Biographical data of Ambassador( retired ) Gehad Madi

For reelection to the membership of the Committee on

The Rights of the Child

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Date and place of birth: 13/11/1951. Cairo, Egypt

Working languages: English and Arabic

Current position: Member of the committee on the Rights of the Child

Since March 2011

Main professional activities:

* 2008-2011, assumed the post of Assistant Foreign Minister and Director of the Diplomatic and Consular Corp Department. Responsible for recruitments, postings of diplomatic staff abroad and evaluating the performance of the different departments of the ministry as well as the diplomatic missions and diplomatic staff.
* 2004- 2008, ambassador of Egypt to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
* 1998-2002, ambassador of Egypt to the Republic of India.
* 2002-2004, deputy assistant foreign minister for Human Rights and humanitarian Affairs.
* Held several diplomatic posts abroad, including the legal advisor to the mission of Egypt to the United Nations in New York.

Educational background:

* B.A in German Language and Literature, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.
* LLB in Law, Ain Shams University , Cairo, Egypt.

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Rights of the Child while assuming the post of deputy assistant Foreign Minister for Human rights and International Humanitarian Affairs:

* Played an instrumental role in initiating and establishing Egypt’s National Council for Human Rights.
* Oversaw matters pertaining to the implementation of Egypt’s international human rights obligations, including in the field of the rights of the child.
* National coordinator for human rights activities of the relevant governmental departments.
* Program coordinator for issues related to the rights of the child.
* Chair of the committee assessing obligations regarding withdrawal process of Egypt’s reservation on articles 20&21 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
* Contributed to the launching of a national campaign to amend the 1996 Child Law, which culminated in the approval by Parliament in 2008, of a large number of important legislative amendments, including criminalization of FGM and raising the minimum age of marriage for girls.
* Chaired the Egyptian delegation in drafting and adopting the Arab Charter for Human Rights.