rights treaty bodies

Educational background:

Licencia in juridical and social sciences, National Autonomous University of Honduras, 1993

Law degree, National Autonomous University of Honduras, 2002

Master's degree in advanced studies on children's rights, Kurt Bösch University Institute and University of Fribourg, Switzerland, 2008

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body:

Extensive experience in the study and defence of children's rights, development and social inclusion, working with civil society (Casa Alianza Honduras, ChildFund, Ayuda en Acción, Plan International), international cooperation agencies (the International Labour Organization's International Programme on the Elimination of Children Labour, UNICEF, World Bank) and public sector institutions (National Human Rights Commission, Honduran Institute for Children and the Family, Secretariat for Social Development, Secretariat for Human Rights, Justice, Internal Affairs and Decentralization)

Extensive experience in the preparation of legislation, regulations, public policy and programmes on human trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, child labour and early childhood development, among other areas

Author and co-author of various studies on children's rights

Representative of Honduras to the Human Rights Council (2010 and 2015 universal periodic reviews), the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2015) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Former Under-Secretary for Social Policy (2010-2012)

List of most recent publications in the field:

"Honduras: ejecuciones extrajudiciales de niños, niñas y adolescentes," Casa Alianza Honduras, 2002

"Estudio de la legislación sobre trabajo infantil doméstico en Honduras. Un análisis de la legislación nacional e internacional," 2004

“Análisis de la normativa nacional e internacional en materia de familia y niñez en Honduras,” 2008

“Informe latinoamericano. Situación de la niñez sin cuidado parental o en riesgo de perderlo en América Latina: contextos, causas y respuestas,” 2010

Milena Grillo Rivera (Costa Rica)

[Original: Spanish]

Date and place of birth: 21 August 1946; San José, Costa Rica**Working languages:** Spanish (mother tongue) and English (proficient)**Current position/function:**

Executive Director, Fundación Paniamor, Costa Rica, with responsibility for furthering its mission to serve as a catalyst for sustainable change in the quality of life of children and the full enjoyment of their rights in Costa Rica. Acts as the foundation's legal and official representative in dealings with governmental and intersectoral bodies and commissions and civil society networks at the national and international levels

Main professional activities:

Political advocacy and social mobilization to prevent violence and ensure social inclusion using gender-sensitive approaches with a children's rights component and regional scope

Applied research for the design and advocacy of best practices for social and institutional action in early childhood and adolescence

Designing of social and institutional management models for the prevention of violence against children and adolescents

Technical advice for the development of culturally sensitive legislation and public policy instruments to provide effective protection of the rights of children and adolescents

Conceptual design of digital platforms for citizen participation by adolescents

Educational background:

Master's degree in social sciences, with a focus on studies on family and social violence

Law degree

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

Representative of ECPAT International at the high-level panel for the global study on sexual exploitation linked to travel and tourism, 2015-present

Representative of the Latin America region on the International NGO Council on Violence against Children, 2012-present

Member of the Advisory Council, Office of the Ombudsperson, 2015-present

Member of the Task Force for the Protection of Children in Tourism, World Tourism Organization, 2006-present

List of most recent publications in the field:

"Somos Familia. Empoderamiento de las familias para una crianza respetuosa," Fundación Paniamor, Ministry of Health et al., Costa Rica, 2016

"Niñez ciudadana. Reconociendo y desarrollando capacidad de agencia desde la primera infancia," Fundación Paniamor, Ministry of Health et al., Costa Rica, 2014

"Adolescencia y TIC en Costa Rica: nuevas oportunidades, nuevos desafíos" in *Ciberseguridad en Costa Rica*, PROSIC, Costa Rica, 2010

Olga A. Khazova (Russian Federation)

Date and place of birth: 25 July 1950

Working languages: Russian (native), English (fluent) and French (beginner)

Current position/function:

Russian leading specialist in Russian and comparative family law, Associate Professor, Senior Research Fellow

Member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, elected at the Fourteenth meeting of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 18 December 2012

Main professional activities:

Methodological Council at the RF Ministry of Justice – member of the Council, February 2010 – present.

Consultant and co-author for Lawyers for Constitutional Rights and Freedoms (JURIX) Foundation, participating in a funded project on protection of an individual against discrimination (2006-2007).

Consultant/advisor for the Russian-American Rule of Law Consortium (RAROLC); participated in the RAROLC Conferences on juvenile justice, child protection and domestic violence in Boston, USA (April, 2005) and Pskov, Russia (May 2005).

Expert in the meetings of a Group of Scientific Experts on Medical Liability of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation, Council of Europe (June 2006).

