

International Expert Consultation

Strengthening Communities to Secure Children's Right to Freedom from Violence

Organized by Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence Against Children
and Plan International

Sponsored by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Norway, Oslo, 3rd and 4th September, 2015

Experts at the Opening Panel

Her Excellency Ms Solveig Horne is the **Minister, Norwegian** Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion, representing the Progress Party. She is responsible for the rights of consumers, families, children and young people, as well as for anti-discrimination and equality between men and women.

Earlier she was a Member of the Norwegian Parliament (Stortinget, since 2005). From 2009 to present she was First Vice Chair on the Standing Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs. In the previous period she has been a member of the Standing Committee on Justice. As a MP she has been substitute member of the delegation to the Nordic Council and the delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. She has also been a member of the Progress Party Group Steering Committee in Parliament. In 1995 she started her political career as a member of the Sola municipal executive council (in Rogaland County), and she was a member until 2007. Between 1995 and 2004 she held several positions as member/chair of the Progress Party, organizations, committees and commissions at local, county and national level. From 1999 to 2005 she was a member of the Rogaland County council, and the last two years as member of the Executive Committee.

Her Excellency Professor Dr. Yohana Susana Yembise, Dip. Apling, MA was born on October 1st, 1958 and is the first female **minister** from Papua in the National Government of **Indonesia**. Due to her experiences in various sectors particularly education, Yohana Yembise was selected by the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr Joko Widodo as Minister of Women Empowerment and Child Protection.

A mother of three children Minister Yohana is well-known due to her active role as Professor of English Education at University of Cendrawasih in Papua. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from University of Cendrawasih in 1984, her Master of Arts in Education from Simon Fraser University in Canada in 1994, and her PhD from the University of Newcastle in Australia in 2007.

In 1991 Minister Yohana was elected as vice chairwomen of the Papua Research Institute in Jayapura, Papua. She was a member of the Joint Selection Team (ST) for the Australian Development Scholarship ADS/USAID in 2011. She was honored with a distinguished Professor Doctor title by the Head of the University of Cendrawasih in 2012 for her long service as lecturer.

Marta Santos Pais was appointed as Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG) on May 1st, 2009, and took up her position on September 1st, 2009. As a high level global independent advocate, Marta Santos Pais promotes the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children in the justice setting, in the home, in institutional care, in schools, in the workplace and in the community. She acts as a

bridge builder in all regions, and across sectors and settings where violence against children may occur.

Since her appointment, she has been strongly committed to mobilizing action and political support to maintain momentum around this agenda and to achieve steady progress across the world. Marta Santos Pais has more than 30 years of experience on human rights issues, engagement in United Nations and intergovernmental processes. She is the author of a large number of publications on human rights and children's rights. Before her appointment as SRSG on Violence against Children, Marta Santos Pais was the Director of the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, a position she held since 2001. She joined UNICEF in 1997 as Director of Evaluation, Policy and Planning. Previously, she was the Rapporteur of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and Vice-Chair of the Coordinating Committee on Childhood Policies of the Council of Europe. She was a Special Adviser to the UN Study on Violence against Children and to the Machel Study on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children. She was also a member of the UN Drafting Group of the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child and of its Optional Protocols and participated in the development of other key international human rights standards.

Susan Lynn Bissell Dr. Susan Bissell: A native of Canada Susan first served UNICEF in 1987, in New York, in what was then called the Division of Information and Public Affairs. Thereafter she returned to the University of Toronto to complete a Master's degree in law, economics and international relations. Susan then resumed her work at UNICEF, in the Sri Lanka country office, focused on children in especially difficult circumstances (CEDC). From there she moved to Bangladesh and maintained her CEDC concentration, positioning UNICEF particularly on child labour at a time when it was attracting considerable international attention.

In 1997, Susan again commenced academic work, in a doctoral degree in public health and medical anthropology at the WHO Key Center for Women's Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Melbourne. While completing her doctorate, she also worked with Trudie Styler and the Bangladeshi film team Catherine and Tareque Masud to produce the documentary "A Kind of Childhood." The film screened widely at film festivals globally and appeared on Canadian, American, and British television. In 2005, it had a second screening at the London Human Rights Watch Film Festival.

