



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, 21-22 October 2021

1. SUMMARY OF DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

When it met virtually on 21-22 October 2021, the End Violence Partnership Executive Committee:

- a) approved the new **End Violence Partnership Strategy 2022-24**, noting that next steps [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat] would include: completing the strategy's results framework and following-up on activities where partners can directly contribute or support; seeking Board approval for the new strategy at the Board meeting on 9 November 2021; and (once approved by the Board) finalizing, releasing, and socializing the strategy (likely in January 2022);
- b) welcomed finalization of the **End Violence Country Dashboard**, which would be shared with the Dashboard Task Team for feedback and testing by selected country offices, before going live in January 2022, possibly alongside publication of the new strategy [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat];
- c) agreed that Pathfinding countries which had not yet held or planned a **national policy dialogue** should be encouraged and supported to do so [**FOR ACTION** overseen by the Pathfinding Progress Working Group – ongoing into 2022 ahead of the Leaders' Event now planned for June 2022];
- d) agreed that **criteria for Pathfinding countries** and their association with the End Violence Partnership should include the expectation that Pathfinders uphold broader human rights, possibly also tightening the criteria for new Pathfinding countries [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat overseen by the Pathfinding Progress Working Group ahead of the next meeting of the Executive Committee];
- e) welcomed and expressed strong support for the **Global Survivors Advocacy Group** [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat and partners, including support of the World Day on 18 November 2021 and consideration of opportunities for survivor participation in high-level events, etc.];
- f) supported the planned development of an **Advocacy Action Plan** to support more intentional and targeted high-level advocacy [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat by January 2022];
- g) agreed that the Together to #ENDviolence end-of-series **Leaders Event** should be held in June 2022, noting that it would be important to: set the date as soon as possible; be proactive in communicating the new date; mobilize high-level actors and local leaders and influencers; consider inviting one or two Pathfinding countries to co-host the event; explore the possibility of a hybrid meeting (virtual and in-person); influence public opinion to exert pressure on leaders to prioritize ending violence against children; and be clear on the objective for the event and make a convincing case for investment [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat, overseen by the Solutions Summit Steering Committee];
- h) confirmed **Karin Strandås** (Government of Sweden) as an additional Executive Committee Co-Chair alongside Etienne Krug (WHO) and Joan Nyanyuki (Africa Child Policy Forum);

- i) agreed that the governments of **Colombia** and **Uganda** should be invited to join the Executive Committee and its working groups [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat];
- j) agreed to establish a **children/youth council** to advise and provide input to major Partnership moments and governance meetings, with support from the CSO Forum [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat, CSO Forum and partners ahead of the next meeting of the Executive Committee];
- k) emphasized the importance of **meeting in-person** as soon as it is safe to do so; and
- l) renewed the **Executive Director's contract** for two years.

2. DETAIL

DAY 1 (21 OCTOBER 2021)

1. Welcome, Agenda and Intro Remarks

The Executive Committee:

- a) welcomed Stella Ayo-Odongo as the new Pathfinding Coordinator in the Secretariat;
- b) requested that future meetings begin with revisiting actions agreed from the previous meeting; and
- c) approved the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 4-5 May 2021.

2. Executive Director's Update

The Executive Director:

- a) noted that as the world navigates its way out of the pandemic phase of COVID-19, children continue to be at a greater risk of violence and abuse;
- b) highlighted progress and momentum across the priority initiatives of the Partnership, including: more governments committing as Pathfinders and prohibiting corporal punishment; an inter-agency Global Initiative to Support Parents; launch of the new Safe to Learn strategy alongside a World Bank investment case for safe schools; regional and global advocacy to keep children safe online; and momentum from the Together to #ENDviolence campaign including more than 70 affiliate events, use of the policy proposals to help the community speak with one voice, and National Policy Dialogues held or planned in most Pathfinding countries;
- c) emphasized that this was a moment of transition and opportunity, with encouraging signs of progress to which partners were contributing, including: China's new plan committing to prevent all forms of violence against children; G7 ministers' groundbreaking commitment to tackle child sexual abuse and exploitation (CSAE); signs that tech companies are more seriously considering how to make their platforms and devices safer for children; and an emerging movement of survivors of CSAE organising to advocate for Prevention, Healing and Justice;