Educational background:

Cornell Law School, Ithaca, N.Y., USA (LL.M. degree, May 30, 2004)

Institute of State and Law, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia (Doctor of Law Degree (Ph.D. in Law), 1982)

Moscow State Academy of Law (All-Union Law Institute), Moscow, Russia

Law Degree (J.D. equivalent), 1975

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

As a member of the UN CRC: Visit to the UK (England and Wales) at the invitation of the Children's Commissioners (3-4 September 2015)

Lectured for the students at Geneva University Summer School on 'Children at the Heart of Human Rights' (9 June 2015)

Participated in the European Conference on the "Best interests of the Child" within the framework of the 25th anniversary of the UN CRC and Belgium's Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

Participated in a panel discussion on children in the digital environment, organized in the framework of the first meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2016-2019 (DECS-ENF), Strasbourg, 13-14 November 2014

List of most recent publications in the field:

The first year of Application of the Hague 1996 Convention on Protection of Children in Russia: success story // *International Family Law*, London, 2014, No. 3. P. 165-169

Russia's Accession to the Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction 1980: New Challenges for Family Law and Practice // Family Law Quarterly (ABA, USA), 2014, Summer issue. Pp. 253-266

Cephas Lumina (Zambia)

Date and place of birth: 13 June 1962, Kabwe, Zambia

Working languages: English

Current position/function:

Research Professor of Public Law, Nelson R Mandela School of Law, University of Fort Hare (since 2014)

Extra-Ordinary Professor of Human Rights Law, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria (since 2010)

Visiting Professor of Law, University of Lusaka (since 2015, lecturing human rights law, among other courses)

Advocate of the High Court of Zambia (admitted 1986)

Main professional activities:

Conducting research and supervising postgraduate student research mainly in the field of human rights; fostering the research culture in the Faculty of Law at the University of Fort Hare; conducting training on human rights issues (including children's rights) in both academic and non-academic contexts; presenting guest lectures on human rights at various universities; presenting papers at international conferences on human rights; participating in the activities of professional bodies (such as the African Network of Constitutional Lawyers, the International Association of Constitutional Law and the ETO Consortium); and consulting for international organisations, as well as governments and non-governmental organisations (including, UNDP, Canadian International Development Agency, Swedish International Development Agency, International Development Law Organisation, Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs [Zimbabwe], Legal Resources Centre [South Africa], Human Rights Trust of Southern Africa, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, No Peace Without Justice [Italy/Libya], and the Court of Appeal of Tanzania).

Educational background:

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in International Law/Human Rights, Griffith University (1999)
- Master of Laws (LLM) in International Human Rights Law, University of Essex (1993)
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (with Merit), University of Zambia (1985)
- Postgraduate Diploma in International Human Rights Law, Abo Akademi University (2003)
- Certificate of Admission to Practice as an Advocate of the High Court of Zambia (1986)

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

- Served as the United Nations Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights (2008-2014)
- Contributed to the development of international human rights standards (including the Guiding Principles on foreign debt and human rights [which I wrote], the

Guiding Principles on Human Rights and Extreme Poverty; and the Draft Guiding Principles on human rights and international solidarity)

- Member of the International Institute of Human Rights (since 2010)
- Visiting Professor, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (2007-2008) and Visiting Lecturer, Makerere University (2006)
- Senior Lecturer in Law, University of KwaZulu-Natal (2003-2009) and Lecturer in law, University of Swaziland (2000-2002)
- Legal practitioner, Zambia (1987-1993)

List of most recent publications in the field:

Numerous publications including reports prepared as UN Independent Expert on foreign debt and human rights and the following academic and non-academic work:

- ‘The Protection of Children in Armed Conflict,’ in F Viljoen & D Kuwali (eds), “*All Means Necessary*”: *Protecting Civilians and Preventing Atrocities in Africa* (forthcoming).
- ‘Sovereign Debt and Human Rights.’ In OHCHR, *Realizing the Right to Development: Essays in Commemoration of 25 Years of the United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development* (pp. 289-301). Geneva & New York: United Nations, 2013.
- *Manual on Human Rights State Party Reporting*. Harare: UNDP/Ministry of Justice, 2009.
- ‘Free Trade or Just Trade? The World Trade Organization, Human Rights and Development (Pts 1 & 2)’. *Law, Democracy & Development*, vol. 12, No. 2 (2008): 20-40 and vol. 14, No. 3 (2010): 1-26.
- ‘Terror in the Backyard: Domestic Terrorism in Africa and its Impact on Human Rights.’ *African Security Review*, vol. 17, No. 4 (2008): 112-132.
- ‘Child Soldiers: War Criminals or Pawns in a Deadly Game?’ *African Yearbook on International Humanitarian Law* (2007): 76-104.
- ‘Counting the Cost: The Impact of Corporate Warfare on the Human Rights of Women and Children in Africa.’ In S Gumede (ed), *Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa: The Need for a New Continental Approach*. Monograph No. 147 (pp. 101-120). Pretoria: Institute for Security Studies.
- ‘Counter-Terrorism Legislation and the Protection of Human Rights: A Survey of Selected International Practice.’ *African Human Rights Law Journal*, vol. 7, No. 1 (2007): 35-67.
- ‘An assessment of the human rights obligations of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund with particular reference to the World Bank’s Inspection Panel.’ *Journal for Juridical Science*, vol. 31, No. 2 (2006): 108-129.
- ‘The Promotion and Protection of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Right to Development under the African Regional Human Rights System.’ *Obiter*, vol. 27, No. 2 (2006): 316-332.

