

**Breakfast Dialogue on the Follow-up to Rio+20
and the Post-2015 Development Agenda**

Topic: Ensuring a Sustainable Future for the World's Children

17 July 2013

**Twelfth of a Breakfast Series
Co-convened by the Bahá'í International Community
and International Movement ATD Fourth World**

- 08:30 **Arrival of Participants & Breakfast**
- 08:35 **Welcome and Introductions**
Ms. Cristina Diez Sagüillo
Main Representative to the UN
International Movement ATD Fourth World
- 08:40 **Opening Remarks**

Mr. Richard Morgan
Senior Advisor, Post 2015 Development Agenda
Office of the Executive Director
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Ms. Sofía García García
Children and Youth Major Group
Advocacy Advisor
SOS Children's Villages International
- 09:00 **Open Discussion**
Moderated by Mr. Ming Hwee Chong
Representative
Bahá'í International Community
- 09:50 **Information Sharing**
All participants are encouraged to share upcoming related plans and activities.
- 10:00 **Closing**

Note: Informal notes will be taken and shared. Comments made by participants will not be attributed to the speaker.

**Informal Notes of the Breakfast Dialogue on the Follow-up to Rio+20
and the Post 2015 Development Agenda, 17 July 2013**

Topic: Ensuring a Sustainable Future for the World's Children

Convened by the Bahá'í International Community and International Movement ATD Fourth World

A diverse group of stakeholders¹ gathered to informally deliberate on the main issues of including children's needs and rights into the Post-2015 agenda. The following are highlights on the remarks made during the session:

- Great progress has been made since the start of the Millennium Development Goals, but environmental degradation and growing inequality present troubling trends.
- As the wellbeing of children is central to the concept of sustainable development, human rights, and particularly children's rights, should be central to the new framework of development.
- Ensuring the well-being of children is one of the best long term investments for the development of any community or country.
- Because they have the most to gain or lose from favorable or detrimental conditions, children are the most vulnerable populations and therefore deserve greater attention.
- Special consideration needs to be given to the most marginalized children, including the disabled, those living under situations of violence, and the malnourished.
- Well educated, safe and well nourished children are more likely to become productive citizens that will contribute economically and socially to sustainable societies. The converse is also true.
- Children should be seen as participants and contributors to decision making and development, and not merely as recipients of aid; they bring important perspectives and expertise on childhood.
- Obstacles such as a lack of capacity to articulate views, a system unprepared to listen to children, a lack of child-friendly processes and material, and special legal requirements inhibit the participation of younger children. Special efforts must therefore be made to include them and assist them to participate.
- Targets and indicators on children's rights must be clear and concrete. Progress has been made in developing such metrics, but work remains to be done.
- It must be acknowledged that some development needs are inherently harder to measure and cannot easily be incorporated into a framework of targets and indicators.
- Goal setting should judge subjects and outcomes from the standpoint of children.

The following questions emerged from the consultations:

- How can we help the voiceless articulate their views? How can such capacity be built? Are there models or examples that can serve as guides?
- How can we rearrange the system and structures of dialogue to reflect the perspectives of children?
- How can we prepare clear targets and indicators to promote children's rights?

¹ Permanent Missions Represented: Canada, Chile, Hungary, India, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, and Rwanda. Representatives from UN: International Fund for Agricultural Development, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, Office of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children, Secretariat of the UN High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, UN Development Programme, UNICEF, UN Millennium Campaign, and UN Women. Civil society organizations represented: Bahá'í International Community, Family for Every Child, International Movement ATD Fourth World, Marianists International, Salesian Missions, Save the Children, SOS Children's Villages International, United Nations Foundation, Women's Environment and Development Organization, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and World Youth Alliance.