WHO WE ARE

Hiwot Ethiopia is a national non-governmental organization registered in Ethiopia by Authority for Civil Society Organization (ACSO) and is committed to envisage a future where children and youth in Ethiopia live healthy, happy, and productive lives. Hiwot Ethiopia's mission is to work for the positive development of children and youth in Ethiopia, so that they are able to become healthy, happy and productive, by: raising awareness of issues affecting children and youth to change attitudes and practices that are harmful to them, building the capacity and skills of youth and children, partner organization and its own capacity and experience and providing practical support and services to children and youth. It works to the development of children and young people on the area of child protection including child migration, CRG, quality of education, child marriage, SRH, HIV & AIDS.

The Organization for Social Development (OSD), is formerly known as Organization for Social Justice in Ethiopia (OSJE), was established in 2003. Following its re-registration on February 13, 2009, OSD has revitalized its area of thematic focus to the promotion of children's rights in business context, monitoring and demanding children's rights with children, peace building, governance, and women empowerment. The vision of the organization is to ensure fair and equitable access to basic economic and social goods and services for the poor, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in the society; and its mission, is to foster social development that facilitates availability and accessibility of basic social services for the poor, disadvantaged, and vulnerable groups in the society.

The Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) in Ethiopia is a membership movement affiliated to the world YWCA movement, which connects women leading social and economic change over 120 countries. YWCA of Ethiopia has been working to change the lives of women and girls through programmatic areas such as economic empowerment, access to education, climate justice, and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information dissemination and youth leadership development program.

Ratson Women, Youth and Children Development Program is an indigenous nonprofit making organization that established in 1995 and re-registered as Ethiopian Residence Charity Organization with License number 0070 following the current NGO Regulation. Ratson undertakes participatory development program in Amhara, SNNP and Oromiya Regional States and Addis Ababa City Administration to eradicate and end poverty.

Gurage People's Self-help Development Organization (GPSDO) was first established in 1961 with the aim of facilitating urban-rural linkage among the Gurage through the construction of roads. With an aim of expanding its development activities, the organization changed its name to Gurage People's Self-help Development Organization (GPSDO) in 1988. Since then, the organization has been working on development and humanitarian program. The key intervention areas are Education, Health, WASH, Food Security, Environment, cultural development, Livelihood and Women Empowerment, Child Protection and Child Right Governance, local conflict Resolution and Peace Building. Women literacy and girls' education programs are also the other areas of specialties for GPSDO with high track records.

Consortium of Ethiopian Human Rights Organizations (CEHRO) is a Consortium of 18 CSOs working on Human Rights, democracy, and peace building. Registered under the FDRE Civil Society Organization Proclamation No. 1113/2011 with Registration No. 3932, CEHRO is working to promote the protection of Human Rights, improve the culture of democracy and peace building. It is also serving as a common platform for members to initiate and take a lead in the evidence-based advocacy, as well as working to strengthen the capacity of existing and new Human Rights CSOs. CEHRO has participated in the 3rd cycle UPR by submitting a joint parallel report with other stakeholders and was present in the review session of 33rd session of the UPR Working Group.

South West Charitable Organization (SWCO) is a grassroots, secular nonprofit organization founded by Ethiopian volunteers and officially registered in 2019. Our mission is to promote social, economic, health, education, rights issues, and environmental development in Southwest Ethiopia. As the sole civil society organization operating in this region, we are dedicated to advancing human rights and good governance. SWCO is committed to fostering holistic development by addressing the diverse needs of communities in Southwest Ethiopia. Our initiatives span various thematic areas, including social welfare, economic empowerment, healthcare, education, environmental sustainability, and human rights advocacy. With a focus on promoting human rights and good governance, SWCO works to empower marginalized groups, uphold civil liberties, and promote accountability and transparency in governance structures.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Ethiopia has acceded to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC), and many more human rights instruments concerning the rights of the child. Also, to give effect to the provisions of these and other human rights instruments relevant to children, Ethiopia has adopted numerous legislative and policy measures over the past few decades. However, there have been concerns raised by different actors on the existence of a comprehensive review of Ethiopian laws *vis-a-vis* international and regional child rights conventions.[1]

2. This report provides an overview of children's rights and protection in the country since Ethiopia's 3rd cycle Universal Periodic Review in 2019 related to child poverty, childbirth registration, child labour and exploitation, gender-based violence; reproductive health; child trafficking, and education.

