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المكتب الدولي لحقوق الطفل

Newsletter on Children's rights – Sub-Saharan Africa

November – December 2017

Submitted by : the International Bureau for Children's Rights (IBCR)

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1. Global Development on Children and Human's Rights

[News] Pneumonia, world's deadliest disease, kills two children every minute

November 2, 2017 – Nearly one million children a year are dying from pneumonia even though it can be treated with antibiotics costing as little as 30p Save the Children reveals today. The aid organisation is publishing a major report, *Fighting for Breath*, to mark the launch of its global effort against pneumonia, which aims to save a million lives in the next five years. The report shows that pneumonia, 'the forgotten child killer', is responsible for the deaths of more children under five than any other disease. It kills two children in this age group every minute-more than malaria, diarrhoea and measles combined.

[Full article](#) (Save the Children)

[Communiqué de presse] Les taux de malnutrition chez les enfants rohingyas réfugiés au Bangladesh est deux fois supérieurs aux premières estimations

3 novembre 2017 – L'UNICEF a annoncé aujourd'hui que les données préliminaires d'une évaluation nutritionnelle menée la semaine dernière au camp de Kutupalong pour personnes réfugiées à Cox's Bazar, au Bangladesh, indiquent une prévalence de 7,5 pour cent des cas de malnutrition sévère aiguë potentiellement mortelle, soit un taux deux fois plus élevé que celui observé en mai 2017 chez les enfants rohingyas.

[Article complet](#) (UNICEF)

[News] Brexit and Children's Rights: Implications for Wales

November 10, 2017 – The event attracted almost 90 delegates from a range of organisations including NGOs, services providers, public sector services, academics, legal officials and a number of young people. Children in Wales, working in partnership with the Wales Observatory on the Human Rights of Children and Young People, presented a background paper on the potential impact of Brexit on children and young people's rights in Wales, in particular focussing on the loss of fundamental rights, loss of funding and the lack of opportunities for children and young people to have their voices heard.



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[Full article](#) (EuroChild)

[News] Save the children calls for end to corporal punishment in Afghanistan after death of a high school student

November 15, 2017 – Save the Children is urging the Afghan government to properly enforce its corporal punishment ban following reports that a high school student died after facing violence at school. The reported incident took place in the northern Afghan province of Balk.

“This is a tragic, heartbreaking situation in which a child has died after reportedly facing violence at school, a place where children should be safe and protected, not fearing for their lives,” Save the Children Country Director in Afghanistan, Onno van Manen said.

[Full article](#) (Save the Children)

[News] Submission to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child concerning Japan

November 14, 2017 – Human Rights Watch writes in advance of the 79th pre-sessional working group of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and its review of Japan’s compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). This submission focuses on children in alternative care; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) rights and sex education in schools; and the protection of students, teachers, and schools during armed conflict, and relates to Articles 2, 19, 20, 24, 28, 29, and 38 of the CRC. It proposes issues and questions that Committee members may wish to raise with the government.

[Full article](#) (Human Rights Watch)

[News] Tobacco Companies Commit to Protect Child Workers Worldwide

November 15, 2017 – Working on child labor, it often feels like there isn’t much good news. So when I learned recently about a new policy that could potentially protect millions of children from dangerous work on tobacco farms around the world, I couldn’t quite believe it. With a major change to an industry-wide due diligence program, the Sustainable Tobacco Program (STP), now at least 180 tobacco companies are pledging to prohibit all children under 18 from handling green tobacco on farms in their supply chains.



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The STP is used by major multinational manufacturers and leaf dealers as well as other tobacco companies operating in 52 countries, which combined are contracting with hundreds of thousands of farms worldwide.

[Full article](#) (Human Rights Watch)

[Nouvelles] Les enfants aborigènes subissent des traitements "choquants" en prison

16 novembre 2017 – Les enfants aborigènes détenus dans les prisons pour mineurs du nord de l'Australie subissent des traitements "choquants", selon une enquête lancée après des vidéos montrant les violences subies par des adolescents membres pour la plupart de la communauté autochtone.

[Article complet](#) (Tahiti Info)

[Nouvelles] Viols généralisés de femmes et de filles rohingyas

16 novembre 2017 – Les forces de sécurité birmanes ont commis des viols systématiques de femmes et de filles dans le cadre d'une campagne de nettoyage ethnique menée à l'encontre des musulmans rohingyas dans l'État de Rakhine (Arakan) en Birmanie, a déclaré Human Rights Watch dans un rapport publié aujourd'hui.

