



2015



2016



2017



2018



2015-2018



**PARLIAMENTARIANS
WITHOUT BORDERS
FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS**



The world went global before Parliamentarians went global. Parliamentarians globally are tied to local problems and next election. Yet, they are faced each day with more and more issues that cut across constituencies, countries and regions. These problems are global in nature, with no local or immediate solutions. They need a unified cross-country and global response. This thought was sparked by Kailash Satyarthi, Nobel Peace Laureate and Honorary President of Global March Against Child Labour and Senator Cristovam Buarque from Brazil, to bring together members of Parliament from different countries on the issue of children rights.

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights Meet, 2015

The noble idea finally took shape on 27-28 March 2015 at Kathmandu, Nepal wherein 20 engaged Parliamentarians from across 9 countries (details as per Annexure II) united to create a strong group of legislators to engage with their constituents on children rights and work together with multiple stakeholders to eliminate pressing concerns around children's basic rights nationally and globally.



The one and a half day conference was kicked off by the Rt. Hon'ble Speaker of Constituent Assembly of Nepal, Mr. Subash Chandra Nembang. He was joined by child rights champions, Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, Nobel Peace Laureate, Brazilian Senator Cristovam Buarque and Ms. Karin Hulshof, Regional Director, UNICEF. The opening ceremony attended by multiple stakeholders such as civil society organisations, government representatives, public, media, etc was followed by dynamic closed group discussions among participating parliamentarians on critical issues like child labour, child slavery, trafficking, education etc.

Discussions on Day 1 (27th March, Friday) were divided into 4 sessions that began with the introduction of the Parliamentarians and their expectations from the meeting.

The first topic of discussion was around the issues of elimination of child labour, child slavery, child trafficking and promotion of laws that protect children from "all forms of violence". Mr. Timothy Ryan, Board Member, Global March Against Child Labour set the tone for the session "Towards a World without Child Labour- Roadmap to 2016 and 2025". The session chaired by Dr. Aliya Aftab, Member of Parliament Pakistan, saw the exchange of views and highlighted current scenario around these themes in their respective countries.



Chaired by Member of Parliament from India, Ms. Supriya Sule, the second session "Education: Equitable, Inclusive and Free: a Collective Vision for Quality Education beyond 2015" saw Mr. Christian Mahart, Head of Office and UNESCO Representative, Nepal, sharing his reflections on the situation of child labour in Nepal followed by a spirited debate on the need for equitable, inclusive and quality education for every child.



In the third session “Role of Parliamentarians in Furthering Children's Rights within the purview of the SDGs”, the group deliberated on the importance of influencing country specific agenda in the light of the adoption of the new Sustainable Development Goals in September this year. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary General for Post-2015 Development Planning, was the keynote speaker for this session. She emphasised on the critical role of Members of Parliament as key players in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals along with the need to domesticate the SDGs in their countries once finalised and to lay down their vision for the same.



The second day began with participants sharing best practices in their countries and regions and firming up the outcome document of the meeting thus formalising the way forward. It was a critical day as Members of Parliament passionately discussed the importance of the initiative and clear ways to build and sustain the momentum of this movement in the coming years.



As a way forward, the Parliamentarians decided to form a Steering Group comprising representatives from every country. This smaller group will work closely and actively to take the initiative forward. They would be actively involved in the planning, fostering collaboration, resource mobilisation, endorsement/promotion, monitoring and reporting of PWB activity in associated countries in accordance with their capacity and reach.

It was also decided that the Parliamentarians Without Borders initiative will be supported by two secretariats based out of Nepal and Brazil along with support from the Global March Secretariat (India).

The Steering Group also proposed that the Parliament Members should develop country and regional level plans to drive this initiative forward. It was discussed and agreed upon by the South Asian Members of Parliament to organise a regional South Asia meeting of engaged Parliamentarians in 3 months in India, to be chaired by Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma (MP India).

As per the regional plan for South Asia, it is proposed to hold quarterly meetings of engaged Parliamentarians in the region to maintain the momentum of the initiative and build a strong movement for furthering children's rights at the country, regional and international levels.

The detail of the Steering Group Members is as follows:

S.No.	Name	Country
1	Senator Cristovam Buarque	Brazil
2	Mr. Roelof van Laar	Netherlands
3	Dr. Muhammed Çetin	Turkey
4	Mr. Luis Alberto Castiglioni	Paraguay
5	Mr. Nazmul Haque Prodhan	Bangladesh
6	Ms. Lubna Faisal	Pakistan
7	Ms. Hamida Akbary	Afghanistan
8	Mr. Dilli Chaudhary	Nepal
9	Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma	India

See Annexure I for Declaration 2015 and Annexure II & III for List of Participants.

The Journey of the PWB movement from April 2015 to May 2016

The PWB initiative has seen a slow but steady traction and progress over the last 14 month period. The Steering Group (SG) members have been the most active in their outreach and initiatives.

Latin America

The SG member from Brazil, Senator Cristovam Buarque made a visit to the conflict affected areas in Turkey and Syria (border areas) to document the impact of conflict on the children and also submitted his report to the António Guterres, UNHCR. He undertook this visit as an engaged member of the PWB forum on a mission to find ways to protect children in conflict areas. Senator Buarque has been constantly engaging with other parliament members from Brazil as well as other Latin American countries on this initiative. During Mr. Satyarthi's visit to Brazil

earlier this year, the Senator Buarque not only organised a meeting of close to 15 more such engaged Senators who are a part of the Human Rights Senate Caucus but also arranged for Mr. Satyarthi to address the Brazilian Parliament on pressing issues of impending weakening of the forced labour law in Brazil. As a result of Mr. Satyarthi's passionate proposal and debate on the subject, the bill which was being moved under an urgency regime to the Senate was put under further discussion.



In **Chile** Mr. Satyarthi met the President of the Senate Mr. Patricio Walker, along with a few other senators. Mr. Walker showed keen interest and support for the PWB initiative, expressing interest to participate in the 2nd meeting in 2016. He was also invited for the second meeting but due to the Parliament being in Session he expressed his inability to join this time but has requested for the outcomes of the meeting to be shared so that he may contribute with the follow up in Chile as well.



Africa

One of the Parliament Members from Ghana, Hon. MP Joseph Amenowade (invitee to PWB but could not attend due to a personal emergency) has shown great support to the Global March activities and advocacy plans in Africa. He has already spread the initiative of Parliamentarians for child rights in West Africa and is the chair of the West African Network of Parliamentarians Against Child Labour. He has plans to spread the initiative to Central and South Africa at the soonest and hopes to organise the next meeting of a bigger group of African Parliament Members in 2016.

Also a major boost to the project also comes from the appointment of the President of Ghana as the Co-Chair of the UN Group of 16 Eminent Persons on Advocacy for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Global March and its partners have engaged with the office of President of Ghana.

Global March has also reached out to MPs in Uganda, South Africa and Togo to join the initiative and 2 MPs from Uganda have given their consent to participate in the second meeting.



Asia

The SG member from Nepal, Mr. Dilli Bahadur Chaudhary, also undertook a South Asia visit to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan with an aim to spread the caucus of PWB parliamentarians. He plans to visit Afghanistan as well in the coming months to engage with more Parliament Members on the initiative.

The key objectives of these visits was/is to:

1. Meet with parliamentarians, policy makers, like minded organizations as well as diplomats to discuss share and learn experiences about trafficking, child rights and education.
2. Develop common understanding and draw attention of the government about the challenges in regards to trafficking and come up with common solution to move forward with concrete steps in

order to stop child slavery and ensure child rights to free education.

3. Develop country papers as well as South Asia plan and present them in the upcoming PWB meeting in India.
4. Visit organizations and observe activities related to trafficking, child rights and education.

During his **Bangladesh** visit, Mr. Chaudhary engaged with important stakeholders from the different ministries including Minister of Women and Child Welfare, State Minister, Secretary & Joint Secretary of Labor and Employment, Minister of Food and Industry on ways on how the Parliament Members and CSOs can work in better coordination with these departments. A follow up meeting of PWB members

and new MPs was also held with 5 new MPs participating in the discussion.



In **Sri Lanka**, Mr. Chaudhary met with the Minister of National Co-existence Dialogue and Official Languages (this ministry is responsible to coordinate NGOs in Sri Lanka), State Minister of Child Affairs Sri Lanka, Member of Parliament from Plantation Sector of Sri Lanka, Commissioner of Department of Probation & Childcare Services, Country Coordinator - Kindernothilfe (Leading donor agency for NGOs working for Children), Chairman, National Peace Council, Sri Lanka amongst many other stakeholders and civil society actors.



Mr. Chaudhary received a very warm reception as a PWB member, drawing special attention from Ministries and other MPs. Both the Ministers not only appreciated the PWB initiative but also pledged support to the initiative and efforts to build regional efforts for ensuring the rights of the children. They also felt that an initiative like PWB is important to bring about policy change in the country. The MP from Sri Lanka has also shown keen interest to be a part of the initiative and engage more of his counterparts on the initiative.

In **Pakistan**, Mr. Chaudhary met with the Minister of Higher Education and Social Welfare, CEO of South Asian Partnership and the Chairperson Child

Protection Welfare Bureau who is also an MP of the Punjab Assembly in Pakistan.



Mr. Chaudhary re-established contact with PWB member Dr. Aliya Aftab who explained how the 2 PWB participants from Pakistan engaged with the Labour Minister in Pakistan on the key outcomes of the PWB meeting after the 1st meeting held in Nepal and their keen interest in expanding the initiative in Pakistan. Mr. Chaudhary was able to meet 9 more MPs from Pakistan during his visit and engage constructively with them on the PWB initiative and the importance of greater South Asian collaboration to improve the situation of children's rights.



