

## *DPI/ NGO Briefing*

### HAVE YOU HEARD US?

#### *Children's Voices in Creating a World Fit for ALL:*

#### *Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child*

*in partnership with the NGO Committee on Children's Rights*

**Thursday, 20 November 2014**

**11 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.**

**Conference Room 1, UNHQ, New York**

**Moderator:** **Ravi Karkara**, *Global Expert Advisor, Children and Youth with UN-Habitat and Advisor to the UN Millennium Campaign on Child and Youth Engagement*

Welcome remarks by **Therese Folkes Plair**, *Co-Chair, NGO Committee on Children's Rights*

Opening Song by **Young at Arts – Amani Choir**

Welcome and Introduction by Moderator, **Ravi Karkara**

Remarks by **Jennifer Tang**, *Research Associate, Children's Environments Research Group*

Remarks by **Jocelyn Formsma**, *Nishnawbwe Aski Nation's Oshkaatisak*

Storytelling by **Public School 333 Manhattan**, *4th – 5th Graders*

Remarks by **Chernor Bah**, *Co-founder and Youth Engagement Coordinator, A World at School*

Remarks by **Dr. Roseanne Flores** *Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Hunter College of the City University of New York*

Remarks by **Kaylee Beree Weinberg**, *Ramapough Lenape Student Speaker*

*Q&A and Interactive Discussion*

Closing Song by **Carrie E. Tompkins Elementary School**

*Moderator wraps up and concludes the briefing  
NGO Announcements*

Live Webcast: [webtv.un.org](http://webtv.un.org)

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[outreach.un.org/ngorelations](http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations)

## Moderator

### **Ravi Karkara**



Ravi Karkara is a trained Social Worker with commitment to advancing human rights, gender equality, inclusion and social justice. Ravi serves as the Global Advisor on Youth + Partnership with United Nations Millennium Campaign and UN-HABITAT, based in New York. He is the lead author of the groundbreaking report “Youth 21: Building the Architecture of Youth Engagement in the UN System,” by UN-Habitat, which contributed to the creation of United Nations Secretary General’s Envoy on Youth.

Ravi represented UN-HABITAT as the Co-chair of the UN Interagency Network on Youth Development. Government of Sri Lanka appointed him as the Global Advisor to the World Conference on Youth in 2014, focusing on youth perspective in developing post-2015 development agenda. He has relentlessly supported United Nations SG’s My World 2015 survey in reaching close to 3.5 million youth. Ravi has been co-chairing the Policy Strategy Group for World We Want 2015 - a UN & CSO post-2015 data-curation-visualization platform. He is serving as Strategic Adviser Partnership Beijing+20, Office of the Assistant Secretary-General/Deputy Executive Director, UN Women. He has committed his lifetime to women’s empowerment, strengthening human rights of girls, adolescent girls, young women and women, gender equality and social inclusion. He is a founding member of the MenEngage Alliance and Young Men 4 Gender Equality. He has worked with several organizations on gender mainstreaming with a specific focus on children, youth and women – UN Women, UNICEF, Save the Children. Successfully advocating role of boys and men in gender equality from a life-cycle approach. He has extensive experience in facilitating & managing strategy processes with diverse range of audience ranging from policy makers to development workers to local communities. He has extensive experience in knowledge creation & management. He has written 80+ publications and has given keynote and panel addresses on above area across the world.

### **Jennifer Tang**



Jennifer Tang is a Research Associate with the Children's Environments Research Group ([cernyc.org](http://cernyc.org)) and a Ph.D. candidate in the Environmental Psychology program at the City University of New York working on issues related to the promotion of children’s participation and participatory democracy. She holds a Master’s Degree in Human Security and Peacebuilding from Royal Roads University in Canada. Her areas of interest include: children as democratic agents, promoting democracy through participatory governance, children in urban settings, tools/methods/technologies that democratize young people’s participation, and the development of structures and systems with children to promote their rights. Spurred by her work in East and West Africa, the challenge of working in ways that respect and support community-generated and contextually cognizant approaches and systems is integral to her approach.

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### **Jocelyn Formsma**



Jocelyn Formsma is a member of the Moose Cree First Nation, an Indigenous community in Northern Ontario, Canada and currently lives in Canada's capital city - Ottawa, ON. Jocelyn has approximately 14 years of volunteer and work experience in Indigenous children’s rights, social development, youth engagement and media. She has a Bachelor of Social Sciences in Public Administration and is currently pursuing her JD (Juris Doctorate) law degree at the University of Ottawa. She is also a film maker and a community organizer.

## Chernor Bah



A renowned youth advocate for global education, a girl champion and former refugee from Sierra Leone, Chernor is a Co-founder and Youth Engagement Coordinator for A World at School- a leading digital mobilization and campaign organization for education. He is the youth representative on the High-Level Steering committee for the United Nations Secretary General's Global Education First Initiative and Chair of its Youth Advocacy Group. He founded and led the Children's Forum Network, Sierra Leone's Children's Parliament and was Junior Executive Producer for the United Nations Voice of Children radio Project. Chernor led the first

Adolescent Girls Working Group in Liberia and is a co-founder of the Salone Adolescent Girls Network. Chernor has worked with young people and other marginalized groups in Liberia, Lebanon, Haiti, Ethiopia, The Philippines and other emergency and non-emergency settings, leading efforts to strengthen their voices in development, political and policy processes in a credible way. In 2014, Chernor received the Women's Refugee Commission's Voice of Courage Award for his global efforts on behalf of girls and youth affected by conflict.

