

## GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

### MINUTES of the Board Meeting held on 25 May 2021

#### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Newly appointed End Violence Board Co-Chairs Ms. Helle Thorning-Schmidt and Ms. Joy Phumaphi opened the meeting and welcomed Board members, alternates and observers<sup>1</sup>, with a particular welcome to new Board members:

- a) Mr. Niklas Andréén, President and Chief Operating Officer, Carlson Wagonlit Travel (replacing Kurt Ekert who has stepped down as company CEO);
- b) Ms. Meg Gardinier, Secretary-General of ChildFund Alliance and representative of the End Violence CSO Forum;
- c) H.E. Märta Stenevi, Minister of Gender Quality and Housing, Government of Sweden (replacing Åsa Lindhagen, who has moved to be Minister for Financial Markets); and
- d) Dr. Etienne Krug and Joan Nyanyuki, new Co-Chairs of the End Violence Executive Committee.

The Board Co-Chairs thanked Board members who have stepped down since the last meeting:

- a) Mr. Kurt Ekert, former CEO of Carlson Wagonlit Travel
- b) Prof. Savitri Goonesekere, University of Colombo
- c) Dr. Daniela Ligiero, former End Violence Executive Committee Chair
- d) H.E. Åsa Lindhagen, Government of Sweden
- e) Baroness Liz Sugg, UK Government

On behalf of the Partnership, the Board co-chairs thanked Ms. Henrietta Fore (UNICEF) for her Board leadership over the last three years, noting that under her leadership the Partnership had:

- a) established itself as the only global platform solely focused on advocacy, action and making the case for investment to end violence against children;
- b) adapted to support collective efforts to protect children during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- c) launched new initiatives, including Safe to Learn (with the education sector) and the Together to #END violence campaign;
- d) grown significantly to more than 600 member organisations; and
- e) invested for impact in more than 50 countries from the End Violence Fund.

In response, Ms. Fore expressed her gratitude and support to the new Board Co-Chairs in taking the Partnership's achievements and progress forward. She added that her personal commitment to ending violence against children remains unchanged and UNICEF would continue to play a significant role within the Partnership.

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<sup>1</sup> See list of participants in Annex A.



As new Board Co-Chairs, Ms. Thorning-Schmidt and Ms. Phumaphi shared their ambition for the Partnership recognising that:

- a) COVID-19 continues to be a health crisis, an economic crisis and a child rights crisis;
- b) ending violence against children is both urgent and important as children face increased risks of violence and abuse;
- c) evidence-based solutions to end violence against children exist, with many rigorous studies showing what works at scale to keep children safe;
- d) SDG 16.2 is comparatively neglected within Agenda 2030, and the Partnership is not yet well known;
- e) the new Partnership strategy is an opportunity to both raise awareness and galvanise renewed and new commitments to action and investment; and
- f) we must make sure that no child is left behind.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the May 2020 Board meeting and endorsed the meeting agenda which focused on Partnership progress and the new Partnership strategy.

## **2. ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN DURING COVID-19 AND BEYOND**

End Violence Executive Committee co-chairs Dr. Etienne Krug (WHO) and Dr Joan Nyanyuki (African Child Policy Forum) shared that the Executive Committee meeting on 4-5 May 2021 had also focused on shaping the outline of the new Partnership strategy that the Board would now consider. They noted Partnership progress made despite the difficulties of COVID-19 and the streamlining of the Secretariat team in 2020, and emphasised the need for additional funding for the Secretariat to sustain Partnership operations.

End Violence Executive Director Dr. Howard Taylor summarised the Partnership's 2021 priorities:

- a) grow the reach and impact of the priority initiatives;
- b) secure new political and financial commitments via the Together to #ENDviolence campaign and Solutions Summit Series;
- c) prepare a new Partnership strategy for the period 2022-24;
- d) onboard and support new Board co-chairs; and
- e) mobilise new financial resources.