Though the Regional South Asia meeting of Parliamentarians could not be organised in India last year, as was agreed upon by the members in Kathmandu, but nevertheless the PWB Members in India have been very active with regards to voicing the demands of the vulnerable children during important discussions in the Parliament on critical bills like the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2016 as well as supporting Global March in its advocacy on the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Bill amendments, the revisions in the National Education Policy which are based on a rights based approach.

Global March has also through its Indian partner, initiated work with 2 states of Assam and Maharashtra on developing MOUs for child protection in the states, through their Chief Ministers.

In his recent visit to Japan, Mr. Satyarthi met close to 12 MPs including Mr. Ichiro Aisawa (Member of the House of Representatives) and spoke to them on various important issues of children's rights including child labour, education, role of the Japanese government to adhere to international rules and norms on supply chains. All the MPs were given a copy of the PWB report and invited to the next meeting in The Netherlands in 2016. Unfortunately due to elections in some constituencies, the members are finding it difficult to confirm their participation for 2016 but they are keen on being a part of this noble initiative.



For the second meeting of PWB, participants from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Philippines and Taiwan have expressed their interests to join.

Engagements in Other Countries

Another invitee to the PWB from the Swedish Parliament, Ms. Amineh Kakabaveh, has been extremely keen to follow up with Global March on the progress of the PWB initiative and has been in regular touch with Global March on ways to contribute and participate. She will be participating in the upcoming meeting at the Hague. Global March has also contacted MPs in **Norway** and **Germany** for participating in the initiative. Through the efforts of Mr. Roelof Van Laar, the PWB will see participation from **Greece** and **Belgium** as well this year.

In Italy Mr. Satyarthi met the President of the Senate Mr. Pietro Grasso, Italy along with a few other senators. The senators showed keen interest and support for the PWB initiative, expressing interest to participate in the 2nd meeting in 2016.



In **Norway**, Mr. Satyarthi has met a few MPs including Mr. Geir Pollestad, Mr. Gunnar A. Gundersen, Mr.

Jorund H. Rytman, Mr. Odd Omland and Mr. Ove Bernt Trellevik who were also briefed on the initiative and were interested to be a part of the same and have also been invited for the second PWB meeting.

Discussions with Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU)

IPU is the global association of democratically elected parliaments worldwide. Global March has engaged with the IPU, and introduced the Parliamentarians Without Borders to them. The IPU is keen to organise specific workshops/capacity building of the PWB members jointly with the Global March. Martin Chungong, Secretary General, IPU was presented the report of the first meeting of the PWB by Mr Satyarthi.

Second Meeting of Parliamentarians Without Borders

The second meeting is being organised in The Hague, The Netherlands on 8th & 9th July, hosted by Mr. Roelof Van Laar (Member of Parliament), The Netherlands. Currently 25 parliament members from 15 countries have expressed their interest to join the meeting and the initiative. We are certain that this noble initiative will soon become the biggest voices for the rights of all children in the world, and will grow manifolds, encompassing Parliamentarians from different countries across the globe, who not only will become the advocates for promoting and protecting the right of every child to be free, live with dignity and gain quality education, but will also enhance their skills and capacity as legislators. Thus Global March aims to further strengthen this group comprising of some of the world's most compassionate lawmakers, and hopes to make it a focal point of the worldwide parliamentary dialogue on children and their human rights.

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights Meet, 2016

Following the success of the first ever meet of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights (PWB) that was held in 2015 in Kathmandu, the second meeting of the PWB, was held in The Hague, The Netherlands on 8th & 9th July 2016. The meet was hosted by Mr. Roelof Van Laar, Member of Parliament, The Netherlands.

With participation of 16 Members of Parliament from different parts of the world, this one of a kind meeting brought innovative ideas, strategies and commitments from the Parliamentarians for addressing some of the most pressing concerns of children. In the one and half day event, the Parliamentarians brainstormed and discussed ways to not only eliminate child labour, trafficking and slavery as legislators, but also identified and agreed on key actions to be taken by Parliamentarians for strengthening education, and devising child responsive budgeting.

The second meet of PWB (Day 1) began with opening remarks by its founder, Mr. Satyarthi wherein he reasserted the purpose of establishing this group of Parliamentarians. He remarked that there are more than 46 thousand Parliamentarians in this world, and only 2% of them raise the issue of children's rights. With the growing issue of child labour all over the world, given the protracted crises in Syria, numerous natural disasters, fast growing inequality, climate change and rising fundamentalism, children are increasingly being pushed to the margins of society, and thus we need strong political, moral and economic will to put an end to the misery of children. This political, moral and economic will must be mobilised locally, nationally and globally, for not only producing effective legislations for children, but also adequate budgets for its implementation. He further emphasised on the greater role of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) especially concerning children in advocating for overall well-being of children and urged the Parliamentarians present to invest in children.

The meeting was opened by the First Secretary General of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Netherlands, who offered her full support to the initiative of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights and urged the Parliamentarians to keep sharing their experiences and raise their knowledge and capacities for the advancement of children's rights. This was followed by a session on introductions by the fellow participating members

briefly outlining their achievements in their capacity as Members of Parliament in their respective countries.

The Second Session of Day 1 on '*Round up 2015 and Setting Context for 2016*', set a background for discussion on the need for ending child labour, slavery and trafficking by 2030 under SDG 8.7. This session gave an opportunity to participants to discuss and debate concrete actions that could be taken by Parliament members to contribute in the elimination of child labour and related issues. The Parliament members agreed to the need for receiving more information on these issues, and recommended that Global March must take up more initiatives in sensitising the masses including other Parliament Members (who are not formally part of PWB), Special Courts, Judges, Religious/Faith Leaders, and the citizens. Suggestion was also made to have more evidence based researches and to invest in education of children and the adults on how to protect themselves from being exploited and abused. Many Parliamentarians also suggested for a collective demand/action taken by Members of Parliament all over the world on ending child labour, slavery and trafficking through platforms such as PWB. Member of Parliament from Afghanistan, Ms. Fawzia Koofi, asserted that "Only ratification of UNCRC is not a full commitment. We must include children in all initiatives." Talking about the issue of child trafficking and exploitation, she argued that we must stop the demand side of the supply chain. Countries such as Afghanistan are only supply counties in such chains."

The Third Session of Day 1, on "*Role of Education in Preventing and Increasing Democratic Values under SDG 4.7*" of the meet was presented by a representative from The Hague Institute of Global Justice. The session discussed various ways for preventing violent extremism and emphasised on the role of governments, schools and teachers to take responsibility for identifying potential radicalised children and inculcate values of global citizenship, harmony, sensitivity and openness. The presentation was succeeded by valuable comments and suggestions by MPs on ways of preventing radicalisation amongst children and youth, which is a growing concern in many countries of the world. Some of the pertinent suggestions were such as revision in curriculum for ensuring quality education, imparting education to women, increasing employability opportunities, socio-psychological protection, global



citizenship education, sensitisation of courts & judges, discrete research on it, and involving of religious leaders.

The Final Session of Day 1 on “*Financing Child Related SDGs*” of the meet addressed the need for child-responsive budgeting and how it could be used as an effective tool to ensure implementation of child-related SDGs. This Session was moderated by a representative from UNICEF Netherlands, followed by experience sharing by Parliament Members on budgets in their respective countries. During the discussion, many interesting perspectives came to the forefront, where in some countries the funds were available but it was challenging to channelize and spend it effectively, in others it was noted that the challenge was allocation and release of the budgets. Non-consultative nature of Ministries of Finance with MPs was an issue that was raised by many. Thus the discussion and Day 1 concluded with many fruitful suggestions and better sensitised participants on how to formulate child-friendly budgets. Member of Parliament from Bangladesh, Ms. Fazilatun Bappy, said that “due to her party's persistent efforts, the fiscal budget for education was increased; however spending it was a challenge.”

Day 2 of the meet began with a short recap of Day 1

along with some insightful achievements of the fellow Parliamentarians, who not only described their commitment to work for their people but also the limitations faced by them while implementing a policy or an initiative, and how they were able to overcome them with fruitful results. Member of Parliament from Uganda, Mr. Guma Gumisiriza attested that “not much was being done on the ground in Uganda for the elimination of child labour but we must now focus on school enrolments and using World Day Against Child Labour as a day to take up this issue with the Ministries.” Mr. Shehryar Afridi, MP from Pakistan stated that “prior to our government, the investment in education was only 12%, but we recognised the importance of education and took it to 29%, however 3 million children still needed to be in school.”

The next session of Day 2 focussed on role of governments in taking legislative/policy action for businesses to protect, promote and realise human rights/children's rights. Laws like Modern Slavery Act in UK, Ruggie Framework in Europe were discussed and seen as some of the best examples of making corporates accountable for their acts and encourage sustainable business practices.

The meet concluded with closing remarks by Mr. Kailash Satyarthi wherein he encouraged the

participants to go back to their countries and do their bit for children. He also motivated the Parliamentarians to convene national and regional level meets of Parliamentarians Without Borders and envisioned the group to be a group of experts of lawmakers and a strong international political platform which can deliberate with United Nations, Regional Bodies, Parliamentary Forums and other stakeholders in the world to eradicate the scourge of child labour, trafficking and slavery. He further suggested that a Secretariat may be established, along with a website and periodic newsletters may be circulated to formalise the structure.