Benyam Dawit Mezmur (Ethiopia)

Date and place of birth: 22 May 1980, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Working languages: English and Amharic

Current position/function:

Associate Professor of Law, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa and lecture/supervise on an ad hoc basis at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Director (Acting) of the Dullah Omar Institute^a for Constitutional Law, Governance and Human Rights and Coordinator of its Children's Rights Project, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa

Chairperson, United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child

Main professional activities:

Mr Mezmur is currently the Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and served as Vice-Chairperson from May 2013 until May 2015. As an academician Mr. Mezmur has lectured masters courses/ and supervised students on children's rights, the rights of persons with disabilities, international protection of human rights, international family law, and the African human rights system. He has also lectured in a number of academic institutions in Africa [Ethiopia and South Africa] and Europe [Belgium, Switzerland, The Netherlands, UK etc]. He coordinates/conducts research on children's rights in a number of African countries, and has been involved in institutional efforts aimed at providing technical support to governments through UN agencies such as UNICEF. In addition, he is involved in advocacy work on the rights of the child with treaty bodies at the UN, the Human Rights Council, and regionally, he continues to serve on the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child of the African Union.

Educational background:

Doctorate in Law (LLD), (2010), University of Western Cape, (research paper on child rights in intercountry adoption)

Masters in Law (LLM) in Human Rights and Democratization (CHR), (2005), University of Pretoria, South Africa (research paper on child soldiers)

Postgraduate Diploma in international protection of human rights, (2007), Abo Akademi, Finland

Bachelor of Laws (LLB), (2003), Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia; and Certificates in mental disability law (CEU, Budapest); development law; international criminal and humanitarian law; ESC rights; etc.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

In addition to Mr. Mezmur's main professional activities mentioned above, he has also taken part in the negotiations to draft the 3rd Optional Protocol to the CRC; participated (since 2007-2012) in the contribution of submissions to the CRC Committee in its Days of General Discussion; and made submissions to the Human Rights Council, and participated in its Day on the Rights of the Child; etc. Formerly Mr. Mezmur was a Legal Officer (2003-2005) at the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF), and continues to serve on its International Board of Trustees, which is chaired by Mrs. Graca Machel. Mr. Mezmur also

^a Formerly known as "Community Law Centre", and re-named after its founding Director, the first Minister of Justice of democratic and post-apartheid South Africa, Advocate Dullah Omar.

serves/served in Expert Groups/Meetings/Advisory Councils/Task Forces such as on the Sustainable Development Goals; children's rights and digital media; budgeting for children; children's rights and the business sector; commercial sexual exploitation (ECPAT); juvenile justice (UNODC); financial aspects of intercountry adoption (HCCH); violence against children including harmful practices (SRSG VAC and ACPF) and the right to education. Mr. Mezmur has also been invited as a speaker to more than 50 international and regional meetings/conferences/workshops in the last five years including more recently to the Council of Europe child rights conference (April 2016, Sofia), African Union Conference on the 25th anniversary of the African Children's Charter (Nov 2015, Addis Ababa), regional child rights forum on children and business (Sept 2015, Johannesburg), and regional nationality and statelessness conference (Feb 2015, Abidjan). Mr. Mezmur is a member of a number of child rights organizations' boards and professional bodies.

List of most recent publications in the field:

Mr. Mezmur has more than 50 published academic and lay publications/reports/etc on child rights in the last few years including:

- (1) "Madonna, Mercy, Malawi, and international children's rights law in adoption" (2012) 20 *International Journal of Children's Rights*;
- (2) "Corporal punishment and the African Children's Charter" (2012) (*Save the Children*);
- (3) "'Listen to us': Arguing for child participation in NEPAD" (2009) 17 *AJICL*;^b
- (4) "The right to education in Africa: Taking stock" (Chapter in book) (2009);^b
- (5) "Children at both ends of the gun: Child soldiers in Africa" (Chapter in book) (2008);
- (6) "From Angelina (to Madonna) to Zoe's Ark: What are the 'A-Z' lessons for intercountry adoptions in Africa" (2009) 23 *International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family*;
- (7) "2 + 2 = 5? Exploring the domestication of the CRC in the South African courts (2002-2006)" (2008) 16 *International Journal of Children's Rights* 1.^b

^b With J Sloth-Nielsen.

Joseph Ndayisenga (Burundi)

[Original: French]

Date and place of birth: 17 November 1974; Gitega, Burundi**Working languages:** French, English and Kiswahili**Current position/function:**

Director General for National Solidarity at the Ministry of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender, 22 July 2006 (date of the presidential decree)-present. In this position, I oversee the coordination of the three directorates responsible for social integration, children and family affairs, and humanitarian action and relief for disaster victims.

