
The Weekly Pulse

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



Vol. 68: 25th Anniversary of the Children and Armed Conflict Mandate, Global Vaccine Deliveries, & the High-Level Global Conference on Youth Inclusive Peace Processes.

Jan 24, 2022

Quick Summary

UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore gave [remarks](#) at the **25th Anniversary of the Children and Armed Conflict Mandate** this past week. The event celebrated the successes that were achieved by this mandate, including, “at least 170,000 children released from armed forces and armed groups, many having survived multiple violations – including abduction or sexual violence.” The mandate was created to “strengthen the protection of children affected by armed conflict, raise awareness, promote the collection of information about the plight of children affected by war and foster international cooperation to improve their protection.” The anniversary event was the launch of the 25th-anniversary study that provides a detailed description of the evolution of the UN’s mechanism for monitoring and reporting grave violations through the Children and Armed Conflict agenda. It also outlines a vision for how to strengthen

the mandate further. Click [here](#) to read Henrietta Fore's remarks at this event. To read more about the Children and Armed Conflict Mandate, click [here](#).

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, [announced](#) that it has delivered 1 billion doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to over 144 countries and territories. Of the 1 billion doses, 90% have gone to lower-income countries. Given the new challenges of COVID-19, they are calling for an additional \$5.2 billion. The Vaccine Alliance explains that "\$3.7 billion [will go] to fund a 600 million dose Pandemic Vaccine Pool to address uncertainties and related uncovered risks, such as boosters, additional coverage, new variant vaccines if required, and to make sure there is reliable supply for the poorest countries. In addition, catalytic delivery funding of US\$ 1 billion is requested to support getting doses into arms rapidly and safely without undermining routine immunization activities. A further US\$ 545 million is needed to cover ancillary costs such as syringes, transport, and insurance for donations." Professor José Manuel Barroso, Chair of the Board of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance noted that "The pandemic is far from over: while we make progress, we must ensure that we can continue to respond to the needs of the countries we support. We thank those that have already made commitments, and we encourage others to join us." To read the announcement, click [here](#).

Together for Girls and The Brave Movement have called on Chancellor Scholz, G7 leaders, and the Government of Germany to make transformative commitments to end sexual violence against children and young people. The Brave Movement is "mobilizing survivor networks and survivor leaders from all G7 countries. This G7 Survivors Task Force has representatives from every G7 country and is chaired by two survivor leaders, Wibke Müller from the German [Survivors Council](#), and Matthias Katsch, spokesperson of the Survivors Initiative [ECKIGER Tisch](#) and member of the [Independent Inquiry into CSAE](#)." They argue that "there is an opportunity to show continued leadership by the G7 and by the Government of Germany to address the full continuum of CSAE, both on-line and off-line. There is a need for coordinated (G7) international action, rather than just national action, including policies on online sexual violence, trafficking, and Mobilization of resources to accelerate action in low and middle income countries." The letter also cites that Germany has shown some interest and leadership on this issue. This includes investing in the [Independent Commissioner for CSAE](#), the [Survivors Council](#), the [Independent Inquiry into CSAE](#), [Stakeholder Forum on CSAE](#). To read their letter and call to action, click [here](#).

Spotlight

The High-Level Global Conference on Youth Inclusive Peace Processes was hosted by governments of the state of Qatar, Finland, and Colombia, along with many organizations such as the United Nations Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on

Youth and Search for Common Ground. The conference had a series of webinars and discussions on how to incorporate youth into peacebuilding processes with the introduction of two important documents. First, is [Implementing Youth, Peace, and Security at the country level, a guide for public officials](#). Second is a [Five-Year Strategic Action Plan for youth-inclusive peace processes](#). These two documents served as guides and discussion points throughout the conference.

The Opening Ceremony was hosted by the **United Nations Secretary-General's envoy on Youth [Jayathma Wickramanayake](#)**. In her opening remarks, she emphasized that “engaging with the young people is not only a demographic necessity, but a democratic imperative.” She also stated that “Emerging evidence shows us that youth participation can increase the legitimacy and the sustainability of peace processes, but to move from exclusion to meaningful inclusion, we must transform norms, practices and approaches and attitudes and recognize young people as equal and powerful partners who can positively contribute to all steps.” **[Antonio Guterres, the United Nations Secretary General](#)**, echoed her remarks saying that “We need to ensure that young people have a seat at the table, forging inclusive solutions that combine peace and security, sustainable development and human rights.”