Mr. Satyarthi's comments invited many suggestions from participants on how the PWB group could be strengthened and its scope and reach could be widened. The meeting ended with a formation of a Steering Committee along with signing of a Declaration (See Annexure 1) describing the key actions that will be taken by the Parliamentarians in next one year. The third meet of the Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights is proposed to be held in Accra, Ghana or in any other country as may seem appropriate in 2017.



Some of the key outcomes/ decisions for PWB 2016

Steering Committee 2016

Members of the Committee will be the following:

1. Roelof Van Laar
2. Amineh Kakbaveh
3. Joseph Amenowode
4. Dilli Chaudhary

Cristovam Buarque remains the representative from Latin America.

Joseph Amenowode will be the Chair of the Steering Committee and Dilli Chaudhary will be the Secretary of the Steering Committee.

Next Meeting of PWB

The next meeting is proposed to be hosted in Accra, Ghana, preceded by Global March Board Meeting in Togo, or wherever the Steering Committee may feel appropriate.

Tasks of the Steering Committee

The Steering Committee will undertake fundraising tasks apart from building relationships within their parties, governments, oppositions, UN agencies and parliamentary forums, to raise the issue of child rights. To achieve this objective, the steering committee members will organise a regional level meet for Members of Parliaments on child rights every 4-6 months.

Mr. K. C Tyagi will become the convener for South Asia meeting of MPs and will take the lead in fundraising for South Asia.

Secretariat

Global March office in New Delhi will remain the Secretariat for PWB for the next one year. Funds will be raised for having a full time staff for PWB stationed at Global March office.

Members of Parliament present at the Meeting

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| 1. Ms. Fawzia Koofi, (Afghanistan) | 9. Mr. Dilli Chaudhary, (Nepal) |
| 2. Mr. Nazmul Haque Prodhan, (Bangladesh) | 10. Mr. Shehryar Afridi, (Pakistan) |
| 3. Ms. Fazilatun Nasa Bappy, (Bangladesh) | 11. Mr. Arvinth Kumar Arunchalem, (Sri Lanka) |
| 4. Mr. Joseph Z Amenowode, (Ghana) | 12. Ms. Amineh Kakabaveh, (Sweden) |
| 5. Mr. Benson Baba Tongo, (Ghana) | 13. Mr. Roelof Van Laar, (The Netherlands) |
| 6. Mr. Bhagwant Khuba, (India) | 14. Mr. Gerritjan Van Oven, (The Netherlands) |
| 7. Mr. K.C Tyagi, (India) | 15. Ms. Grace Kesande, (Uganda) |
| 8. Ms. Okky Asokawati, (Indonesia) | 16. Mr. Guma Gumisiriza, (Uganda) |

After the meet in The Netherlands, many Parliamentarians went back to their countries and took concrete actions to promote children's rights. Some of the actions taken by PWB members and Global March partners in 2016 were:

Indonesia

February 2016: To engage constructively with the Parliamentarians and enhance their knowledge on child-related SDGs along with their critical role in ensuring the effective implementation of national policies, Global March partner in Indonesia, JARAK, briefly met with the Members of Parliament and handed over essential position papers and research materials prepared by JARAK, to influence the issue of SDG 8.7 aiming to be integrated in the Parliament Work Plan (Commission VIII).

March 2016: Following the handover of the research material to the Parliamentarians, team of JARAK met

with Members of Parliament, Rahayu Saraswati (Member of Commission VIII), Endang Mariastuti (Head of Commission VIII) and the Expert team of Commission VIII and asked for swift action on SDGs implementation in the country. In return, the Parliamentarians responded to JARAK's request with the following comments and questions for JARAK:

1. Data of child labour in Indonesia, cases of trafficking and violence against children is awaited and once it arrives to the Parliamentarians, they will study it.
2. They would like JARAK to present disaggregated data in each issue highlighted.

3. They would be happy to receive recommendations from JARAK as a follow up of the meeting held with the Parliamentarians.
4. They would like to know more about the indicators that will be used in SDGs Goals 8.7.
5. For the victims of trafficking, the Parliament will pressure the Government to set up a technical regulation Restitution for victims TPPO.
6. At that moment Parliament initiated a Working Committee to formulate draft bill of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) and would encourage extra emphasis on child labour to be included in the recommendations.
7. In December 2016, Parliament of Indonesia hosted the Regional Inter-Parliamentarian Meeting for SDGs in Bali.

India

July 2016: Global March partner, Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) hosted a consultation of the 'Parliamentarians for Children' on 20th July, 2016 at the Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. The meet was attended by 18 significant Members of Parliament across party lines with Parliamentarian, Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma as the convener. They pledged to take up the issue of Rights of Children and collectively work towards taking effective action both within their constituency and at the Parliament. The deliberation focused on child protection and re-emphasized the responsibility of the law and policy makers to have a child centric approach. Mr. Satyarthi noted that it is the parliamentarians who play a vital role and are uniquely placed to give voice to children's issues and help solve this crisis and mitigate its effects. Parliamentarians unified and affirmed to work in close coordination to learn from each other and set up a dedicated forum where policies are child centric and laws for the

children are strengthened. Some of the key decisions and way forward decided at the meeting were:

- Participant MPs solemnly pledged to create a Forum of at least 250 parliamentarians on children's issues for child protection in and outside the parliament and in their constituencies
- The forum would champion children's issues and become the voice of children in the country
- Parliamentarians vowed to work in their constituency on the welfare of children assisted by volunteers
- Children are the State's responsibility and appropriate measures to address this needs to be taken
- Mothers need to be empowered through Panchayati Raj and play a pivotal role in decision making related to their children
- A child centric development model in each constituency would lead to a child friendly country.



Togo

August 2016: In Togo, the Global March partner and Board Member, WAO-Afrique organised the Parliamentarians Without Borders Togo Chapter or Parliamentarians Sans Frontières (PSF) Togo under the regional coordination Global March for francophone Africa, to sensitise the Parliamentarians and discuss the possible ways to implement the child-related SDGs on child labour, trafficking and violence against children. The meeting was widely covered in the media and saw participation of 40 Members of Parliament, of which 30 Members of Parliament were presently serving and 10 were former Members of

Parliament and state heads.

The meeting was chaired by former Parliamentarian and former Prime Minister of Togo, Mr. Joseph Kokou KOFFFIGOH, who invited all stakeholders and Parliamentarians to make efforts for child protection and reforms of practices that are detrimental to child development. Mr. Edoh HOWANOU, President of the PSFTogo, remarked "I congratulate and thank all Parliamentarians who have taken upon themselves the responsibility to work for the development of children in Togo. I also reiterate my commitment that

the office begins work in collaboration with partners on the ground to raise awareness and enforce the rights of children to the population."

Understanding of child related SDGs especially Target 8.7 was discussed extensively at the meeting, and concepts of child labour, child work, slavery and trafficking. The discussion resulted in the formation of a national action plan for the operation of the PSF Togo. Mention a line on the secretariat of PSF Togo.



Sweden



October 2016: In Sweden, PWB member and Parliamentarian, Ms. Amineh Kakabaveh raised a motion against child labour and promotion of children's rights in the Swedish Parliament (The Riksdag) in October 2016. Her Proposal for Parliamentary Decision on her motion is as follows:

1. The Riksdag agrees with what is stated in the motion that Sweden within the EU, the ILO and other UN agencies should pay attention to large multinational corporate exploitation of child labor

and the harmful effects of child labor and announce this to the government.

2. Parliament endorses it as stated in the motion that Sweden should become a Fair Trade Nation and it is announced by the government.
3. The Riksdag agrees with what is stated in the motion that Swedish companies operating abroad should not be content to pay only statutory minimum wage (which is usually low and insufficient), but should focus on paying adequate wages (to sustain minimum living standards), and Parliament must announce this for the government.
4. The Riksdag agrees with what is stated in the motion that Swedish companies should make sure that their suppliers do not use child labor in their operations, and Parliament must announce this for the government.
5. The Riksdag agrees with what is stated in the motion that ethical rules should be introduced which ensures that Swedish companies do not do

business with companies that use child labor, and Parliament must announce this for the government.

6. The Riksdag agrees with what is stated in the motion that a government inquiry should be made to investigate and put forward a proposal on how consumer can be expanded with greater attention paid to children's conditions and the incidence of child labor and Parliament must announce this for the government.
7. The Riksdag agrees with what is stated in the motion that Sweden in the EU and the UN should work to ensure that the great powers and the states in Europe which gave rise to social and political chaos in the world, take responsibility for the refugee situation that has arisen, and

Parliament must announce this for the government.

8. The Riksdag agrees with what is stated in the motion that Sweden within the EU should work to ensure that the girls and young women who are I/S / Daishand made into sex slaves, and who managed to escape or be "redeemed" should be granted asylum in Europe and offered the care they need to live, and Parliament must announce this for the government.
9. The Riksdag agrees with what is stated in the motion that Sweden as a single country in the UN and the EU should work to ensure that refugee children receive support with schooling and livelihood to prevent sex trafficking and temporary "marriage" of the children, and Parliament must announce this for the government.

Bangladesh

October 2016: Global March Partner, Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) with the support from Global March Against Child Labour organized a Consultation with the Parliament members on "Road Map for SDGs to Eliminate Child Labour: Our Responsibilities" at IPD Conference Hall, Bangladesh Parliament Bhaban, Dhaka on 19 October, 2016. The consultation was chaired by the chairperson of BSAF, Mr. Md. Emranul Huq Chowdhury while the Chief Guest was the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Bangladesh, Advocate Fazle Rabbi Miah, MP. The main objective of the event was to inform the Parliament Members about their roles and responsibilities in implementing roadmap for SDGs to eliminate child labour in Bangladesh.

