

**CHILD FRIENDLY VERSION
OF THE DRAFT OUTCOME DOCUMENT
'A WORLD FIT FOR CHILDREN'
SUMMARY OF THE CHAIRPERSON'S REVISED TEXT
INCLUDES ALL REVISIONS AS OF MARCH 18TH 2002**

GETTING STARTED!

You are about to read a document that is very important to children and young people around the world.

? WHAT IS IT ?

The document is called "A World Fit for Children". It is also known as the 'Outcome Document'. It outlines the promises that world leaders and governments will be making about children's rights for the next 10 years. They will be making these promises at a meeting of the United Nations in New York in May called the Special Session on Children.

What you are about to read is a 'child friendly' version of all of the document that has been agreed so far. About 85% of the whole document has now been agreed by governments and therefore will not be changed.

We believe that it is vital that children and young people know what is in this key document. This child friendly version is meant to help make it easier for you to use. It might seem like there are a lot of pages but we felt it was important for you to know what was in the original document. The original document can be found on the UNICEF web site - @ www.unicef.org - where you can also find lots of other useful information about the Special Session on Children. This child friendly version follows the same format and paragraph numbering as the original document.

When you are reading the document you will find that some information is in boxes. That is where we have added a heading or other information that is NOT in the original text in order to explain something more clearly.

Attached with this document you will also find a list of some of the words used in the document and their meanings. It is there to help you out with some of the more difficult words that can be found throughout the document.

HOW WILL THIS DOCUMENT BE USED?

At the moment it is unfinished and is still being negotiated by governments. It is hoped that the final version of this document will be presented in New York at the United Nations Special Session on Children. This meeting will take place on May 8-10th, 2002. World leaders will agree to the document at this meeting and use it for the next 10 years as their Plan of Action to try and make the lives of children better.

MORE ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This version of the document contains a child friendly text of all those sections of the document which have already been agreed by governments.

On March 18th 2002 the person guiding the discussions among governments on this document (known as the Chairperson) released a new version of the document. This included suggested language for the sections of the document that had not been agreed. These sections have been marked like this

- **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** -

Key issues that are still under discussion include:

- (a) RESOURCES - issues around the transfer of money and other support from the richer countries to developing countries.
- (b) The United Nations CONVENTION on the RIGHTS of the CHILD (CRC) and how important it is as the basis for work with children.
- (c) CHILDREN'S RIGHTS - the "rights" approach and the language on rights.
- (d) REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH - issues around sex education and reproductive health care.
- (e) CAPITAL PUNISHMENT - the use of the death penalty for crimes committed by anyone under the age of 18 years.
- (f) REFERENCES TO SPECIFIC ISSUES concerning certain countries.

More discussions will be happening between governments at the end of April to try and finish the document. If these are successful then all the remaining paragraphs will be agreed before the Special Session begins. If the governments cannot agree then discussion of the remaining text will continue at the Special Session itself.

The child friendly version of the actual text of the document starts on the next page.

THIS DOCUMENT WAS PRODUCED BY...

March 18, 2002

Child Friendly Version of

A WORLD FIT FOR CHILDREN

(Summary of Draft Chairperson's Proposals)

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I. Declaration

1. At a meeting 11 years ago world leaders made promises that they would give every child a better future. That meeting was called the World Summit for Children.
2. There is a report written by the Secretary General of the United Nations that talks about the positive changes that happened over the past 10 years. This report is called "We the Children".
Here are some examples of the positive changes:
 - Millions of young lives have been saved.
 - More children are in school.
 - More children are involved in decisions that affect them.
 - Important agreements have been made to protect children.

BUT! These improvements have been uneven and many things remain to be done, especially in developing countries. Not enough good things have happened. World leaders have not fulfilled the promises made 11 years ago at the World Summit for Children.

In this document you will read words like, "we" "us" and "our".
Who is "we"?
"We" are the world leaders, governments and heads of state that will be making the promises written in this document.

3. We are determined to change the world for and with children. Through action in our own countries and cooperation between countries we commit ourselves once again to fulfil the promises we made at the World Summit for Children and to do something about other new problems that have emerged. This will help us achieve other promises we have made recently at other UN meetings and conferences, in particular the United Nations Millennium Declaration.
4. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We are determined to respect the dignity and to secure the well being of all children. We once again promise to take action to promote and protect the rights of each child - every human being below the age of 18 years, including adolescents. We accept that the Convention on the Rights of the Child, documents related to it and other international law created for children are standards of major importance.

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**What is the United Nations Convention on the
Rights of the Child?**

Also known as the CRC it is a United Nations document that sets out the human rights that all children have. Every country except the United States of America and Somalia has said that they will use it as the basis for the way they treat children.

5. We promise to create a world fit for children. We want to see long lasting human development that includes the best for every child. This human development will be based on:
 - Democracy.
 - Equality,
 - Non-discrimination,
 - Peace,
 - Social justice,
 - The links between all human rights, including the right to development.
6. We recognise and support parents, families and legal guardians as the primary caregivers of children. We will help them nurture, protect and provide the best possible care for their children.
7. We ask all people to join us in a global movement that will help build a world fit for children by supporting our pledges to the following principles and objectives:

i. Put Children First.

In all actions that affect children, the best interests of the child will be one of the first things we think about.

ii. End Poverty: Invest in Children.

We promise once again to make a major reduction in poverty within a single generation. We all agree that to get rid of poverty we must invest in children and realise their rights. Immediate action must be taken to stop the worst forms of child labour.

iii. Leave No Child Behind.

Every girl and boy is born free and equal in every way. All forms of discrimination affecting children must end.

iv. Care for Every Child.

Children must get the best possible start in life. The survival, protection, growth and development of healthy and well-nourished children is the most important start to human development. We will make real efforts to fight diseases and major causes of hunger. We will take care of children in a safe environment so that they can learn and be physically, mentally, emotionally and socially healthy.

v. Educate Every Child.

All boys and girls should be able to have and complete a primary education that is:

- free,
- something all children must attend.
- of good quality,

Boys and girls should have equal access to primary and secondary education.

vi. Protect Children from Harm and Exploitation.

Children must be protected against any acts of violence, abuse, exploitation and discrimination, as well as all forms of terrorism and hostage taking.

vii. Protect Children from War.

Children must be protected from the horrors of war. Using international law, children living in areas occupied by another country must also be protected.

viii. Combat HIV/AIDS.

Children and their families must be protected from the terrible impact of HIV/AIDS.

ix. Listen to Children and Ensure Their Participation.

We believe that children and adolescents can help to build a better future for everyone. We must respect their rights to express themselves and to participate in all matters that affect them, according to their age and maturity.

x. Protect the Earth for Children.

We must protect our natural environment with its huge variety of life, its beauty and its resources, all of which make human life better both now and in the future. We will do everything we can to protect children from the effects of natural disasters and environmental problems.

8. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - For this Declaration and Plan of Action to be turned into action, we need to see:

- Fresh commitment from political leaders
- More resources found and provided at both the national and international levels.

To do this we will try to meet the following targets that we previously agreed:

- We want to see 0.7% of every rich country's income (also called Gross National Product or GNP) used to help developing countries through official development assistance.
- We also want to see 0.15% - 0.20% of every rich country's income used to help the least developed countries

Because of the urgency and importance of the special needs of children we need this to happen as soon as possible.