3. During the 3rd cycle UPR Ethiopia has received 327 recommendations on which it has decided to accept 270 and note 57. In relation to children's rights Ethiopia has received 82 recommendations on which it supported 74 and note 8. This submission welcomes the government's overwhelming support of the third cycle recommendations on child protection; gender-based violence; health; child trafficking; and education.

4. This submission is organized into five sections 1) introduction 2) methodological approach used to prepare the report, 3) contexts of the state during the reporting period, 4) an assessment of the implementation of the recommendations that Ethiopia accepted in relation to the realization of the foregoing rights during the 3rd UPR cycle is made considering the national and international legal framework and 5), the recommendations made by the submitting stakeholders to address the concerns listed under section four.

II. METHODOLOGY

5. This report is based on first-hand information collected from interviews, public discussion, desk research, media outlets and reports. The issues outlined in this report are the primary concerns raised in the third cycle UPR report. A series of consultations with civil society organizations were organized to review and validate the report.
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III. BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT

6. Ethiopia continued to face various humanitarian crises, including war and displacement, prolonged drought, floods, and disease outbreaks, endangering the lives and livelihoods of children and their families. More than 8 million people in Ethiopia are currently suffering from one of the worst droughts, which has resulted in the loss of millions of cattle and destroyed families' livelihoods. According to the Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2023, 4.6 million people in Ethiopia are internally displaced, up from 2.72 million in 2022, with children under the age of 18 accounting for about 57% of the total. These circumstances have had an impact on existing and future child rights movements in the country. Although interventions by the state and other actors have contributed to improving the child rights situation, however, the problems persist so far. There are still high-security concerns in Amhara, Oromia, and other regions due to ethnic, religious, and/or politically affiliated conflicts. This causes displacement, death, and human rights violations such as torture, cruel treatment, forced disappearances, arbitrary detention, and arbitrary restrictions on freedoms, all of which jeopardize child human rights throughout the country.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE THIRD CYCLE AND CONCERNS

A. Child Social Protection (Child Poverty, Childbirth Registration, and Child Labor and Exploitation)

7. During Ethiopia's UPR cycle in 2019, the state received six recommendations[2] regarding issues of child social protection. Government is expected to strengthening the national policy on social protection particularly for children, women with disabilities, and the elderly to ensure their enjoyment of all human rights,[3] continue efforts aimed at combating poverty, particularly among children, women and persons with disabilities,[4] promote rights and welfare of children, particularly for those vulnerable,[5] develop more strategies and policies to pay special attention to

children in a vulnerable situation including girls in poverty,[6] and enhance the system of child registration at birth, especially in rural areas, migrant and refugee children.[7]

8. The government of Ethiopia has progressed well to ensure the legal protection of children's rights from abuse and exploitation through ratifying the UNCRC, CRPD, and ACRWC and other human rights treaties and domesticating in national laws and policies. However, there are still obstacles hindering the effective implementation and protection of children's rights in all circumstance.

9. Report shows that 95 % of children in Ethiopia do not have access to 2-6 basic needs and social services, while only 1 % have all their rights fulfilled in rural, areas there is a significant overlap in deprivation across different dimensions among children from the two poorest wealth categories. The high poverty rate in the country disproportionately affects children in over 11 million children (28%) experience both monetary poverty and lacking basic needs and rights.[8] The majority of monetarily poor children also face multidimensional poverty. Compared to urban children, rural children are more likely to be monetarily poor.[9] Also, those in lowlands and highlands are at a higher risk of poverty than those children in temperate areas.[10] This widespread child poverty has led to a lack of access to essential services such as health care, nutrition, sanitation, water, and housing.[11]. Moreover, children make up most of the poor at 60 %.[12] Meanwhile, the rate of decline in multi-dimensional poverty is slower.[13]

10. Amongst children, the service delivery for children with disabilities (CWDs) in Ethiopia is insufficient due to inadequate budgetary allocations and weak capacity for implementation.[14] Bearing the highest rates of extreme poverty, CWDs are still excluded from social services and continue to be invisible.[15]

11. As regards birth registration, despite the estimable progress made in terms of legislative framework, there is a widespread lack of awareness on birth registration as human right. Low rate of birth registration in Ethiopia persists, particularly affecting disadvantaged, internally displaced, and refugee children who face additional barriers. The requirement of a fee for registration poses challenges for families with limited resources. While the adoption of Proclamation No. 1049/2017 is a positive step, there are still gaps and inconsistencies, such as Directive NO.6/2017, which imposes difficult requirements like the presence of both parents and valid identity documents for refuge children which is followed by hindered children's access to essential basic services.[16]

12. Concerning child labor and exploitation, the adoption of labor law proclamation (Proclamation No. 1156/2019) increased the minimum age for employment from 14 to 15 years to align with the global norms. However, the law does not outline specific permissible work activities for children, and it does not cover children and young workers in the informal sector, such as those engaged in domestic work.

