

ChildFund Alliance's response to the revised draft of the Outcome Document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

ChildFund Alliance is a worldwide alliance of children's development organizations, working in 58 countries to improve the lives of vulnerable and excluded children, help them overcome poverty and achieve their rights.

We welcome the release of the revised draft of the Outcome Document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which will take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 to 16 July 2015, and highly commend the efforts of the co-facilitators, H.E. Mr George Talbot, Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr Geir O. Pedersen, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations.

We welcome and bring attention to Member States' reaffirmation of their goal of eradicating poverty and hunger in this generation, and achieving sustainable development by promoting inclusive economic growth, protecting the environment, and fostering peaceful and inclusive societies.

We further welcome all references to children and children's issues, including the need of protecting them from violence and exploitation, of ensuring they can access quality education and healthcare services, of providing social protection floors for them and their families; as well as those references related to building resilience and strengthening disaster risk reduction mechanisms.

2015 presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to ensure that children's right to protection from all forms of violence and exploitation is fully realized in all settings. Immediate prioritization and committed action is needed. But this is not going to happen if investments are not made and resources are not mobilized.

Aware of this, we would suggest the following changes to further strengthen the document:

Para. 11: We will also set nationally appropriate spending targets on essential public services, including health, education, **the protection of women and children from violence and exploitation**, and water and sanitation, consistent with national sustainable development strategies.

Para. 28: We will also set nationally appropriate spending targets on a package of essential social services, including health, education, **the protection of women and children from violence and exploitation**, water and sanitation, consistent with national sustainable development strategies.

Para. 30: We note with concern the large financing gaps in areas crucial for sustainable development, including infrastructure, agriculture, industrialization, science, technology and innovation, **children's survival, development, and protection**, as well as for financial inclusion.

Para. 35: Such principles should also address business' role in preventing and fighting corruption, illicit financial flows, tax evasion, **violations to human rights and labour standards, including those regarding child labour**.

Para. 67: We recognize the importance of delivering quality education, **in safe and non-violent learning environments**, to all children as a key part of ensuring long-term sustainability of development.

Para. 100: We will strengthen national institutions to prevent violence, **in particular against women and children, and** combat terrorism and crime, and end trafficking and exploitation of persons, ~~in particular women and children,~~ including through international cooperation for capacity building at all levels, in particular in developing countries.

Para. 115: We will seek to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data, including by gender **and age**, in support of the post-2015 development and its means of implementation.

We would also suggest the insertion of an additional paragraph immediately following paragraph 67:

We recognize the effectiveness that global partnerships have shown to deliver results on health and education, among other sectors. We underscore the importance of enhancing existing partnerships and creating new ones. We also welcome the decision to launch a new global partnership, and associated fund, to protect children from all forms of violence, and urge all countries to play a full role in ensuring children no longer live in fear.

ChildFund Alliance calls upon Governments:

- To maintain and build upon the level of ambition of the Outcome Document of the Open Working Group on SDGs, and ensure that the protection of children from violence, exploitation, and abuse is prioritized along with their survival and development in the discussions and in the Outcome Document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.
- To support a global partnership to protect children from all forms of violence, as part of the post-2015 development agenda, pursuant to the vision already set forth in paragraph 1 of the revised draft Outcome Document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.