



MINISTER
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Mr. Anthony Lake
Executive Director UNICEF
UNICEF, 3 UN Plaza, NY
USA

Dear Mr Lake

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO BE A PATHFINDER COUNTRY IN THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Thank you for your correspondence on the aforementioned subject and sincere apologies for the belated response.

I am pleased to inform you that the Government of the Republic of South Africa, represented by the Department of Social Development would be keen to participate as one of the countries in the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children.

We view the envisaged initiative as a valuable contribution that will complement ongoing national efforts by the Government of South Africa and its social partners, including the UNICEF Country Office to prevent all forms of violence against children. Recognising the pervasive nature and the devastating impact of violence against children, the South African Government has adopted a number of progressive pieces of legislation.

Key amongst these is the Children's Act (Act No. 38 of 2005), which gives effect to certain rights of children as contained in the Constitution and set out principles relating to the care and protection of children. In 2012, Cabinet established an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) to Combat Violence Against Women and Children:

The IMC developed a Five-Year Programme of Action (2013-2017), which will be up for review in the year. Our participation in the envisaged initiative will afford us the opportunity to benchmark our interventions and to adopt best practice models in our efforts to prevent and to end violence against children.

We believe that South Africa's participation in this initiative will go a long way to strengthen our Government's longstanding commitment of ensuring that our children are and feel safe.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to UNICEF for the ongoing support of our Government's efforts of building and sustaining national child protection measures and systems. We look forward to continue working with you to achieve more for the benefit of South African children through this global initiative.

Yours sincerely



MS BO DLAMINI, MP
MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DATE: 12.12.17.