Main professional activities:

- Coordinates the organization of special days on topics falling within the ambit of national solidarity, such as the Day of African Children (16 June)
- Fosters a culture of mutual aid and solidarity across all strata of the population and with government partners; performs coordination functions
- Monitors and assesses all actions taken in the spheres of social integration, children and family affairs, and humanitarian action and relief for disaster victims
- Promotes the establishment and operation of social safety nets; advocates and coordinates action by government partners and the community in lending assistance to persons in need

Educational background:

Diplôme de licence (bachelor's degree) in psychology and education sciences, University of Burundi. Thesis topic: The Association des Garçons et Filles de Ménages as perceived by the Bujumbura Municipal Government as an employer; thesis defended on 11 June 2003 with a mark of 15/20

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body:

- Second Vice-President of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Well-being of Children, re-elected at the Committee's twenty-sixth regular session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 16 to 21 November 2015
- Chair of the National Technical Committee for the Protection of Children, 2012-present
- Chair of the committee monitoring the establishment of a helpline for children, 2012-present; the helpline was launched in December 2015
- Deputy Chair of the Board of Directors of the Social Protection Support Fund, May 2015 (date of the presidential decree)-present
- Chair of the national committee coordinating action for the protection of orphans and other vulnerable children, April 2008-2010

List of most recent publications in the field:

In my capacity as Chair of the National Technical Committee for the Protection of Children, I was responsible for coordinating the preparation of policies, strategies and various texts on child protection, including the National Child Protection Policy, the national strategy to prevent and combat the phenomenon of children living in the street and the text on the minimum standard rules for residential centres.

Wanderlino Nogueira Neto (Brazil)

Date and place of birth: 21 March 1945, Salvador, Brazil

Working languages: Spanish

Current position/function:

- Member of the Thematic Group for Monitoring the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child - Brazilian section of the network “Defense of the Children International” - DNI/DCI (Associação Nacional dos Centros de Defesa de Crianças e Adolescentes - ANCED). São Paulo, Brazil.
- Ad hoc Consultant for various entities and public agencies.

Main professional activities:

- Public Attorney (retired) for the Office of the State Attorney of the State of Bahia. Brazil.
- Attorney-General of the State of Bahia.
- General Director for the Justice Court of the State of Bahia.
- Secretary-General for the Office of the State Attorney of the State of Bahia.
- Secretary for the General Office of Internal Affairs of Justice of the State of Bahia.
- Legal Consultant for the Presidency of the Justice Court of the State of Bahia.
- Professor of Public International Law. Universidade Federal da Bahia. Brazil.
- Public Attorney for the Civil Chamber of the Justice Court of the State of Bahia.
- Public Attorney for the First Popular Justice Court of the District of Salvador. Bahia.
- Prosecutor for the Court of the Treasure of the District of Salvador. Bahia.
- Prosecutor for the Court of the Districts.

Educational background:

- B.A. in Law, Universidade Federal da Bahia. Brazil.
- Master in Economic Law, Universidade Federal da Bahia. Brazil.
- Post-graduation in Rights of Minors, Università di Macerata. Italy.
- Internship at the Center for Studies and Formation for the Judicial Protection of Youth. Ministry of Justice. Vaucresson/Paris. France.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

- National Secretary of the Forum of Defense of Children and Adolescents.
- (Forum DCA). Brasilia. 1993.
- Special Consultant at the UNICEF Representative Offices in Brasília (Brazil), Praia (Cape Verde), Luanda (Angola) and Asunción (Paraguay). (1996-1999).
- Consultant at UNESCO in the area of Human Rights. Brasília, Brazil.
- Member of the Delegation of the Civil Society Coalition of Brazil to the Committee of the Rights of the Child (United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights), which prepared the 2004 Alternative Report, and also, presented it to the aforementioned Committee in Geneva on June 2004.

- Coordinator of 19 Seminars on Juvenile Justice promoted by the Brazilian Association of Juvenile and Child Protection Judges and Public Attorneys, all over Brazil, in order to discuss the Social-Educative Treatment for the Adolescent in Conflict with the Law, within the framework of Human Rights and the National System of Social-Educative Treatment (SINASE). (2008-2009).

List of most recent publications in the field:

- 1 - 2007: Guia Estratégico para elaboração de Planas de Erradicação de Trabalho Infantil. OIT e Fórum PETL. Brasília, Brazil.
- 2 - 2006: Sistema de Garantia de Direitos. Revista Serviço Social e Sociedade - vol. 83. Cortez. São Paulo, Brazil.
- 3 - 2004: Direitos Humanos Geracionais. SEDH-CEDA/CEARÁ. Fortaleza, Brazil.
- 4 - 2003: Guia Metodológico para Implementação de Conselhos Tutelares. SEDH-CEDCA-CEARA. Fortaleza, Brazil.
- 5 - 2002: Ciranda dos Direitos. SEDH-CEDCA-CE. Fortaleza, Brazil.
- 6 - 1999: Sistema de Garantia de Direitos. Banco Interamericano de Desenvolvimento - BIRD & CENDHEC/PE. Recife, Brazil.
- 7 - 1987: O novo Ministério Público na Constituição de 1988. Empresa Gráfica da Bahia e UNBA. Salvador, Brazil.
- 8 - 1989: Conselhos paritários deliberativos numa visão gramsciana do Estado. PUC-RS. Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Mikiko Otani (Japan)

Date and place of birth: 18 November 1964; Osaka, Japan

Working languages: English and Japanese

Current position/function:

- Partner lawyer, Toranomom Law and Economic Offices; Lecturer (part-time), Soka University Graduate School of Law
- Chair, Japan Federation of Bar Associations Committee on International Human Rights
- Co-representative, Japan NGO Network for CEDAW
- Country representative of Japan, Family Law & Family Rights Section of LAWASIA (The Law Association for Asia and the Pacific)

Main professional activities:

Ms. Mikiko OTANI is a practicing lawyer who specializes in family law with an advanced academic background and extensive experience of NGO activities in international human rights law. Her focus areas include migrant women and children, human trafficking, international child abduction, remedies for victims of human rights violations, access to justice and human rights education. Ms. Otani played an instrumental role in Japan's contracting the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction in 2014.