9. Using all these principles and goals we agree to the "Plan of Action" in section III below.

We believe that together we will build a world where all girls and boys can enjoy their childhood.

Where they can:

- play and learn.
- where children are loved, respected and cherished.
- where their rights are promoted and protected, without any kind of discrimination.
- where their safety and well being are more important than anything else.
- where children can develop in health, peace and dignity.

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II. Review of Progress and Lessons Learned

10. **INCLUDES NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - The promises that came out of the 1990 World Summit for Children are some of the most monitored and fulfilled promises of the 1990s. Annual reviews were held at the national level and progress reports were presented to the General Assembly. A mid-decade review and a major global end-decade review took place. The end-decade review included meetings of Heads of State and other senior government officials at regional meetings in Beijing, Berlin, Cairo, Kathmandu and Kingston. These meetings reviewed progress and planned actions for the future. Supporting the efforts by governments, many different groups participated in the reviews, including;

- Children
- Young people's organisations
- Academic institutions
- Religious groups
- Civil society organisations
- Parliamentarians
- The media
- United Nations agencies
- Donors and
- Major national and international NGOs.

11. As talked about in the Secretary General's report which looks at what has happened since the World Summit for Children, the 1990s was a decade of great promises and limited achievements for the world's children. Good things that happened were:

- The 1990 World Summit for Children and the Convention on the Rights of the Child helped to make children more important politically.
- A record number of countries (192) agreed to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- 155 countries prepared special programs of action to fulfil their promises made at the World Summit.
- Regional promises were made.
- International laws and institutions strengthened the protection of children.
- Practical results were achieved:

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- ❖ there are 3 million less children dying each year than there was 10 years ago
- ❖ polio is almost gone forever
- ❖ through salt iodization, 90 million babies are protected every year from losing their ability to learn.

12. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Much more still needs to be done. The resources that were promised at the World Summit at the national level and the international level have not all appeared. Important challenges remain:

- More than 10 million children die every year, most of these deaths could be stopped.
- 100 million children are still out of school, 6 out of every 10 of them are girls.
- 150 million children suffer because they don't have enough food.
- HIV/AIDS is spreading very, very quickly.
- There is ongoing poverty, people continue to be left out and discriminated against.
- Not enough money is being put into social services.

The things listed below, as well as other things, can slow down national efforts to end poverty and ensure the well being of children.

- The payments made by countries that owe money to other governments or financial institutions (for example banks)
- Too much military spending
- Armed conflict
- One country taking over land belonging to another country
- Hostage taking and all forms of terrorism
- Resources that are not being used properly

Many children are affected by terrorism. The childhood of millions is still devastated by the worst forms of dangerous and exploitative child labour, the buying and selling of children including adolescents and other forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence.

12 bis. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - In some countries, the situation of children is affected by actions taken alone by another government that go against international law and the Charter of the United Nations. These actions create problems for trade between States, they slow down social and economic development and they put the well being of the people in the affected countries in danger. These actions have particular effects on women and children, including adolescents.

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13. Because of what has happened over the last 10 years we know that the needs and rights of children must be seen as very important in all development efforts. We have learned many lessons:

- Change is possible - and children's rights are a good starting point.
- Policies must address two things:
 1. Things that directly affect or exclude groups of children.
 2. Other deeper and wider causes for the gaps in the protection of children and the abuse of their rights.
- Action should be carefully directed to make sure that change happens quickly, while also involving people and making sure that the results of such action will last.
- Actions should build on children's strengths and their ability to recover quickly from difficulties.
- Special help will be given to programs that help children in early childhood and those that help families, especially families in difficult circumstances, as these will provide long lasting benefits for child growth, development and protection.

III. Plan of Action

Now that we know WHAT we want for children, the next question is HOW do we make it happen?

The answer to that is found in this Plan of Action.

The **first section** explains how we will build a world that treats children well.

The **second section** lists the Goals we will try to achieve and the Strategies and Actions we will use to achieve them.

The main issues we will address will be:

- ◆ Health
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Abuse, violence and exploitation
- ◆ HIV/AIDS

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A. Creating a World Fit for Children

14. A world fit for children is one where:

- All children have the best possible start in life.
- All children have access to a quality basic education, including a free primary education that every child must attend.
- All children and adolescents have the chance to make the most of their potential in a safe and supportive environment.

We will make children's physical, mental, spiritual, social, emotional, ability to reason and understand and cultural development one of the most important issues for us at national and global levels

<h3>HELPING FAMILIES</h3>

15. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - The family is a very important unit of society and has the first responsibility for the protection, upbringing and development of children. All institutions of society should respect children's rights and well being and provide suitable assistance to parents, families, legal guardians and other caregivers so that children can grow and develop in a safe and secure environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding. We must keep in mind that in different cultural, social and political systems, various forms of the family exists.

16. We also know that lots of children live without parents - such as orphans, children living on the street, internally displaced and refugee children, children affected by trafficking, sexual and economic exploitation and children in prisons. Special efforts are needed to support these children and all those that care for them. We also need to help children to protect themselves.

17. We are determined to support parents, families, others who care for children and children themselves to get information and services in order to help children survive, develop, be better protected and participate.

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STOPPING POVERTY

18. Poverty is the biggest thing that stops us from meeting the needs and protecting and promoting the rights of children. We need to deal with poverty in many ways, including:

- Providing basic social services
- Creating employment opportunities
- Making small loans available
- Investing in infrastructure such as roads and water supplies
- Reducing the monies owed by poor countries
- Practising fair trade

Poverty hurts children the most because it damages the development of their growing minds and bodies. Ending poverty and reducing inequalities must be one of the most important goals in all development efforts. Many of the goals and strategies discussed at other United Nations meetings, especially the Millennium Summit, provide useful international frameworks for us in our efforts to end poverty and to protect the rights and promote the well-being of children.

MAKING TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH WORK FOR CHILDREN

19. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Globalisation and fast improvements in technology are providing new opportunities for social and economic development. At the same time, they continue to present serious challenges that need to be dealt with so that we avoid bad financial problems, insecurity, poverty, exclusion, environmental threats and inequality within and among societies. Our challenge is to make globalisation work for the benefit of all, including children. To overcome the development gap (that negatively affects children) we will create new partnerships between the developed and developing world and with countries that are changing from one economic system to another. We will also build partnerships between the private and public sector.

- We are committed to an open, fair, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory joint trading and financial system.
- Investing in education and training will help us with this task. It will enable children to share in the benefits of new developments in information and communication technologies.

These things will make sure that globalisation involves everyone and is fair and that the benefits can be enjoyed more widely both within countries and among countries.

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FIGHTING DISCRIMINATION

20. If a child experiences discrimination of any kind (based on the child's or his/her parent's or legal guardian's race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other views, national, ethnic or social origin, wealth, disability, birth or anything else) it sets them apart from everyone else and makes it difficult for the child to develop to the fullest. We will do our best to stop discrimination against children.

21. We will do everything we can to make sure all children with disabilities and special needs have full and equal rights and freedoms - including access to health, education and recreational services. We will ensure their dignity is recognised, help them to get by on their own and make sure they can actively participate in their communities.

22. We will do what is needed to end discrimination, to provide special support, and to ensure equal access to services for indigenous children, vulnerable groups of children and children belonging to minorities.

23. To achieve what we want for children, especially for girls, will be helped if women:

- Fully enjoy all human rights and freedoms, including the right to development.
- Are able to participate fully and equally in all aspects of society.
- Are protected from all forms of violence, abuse and discrimination.

