



46th session of the Human Rights Council
Geneva, 22 February -23 March 2021
ANNUAL DISCUSSION ON RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (7/29 AND 45/30)

Madam President,

BICE and its member organizations around the world would like to thank the panelists for their presentations. The SDGs give the opportunity for States to address violence against children throughout the 17 Goals, especially with Goals 4, 5, 8, 10 and 16. In the implementation process of our programs on juvenile justice, education, children with disabilities and violence against children, in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe, BICE and its partners realize the magnitude of violence impacting the right of the child.

Voluntary national reviews and ensuing submissions to the high-level political forum on sustainable development on the prevention and response of States to all forms of violence look much more like a business as usual exercise than a real in-depth solution-oriented commitment.

With regard to children with disabilities, evidence-based reports show that children endure violence in residential-care centres. **The deinstitutionalization process started in countries like Armenia, Georgia and Russian Federation has to be accelerated and finalized with appropriate child-friendly alternative solutions.**

As for education, children in both developed and developing countries continue to face harsh violence, harassment and bullying at school. The COVID-19 pandemic revealed how difficult it is for vulnerable children from rural regions and poor families to have access to online education system with no electricity, no computer and/or no internet connection. Many children were unable to go back to school after the lockdown. **The post COVID-19 recovery plans should duly take in account the left behind children in Cambodia, Chile, DRC, Guatemala, Paraguay and Peru as multidimensional child poverty is increasing in those countries.**

Many countries have not yet joined the Global partnership on the elimination of violence against children. We call on Ukraine, as a member of the Human Rights Council, to become a pathfinding country. **We encourage those who have already joined the partnership, including Armenia, Côte d'Ivoire, Georgia and Peru, to comply with their commitments.**

Question to all panelists:

Dear panelists, less than ten years before the end of the 2030 Agenda, how concretely the High Level Political Forum and the UPR mechanisms can better help evaluate States, their progress and challenges ahead?

Thank you Madam President.