13. According to UNICEF Ethiopia, CSA and C4ED (2020), in its Ethiopian National Child Labor Survey reported that the overall child labor incidence was 42.7%, (50.2% among boys,

34.5% among girls) with higher rates of child labor in rural areas than in urban areas (48.8% compared to 14.7%). Furthermore, about 23% are estimated to be children in hazardous work. The prevalence of child labor by region was also reported: Afar (58.3%), Somali (45.5%), Tigray (45.3%), Amhara (45.1%), Oromia (43.5%), Benshangul Gumuz (38.5%), Harari (34.9%), Dire Dawa (31.9%), SNNP (30.3%), Addis Ababa (23.8%), and Gambella (20.6%).[17]

14. Although the Government of Ethiopia has adopted the National Action Plan on the Worst Form of Child Labor Prevention and Protection (2016-2020) and the National Action Plan on Child Labor (2011-2017) to protect against economic exploitation and child labor, much of the intervention to address child labor by the government emphasizes on preventative measures such as awareness raising and training which resulted in limited attention to effectively rehabilitating, reintegrating and removing children engaged in worst forms of child labor.[18]

Recommendations:

- Introduce a child benefit program or expand existing ones to alleviate child poverty, both financially and nonmonetary.
- Strengthen transparency and accountability by integrating child rights into sector-specific policies, plans, and budgets. Also, track spending on child protection-sensitive interventions.
- Enhance coordination platforms at subnational levels (regional, woreda, kebele) to ensure coherence and accountability among child protection actors.
- Develop multi-sectoral strategies engaging parents, caregivers, and grassroots actors to address birth registration, violence prevention, and harmful norms affecting children.
- Establish a Child Protection Information Management System to collect data on child protection issues. Strengthen child participation initiatives including the children parliament to make sure that children have voice and influence at different levels.
- Consolidate provisions from various laws into a comprehensive "Children Act" to address children's issues consistently. And ensure that all the national legislation aligns with international standards. Establish clear guidelines for permissible employment activities for children aged 15 and above to safeguard their well-being and prevent hazardous work.

B. Early marriage, FGM and HTPs

15. During the 3rd Universal Periodic Review (UPR) cycle, the Ethiopian government received a crucial recommendation: to ensure gender equality at all levels and put an end to early marriage. In response, the government has implemented measures aimed at reducing early marriage. These include enacting laws that strictly prohibit marriage before the age of 18. Additionally, civil society organizations (CSOs) have applauded the adoption of the National Road Map to End Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) for the period 2020-2024. This comprehensive framework aims to eliminate child marriage and FGM by 2025. However, challenges remain, as an exception in Article 7(2) of the Revised Family Code still allows

children to marry at the age of 16, provided the Minister of Justice grants a two-year dispensation.

16. Persisting Challenges and Alarming Statistics: Despite these efforts, Ethiopia continues to grapple with alarmingly high rates of child marriage. According to the recent Demographic and Health Survey, approximately 40% of young Ethiopian women are married before their 18th birthday, making it one of the highest rates in Sub-Saharan Africa. Shockingly, the country is home to a staggering 15 million child brides. The median age at first marriage among Ethiopian women stands at 17.1 years, underscoring the prevalence of this harmful practice. Notably, the incidence of child marriage varies across regions, with Tigray, Amhara, and Afar being particularly affected.

17. Several factors contribute to the persistence of early marriage in Ethiopia. Poverty, gender inequality, and deeply entrenched cultural norms play significant roles. Families often marry off their daughters at a young age in the hope of securing additional resources through dowries from the husband's family. The belief that wealthier families will provide better care and protection for their daughters drives this practice. While efforts are underway to combat child marriage, addressing these underlying factors remains crucial for lasting change.

