



# ACERWC

African Committee of Experts on  
the Rights and Welfare of the Child

## 40<sup>TH</sup> ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD

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### PROGRAM OF WORK

Venue: Maseru Convention Center

23<sup>rd</sup> Nov - 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2022

*Maseru, Kingdom of Lesotho*

An Organ of the



**#AfricaFitForChildren**

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# PROGRAM OF WORK

DAY 1 23 November 2022

TIME [SAT]	ITEM/ACTIVITY	FACILITATORS/ PRESENTERS	ACCESS TO SESSION	TIME [SAT]	ITEM/ACTIVITY	FACILITATORS/ PRESENTERS	ACCESS TO SESSION
08:30-10:00	i. Procedural Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of the Agenda and the Program of Work.</li> </ul> ii. Organization of work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignments of Members for consideration of application for Observer and Affiliate Status</li> </ul>	ACERWC	CLOSED SESSION	10:00-11:15	viii. Remarks by the representative of the RSA High Commissioner <b>H.E Constance Seoposengwe</b> ix. Remarks by the Chairperson of the ACERWC (10 Minutes)- <b>Hon. Joseph Ndayisenga</b> x. Remarks by the representative of the Kingdom of Lesotho - <b>Her Majesty Queen Masenate Mohato Seeiso: Queen of the Kingdom of Lesotho.</b>	ACERWC	OPEN SESSION
10:00-11:15	<b>Opening</b> i. Remarks by children's representative (7 Minutes) <b>Itumeleng Sokosoko</b> ii. Remarks by CSO Forum representative (7 Minutes) <b>Ms Felistus Motimedi</b> iii. Remarks by the representative of NHRIs (7 Minutes) <b>Mr David Barissa</b> iv. Remarks by OHCHR- (7 Minutes)- <b>Mr Marcel Clement Akpovo Regional Representative of the High Commission for Ethiopia, African Union and UNECA</b> v. Remarks by the representative of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.(7 Minutes) <b>Hon. Commissioner Marie Louise Abomo</b> vi. Remarks by the representative of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (7 Minutes) <b>Hon. Lady Justice Imani Aboud, President of the Court</b> vii. Remarks by the Commissioner of Health, Humanitarian and Social Affairs (10 Minutes). <b>H.E Minata Cessouma Samate</b>	ACERWC	OPEN SESSION	11:40-12:00	<b>Family Photo and Health Break</b>	ACERWC	
				12:00-13:00	Remarks by Representatives of Member States (3 minutes each) Remarks by NHRIs with Affiliate Status (3 minutes each) Organizations with Observer Status (3 minutes each)	ACERWC	
				13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>		
				14:00-14:45	APRM's Presentation on Namibia Targeted Review Report, Egypt Country Review Report and Senegal Country Review Report	APRM/ACERWC	OPEN SESSION
				14:45-15:30	Presentation and Discussion- Guidelines on Children with Disabilities	ACERWC & CONSULTANT	
				15:30-16:15	Presentation and discussion- study on the status of implementation of the ACERWC Decisions and Recommendations	ACERWC & CONSULTANT	
				16:15-17:00	Presentation and discussion- Study on children's rights and business	ACERWC & CONSULTANT	

# PROGRAM OF WORK

DAY 2 24 November 2022

## DAY OF GENERAL DISCUSSION ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

TIME [SAT]	TOPICS AND SPEAKERS	PANELS AND MODERATORS
09:00-09:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome Remarks</li> </ul>	Hon Joseph Ndayisenga- Chairperson of the ACERWC
09:10-10:30	<p><b>Panel I- Children's rights in the digital sphere: Focus on African Perspectives</b></p> <p>Moderator: TBC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Opportunities and Challenges with regards to children's rights in the digital sphere in Africa- <b>UNICEF – Ms. Mona Aika</b></li> <li>ii. Children's perspectives: Online dangers and their impact on children's rights- <b>Children's representatives</b></li> <li>iii. Internet access as a rights issue: Strategies for achieving universal and meaningful access to the internet by children in Africa- <b>Jeniffer Kaberi, Mtoto News</b></li> </ul>
10:30-10:45	<b>Health Break</b>	
10:45-12:30	<p><b>Panel II- The legislative and institutional responses of African Countries on the promotion and protection of children's rights online.</b></p> <p>Moderator: TBC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. International and regional human rights standards and commitments on online child protection and their implementation in Africa- <b>ACERWC Secretariat.</b></li> <li>ii. Taking the African Union Plan of Action and Strategy on OCSEA forward focusing on African perspectives- <b>Dr. Richard Wamimbi, AU Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development</b></li> <li>iii. Experiences in enabling legislation/policies, institutions and programmatic responses with regard to online child protection-<b>Ms. Mary Wambui Thiong'o, Representative of the Government of Kenya</b></li> <li>iv. Addressing cross border issues on child online safety: Extraterritoriality and international mutual legal assistance and cooperation- <b>Mr. GITAU David, INTERPOL</b></li> </ul>

