

31 OCTOBER 2024

Growing up on the streets and realizing children's rights: Promising practices addressing violence against all children



SATELLITE EVENT PRIOR TO THE 1ST GLOBAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

9:00 – 10:30 A.M. COT
BOGOTA, COLOMBIA **[VIRTUAL]**



Violence affects half of the world's children, including those living on the streets in every country, for whom violence is a daily reality. **Street-connected children often don't have the same chances and protection** as other children, yet many government programs don't focus on them and the special problems they deal with. Studies show that the more inequalities there are, the more these children face danger and struggles.



This event is a chance for us to **make big changes** by working together and making sure street-connected children are safe and protected, leaving no child behind.

Recognising that **children are experts in their own lives** and have the right to be heard, we will look at solutions to ensure that their rights are included in policy plans to stop and prevent violence against all children.



Children's rights are protected under the [Convention on the Rights of the Child](#), an agreement that many countries have signed.

A **General Comment** is a guide made by experts to help governments understand how to follow the rules in the Convention and better protect children's rights.

In 2017, the Committee on the Rights of the Child wrote [General Comment 21 \[2017\] on Children in Street Situations](#), specifically.



Agenda **Moderator: Professor Ann Skelton**, Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

- 1. Opening:** Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, **Ms. Nada Al-Nashif**, and Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, **Dr. Najat Maalla M'jid**, will talk about why this event is important
- 2. Voices of street-connected children:** Hearing directly from children about their experiences
- 3. Evidence for policymaking:** Presenting the *Growing Up On The Streets* research data - **University of Dundee [UK]**
- 4. Success stories:** Learning how a government is helping these children in its country
- 5. Looking to the future:** *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* - How we can make the world a safer place for all children [**Consortium for Street Children**]
- 6. Concluding remarks**



For whom?

- **Leaders** from different countries
- **Children and young people** (and groups who defend your rights!)
- People working in the **United Nations** and other human rights organizations
- Children's rights **experts** and **researchers**



SDG target 16.2 to end all forms of violence against children