Susan came back to UNICEF in 2001 as the Chief of Child Protection in India. In 2004, she transferred to the Innocenti Research Center, where she led a research unit and a number of studies. These included a 62-country study on the implementation of the general measures of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and global research on the Palermo Protocol and child trafficking. Ms. Bissell was also a member of the Editorial Board of the report of the UN Secretary General's Study on Violence Against Children, which was released in 2006.

In 2009, Susan was appointed as Chief to head all of UNICEF's Child Protection work in New York. As chief, she oversaw team of professionals guiding efforts for children affected by armed conflict, child protection systems strengthening to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children, and a range of other matters. UNICEF is active in child protection in 170 countries, and the New York team offers leadership, strategic vision, and technical support.

After six years of working as Chief of Child Protection at UNICEF, Susan has recently been appointed as Director of an emerging Global Partnership to End Violence against Children. Along with other partners, Ms. Bissell has played a leadership role in mobilizing stakeholders and

actors behind the partnership that are united by the conviction that all violence against children is unacceptable. The primary purpose of the multi-stakeholder global partnership should be delivery of SDG 16.2 (End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children) and other relevant SDG targets (5.2, 5.3, 8.7, etc.)

Susan was recently awarded an honorary Professorship at Barnard College/Columbia University. She also received the Dr. Jean Mayar Global Citizenship Award from Tufts University in 2012, as well as the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. Ms. Bissell was honoured to accept both of these awards on behalf of her UNICEF Child Protection colleagues around the world.

Rt Hon. Okoth Thomas Nyalulu is the current Prime Minister of Tieng Adhola Kingdom a traditional monarchy founded under the Institution of Traditional or Cultural Leaders Act 2011 in Uganda. He holds MBA, BSC (HON) Biological Sciences and PGD International Relation and Diplomacy. He has been a scientific researcher, teacher, politician and traditional monarchist with vast experience in state building, Security, Peace and Development and application of human rights framework. He worked as Resident District Commissioner office of the president, appointed by President of Uganda for twenty one years, and Mayor of Tororo Municipality period of nine years.

Roland Angerer, Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa: In his 25 years of professional career in development, Roland Angerer has worked in all continents. Starting with advocacy and development education in his home country Austria, he joined the UNDP in El Salvador and Honduras and then switched to Africa where he coordinated the programs of an Austrian NGO in Zimbabwe and Mozambique. In 2001 he joined Plan International as Country Director in Colombia and from 2006 - 2010, he headed the country operations of Plan International in India. From August 2010 to December 2013 he served as Regional Director in the Americas and since January 2014 he is responsible for the operations of Plan in 12 countries as Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa.

His academic background – a PhD in Communication Science from the University of Salzburg/Austria and a Masters in Development Management from the Open University/UK – helped him to understand that development is a constant process of evolving attitudes, mindsets and choices for people and requires a continuous and firm rejection of all forms of injustice and discrimination.

Roland is a strong advocate of Plan's Child-Centered Community Development approach and is convinced that a critical mass of children and young people who get the opportunity to understand and claim their rights will transform the world.

Experts on Panel Discussion 1

Key components and building blocks of CBCPMs

Session Moderator: Marta Santos Pais

Speakers:

Dr. Edi Suharto, Ph.D; Director for Child Social Welfare; Ministry of Social Affairs, Indonesia –

Dr Suharto is currently Director of Child Welfare, Ministry of Social Affairs as well as lecturer in undergraduate as well as post-graduate programmes in such universities as Bandung School of Social Welfare; Pasundan University, Bandung; Padjadjaran University, Bandung; and Islamic State University of Sunan Kalijaga, Yogyakarta. As a director, he is directing PKSA or “Program Kesejahteraan Sosial Anak” (social welfare program for children) focusing mainly on five clusters of vulnerable children: neglected babies, neglected children, children in conflict with the law, children with disabilities, and children in needs of special protection.

