**Comment on the OHCHR’s Committee on the Rights of the Child’s Draft** [**General Comment No.26**](https://www.ohchr.org/en/calls-for-input/2023/call-comments-draft-general-comment-childrens-rights-and-environment-special) **on children’s rights and the environment with a special focus on climate change**

15.02.2023

We sincerely commend the Committee on the Rights of the Child for recognizing the importance of tackling climate change to protect children’s rights. The wide range of consultations carried out with children and young people in the making of this General Comment No. 26 is outstanding and is in line with the need for the inclusion of children and young people in every decision which concerns them, including decisions on climate change.

It is great to see that the draft of the General Comment No. 26 is accessible in a child-friendly version and that the final version will also be accessible in such a version for children and young people to be able to truly understand and utilise the General Comment No. 26. This allows children and young people to know and understand their rights and empowers them to stand up for these rights of theirs. We encourage the OHCHR’s Committee on the Rights of the Child to continue engaging children and youth in dialogues and meaningful cooperation on such topics and hope the committee will make the General Comment No. 26 accessible to children and young people around the world through translation and by creating interactive information/education packages.

Lastly, we want to highlight how important it is that this carefully crafted General Comment does not remain merely a static document filled with glorious words. Each and every government and business must take a close look at its contents and act upon them. The rights of children around the world are severely affected by the dire impacts of climate change, and this must be brought to an end immediately. Taking climate action is no longer merely an act to save nature but to save and protect the inherent rights of current and future generations. The time for action is now.

Signed by:

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