



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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REFERENCE: NP/kt

Geneva, 19 June 2013

Subject: Human Rights Council resolution 22/32 on the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) presents its compliments to non-governmental organizations and has the honour to refer to the Human Rights Council resolution 22/32 on the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health. The resolution is attached for ease of reference.

In paragraph 57 of the resolution, the Human Rights Council decided to focus its next full-day meeting on the theme of “access to justice for children”, and invited OHCHR to prepare a report on that issue, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including States, the United Nations Children’s Fund, other relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, relevant special procedures mandate holders and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, regional organizations and human rights bodies, civil society, national human rights institutions and children themselves, and to present it to the Council at its twenty-fifth session, to inform the annual day of discussion on children’s rights.

Accordingly, OHCHR would be most grateful to receive from non-governmental organizations information regarding good practices as set out in paragraph 57 of the resolution, most particularly on:

- (a) existence and availability of child-friendly justice procedures and mechanisms under criminal, civil and administrative law;
- (b) specific obstacles/barriers faced by children in accessing justice;
- (c) systems in place to channel complaints by children, including helplines, school system, social services, police stations, health system, etc.
- (d) legal standing, legal capacity and legal representation for minors under criminal, civil and administrative law, the issue of potential conflict of interest with legal representatives;
- (e) participation of children in the judicial process (criminal, civil and administrative), including their right to be heard and indirect methods of participation for children;
- (f) legal assistance for children;
- (g) alternatives to judicial proceedings for children;
- (h) access to justice for child victims;
- (i) children’s knowledge of their rights, including dissemination of adequate information; actors involved, linguistic and cultural challenges;



- (j) training of police officers and judicial professionals on children's rights;
- (k) education/training of parents/teachers/people working with and for children about children's rights and how they can access justice;
- (l) effective remedies for children; and
- (m) specific measures to assist particularly vulnerable groups of children to access to justice.

Such information, and any queries, may be sent to Ms. Katrin Tiroch (ktiroch@ohchr.org), or the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva, CH-1211, Geneva 10, fax number: +41 22 917 90 08, no later than **10 September 2013**.

Yours sincerely,

Nathalie Prouvez

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Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch,
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To non-governmental
organizations