Ms. Claudia Martinez, Community Chief, Chile – *detailed Bio – not available*

Dr. Robert Alexander Butchart is the Prevention of Violence Coordinator at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland. He coordinates the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention, and develops policy and guidelines for violence prevention. He has a master's degree in clinical neuropsychology, and a doctoral degree for work on the history and sociology of western medicine and public health in southern Africa. Before joining WHO he worked mainly in Southern and East Africa, where he was lead scientist in the South African Violence and Injury Surveillance Consortium, and in collaboration with the Uganda-based Injury Prevention Initiative for Africa trained violence and injury prevention workers from several African countries. He is a widely published social scientist.

Michael Wessells, PhD, is Professor at Columbia University in the Program on Forced Migration and Health. A long time psychosocial and child protection practitioner, he is former Co-Chair of the IASC Task Force on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings. Currently, he is lead researcher on inter-agency, multi-country research on community driven interventions for strengthening linkages of community-based child protection mechanisms with government led aspects of national child protection systems. He regularly advises UN agencies, governments, and donors on issues of child protection and psychosocial support.

Dr. Anne Lindboe is currently serving as the Norwegian Children's Ombudsman. She was appointed by the Government of Norway for a six-year term in 2012. She obtained the cand.med. (MD) degree at the University of Oslo in 2000, and was approved as a specialist in pediatrics in 2011. She also holds an MBA in Management from the Norwegian School of Economics. From 2008 to 2011, she was a medical expert for the police in cases about violence and abuse, and from 2010 also a researcher at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health.

Strengthening partnerships to support CBCPMs

Session Moderator:

Sheila M, Donovan is the Executive Director at Child Helpline International. Her involvement with children's rights and issues began in 2007, when she joined Fundación ANAR of Spain in a pro bono capacity to lead its international relationships. ANAR runs the 116111 child helpline in Spain as well as the 116000 Missing Children hotline. She served on the Supervisory Board of Child Helpline International for four years (2010-2014), and currently serve on the Board of Directors of Missing Children Europe (since 2013). Before this she spent nearly 20 years in international banking in Madrid and New York, and four years at the Inter-American Agency of Cooperation for Development at the Organization of American States in Washington, DC. In addition, she has served on boards of US and Canadian non-profits, such as the Girls' Vacation Fund in New York, and E-Links Americas, an international NGO. She is a magna cum laude graduate of Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts and did post-graduate work at the University of Massachusetts in my specialization of inter-American relations and politics.

Speakers:

Anna Mubukwanu-Sibanze (Zambia) is a Senior Social Welfare Officer in the Department of Social Welfare in the Ministry of Community Development, Mother and Child Health, where she has worked since 2006. Her work entails working closely with members of the community for effective programme service delivery. She is a member of the Alternative Care working group chaired by the Director of Social Welfare. She is also a member of the Technical Team that spearheaded the Violence Against Children National Survey dubbed the Health and Well-being Survey (H-Well) in Zambia. Her key responsibility following the findings of the survey is to ensure a well-coordinated Response Plan from Research to Action by government and other relevant stakeholders.

Dr. Susan Bissell; Lead - Global Child Protection Fund-Partnership to End Violence Against Children UNICEF

Mr. Yakobus Theodorus Kolo; CBCPM Leader; Indonesia : *detailed Bio – not available*

Bill Bell is Head of Child Protection at Save the Children UK where he heads a team delivering technical support, practice guidance, and advocacy on a range of child protection issues. His team provides strategic direction to Save the Children UK's programme of work on child protection that reaches 3.1 million children. As well as violence against children, other focus areas include the development of child protection systems, family support and alternative care, children on the move, and sexual exploitation. Most recently he was part of the advocacy efforts to secure a target on violence against children in the Sustainable Development Goals.