We are determined to eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child during her life. We want to give special attention to her needs so that all her human rights are protected, including the right to be free from harmful practices, sexual exploitation and situations that force her to do things against her will. We will promote equality between the sexes and make sure girls have equal access to social services like education, nutrition, healthcare, sexual and reproductive healthcare, vaccinations and protection from diseases that cause the most deaths.

24. We also realise that we need to address the changing role of men in society as boys, adolescents and fathers. We recognise the challenges facing boys in the world today. We will encourage parents to share the responsibilities of educating and raising children. We will do everything we can to make sure fathers have opportunities to participate in their children's lives.

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25. Each country must aim to reduce the differences between different groups of children, especially differences that exist because of:

- discrimination on the basis of race,
- differences between girls and boys,
- differences between children who live in rural areas and those who live in towns and cities,
- differences between rich and poor children and
- differences between children with and without disabilities.

STOPPING ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE

26. To take care of the health and well being of children we need to act on many environmental problems and trends. These include global warming, the loss of the ozone layer, air pollution, dangerous wastes, exposure to dangerous chemicals and pesticides, bad sanitation, poor hygiene, unsafe drinking water and food and poor housing.

27. Good housing helps families to keep together, helps to make people socially equal and strengthens feelings of belonging, security and unity. This is essential for the well-being of children. We recognise that ending the housing shortage and dealing with other housing problems like water and electricity is very important, especially to children living in marginalised communities at the edges of towns and cities and in remote rural areas

28. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will do things to manage our natural resources and to protect and conserve our environment to make sure they are available in the future. We will work to:

- Change methods of production and use of environmental resources that cannot be maintained, understanding that there are common but different responsibilities that exist.
- Help to educate all children and adults to respect the natural environment for their health and well being.

USING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

29. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - The Convention on the Rights of the Child and its related documents contain a full set of international legal standards for the protection and well being of children. We also recognise the importance of other international documents. We urge all countries to consider signing, agreeing to and using the Convention on the Rights of the Child, its related documents and ILO Conventions 138 and 182 as soon as possible. We urge all those countries which have agreed to use the Convention on the Rights of the Child to look at, and consider withdrawing, any limits they have placed on the use of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially those that go against the aims and purpose of the Convention.

29. bis **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - There are documents related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child that deal with the issues of children involved in armed conflict and the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. We welcome the fact that these have now become international law.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

30. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - International legal documents for children provide an important basis for all actions concerning children, including adolescents. In particular, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the general principles found in the Convention, which include:

- the best interests of the child
- non-discrimination
- participation and
- survival and development

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30. bis **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Keeping this in mind, we, the governments involved in the Special Session, commit ourselves to implementing this Plan of Action using these steps:

- a) Introducing effective national laws, policies and action plans and using resources to promote and protect the rights of all children in order to make safe their well being.
- b) To promote and protect the rights of children and secure their well being, we will set up or strengthen national institutions such as independent ombudspersons for children, where appropriate, or other institutions or processes.
- c) Setting up monitoring and evaluation systems within countries that will look at the impact of what we do to promote and protect children's rights and secure their well being
- d) We will increase widespread awareness and understanding of the situation of children and their rights.

PARTNERSHIPS AND PARTICIPATION

31. To make this plan of action succeed, we will work much more closely with the following groups of people and use lots of different ways to involve people in working towards our common aim - the well being of children and the promotion and protection of their rights.

(i) Children, including adolescents, in order to help them meet the challenges of life, must be encouraged and supported to use their right to express their views freely. They should:

- Learn how to feel good about who they are.
- Gain knowledge and skills (including decision making skills, communication skills and ways to deal with conflict)

Their right to express themselves freely must be respected and promoted and their views taken into account in all matters affecting them. The views of the child will be given due weight depending on the age and maturity of the child.

We should help children make the best use of their energy and creativity to help them to shape what is happening around them, their societies and the world of the future.

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Disadvantaged and forgotten children, particularly adolescents, need special attention and support so they can:

- access basic services,
- feel good about themselves and
- prepare themselves to take responsibility for their own lives.

We will do our best to develop and use programs that will promote the meaningful involvement of children, including adolescents, in decision-making. This will include decisions made within families, schools and at the local and national levels.

- (ii) **Parents, families, legal guardians and other caregivers** have the most important role and responsibility for the well-being of children. They must be supported in bringing up their children. Our policies and programs should promote the sharing of the responsibility between parents, families, legal guardians and other caregivers and society as a whole.
- (iii) **Local governments and authorities** through stronger partnerships at all levels, among other approaches, can make sure that children are at the centre of people's thinking about development. Ideas such as 'child friendly communities' and 'cities without slums' can be used by mayors and local leaders so that the lives of children improve.
- (iv) **Parliamentarians or other people that make laws** are important if this Plan of Action is to become a reality. To be successful they will need to:
 - ❖ Encourage awareness raising,
 - ❖ adopt the necessary laws,
 - ❖ provide financial resources and
 - ❖ make sure things are being done well.
- (v) **Non-Governmental Organisations and community organisations** will be supported in their work. When appropriate, they should be helped to become involved in issues relating to children. They have a special role to promote and support positive behaviour and helping to create an environment that will ensure the well being of children.
- (vi) **The private sector** and big businesses have a special contribution to make, working in ways that look after communities and the local environment such as providing money for projects that help children.
- (vii) **Religious, spiritual, cultural and indigenous leaders** because of their influence on so many people, have a key role in speaking out for children. They can make the goals and targets of this Plan of Action a priority in their communities and encourage and inspire people to take action for children.

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- (viii) **The mass media and their organisations** can increase awareness of what is happening to children, calling attention to the challenges facing them. They should also play a more active role to inform children, parents, families and the general public on things that are happening that protect and promote the rights of children. They should also contribute to educational programs for children. The media should be aware of its influence on children.
- (ix) **Regional and international organisations**, especially all parts of the United Nations and other big players such as the World Bank should be encouraged to work together. They can play a key role in making things happen more quickly for children.
- (x) **People who work directly with children** have great responsibilities. It is important to improve the way they are viewed, their confidence and their professionalism.

B. Goals, strategies and actions

32. Since the 1990 World Summit for Children, many United Nations meetings and review processes have agreed to goals and targets to help children. We want to renew our commitment to all these promises. We want the children of today and the future to have opportunities their parents never had. As a step towards achieving these goals, we agree to achieve the promises which remain unmet and to address the new promises below during the next 10 years (2000-2010).

32. bis **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We commit ourselves to putting into practice the following goals, strategies and actions, with changes to suit the specific situation of each country. We will keep in mind the best interest of the child and the different situations and circumstances in different regions and countries throughout the world.

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1. PROMOTING HEALTHY LIVES

WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

33. Because of poverty and not enough access to basic social services:
- More than 10 million children under the age of 5, die every year from sickness and hunger that could be avoided. Almost half of those children are new babies.
 - More than 500,000 women and adolescent girls die every year because of difficulties relating to pregnancy, childbirth and lack of enough food). Many more are injured or disabled.
 - More than 1 billion people cannot get safe drinking water.
 - 150 million children under five years of age are malnourished.
 - Over 2 billion people do not have access to safe toilet facilities.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO?

