

2019 Advocacy Report Template

GWI advocacy goals

1. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to policy, legislation, budget and infrastructure to facilitate transition of girls from primary to secondary school and ensure gender parity and gender equality throughout secondary education by 2030.
2. By 2030 100% of United Nations low income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
3. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to and implement policies for continuing education to empower women throughout the life course, within the formal and informal economies.
4. Influence the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
5. All 17 SDGs will include girls' education targets.

Please bear in mind these five overarching, long-term goals during any United Nations intervention that you make on behalf of GWI. Any intervention should push these five goals further.

NB: *Although these goals represent GWI's mission, UN Reps are also invited to promote GWI key messages on areas where especially relevant e.g. women in STEM, securing investment in women teachers, addressing barriers to girls' education such as child marriage.*

Meeting attended: (place, date, time, name of meeting)

NA

Subject of report: *Statement of the NGO Committee on UNICEF during the UNICEF Executive Board Second Regular Session, UNHQ, NY, September 11-13, 2019*

The NGO Committee on UNICEF will be presenting a statement to UNICEF's Executive Board on our concerns in three specific areas related to the status of children as we approach the 30th Anniversary of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*.

First, we see downward trends in child well-being. Children in conflict areas are being radicalized or under threats of violence; natural disasters pose a threat to the livelihoods of young people, and many governments across the globe have infringed on the rights of children as laid out in the CRC.

Secondly, children seem to be falling further off the 2030 SDG agenda. For example, in the current draft of the Political Declaration of this September's SDG summit, the word *child* appears only once, as does the word *children*. In terms of the 74th session of the General Assembly, UNICEF and member states have failed children by conceding to an inconsequential hour-long session on children (9/25/19) that is not even listed on the GA's official work plan and, to date, as far as we know, has no intention of including child representation.

Third, NGOs are barred from the above special session on children despite the fact that civil society is the biggest shareholder in the implementation of the CRC. The NGO Committee on

UNICEF wishes to remind the Executive Board that progress happens when we work together rather than independently. The NGO Committee is recommending that the Executive Board liaise more closely with us. We propose that a program or session be added to the Executive Board sessions for 2020 that is dedicated to the sharing of lessons and best practices and focuses on plans to improve the relationship between UNICEF, the Executive Board, and civil society.

Refers to SDG no #: (please reference): *All*

Relevant treaties/Agreements: 2030 Agenda; Convention on the Rights of the Child

Intervention by GWI

Reviewed statement.

****Please note that for the first time no briefing meeting was held in June by the Executive Board for the NGO Committee on UNICEF.**

How this serves GWI members:

- a. Explain trends in development in this particular subject.
- b. Explain why these trends and developments are relevant to GWI and NFAs.
- c. Outline what needs to be done at international and national levels.

Next steps: (what needs to be done)

Will attend some of the meetings in September and keep you all posted.

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