At the meeting some consensus was made to move forward in regard to SDGs and Child Labour Elimination from Bangladesh.

The agreed points were:

- Hazardous child labour has to be eliminated from Bangladesh.
- Dropout rate from school has to be reduced, even though some improvement has been made due to regular pressure from the NGOs on the government.
- Poverty alleviation and birth control is necessary to eliminate child labour.
- Monitoring the proper utilization of child budget is very important.

- Alternative livelihood for the parents of the children needs emphasis.
- Political commitment and accountability of state and non state actors are needed.

Mr. Md. Israfil Alam, MP, and a member of Parliamentary Standing Committee of Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE), observed that, "Child labour is mostly prevalent in city areas, because in cities there is a lot of scope of work. But, safety net programs are mostly rural centered. Primary education is free in Bangladesh but in spite of having huge demand, government primary schools are rarely found in city corporation areas. As a result we can't provide safety nets and free education at city areas."

Mr. Fazle Rabbi Miah, MP and the Deputy Speaker of Parliament of Bangladesh, asserted that "I believe child labour elimination is possible and it will be eliminated very soon. Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights of Bangladesh played a major role in Child Budgeting in Bangladesh. We have convinced the Finance Minister for allocating separate budget for children. We have demanded to increase child budget allocation. But we are concerned that child budget is not being utilized properly." He further added saying that "Statistics are very important as well. There should be recent and up to date statistics. There is no recent statistics on child domestic workers. Identification of child domestic workers is not so easy. People do not admit that they have child domestic workers at their homes."



He went on to praise the initiative taken by BSAF and declared that “BSAF must organise even more

extensive meeting on SDGs. If MDGs were achieved, why cannot SDGs?”

Ghana



Global March partner in Ghana, GNCRC under the guidance of Mr. Andrews A Tagoe, Deputy Gen Secretary of GAWU(also the Board Member, Global March)organised a Parliamentarians Consultation on SDGs in Accra to define the National Action Plan for Elimination of Child Labour, with the Parliamentary Sub-Committee at the Parliament House. At the meeting, Parliamentarians expressed the appreciation of the new knowledge received and remarked that “it is very important that when new Parliamentarians come on board and new members of the PWB Ghana

Chapter are inducted, a similar session should be organized for them.”The Chairperson of the group Mr. Joseph Amenowode, reiterated that “Parliamentarians are going to ensure that the SDGs are integrated into other sub-committee work because the SDGs are not only related to child labour but most labour issues.” During the meeting it was clear that partnership and coordination is very essential ingredient among government bodies in-order to design, plan and implement government programmes which target the vulnerable such as children engaged in child labour.

Afghanistan



December 2016: In Afghanistan, PWB member and Chairman of the Women Affairs Commission of the Afghan Parliament, Ms. Fawzia Koofi led the drafting and presentation of the Anti-Harassment Women and Children's Bill that got passed in the Afghan Parliament in December 2016. The law prohibits the harassment of women on the street, at work, and via the Internet and telephone. The purpose of this law, as laid out in its first article, is to: allow for complaints of harassment to be officially heard and processed; to provide required support to the victims; to prevent harassment of any kind against women and children to encourage and ensure a harassment-free environment for women to work and study.

The Netherlands

February 2017: On 7 February 2017, the Child Labour Due Diligence Law ['Wet Zorgplicht Kinderarbeid'], was initiated by PWB member Mr. Roelof Van Laar of the Labour Party of The Netherlands and the law was adopted by the Dutch Parliament with 82 votes (of 150 MPs) in favour.

The parties CDA (Christian Democrats), VVD (People's Party for Freedom and Democracy) and PVV (Party for Freedom) voted against the law however it is now awaiting approval from the Senate. The law requires companies to examine whether child labour occurs in their production chain. If that is the case they should develop a plan of action to combat child labour and draw up a declaration about their investigation and plan of action. If the Senate gives its approval too, the Act will be effective from January 1, 2020. So the companies get ample time to prepare themselves thoroughly. But if they already have made enough progress with their approach, they can also deliver their declaration at the registry by 2018. Companies not only have to determine whether there "is a reasonable suspicion" that their first supplier is free from child labour but also - when possible – whether child labour occurs further down the production chain.



Discussions with Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

IPU is the global association of democratically elected parliaments worldwide. Global March has engaged with the IPU, and introduced the Parliamentarians Without Borders to them. The IPU Secretary General, Mr. Martin Chugong offered full support to the PWB initiative and welcomed the proposition of organising

the Asia Meet of PWB in 2017 in Dhaka, where IPU's 136th General Assembly is going to be held. Mr. Satyarthi has also been invited as a key note speaker for IPU's Special Session on "Redressing Inequalities: Delivering on Dignity and Well-Being for All" at the General Assembly in Dhaka.

See Annexure IV for Declaration 2016 and Annexure V for List of Participants

Kailash Satyarthi at Inter-Parliamentary Union's (IPU) General Assembly, Bangladesh



Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi was invited as a keynote speaker for IPU's Special Session on "Redressing Inequalities: Delivering on Dignity and Well-Being for All" at the General Assembly in Dhaka on 2nd April 2017. Mr. Satyarthi reminded all the Parliamentarians present from different parts of the world that the "Parliamentarians have the position, power and potential to create the world that billions of us dream about." He gave the example of how Children's Parliaments are making biggest changes in their society and are stopping child marriages and ensuring all children are in schools. He further reiterated that "People, Planet, Peace and Parliaments are to be protected if we want to put to an end to high inequalities in society and also need to give power to youth." He ended his speech by urging the Parliamentarians to make SDGs their priority and to invest in education in their countries.

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights Asia Meet, 2017



The first Asia Meet of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 3 & 4 April 2017, with participation from about 13 Members of Parliament from 5 Asian countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. As South Asia is the second largest region of trafficking, it has become increasingly imperative for the region, to take the issue of trafficking and child labour seriously and find sustainable solutions to combat the same. Thus the first Asia Meeting of PWB was organised to bring these issues into context and to encourage Members of Parliaments to prioritise the issue of children and take action to not only restore rights of children within their countries and constituencies but also to influence policies at the regional level such as that of SAARC or ASEAN.

The meeting began with knowing the Parliamentarians present and the situation of child labour, slavery and trafficking in their respective countries. At the meeting, the main themes which were focussed upon were "Legislators' Role in Combatting Trafficking Related Exploitation of Children, Especially of Girls and Women", "Legislators' Role in Improving and Strengthening Access to Quality Education for All: Building the Future of Nation and Asia," and the "Legislators' Role in Supporting Elimination of Child Labour in Business Supply Chains, Integrating Children's Rights with Business Principles." From the discussions under these themes, it became clearer that Parliamentarians must think and act beyond borders, as the problems of children have no boundaries. The Parliamentarians collectively stated that a dedicated day in the Parliament must discuss only the issue of children's rights and that quality,

inclusive and equitable education must be delivered no matter what.

The co-founder of this initiative, Mr. Kailash Satyarthi encouraged the Parliamentarians by saying that now is the time for them to show their bold leadership. There



are very few champions for the cause of children in the Parliament, and taking action for children can make them different from others. He further motivated by reminding them of the power of democracy that this region is endowed with and that we must use this opportunity to speak up for the most marginalised people and children of the region, and also against the fundamentalist propaganda that is increasingly clouding the atmosphere of the nations. He asked the Parliamentarians to build youth leadership and direct their energies constructively for the betterment of children.

The meeting thus ended with a proposal of making the initiative of Parliamentarians Without Borders for



Children's Rights a self-funded and self-regulated body. The meeting also concluded with the idea that each PWB member must focus on the Parliamentary Forums in their own countries and take support from their Parliaments through dedicated sessions on children's rights, interventions on daily basis, involving local communities and stakeholders and looking out for

ways of financing the group activities. Writing a joint letter to the SAARC Secretariat to pass a resolution on children was also proposed along with deciding a plan of action for the Asian Parliamentarians to move forward. The meeting ended with signing of a declaration that was endorsed by all members present.

See Annexure VI for Declaration 2017 and Annexure VII for List of Participants

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights Africa Meet, 2018



The first Africa meet of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights (PWB) was organised in Lome, Togo on 12-13 March 2018 which saw participation from 16 Members of Parliament and former Members of Parliament from 8 countries of Africa namely Ghana, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Tchad, Benin, Togo, Niger, Tanzania and from the Netherlands.

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Given that 70% of total number of child labourers reside in Africa as per the new ILO estimates, and the out of school rates of primary school going age are also said to be high in the Sub-Saharan Africa, the first meeting of this group was organised with the aim to discuss issues relating to children, especially child labour, trafficking and education in the continent, but also to define collective common actions to promote the rights of children and strengthen the network of Parliamentarians dedicated to work for betterment of children.

After the opening ceremony and round of introductions, the second session on Day 1 discussed issues such as situation on child labour in agriculture and domestic work etc.

With respect to barriers to access and completion of education, some common problems came to the table such the problem of teachers' strike, lack of qualified teachers, lack of kindergarten recreation materials and school supplies, flooding, early or forced marriages, kidnapping and child abandonment, absence of birth certificates etc.

After discussing all such problems in the countries, some common challenges identified in implementing the policies and laws for the promotion and protection of children's rights, were:

- Lack of funds for Parliamentarians to monitor and implement policies with the exception of Cameroon
- Low resource allocation for child protection

The session ended with agreement on advocating within the Parliaments for increased resource allocation on child protection laws in the country and for monitoring the implementation of the policies.