TIME [SAT]	TOPICS AND SPEAKERS	PANELS AND MODERATORS
12:30-14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00-15:30	<p><b>Panel III- A focus on contemporary online child rights violation in Africa</b></p> <p>Moderator: TBC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Children's privacy and personal data protection in the digital sphere: African Countries' Responses- <b>Prof. Usang Assim, Dullar Omar Institute</b></li> <li>ii. New and emerging forms of online child sexual exploitation in Africa: African Countries Responses- <b>Willy Buloso, ECPAT International</b></li> <li>iii. The [de]Merits of a child's Right to Play in a Digital Age in Africa - Art 12 of the African Children's Charter- <b>Dr. Elvis Fokala, Centre for Human Rights</b></li> <li>iv. Child influencers and Social Media: Child Exploitation in the Digital Age- <b>Cleophas Maragai, Save the Children</b></li> <li>v. The digital environment and its implications on adolescent girls' right to be protected from sexual abuse and exploitation; a case of Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and Liberia- <b>Betty Odallo, Centre for Reproductive Rights &amp; Tugwell Chadyiwanembwa, Plan AU Liaison Office</b></li> </ul>
15:30-16:45	<p><b>Panel IV- Working collectively to promote and protect children's rights in the digital sphere</b></p> <p>Moderator: TBC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The role of businesses: Striking a balance between children's participation and protection rights –<b>Sylvia Musalagani, META</b></li> <li>ii. The role of parents: Balancing the tension between parental responsibility and children's right to freedom of expression and privacy- <b>Dr. Shimelis Tsegaye Tesemma- ACPF</b></li> <li>iii. Online safety in schools: The role of schools and Education Ministries- <b>Tugwell Chadyiwanembwa, Plan AU Liaison Office</b></li> <li>iv. Experiences in implementing projects and programs related to online child protection- <b>Kassu Kebede Demissie , World Vision, Ethiopia</b></li> </ul>
16:45-17:00		Outcome Statement