## Dr. Roseanne Flores



Roseanne L. Flores is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Hunter College of the City University of New York. She received her PhD from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. In addition, she holds an Advanced Certificate in Public Administration and Public Policy and a Certificate in Health Care Policy and Administration, both from the CUNY School of Professional Studies. She is a Developmental Psychologist by training and was a National Head Start Fellow in the Office of Head Start in Washington, DC in 2009-2010 where some of her work focused on research, practices and policies that influenced children, families, and communities. Roseanne is currently serving

as an ECOSOC Representative to the United Nations for the American Psychological Association (APA), as well as a member of the Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education at the APA. In addition, she was the former 2013 co-chair of the Committee on Children, Youth and Families at the APA. She is currently a member of the NGO Committee on Children's Rights, New York. Some of her current research and scholarship examines the effect of poverty on the mental and physical health and educational outcomes of minority children. More recently she has begun to explore the role of translating science into practices that can benefit society. In July 2013 she participated in a workshop at the American Association for the Advancement of Science entitled "*Science and Engineering Societies Influencing the United Nations*."

## Kaylee Beree Weinberg



Kaylee Beree Weinberg is a senior at Middletown High School. She is Co-captain of the varsity softball team that she has been playing on since 9th grade. She is an active member of MAC (Middletown Athletes Care) where she participated in many community service activities such as cleaning the streets, decorating garbage cans, making gifts and delivering them to the elderly that are confined in nursing homes. Kaylee is the oldest of 3, natural born leader. Alumni of the National Young Leaders State Conference where she spent 4 days as an 8th grader away from home learning and working with other young leaders from around the country. She plans to use her leadership qualities as a special education teacher.

# Social Media Cheat Sheet



**Hashtags:** #CRC #CRC25 #DPINGO #SpeakUp4Childsrights #ChildrenHaveTheRightTo #IHaveTheRightTo #CelebrateChildsRights



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – HAVE YOU HEARD US? Children’s Voices in Creating a World Fit for ALL, 25th Anniversary of the CRC, 20 Nov, 11am–12.30pm CR 1 UNHQ NY



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child Thursday 20 Nov, 11am – 12.30pm CR1 UNHQ NY #CRC #CRC25



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – The NGO Committee on Children’s Rights’ mission is to promote the implementation of the #CRC and its optional protocols #CRC25 #ChildRights



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – What are Human Rights? – <http://goo.gl/s2z85> #CRC #ChildRights #DPINGO



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – Human rights protections are grounded in the common human experience shared by all peoples of all nations’ #CRC #ChildRights



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – Human Rights are inherent to all human beings and are universal – #CRC #ChildRights #CRC25



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – Human Rights exist independent of age, sex, race, colour, ethnic and national origin, religion, income level, residence #CRC #ChildRights



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – There is no such thing as a ‘small’ right, and there is no hierarchy of human rights – all rights are interrelated and of equal importance



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – The #CRC is an international treaty that recognizes the human rights of children, defined as persons up to the age of 18 years #CRC25



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – The #CRC incorporates children’s human rights articulated in other international human rights documents –clearly and distinctly #ChildRights



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – What are Children's Rights?– (Convention on the Rights of the Child) UNICEF <http://goo.gl/jM5xl> #CRC #ChildRights #ChildrenHaveTheRightTo



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – #ChildrenHaveTheRightTo 1 – survival and to develop to the fullest #CRC #ChildRights #DPINGO #CRC25



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – #ChildrenHaveTheRightTo 2 – protection from harmful influences, abuse and exploitation #CRC #ChildRights #DPINGO #CRC25



**UN DPI/NGO @UNDPINGO** – #ChildrenHaveTheRightTo 3 – participate fully in family, cultural and social life #CRC #ChildRights #DPINGO #CRC25

## Additional Resources

### The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (full text)

[www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/](http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/)

### Convention on the Rights of the Child (full text)

[www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx)

### Charter of the United Nations

[www.un.org/en/documents/charter/](http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/)

### The International Bill of Human Rights

[www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/FactSheet2Rev.1en.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/FactSheet2Rev.1en.pdf)

### Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC Home)

[www.unicef.org/rightsite/](http://www.unicef.org/rightsite/)

### United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

[www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Pages/WhatareHumanRights.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Pages/WhatareHumanRights.aspx)

### UNICEF – Convention on the Rights of the Child

[www.unicef.org/crc/index\\_30160.html](http://www.unicef.org/crc/index_30160.html)

### UNICEF – Rights under the Convention on the Rights of the Child

[www.unicef.org/crc/index\\_30177.html](http://www.unicef.org/crc/index_30177.html)

- **Guiding Principles** – [www.unicef.org/crc/files/Guiding\\_Principles.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Guiding_Principles.pdf)
- **Survival and Development Rights** – [www.unicef.org/crc/files/Survival\\_Development.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Survival_Development.pdf)
- **Protection Rights** – [www.unicef.org/crc/files/Protection\\_list.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Protection_list.pdf)
- **Participation Rights** – [www.unicef.org/crc/files/Participation.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Participation.pdf)

### Committee on the Convention of the Rights of the Child

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/CRCIndex.aspx>

### Take Action – CRC

[www.unicef.org/rightsite/whatyoucando.htm](http://www.unicef.org/rightsite/whatyoucando.htm)

### What You Can Do – UNICEF

[www.unicef.org/crc/index\\_what.html](http://www.unicef.org/crc/index_what.html)

### Institut International des Droits de L'Enfant

[www.childsrights.org](http://www.childsrights.org)

### Child Rights Connect (formerly NGO group for CRC in Geneva)

[www.childrightsconnect.org](http://www.childrightsconnect.org)

### Children's Environment Research Group, CUNY, New York

[www.cerny.org](http://www.cerny.org)

*Special Thanks*

*To*

*Therese Folkes Plair*

*Margaretha Jones*

*Corann Okorodudu*

*of*

**The NGO Committee on Children's Rights**