The following points were shared during the discussions:

TOGO:

The members of Parliament from Togo, Ms. Christine Mensah, Mr. Osseyi Yawovi and Ms. Akossiwa Tchohlo shared that child labour was a serious problem in the country and that child domestic workers can often be found working at homes. Children are also involved in mining. When preparing the budget, the Parliament can be urged to include these sensitive areas to be considered as well.

TANZANIA:

The member of Parliament from Tanzania, Mr. Hamid Bobali said that the situation of child labour was present but human trafficking was reducing due to the commitment of the current President of the country. He said that 65% of child labourers in Tanzania were involved in agriculture and dropout rate was around 40% amongst girls because of lack of sanitary napkins during menstruation days. He has been working to provide the same in his constituency.

BENIN:

The member of Parliament from Benin, Mr. Eric Heoundete said that the efforts have been made to ensure education amongst children but the dropout rates are high even though education is free. This is because the books, stationary, meals etc. are not free which causes dropouts from school. Nigeria used to be a destination of human trafficking for Benin children, but that is not the case anymore. He said the country needed to strengthen the laws and fill the gaps and question the government regarding the same. Mr. Heoundete said once he goes back to Benin after the meeting he will draft a set of questions to be asked to the government during the Parliament session. He also showed his commitment to push for the ratification of ILO Convention 189 that protect children in domestic work.

CHAD:

The member of Parliament from Chad, Mr. Issa Djabir shared that all the situations discussed till now stood relevant for his country as well and agreed to the fact that more efforts must be taken by the members of Parliament to ensure children's rights are restored.

At the end of the session, the participants identified the following actions to be taken in their respective countries:- Initiation of law propositions

- **Education of parents on child labor**
- **Making recovery proposals to the executive**
- **Establishment of feeding programs to encourage children to go to school**
- **Build schools in communities where there are none and increase teacher-student ratio in schools**

The second day of the meeting began with a recap of the discussions held on Day 1 of the meeting. Some of the highlights elucidated from day 1 are as follows:- The interventions, made it possible for participants to realize that they had many common challenges to be taken up with regard to the education of the children the registration of children; and the right to nutrition.

- **The promotion of the rights of the child involves the establishment of a good education / training system**
- **PWBs are composed of Parliamentarians both 'in duty' and those 'no more in duty' and there was from a need to create the group chapters in all countries of Africa.**

Summary of key discussions held on Day 2:

GHANA:

- Establishment of a strong PWB institution in next 3 months
- Form a team of 20 people to meet the development partners to strengthen their advocacy asks with the government
- Create an action plan and a whatsapp platform for discussion amongst other members of Parliament

CAMEROON:

- Organise a feedback meeting to inform the Parliament about PWB's working and target 16 members to develop an action plan to setup the Cameroon chapter of PWB.
- Advocate for a better consideration of Nutrition in government programs

IVORY COAST:

- Meet the President of the National Assembly and the Mayor for the cause of the children
- Review children's nutrition at school level
- Establish the PWB network with an action plan

CHAD:

- Raise awareness about the rights of children
- Make the restitution of this meeting to its working partners
- Report this meeting to the National Assembly
- Will focus on achievement of SDGs

BENIN:

- Work for the establishment of PWB in Benin
- Call on the government for the situation of children and question them,

TANZANIA:

- Report the recommendations of this meeting to Parliament
- Discuss children's issues with the government and put pressure on them
- Continue nutritional support for children
- Work towards having 1 day dedicated children's rights in the Parliament

NIGER:

- Brief and evaluate the creation of a legal network for the cause of children
- Training of 300 teachers to stop the migration of children and ensure quality education in schools
- Work towards ending migration of children with the help of the police
- Advocate with the Mayor to provide sufficient budget for education of children.



After the first Africa meet of PWB held in Togo, Parliamentarians went back to their countries and took concrete measures to promote children's rights. Here are some updates:

Tanzania

In Tanzania, taking the learnings from the First Africa Meeting of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights held in Togo in March 2018, Mr. Hamdidu Bobali, Member of Parliament from Tanzania formed the national chapter of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights group, Tanzania involving about 15 MPs from all parties represented in the House and from both Zanzibar and Mainland Tanzania, giving gender concerns a priority. One of the key mandate for this caucus is to champion child rights and welfare in Tanzania and to strengthen the capacity of Parliamentarians to be well informed and be able to prioritize child rights at parliamentary and constituency platforms.

The establishment of the group was formally adopted during an initial meeting held with Parliamentarians on 24th May 2018 with support from Global March Against Child Labour's Tanzanian partner, ANPPCAN Tanzania. The office of the Commissioner for Social Welfare was also represented for technical guidance on child rights protection during discussions. The spirit and experience of attending the first Africa meet of this group shared by Hon. Hamidu Bobali, inspired the MPs to collectively draft the vision, mission, goals, objectives of the group and along with drafting a concept note on the group, with the technical assistance from ANPPCAN Tanzania. The group has also received its due support from the Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania.

The specific objectives agreed upon of the caucus are to:

- i. Raise community awareness on child labour and child trafficking
- ii. Regulate child policies and law so as to meet the community requirement
- iii. Advocate to the government on child rights

The following leadership positions for the Caucus for children's rights Tanzania are being proposed and tentatively filled up by:

- I. Chair person. Hon. Hamidu Bobali
- ii. Vice Chair: Hon. Dr. Swale
- iii. Secretary : Hon. Hawa Mchafu
- iv. Assistant Secretary: Hon. Salim Lehani
- v. Coordinator: (To be appointed by the Hon. Speaker).

Second Asia Meet, Parliamentarians Without Borders For Children's Rights, 2018

The second Asia meet for Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights (PWB), organised by Global March, was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 28-29 August 2018. The meet witnessed participation of 12 MPs from 6 countries. Some of the key commitments made by the members of Parliament included- strengthening political will to advocate for child rights, prioritising gender sensitive solutions to child rights issues, increasing the budgetary allocations for education and incorporating child rights awareness in the school curriculum, exploring the use of technology for protecting children, working towards eliminating child domestic labour and forming parliamentary caucuses in their respective countries to ensure monitoring and accountability at all levels. The meeting ended with an agreement to the 13 point Declaration of Commitment 2018 by the members.



The First session: Brief about PWB Initiative, Roundup 2017 & Setting Context for 2018

Mr Roelof Van Laar, former MP, Netherlands, commenced the first session by welcoming everyone and giving a brief overview of the PWB initiative and the previous PWB meetings held across the world. He set the context and expectations for the 2018 meet, and conveyed the importance of the initiative and the need to relentlessly safeguard the rights of children.

Second session: Knowing our Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights

The Parliamentarians introduced themselves in this session and shared some insights regarding the situation of child rights in their respective countries, steps taken by the MPs for children in their constituency or country and any significant outcomes achieved in the past year.



Third session: Legislators' Role in Improving Enforcement of Laws and Policies Concerning Child Labour and Trafficking

During the third session, the Parliamentarians deliberated upon the prevailing issues of children's rights violation such as exploitation of children in domestic work (emphasizing on the harassment and torture faced by girl child domestic labourers), sexual harassment of children at workplace, children being

exposed to violence and exploitation, child pornography and the impact of child labour on their education. It was further discussed and collectively established that relevant laws need to be strictly enforced and implemented in order to address these grave problems.

Fourth session: Legislators' Role in Ensuring Access to Quality Education for both Girls and Boys by Removing Barriers to Education

The fourth session focused on the legislator's role in ensuring access to quality education to all children irrespective of gender, which would further help in eliminating as well as preventing child labour and in facilitating overall development of society. It was further highlighted the need to amend the laws in case of a gap between the minimum age for completing compulsory schooling and the minimum age for admission to employment. It was stressed that changing mindsets and enforcing policies such as the free education policy, which entails free education from primary to the university level, can foster inclusion and promote equality.



Fifth session: Strengthening Parliamentarians' Role to Promote and Protect Children's Rights through National Caucuses and Committees

The fifth session discussed how the Parliamentarians' role can be consolidated through national caucuses and committees and how they can sensitise and mobilise different stakeholders to commit to work on child rights issues. The session also sought commitment from Parliamentarians on establishing national chapters of the Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights group in their respective countries and holding meetings with other Parliamentarians to sensitise them on children's issues.

Sixth session: Way forward on the PWB Initiative: Steps to Achieve the Vision for 2018

The key takeaways from the meeting were collated in the last session and a short video on 20 years of Global March Against Child Labour's work was shown to the participants. A group discussion took place on the consequent steps that need to be taken, following which a 13 point Declaration of Commitment was adopted by the participants which included the key actions points expressed by the participants.



After the Second Asia meet of PWB, Members of Parliament from Sri Lanka and Pakistan have begun the preparations for establishing the national chapters of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights and are mobilizing MPs across party lines to hold the first meeting of the group to formally adopt the caucus on child rights.

Third Global Meet of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights

Brussels, 3-4 December 2018



Global March Against Child Labour organised the 3rd Meet of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights, in collaboration with the European Economic and Social Committee and the European Commission, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development. It was held in Brussels, Belgium on 3rd and 4th December, 2018. The meet witnessed the participation of 7 Members of Parliament belonging to Sri Lanka, Benin, Togo, Paraguay, Uganda, Ghana, Costa Rica and 2 members from ILO and 2 from European Commission respectively.

