

THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA  
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND  
ADDRESSING CHILD TRAFFICKING

The United Nations (UN) and its subsidiary body, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), recognize the urgency of combating child trafficking, given that it is addressed in three of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, and the fact that 28% of trafficked victims are children. In 2000, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Girls, was adopted by the General Assembly, at the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime. The protocol sets the basis for legal frameworks that address human and child trafficking. In 2010, the UN also established The Global Plan of Action to combat Trafficking in Persons, providing guidelines and recommendations for governments, civil society, and the private sector to follow in order to prevent and combat trafficking, protect and assist victims, and bring perpetrators to justice. Building on this, UNICEF created the Global Programme to End Child Trafficking, which has the same functions as the Global Plan of Action to combat Trafficking in Persons, but is more focused on child trafficking. It also focuses more on conflict and crisis-affected areas and the victims in there. Furthermore, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has executed anti-trafficking programs and provides technical assistance to governments in the implementation of anti-trafficking laws.

The Republic of Ethiopia understands how significant an issue child trafficking plays in its society and is aware of the fact that conflict zones such as Ethiopia, have excess rates of child trafficking and must be focused on. Ethiopia established the National Steering Committee on Trafficking in Persons, which focuses on addressing child trafficking within the country. The Committee serves as a coordinating mechanism for various actors involved in preventing and combating trafficking, such as law enforcement, social services, and non-governmental organizations. Its role is to oversee the implementation of anti-trafficking efforts, provide guidance and support, and coordinate activities to ensure a comprehensive and effective response to the issue of child trafficking in Ethiopia. Furthermore, Ethiopia founded the National Referral System for trafficking victims, which provides support to trafficking victims by linking them to relevant services, such as medical care, legal assistance, and psychological support, to help them recover and rebuild their lives. The Republic of Ethiopia also created the Training for law enforcement personnel and social workers on identifying and responding to child trafficking cases, which aims to equip those working in law enforcement and social services with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively identify, respond to, and support trafficking victims.

All Member States of the United Nations must work together in order to find solutions for the victims. The States should have increased participation in the UNODC's Human Trafficking - Knowledge Portal to share knowledge between States, which can lead to increased accountability and improved victim protection. Furthermore, the Federal Republic of Ethiopia urges for supply chain transparency within countries, which can help determine if whether or not companies are using child trafficking as a cheaper labor source. Similarly, Ethiopia advises for the eradication of poverty and achieving of the Sustainable Development Goals, which would dramatically reduce child trafficking due to less vulnerability and desperation. Ethiopia also recommends for the implementation of the Ethiopian National Referral System for trafficking victims on a global scale throughout the Member States.

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ENSURING EDUCATION FOR ALL

The United Nations and its subsidiary body, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), acknowledge the importance of education as a basic fundamental right under the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 26. At the World Conference on Education for All in 1990, UNICEF developed a strong focus on education in order to increase access to quality education for all citizens in all member states. The United Nations has added this focus to Goal 4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which provides a framework for states to compare their education levels to and set goals for their education systems. UNICEF is currently focusing on improving and creating new forms of education to bring about more equality in education systems to limit the effects that gender, societal position, location, or disability play in hurting the education system. An example of this includes solar-powered tablets in Sudan, for the purpose of delivering math lessons. UNICEF is also currently implementing "Every Child Learns 2019-2030," which focuses on children excluded from the education system due to gender, disabilities, crises, and wealth. There would also be more focus on reaching children during their younger years and adolescence to include them in the state's public education system.

The Republic of Ethiopia understands how significant of a role education plays in its society and is aware of the fact that 258 million children are out of school globally. In 2020, Ethiopia dedicated around 25 percent of funding to education. Additionally, Ethiopia's Ministry of Education has made the education in grades from kindergarten and eight free and compulsory. This has led to tripled primary school enrollment between 2000 and 2016 to 100%. Ethiopia has an Education Development Roadmap that has been in implementation since 2018 and is expected to end in 2030. The Roadmap outlines a series of short- and long-term goals and strategies for achieving these objectives, including strengthening teacher training, expanding technology use in the classroom, and increasing investment in education, in order to best determine the essential shifts needed to be developed in modern schooling systems. In addition, Ethiopia received a \$15 million grant from the Global Partnership for Education for the Ethiopian COVID-19 Education Response Project, which uses digital and broadcasting platforms to help schoolchildren learn during the pandemic and future discrepancies.

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia proposes a subsidy for a child's books, uniforms, supplies, and transportation, as these problems hurt millions of families and decrease the number of students going to school. However, Ethiopia understands that a monetary solution would not work in every situation, and there are numerous more solutions needed. Ethiopia suggests a further development in technology for remote learning, which would help breach the gap between the adverse effects of location and disabilities, such as a program that converts English to Braille for blind students. Remote learning would also help education continue throughout a crisis, as education takes a lot of time to recover after a crisis. Furthermore, Ethiopia urges Member States to build schools in rural areas for refugees and social and economic minorities, as well as to integrate specialized classrooms throughout all schools for disabled children. Lastly, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia proposes initiatives such as cross-border mobility of students and tutors as another source to fix the problems in member states' education systems.