As a female leader representing civil society in Japan, Ms. Otani was an Alternate Representative of the Delegation of Japan to the 60th and the 61st UN General Assembly (Third Committee) (2005-2006) and an Advisor (NGO Representative) of the Delegation of Japan to the 53rd UN Commission on the Status of Women (2009). Ms. Otani has been actively involved with NGOs and professional organizations at the regional and the international levels, having served as a Regional Council member of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (2005-2014) and as Co-Chair of the Women Lawyers' Interest Group of the International Bar Association (2013-2014).

Educational background:

1987 LL.B., Sophia University, Faculty of Law

1990 Diploma, Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court of Japan

1999 MIA, Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs

2003 LL.M., University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Law and Politics

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

Ms. Otani has been actively involved in the reporting process for Japan under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women representing NGOs.

Ms. Otani has frequently been invited to speak on children's rights issues at regional and international conferences and to provide training on international human rights law, in particular, women's rights and children's rights, at professional training seminars for lawyers in various countries. She has also been invited to teach international human rights law at law schools in Japan and the USA.

List of most recent publications in the field:

- *Family Law: Jurisdictional Comparisons*, James Stewart (ed.) (European Lawyer Reference) (author for Chapter on Japan) (2013)
- *Practice of International Divorce* (co-author) (2012)
- “International Issues on Child Custody: Internationalization of Families and Need of International Response”, *International Affairs*, No. 607 (2011)
- “The Hague Convention on Child Abduction”, *Horitsu Jiho*, No. 1040 (2011)
- “Committee on the Rights of the Child”, Kentaro Serita et al. (ed.), *International Implementation of International Human Rights Law, Lecture on International Human Rights Law, vol.4* (2011)

Sara Oviedo Fierro (Ecuador)

Date and place of birth: 28 July 1952, Chambo, Ecuador

Working languages: Spanish

Current position/function:

- UN Committee on the Rights of the Child-Member (2013-2017) and Vice-chairperson of the Committee (2013-2017) of Latin America.
- Coordinator of the General Comment on Adolescents.
- Committee Focal point in the relationship between UNICEF and the Committee.

Main professional activities:

- Community Development Program for Childhood (MBS-UNICEF), General Coordinator, 1984-1989.
- Child Development Program, National Institute for the Child and Family, National Coordinator, 1989-2003.
- Ten-Year Plan for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents, General Coordinator, 2003-2004.
- National Council on Childhood and Adolescence, National Executive Secretariat, 2004-2012.
- Leadership on the formation of National System of Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents organisms: 215 Cantonal Councils, 131 Child Protection Committees, 483 Community Ombudsmanships and 92 Advisor Committees.
- Representative of Ecuador at the Inter-American Children's Institute, 2015-2012.
- President of the Board of Directors at the Inter-American Children's Institute, 2006-2008.
- Research and Consulting.

Educational background:

- University Degree in Sociology and Political, Master Degree in Sociology and Political, Universidad Central del Ecuador.
- Course on the design, evaluation and management of social projects, CONADE-UNICEF-PNUD-UNESCO-ILPES.
- Postgraduate course on Economic and Social Policy, ILDIS-UNICEF – Universidad Católica.
- Advanced course on youth and society in Latin America, Latin American Social Science Institute (FLACSO).

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

- Institutional consolidation of the National Council on Childhood and Adolescence, with approved Budget and statutes.
- Consolidation of the Ecuadorian Central Authority for the implementation of international rules and regulations on child abduction, child adoption and parental responsibility.

- Contribution to legislative developments on Criminal Code, Child Work, Rules and Regulations.
- Established ongoing links with other National System of Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents organisms: National Judiciary Council, National Special Police Unit for Children and Adolescents, Office of the Ombudsman, Office of the Public Prosecutor.
- Acted in defining the government policy of comprehensive protection of children and adolescents.
- Monitoring and exigibility of child rights.
- Developed the Social Agenda on Childhood and Adolescence as an instrument of public policy for comprehensive protect.

List of most recent publications in the field:

- Child development programme: minimum quality standards of child development centers.
- Article: “Lessons learnt and challenges of the children’s rights movement in Ecuador 1990-2008” in “Rights and guarantees for children and adolescents: towards the consolidation of the integral protection doctrine”.
- Article about the best interest of the child, in “Review of the House of Representatives”, Mexico.
- Article about “The Convention on the rights of the child” in “CDIA” review, Paraguay, 2015.