34. We want to change this situation by giving all children a safe and healthy start to life. We will do this by providing good basic health care for everyone in all communities, making sure that everyone has the information they need and places to get advice, providing safe water and toilet facilities and encouraging adolescents and adults to live a healthy life. Over the **next 10 years**, we therefore promise to:

- a). Reduce by at least a third the rate at which children under one and under five die. This will help us reach our goal of reducing it by two thirds by 2015.
- b). Reduce by at least a third the rate at which women die while giving birth. This will help us to reach our goal of reducing it by three quarters by 2015.
- c). Reduce by at least a third the number of children under five years of age who do not get enough to eat, with special attention given to children under two years of age. Also, to reduce the number of babies born who weigh too little by at least one third.

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- d). Reduce by one third the number of households who do not have access to safe and low cost drinking water and clean toilet facilities.
- e). Create and put into practice national policies and programmes for young children that will make sure children's physical, social, emotional, spiritual and mental development is significantly better than before.
- f). Develop and put into practice national health policies and programs with goals and measures to promote the physical and mental health of adolescents.
- g). Everyone that is an appropriate age will have access to reproductive health through health care systems. This will happen as soon as possible and no later than 2015.

HOW WILL WE DO IT?

35. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - To achieve these goals and targets, and keeping in mind national laws, religious beliefs and cultural views, we will carry out the following strategies and actions:
- i. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will make sure that the health sector recognises the importance of reducing illness and death among women giving birth and very young babies. Women including adolescents will have access to essential care for mothers and babies during pregnancy that they can afford. The care for mothers and babies will include:
- Well equipped and well staffed health care services for mothers,
 - Skilled people to help when babies are being born
 - Emergency care for mothers and babies
 - When more specialist care is needed we will make sure that they can be moved on to that care and have transportation to get them there
 - Care for mothers and babies after the baby is born
 - Family planning to promote, among other things, safe motherhood

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- i. bis **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will make sure that all people of an appropriate age, especially women and adolescents girls, have access to health care they can afford, including sexual and reproductive health. This will all be in agreement with the outcomes of recent UN conferences including the International Conference on Population and Development, the 4th World Conference on Women and their 5 year reviews and reports.
- ii. As quickly as possible we will support child health and survival and reduce the differences found between and within developed and developing countries. We will pay special attention to ending the number of unnecessary and avoidable deaths among very young girls and children.
- ii. bis **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - All couples and individuals should have access to information on the importance of taking responsibility for planning the size of their family and the many advantages of waiting a certain amount of time between each pregnancy to avoid pregnancies that are too early, too late, too many or too frequent.
- iii. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Keeping in mind all of the following points:
 - Respect for the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents,
 - The evolving abilities of adolescents as they mature and their right to reproductive health education, information and care,
 - Respect for their cultural values and religious beliefs.

We will make sure that adolescents both in and out of school, receive the necessary information, including information on prevention, education, counselling and health care. This will help them to make responsible and informed choices and decisions about their sexual and reproductive health needs. This will also help us, among other things, to reduce the number of adolescent pregnancies.

- iv. Protect, promote and support the breastfeeding of babies (without any other kind of baby food) until they are 6 months of age and continued breastfeeding until two years of age and older with a mix of breastfeeding and other safe foods. We will provide counselling for mothers with HIV/AIDS about how to feed small babies so that they can make free and informed choices.
- v. Special attention must be given to caring for mothers and children before and after birth, as well as essential medical care at birth. Such attention should be especially for those living in areas without access to services.

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- vi. Fully immunise at least 9 out of 10 children under one year of age nationally; each smaller individual areas of the country should have at least 8 out of 10 children immunised.
Reduce by one half the deaths that occur from measles by 2005;
Eliminate tetanus in mothers and very small babies by 2005;
Give children everywhere the benefits of new and improved vaccines and ways of avoiding sickness.
- vii. Make sure polio will no longer exists anywhere in the world by 2005.
- viii. Get rid of Guinea worm disease.
- ix. We will strengthen the development of younger children by providing appropriate services and support, particularly during pregnancy, birth, infancy and early childhood. These services and supports will be given to parents, including parents with disabilities, families, legal guardians and caregivers to help a child's physical, mental, social, and ability to reason and understand, and spiritual development.
- x. There are many methods - which are known to work and which don't cost too much - to bring down the number of children getting sick and dying because of disease and malnutrition. We will use these methods more often to do the following:
- deaths caused by bad chest infections among children under five years of age will be reduced by one third,
 - deaths caused by diarrhoea among children under five will be reduced to half of what it is now;
 - cut deaths due to tuberculosis by a half as well as the numbers affected by it;
 - the number of people affected by parasites in their stomachs, cholera, diseases passed on during sex, HIV/AIDS and all forms of hepatitis will be reduced.
- We will make sure that there are good and affordable ways of dealing with all of the things listed and that they can be made use of by highly marginalised areas or populations.
- xi. We want to reduce the number of people affected by diseases linked to malaria to half of what it is now. We want 60% of all people at risk of malaria to sleep under protective bednets, especially children and women.

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- xii. We want to improve the amount and quality of food that mothers and children, including adolescents, receive. We will do this by helping families have secure supplies of food and making sure they have access to basic social services and good caring practices.
- xiii. We will support groups of people and countries suffering from serious food shortages and famine.
- xiv. We want families, communities, schools, health care facilities and marginalised boys and girls to have increased access to good health, nutrition and childcare. We will do this by strengthening health and education systems and expanding social security systems.
- xv. Reduce the number of children injured in accidents or other causes. We will do this by developing and using good ways of stopping accidents before they happen.
- xvi. Make sure that children with disabilities and special needs have access to integrated services, including rehabilitation and health care services. We will encourage family based care and support for the parents, families, legal guardians and caregivers of these children.
- xvii. We will provide special help to children suffering from mental illnesses or psychological disorders.
- xviii. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will provide access to appropriate, user-friendly and high quality health education, information and basic health care services to all children.
- xix. *THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE BULLETS (XX), (XXI) AND (XXII) ALREADY DEAL WITH THE ISSUE.*
- xx. We will encourage physical, mental and emotional health among children, including adolescents, through play, sport, recreation, artistic and cultural expression.
- xxi. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will develop and implement policies and programmes for children, including adolescents, to promote responsible sexual behaviour.
- xxii. We will develop and put into practice policies and programmes aimed at stopping children, including adolescents, from using narcotic drugs, mind altering substances and inhalants except for medical purposes. These programs will reduce the negative effects of drug and substance abuse. We will also support special policies and programmes that prevent or stop children from using tobacco and alcohol.

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- xxiii. THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE BULLET (XXI) ALREADY DEALS WITH THE ISSUE. .*
- xxiv.** We will develop policies and programs for children, including adolescents, that will reduce violence and suicide.
- xxv.** If a person does not have enough iodine, vitamin A or iron they can get sick. By the year 2005 no one will suffer from any sickness because of not having enough iodine. By the year 2010 problems of not getting enough vitamin A or iron will be solved. Anaemia will be reduced by one third by 2010. We will also quicken the work being done to reduce other problems of not having enough vitamins or minerals. We will do this by encouraging more variety in what people eat and by adding to, or improving, what people eat.
- xxvi.** So that everyone has access to safe drinking water and good sanitation facilities, we will help the family and community take more responsibility for the services they have and teach people how to change their ways of behaving in order to be healthier. This information will also be given through schools.
- xxvii.** We will deal with any differences found in health and access to basic social services, including health care services to indigenous children and children belonging to minorities.
- xxviii. NEW PROPOSED TEXT -** We will develop appropriate laws, policies and programmes at the national level and improve international co-operation so that children are not harmfully exposed to pollution in the air, water, soil and food.