Panel discussion 2

Strengthening CBCPMs to build safe communities and to prevent VAC: lessons learnt

Session Moderator:

Mr. Raša Sekulović has specialized in the areas of child rights, protection and participation, with the past twenty five years of continuous work experiences in the post-conflict and transitional environments at the community, national, regional and global levels. He is the author of numerous child protection methodologies and child rights focused resources and regular contributor to different international forums and associations. He is currently holding the position of Regional Adviser for Child Rights and Protection at the Plan International Asia Regional Office and is the previous co-chair of the South Asia Coordination Group on Actions against Violence against Women and Children.

Speakers:

Francisco Carrión from Ecuador is an Economist specialized in development and social management. Professor at several universities and permanent facilitator of international courses on early human development policies. He is the current Secretary of the National Council for Intergenerational Equality. His main public roles have been National Coordinator of Child Development Fund and Our Children Program; Manager of the Ecuadorian Literacy Program; Director of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion; Advisor of the Ministries of Education and Social Development. He has also coordinated the Project of Social Investment Measurement in Ecuador with public institutions, ECLAC, UNICEF, and GIZ. He has led the training of public officers on social public services, information and social indicators management.

Ms. Agustina Erni Director for Violence Against Children Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection, Indonesia: *detailed Bio – not available*

Two young people supported by **Ms Inga Marte Torkildsen**, she is Former Minister of Children, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, Norway. She is an author, advisor and public speaker, with main focus on violence, sexual abuse and neglect of children. Special advisor at BarnsBeste, a national public health network of competence for children as relatives/young carers. Special advisor at Forandringsfabrikken, a non-profit private foundation aiming to change the systems based on the advice from children and young people. Member of Save the Children's Advisory Committee, Geneva. **Formerly** Minister of Children, Gender Equality, Social Inclusion (and consumer issues) 2012-2013 ; Member of Parliament 2001-2013 ; Vice president of the Socialist Left Party 2012-2015 ; Leader of the Parliamentarian Network for Children's rights in Norway 2007-2011; Leader of the Women's Branch of the Socialist Left Party 2000-2003

Ms. Justa Mwaituka, Executive Director at Kiota Women Health and Development Organisation, ECPAT : *detailed Bio – not available*

Karen Devries is a social epidemiologist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Her main research interests are prevention of and responses to violence against children. Her work mainly consists of evidence synthesis, as well as a program of primary research mainly in East Africa including intervention development, randomised controlled trials, cross-sectional surveys, qualitative and economic research, and methodological work. In addition to work on violence against children, she has experience working on violence against women, mental health, and sexual health.

Ms. María Rosa Manobanda ; President of Committee on the Health, Equity, Gender and Rights Gobierno Autónomo Descentralizado Parroquial Rural de Simiatug, Ecuador : *detailed Bio – not available*

Panel discussion 3

The role of the justice system, including informal justice and traditional conflict resolution mechanisms

Session Moderator

Turid Heiberg has since 2013 worked as Head of the Children’s Unit in the Council of Baltic Sea States Secretariat (CBSS). The Baltic Sea Region covers Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden. Turid has worked with different human rights issues and the last 20 years for Save the Children including as Regional Director for Save the Children Sweden in South Asia. The work in the Baltic Sea Region focuses on ensuring child rights and child protection to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children.

Speakers:

Alberto Padilla is the Head of the Department of Policies and Regulations of the National Council for Children and Adolescents (CONANI), the Institution that coordinates the National Child Protection System in the Dominican Republic. For the last 15 years, he has been a key player in advocacy, social mobilization and policy reforms on children’s rights in the country; He was member of the Committee for the drafting of the Law 136-03, which establishes the current Child Protection Code. He was the Technical Coordinator for the elaboration of the last three State Reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and participated twice in the State Review, as DR delegate. Currently, he is involved in several processes and research studies on the prevention of child abuse, and coordinates the inter-institutional technical committee leading the implementation of the National Roadmap for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Children.