Dr. Taylor provided a brief update on the Partnership's priority initiatives and the Together to #ENDviolence campaign and Solutions Summit Series, including:

- a) growth in the number of Pathfinding countries to 37;
- b) preparation of new Safe to Learn strategy to be launched in the run-up to the Global Education Summit in July 2021;
- c) the increasing reach and impact of the Safe Online portfolio;
- d) 62 countries now prohibiting corporal punishment;



- e) success of the COVID-19 parenting campaign and development of an interagency parenting initiative (with special thanks to the Government of Japan for its recent contribution of US\$1.4 million to support parenting programmes in Kenya and Uganda);
- f) development of a Country Dashboard to monitor progress on ending violence against children and inform collective Partnership advocacy and action; and
- g) the successful launch of the Together to #ENDviolence campaign and subsequent activities including affiliate events, preparation of global policy proposals and momentum building towards a Leaders' Event at the end of 2021 as a platform for political and financial commitments to end violence against children.

Dr. Taylor thanked all donors represented on the End Violence Board – the Governments of Japan, Sweden and United Kingdom, the Carlson Family Foundation and UNICEF – for their generous contributions which accounted for more than \$19 million in support to the End Violence Fund and Secretariat in 2020. He added that additional funding was needed to sustain the Partnership in 2022 and beyond; seizing near-term opportunities for resource mobilisation remained a priority, while continuing to make the longer-term investment case for ending violence against children, including investing in and through the Partnership and Fund.

In discussion, Board members:

- a) welcomed Ms. Thorning-Schmidt and Ms. Phumaphi as new Board Co-Chairs;
- b) congratulated the End Violence Secretariat for convening partners and coordinating action during COVID-19, including developing resources for parents and advice for policymakers to protect children at home, online and in new learning environments during the pandemic;
- c) drew attention to the surge of mental health issues and the psychological and emotional consequences of the pandemic on children and young people;
- d) recognised the value-add of End Violence as a partnership and a fund, making it a truly unique global platform for action, advocacy and investment;
- e) offered to help connect the End Violence Secretariat with potential donors and increase its visibility in global events, including the G7 Summit and the Global Education Summit;
- f) encouraged regular reporting of the Partnership's impact and unique value-add;
- g) recommended the inclusion of more tangible milestones and indicators in the Country Dashboard;
- h) noted climate-related vulnerability of children and the need to protect children in humanitarian settings;
- i) highlighted the clear link between violence against women and violence against children, and called for gender equality to be woven throughout the new Partnership strategy;
- j) emphasised the role and participation of children and young people as partners and agents of violence prevention and response, and using technology as a medium of engagement;
- k) encouraged more engagement with the private sector to ensure child online safety, particularly the technology and telecommunications sectors; and
- l) recognised the importance of violence prevention, including the provision of adequate social security and financing for poor families; and



- m) and noted that acquiring funding for violence prevention is extremely challenging because results are not immediately visible.

### 3. NEW PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY 2022-24

Dr. Taylor introduced the new Partnership strategy, noting that:

- a) the **purpose** of the new strategy is to consolidate and strengthen the Partnership's value-add and ability to deliver measurable results by providing a framework for action and collaboration that promotes coherence and synergy across different thematic areas, provides a compelling impact narrative for communications, advocacy and resource mobilisation, and clarifies the roles and responsibilities of partners and the Secretariat;
- b) although COVID-19 has changed the **context** for the new strategy, we are not starting from scratch. The new strategy will build on evidence-based strategies (INSPIRE, MNR), the existing priority initiatives, momentum from the Together to #ENDviolence campaign, and lessons-learned from the first 5 years of the Partnership; and
- c) the new strategy would integrate SDG 16.2 and achievement of other SDGs, situate plans for 2022-24 within a longer view to 2030, emphasise the primacy of government commitment and accountability for progress, and not lose sight of the most vulnerable children.

Dr. Taylor then shared an outline strategic framework<sup>2</sup> which had benefitted from Executive Committee input. Key elements of the framework included:

- a) a **Vision** that every child grows up 'safe, secure and in a nurturing environment', not just the absence of violence but the presence of something essential;
- b) a **Mission** statement that emphasises all children in all settings, including the most vulnerable;
- c) a **Results** framework built around Partnership activities (advocacy, action and making the case for investment);
- d) Partnership **activities** brought to life through the priority initiatives, including the environments where violence happens (at home, online, at school and in communities), which also serve as attractive entry points for sectoral funding to support wider, multisectoral approaches.

