

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age is expected to increase by 1.5 billion (United Nations 1994).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of children in the 21st century. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) has been signed by 112 countries, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has been instrumental in the development of the Convention. The Convention sets out the rights of children, and the responsibilities of governments to protect and promote these rights. The Convention has been a landmark in the history of children's rights, and it has led to the development of many national laws and policies to protect children's rights.

One of the key areas of concern for children's rights is the issue of child labour. Child labour is a global problem, and it is estimated that there are 250 million children in the world who are working in hazardous conditions. Child labour is a violation of children's rights, and it is a major obstacle to the development of children. Child labour is often the result of poverty, and it is a cycle that is difficult to break.

One of the ways to address child labour is through education. Education is a key to the development of children, and it is a way to break the cycle of poverty. Education can help children to develop their skills and knowledge, and it can help them to find better opportunities in the future. Education can also help children to understand their rights, and it can help them to become active citizens in their communities.

Another way to address child labour is through the development of social safety nets. Social safety nets are programs that provide financial support to children and their families in times of need. Social safety nets can help to reduce poverty, and they can help to ensure that children have access to basic needs such as food, shelter, and healthcare. Social safety nets can also help to protect children from exploitation and abuse.

There are many other ways to address child labour, and it is important to find a combination of approaches that work best for each country. The United Nations has developed a number of guidelines for the elimination of child labour, and these guidelines provide a framework for action. The guidelines emphasize the importance of education, social safety nets, and the involvement of children and their families in the process of eliminating child labour.

The elimination of child labour is a goal that we must all strive for. It is a goal that is in the best interests of all children in the world. We must work together to ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow up in a safe and healthy environment, and that every child has the right to a good education. Only then can we hope to build a better world for the future.