The participants shaped the discourse of the meeting by having pertinent discussions around child labour, the need for inclusive and quality education, the need to address inter-sectionality such as migration and child labour in a nuanced way. The challenges in implementing laws and policies were also addressed along with what governments are doing to bridge the gaps between theory and practice, what progress has been made, the need to increase budgets and resource allocation, and how more stakeholders can be mobilized.

DAY 1:

Day 1 of the meeting was held at the European Economic and Social Committee premises. The opening session of the meeting commenced with valuable remarks and insights from former Member of Parliament, The Netherlands, Mr. Roelof van Laar. Further, the MPs introduced themselves and a brief overview of the PWB initiative was given along with setting the context for 2018.

First Session: Addressing child trafficking and unsafe migration in child labour discourse

The first session was largely dedicated to discussing the challenges faced by each country on the issue of child trafficking and migration and finding solutions for the same. The session was facilitated by European Commission Representative, Ms. Camilla Hagstrom, Deputy Head of Unit DEVCO B.3 Migration and Employment. Ms. Camilla shed light on issues pertaining to children on the move and stated that currently the world is going through a major migration process and therefore European Commission's work is majorly emphasized on tackling exploitation and child related migration challenges in Asia, Latin America and Africa.

In this session, MPs gave several important inputs and suggestions such as the capacity building of government officials, the need for more jobs for adults as well as the need for MPs to have an oversight on policies to be implemented.



Second Session: Addressing child labour in supply chains from the source to the destination



This session was facilitated by Mr Benjamin Smith, Senior Officer on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), International Labour Organisation (ILO) on Skype due to his inability to be present in Brussels physically. Mr Smith reiterated the need to strengthen action towards elimination of child labour in supply chains. He identified multiple steps that can be carried out by governments and Members of Parliament to ensure child labour elimination and decent work in their supply chains. These included- providing information on international standards, providing direct support for implementation, what can with governments do to eliminate child exploitation in supply chains , and what is the role of enterprises and so on.

Ms. Maria Rosa De Paolis, Policy Officer, Employment and Social Inclusion Sector, DEVCO Unit B.3 Migration and Development, European Commission, proposed a holistic approach to tackle child labour by supporting governments to implement ILO conventions, building capacities in ministries by improving inspections / collection of data, working with families to improve livelihoods, providing vocational trainings / income alternatives, raising awareness of various stakeholders with respect to sending children to schools, encouraging partner countries to have minimum social protection. Ms. Maria further encouraged the Members of Parliament to get in touch with the EU Ambassadors in their respective countries and have a positive dialogue with them for any collaboration and support needed from the European Union for furthering children's rights.

Third Session: Strengthening parliamentarians' role at national levels to promote children's rights



This session began with introductory remarks from Mr. Maxence Daublain, Unit DEVCO B.1 Gender Equality, Human Rights and Democratic Governance, and emphasized on the need for effective laws and the need to combine them with implementation mechanisms as well as internal and external accountability mechanisms. He added that European Commission and civil society must come up with unified messages with Parliamentarians to together advocate for the protection and promotion of children's rights. Mr. Daublain said that MPs have a great responsibility on making the executive accountable on budgeting and monitoring of the same and ensuring it is gender sensitive and has an element of promotion of girls' human rights. Therefore it is imperative that child rights is mainstreamed in all Parliamentary work and all thematic areas where MPs have an important role to play.

Some of the suggestions presented were such as providing free quality education and increasing the number of pre-schools, tightening the law; probation department can be strengthened and watch over employers employing children; governments can make advertisements and public announcements for awareness-raising amongst children, parents and employers; overlooking government recruitment agencies, forming agreements between trade unions and governments, increasing the number of officers in the child probation & rehabilitation centres, organising a group of MPs to advocate for child rights. As the chairperson of the Togolese Chapter of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights (PWB), or the Parliamentarians Sans Frontiers (PSF) Togo, the Togolese MP, Mr. Edoh Howanou also shared his experience of establishing the Togolese chapter of PWB.

Day 2:



Discussions on the second day of the meeting were held at the premises of European Commission, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development. Apart from sharing, discussing and scrutinizing multiple issues, the MPs, on the second day, also deliberated upon some effective actions that ought to be taken to enforce child rights.

Fourth Session: Using formal and skill based education to tackle child labour

Ms. Maria Rosa De Paolis, Policy Officer, Employment and Social Inclusion Sector, European Commission, DEVCO Unit delivered an introduction on the work of European Commission concerning interventions in education and the priorities of the Commission in the coming years to achieve the SDGs. Adding to the discussion, the Ugandan MP, Ms. Robina suggested some interventions such as enhancing political and policy leadership, developing indicators that help detect governance failures in the nation's education system, developing education programs on child protection, publicizing national policies on child migration. The Paraguay MP, Mr. Juan Sebastián Villarejo Velilla incorporated the importance of quality and inclusive education and the need for more schools with credible infrastructure. The Sri Lankan MP, Mr. Aravindh Kumar Arunchalaem informed of Sri Lanka's successful education model where teacher-student ratio is 1:20 and emphasised on the need of recruitment of adequate number of teachers along with developing public awareness through innovative means. The Costa Rica MP, Mr. Harllan Hoepelman Páez talked of investing in technical training and addressing gaps in policies that hinder children's education and family wellbeing and criticised a policy in Costa Rica where parents who are unable to pay for child support can be immediately detained without being heard and informed that after going back from the meeting he will work harder to enforce a better solution to the problem.

Representative from ILO, Brussels, Ms. Irene Wintermayr also gave a presentation on what can the Parliamentarians do



to end child labour and promote children's rights. Some of the ways suggested for MPs' engagement to bolster political will also include: consult social partners, include informal economy and self-employed children while adopting and enforcing legislation; facilitate in establishing national programs to eradicate child labour, with concise objectives; consistently monitor and evaluate progress towards elimination of child labour; mobilize and build capacity of relevant stakeholders; help in providing financial and human resources; mobilise public opinion, stimulate debate in parliament and form robust, effective alliances.

Group Work with Parliamentarians

After the last thematic session of the meeting, the MPs were divided into small groups, where they discussed on the actions they would like to take in next 1 year upon going back to their countries to protect and promote children's rights.



The two day meeting culminated with a group discussion wherein all the MPs committed to working towards elimination of child labour, ensuring that policies have a positive impact on children especially those who are most vulnerable, mainstreaming child rights in their parliamentary work, and advocating for a gender sensitive budget. MPs also synthesised the key takeaways of the meeting and read out the outcome document.

The meeting also ended with a consensus on the urgent need for Parliamentarians to take action on the matter of children and that European Commission, the ILO and Global March Against Child Labour stand in support of any assistance required by the Parliamentarians in this endeavour.

Followed by the meeting, the Parliamentarians were taken on an exposure visit to the European Parliamentarium in Brussels.

ANNEXURE – I

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights

1st Meeting

27-28, March 2015 | Kathmandu, Nepal

Outcome Document

- 1. To demand for clear definitions in the Sustainable Development Goals on issues of child labour, child trafficking, violence against children, especially with respect to inclusion of elimination of child slavery in the SDGs.**
- 2. To globally push for greater Inter Agency coordination among already existing pillars of government bodies and UN agencies.**
- 3. To promote increased financing for development with a strong focus on education especially for the 'hard to reach' category of children.**
- 4. To ensure a more responsible and accountable business/ corporate sector that carries out due diligence in their supply chains to prevent and eliminate child labour.**
- 5. To promote strong regional cooperation to combat trafficking of children and adults. MPs from different countries will form a task force to coordinate initiatives between countries to strengthen law enforcement agencies on the issue of trafficking.**
- 6. To adopt a two pronged approach to reduce the instance of child labour: reducing demand by stricter implementation of laws banning child labour, giving jobs being done by children to adults and discouraging sale/ procurement of products using child labour on the supply side.**
- 7. MPs will seek special attention for the protection of children in war zones and conflict areas. They will also help in identifying ways for financing emergencies.**
- 8. To reduce early marriages and child marriages and to tackle this problem at the community level with direct intervention by Parliamentarians at the local law enforcement level.**
- 9. Eradicate poverty which is one of the main triggers for child labour. MPs will take action to raise awareness among their constituents about already existing anti-poverty schemes.**
- 10. Parliamentarians will start multi party initiatives; issues of children's rights need to be addressed without party politics.**

Declaration 2015

We, the Parliamentarians present at the first meeting of the initiative - Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights in Kathmandu, Nepal with the aim to consider the implementation of this important initiative in the world, agree that:

1. the current reality of the global world requires the politicians of PWB to unite for global problems, and
2. violation and denial of children's rights is one of the global problems that requires a global platform for addressing it. The concerns of children of any country are the concerns of the whole humankind.

Based on the above, we also agree on with the following two principles:

- a. each one of us considers himself/herself to be members of PWB for Children's Rights network, and commits to building broad consensus for the advancement of children's rights in their respective legislative agenda.
- b. each one of us will do our best in our countries not only for promotion and protection of children's rights, but also to increase the network of PWB around the world.

We have decided to establish a provisional Secretariat of PWB with three main purpose:

- a. to facilitate exchange of ideas, practices, experiences and actions at national, regional and global level;
- b. to expand the network of PWB through increased membership; and
- c. to organise the second meeting of PWB for Children's Rights one year from now in a country chosen to organise a regional meeting of PWB for Children's Rights.

Our concern is for children's rights everywhere. Our vision is to transform this Kathmandu meeting into an international sustainable movement for promotion and protection of every child.

It will be supported by secretariats in Nepal and Brazil.

