



Written Statement
Annual Session June 2023
UNICEF Executive Board
Agenda item 2

Distinguished President, your excellencies, delegates, and distinguished guests.

The NGO Committee on Unicef is a group of transnational civil society organizations based in New York and committed to fulfill its mandate to advise the Executive Board of UNICEF. On behalf of its members and organizations, I take the opportunity of this Annual Session to share some recommendations.

We are aware and we appreciate all the efforts that despite the Covid - 19 pandemic and its consequences have been made. To achieve systemic change, we are committed to achieving the Objectives of Sustainable Development provided in the Strategic Plan.

As part of the NGO Committee on UNICEF's commitment to advance the vision of a society that includes every child and promotes their human rights, we seek to incorporate the recommendations of our members in the following areas:

1. Emphasis on strengthening and promoting programs on early childhood development, including children living in poverty or affected by conflict and crisis, children on the move, children belonging to communities facing discrimination, and children with disabilities.
2. Support and emphasize your efforts on education, including investment in public education, to ensure an inclusive and equitable quality education in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG4.
3. Promote parenting programmes and practices that will assist parents and caregivers in recognizing the importance of positive and nonviolent discipline in the development of children, particularly targeting mental health of children in conflict and displacement.
4. Advocate for investments in digital learning and expand its development in all countries to streamline operations so that no one is left behind in terms of both access and protection.
5. Increase social protection measures - such as child care, school meals – to address consequences of poverty and reduce stressors on families to help prevent child-family separation.

6. Increase investments in child protection services and social services to support quality alternative care with the best interests of the child in mind.

7. Support the adoption of climate-resilient development policies and urgently adapt critical social services children rely on — like water and sanitation, health, nutrition, education and child protection — to the new climate reality.

As a group, we are willing to contribute with our members' recommendations in order to achieve the desired results and to be aware of the importance of children in order to ensure a brighter future for them and for our societies.

Thank you Madame President.