The Board endorsed the proposed strategic framework and emphasised the need to:

- a) demonstrate results at the country level;
- b) support effective implementation of the INSPIRE strategies and Pathfinding at all levels (domestic, regional and global);
- c) link advocacy and action by generating and sharing evidence on what works;

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<sup>2</sup> See Annex B for the strategic framework.



- d) take account of the nexus between violence against women and violence against children;
- e) balance country needs and donor interests;
- f) enable and sustain child participation;
- g) avoid thematic silos and fragmented approaches;
- h) recognise the increasing importance of keeping children safe online;
- i) be focused and mindful that the Partnership cannot be everything to everybody; and
- j) develop a compelling impact narrative to accompany the new strategy, articulating the urgent need for violence prevention and the value-add of the End Violence Partnership.

#### **4. BOARD GROWTH AND DIVERSITY**

To grow, diversify and strengthen the Board with active champions to support delivery of the new Partnership strategy, the Board Co-Chairs invited Board members to propose potential new Board members. In particular, the Board would benefit from representatives of the private sector (particularly the technology, telecommunications and media industries) as well as Pathfinding country governments and adult survivors of child violence and abuse (as agreed when the Board met in May 2021).

Board members agreed to share suggestions for new members with the End Violence Secretariat, who will then consolidate recommendations for the Board to consider.

#### **5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board agreed to meet in the autumn to approve the new Partnership strategy and review preparations for the Together to #ENDviolence Leaders' Event being planned towards the end of the year.

The Board Co-Chairs thanked members for their participation and commitment and closed the meeting.

## ANNEX A: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### **Members/delegates**

Ms. Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Board Co-Chair

Ms. Joy Phumaphi, Board Co-Chair

Mr. Niklas Andréen, President and Chief Operating Officer, **Carlson Wagonlit Travel**

Mr. Diego Pérez Bóquer and Ms. Aura Carrillo Cisneros, General Directorate for Human Rights and Democracy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **Mexico** (representing H.E. Marcelo Ebrard)

Mr. Gary Cohen, Chief Revenue Officer, **Aerofarms**

Ms. Diana Dalton, Head of Gender and Equalities Department, FCDO, **United Kingdom**

Ms. Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director, **UNICEF**

Ms. Meg Gardinier, Secretary-General, **ChildFund Alliance** and representative of the **CSO Forum** to End Violence Against Children

Ms. Su Min Kim, representing Ms. Virginia Gamba, **UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict**

Dr. Etienne Krug, Director, Department of the Social Determinants of Health, **WHO**, Co-Chair of the End Violence Executive Committee (also representing Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus)

Dr. A.K Shiva Kumar, **Know Violence in Childhood**

Mr. Tomiyama Mikito, Director, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **Japan** (representing H.E. Motegi Toshimitsu)

Dr. Najat Maalla M'jid, **UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children**

Mr. Tufail Muhammad, Past President, **ISPCAN**

Dr. Joan Nyanyuki, Executive Director, **African Child Policy Forum**, Co-Chair of the End Violence Executive Committee

Mr. Peter Prove, Director, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (representing Rev. Prof. Dr. Ioan Sauca, **World Council of Churches**)

Ms. Åsa Regnér, Deputy Executive Director, **UN Women** (representing Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka)

Ms Rebeca Rios-Kahn, Director, **Arigatou International** (representing Rev. Keishi Miyamoto)

Dr. Joanna Rubinstein, Expert and former President and CEO of Childhood USA

H.E. Märta Stenevi, Minister for Gender Equality and Housing, **Sweden**

Dr. Howard Taylor, Executive Director, **Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children**

### **Observers**

Mr. Stephen Blight, Senior Advisor for Child Protection, **UNICEF**

Ms. Jenessa Bryan, Coordinator, **Civil Society Forum to End Violence against Children**

Mr. Andrew Claypole, Senior Advisor, Office of the **UN SRSG-VAC**

Ms. Eleanora Mura, Coordinator, Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation, **Arigatou International**

Mr. Martin Niblett, Deputy Head, Protecting Children Hub, **Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, United Kingdom**

Ms. Anna Nordlander, Department Secretary, Ministry of Employment, Division for EU and International Affairs, **Sweden**

