



INTRODUCTION

Multi-Religious Study on the Contributions of Religious Communities to the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

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Arigatou International

All for Children

MISSION:

- Arigatou is a faith based NGO with Buddhist roots promotes interfaith collaboration for the promotion of CRC and child rights
- Arigatou convenes diverse religious leaders, faith based, and child focused organizations to work together on children's rights

Arigatou International

All for Children



GNRC
Global Network of
Religions for
Children



Ethics
Education



End Child
Poverty



Prayer and
Action

Building a better world for children

CRC Study:

Purpose

- Commemorate the **30th Anniversary of the CRC's adoption.**
- CRC Study from a **multi-religious perspective** is a unique contribution
- Close collaboration with **Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG)**
- Collaboration with **UNICEF**
- In Partnership – **World Vision, KAICIID**, others to be confirmed

Timeline

2019

February

1st Meeting of the Study Team in Tokyo

March

Side event during the Human Rights Council Session in Geneva

Regional Consultation for Latin America in Montevideo

April

National Consultations with Children held in Bosnia & Herzegovina, India, Tanzania, Sri Lanka and Uruguay

Consultation in New York

Consultative Meeting with Religious Scholars and Child Rights Experts in Geneva

May

Regional Consultation for the African region in Nairobi

June

Side event at the High Level Political Forum in New York City at UNICEF HQ

July

Regional Consultation for the Middle East

Side event at the UN General Assembly New York City

September

Launch of the Study in Geneva in collaboration with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and parallel launches in New York and Nairobi on 20 November 2019

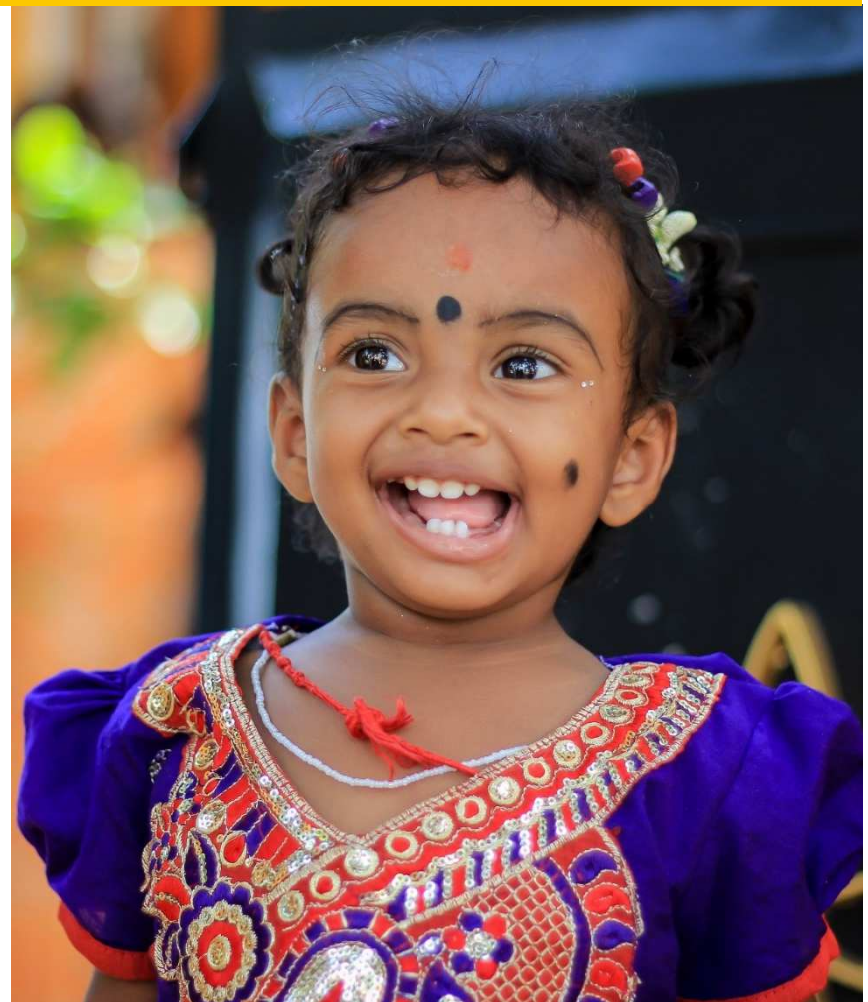
November

CRC Study:

Aims

1

- **Multi-religious perspective** from a diversity of religious traditions, drawing primarily on the experience and traditions of 7 religions namely, Baha'i Faith, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Sikhism



CRC Study:

Aims

2



- Address **common values** inherent in all the major religions which are reflected in the CRC's principles and standards.

CRC Study:

Aims

3

- Highlight **important role played by religious leaders and faith communities** from their contributions during the CRC's ten-year drafting process, to their advocacy for its adoption by the UN General Assembly in 1989 and subsequent ratification by U.N. Member States, and finally to their promotion of the treaty's implementation during the past thirty years.



CRC Study:

Aims

4



- Provide a holistic analysis of the **common ground** found in the CRC and the major religions.

CRC Study:

Aims

5

- **Mobilize diverse religious groups to further promote CRC.**



The CRC Study will also...



- Review questions raised about the treaty, in particular in regard to the reservations to the CRC initially made by ratifying States on religious grounds, and address their current status.

The CRC Study will also...



- Discuss some of the controversial issues that have surfaced over the years around children's rights within faith communities which have led to misunderstandings and confusion, and in some cases, hindered efforts to implement the CRC.

The CRC Study will also...



- Highlight selected examples of the valuable contributions by faith communities in different parts of the world to the CRC's implementation, and identify best practices, lessons learned and recommendations.

CRC Study: **Intended Audience**

- Faith communities, Religious Leaders, and Faith-based Organizations
- Other NGOs, academic institutions and universities
- UN Agencies, CRC Committee, Policy-makers, Governments
- Child rights Advocates
- Children and Youth

CRC Study: **Methodology**

- Diverse experts form writing team with research assistance
- Desk review of existing literature
- Consultations with diverse religious leaders and scholars
- Focus Groups with Children held in 5 countries
- Survey sent out through the Global Network of Religions for Children
- Written contributions received from diverse religious groups

Nov. 20, 2019

Launching and Dissemination



- Key findings will be **incorporated into the Report of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children** and presented to the High-level Political Forum for reviewing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – July 2019

Nov. 20, 2019

Launching and Dissemination



- Presented to the **UN General Assembly** at side event
- Presented to **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child**
- Presented to **faith based organizations** and their networks – 2019-2020

Nov. 20, 2019

Launching and Dissemination



- Disseminated on the **Arigatou International Websites** and updated
- GNRC and World Day of Prayer and Action for Children, Ethics Education for Children