- d) noted that it was timely to be considering a new Partnership Strategy, informed by learning and achievements of the Partnership's early years and a consultative preparation process;
- e) emphasized that more intentional and targeted high-level advocacy would be needed to secure the political and financial commitments needed to accelerate progress (and support the new Partnership strategy), and welcomed the increasingly active new Board Co-Chairs in this regard;
- f) reported over \$26M of new funding received in the preceding 12 months, but emphasized that delivering on the bold ambition of new Partnership strategy would require a step-change in mobilising new resources to support Partnership operations, involving governing body members;
- g) suggested that in future the Partnership might consider building towards a significant replenishment moment, an approach used successfully by other global partnerships;
- h) noted that the Partnership was currently being audited by UNICEF (as a UNICEF-hosted partnership); and
- i) thanked the Secretariat team for their ongoing commitment and hard work.

3. Progress Updates: Pathfinding and Corporal Punishment

The Executive Committee welcomed key developments in the Partnership's work on Pathfinding and Corporal Punishment, including:

- a) an increase to 37 Pathfinding countries, with Ethiopia, Guinea, Jordan and Kenya;
- b) 21 national policy dialogues held or planned in Pathfinding countries as part of the Together to #ENDviolence campaign, aimed at facilitating national level consensus on ending violence against children;
- c) ongoing development of a Pathfinding Engagement Strategy to support deeper engagement by partners in Pathfinding countries, with clear priorities, roles and responsibilities;
- d) significant achievements in ending corporal punishment, including Colombia's recent enactment of a law prohibiting all forms of corporal punishment, and the publication and dissemination of new implementation guidelines and research;
- e) ongoing resource mobilization for Pathfinding and INSPIRE with consultancy support from Ignite Philanthropy; and
- f) finalization of the End Violence Country Dashboard, which would be shared with the Dashboard Task Team (CSO Forum, FCDO, TfG, UNICEF and WHO) for feedback and testing by selected country offices, before going live alongside the new Partnership strategy in January 2022 [FOR ACTION by the Secretariat].

During discussion, the Executive Committee noted that:

- g) the Pathfinding process should focus on deepening country engagement through the national policy dialogues and by scaling up evidence-based solutions, improving in-country coordination (including the consistent involvement of CSO Forum partners), and considering an escalation approach to strengthen accountability and support underperforming Pathfinding governments to act on their commitments;

- h) Partnership support for those Pathfinding countries experiencing humanitarian crises should be informed by and responsive to the context on the ground;
- i) growth in the number of Pathfinding countries should continue to be organic/in response to requests from countries which meet the requirements and not proactive, noting that for diversity it would be good to see more Pathfinding governments from developed countries;
- j) Pathfinding countries which had not yet held or planned a national policy dialogue should be encouraged and supported to do so before the Leaders' Event in June 2022 [**FOR ACTION** overseen by the Pathfinding Progress Working Group]; and
- k) criteria for Pathfinding countries and their association with the End Violence Partnership should include the expectation that Pathfinders uphold broader human rights, possibly also tightening the criteria for new Pathfinding countries [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat overseen by the Pathfinding Progress Working Group ahead of the next meeting of the Executive Committee]

4. Progress Updates: **Safe Online**

The Executive Committee welcomed progress by the Safe Online team and its partners, including:

- a) raising the profile of child online protection and safety through contributions to global advocacy and policy debates, including the groundbreaking G7 commitment to tackle CSAE, and voicing support for Apple's commitment to prevent CSAE on its devices;
- b) publication of the [WeProtect Global Threat Assessment 2021](#);
- c) growth and strengthening of the Safe Online investment portfolio, with \$48M invested in 60 projects in more than 70 countries;
- d) closer alignment of system-strengthening Safe Online investments in Pathfinding countries and with Safe to Learn;
- e) the first investments from the Technology Coalition Safe Online Research Fund;
- f) two open calls for new investments to further strengthen systems and build/deploy technology solutions;
- g) follow-up to the Safe Online evaluation, particularly updating the Safe Online M&E framework and Theory of Change; and
- h) active development of the Safe Online donor pipeline, building on a recent Safe Online donor convening to 'Make the Internet Safe for Children', organized in partnership with the WeProtect Global Alliance.