Luis Ernesto Pedernera Reyna (Uruguay)

[Original: Spanish]

Date and place of birth: 1969; Bella Unión, Uruguay**Working languages:** Spanish (mother tongue); French (advanced), Portuguese (advanced) and English (basic knowledge)**Current position/functions:**

- Executive Secretary of the Uruguayan Committee on the Rights of the Child^c
- Member of the Coordinating Council of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (REDLAMYC)
- Officer responsible for the children and adolescent rights area at the Institute of Legal and Social Studies of Uruguay
- Adviser on children's rights matters for civil society organizations

Main professional activities:

- Coordinator for Uruguay of the World Organization Against Torture project "Implementing international standards to protect children deprived of liberty from torture and ill-treatment in Benin, Uruguay and the Philippines"
- Coordination, organization, drafting and presentation of shadow reports on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Uruguay, Committee on the Rights of the Child (2002, 2006 and 2013)
- Consultant for the Latin American and Caribbean Network for the Rights of the Child study on the regional status of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Latin America and the Caribbean: impact and challenges after 20 years (2009)
- Member of the National Honorary and Consultative Council on Children and Adolescents, established under the Children and Adolescents Code (2008-2011)

Educational background:

- Law studies, Faculty of Law, University of the Republic, 1989-1996
- VII Specialization Course: "Jurisdictional protection of children's rights for judges, lawyers and prosecutors in the Southern Cone," Santiago, Chile, 13-17 December 2004, organized by UNICEF and the Faculty of Law of Diego Portales University

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body:

- Member of civil society delegation presenting non-governmental reports on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (2002, 2006 and 2015)
- Speaker at the annual meeting of the Human Rights Council on the rights of the child (March 2012)
- Selected from among 20 NGO representatives for the A World Fit for Children Plus 5 review meeting, a commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the

^c A coalition of Uruguayan NGOs that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children (New York, December 2007)

- Researcher for the study on harmonizing legislation with the human rights treaties ratified by Uruguay and other binding norms, conducted as part of the United Nations Development Programme/Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights project to provide technical assistance to the Parliament (2005)

List of most recent publications in the field:

- “Gritos amargos” in *Próximos pasos hacia una política penitenciaria de derechos humanos en Uruguay. Ensayos de seguimiento a las recomendaciones de 2009 y 2013*, published by the Office of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture, Washington College of Law and Anti-Torture Initiative, 2014
- “Los peligros de la justificación educativa en las sanciones a los adolescentes: en el bien no hay excesos” in *La escuela y lo justo. Ensayos acerca de la medida de lo posible*. Myrima Southwell and Antonio Romano, eds., UNIPE Editorial Universitaria, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2013
- “Niños o menores? El lenguaje de la estigmatización. Los incorregibles de siempre,” Luis Eduardo Moras and Luis Pedernera, in *La permanente crisis de la política criminal. A 20 años del primer congreso de derecho penal y criminología*. Ad Hoc Commission on Criminal Law of the Law Students Centre, Centre for Judicial Studies and Research, 2012
- Study on the regional status of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: impact and challenges after 20 years. Co-author with Silvana Pedrowicz, REDLAMYC, 2010
- “Llover sobre mojado. Consideraciones sobre infancia y adolescencia en el Uruguay de hoy” in *Infancia, familia y género: múltiples problemáticas, múltiples abordajes*. Co-author with Sandra Leopold. Mónica de Martino, ed., Ediciones Cruz del Sur, 2009

Ann Marie Skelton (South Africa)

Date of birth and citizenship: 13 July 1961, South African

Working language: English (home language) and French (basic)

Current position/function:

Ann Skelton is a Professor of Law at the University of Pretoria, where she holds the UNESCO Chair in Education Law in Africa. She is also the Director of the Centre for Child Law which promotes children's rights in South Africa through advocacy, law reform, research and litigation. She is a practicing lawyer who often appears in South African courts, arguing landmark children's rights cases.

Main professional activities:

Ann Skelton is recognised in her country and internationally as a foremost expert in child law. During a career spanning 25 years she has used the law as a means to advance children's rights. She has been instrumental in law reform in South Africa: She chaired the committee that the Child Justice Act (2008) at the SA Law Reform Commission, and was a member of the committee that drafted the Children's Act (2005). She continues to be invited by the government to draft amendments to child-related legislation, and frequently makes submissions to Parliament in this regard. She was recently appointed by the South African government as a member of a Ministerial Advisory Committee to review the social welfare white paper. Professor Skelton is also a member of the South African Human Rights Commission advisory committee on child rights and basic education. She is well respected amongst government, non-government and academic peers. The global acknowledgement of her expertise in child rights and child law has resulted in her being invited to give expert input in training and missions in many countries including Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, China, Thailand, Japan, Nepal, Vietnam, Fiji and Albania. She has also spoken at numerous international conferences. Professor Skelton has received several awards including the *Honorary World's Children's Prize*, presented to her by the Queen of Sweden in 2012.

Educational background:

Ann Skelton has a doctorate in law (LLD) from the University of Pretoria, the thesis topic was child justice. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

Ann Skelton is recognised within the United Nations system as an expert on children's and as such has been invited by UNICEF, UNODC, OHCHR, amongst others, to provide expert technical input, for example:

- March 2014: Participated in the expert meeting to discuss access to justice in the IDLO region (Eastern Europe) in Geneva, at the request of UNICEF.
- Jan 2012: Prepared the concept document for and participated in an expert consultation on '*Violence against children in the juvenile justice system*' in Vienna, at the request of the UNODC, the OHCHR and the SR of the UN Secretary General on Violence Against Children. This culminated in a thematic report. It was presented to the General Assembly on 27 June 2012 (A/HRC/21/25).
- September 2011: Participated as a plenary panel speaker at the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child '*Day of General Discussion: Children of incarcerated parents*'.

