

MEDIA RELEASE

Children discuss the Kosovo Strategy and Action Plan with the Kosovo Government senior officials

Pristine/Pristina, 1st of June – 1st of June is celebrated as children's day in Kosovo. Many activities with and for children take place, which give the opportunity to children to express themselves through arts, sports and cultural activities.

This year, UNICEF supported the Kosovo Youth Council to mark the children's day, by organising a consultation between children and young people on one hand, and the Government senior officials on the other. The aim of the consultation was to create an opportunity for children to raise their voices on issues that affect their health and development.

The consultation was organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Education Science and Technology and the Advisory Office on Good Governance/Office of the Prime Minister.

The main issues that were raised by the participants - around 50 children from different communities from all over Kosovo - were demand for quality health care services for all children and better quality of education. Another important topic was violence in schools, and in this regards children read a declaration against violence in schools that was developed as a result of a range of municipal based consultations.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Hajredin Kuci joined the consultation and pledged that the Strategy and Action plan on children will enable a better environment for children including health and education infrastructure and standards. Mr. Kuci presented the commitment of the Government to create a democratic society, he also invited children to 'to raise their voice and participate more actively in the family, the community, the school, and the government, in a democratic way'

One of the children, Yll Haziri, said 'Children and young people need opportunities. Children are often considered as the fortune of a society, but that is not enough. Children need to be given opportunities to become active participants in the society. Therefore, the Government should invest in us, children and young people'

UNICEF supported the development of the Strategy and Action Plan on children's rights in Kosovo, by organising a range of consultations with civil society and young people. The Strategy and Action Plan will be finally adopted by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Children's Rights in June.

The consultation was organised within the framework of the 20th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

For further information please contact:

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