Recommendations:

- Repeal of Exception in Revised Family Code: The Government of Ethiopia should repeal the provision in Article 9(2) of the Revised Family Code, which allows a child to become eligible for marriage at the age of 16, provided the Minister of Justice grants a two-year dispensation.
- Full Implementation of the National Road Map: The GoE must ensure that the National Road Map to End Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (2020-2024) is fully rolled out at all administrative levels. It should be integrated into sectoral action plans and budgets.
- Empowerment Programs and Reporting Mechanisms: Strengthening education and empowerment programs for girls and young women by utilizing existing structures such as girls' clubs, children's parliaments, and youth associations.
- Enhance reporting and law enforcement mechanisms to address child marriage, FGM, and other HTPs. Establish child-friendly courts at the district level, allocate resources for training judges, police, and prosecutors, and ensure timely and appropriate actions against perpetrators. Prioritize rehabilitation, including comprehensive treatment and psychosocial support, for girls and women who have experienced early marriage, HTPs, and FGM. Support survivors in continuing their education and income-earning opportunities.

C. Sexual Reproductive Health

18. Ethiopia has received four recommendations in the 3rd UPR cycle in relation to improving of access to reproductive health service with a view to reduce maternal, infant mortality and child

morbidity rate and supported all.

19. Over the past three decades, Ethiopia has made significant strides in implementing global policies and action plans to enhance maternal and newborn health. Notably, the country has adopted the National Adolescent and Youth Reproductive Health Strategy (2016–2020) and the National Health Sector Strategic Plan for Early Childhood Development (2020/21–2024/25). The overarching goal is to improve reproductive health outcomes for Ethiopian women, men, newborns, adolescents, and youth. [19]

20. Ethiopia has developed strategic roadmaps to address maternal and infant mortality rates, including the Ethiopia Health Sector Transformation Plan (2016–2020), [20] the National MNH Quality of Care Roadmap (2017/18–2019/20), [21] and the Ethiopia National Health Care Quality Strategy (2016–2020).[22] While progress has been made in advancing Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (MNCH), persistent inequities remain in avoidable health risks and premature deaths. Despite improved national statistics, disparities persist, necessitating continued efforts to bridge gaps.

21. Complex Challenges Amidst Humanitarian Needs: Despite ratifying international agreements related to child rights and sexual and reproductive health, Ethiopia faces immense challenges. The current context is marked by complex emergencies, including conflict, climatic shocks, and the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. These factors have led to displacement, increased humanitarian needs, and threats to achieving Sustainable Development Goals. As of December 2021, approximately 26.3 million people out of Ethiopia's 115 million population require urgent humanitarian assistance.[23]

22. Even before the crisis, reproductive health services in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region (SNNPR) were already strained. The conflict exacerbated this situation, leaving over 2 million people in dire need of humanitarian aid. Health services faced critical shortages of providers, supplies, and equipment, with facilities suffering damage.[24]

23. Despite the crucial role of antenatal and postnatal care services in reducing maternal and newborn mortality, these services remain minimal. In the Tigray, Amhara, and Afar regions, an estimated 5.2 million people urgently need humanitarian assistance, and 3.5 million have been displaced due to the year-long conflict. Among those affected are 118,000 pregnant women and 1.3 million women of reproductive age, and these numbers are expected to rise as the crisis continues. Many healthcare centers in the region have been damaged, destroyed, or vandalized during the war, further exacerbating the situation. [25]

Recommendations:

We call upon the government of Ethiopia to:

- Apply the principles and norms from the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) to overcome under-five mortality in the national strategy for newborn and child survival in Ethiopia

(2015-2020).

- Ensure constitution protection to benefit all rights of children, including their right to health (currently lacking constitutional protection) including taking bolder steps to use human rights language in shaping policies and strategies affecting child health rights.
- Ensure that the elements of availability, accessibility, acceptability, and quality of health goods and services are at the center of the implementation of all programs and policies on children's health. Implement programs and policies on women's and children's health that respect, protect, and fulfill the rights of children and women.
- Increase budget allocation to address the problem of child mortality and maternal health. Ensure that the ability to pay doesn't affect children's families' decision to access necessary health goods and services.
- Ensure peace and stability to the country to protect women and child rights and provide accessible, affordable, acceptable, and quality reproductive health services. Refurnish and rebuild damaged health facilities.

D. Trafficking

24. Ethiopia has received eleven recommendations in the 3rd UPR cycle in relation to trafficking of persons which have been supported by the Government. [26]

25. Since the previous reporting period, Ethiopia has intensified efforts to prevent and provide protection services for returnee migrants. These efforts include addressing internal trafficking and trafficking from Ethiopia to other countries, aligning with the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, particularly women and children. Additionally, there has been a focus on holding government officials accountable for their involvement in trafficking crimes.