2.

PROVIDING QUALITY EDUCATION

36. Education is important.

- Education is a human right.
- Education is key to reducing poverty and child labour.
- Education is key to promoting democracy, peace, tolerance, and development.

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WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

- More than 100 million children, most of them girls, are not in primary school.
- Many children in school have teachers that are untrained and underpaid.
- Many schools are overcrowded, unhealthy and don't have good equipment.
- One in three children do not complete 5 years of school, which is the minimum needed to reach a basic level of reading and writing.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO?

37. As agreed at the World Education Forum meeting in Dakar, it is very important to make sure that by 2015 all children have access to and complete a good quality, free primary education that they all must attend. We will also try to make secondary education more available. To make this happen we agree to meet the following targets:

- a). For all boys and girls, especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, we will expand and improve a wide range of early childhood care and education.
- b). To reduce by half the number of primary school-age children who are not in school. Ensure that 9 out of 10 children of this age are in school or alternative good quality education programs before 2010;
- c). We will get rid of differences in boys and girls education in primary and secondary school by 2005; we will focus on making sure girls have equal and full access to a quality basic education in which they do well. We will achieve gender equality in education by 2015.
- d). We will improve the quality of education. Children should gain measurable and recognised results from their education, especially in reading and writing, working with numbers and important life skills.
- e). We will make sure that the learning needs of all young people are met through access to appropriate learning and life skills programmes.
- f). We will make sure that the proportion of adults, able to read and write increases by 50% by 2015, especially women.

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HOW WILL WE DO IT?

38. NEW PROPOSED TEXT - To achieve these goals and targets, we will carry out the following strategies and actions:

- i. We will develop and put into practice special things so that it is easy for all children and adolescents to go to school and that it will not cost their families too much money.
- ii. We will support new programmes that encourage schools and communities to search more actively for children who have dropped out, or are left out, of school and from learning. We want these programmes to pay special attention to girls and working children, children with special needs and children with disabilities, and help them enrol, attend, and successfully complete their education. We will involve governments as well as families, communities and NGOs as partners in the educational process. Special measures should be put in place to prevent and reduce drop out due to, among other things, working/getting a job.
- iii. We understand that:
 - Educational services must be of good quality,
 - Education providers must be skilled.
 - Non-formal education and alternative kinds of education can be a good and valuable experience.

Keeping all of this in mind, we will bring formal and non-formal education closer together and make them work more effectively together.
- iv. We will make sure that all basic education programmes are:
 - ❖ open to children with disabilities and special learning needs,
 - ❖ fully includes these children, and
 - ❖ respond to their needs.
- v. We want children belonging to minorities and indigenous children to have the same access to quality education as other children. We will try to provide education in ways that respect their heritage. We will try to provide educational opportunities for them to understand and maintain their cultural identity, language and values.
- vi. We will do special things so that the quality of education is better and it meets the needs of all children.

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- vii. We will work with children to create a child friendly setting for them to learn where they will feel safe, protected from abuse, violence and discrimination, and they are healthy and encouraged to learn. Education materials should promote and protect human rights and the values of peace, tolerance and equality between men and women. We use the opportunity given to us by the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010) to improve our work in this area.
- viii. To strengthen early childhood care and education for younger children, we will develop and support programs aimed at families, legal guardians, caregivers and communities.
- ix. We will provide education and training opportunities for adolescents so that they are able to find a way of supporting themselves afterwards.
- x. *THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE PARAGRAPH 35(iii) ALREADY DEALS WITH THE ISSUE.*
- xi. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will design, where appropriate, and put into practice programmes that allow pregnant women and young mothers to continue to complete their education.
- xii. *THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE PARAGRAPHS 35 (i) - (iii) ALREADY DEAL WITH THE ISSUE.*
- xiii. We will push for the development and use of programmes, especially in schools, for children including adolescents that will:
 - prevent and discourage the use of tobacco and alcohol,
 - detect, oppose and prevent the buying, selling, trading and using of narcotic drugs and mind altering substances.
 We will do this by, among other things, promoting mass media campaigns that will focus on the harmful effects of these substances and the risk of addiction. We will also take the necessary action to deal with the real causes of these problems.
- xiv. We will promote new programmes that encourage poor families to find ways for their children to enter and attend school. We want to avoid their children missing out on school because of having to work.
- xv. We will develop and use programmes that will get rid of differences in boys and girls access to school. Gender stereotypes and discrimination in school systems, courses and materials will also be eliminated, no matter what the reasons given for them.

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- xvi. We will improve the importance, confidence, training and professionalism of teachers, including those working with children in their early years. We will make sure teachers are paid sufficiently for what they do and we will provide them with opportunities and reasons to develop their skills.
- xvii. Make sure that management structures in schools, communities and at national level are responsive, that they involve others in making decisions, and that they have to report back on how well they have done their work.
- xviii. We will meet the special needs of children affected by crises by making sure that education is provided during and after crises. We will also carry out education programs, which encourage a culture of peace, help prevent violence and conflict and encourage the rehabilitation of victims.
- xix. We will provide accessible recreational and sporting opportunities and facilities at schools and in communities
- xx. Information and communication technology is changing quickly. We will use this to help provide better quality education (as well as open and distance education) at an affordable cost to more groups of children.
- xxi. We will develop ways to lessen the impact that HIV/AIDS has on education systems and schools, students and learning.

3.

PROTECTING AGAINST ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND VIOLENCE

WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

39. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Violence, exploitation, neglect, abuse and discrimination are a part of daily life for hundreds of millions of children.

- More than 2 million children died in war during the 1990s
- More than 6 million children were badly injured or disabled for the rest of their lives in such conflicts in the 1990s
- By the end of the 1990s, millions of children had been forced from their homes or countries by conflicts
- Many children suffer from natural and man made disasters

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- Many children suffer because they are the children of migrant workers and other socially disadvantaged groups
- Children suffer as victims of racism, racial discrimination and other related prejudices
- Millions of children are bought and sold, smuggled, physically and sexually exploited and stolen.
- Violence in the home and sexual violence against women and children are serious problems in most parts of the world.
- About 250 million children are involved in child labour, tens of millions of which are involved in the worst form of child labour
- Children have suffered and died as a result of the harmful impact of economic sanctions.

What are "Sanctions"?

Sometimes a government or a group of governments will try to punish another country when they do not agree with something the other country has done. A government can punish another government by giving less aid, by not giving aid at all together, or by preventing the trade of goods between countries (including food and medical supplies). These restrictions are called sanctions.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO?

40. Children have the right to be protected from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence. Societies must put an end to all forms of violence against children. We therefore promise to :
- a) Protect all children from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence.
 - b) **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Protect children from the effects of war and other conflicts and ensure that everyone obeys the international laws that protect people in times of war.
 - c) Protect children from all forms of sexual abuse including paedophilia, the buying and selling of children and children being taken or stolen.
 - d) We will act quickly and effectively to do what is needed to stop the worst forms of child labour. We will build on and put into practice new ways of eliminating kinds of child labour that go against accepted international agreements.

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When we talk about the "worst forms" of child labour we are using the definition given by the International Labour Organisation, also known as the ILO. The worst forms of child work are listed below.