ANNEXURE – II

List of Parliament Members participating in the 1st meeting of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights, Kathmandu, Nepal

S No.	Name	Country
1	Senator Cristovam Buarque	Brazil
2	Mr. Roelof van Laar	Netherlands
3	Dr. Muhammed Çetin	Turkey
4	Mr. Luis Alberto Castiglioni	Paraguay
5	Mr. Nazmul Haque Prodhan	Bangladesh
6	Ms. Fazilatun Nasa Bappy	Bangladesh
7	Ms. Lubna Faisal	Pakistan
8	Ms. Aliya Aftab	Pakistan
9	Ms. Nasima Azimi	Afghanistan
10	Ms. Hamida Akbary	Afghanistan
11	Mr. Dilli Chaudhary	Nepal
12	Ms. Ranju Jha	Nepal
13	Mr. Yogendra Chaudhary	Nepal
14	Dr. Usha Kiran Ansari	Nepal
15	Mr. Sanjay Kumar Gautam	Nepal
16	Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma	India
17	Mr. Jay Panda	India
18	Ms. Supriya Sule	India
19	Ms. Sushmita Dev	India
20	Mr. Bhagwant Khuba	India

ANNEXURE – III

List of Participants / Observers other than Parliament Members

S No.	Name	Country
1	Mr. Kailash Satyarthi	Global March Against Child Labour
2	Ms. Amina J Mohammed	United Nations
3	Mr. Christian Manhart	UNESCO
4	Mr. Timothy Ryan	Global March Against Child Labour
5	Ms. Bipina Sharma	ILO
6	Mr. Dilli Guragai	Save the Children
7	Mr. Marcus Dubbelt	Global March Against Child Labour
8	Ms. Deepika Mittal	Global March Against Child Labour
9	Ms. Purva Gupta	Global March Against Child Labour
10	Ms. Sreejita Basu	Global March Against Child Labour
11	Ms. Yogina Shakya	Backward Society Education (BASE)
12	Mr. Raghav Thakur	Backward Society Education (BASE)

Annexure IV

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights

2nd Meeting

8-9th July 2016, The Hague, Netherlands

Declaration 2016

We, the Parliamentarians gathered at the 2nd meeting of the Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights in The Hague, Netherlands -

- acknowledge the completion of 1 year of the initiative whose efforts successfully achieved a specific target on child labour, trafficking and slavery in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as SDG 8.7, which was agreed and called for at the 1st meeting held in Kathmandu, Nepal
- reaffirm our commitment and acknowledge the relevance and necessity of engaging Parliamentarians to take up and further the agenda for the promotion and protection of children's rights, by the following:
 - a) Creating awareness in our constituencies, political parties, among fellow parliamentarians, and in our countries and regions;
 - b) Making efforts to prioritise issues of children, especially girls and other marginalised children (such as those affected by child labour, trafficking, slavery, early/forced marriages, disability, humanitarian crises, sexual exploitation, juvenile crimes, and/or having inadequate access to education and health) in political discourse by raising the issues in parliamentary debates for comprehensive and effective policies and programmes and ensuring adequate budgetary allocations,
 - c) Engaging with stakeholders nationally and regionally for meeting commitments towards ratified international treaties such as ILO Conventions and UN Convention on the Rights of the Child;
 - d) Strengthening our efforts to accomplish all child-related SDGs by way of bringing it in our respective Parliaments and public domain including increased media responsibility with an aim to ensure that the rights of children scattered across the SDGs are all achieved;
 - e) Recognising that right to education is the fundamental to all children's rights, advocate for the human rights imperative, economic gains and social transformation aspects of education to be prioritised simultaneously in national and global policies.
 - f) Recognising the growing importance of business sector, work towards strengthening policy and implementation and working towards the establishing a ethical code for increased corporate social responsibility with zero tolerance for child labour, trafficking and slavery in the national and global supply and value chains
 - g) Expressing our deep concern over rising fundamentalism and conflicts across the world resulting in violence, internal displacement, migration and refugee crisis leading to child labour, child trafficking, child soldiers, state-less children and sexual exploitation, ensure that no child affected by conflicts, disasters and other humanitarian crises be left behind and unprotected.
 - h) Expressing our deep concern over the effects on children of increased human trafficking and migration (children of migrant workers and children on the move), including children growing up with one or no parents, without means of support and exploited (abroad and in their own countries), work towards effective protection of such children.

We reiterate our commitment to continue our efforts by achieving the following till we meet again next year for the 3rd meeting of the initiative in Accra, Ghana:

- Raising issue regarding prioritisation and implementation of child-related SDGs in respective Parliaments;
- Creating and strengthening multi-party, multi- stakeholder engagement at national and regional level for promotion and protection of children's rights;
- Organising regional meetings with fellow Parliamentarians in our respective regions for establishing regional agendas on children's rights in the next 1 year;
- Engaging with SDG related emerging frameworks such as Alliance 8.7 (on SDG 8.7), Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (SDG 16.2), and International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity (on SDG 4).

Accepted and signed* on 9th July, 2016 by following members of Parliamentarians without Borders on Children's Rights

Annexure V

Participants of the Second Parliamentarians Without Borders Meet, The Hague, The Netherlands

Members of Parliament:

1. Ms. Fawzia Koofi, (Afghanistan)
2. Mr. Nazmul Haque Prodhan, (Bangladesh)
3. Ms. Fazilatun Nasa Bappy, (Bangladesh)
4. Mr. Joseph Z Amenowode, (Ghana)
5. Mr. Benson Baba Tongo, (Ghana)
6. Mr. Bhagwant Khuba, (India)
7. Mr. K.C. Tyagi, (India)
8. Ms. Okky Asokawati, (Indonesia)
9. Mr. Dilli Chaudhary, (Nepal)
10. Mr. Shehryar Afridi, (Pakistan)
11. Mr. Arvinth Kumar Arunchalem, (Sri Lanka)
12. Ms. Amineh Kakabaveh, (Sweden)
13. Mr. Roelof Van Laar, (The Netherlands)
14. Mr. Gerritjan Van Oven, (The Netherlands)
15. Ms. Grace Kesande, (Uganda)
16. Mr. Guma Gumisiriza, (Uganda)

Global March Board Members:

1. Ana Vasquez
2. Cleophas Mally
3. Dilli Chaudhary
4. Elie Jouen
5. Frans Rosaelers
6. Gerardo Zamora
7. Kailash Satyarthi

Global March Staff:

1. Maina Sharma
2. Marco Dubbeldt
3. Priyanka Ribhu
4. Purva Gupta

Annexure VI

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights

Asia Meeting

3-4 April 2017, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Declaration 2017

We, the Parliamentarians gathered at the First Asia Meeting of the Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights in Dhaka, Bangladesh -

- acknowledge the completion of 2 years of the initiative whose efforts successfully helped in furthering the issues of children's rights among different countries of the world;
- recognise children, especially girls and young women, as specifically vulnerable to various physical, sexual and economic exploitation;
- reaffirm our commitment and acknowledge the relevance and necessity of engaging Parliamentarians to take up and further the agenda for the promotion and protection of children's rights, rights of girls and young women, by the following:
 1. Make efforts to prioritise and ensure consistent discourse in our constituencies, political parties and parliamentary debates towards strengthening the legislative frameworks and programs for the protection of children, supported by effective implementation and adequate budgetary allocations; advocate for a dedicated session on children's rights in every parliamentary session;
 2. Advocate for good quality, inclusive, and free public education, especially for girls, which promotes tolerance, unity and global citizenship, along with integrating children's rights in curriculum;
 3. To go beyond the SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combatting Trafficking in Women and Children For Prostitution and recognise through bi-lateral and multilateral commitments trafficking for forced labour, child labour, other forms of modern day slavery, child soldiering, drug couriering and sale, child marriage, and forms of sexual exploitation, especially targeting girls and young women (identifying the catalytic role of the technology);
 4. Use relevant international days to generate awareness about child labour, education and trafficking- for example- World Day Against Child Labour, – 12 June, International Day of the Girl Child – 11 October etc; dedicate one day for celebrating children of our respective countries as 'Children's Day';
 5. Ensure strengthening of national parliamentary forums in their role to reach out to other relevant parliamentary bodies, develop bi-lateral relations to address specific challenges faced by nations and regional and international agencies to prioritise the issue of children's rights;
 6. Participate in the development of national and regional development plans to achieve the SDGs, particularly for achieving Target 8.7 on child labour, slavery and trafficking, Goal 4 on education, Goal 5 on gender equality;
 7. Recognise the growing importance of business sector, work towards strengthening policy and implementation for increased corporate social responsibility with zero tolerance for child labour, trafficking and slavery in the supply and value chains;

Way Forward

To decide on how the PWB Group can work effectively by forming an effective Core Group, supported by a Secretariat.

To also decide the host country for the next regional and global meeting and mobilising of necessary resources for the same.