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- July 2011: Participated in the expert group meeting to discuss ‘*The legal framework required to prohibit, prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children*’ in Geneva, at the request of OHCHR and the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
 - March 2011: Participated in the expert group meeting to review a first draft of a ‘*Model Law on Juvenile Justice*’ in Vienna, at the request of the UNODC.
 - June 2010: Participated in the expert group meeting to discuss ‘*The 3rd optional protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure*’, at the request of the OHCHR.

List of most recent publications in the field:

- Skelton A ‘South Africa’ in T Liefwaard and J Doek (eds) *Litigating Children’s Rights: The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in Domestic and International Jurisprudence* (2015) 1-13 Springer: Netherlands 978-94-017-9444-2.
- Skelton A ‘Freedom in the Making’ in F Zimring et al *Juvenile Justice in Global Perspective* (2015) 327-369 NYU Press: New York 9781479826537.
- Skelton A ‘S v Williams: A springboard for further debate about corporal punishment’ 2015 *Acta Juridica* 263.
- Skelton A ‘Proposals for the review of the minimum age of criminal responsibility 2013 (3) *South African Journal of Criminal Justice* 257-275.
- Skelton A ‘The role of the courts in ensuring the right to a basic education in a democratic South Africa: a critical evaluation of recent education case law’ 2013 46(1) *De Jure* 1-23.

Velina Todorova (Bulgaria)

Date and place of birth: 3 May 1958, Bulgaria

Working languages: Bulgarian, English and Russian

Current position/function:

Associate Professor (Docent): Law Faculty, University of Plovdiv and Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (1995-date). Research & teaching subjects: Civil & Family Law and Rights of Children. Member to the Experts' Committee on the CoE Strategy on the Rights of the Child (2014-15). Board member of the Bulgarian Centre for Non for Profit Law (2015). Editorial Advisory Board Member of the International Journal on the Rights of the Child, BRILL, Nijhoff.

Main professional activities:

Deputy Minister of Justice (Dec 2011-May 2013) (sectors i.a.: International Child Protection and Adoption, Juvenile Justice Reform). National Program Manager for International Labour Organisation (ILO)/ IPEC (2004-09): on child labour, WFCL, incl. sexual exploitation and trafficking in children. Director International Cooperation – Agency for Child Protection to the Council of Ministers (2001-04). Extensive legal expertise and experience in: law making {Family Code (2008), Child Protection legislation (1999-2000, 2003, 2009; incl. Draft Child's Rights Act of 2010), Domestic Violence Act (2005), Supported Decision Making Draft Law (2014-16); new Juvenile Justice Legislation (2014-16); strategic planning (National Strategy on the Child (2008-18); Road Map on the Juvenile Justice Reform (2013-15). Awarded by the: President of the Republic of Bulgaria in the occasion of 25th anniversary of the UN CRC (2014) and by Chair of the State Agency for Child Protection (2016).

Educational background:

Last training: Oxford University, UK: Children & Family Law (2000); Human Rights Law; European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, Nottingham University UK Law Faculty (Sept.-Dec.1997); Family Law & Children Law, Brunel University – London (April-May 1996). Ph. D. in Sociology of Law (1989). Lawyer, MA, Law Faculty, Sofia University (1976-1980).

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

NGO activists since 1995 (Women in Legal Profession, GERT, Centre on Women's Studies and Policies). Experience in reporting under the: CRC: Initial Report on Bulgaria's Progress and Delegation member (1996-97) and Second (Periodic) Report (2003); CEDAW (contributor to the Periodic (6 & 7 consolidated) Reports. Member of the: Commission on European Family Law – CEFL: <http://www.ceflonline.net/> and International Society on Family Law – ISFL. International consultancy on CRC, Family Law, Child Rights & Protection (Moldova, 2010, Tajikistan, 2011), on CRPD (Moldova, UNDP, 2014). Reporter to various national & international conferences.

List of most recent publications in the field:

Family Code: Thematic Commentary. 2015, Sofia, Chapters: Adoption; Parents – Child Relationship. Family Justice in Bulgaria: The Old System and the New Demands. In: Delivering Family Justice in 21st Century. Hart Publishers, 2015. The New Paradigm of the Legal Capacity: article 12 of the UNCRPD. Pravna Misal, 1/2014, Mothers and Fathers Disputing Parental Rights: For a New Gender Order in the Family Law? In: Family Relationships in the Changing Society. Sofia, SIBI, 2014. Child Relocation: the Law and

Practice in Bulgaria. Pravna Misal, 3/2011. Children's Rights in Bulgaria after the End of the Communism. The International Journal of Children Rights, Vol. 17, No. 4, 2009.