Ms. Ann-Kristin Vervik, Expert Consultant, SRSB-VAC: she has worked on the promotion of children’s rights for the past 15 years in Plan International and at the UN. She holds a post-graduate law degree with specialization in Public International Law and human rights. Since 2004 she has engaged in policy and advocacy work at the international level and took an active part in the global Study on Violence against Children process. In January 2012, she

joined the office of the UN Secretary General's Special Representative on Violence against Children as child protection expert. During this time she has contributed to research, policy and advocacy work on law reform to protect children from violence and harmful practices, as well as children's right to access to justice and protection from violence in the criminal justice system.

Mr. Desmond Mhango, Vice Chairperson for Southern Africa Child Protection Network Southern Africa: *detailed Bio – not available*

Bill Forbes is the Director of Child Protection for World Vision International, providing leadership to efforts to strengthen prevention and response to abuse, exploitation and neglect of children in almost 100 countries. Previously, Bill led the World Vision Peace and Justice Program in Cambodia for 8 years, which focused on violence against children. He is currently Co-Chairperson of the CP Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group, a member of the Advisory Board for the Child Protection in Crisis Learning Network, and on the Global Reference Group for the Interagency Learning Initiative for Community-Based Child Protection Mechanisms and Child Protection Systems. He studied International Development at Fuller Theological Seminary and at Cornell University. Bill is based in Federal Way, WA (USA), where he enjoys life with his wife Heather, two daughters, one son and their always happy dog.

Panel discussion 4

Social mobilization, communications and public engagement to support CBCPMs

Session Moderator: Mr. Bill Bell, Save the Children

Ms. Aissatou Alassane Moulaye Sdikou (SIDIKOU Moussa) has been the National Coordinator of a NGO EPAD in Niger since 2005, which deals with issues related to child protection, mostly focusing on children on the move and community based child protection mechanisms. He has over 15 years of experiences in development and protection of children and is also acts as Chair of the National Coalition working for children in Niger Republic, President of the Union of West African Coalitions of Children and since 2009 attend the CSO Forum as Representative of West Africa Region in the management committee and became Chairperson of the CSO Forum since 2013. He holds a Masters in Project Management and on Economical Sciences.

Mr. Roland Angerer: Regional Director: Region of East and South Africa, Plan International

Dr. Rinchen Chopel, Director General South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC); South Asia A medical doctor by profession with advanced training in public health and health education. He also holds a Masters degree in Human Rights with special focus on human rights training and reporting. Besides sitting on many boards and advisory positions, he is also an Eminent Member of the Task Force of the Regional Forum for Creating a SAARC Mechanism for Human Rights (SAHRM), Founding Member of the South Asia Association of Child Helplines (SAACH) and Child Rights Advisor to the Central Monastic Body of Bhutan and

Ms. Sumnima Tuladhar, Executive Coordinator, CWiN Nepal : *detailed Bio – not available*

Senior Chief Kachindamoto from Dedza in Malawi was crowned as a chief in 2003 by the then president Dr. Bakili Muluzi. In her area, She is the overall Chief over 550 village heads and 51 Group village heads. She has a passion of encouraging society to choose more women chiefs because women are caring, loving and kind. She has in her current role been in the forefront of fighting all forms of violence against children in general and more particularly against girls. Her main focus has been on eliminating child marriages and ensuring that girls stay in school. Her nee name is Theresa Samson C. Kimoto and got married to Mr. Ndovi. Before being appointed as a chief, she worked as a Secretary at Zomba Theological College. Apart from executing the roles of a chief, she has had the opportunity of serving as a board member for National Library Service, Lilongwe Central Regional Water Board and a member of the Malawi Human Rights Commissioners. She has been a member of the UN Women since 2013.

REFLECTION ON GOOD CBCPM PRACTICES FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

FACILITATORS

Group 1 – the school setting

Ms. Sarah Stevenson, UN Representative, Child Fund Alliance : *detailed Bio – not available*

Group 2 – the family setting

Ms. Mirela Shuteriqi studied International and European Law in The Netherlands. In 2004, she joined the anti-trafficking project of TdH in Albania, where she provided legal counselling and court representation to children at risk or trafficked. Since 2006, Ms. Shuteriqi follows up as TdH policy advisor on protection of children on the move, anti-exploitation/ trafficking and child protection systems. She is author of different publications both in the field of child protection and anti-trafficking, as well as on other human rights topics such as the International Criminal Court, women's rights etc.

