



**Save the Children**

United Nations Human Rights Council  
19th Session  
27 February – 23 March 2012  
Item 6, Consideration of UPR reports

## CONSIDERATION OF THE UPR REPORT OF UGANDA

Madame President,

Thank you for giving us the floor.

Save the Children, on behalf of the Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN), welcomes the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Uganda (A/HRC/19/16) in particular the recommendations relating to children's rights.

The Network particularly commends efforts by the Government in establishing policy, legislative and institutional frameworks for the implementation of the provisions of international and regional child rights instruments. However the Network deeply regrets the chronic underfunding of implementation mechanisms for the realisation of children's rights, particularly the rights to protection from violence, abuse and neglect.

The Network calls on the Ugandan government to prioritise the following issues:

### ***1. Newborn and Child Mortality***

The Network welcomes the Government's acceptance of recommendation 111.92 to raise the health budget to 15% for increased access to sexual and reproductive health services in line with the Abuja declaration.

The Network calls on the Government to commit these pledged resources in the health budget 2013 and to allocate resources specifically to maternal and child health, including sexual and reproductive health services and prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV/AIDS, thereby tremendously reducing the unacceptably high maternal, newborn and child mortality rates in Uganda.

### ***2. Economic Exploitation of Children***

The Network welcomes the Government's acceptance of the recommendations to effectively enforce the child labour and trafficking laws (111.102); amend the laws to include protection from domestic work (111.104); and improve the protection of children by fighting against child labour (111.103).

The Network would like to remind the Government of its obligations under ILO Conventions no. 138 and 182. As stipulated in the ILO Conventions, the Network calls on the Government to put in place comprehensive and efficient measures for the prevention and

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combating of the widespread economic exploitation of children, including through explicitly identifying and prohibiting the worst forms of child labour in the context of Uganda by 2013.

Finally, the Network calls on the Government to implement the UPR child rights recommendations and to establish mechanisms for follow-up and implementation that include the participation of civil society.

Thank you.