26. To further combat trafficking, Ethiopia aims to adopt comprehensive national legislation explicitly prohibiting and criminalizing the sale of children. The country is also working on developing a national mechanism for identifying and rehabilitating victims of trafficking.

27. Efforts have been made to prevent the exploitation and servitude of Ethiopian migrant domestic workers heading to the Middle East. Expected changes include creating a more protective regulatory environment for migrant workers, ensuring fair and transparent recruitment services by agencies, improving government support for migrants and survivors, and acting through enforcement bodies. The overall objective is to reduce abuse, trafficking, and modern slavery among Ethiopian migrant domestic workers in the Middle East.

28. Ethiopia has several migration-related policies, including the Diaspora Policy, Immigration Proclamation NO. 354/2002, Refugees Proclamation No. 1110/2019, Overseas Employment Proclamation, [27] and Proclamation on Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants. [28]

29. In the most recent reporting period, the government identified 264 trafficking victims, a decrease from the previous count of 329. Among these victims, 63 were exploited in sex trafficking, 188 in labor trafficking, and 13 in unspecified forms of trafficking.[29] Furthermore,

the government has not prioritized addressing irregular human trafficking, and the consequences for such trafficking do not align with the severity of the offense. The Ethiopian overseas proclamation lacks clear categorization between professionals, skilled migrants, and semiskilled migrants. Additionally, the exclusive mandate for prosecuting traffickers lies with the federal police commission, and there is no standardized migration policy. Moreover, data on migration is currently neither collected nor regularly published. The government's provision of shelters for trafficking victims remains inadequate, relying heavily on non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to fill this gap.

Recommendations:

- Legal protection: Approval of the National migration policy and do necessary amendment on the Ethiopian Overseas Employment Proclamation
- Improve penalties for trafficking crimes related to human rights abuse. This should include strengthening law enforcement actions and promote fair and transparent recruitment practices for young workers.
- Clearly categorize migration proclamation for professionals into three categories: skilled, semiskilled migrants, and domestic work migrants.
- Amend the Private Employment Agency Proclamation 1246/2021 to include mechanisms for investigating and handling complaints.
- Enhance the functioning of the migration management framework through robust legislation and inter-sectorial coordination among key government offices and law enforcement bodies.

E. Education

30. Ethiopia has made significant efforts to improve its education system, with a focus on accessibility, quality, and inclusivity. Notably, civil society organizations (CSOs) have acknowledged the adoption of the new Training and Education Policy in 2023, which aims to provide free and compulsory education across Ethiopia.

31. Despite commendable progress at the primary level, gender disparity remains high in secondary enrollment. [30] According to the same source, the Gender Parity Index (GPI) was 0.91 for grades 1-8 and 0.87 for grades 9-12 during the 2019/20 academic year, indicating that gender parity has not yet been achieved.

32. Public expenditure on pre-primary and inclusive education is insufficient, with the budget for children's pre-primary education decreasing from 7% (2017/18 to 2019/20) to 4% (2020/21 and 2021/22). [31] Additionally, only 3.4% of children with disabilities are enrolled in pre-primary, 11.8% in primary and middle school, and a mere 4% in secondary school. [32] The sixth Education Sector Development Program (ESDP VI, 2020-2025) explicitly emphasizes the need to continue education during emergencies, opening the door for the inclusion of refugee education within the national system. [33]

33. Regarding enrollment rates, the Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) for pre-primary education stands at 43%, compared to the national average of 36.7% for the 2020/2021 academic year. GER for primary and secondary education is 47% and 13%, respectively, compared to the national averages of 95.1% and 42%.[34].

34. In recent years, education has faced increasing threats from both man-made and natural disasters. A surge in attacks against students, teachers, and schools, as well as disruptions to education itself, is depriving children of their right to learn. In 2022, several schools in Ethiopia were destroyed, resulting in many school-age children being unable to attend classes. According to UNICEF (as of October 23, 2023), [35] a total of 8,552 schools reported partial or severe damage in Ethiopia, leaving 7.6 million children out of school due to various shocks and hazards across the country. [36]

Recommendations:

