



Example of letter sent to the Permanent Missions of States that did not yet ratify the OP on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

Geneva, 26th July 2010

Your Excellency,

May 25th marked the 10th anniversary of the UN General Assembly's adoption of the optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

Since its adoption, the optional protocol has won widespread support among UN member states, with 137 states parties. It has also led to significant improvements in the lives of children around the world, as governments have taken legal and other measures to prevent the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to punish offenders, and to ensure that child victims are rehabilitated and reintegrated.

We regret that your country has not yet ratified this important instrument. We urge your government to do so as soon as possible in order to make clear its commitment to ending the sexual exploitation or sale of children. We particularly encourage your government to take advantage of the upcoming session of the UN General Assembly to deposit its instrument of ratification or accession or make a public commitment of its intent to do so no later than 2012, the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the protocols.

We hope that with your help, the world's nations will achieve universal ratification of the protocol and establish unequivocal norms to protect children from some of the worst forms of abuse and exploitation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

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Sally Christine Cornwell, The African Child Policy Forum

Mark Vogt, War Child Holland

Cécile Trochu Grasso, World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT)

Elly Pradervand, WWSF Children's Section - Women's World Summit Foundation

Philippe Guiton, World Vision



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