



PROGRESS FOR CHILDREN IN THE LAND OF THE BLUE SKY

Celebrating 25 years of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Mongolia



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FOREWORD

Mongolia has a long tradition of respecting and treasuring children, which we have seen throughout history, transcending political and ideological divides.

In 1990 Mongolia was among the first Countries to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Over the past 25 years, the Government of Mongolia has continuously dedicated itself to improving the lives of all children in Mongolia. We remain committed to ensuring every child has the right to live in a safe and healthy environment, to learn and develop to their full potential, to actively participate in society and to be protected from any harm. A part of our role is to provide quality basic social services that are accessible to all, and to protect and promote the rights enshrined in the CRC. Investing in children, now and in the future, is key to Mongolia's long-term development.

In addition to celebrating the 25th anniversary of Mongolia signing and ratifying the CRC, this year Mongolia is also celebrating 90 years of having a dedicated government institution working to improve the lives of children. This institution, in its various forms throughout the years, has ensured children were never forgotten by the government or society and played a key role in many of the achievements herewith presented.

This booklet highlights 25 areas where tremendous progress was reached since the CRC was signed in 1990. It also serves as a reminder that there is still work to be done to ensure that the rights enshrined in the CRC become a reality for every child in Mongolia.

We take these two anniversaries as a great opportunity to reaffirm and further strengthen Mongolia's commitment to children and to working together with UNICEF, partners and the public to improve the lives of every child in this great Country.

ERDENE SODNOMZUNDUI
The Minister for Population Development and Social Protection

FOREWORD

Since its entry into force, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child has become the guiding framework to create a world fit for children, a world where all children survive and thrive without discrimination, and are protected, respected and encouraged to participate in decisions that affect their lives. In every region of the world, the Convention on the Rights of the Child has inspired changes in national policies and legislation, leveraged commitments across societies and transformed the way children are able to take an active role in their communities.

25 years ago Mongolia has shown its strong commitment to children's rights by being among the first countries to sign and ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child and by making tremendous progress for its children since then. As we all celebrate this important anniversary, this is a time to congratulate the Government of Mongolia and all national partners on their highest commitment and progress achieved, and reflect on the unfinished agenda for the full realization of children's rights.

Equity for children is a central pillar of Mongolia's present and future development agenda. Equity is not only a moral imperative, that is right in principle, but also a strategic investment for the Country's future. Investing in equity for children, adolescents and youth brings the

highest return in social cohesion, economic growth and democratic participation. For there can only be progress if we ensure that all children enjoy equal access and equal opportunities to survive, receive nourishment, learn, develop to their full potential and live a healthy life in a safe and secure environment. For there can only be justice if we guarantee the fundamental rights of every child, regardless of gender, ethnicity, religious beliefs, socio-economic situation, physical attributes, geographical location or other status. Persisting disparities, however, affect children in both rural and urban setting, and many of these children are still unreached, requiring renewed efforts from all of us.

In this 25th anniversary of Mongolia signing the Convention of the Rights of the Child, we call on all our partners to work together and renew our promise to serve all children, especially those who need us most, and by so doing shape the future of the Country to be.

We wish Mongolia a bright future built on the most important resource each Country has: its human capital, its new generations, its children.

ROBERTO BENES
Representative, UNICEF Mongolia



MONGOLIA WAS AMONG THE FIRST COUNTRIES TO
RATIFY **THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD**
IN 1990 AND ITS THREE OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS



CHILD SURVIVAL



SINCE 1990 UNDER-FIVE MORTALITY
DECREASED BY 2/3



EDUCATION

FROM 1990 TO 2014
EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION ENROLLMENT
INCREASED FROM
35% to 79%



NUTRITION

UNDERWEIGHT
PREVALENCE
DROPPED BY
OVER **90%**
SINCE 2000



CHILD PROTECTION

SINCE 1996
MONGOLIA HAS
A **CHILD RIGHTS
PROTECTION LAW**



SANITATION

SINCE 1990 USE OF
IMPROVED SANITATION
DOUBLED



WATER

OVER 2/3
OF THE
POPULATION
USE IMPROVED
DRINKING
WATER SOURCES



CHILD PROTECTION

SINCE 2006
**CORPORAL
PUNISHMENT IS
ILLEGAL** IN SCHOOLS



SINCE 2012 MONGOLIA HAS
A **UNIVERSAL AND
UNCONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER**
PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN



EDUCATION

PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPLETION
RATE **REACHED 98%** IN 2013
COMPARED TO **75%** IN THE MID-1990s



HEALTH

BETWEEN 2003 AND 2013
MATERNAL MORTALITY
DECLINED
FROM **110** TO **43**
PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS



IMMUNIZATION

BETWEEN 2006 AND 2014 THE NATIONAL BUDGET FOR ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION

INCREASED 8 TIMES.