Group 3 – the community setting

Mary Robinson is a Director of GCPS Consulting and has been an independent consultant on child rights for the last 14 years, specialising in strategy, management and evaluation projects. Recently she has conducted a number of studies for Plan on community based child protection in West Africa and at international level, including drafting the good practice guidelines "Community Action for Child Protection". She is an independent evaluator for the OAK Foundation. Previously she was Deputy Secretary General of Amnesty International in London.

Group 4 – the national and international level; the Sustainable Development Goals agenda;

Tamara Tutnjevic Gorman is a Senior Policy Adviser for Child Protection working with World Vision International. She has nearly twenty years of experience in child care and protection system reform as well as in policy and programme development aimed to address violence against children. Prior to joining World Vision, Tamara worked with number of international

organizations including UNICEF, ILO and the World Bank. She holds Masters Degree in Development Finance from School African and Oriental Studies in London.

PLENARY Session Moderator

Senait Gebregziabher has more than two decades experience managing complex and large-scale humanitarian and development programs in Asia and Africa. Formerly Senait has served as Oxfam's Country Director in Somalia and with Save the Children in Ethiopia, Uganda, Cambodia, Somalia and Srilanka. Currently she is the Country Director of Plan International in Bangladesh. Senait holds a Masters of Science in International Community Economic Development from South New Hampshire University (USA) and Bachelors of Arts and Business Administration from Addis Ababa University.

PRESENTATION OF PLAN'S STUDY AND LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Ms. Nidhi Pundhir has 17 years of experience in actualisation of child rights, essentially right to protection. She has worked with specialised child rights organisations like Save the Children, SOS Children's Villages and Plan International at provincial, national, regional and global levels. She took up the role of Global Advisor on Child Protection in Development for Plan in 2013 and has been involved in finalisation of global child protection programming strategy and global direction on community based child protection mechanisms and other global priorities ever since. Nidhi has an M.Phil. & a Masters in Health Systems Management and she is an Indian citizen, is married and blessed with two children.

Our other eminent experts:

Note: this is based on bios available, for details on all participants please refer the participant list.

AMRULLAH SOFYAN was born in Bangkalan on 16 January 1963. He has 2 daughters. His education background as follows Bachelor in Social Work (1989); Master in Business Administration (2000); Master in Marketing (2003); Post Graduate Diploma in Children Youth and Development (2007). He has been working as Community Development Specialist (1989); Monitoring Manager in Community Recovery Program/UNDP TrustFund (1998). Since 2003 he joined Plan Indonesia as Area Manager (2003); Chief of Mission for Aceh Tsunami Response (2005), Project Manager (2005); Child Rights Coordinator (2007), Child Protection and Participation Specialist (2009); Child Protection and Participation Program Manager (2012); and Child Protection Program Advisor (2015).

Barbara Ammirati: Advocacy for recognition and inclusion of the rights of children and youth separated from, or at risk of being separated from their families is my current area of focus and learning as UN Representative for SOS Children's Villages International in NY. I have the privilege also to represent SOS Children's Villages in the start-up of a multi-stakeholder global partnership initiative to end violence against children where partners are united by the commitment to uphold the rights of all children and the belief that no violence against children is justifiable and all violence is preventable.

Bjorn Bredesen (1946) has inter alia been a Director of Social and Health service in Oslo. He joined the Norwegian Royal Ministry of Children (*including Family policy*), Equality and Social Inclusion in 1990. After 3 years as project manager to reform and strengthen the child welfare/child protection services, he was appointed Deputy Director General in the Ministry. He retired in September 2014. He has studied social work, social policy, family counseling, supervision, economy, management and administration.