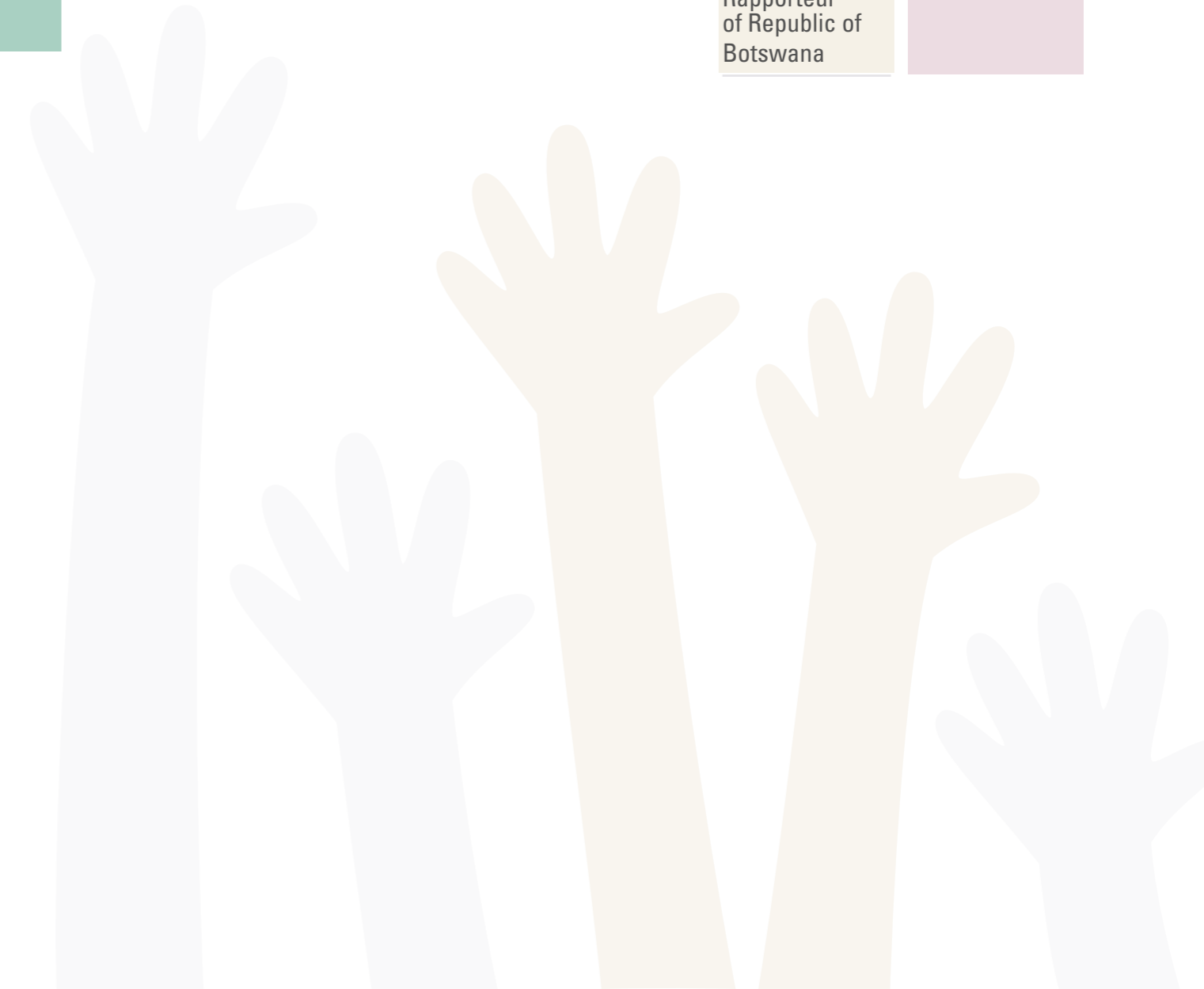
TIME [SAT]	ITEM/ACTIVITY	FACILITATORS/ PRESENTERS	ACCESS TO SESSION
09:00-09:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and discussion- study on the status of children with disabilities.</li> </ul>	ACERWC and Consultants	OPEN SESSION
09:45-13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration of the Periodic Report of the Republic of Congo</li> </ul>	ACERWC's Country Rapporteur of Republic of Congo	
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>		
14:00-14:45	Presentation and Discussion-study on the impact of climate change on children in Africa	ACERWC and Consultants	OPEN SESSION
14:45-15:30	Presentation and Discussion- study on Children without parental care	ACERWC and Consultants	
15:30-16:15	Presentation and Discussions-Joint General Comment on FGM	ACERWC and Consultants	
16:15-17:00	Presentation and Discussions- ACERWC's Guiding notes on children's rights during elections	ACERWC and Consultants	



# PROGRAM OF WORK

DAY 4 26 November 2022

TIME [SAT]	ITEM/ACTIVITY [PROJECT NAME]	FACILITATORS/ PRESENTERS	ACCESS TO SESSION
09:00-09:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and discussions - Study on NHRIs and Children's Rights</li> </ul>	ACERWC and Consultants	OPEN SESSION
09:45-10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and discussions on the Concept Note for DAC 2023</li> </ul>	ACERWC	OPEN SESSION
10:30-11:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and discussions by Drug Control Unit of the AU</li> </ul>	ACERWC & Drug control Unit	
11:15-11:30 <b>Health Break</b>			
11:30-12:00	Presentation on "Interaction between online child sexual exploitation and Sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism: The Legal Checklist".	ECPAT	OPEN SESSION
12:00-12:40	<b>Presentation and Discussion on:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continental CAAC Strategy &amp; Implementation Plan</li> <li>Standard Operating Procedures for Troop and Police Contributing Countries on Release and Reintegration of Children Formerly Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups</li> </ol>	SCI	OPEN SESSION
12:40-13:10	Launch of child law resources	ACPF	
13:10-14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>		
14:00-17:00	Consideration of CSO Complementary Report on the Initial Report of the Republic of Botswana	ACERWC's Country Rapporteur of Republic of Botswana	CLOSED SESSION