[Article complet](#) (Human Rights Watch)

[News] The role of civil society in accountability systems: A human rights perspective

November 20, 2017 – From girls in rural Afghanistan, to children in immigration detention on the US-Mexico border, to grandmothers fleeing war in Sri Lanka, throughout my career working on children's rights, I've heard firsthand the importance that education has for families and their children, even in the midst of the most desperate circumstances. These families expect their children to be able to access a quality education, and they have a right to do so. In light of this, I welcome the launch of the new Global Education Monitoring Report, especially its focus on accountability, which is a key element in building equitable and quality education systems.



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[Full article](#) (Human Rights Watch)

[Press release] UNICEF statement on suicide of 11-year-old Afghan refugee in Austria

November 22, 2017 – «The recent reported suicide» of an 11 year-old Afghan boy in a refugee facility in Austria is a tragic reminder that European authorities need to pay greater attention to the deep psychosocial distress facing thousands of refugee children and children on the move. “Children fleeing war and conflict or uprooted from their homes are already dealing with significant levels of trauma. Not knowing what the future holds for them causes them additional emotional distress and anxiety. For some, this is simply too much to bear.

[Full article](#) (UNICEF)

[Nouvelles] Une enquête a été ouverte à la suite d'informations d'Amnesty sur l'extraction de cobalt par des enfants

23 novembre 2017 – Réagissant aux [informations](#) selon lesquelles, à la suite de la publication d'un rapport d'Amnistie internationale liant plusieurs grandes entreprises à des atteintes aux droits humains en RDC, la Bourse des métaux de Londres a ouvert une enquête visant à déterminer si du cobalt extrait par des enfants est négocié à Londres.

[Article complet](#) (Amnistie internationale)

[News] Russia court authorises seizure of outlawed sect children

November 23, 2017 – Russia's Supreme Court has confirmed that children can be removed from their parents if they involve them in banned social or religious groups, in a move said by local media to be aimed against the outlawed Jehovah's Witnesses.

[Full article](#) (The tablet)



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[News] Rohingya girls as young as 12 compelled to marry just to get food

November 30, 2017 – Young Rohingya girls who have fled Myanmar are being forced to marry when they reach Bangladesh simply to secure more food for themselves and their families. With UN World Food Programme rations allocated by household, families are marrying off girls as young as 12 to reduce the number of mouths to feed and create new households with food quotas of their own, the Guardian has learned.

[Full article](#) (The Guardian)

[Rapport] La situation des enfants dans le monde 2017: Les enfants dans un monde numérique

10 décembre 2017 – Alors que le débat sur la sécurité des enfants sur Internet fait rage, *La situation des enfants dans le monde 2017 : Les enfants dans un monde numérique* examine comment l'accès au numérique peut changer la donne ou tout aussi bien créer une nouvelle fracture pour les enfants.

[Rapport complet](#) (UNICEF)

[News] First National Children's Policy to be implemented by 2024

December 11, 2017 – Consultation with over 300 children and a lot of data collection served as the basis for National Children's Policy. This is the first time that the Maltese government worked on such a policy.

[Full article](#) (Maltese Independent)



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2. Conferences, Courses and Events

Course – Resilience in Children Exposed to Trauma, Disaster and War: Global Perspectives

During this course, participants will: learn how trauma can affect children and the systems they depend on, gain insight into core concepts, research methods and lessons learned in last 50 years of resilience research, learn how research is being applied in the real world through interventions that promote resilience, and engage in discussions with others who are working with children at risk around the world.

Location: Online

Date: Starts January 15, 2018

[For more information](#) (Coursera)

Conference – The impact of children’s rights education and research on policy development

This is the bi-annual conference of the Children’s Rights European Academic Network (CREAN). CREAN aims to further enhance the academic field of children's rights as an interdisciplinary field of studies. The conference aims to carry on the dialogue on the role and impact of children’s rights education and research on policy development between academia and policy-makers.

Location: Uni Bastions, University of Geneva, Switzerland

Date: January 18-19, 2018

[For more information](#) (CREAN)

Congress – 18th Global Youth Justice Training Establish, Enhance and Learn

Global Youth Justice, Inc. champions 1,700+ volunteer-driven youth justice and juvenile justice diversion programs called Teen/Youth/Student/Peer Court and Peer Jury on 4-Continents, making it the most replicated juvenile/youth justice program around the globe.



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Location: Las Vegas, USA

Date: January 23-25, 2018

[For more information](#) (Global Youth Justice)

Forum – Global Child Forum

The Global Child Forum at the Stockholm Royal Palace on 11 April 2018 will bring together a global community of leaders from business, civil society, academia and government to fast-track business action and partnerships to achieve a more prosperous, equitable and sustainable world for our children.

