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THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**Ministry of Gender, Labour  
and Social Development**  
P.O. Box 7136  
Kampala  
Uganda.

In any correspondence on

This subject please quote No. **ADM 183/237/02**

31<sup>st</sup> August, 2016

**Susan Bissell**  
The Director,  
Global Partnership and Fund to end violence against children  
633 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York  
[secretariat@end-violence.org](mailto:secretariat@end-violence.org)

Dear Madam,

**RE: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO BECOME A PATHFINDER COUNTRY IN  
THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN.**

1. In reference to the Global Partnership strategy to end Violence against children, Uganda as a UN member state through the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) would like to become one of the pathfinder countries in the global efforts to end violence against children.
2. The MGLSD is the lead Ministry in the social development sector with an overarching mandate to empower communities to harness their potential through cultural growth, skills development and labour productivity for sustainable and gender responsive development. The Ministry's child protection roles and functions are reflected in the specific mandate of the department of Children and Youth which is to ensure care, protection and empowerment of children and youth. Specifically, the Ministry has the mandate to formulate and review relevant guidelines, programmes, policies and laws for children and youth; to coordinate and network with stakeholders on issues related to children and youth; to promote participation of children and youths in national development programmes; to support training of children and youth service providers; and to ensure that initiatives, programmes, policies and laws address concerns of children and youths.

3. The Government of Uganda under the leadership of the MGLSD plays leadership role in coordinating child protection programming, policy development and legislation and has to this effect put in place programs that will facilitate protection of children as detailed below;

- i. **The National Child Protection Working Group (NCPWG):** the NCPWG is the inter agency working group on child protection at the national level that brings together Ministries, Departments and Agencies, CSO actors and bilateral and UN agencies focusing on issues of child protection with a view to enhance greater coordination and harmonization of interventions to ensure improved effectiveness. NCPWG is coordinated by the MGLSD.
- ii. **The Uganda Child Helpline:** This is a confidential reporting mechanism for children and young people to report all forms of violence. The national child helpline service is now being delivered through a collaborative partnership between government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations. The service builds on existing expertise and serves as a vehicle for coordinated service delivery across sectors due to its emphasis on building a closely tied network of referral partners that remain accountable to each other for service delivery to children in need of care and protection.
- iii. **Violence against Children Study (VAC):** The MGLSD working in close collaboration with UNICEF, Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States Agency for International Development among others is undertaking a National study on Violence against Children (VAC). The overall intention of the study is to understand the magnitude and causal factors for VAC. Additionally, the Uganda VAC study seeks to identify the risk and protective factors in order to inform efforts by stakeholders that are targeted at prevention of Violence against Children.
- iv. **Convening National Convention on Ending Violence Against Children:** The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development in collaboration with Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN) this June convened the first National Convention that brought together over 500 different stakeholders who participated in dialogues with children, shared potential