# PROGRAM OF WORK

DAY 5 28 November 2022

TIME [SAT]	ITEM/ACTIVITY [PROJECT NAME]	FACILITATORS/ PRESENTERS	ACCESS TO SESSION
09:00- 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consideration of CSO Complementary Report on the Periodic Report of the Republic of South Africa</li></ul>	<b>ACERWC's Country Rapporteur of the Republic of South Africa</b>	<b>CLOSED SESSION</b>
14:00- 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consideration of CSO Complementary Report on the Periodic Report of the Kingdom of Lesotho</li></ul>	<b>ACERWC's Country Rapporteur of Kingdom of Lesotho</b>	



TIME [SAT]	ITEM/ACTIVITY [PROJECT NAME]	FACILITATORS/ PRESENTERS	ACCESS TO SESSION
09:00- 12:00	<p><b>Pending Communications</b></p> <p>i. Communication No: 0016/Com/004/2020-African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS) on behalf of Ms. Umjumah Osman Mohamed against the Republic of the Sudan</p> <p>ii. Communication No: 0017/Com/001/2021 -Child Rights and Rehabilitation Network, Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa and Center for Human Rights (On Behalf of Children Affected by Witchcraft Accusations in Nigeria) against the Federal Republic of Nigeria</p> <p>iii. Communication No: 0019/Com/001/2022- Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa and Mr. Solomon Joojo Cobbinah (on behalf of school-girls living in villages along the River Offin in the Ashanti Region of Ghana) against the Republic of Ghana</p> <p>iv. Communication No: 0020/Com/002/2022- Lawyers Associated for Human Rights in Africa (on behalf of Children of Jehovah's Witnesses) against the State of Eritrea</p> <p>v. Communication No: 0021/Com/003/2022-People Serving Girls at Risk and Equality Now (on behalf of Esnart Kenesi) against the Republic of Malawi</p> <p>vi. Communication No: 0022/Com/004/2022-Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHRDA) against the Republic of Burundi</p>	<p><b>ACERWC's Country Rapporteurs</b></p>	<p><b>CLOSED SESSION</b></p>
14:00- 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration of CSO Complementary Report on the Initial Report of Cote d'Ivoire</li> </ul>	<p><b>ACERWC's Country Rapporteur of Republic of Cote d'Ivoire</b></p>	



# PROGRAM OF WORK

DAY 7 30 November 2022

TIME [SAT]	ITEM/ACTIVITY [PROJECT NAME]	FACILITATORS/ PRESENTERS	ACCESS TO SESSION
09:00- 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Request for an advisory Opinion</li><li>Intersession activities</li><li>Deliberation on Budget 2022/2023</li><li>Presentation on EU, GIZ and other projects</li></ul>	ACERWC	CLOSED SESSION
14:00- 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hearing on the merit concerning Communication No: 0013/Com/001/2020- APDF and IHRDA on behalf of AS a minor against the Republic of Mali</li></ul>	ACERWC's Rapporteur on Mali	





TIME [SAT]	ITEM/ACTIVITY [PROJECT NAME]	FACILITATORS/ PRESENTERS	ACCESS TO SESSION
09:00- 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hearing on Communication No: 0015/Com/003/2020 submitted by Taha Fadul, Nisreen Mustafa, Somia Shampaty and Nawras Elfatih (on behalf of Abbas Mohamed AL-Nour Musa Al-Emam, Modathir Alrayah Mohamed Badawi and Fadoul Almoula Aljaili Nourallah) against the Republic of The Sudan</li> </ul>	<b>ACERWC's Rapporteur on the Sudan</b>	<b>CLOSED SESSION</b>
12:00- 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special Mechanisms-Review of ToRs and Modality of work</li> </ul>	<b>ACERWC</b>	
14:00- 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request for Observer Status</li> <li>Request for Affiliate Status from NHRIs</li> </ul>	<b>ACERWC</b>	
15:45- 17:00	<b>Adoption of decisions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Request for endorsement of ACPF's document- on RECs and ACERWC</li> <li>- Consideration of studies, Guidelines and other documents</li> <li>- Request from Member States, Partners and NHRIs</li> </ul>	<b>ACERWC</b>	
17:00- 17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of report and closing remarks</li> </ul>	<b>ACERWC</b>	

