### Newsletter on Children's rights – Sub-Saharan Africa

November 2019

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# Africa - African countries a 'new frontier for child sexual exploitation', warns report

27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - Weak laws regulating sexual exploitation in travel and tourism are turning the African continent into a "new frontier for child sexual exploitation", according to a new report. The study, by the African Child Policy Forum, sheds light on the continued rise of child sexual exploitation, including new forms such as "tourism marriages" and cybersex.

The Guardian – Full article

#### Ghana - Un tiers des enfants non scolarisés au Ghana

21 novembre 2019 - Le Ghana a certes fait des progrès en matière de protection des droits de l'enfant mais cela reste insuffisant. L'école est gratuite mais malgré tout, un tiers des enfants ne sont pas scolarisés. Il s'agit pourtant d'un des taux les moins élevé en Afrique de l'Ouest.

Deutsche Welle - Article complet

# Madagascar - Children as young as five make up most of Madagascar's mica mining workforce

21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 - Children as young as five make up more than half the number of miners scavenging for mica in Madagascar, according to a leading child rights group. A year-long investigation by Terre des Hommes Netherlands found that at least 11,000 children between the ages of five and 17 are employed in quarrying and processing the shimmery, heat-resistant mineral, which is used in everything from makeup to car paint and hugely prevalent in the automotive and electronics industry.

The Guardian – Full Article

#### Nigeria - Nigerian State Pushes to Keep Pregnant Girls in School

12<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - Ekiti State in southwest Nigeria has adopted a policy to ban the expulsion of girls from schools during and after pregnancy, an important step in ending the longstanding discriminatory practice. Although Nigeria's Child Rights Act protects the rights of girls to education during and after pregnancy, many continue to face expulsion because there is a lack of awareness and no policies in place to ensure their continuation in school.

Human Rights Watch - Full article

#### Nigeria - There are still huge gaps in Nigeria's efforts to protect children

24<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - It is 30 years since countries across the world adopted the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Yet, to date, the terms it sets out to protect children remain far from reality in many countries. This is true in Nigeria too, even though its federal government ratified the convention in 1991.

The Conversation – Full Article

# Sénégal – Traite des enfants au Sénégal : "Une tragédie qui mérite d'être traitée en urgence absolue"

22 novembre 2019 - Ils sont estimés à 100 000 par les experts indépendants du Comité des droits de l'homme de l'ONU, qui ont tiré la sonnette d'alarme début novembre 2019. Un chiffre effrayant, mais tout à fait crédible pour Momar Fall, président de l'association Les petites gouttes, qui leur apporte un peu de réconfort depuis cinq ans.

France info – <u>Article complet</u>

#### Sudan - Children march for their rights in Sudan capital

21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 - Dozens of children in Khartoum state, in coordination with pro-child organisations, on Wednesday organised a procession to the Ministry of Labour and Development demanding the creation of a children's commission and guaranteeing children's rights.

Radio Dabanga - Full article

## South Africa - How Home Affairs is preventing children from attending school

27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - The Democratic Alliance (DA) released a statement on Wednesday 27 November 2019, stating that approximately one in five South African children could be denied an education, due to a lack of documentation, at the fault of Home Affairs.

The South African – Full Article

#### Zambia - The Young Activists Fighting Lead Pollution in Zambia

18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - A new video just published by Zambian environmental activists confirms Human Rights Watch's research on how a former industrial lead mine in their hometown of Kabwe has left a legacy of severe lead contamination. The youth activists, who work with the nongovernmental organization Environment Africa to raise awareness of lead pollution and push for change, launched the video on the eve of the 30th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Human Rights Watch - Full article

## Zimbabwe - \$1 a week: the bitter poverty of child sugarcane workers in Zimbabwe

19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - The blistering sun beats mercilessly on the Mukwasine sugar plantations near Chiredzi, in south-east Zimbabwe. It is Sunday morning and the soothing sound of hymns reverberate from a nearby church. For most of the children living near the estate, it is time for Sunday school and listening to Bible stories. But for Tapiwa Mumverenge\*, nine, it is another day of toil.

The Guardian – Full article