May 2023

**Statement of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) on Agenda Item 4.3 of the 24th Session of the Working Group on the Right to Development (Arts 25-27)**

1. Mr Chairperson, your excellencies and distinguished delegates, thank you for this opportunity.
2. The ability of young people to participate in the monitoring of the convention is of considerable importance to the ability for young people to safeguard their own rights and to express their views on the way in which the right to development is realized. For this reason, the World Organization of the Scout Movement believe the Conference of the Parties and the Implementation Mechanism must actively seek to engage young people from their inception.
3. The traditional mechanisms utilized to monitor the implementation of human rights have (until recently) done little to truly engage young people in their work. We would urge the State parties to consider the importance of engaging young people in the monitoring the draft convention, and the developing best practices utilized by other human rights mechanisms and international organizations for a more broadly. These include sending youth delegates to the Conference of the Parties, the use of child-friendly reporting from the outset and the importance of the monitoring mechanisms to consult children and young people in their work. In different ways, each of these methods of working offer unique ways for young people to participate in the monitoring of the convention and to ensure that young people are able to contribute to this work. Ensuring that young people have access to information on the monitoring of the convention that is written in an understandable manner is crucial to enabling them to participate in the monitoring of the convention, and is also important as a means to empower them to realize their rights in a domestic context.
4. It is for these reasons that we recommend the inclusion of another sub-paragraph in Art. 27(3) of the draft convention, to specifically address the obligations of the Implementation Mechanism towards young people and other vulnerable or marginalized groups.
5. We would also urge the State parties to consider the feasibility and benefit that young(er) members of the implementation mechanism could offer to ensure that the considerations of young people are represented. While on its own, the inclusion of young people on the implementation mechanism is insufficient to represent young people, when considered in addition to other modalities it reinforces the ability of the monitoring of the convention to empower young people. For this reason, we wouldrecommend that age is considered alongside gender balance and equitable geographical representation in Art. 27 (2) on the composition of the implementation mechanism.
6. We believe that these suggestions will ensure that young people are able to enjoy their right to development and to engage with the monitoring of the convention and urge the drafting group to adopt them.