Annexure VII

Participants of the Parliamentarians Without Borders Asia Meet, Dhaka, Bangladesh, April 2017

Members of Parliament:

1. Ms. Fawzia Koofi, (Afghanistan)
2. Mr. Nazmul Haque Prodhan, (Bangladesh)
3. Ms. Fazilatun Nasa Bappy, (Bangladesh)
4. Ms. Kamrun Nahar Chowdhary Lovely, (Bangladesh)
5. Ms. Hosne Ara Lutfu Dalia, (Bangladesh)
6. Mr. Md. Israfil Alam, (Bangladesh)
7. Ms. Nurjahan Begum, (Bangladesh)
8. Ms. Ummey Razia Kajol, (Bangladesh)
9. Mr. Bhagwant Khuba, (India)
10. Mr. K.C Tyagi, (India)
11. Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma, (India)
12. Mr. Dilli Chaudhary, (Nepal)
13. Mr. Arvinth Kumar Arunchalem, (Sri Lanka)

Global March Staff:

1. Maina Sharma
2. Gazal Malik
3. Deepika Mittal

Annexure VIII

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights Africa Meeting

12-13 March 2018, Lome, Togo

2018 Declaration of Commitment

We, Parliamentarians gathered at the First African Meeting of Parliamentarians Without Borders for the Rights of the Child in Lome, Togo:

- Recognize Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights as a platform for members of Parliament to engage in advocacy for the rights of the child at the African, national and global levels.
- Reaffirm our commitment and recognize the relevance and need to engage Parliamentarians to adopt and promote programs for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, by:
 1. Make efforts to prioritize child issues in political discourse by asking the government questions in parliamentary debates on policies and programs on child rights, child labor, child trafficking and children's education.
 2. Advocate for a full day of debate on the Rights of the Child in our respective parliaments.
 3. Form forums and parliamentary groups on the issue of children's rights, in particular child labor, child trafficking, education and conduct sensitization, capacity-building seminars for Parliamentarians on the issues identified and how to develop proposals for draft laws, for example, on child labor, trafficking and education.
 4. Create national chapters of the Parliamentarians Without Borders for the Rights of the Child by mobilizing committed Parliamentarians who advocate for the Rights of the Child and holding regular national and regional meetings.
 5. Publish joint statements on behalf of the Parliamentarians Without Borders Group to show solidarity and raise awareness of child labor, education and trafficking during international days, such as the World Day Against Child Labor, (12 June), Day of the African Child (16 June), International Girls Day (11 October), International Literacy Day (8 September), Universal Children's Day (20 November), etc.
 6. Ensure adequate resource allocations and track its use and implementation in child rights programs and policies to maximize their success.
 7. Report successes and challenges at upcoming meetings of Parliamentarians Without Borders for the Rights of the Child in Africa.

Annexure IX

List of Participants

1	Erick Houndete	Benin
2	Herssesse Zondol	Caméroun
3	Fofana N. Mondeny Else Diomand	Côte D'ivoire
4	Joseph Zaphenat Amenowode	Ghana
5	Kwasi Agyemang Gyan - Tutu	Ghana
6	Mahamadou Danfanta	Niger
7	Hamidu Hassan Bobali	Tanzania
8	Issa Mardo Djabir	Tchad
9	Edoh Howanou	Togo
10	Osseyi Yawovi	Togo
11	Victor Ketoglo Yao	Togo
12	Issolemo Koupokpa	Togo
13	Akossiwa Tchohlo	Togo
14	Christine Mensah-Atomne	Togo
15	Moumouni Harouna Lamido	Niger
16	Roelof Van Laar	Netherlands

Annexure X

Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights 2nd Asia Meet 28-29 August 2018, Sri Lanka

2018 Declaration of Commitment

We, Parliamentarians gathered at the Second Asia Meeting of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights in Colombo, Sri Lanka:

- Recognise Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights as a platform for members of Parliament to engage in advocacy for child rights at the Asia, national and global levels.
- Reaffirm our commitment and recognise the relevance and need to engage Parliamentarians to adopt and promote programs for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, by:
 1. Make efforts to not only prioritise the issues of girls and boys in our constituencies, political parties and parliamentary levels but also find gender sensitive solutions to effectively address them.
 2. Advocate for increased budgetary allocations for children and education.
 3. Advocate for increase in minimum age of compulsory education to match the minimum age of work in every country.
 4. Form and or strengthen forums and parliamentary groups/ caucuses at all levels of government as well inter country parliamentarian group on the issue of children's rights, in particular child labour, child trafficking, education.
 5. Induct more committed MPs from within the countries as well as the region into the PWB platform, hold national chapter PWB meets wherever possible.
 6. Advocate for a full day of debate on rights of girls and boys in our respective Parliaments or make the Ministry of Child and Women Development the custodian for taking up issues of children in all parliamentary sessions every year.
 7. Include child rights awareness in school curriculum on issues of child labour, child trafficking, child sexual abuse including sexual and reproductive rights.
 8. Advocate for a ban on child domestic labour through measures such as ratification of ILO Convention 189, proposing minimum age on entry into domestic work (16-18 years).
 9. Explore use of technology for promotion and protection of rights of girls and boys.
 10. Commit to work and strengthen relationships with UN Agencies, International Organisations.
 11. Publish joint statements on behalf of the Parliamentarians Without Borders Group to show solidarity and raise awareness of child labour, education and trafficking during international days, such as the World Day Against Child Labor (12 June), International Girls Day (11 October), International Literacy Day (8 September), Universal Children's Day (20 November), etc.
 12. Secure funding for the PWB platform to further the agenda of protecting children and strengthen political will.
 13. Report successes and challenges at upcoming meetings of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights.

Annexure XI

List of Participants

1	K C Tyagi	India
2	Saba Sadiq	Pakistan
3	Shameem Haider Patwary	Bangladesh
4	Israfil Alam	Bangladesh
5	Dilli Chaudhary	Nepal
6	Sarita Neupane	Nepal
7	Roelof Van Laar	Netherlands
8	Aravindh K. Arunachelam	Sri Lanka
9	Kavinda Jayawardane	Sri Lanka
10	Faisal Kassim	Sri Lanka
11	Thusitha Wijemanne	Sri Lanka
12	Endang Maria Astuti	Indonesia

Annexure XII

3rd Global Meet of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights

3-4 December 2018, Brussels

List of Participating Members of Parliament

Country	MP Name
Sri Lanka	Aravindh Kumar Arunachalem
Togo	Edoh Howanou
Ghana	Kwame Anyimadu Antwi
Uganda	Robina Ssentongo
Benin	Eric Houndete
Costa Rica	Harllan Hoepelman Páez
Paraguay	Juan Sebastián Villarejo Velilla
Netherlands	Roelof Van Laar

European Commission and ILO Members

Name
Maria Rosa De Paolis , Policy Officer, Employment and Social Inclusion Sector, Unit DEVCO B.3 Migration and Employment
Camilla Hagström , Deputy Head of Unit, DEVCO.B3 Migration, Employment
Maxence Daublain , Unit DEVCO B.1 Gender Equality, Human Rights and Democratic Governance
Benjamin Smith , Senior Specialist, ILO
Irene Wintermayr , International Labour Organisation (ILO) Brussels
Fleur Rondelez , Communication and Public Information Officer

Global March Staff

Name
Deepika Mittal , Campaigns & Communications Coordinator
Maina Sharma , Communications officer
Angela Solano Doncel , Project officer

Annexure XIII

2018 Declaration of Commitment **3rd Global Meet of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights** **3-4 December 2018, Brussels**

We, Parliamentarians gathered at the Third Global Meeting of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights in Brussels, Belgium:

- Recognise Parliamentarians without Borders for Children's Rights as a platform for members of Parliament to engage in advocacy for child rights at the global and regional levels.
- Reaffirm our commitment and recognise the relevance and need to engage Parliamentarians to adopt and promote programs for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child.
- Take concrete action in our capacity as legislators to:

Uganda

1. Identify, strengthen or form Parliamentary forum on child rights. Organise induction of MPs and share learnings from the PWB meeting and hold meetings
2. Organise events or discussions on important international days related to children, child labour, education.
3. Mobilise funding for PWB platform to further agenda.

Benin and Togo

1. Agree on the previous declarations
2. Look for different partners- technical and financial
3. Make an inventory of legal tools and share those tools with other MPs in ECOWAS during regional seminars
4. Vote for a resolution on advertisement on child labour
5. Take part in actions of NGOs/civil society working on ending child labour and take part in government activities.

Latin America

1. Mobilise efforts to make children's rights a priority on the government's agenda for public policies.
2. Foster an increase in the budgetary allocations towards efficient programs to

eradicate child labour'

3. Political monitoring and follow up of actions from public organisms and authorities of the executive power
4. Foster relationships and support with international organizations and national social organizations
5. Promote the use and interaction between education and technological innovation
6. Create a business certificate to prove that there is no presence of child labour in the supply chain

Ghana

1. Help create awareness of the meaning of child labour and to educate fellow MPs and with other regional groups like ECOWAS to identify issues of CL and help eliminate them
2. Help eliminate all forms of child labour in migrant farming by raising the awareness of government and policy makers on education to focus on such unidentifiable sectors
3. Plea / act an oversight on the sector ministry on Children to achieve the implementation of the ILO conventions 138 & 182

Sri Lanka

1. Increase the number of pre-schools
2. Get in touch with NGOs and make awareness programmes through innovative methods such as stickers etc.
3. Organise group of MPs on Child Rights and establish the Sri Lanka Chapter of Parliamentarians Without Borders for Children's Rights.
4. Advocate for increase in fund allocation to the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
5. Advocate for increase the number of officers in the child probation & rehab centres
6. Debate regarding child rights in Parliament
7. Strengthen education in my constituency
8. Conduct educational seminars where schools are lacking teachers.



GLOBAL MARCH

Against Child Labour
Contra el Trabajo Infantil
Contre le Travail des Enfants

Global March Against Child Labour (Foundation):
Koningskade 30, 2596 AA
The Hague, The Netherlands

Global March International Secretariat:
23 Friends Colony West, New Delhi-110 065, India
Tel: +91 11 47511111 Fax: +91 11 4921 1138

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