**Southern Africa Conference on Children’s Rights 2011**

Save the Children and SADC-CNGO are hosting a regional conference on the Status of Children’s Rights in Southern Africa. The conference will be held at The Pan African Parliament from 14 to 16 November 2011. This conference will be a meeting place for organisations working in the children’s rights sector, child rights experts, government representatives and representatives of policy making bodies such as the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACEWRC), SADC Secretariat and Pan African Parliament.

The main objectives of the workshop will be the following:

1. To increase awareness of international instruments promoting children’s rights UNCRC, ACRWC and SADC instruments.
2. To review Southern African countries’ progress towards meeting their obligations in realising children and young people’s rights as outlined in the UNCRC & ACRWC.
3. To mobilise child rights orgnanisations and other like-minded forces within the region to formulate strategies and mechanisms to partner with governments to ensure continued implementation of UNCRC and ACRWC and fulfillment of children’s rights in the region.
4. To raise awareness for governments in the region to draft and submit State Party reports on the status of children and youth at national level to the UN and AU.

**Conference Outcomes**

* 1. A sub regional children’s network is established to promote children’s rights at both national and regional level.
	2. A regional policy dialogue framework around advocacy for children’s rights is established.

**Summary of Daily Programme Outcomes**

**DAY 1**

* Participant’s increased understanding of instruments and processes promoting accountability for the realisation of children’s rights.

**DAY 2**

* Capacity building sessions for strengthening civil society and government’s capacity to collaborate on advocacy issues around children’s rights.

**DAY 3**

* Establishment of a regional child rights reference group to undertake advocacy around children’s rights.

For more information on the conference please contact Ms. Nikiwe Kaunda at: nikiwek@saf.savethechildren.se You can also get updates on the [conference blog](http://statusofchildren2011conference.blogspot.com/).