Ms. Brechtje van Lith holds Master Degrees in Public Administration and Advanced Development Studies. For the past 16 years she has worked in international development focusing on the promotion of children's rights. She has worked with different international organizations in various countries in Africa and Latin-America. In 2007/2008 she published articles on psychosocial interventions for war-affected children. Currently Mrs. Van Lith is Plan International's Country Director in the Dominican Republic (DR). In collaboration with the Dominican Government, UNICEF and other partners, Plan DR implements interventions to protect children from violence, focusing on the successful functioning of community-based structures and their connection to the national child protection system. Bredesen has through many years been a national representative and chairing international steering committees and expert groups in the field of social, family and child policy, partly at the Council of Europe, the Council of the Baltic Sea States and the Nordic Council of Ministers and the United Nation. Currently he now works as an independent expert in the field of child and family policy.

Ms. Cecilia Anicama works at the Office of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children. In her current position she contributed to the development of the CRC General Comment 16 and of the Children's Rights and Business Principles. Previously, she worked at the Inter American Commission on Human Rights and with Save the Children Sweden. In 2008, she prepared a Report on the State responsibilities to regulate and adjudicate corporate activities under the Inter-American Human Rights System to inform the mandate of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on Business and Human Rights.

Dilnoza Adilova works at SOS Children's Villages International (International Office CEE/CIS) in a position of a Head of Programme with a focus on CIS countries. She is also fulfilling a function of a Regional Child Protection Focal Point in CEE/CIS. Ms Adilova holds MS degree in Social Work from Columbia University in the City of New York. Her professional practice has ranged from direct legal and social work with socially vulnerable children to youth development, community organization, program design and implementation, as well as policy analysis and reform at national and international levels.

Görel Bogärde is Director of Policy, Advocacy and Campaigns at Plan International since 2011, with over 35 years' experience in international affairs having started her career as a Swedish

diplomat with four years of service in Indonesia. More recently, she has also worked as the UN Representative for the International Save the Children Alliance, as the founding Executive Director of World Childhood Foundation in the US, and as Deputy Consul General of Sweden in New York. She is also a multi-award winning Co-Producer of the North American PBS-series *World of Beauty*.

Joseph Simuchembu is a senior police officer based at the Police Service Headquarters and coordinates all Child Protection Units in Zambia. He has been working in the police service addressing child protection matters for over 12 years. He spearheads and reports on all matters related to child protection in the police service at the highest level (Inspector General). He is equally responsible for capacity building activities for the staff in the CP units in the country. He has vast experience in carrying out child rights sensitization and awareness; investigating crimes committed against/by children, Taking Child Related cases to the Courts of Law; and being an advocate for Children's Rights and ending child marriages.

Lucy Hillier : With a focus on the east and southern Africa region, Lucy has provided coordination and technical support for a number of regional and global networks, interagency groups, and NGOs with a focus on children on the move, community-based child protection mechanisms and systems strengthening, children affected by HIV and AIDS (OVC) and family strengthening and alternative care for children. In the past, Lucy has worked for Save the Children UK, the Regional Interagency Task Team for Children Affected by AIDS and the Community Child Protection Exchange. She is currently an independent consultant and the Africa Host for the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Network (mhps.net). Lucy holds a MSc in Development Studies and is based in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Luisa Karst works as Child Rights Advisor at Plan Sweden. Ms. Karst provides technical and human rights advice on Plan's programmes and policy documents and manages a portfolio of Plan's projects regarding child rights governance.

Mrs Mercy Chabu Ngoma is currently the Head of Programs and Strategy for Plan International Zambia. She has over 12 years' experience in the development sector with most of the years spent working with Child focused International and national non-governmental organizations. She has proven experience in guiding and advising local CSO's working on children's rights particularly the National Ending Child marriages network, coupled by contributions to technical working groups on OVC programming, Monitoring and evaluation of Health, Education, Youth and Agricultural programs. Mercy continues to work on her passion of contributing to the advancement of initiatives in the country to end the violence against children through ending child marriages and supporting marginalized children/youth including those in urban areas.