- All forms of slavery. This includes child soldiers and children that are being bought, sold or traded. The sexual exploitation of children. This includes children being used for pornography and prostitution.
- Involving children in the buying, selling and production of illegal drugs.
- Work that is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

- e) Improve the situation of millions of children who live in very difficult situations.

HOW WILL WE DO IT?

41. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - To achieve these goals we will carry out the following strategies and actions:

General Protection

- i. We will develop systems that will make sure every child is officially registered at the time of birth or soon after, so that every child is able to have the right to have a name and nationality, as agreed in national and international laws.
- ii. Encourage all countries to introduce and improve the enforcement of laws, policies, and programmes to protect children from violence, neglect, abuse and exploitation. These should protect children whether at home, in school at other institutions, in the workplace or in the neighbourhood.
- iii. Take special action to get rid of discrimination against children because of their race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status. We will make sure all children have equal access to education, health and basic social services.

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- iv. People who commit crimes against children will not be allowed to escape justice. The punishment they receive for such crimes will be made widely known.
- v. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will take steps to avoid and prevent any one sided actions by a country that go against international law and the Charter of the United Nations and slows down the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries. We are concerned specifically for children and women and any actions that get in the way of their well being and makes it difficult for them to fully enjoy their human rights. These include the right of everyone to a standard of living good enough for their health and well being and their right to food, medical care and the necessary social services. We will make sure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure.
- vi. Raise awareness of the illegal nature and the damaging effects of failing to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation.
- vii. We will encourage preventive support and caring services to be put in place for children in trouble with the law. We will also encourage justice systems specifically for children, bearing in mind the principle that offenders should give something back to their victims. These justice systems will fully protect children's rights and have staff that is specially trained to help children return to ordinary life.
- viii. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will protect children from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- ix. End harmful traditional or customary ways of behaving that damage the rights of children and women. For example, getting married at a very young age, being forced to marry or Female Genital Mutilation.
- x. Find ways to give special protection and help to children that do not have parents or other family members to care for them.

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- xi. For children:
 - ◆ Living in disadvantaged social situations, and
 - ◆ Children who are at risk, including:
 - ◆ Orphans,
 - ◆ Abandoned children,
 - ◆ Children of migrant workers,
 - ◆ Children working and/or living on the street and
 - ◆ Children living in extreme poverty,

For these children we will do what is needed to:

 - prevent their situations,
 - protect these children,
 - help the children recover from their experiences,
 - help these children return to live normal lives in society,
 - make sure they have access to education, health and social services.
- xii. Protect children from ways of being adopted or fostered which are illegal, exploit them and are not in their best interests.
- xiii. Address cases of international kidnapping of children by one of their parents.
- xiv. *THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE BULLET (xv) ALREADY DEALS WITH THE ISSUE.*
- xv. We will support programmes that stop the use of children including adolescents, in the buying, selling and trading of narcotic drugs and mind altering substances.
- xvi. For children including adolescents that are dependant on drugs, mind altering substances, inhalants and alcohol, we will provide treatment and do what is needed to help them recover from their dependency.
- xvii. Make sure that children affected by natural disasters (e.g. floods and earthquakes) receive help quickly and effectively through better planning and preparation. They will receive all possible help so they can return to normal life as soon as possible.
- xviii. We will encourage action to protect children from violent or harmful web sites, computer programs and games that damage the mental development of children. We will take into account the responsibilities of the family, parents, legal guardians and caregivers.

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Protection from Armed Conflict

- xix. We will do more to protect children affected by war. We will do what is needed to protect children living in areas occupied by another country.
- xx. We will make sure that issues relating to the rights and protection of children are:
- Properly included in the development of peace making processes and the peace agreements that follow.
 - Included, when appropriate, in United Nations peacekeeping operations and peace building programs.
- When possible, we will involve children in these processes.
- xxi. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will end the recruitment and use of children in war that goes against international law. This is set out in the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child that deals with the issue of children involved with wars. We will make sure that children are taken out of combat, weapons are removed from them and that we do what is needed to make sure they are able to recover physically and mentally and then help them to rejoin society.
- xxii. The people responsible for the things listed below will no longer go unpunished :
- The killing of people because of their race or religion
 - Crimes against humanity
 - War crimes,
- Where we can, we will not allow these crimes to be forgiven even when other crimes are forgiven in order to help make a fresh start. When trying to find the truth and ensure justice after a war, we will make sure that serious abuses involving children are dealt with and that child sensitive procedures are provided.
- xxiii. Terrorism hurts the development and well-being of children. We will take practical action against all forms of terrorism.
- xxiv. All civilian, military and police workers involved in peacekeeping operations will receive training and education on:
- Children's rights
 - Protection
 - International humanitarian law.

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- xxv. Reduce the unlawful trade in small and light weapons and protect children from landmines, unexploded bombs and shells and other war materials. We will provide assistance both during and after war to children who have been victims.
- xxvi. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We are determined to strengthen international co-operation, including sharing in the costs of, and co-ordination of, humanitarian assistance to countries helping people that have been forced to leave their countries. We will also help all those people who have been forced to leave their homes or countries, including children and their families, to return to their homes in safety and with dignity. We will also help them to smoothly become part of their societies once again.
- xxvi. **bis NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - With the necessary international co-operation, we will develop and put in place policies and programmes for the protection, care and well being of children that have been forced to leave their countries and children looking for protection in another country. We will also provide basic social services for these children, including access to education.
- xxvi. **ter NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will provide protection and assistance, including help to rejoin society and development assistance, to people that have been forced to leave their homes within a country, especially children. We will help the work of UN agencies and humanitarian organisations that work on these problems, including helping them to gain better access to such people.
- xxvi. **quater NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will give priority to programmes that help children and families find each other and come together. We will continue to monitor the care given to children that are alone and/or have been separated from their families when they left their country or home.
- xxvii. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Using the intentions and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, particularly international humanitarian law, we will make sure that the people trying to help children affected by war have full, safe and easy access to them. We will also make sure that enough assistance reaches all children affected by war at the right time.

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- xxviii. We will watch closely how sanctions affect children. We will urgently do what is needed to take away the bad effects of sanctions on women and children. All our actions will follow international law.
- xxix. We will do what is needed to protect children from being taken as hostages.
- xxx. Girls are particularly vulnerable to armed conflict and have special needs. We will do what is needed to protect and provide for girls affected by armed conflict.

Elimination of Child Labour

- xxxi. We feel it is important to act quickly and take effective action to forbid, and put an end to, the worst forms of child labour. We will do what is needed to help children recover from their experience of such forms of child labour and re-enter society. These things can be done, among other ways, by providing access to free basic education and training to help them find jobs and support themselves.
- xxxii. Countries will work together to end the worst forms of child labour. We will help each other through more support from richer countries for less developed countries including support for social and economic development, universal education and programmes for ending poverty.
- xxxiii. We will develop and put into practice programs that protect children from:
 1. Economic exploitation
 2. Work that is dangerous
 3. Work that will get in the way of a child's education,
 4. Work that is harmful to a child's health or physical, mental, social, moral or spiritual development.
- xxxiii. bis **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will prepare and put into place strategies to eliminate child labour that goes against accepted international standards. To help do this, we will promote awareness of a child's right to be protected from economic exploitation. We will also use national partnerships and international co-operation.