Nazgul Turdubekova (Kyrgyzstan)**Date and place of birth:** June 17, 1972**Working languages:** Kyrgyz (native), Russian (fluent) and English (working)**Current position/function:**

Director of Public Fund “Child’s Rights Defenders League” (2008-present). Overall coordination of Public Fund’s activities in the area of child’s rights defence from violence, promotion of child’s rights to education, child’s labour and protection of rights of children with disabilities. Supervision and monitoring of orphans, schools and boarding schools on its compliance to child protection legislation; coordination of public monitoring over implementation of child protection policy/legislation; participation in drafting of legislation; development of policy and programmes on maternity, family and childhood issues; preparation and presentation of alternative reports to the UN Committees.

Main professional activities:

Public Adviser on Child Rights of the Vice Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan on Social Affairs (February 2016-present);

Chairman of the Coordination Council of National Center for the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment (2015-present);

Deputy Chairman of the Coordination Council on Social Protection and Child’s Rights under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (2015-present);

Member of the Coalition of NGOs for the Promotion of Socio-Economic Rights (2013-present);

Coordinator of the Programme “Monitoring of Human Rights in the Kyrgyz Republic”, NGO “Youth Human Rights Group” (2000-2008);

Social worker in two shelters for street children, “Ak-Jol” and Center for the Protection of Children (1996-2000);

Teacher of the Kyrgyz Language Grammar, School #29, Bishkek (1993-1996).

Educational background:

Issyk-Kul University named after Tynystanov, Teacher (1989-1993); Graduate School of the University named by Arabaev (1996-1998), Pedagogy and Psychology; Kyrgyz-Slavic University, Lawyer (2003-2006); Advanced Course on Human Rights NGO Leaders, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Poland (2006-2007); Distance Learning Course, organized by the Women’s Gender Studies University of Oulu, Finland “Basis for Professional and Social Development: Prevention of Violence, Compassion and Non-violence” (January-March 2015).

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

Preparation and presentation of Alternative NGO Reports to the following UN Committees:

- UN Committee on Child’s Rights (2013);
- UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2014);
- UN Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (2014);
- UN Committee on Human Rights (2014).

Provision of legal and direct support to vulnerable groups of children/families; handling of advocacy campaigns, monitoring, data collection and research in the field of children rights; training on children rights for government and non-government and business organizations, provision of legal expertise on children protection issues/children rights.

List of most recent publications in the field:

Monitoring report on implementation of the Plan on optimization of management and funding of residential institutions for child care in the Kyrgyz Republic 2015; Monitoring and Evaluation report on implementation of the Social Protection Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012-2014; Analysis of public policy for the protection of socio-economic rights of children and women in Kyrgyzstan 2013; Observance of the “Children’s right in family surroundings of the Kyrgyz Republic”, Report on the monitoring results 2010.

Renate Winter (Austria)

Date and place of birth: 8 March 1944, Vienna

Working languages: English, French, Spanish, German and Dutch

Current position/function:

Member of the Appeals Chamber of the residual Special Court of Sierra Leone (appointed by the UN Secretary General in June 2002).

Member of the Committee of the Rights of the Child since February 2013, Vice-president of the Committee since February 2015.

Main professional activities:

Since June 2002 Judge to the Appeals Chamber of the Special Court for Sierra Leone; between 2002 and 2014 Interims President, Vice-president and President of the Court 2 years respectively, since 2014 member of the Appeals Chamber of the residual Special Court for Sierra Leone. President of the International Association of Youth and Family Court Judges and Magistrates for four years during this period.

2000-2002: International Judge with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) at the Mitrovica Regional District Court and Justice at the Supreme Court of Kosovo.

1996-2000: UN Centre for International Crime Prevention, Vienna, expert consultant on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on four continents.

1981-1996: Judge at the Vienna Youth Court.

Educational background:

The candidate holds a Law Degree as well as a Master Degree in Interpretation from the University of Vienna.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

Throughout her career, Justice Winter has worked for child-friendly juvenile justice and the protection of children. She has worked with State parties from diverse legal cultures on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

As an international judge in post-conflict situations, Justice Winter acquired first-hand experience in tackling challenges in the protection of women and children, including the rehabilitation and reintegration of children affected by armed conflict.

Renate Winter has contributed to a number of United Nations draft model laws and manuals in the area of juvenile justice. She has long-standing expertise in the prevention of child abuse and the protection of children against organized crime, including trafficking.

- Founding member of the International Institute for the Rights of the Child (Institut International des Droits de l'Enfant – IDE)
- Contributor to the Draft Model Law on Juvenile Justice, the UN Manual on Juvenile Justice, and the Draft Model Law on Child Victims & Witness Protection as well as to the Youth Code of Georgia
- Rapporteur of the Council of Europe on Family Mediation
- Chair of the Scientific Committee for European Master Studies in Mediation
- Cross-regional field experience in juvenile justice projects

List of most recent publications in the field:

- Children as victims and witnesses – a question of law and of rights, 2009.
 - Les Droits de l’Enfant: Douze récits pour ne pas s’endormir, 2004.
 - Bringing medical evidence of torture to international tribunals, in: Shedding light on a dark practice, 2009.
 - Der Special Court for Sierra Leone. Ein Erfahrungsbericht, in: Vom Recht der Macht zur Macht des Rechts, 2006.
-