- **Prioritize Education for Conflict-Affected Communities**: The Ethiopian government should prioritize children's education by implementing a comprehensive Response-Recovery-Resilience program. This commitment involves allocating resources to rebuild damaged school infrastructure, ensuring adequate facilities, training teachers and community members, and creating a conducive learning environment. By doing so, schools can become centers of excellence, fostering resilience among children, families, and communities, thereby sustaining access to quality education in post-conflict situations.
- **Support Vulnerable Children**: The government must strengthen support for vulnerable children, particularly girls, children with disabilities, those from socially excluded groups, and internally displaced children. Specialized support programs should be designed to encourage their enrollment in schools, ensuring that no child is left behind.
- **Increase Budget Allocation for Pre-Primary and Inclusive Education**: The government should progressively allocate more budget to pre-primary and inclusive education. This investment will enhance access for children under 6 years old, children with disabilities, and other marginalized groups, promoting equitable educational opportunities.
- **Integration of Children's Rights into Teacher Training** programs as educators play a crucial role in safeguarding and promoting children's well-being, and understanding their rights is essential for effective teaching.
- **Endorse the Safe Schools Declaration**: Ethiopia should endorse the Safe Schools Declaration, committing to protect students, teachers, and educational institutions from attacks during crises. Ensuring continuity of children's learning, even in challenging circumstances, is vital for their future development.

[1] Ethiopian Human Right Council: a review of Ethiopian national laws and policies on children's rights to an adequate standard of living, April 2023
[2] Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Ethiopia, (July 05, 2019), U.N. Doc. A A/HRC/42/14
[3] 3rd Cycle UPR recommendation number 163.250
[4] 3rd Cycle UPR recommendation number 163.244
[5] 3rd Cycle UPR recommendation number 163.295
[6] 3rd Cycle UPR recommendation number 163.302
[7] 3rd Cycle UPR recommendation number 163.327
[8] UNICEF Ethiopia, Monetary and Multidimensional Child Poverty in Ethiopia (July 2020),p.vi
[9] Ibid
[10] Ibid., p. vii
[11] Ibid., p.ix
[12] Ibid., p. vii
[13] UNICEF Ethiopia, Faces of Poverty: Studying the Overlap between Monetary and Multidimensional Child Poverty in Ethiopia (2020), p. 1
[14] FDRE Ministry of Finance and UNICEF, National Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Ethiopia, p. v
[15] Ibid
[16] NRC, Briefing Note, and Legal Identity Documents for Refugees in Ethiopia: Promoting access to Birth Registration and Vital Events Certificates, February 2019. See also Submission by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' Compilation Report Universal Periodic Review: 3rd Cycle, 33rd Session, Ethiopia, p. 4.
[17] UNICEF Ethiopia, CSA and C4ED, Child Labor Analysis in Ethiopia (2020), p. 96
[18] Ibid
[19] ministry of health national reproductive health strategy for Ethiopia; 2016-202 https://www.prb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Ethiopia-National-Reproductive-Health-Strategy-2016-2020.pdf
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[23] Unicef: country office annual report, 2021
[24] UNFPA HRP 2021-2022
[25] The guardian, Northern Ethiopian Crisis: - sexual and reproductive healthcare, January 20,2022
[26] Recommendations in relation to trafficking: 1). Clearly criminalize the trafficking of women and children in accordance with international standards, explicitly prohibit the sale of children, and make efforts to reduce the rate of maternal mortality. 2). Continue efforts to combat human trafficking, particularly the exploitation of children and women, by strengthening the fight against traffickers. 3). Further strengthen concerted efforts to effectively implement the law on trafficking in persons. 4). Promote efforts to raise awareness of trafficking in persons and strengthen investigations and prosecutions through the training of investigators, prosecutors, and judges. 5). Ensure concrete measures to support victims of human trafficking, such as the provision of shelter, health services and financial aid. 6). Continue its measures to combat human trafficking and smuggling. 7). Continue and strengthen efforts to tackle trafficking in persons, especially women and girls. 8). Continue its endeavors to combat human trafficking, particularly in women and children. 9). Make further efforts to reduce human trafficking. 10). Effectively prevent all forms of violence against women and girls, including female genital mutilation and human trafficking. 11). Continue efforts to combat human trafficking, particularly the exploitation of children and women, by strengthening the fight against traffickers.

[27] Proclamation No. 1246/2021 Ethiopian's Overseas Employment
[28] Proclamation 1178/2020, Proclamation to Provide for the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Persons.
[29] Ethiopian 2023 migration report compiled by ministry of justice
[30] MOE, Education Statistical Annual Abstract (ESAA) for the academic year 2019/20 pp. 28, 54
[31] Save the Children and Hiwot Ethiopia (2023). Budget Analysis on Child Rights and Child Protection at national level. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
[32] Ministry of Education, Education Statistical Annual Abstract (ESAA) for the academic year 2022/23.
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