- xxxiv. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will improve the conditions of working children by, among other things,:
- Promoting quality basic education and work training
 - Getting working children back into the education system in every way possible
 - Encouraging support for social and economic policies that aim to end poverty and provide families with employment and ways of earning money.
- xxxv. When developing countries ask for help we will work together to help them deal with child labour and its causes, including helping them by finding ways to end poverty. We will not try to protect our own economies and trade by linking the way workers are treated to giving or not giving countries access to our markets to sell their exports.
- xxxvi. *THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE BULLET (xxxv) ALREADY DEALS WITH THE ISSUE.*
- xxxvii. *THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE BULLET (xxxv) ALREADY DEALS WITH THE ISSUE.*
- xxxviii. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - At the national level we will promote and improve on the collection, gathering, examination and availability of data on the extent, different kinds and causes of child labour.
- xxxix. *THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE ANOTHER SECTION ALREADY DEALS WITH THE ISSUE.*
- xl. Everything that we are doing relating to child labour should be included in our other development efforts and our efforts to end poverty. In particular, in our policies and programmes relating to health, education, employment and social protection.

Elimination of Sexual Exploitation of Children

- xli. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We will take combined urgent action, nationally and internationally, to prevent the stealing, buying and selling of children for any purpose and in any form. This includes trading the organs of children to make money. We will also protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, including the use of children for pornography, prostitution and paedophilia. We will fight existing markets for these activities.

- xlii. We will make sure that people know about the damaging effects of sexual exploitation and abuse and that these are against the law. This includes abuse and exploitation through the internet and the buying, selling and trading of children.
- xliii. Involve companies and businesses, including the tourism industry, and the media in a campaign against the trade in children and the sexual exploitation of children.
- xliv. We want to know all the real reasons why children are bought, sold, traded and sexually exploited. By knowing this we will be able to find ways to stop it from happening.
- xlv. We will ensure the safety, protection and security of victims of sexual exploitation and the trade in people. We will provide assistance and services to aid their recovery and help them return to society.
- xlvi. *THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE REMOVED BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN COMBINED WITH BULLET (xli).*
- xlvii. Collect information on the trade in children across national borders and share it between countries, in regions and internationally. Strengthen the ability of officials at borders and in the justice system to stop the trading of children and provide training so that they respect the dignity, rights and freedoms of all victims of such trading, especially women and children.
- xlviii. Take necessary steps, including through better working between governments, intergovernmental organizations, businesses and NGOs to stop criminals using new technology such as the Internet to sell children and to involve children in sex work, child sex tourism, paedophilia, pornography and other forms of abuse and violence against children and adolescents.

4. Combating HIV/AIDS

42. HIV/AIDS is having an extremely damaging effect on children and on those who care for them.

WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

- 13 million children have been orphaned by AIDS.
- Nearly 600,000 babies are infected with HIV every year by transmission of the disease from mother to child.
- Millions of young people infected with HIV live with the discrimination caused by the disease but cannot get the advice, care and support services they need.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO?

43. To fight the terrible effect of HIV/AIDS on children we agree to take urgent and forceful action, as agreed at the United Nations Special Session on HIV/AIDS. We agree to the following goals and promises:

a). By 2003 we will put in place national goals that can be achieved within a specific time-frame and that will help us to fulfil the following internationally agreed promises:

- Reduce the rate at which young people aged 15 to 24 years are infected by HIV by:
 - a quarter in the worst affected countries by 2005.
 - by a quarter in the world as a whole by 2010.
- Increase our efforts to achieve these goals.
- Challenge gender stereotypes, attitudes and gender inequalities relating to HIV/AIDS.
- Encourage men and boys to become more actively involved in achieving these promises.

b). By 2005 we will lower by 20% the proportion of infants infected with HIV.

By 2010 we will lower by 50% the proportion of infants infected with HIV. We will do this by:

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- making sure that 80% of pregnant women who get pre-birth care have access to HIV/AIDS information, services and counselling
- Increasing the access of HIV infected women and babies to effective treatment to avoid mothers infecting their children.
- HIV-infected women have effective help offered to them, including - confidential counselling, testing, treatment and access to special drugs and therapies to protect their children and babies. It is also important that they receive this care on a continued basis.

c). By 2003 we will develop national policies and by 2005 we will be using these national policies so that governments, families and communities will be able to provide care and support to children who have lost their parents because of HIV/AIDS, as well as HIV/AIDS infected girls and boys by:

- Providing counselling, social and mental support;
- Making sure they go to school and have shelter, good nutrition, health and social services in the same way as other children;
- They will be protected from all forms of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, trading in children and the loss of property passed down to them by their parents or relatives who have died.

HOW WILL WE DO IT?

44. To achieve these goals we will use the following strategies and actions:

- i. By 2003 we will make sure that national and financial plans to combat HIV/AIDS have been developed and are being used across different sectors. These plans will:
 - Address the problem in a real and honest way.
 - Confront the negative labels or judgements people use.
 - Address silence and denial
 - Address the parts of the problem related to people's gender or age
 - Eliminate discrimination and marginalization.
 - Involve partnerships with civil society, businesses, people living with HIV/AIDS, vulnerable groups and people mostly at risk (especially women and young people).

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- Receive money from national budgets as far as possible, without excluding other sources of funding, including aid from richer countries.
 - Fully promote and protect all human rights and freedoms, including the right to the highest physical and mental health possible.
 - Include a gender perspective.
 - Address risk, vulnerability, prevention, care, treatment, support and reducing the extent of the problem of HIV/AIDS
 - Strengthen the ability of the health, education and legal systems to play their part.
- ii. By 2005, make sure that, in full partnership with youth, parents, families, educators and health care providers, at least 90% and by 2010 at least 95% of young men and women aged between 15-24 years have access to:
- the information and education (including peer education and youth specific HIV education) and,
 - the necessary services to develop the life skills needed to reduce their risks of HIV infection.
- iii. By 2005 we will have developed and made good progress in using overall care strategies to:
- Make sure that families, community based care and health care systems are better able to provide and monitor treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS, including children. They will also be able to provide better support for individuals, households, families and communities affected by HIV/AIDS.
- We will improve:
- The ability and working conditions of health care workers.
 - The usefulness of supply systems, financial plans and arrangements for giving people access to medicines they can afford, as well as a variety of treatments, technologies and quality medical, sickness easing and mental health care.
- iv. By 2005, we will have done things to make sure women and adolescent girls have a greater ability to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection. We will do this by:
- providing health care and services, including sexual and reproductive health
 - providing education to prevent infection that encourage gender equality while being sensitive to cultural and gender sensitive issues.

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- v. By 2003, we will develop or build on plans, policies and programmes that recognise the importance of the family in reducing vulnerability because of its ability to educate and guide children while taking into account cultural, religious and ethical factors.
These plans, policies and programmes will reduce the vulnerability of children and young people by:
- Giving both boys and girls access to primary and secondary education (including HIV/AIDS education for adolescents)
 - Ensuring safe and secure environments, especially for young girls
 - Providing more good quality youth-friendly information and sexual health education and counselling services
 - Making reproductive and sexual health programmes stronger
 - Involving families and young people, wherever possible, in planning, using and evaluating HIV/AIDS prevention and care programmes.
- vi. Refugees, internally displaced people, especially women and children and other people affected by war, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters are more at risk of being exposed to HIV infection. By 2003 we will develop and start using national plans that will include HIV/AIDS awareness, prevention, care and treatment in programmes and actions that deal with these emergency situations. We will also consider HIV/AIDS when dealing with international assistance programmes.
- vii. We will make sure that all children who are orphaned or made vulnerable because of HIV/AIDS are able to fully and equally enjoy all human rights and that they do not experience discrimination. We will encourage an active and visible effort that will remove the negative labels or judgements these children experience.
- viii. When individual developing countries increase the money they use to fight HIV/AIDS, we will encourage the international community to provide help and support to these efforts by providing extra development assistance. This assistance should be particularly focused on:
- The countries most affected by HIV/AIDS (especially sub-Saharan African and the Caribbean)
 - Countries where HIV/AIDS is at high risk of increasing
 - other regions where resources to deal with HIV/AIDS are very limited.