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

Date: April 11, 2018

[For more information](#) (Global Child Forum)

Training – Child Rights Public Budgeting

This short e-learning course introduces participants to concepts, principles, standards and practical examples of child rights public budgeting and monitoring. The course will address basics of child rights public budgeting and monitoring; the importance of budget transparency; obligations of governments; and possibilities for participation of civil society, including children.

Location: Online

Date: May 2-16, 2018

[For more information](#) (The Global Human Rights Education and Training Centre)

Colloque – 18e Colloque Annuel de Formation sur les enfants disparus ou exploités (CEDE)

La 18^e édition du CEDE, un grand colloque sur les enfants disparus ou exploités au Canada, organisé par le Centre canadien de protection de l'enfance. Le CEDE offre trois jours de formations données par des experts sur divers sujets, dont la détection et l'investigation des violences faites aux enfants et l'exploitation des enfants par Internet.



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Emplacement : Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Dates : 15 au 17 mai 2018

[Pour plus d'information](#) (Colloque sur les Enfants Disparus ou Exploités)

Conférence midi – L'expérience scolaire des élèves issus de l'immigration en milieux défavorisés

Animée par Isabelle Archambault (Université de Montréal).

Emplacement : Institut universitaire Jeunes en difficultés, Montréal, Qc

Date : 5 juin 2017

[Pour plus d'information](#) (Institut universitaire Jeunes en difficultés)

Cours d'été international – Petite enfance et droit à l'éducation

Le thème de la septième édition du cours d'été international relatif aux droits de l'enfant portera sur la petite enfance et le droit à l'éducation : les tout-petits et leurs droits à la lumière des articles 28 et 29 de la Convention internationale relative aux droits de l'enfant.

Emplacement : Université de Moncton, Canada

Dates : 24 au 29 juin 2018

[Pour plus d'information](#) (Université de Moncton)



3. Sub-Regional and Country updates – Sub-Saharan Africa

Africa – Why climate change is creating a new generation of child brides

November 26 2017 – As global warming exacerbates drought and floods, farmers' incomes plunge – and girls as young as 13 are given away to stave off poverty. "Around 1.5 million girls in Malawi are at risk of getting married because of climate change. That's a huge number."

[Full article](#) (The Guardian)

Africa – African leaders talk tough at summit on child marriage

November 27, 2017 – At the first African Girls Summit on ending child marriage in Lusaka there's plenty of debate and ideas swirling around the conference hall. Every corner of the continent is represented, the dynamic, colourful prints of national dress brighten the mood during discussions that are at times, depressing. UNICEF says by 2050 the number of child brides in Africa will more than double, surpassing South Asia as the region where the problem is worst.

[Full article](#) (Al Jazeera)

Afrique – iCivil : la solution au phénomène d' « enfants fantômes » en Afrique

16 novembre 2017 – L'application du Burkina Faso Adama Sawadogo veut donner une existence légale à de millions d'enfants qui naissent chaque année sur le continent. « C'est une plateforme intégrée, qui est basée sur une application mobile qui va permettre de façon consécutive, la déclaration, l'enregistrement et la délivrance d'actes de naissance et d'autres faits d'Etat civil. Le système fonctionne grâce à un bracelet à bulles qui permet l'identification et l'authentification numériques des nouveaux nés par SMS, de façon cryptée, sans avoir à se déplacer », ajoute Adama Sawadogo.

[Article complet](#) (BBC Afrique)



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Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre – L'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre en retard sur la riposte mondiale au VIH

5 décembre 2017 – Plus de quatre décennies après le début de l'épidémie de VIH, quatre enfants sur cinq vivant avec le VIH en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre ne reçoivent toujours pas de traitement antirétroviral et les décès liés au sida chez les adolescents âgés de 15 à 19 ans sont en hausse, selon un nouveau rapport.

[Article complet](#) (UNICEF)

Afrique - Cancer et enfance: Sensibiliser le combat en Afrique

8 décembre 2017 - Le Groupe Franco-Africain d'Oncologie Pédiatrique, fondé par le Professeur Jean Lemerle, ancien chef de service à l'Institut GUSTAVE ROUSSY de Villejuif, est devenu, après 13 ans de travail, l'organisme de référence dans la prise en charge du cancer de l'enfant au Maghreb et en Afrique francophone. Cette association réunit des médecins français et leurs collègues africains, elle est présente dans 13 pays: Algérie, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Congo Brazzaville, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo (RD), Madagascar, Mali, Maroc, Mauritanie, Sénégal, Togo, Tunisie et Guinée Conakry.