McDonald Chatuluka Mumba: I have been Regional Child Protection Specialist for Plan International Regional office for Eastern and Southern Africa since March, 2014 whose main office is located in Nairobi, Kenya but I am based in Lilongwe, Malawi. My main roles among others are to lead on the development, implementation and monitoring of Plan's thematic framework for child protection in Eastern and Southern Africa; provide technical leadership to regional internal and external child protection networks; generate and share knowledge for and from Plan's child protection work in the region. Before joining Plan International in 2008 at country level, I worked as a Children's Programmes officer in the Ministry of Gender, Children and Community Development and later as a Deputy Director for Education and Research with a

focus on child rights in the Malawi Human Rights Commission, I have a Degree in Social Sciences, a Post Graduate Diploma in Human Rights with a focus on child rights and currently studying for Masters Degree in Human Rights and Development.

Mrs. SIDIKOU AISSATOU ALASSANE MOULAYE is Inspector of Social Action, at the Ministry of Population, Promotion of Women and Child Protection where she consecutively served as Head of Social Service, Regional Director of Social Development, Population, Promotion of Women and Child Protection, Technical Advisor to the Minister, National Director of the Child Protection and General Director of Child Protection. She holds Master Degree in Local Development Engineering from the Centre for the Study of Local Development (CIEDEL) Lyon (France). Mrs. SIDIKOU AISSATOU ALASSANE MOULAYE was further admitted to the University of Science and Technology of Lille, where she equally obtained a Master 2 in Cooperation Projects Engineering. Mrs. SIDIKOU AISSATOU ALASSANE MOULAYE is the Chair of African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. She is a Member of International Board of Trustees of “ The African child Policy Forum”.

Ms. Karst has a wide range of experience in the field of human rights and protection with the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the European Union as well as field work experience from Colombia, Guatemala and Costa Rica with different NGOs and academic institutions. She holds a master in Human Rights and Democratization.

Ms. Milena Grillo is the Executive Director of Fundación PANIAMOR, a Costa Rican private, non-profit, independent organisation, created in 1987 and declared of public interest for the aims of the Costarrican State in 1989. The organisation works in the field of children and adolescents’ rights, with a special focus on the prevention of violence and the overcoming of social exclusion affecting this population. Ms. Grillo is a law graduate specialized in human rights with a Masters degree in social and family violence. She has acted as a consultant and programme leading officer for governmental and non-governmental international co-operation agencies in the field of public policy, social mobilization, violence prevention and children and adolescents’ rights, including Save the children, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, the Pan American Health Organisation, the European Commission, ECPAT International, the UN Inter-regional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the UN World Tourism Organisation, the UN International Labour Office, and the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB).

Rosa Manobanda from Ecuador, lives in Simiatug Parish where 99% of the population is indigenous and poverty rates reaches a 98% of children. Although she was not schooled until she was 10 years old, Rosa was able to finish the primary school and completed high school at the age of 29 and after having three children. She has led a large number of community activities, despite of the cultural patterns that reinforce the role of women as mothers and wives. It is notable her work on literacy and her different roles as Volunteer of Plan Ecuador; Coordinator of the Women Organization of Simiatug Parish; Promoter of Primary Health Care; Coordinator of the Provincial Secretariat for Women and Family; Coordinator of the Popular Education Teaching Team; Vocal of the Decentralized Autonomous Government of Simiatug; President of the Commission of Equity, Gender, Health and Rights; and, Chairman of the Environment Committee.

Samuel Musembi Musyoki is currently the Country Director Plan International Zambia. He holds a BA in Anthropology from the Institute of African Studies, University of Nairobi; MA in Development Studies International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) the Hague the Netherlands. Musyoki has over 20 years work experience in community development. He is a well-seasoned as trainer and facilitator of participatory development processes. He has experience in strategic planning, organizational development, participatory communication, gender and development, human rights-based approaches to development, policy research and advocacy. During his career time he has been involved in the work of bilateral aid agencies, international and national NGOs and grassroots-based organizations in Eastern and Southern Africa Region. Prior to joining Plan International in 2007, he was working with the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) University of Sussex UK. His current programmatic passion is in Child Centered Community Development and Human Rights Based Approaches to Development.