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C. Mobilizing Resources

45. The goals that we have set:

- Promoting healthy lives, including good nutrition and the control of infectious diseases,
- Providing quality education,
- Protecting children from abuse, exploitation, violence and armed conflict
- Combating HIV/AIDS

can all be achieved and are not too expensive for the global community.

46. **INCLUDES NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Each individual country has the greatest responsibility for making sure that they fulfil the promises in this "Plan of Action". Each country must create an environment in **which the rights and well-being of each and every child are promoted and protected**. To make all this happen new and additional resources will be needed at national and international level.

47. Medium to long term investments in children and respecting their rights, bring lots of benefits. Doing this makes it possible to have a fair society, a strong economy and a world without poverty.

48. We will need a lot more money, materials and people helping to make it all happen in order to see all these promises fulfilled we will have to work together. Internationally countries in the north will have to work with countries in the south and countries in the south will have to work with other countries in the south.

49. Therefore, we promise to do our best to achieve the following global goals and actions:

- a) We thank the richer countries that promised to put aside part of their income to help poor countries. (0.7% of their gross national product) and have done this. We ask those that have not yet done this to do so as soon as possible. We also agree to make sure that we give special help to the very poorest countries where children are in special need (0.15% and 0.20% of gross national product)

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b) Without waiting any longer, we will put into practice the process by which the poorest countries that owe lots of money do not have to pay all that money back. We will also cancel all money owed by these countries to individual countries. In return, these countries will make promises to end poverty and use their savings (from not paying for the money they borrowed) to pay for programmes for ending poverty, particularly ones related to children.

c) We call for speedy and joint action to address the problems of the money owed by the:

- Least developed countries
- Low-income developing countries
- And middle income developing countries.

We want to see action taken in a way that is all-inclusive, fair, long lasting, and focused on development. We will use various national and international actions to make their debt manageable in the long term. This will improve their ability to deal with issues relating to children. This includes actions for reducing debt that already exist such as reducing the amount of debt owed by a country if a country puts funding into projects aimed at meeting the needs of children.

d) We will use new and much higher levels of both national and international resources for social development to reduce differences within and between countries. We will make sure existing resources are being used as well as possible. Social spending that helps children will be protected as much as possible during both short-term and long-term financial and economic problems.

e) We will look into new ways of finding more money including, among other things, reducing the amount of unnecessary money we spend on military needs, while taking into consideration the security needs of a country. This will include reductions in trading, producing and obtaining weapons and other arms.

f) We will change the way we spend our national budgets and the way richer countries help developing countries so that we are able to make sure all children have access to basic social services.

50. We will give special attention to meeting the needs of the world's most vulnerable children in developing countries, especially in the least developed countries and in sub-Saharan Africa.

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51. We will also give special help to the needs of children in:

- Small Island Developing States,
- developing countries that have no access to seas,
- transit developing countries,
- other developing countries,
- countries that have economies going through a change from communist to market systems.

52. We will encourage technical co-operation between countries so that we can share our good experiences and methods in making these commitments a reality.

53. INCLUDES NEW PROPOSED TEXT - The fulfilment of the rights and well being of children deserves new partnerships with civil society, NGOs and the private sector as well as new arrangements for gathering together additional resources, both public and private.

54. Big companies must always follow the laws of countries where they are based or work. Big companies should take responsibility for helping people and the environment and help achieve social development goals and work towards the well-being of children.

We will encourage them by:

- (i) Helping them understand that social development and economic growth are connected.
- (ii) Providing legal, economic and social rules that are fair and secure so that companies can help us.
- (iii) Encouraging big companies to work together with business, trade unions and civil society at the country level to help achieve our goals.

We ask the private sector and big companies to examine how their actions affect children. When new information is found and new developments are made, we ask that they are made available to children, especially the children in greatest need. This includes developments and information in the areas of science, medical technology, health, improvements to food, protecting the environment, education and communication.

55. To achieve this "Plan of Action" it is important that the United Nations, its agencies, other international organizations and civil society coordinate their efforts and work in cooperation.

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D. Follow-up actions and monitoring

56. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - Within one year of adopting this Plan of Action, we will develop and/or strengthen national and, where appropriate, regional action plans. These action plans will have clear, measurable goals and targets which will have to be achieved by an agreed date. They will be based on the Plan of Action found in this document and will respect cultural, religious and social traditions. They will also take into consideration the best interests of the child and the appropriate sections of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We will strengthen our national planning and make sure there is the necessary co-ordination, implementation and funding. We will include the goals of this Plan of Action into:

- our national government policies
- national and sub-national development programmes
- our plans to end poverty
- our work across various sectors
- and other relevant development plans.

This will all be done in co-operation with relevant civil society actors, including children.

57. We will monitor how we are doing at the national level and where appropriate, the regional and global levels and judge our progress towards achieving our goals in this "Plan of Action" at national, regional and global levels. We will improve our ability to collect and analyse information. We will look for information that may show differences based on sex and age. We will support a wide range of child-focused research. We will work together internationally to improve our abilities to collect data and information. We will also improve local communities' ability to check on progress made, and contribute to assessment and planning.

58. We will review our progress at national and sub-national levels on a regular basis so that we can deal with problems in a better way and make things happen more quickly. At the regional level, such reviews will be used to share best practices, strengthen partnerships and speed up progress. Therefore:

- a) We suggest that every country that already presents reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child also include information on actions taken, and results achieved, in the implementation of this "Plan of Action".

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The Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child is a group of experts on children from all over the world who meet in Geneva three times a year to hear what governments have been doing to protect and promote children's rights. The experts are elected by the governments of the world. Each country that has adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child must submit a regular report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child that monitors back on how the country is doing to ensure the rights of the child are realized in their country.

- b) **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We ask the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to prepare and distribute a combined study of the plans and actions taken by individual countries and the international community in support of this Declaration and Plan of Action. We ask that they do this in close co-operation with:

- governments,
- the relevant specialised agencies,
- other UN organs and
- other relevant partners.

We ask that the governing bodies of the specialised agencies and other UN bodies include a regular review of the implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action at their normal meetings. We ask that they keep the General Assembly of the United Nations fully informed, through the Economic and Social Council, of progress being made and additional actions that may be required during the coming decade.

- c). We ask that the UN Secretary-General report regularly to the General Assembly on the progress made in implementing the Plan of Action.

59. **NEW PROPOSED TEXT** - We promise once again to spare no efforts in continuing to create a world fit for children. We will build on the achievements of the last ten years and we will be guided by the principles of a 'first call' for children. Working together with a wide range of partners, we will lead a global movement for children that creates an unstoppable momentum for change. We make this sincere promise with the understanding that, in serving children, we serve the best interests of all humanity.

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