[Article complet](#) (Huffington Post)

Burkina Faso – Torture, militia violence and child marriage head human rights concerns ahead of UN review

December 7, 2017 – Authorities in Burkina Faso should tackle violence by local self-defence groups, investigate alleged torture by police and protect women and girls at risk of early and forced marriages, Amnesty International said today in its submission to the country's UN Universal Periodic Review.

[Full article](#) (Amnesty International)



Nigéria – Au Nigéria, les fuites de pétrole causeraient la mort de 16 000 nourrissons par an

22 novembre 2017 – Selon les conclusions de cette recherche, l'exposition des adultes aux fuites de pétrole jusqu'à cinq années avant la conception d'un enfant augmente considérablement le risque de voir le nouveau-né mourir durant ses vingt-huit premiers jours de vie. Et ce, au point de doubler le taux de mortalité néonatale pour le porter à 76 morts pour 1 000 naissances, voire davantage dans des zones de forte proximité avec la source de la fuite.

[Article complet](#) (Le Monde)

RDC – Une fillette arrêtée lors d'une manifestation devient une icône des anti-Kabila

17 novembre 2017 – L'image d'une fillette menottée et encadrée de policiers a créé l'émotion sur les réseaux sociaux. Binja Yalala a été arrêtée par la police d'Idjwi, dans le Sud-Kivu, lors des manifestations du 15 novembre. Elle est accusée d'avoir « violenté les forces de l'ordre ».

[Article complet](#) (Jeune Afrique)

Sénégal – Un pas vers la justice pour les jeunes talibés victimes d'exploitation

28 novembre 2017 – Début novembre, une opération de lutte contre la traite des êtres humains s'est déroulée sur deux jours à Dakar. Plus de 50 enfants contraints de mendier ont été retirés des rues de la capitale. Cinq trafiquants présumés ont été arrêtés, mais les autorités sénégalaises doivent encore intensifier leurs efforts pour mettre fin à ce fléau.

[Article complet](#) (Jeune Afrique)



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Sénégal – Repenser les systèmes d'évaluation dans l'éducation

10 décembre 2017 – Les participants à un atelier régional de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture (Unesco), organisé du 6 au 8 décembre, appellent à réformer les approches d'évaluation en Afrique sub-saharienne, pour renforcer les systèmes éducatifs dans la région et les mettre au service de l'apprentissage. En toile de fond se pose la question de la baisse des niveaux dans les systèmes éducatifs en Afrique sub-saharienne, au cours des dernières années.

[Article complet](#) (Scidev.net)

Somalia – Government launches Child Rights Bill drafting process

November 16, 2017 – The Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development of the Federal Government of Somalia took a major step forward in strengthening the rights of children today by launching the drafting process of its Child Rights Bill, a gesture that the Ministry strongly believes will guarantee a better future for Somali children.

[Full article](#) (UNICEF)

South Africa - More than 100 children smuggled to South Africa in one week

December 10, 2017 - More than 100 children without requisite travelling documents have been repatriated back to Zimbabwe from South Africa after being smuggled by cross-border traders (omalayitsha) in the last week of the just ended school term.

[Full article](#) (Bulawayo)

South Africa – 20 November 2017: Children ‘taking over’ business, media and entertainment on World Children’s Day

November 20, 2017 - World Children’s Day on 20 November is the anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and calls on all children to raise their voices in solidarity with the world’s most disadvantaged and vulnerable children.



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In South Africa thousands of children are joining this fun day, with a serious message, where they will 'take over' high-visibility roles in media, business, and entertainment to shine a spotlight on the most pressing challenges faced by their generation.

[Full article](#) (UNICEF)

Sub-Saharan Africa – Crisis of invisibility in Sub-Saharan Africa: Less than 1 in 2 births registered

December 7, 2017 – 95 million children have not had their births registered across Sub Saharan Africa, and if decisive action is not taken, these numbers will soar to 115 million by 2030, UNICEF said today. UNICEF released this data at the ongoing 4th Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration and called on African countries, so as to prioritise birth registration as a first and critical step to a functional national Civil Registration and Vital Statistics system.

[Article complet](#) (UNICEF)

Uganda – First-ever national strategy on child participation launched

November 15, 2017 – The Government of Uganda has today launched its first-ever National Child Participation Strategy, which provides direction for key stakeholders – families, communities, parents, leaders, teachers, policy makers, etc. - to promote meaningful and quality child participation at all levels of Ugandan society.

[Full article](#) (UNICEF)