Ms. Lori Perkovich, Representative to the United Nations, **ChildFund Alliance**

Ms. Eva Romulus, Children's Affairs, Permanent Mission of **Mexico** to the United Nations

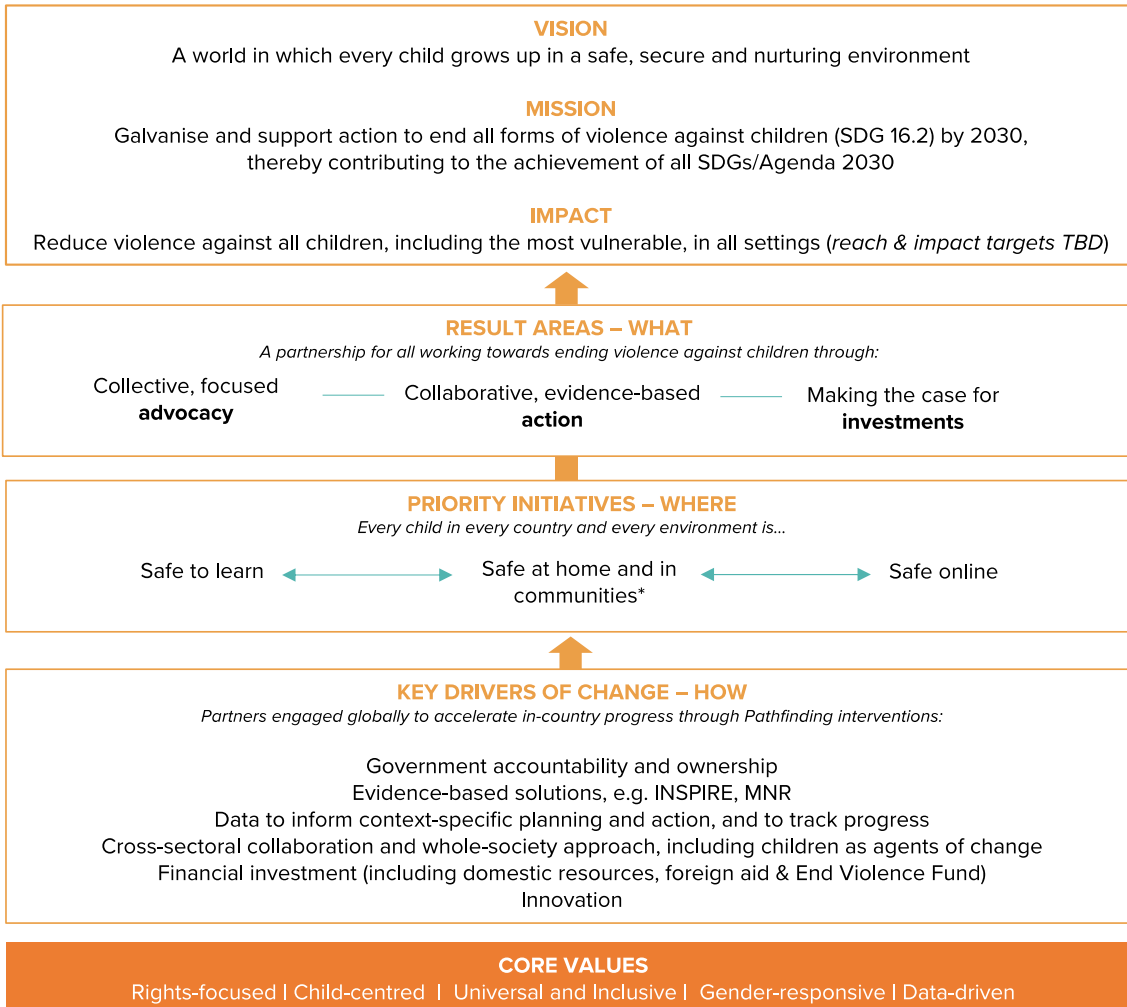
Ms. Frederique Seidel, Senior Advisor on Child Rights, **World Council of Churches**

Ms. Ohashi Yoshimi, Legal Researcher, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of **Japan**

+ End Violence Secretariat staff



## ANNEX B: END VIOLENCE PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2022-24



*\*Includes a child's physical community, institutions (other than school) and religious, sporting and other such communities.*