

Annex III

Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee on the Rights of the Child

Family name and first name: **Al Barwani, Thuwayba**

Date and place of birth: Feb. 9.1957, Zanzibar

Place of residence: Muscat, Oman

Nationality: Omani

United Nations working languages: Arabic and English

Current position/function:

Currently retired from the Sultan Qaboos University (Since January 2021). The last position held was Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and Professor of Curriculum and instruction at the College of Education. I continue to supervise theses, participate in research projects and publishing internationally

Other main professional activities, in particular related to children's rights:

My focus has always been providing quality education for all children. As an academic, I have initiated a number of school projects including: School Improvement Project, Gender Equity in School Performance, Developed a tool for Reading Performance for Young Learners in the Arabic Language. I was also involved in establishing the first NGO for children called Children First, which later established the first Children's Library in Muscat. I have also lead a team to establish the Early Childhood Education program at the College of Education. I was one of the founders of the Center for Early Intervention of Childhood Disability, which continues to be a pioneer Center providing service for mentally and physically challenged children. I am now in the process of establishing a non- profit Reading Center for Young Learners where reading problems are diagnosed and individual reading programmes are created for each child. This Center will provide support for children from low- income families and those who have reading challenges. It is hoped that with time we will be able to establish similar centers in other regions.

Educational background:

Doctorate degree in Curriculum and Instruction from The State University of NY at Albany USA, Masters degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the State University of NY at Albany USA, BA in English Literature and Language from Kuwait University, Kuwait.

Relevant expertise on children's rights.

Please elaborate on your areas of expertise under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and related experience:

As an Undersecretary for Social Development, I was privileged to work closely with Unicef in advocacy for Children's Rights in all areas and at all levels. Together we implemented workshops, training sessions and lectures for stakeholders like school personnel, health care providers, judges, the police force, NGOs and other related sectors. I chaired the Omani CRC committee for 7 years and presented Oman's first CRC report to the International Committee for CRC. As a member of the State Council and academic, my work was mainly in the Education Committee focussing on identifying the areas of need in providing quality school education for all children.

List of most recent publications in the field of children's rights:

- 1) Al Mehrezi, R., **Al Barwani, T.**, El- Shourbagi, S. Al Mandhari, R. Al Mahrouqi, B. Al Sinani, Y., Al-Kiyumi, & A., Al Zameli, A., (2020). A Phonological Awareness Arabic Test for Young Learners: A Validation Study, International Journal of Applied Linguistics & English Literature, V. 9 n.6 p.58
 - 2) El Shourbagi, S., Al Mehrezi, R., Al Zamli, A., Al Kayoumi, A., Al Munthiri, R., **Al Barwani, T.**, & Al Sinani, Y. (2017). The Effectiveness of Phonemic and Phonological Awareness Program To Improve Reading Performance of First Grade Basic Education Students in Oman. Journal of Educational and Psychological Studies [JEPS], 11(3), 666-686.
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