Following the United Nations Secretary General was a **young peacebuilder from South Sudan [Anna Maneno](#)**. She was awarded the Future Africa Leaders Award in 2021. She recited her spoken-word poem that emphasized what young people are going through in conflict-affected areas and how young people need to be heard. Another **young peacebuilder from Afghanistan [Mohammad Yahya Qanie](#)** spoke about his experiences talking to communities about peace in the middle of war. Additionally, **[H.E. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani](#), the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar** and the **First Lady of Colombia [Maria Juliana Ruiz](#)** spoke about how they are including young people into their government and policy.

The next insightful conversation was the **Inclusion as Prevention: Building Trust Between Youth and the State**. This session was co-organized by Interpeace and the United Nations Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth. Speakers included **[Danica Dampio](#) who is a Project Manager at Interpeace, [Anjli Parrin](#) who is the Project Associate Director at Columbia Law School Human Rights Clinic, [Laura Henao](#) a Researcher from CINEP, [Afeni Evans](#) with Working Families Party at Racial Justice and [Ursul Amos Boundja Mandakouzou](#) a peacebuilder from SOS-Civisme-CAR.**

There were many important conversations about how the countries around the world need to build their trust between youth and the governments. Many of the speakers acknowledge that countries need to address their colonial histories and atrocities at home, especially developed Western countries. The young peacebuilders offered solutions such as actively listening and including youth, especially when it comes to climate change and racial injustice. This would help improve trust between youth and countries. However, it was also highlighted that trust is undermined by state-sanctioned violence. It was also emphasized that young people are the future– they will be the next politicians and decision makers. One peacebuilder offered two tools to help increase trust- mobilization and dialogue. They also explained that local community conversations are just as important as conversations at the national and international levels.

Click [here](#) to read more about this event and the launch of the two youth peacebuilding documents.

Virtual Events

- UNESCO [virtual event](#) “**International Day of Education: Changing Course, Transforming Education.**” Jan 24, 2022 at 9am ET.
- UNESCO [virtual event](#) “**Solidarity Circle- Changing Course, Transforming Education with Youth.**” Jan 24, 2022 at 4pm ET.
- UNESCO [virtual event](#) “**Changing Course, Transforming Education: Putting a new social contract in education in motion.**” Jan 24, 2022 at 3:30pm ET.
- Devex & CARE [virtual event](#) “**Strengthening Food Security: A Conversation with U.S. Rep. Chris Stewart.**” Jan 25, 2022 at 11 am ET.
- The UCL Institute of Global Health, Kathmandu University School of Arts (Disability Research Center), Diverse Patterns, the Institute of Development Studies, and the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council [webinar](#) “**Including adolescents with disabilities in research: Our Experience.**” Jan 26, 2022 at 4:15 am ET.
- The International Association for Feminist Economics [virtual event](#) “**Seizing the “Moment” for the Global Care Agenda: From Theory to Practice.**” January 26, 2022, at 9 am ET.
- **Global Campaign for Education (GCE)-US Coalition Meeting** with [panel](#) discussing the **2021/2 UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report, Non-state actors in Education.** Feb 1, 2022 at 9am ET.
- Care and Protection of Children (CPC) Learning Network & Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) [virtual event](#) “**The Reality of Shifting Power to**

Local Actors: Case studies on child protection initiatives in Nigeria, Kenya, & Malawi. February 1, 2022, at 9 am ET.

- USAID, Digital Frontiers, Save the Children, Tech Change & Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI) [virtual symposium](#) **“Protecting Children and Youth from Digital Harm.”** Feb 8, 2022 .
- End Violence Against Children [virtual summit](#) **“Together to #EndViolence Leaders’ Event.”** Jun 14, 2022 at 8 am ET.
- Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) [virtual forum](#) **“SVRI Forum 2022.”** September 19-23, 2022.

Reports, Articles & Resources

- The Times of India [article](#) **“10,000 orphaned in pandemic, Supreme Court told.”**
- Global Partnership for Education (GPE) [article](#) **“Safeguarding Her: A Call to Action to Educating Girls in Vulnerable Situations.”**
- Human Rights Watch [article](#) **“New Year’s Resolutions for Sport: Protect Children.”**
- International Rescue Committee (IRC) [article](#) **“Voices from the crises the world can’t ignore in 2022.”**
- United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner [report](#) (OHCHR) **“Afghanistan: Taliban attempting to steadily erase women and girls from public life – UN experts.”**
- Washington Post [article](#) **“Students are protesting covid policies– and the adults who won’t listen to them.”**
- World Economic Forum [article](#) **“For a better future for children and young people, we need to innovate.”**
- The New Humanitarian [article](#) **“‘Like a precipice’: Children growing up with war on Europe’s front line.”**
- Harvard University Center on the Developing Child [article](#) **“Re-Envisioning Early Childhood Policy and Practice in a World of Striking Inequality and Uncertainty- New Science + More Diverse Voices = Greater Impact.”**



Copyright © 2021 Tides Center, All rights reserved.