# Comment on children’s rights in relation to the digital environment

1. The right to non-discrimination (art. 2)

10. ……. States should take all necessary measures to *zero-rate or* lower the cost of connectivity, provide free access to children in safe dedicated public spaces, and invest in policies and programmes that support all children’s use of digital technologies at school, home, and in their community, to overcome inequalities and improve digital inclusion.

1. Right to life, survival and development (art. 6)

16. States shall take all appropriate measures to protect children from the risk and threat to their right to life, survival and development in the digital environment. These include content, contact, conduct and *contract* risks, and threats that include bullying, gambling, sexual exploitation and abuse, persuasion relating to suicide and other life-threatening activities including by criminals, armed groups and those designated as terrorist groups and sometimes ambiguous Terms & Conditions relating to a service being provided to children.

V. General measures of implementation by States (art. 4)

23. 23. Opportunities for the realization of children’s rights and their protection in the digital environment require a broad range of legislative, administrative and other measures, including precautionary ones. In the development of policies and practices that affect children’s rights regarding the digital environment, States should consult with children, their parents, caregivers *and other relevant stakeholders.*

1. Freedom of expression (art. 13)

61. When children express their *seeming political* or other views and identities in the digital environment, this may attract criticism, hostility, threats or punishment. States should protect children from online harassment and threats, censorship, data breaches and digital surveillance. Children should not be prosecuted for expressing their opinions in the digital environment.