5. Progress Updates: **Safe to Learn**

The Executive Committee welcomed/noted:

- a) the launch of the new Safe to Learn strategy by coalition partners, alongside a powerful World Bank investment case for safe schools that would help embed violence prevention in the education sector;
- b) a focus on implementation with and through partners, developing operational guidelines (with support from UNICEF and others) and mainstreaming a violence prevention lens in preparation of all new grants by the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and Education Cannot Wait;

- c) support for return-to-school efforts to protect children, particularly girls, affected by school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- d) plans for a step-change in Safe to Learn advocacy, co-led by GPE and the Safe to Learn team, with support from Ignite Philanthropy;
- e) work underway with coalition partners to develop a new governance structure for Safe to Learn; and
- f) resource mobilization plans, including a Safe to Learn donor roundtable planned for Q1 2022.

6. Partnership Strategy 2022-24

The Executive Committee noted that the new Partnership Strategy 2022-24:

- a) had been informed by consultation with governing body partners over recent months, with feedback and suggestions incorporated as far as possible while also endeavoring to keep the focus on a few key priorities where collective Partnership action can have the most impact for children;
- b) builds on the initial progress has been achieved in the first five years since the Partnership was launched;
- c) reflects a collective ambition among partners to build a safe world for all children;
- d) provides a framework for action and collaboration for the Partnership to achieve reductions in levels of violence against children over the next three years – as a milestone to 2030;
- e) sets out how the Partnership, through three clear results areas – Advocacy, Action and Investment - will support countries in reducing the prevalence of violence against children in all settings, including at home, online, at school, and in a larger sense across communities;
- f) is for the entire Partnership (not only the Secretariat) with an emphasis on sustainability and increased partner involvement – with a clear articulation of working with and through partners to accelerate progress and achieve desired results;
- g) would depend on the power of the Partnership to inspire, mobilize, equip and invest in national efforts using Pathfinding as a political process, INSPIRE as a technical methodology, and the Fund as an enabler to strengthen national capacity and make catalytic investments; and
- h) includes a results framework that would detail the expected results, priority activities and key partners.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the new strategy and thanked the Secretariat for leading its preparation, noting in discussion that:

- a. the strategy is strong, clear and compelling;
- b. children and youth participation should be integrated in the implementation of the strategy;
- c. resource mobilization is a priority;
- d. investor and child-friendly versions of the strategy should be prepared to maximize its usability and reach to different audiences; and
- e. next steps [**FOR ACTION** by the Secretariat] would include:

- i. completing the strategy's results framework and following-up on activities where partners can directly contribute or support;
- ii. seeking Board approval for the new strategy at the Board meeting on 9 November 2021; and
- iii. (once approved by the Board) finalizing, releasing, and socializing the strategy (planned for January 2022).

DAY 2 (22 October 2021)

7. Global Survivors Advisory Group

Dr. Daniela Ligiero updated the Executive Committee on work to create a Global Survivors Advocacy Group to support a movement of adult survivors of child sexual violence. The movement would focus on Prevention, Healing and Justice, and initial advocacy would likely include a focus on: removing statutes of limitation; calling on the UN to designate 18th November as a World Day for 'Prevention, Healing and Justice to End Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents'; and mobilizing significant new financial resources for programs to tackling child sexual violence, some of which could flow through the End Violence Fund.

The Executive Committee:

- a) expressed strong support for the Global Survivors Advocacy Group and its planned advocacy priorities, and committed to partner with it (including promoting the World Day on 18 November 2021); and
- b) noted that two seats on the End Violence Board had been reserved for survivor representation.

8. Together to #ENDviolence

The Executive Committee:

- a) welcomed progress of the Together to #ENDviolence campaign, including: more than 70 affiliate events convened by 80 partners; 21 government-led national policy dialogues planned/held; and six policy proposals and a Leaders' Statement developed and widely disseminated, supporting partners to advocate more consistently with one voice;
- b) supported the planned development of an Advocacy Action Plan to support more intentional and targeted high-level advocacy, systematically mobilizing End Violence Board members and leaders in partners' organizations to help secure the political commitments and financial investments needed to accelerate progress;
- c) welcomed progress in preparing for an End Violence spotlight session within the UNICEF-convened Global Forum for Children and Youth in December 2021;
- d) agreed that the Together to #ENDviolence Leaders' Event should be held in June 2022, noting that it would be important to:
 - i. set the date as soon as possible;

- ii. be proactive in communicating the new date;
- iii. mobilize high-level actors and local leaders and influencers;
- iv. consider inviting one or two Pathfinder countries to co-host the event;
- v. explore the possibility of a hybrid meeting (virtual and in-person);
- vi. influence public opinion to exert pressure on leaders to prioritize ending violence against children; and
- vii. be clear on the objective for the event and make a convincing case for investment.