OVER **90%** OF VACCINES ARE FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT





CHILD PROTECTION

A **MULTIDISCIPLINARY
APPROACH** TO COORDINATED
CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES
WAS INTRODUCED IN 2007



CHILD SURVIVAL

BETWEEN 2000
AND 2013
UNDER-FIVE
MORTALITY
FROM DIARRHOEA
DECREASED BY 65%



HEALTH

IODIZED SALT USE **INCREASED** BY **2/3**
BETWEEN 2000 AND 2013 HELPING
CHILDREN SURVIVE AND THRIVE



HEALTH



IN 2013 NEARLY **99%** OF ALL
CHILD BIRTHS WERE ATTENDED
BY SKILLED PROFESSIONALS



EDUCATION

SINCE 2003 CHILDREN FROM **ETHNIC MINORITIES** ARE ABLE TO STUDY IN THEIR NATIVE LANGUAGES



EDUCATION

FROM 2002 TO 2013
PRIMARY EDUCATION ENROLLMENT
INCREASED FROM
89% TO 96%



BIRTH REGISTRATION



OVER **99%** OF ALL
BIRTHS WERE REGISTERED
IN 2013



IMMUNIZATION

FULL IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE
INCREASED FROM **68%** TO **78%**
BETWEEN 2005 AND 2013



HIV AND AIDS

BETWEEN 2008 AND 2013
COVERAGE OF HIV TESTING FOR
PREGNANT MOTHERS **INCREASED**
FROM **0%** TO **69%**



HEALTH

IN 2014 NEARLY **90%**
OF WOMEN RECEIVED
ANTENATAL CARE
IN THE FIRST THREE
MONTHS OF
PREGNANCY, UP FROM
53% IN 1990



CHILD PROTECTION

MONGOLIA LAUNCHED
ITS FIRST **NATIONWIDE
TOLL-FREE, 24/7 CHILD
HELPLINE** IN 2014



CHILD PROTECTION

SINCE THEIR
INTRODUCTION IN 1997,
SOCIAL WORKERS
HAVE HELPED PROTECT
CHILDREN



EDUCATION

SINCE 2006 THE EDUCATION LAW CONTAINS PROVISIONS FOR **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION** WHERE CHILDREN WITH AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES CAN LEARN TOGETHER

REFERENCES

Page	Related articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child	Source
6	Every child has the right to live a full life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily (Article 6)	"A Promise Renewed" report, UNICEF, 2013
7	Every child has the right to an education (Article 28)	Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia, 2014
8	Every child has the right to live a full life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily (Article 6)	Child and Development Survey 2000 (MICS-2) Social Indicator Sample Survey 2013 (SISS/MICS-5)
9	Every child has the right to be protected from any activities that could harm their development (Article 36)	Law on Child Rights Protection, 1996
10	Every child has the right to clean water and a clean environment so that they will stay healthy (Article 24)	Social Indicator Sample Survey 2013 (SISS/MICS-5)
11	Every child has the right to clean water and a clean environment so that they will stay healthy (Article 24)	Social Indicator Sample Survey 2013 (SISS/MICS-5)
12	Every child has the right to be protected from any activities that could harm their development (Article 36)	Article 44.3, Law on Education (2006 amendment)
13	Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and mental needs. The government should help families who cannot afford to provide this (Article 27)	Article 17.1.5, Law on the Human Development Fund (2012 amendment)
14	Every child has the right to an education (Article 28)	"Development Progress: From Decline to Recovery - Post-Primary Education in Mongolia", 2014
15	Every child has the right to live a full life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily (Article 6)	Ministry of Health, 2013
16	Every child has the right to good quality health services (Article 24)	National Centre for Communicable Diseases, 2014
17	Every child has the right to be protected from any activities that could harm their development (Article 36)	Ulaanbaatar City Municipal Order No. 144, 2007
18	Every child has the right to live a full life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily (Article 6)	World Health Statistics, 2013
19	Every child has the right to live a full life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily (Article 6)	Social Indicator Sample Survey 2013 (SISS/MICS-5)
20	Every child has the right to good quality health services (Article 24)	Social Indicator Sample Survey 2013 (SISS/MICS-5)
21	Every child has the right to learn and use the language and customs of their families, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live, as long as this does not harm others (Article 30)	Article 5.14, Law on official language of the State, 2003
22	Every child has the right to an education (Article 28)	"Achieving the Millennium Development Goals" Fifth national progress report, 2013
23	Every child has the right from birth to a name, a nationality and to know and be cared for by parents (Article 7)	Social Indicator Sample Survey 2013 (SISS/MICS-5)
24	Every child has the right to good quality health services (Article 24)	Child and Development Survey 2005 (MICS-3) Social Indicator Sample Survey 2013 (SISS/MICS-5)
25	Every child has the right to good quality health services (Article 24)	Social Indicator Sample Survey 2013 (SISS/MICS-5)
26	Every child has the right to good quality health services (Article 24)	Ministry of Health, 2013
27	Every child has the right to be protected from any activities that could harm their development (Article 36)	National Council for Children, Decree No. 1, 2014
28	Every child has the right to be protected from any activities that could harm their development (Article 36)	Joint project of Save the Children UK, State Pedagogical University, National Centre for Child Rights and National Centre for Children
29	Children who have any kind of disability should receive special care and support so that they can live a full and independent life (Article 23)	Article 13.3, Law on primary and secondary education (2006 amendment)

These are simplified versions of the articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which consists of 54 articles. For more detailed information on the Convention, please visit www.unicef.org/crc

