



NATIONAL COMMITMENTS FOR CRC30

What is the goal?

The ultimate goal for the commemoration of the 30th Anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC30) this year is to increase or accelerate action to fulfil child rights. To achieve this, we would like to encourage Member States to refresh their commitments to implement the CRC, including at the national level.

Why link CRC30 to SDG implementation?

This year, at the UNGA SDG Summit in September 2019, UN Member States are collectively taking stock on the SDGs for the first time since their adoption in 2015. These parallel moments of reflection on SDG and CRC progress is an opportunity to accelerate action on both the child rights agenda and Agenda 2030.

As governments operationalize the SDGs, UNICEF is encouraging you and all Member States to infuse the normative principles established through the CRC within sustainable development efforts. The CRC and SDGs, when implemented and achieved, both translate to progress for people, including the youngest citizens of the world.

ASK 1: Define and implement a **concrete and specific policy commitment** to children

How?

UNICEF believes that the strongest way to fulfil child rights is through concrete and specific policy commitments to children at the national and local level. For example, governments have recently showcased good examples of policy commitment to children by passing a law banning all forms of corporal punishment or announcing new policies to fund universal primary education or appointing independent child rights ombudspersons who enhance accountability.

UNICEF offices and partners are ready to support national governments in identifying and making national commitments towards new or recent policies for child rights.

ASK 2: As a Head of State/Government: please offer a **public expression** of your commitment to child rights

How?

There are many creative ways for your Head of State or Government to express a public commitment to child rights in your country. Please consider one or a combination of the following:

Asking your Head of State or Government to **record a short video message** (around 30 seconds), which begins “This is my message to the children of (insert country name)....”. The message would briefly *explain the commitment being made* and affirm the importance of the convention and anniversary. A child or group of children could also participate in the video.

Ask your Head of Government to **share a photograph of them as a child** (and agree for UNICEF to share) on social media (Instagram, Twitter, YouTube) channels. This photo could be accompanied by a message saying “When I was a child, I dreamed of....” and “Now, my message to the children of (insert country name) is....” Followed by the specific commitment being made.



Asking your Head of State or Government for a handwritten note or signed short statement, with a message of support and commitment to realizing the rights of the child in their country.

The UNICEF office in your country (as applicable) can work with you on the creation and launch of this public expression/commitment to child rights.

ASK 3: Use the opportunity of the 30th Anniversary of the CRC to *hold a national-level commemoration* of the CRC – for example in the format of a National Summit for Children

UNICEF offices and other child rights focused partners can assist you in planning and convening a national summit for children in your country, where leaders from Government, Business, Civil Society and Faith Communities can come together to mark the anniversary and give children centre stage. Your national summit could highlight and celebrate a refreshed commitment to realize child rights and showcase the work being done by your governments to include children as critical stakeholders, change agents and torch bearers of the CRC and SDGs. This is a chance for your government to give children the opportunity to speak about their priorities and to showcase concrete pledges and examples of your government fulfilling the rights of every child in your country.