Some Executive Committee members requested the inclusion of other events as part of the Leaders' Event to raise awareness and share solutions, but the prevailing view was that the 18-month series of Together to #ENDviolence affiliate events was serving that purpose, and that the Leaders' Event at the end of the series should primarily focus on leaders making commitments that were so vital for progress.

9. People, Finance and Governance

The Executive Committee:

- a) noted that Partnership operations (including the streamlined Secretariat team with some core functions out-sourced to save costs) is funded for 2022, but that multi-year, flexible funding is needed to support delivery of the new strategy;
- b) supported plans and activities to scale-up resource mobilization, both for Partnership operations and for the end violence community;
- c) agreed to the proposal for a focused discussion on resource mobilization with interested members and key partners;
- d) noted developments relating to the Executive Committee's oversight responsibilities related to fiduciary management, child safeguarding and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and including:
 - i. the introduction of [Standard Operating Procedures for UNICEF-hosted Funds and Secretariats](#); and
 - ii. the appointment of Nazim Khizar, Deputy Director, UNICEF Division of Financial and Administrative Management, as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Executive Committee;
 - iii. the Secretariat's intention to provide periodic reports on fiduciary risk management and safeguarding, and to notify the Executive Committee of significant cases.

10. Executive Session

Meeting in Executive Session after closing the regular meeting of the Executive Committee, members:

- a) confirmed Karin Strandås (Government of Sweden) as an additional Executive Committee Co-Chair alongside Etienne Krug (WHO) and Joan Nyanyuki (Africa Child Policy Forum);
- b) agreed that the governments of Colombia and Uganda should be invited to join the Executive Committee and its working groups;

- c) agreed to establish a children/youth council to advise and provide input to major Partnership moments and governance meetings, with support from the CSO Forum;
- d) emphasized the importance of meeting in-person as soon as it is safe to do so; and
- e) agreed to renew the Executive Director's contract for a further two years.

End Violence Secretariat
November 2021

PARTICIPANTS

Executive Committee Members

	Name	Organization	Observer/Deputy
1	Diana Dalton (regrets)	UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office	Emily Esplen Ali Hendy Martin Niblett
2	Iain Drennan	WeProtect Global Alliance	
3	Kul Gautam	Independent expert	
4	Maureen Greenwood-Basken	Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	Don Cipriani Jeff Rowland
5	Nazim Khizar (ex-officio)	UNICEF DFAM	Rekiya Adamu-Atta
6	Etienne Krug	WHO	Alex Butchart Sabine Rakotomalala
7	Daniela Ligiero Najat Maalla M'jid (regrets)	Together for Girls UN SRSG VAC	Chrissy Hart Andrew Claypole
8	Amanda Melville	UNHCR	
9	Jim Mercy	CDC	Greta Massetti
10	Steve Miller	CSO Forum / Save the Children	Dominique Plateau
11	Eleanor Monbiot	CSO Forum / World Vision	Tamara Tutnjevic
12	Joan Nyanyuki	African Child Policy Forum	
13	Christian Papaleontiou	UK Home Office	Philip Kerr
14	Patricia Sainz	CSO Forum / SOS Children's Villages Int'l	Madeleine Cruz Rosana Martinelli
15	Karin Strandås (regrets)	Government of Sweden	Anna Nordlander
16	Howard Taylor (ex-officio)	End Violence Partnership	
17	Sanjay Wijesekera	UNICEF	Stephen Blight

End Violence Secretariat

1. Ace Aceron, Planning, Monitoring and Reporting
2. Stella Ayo-Odongo, Pathfinding
3. Sally Burnheim, Deputy Director/Fund Chief
4. Chloë Fèvre, Safe to Learn
5. Andrew Hassett, Communications (and Solutions Summit)
6. Bess Herbert, Ending Corporal Punishment
7. Marija Manojlovic, Safe Online
8. Hazel Mills, Executive Officer
9. Sonia Vohito, Ending Corporal Punishment