**FORUM:** UNICEF

**QUESTION OF:** Tackling the Issue of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment of
 Children

**SUBMITTED BY:** The United States of America

**CO-SUBMITTED BY:** The French Republic, The People's Republic of China, DR Congo,
 The Slovak Republic, EU, The Kingdom of Morocco

THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND,

*Concerned* that up to 1 billion children aged 2-17 have experienced some form of violence or neglect in the past year,

*Defining* abuse against children as actions that threaten the well-being of a child, which may involve a sexual or violent nature,

*Further defining* harassment as unwelcome actions toward a person, creating discomfort and fear, generally through unwanted verbal, visual or physical interactions,

*Reaffirming* that experiencing violence in childhood impacts one’s lifelong health and well-being,

*Recognising* Target 16.2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, entitled ‘End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children’,

*Welcoming* and supporting the efforts made by member nations in order to combat this pressing issue at hand,

1. Invites member states to instate legal frameworks against the abuse and harassment of children in their countries including repercussions for the abuser/harasser, which may include:
	1. a standard sentence in a correctional facility,
	2. being overseen by a parole officer for up to 10 years after their release (up to the officer’s discretion);
2. Encourages internet platforms to take measures in order to keep the internet safe for children between the ages of 0-17, such as, but not limited to:
	1. increasing moderation on social interaction carried out by children,
	2. increasing security on areas of the internet used primarily by children,
	3. increasing the opportunities for children’s internet use to be overseen by their guardians;
3. Calls for the creation of the Committee to Combat Abuse Against Children (CCAAC), which would be concerned with the following:
	1. creating reports on efforts made to reduce the overall violence against children, in order to:
		1. provide information on the rise or fall of said violence
		2. advise member nations on how to increase their efforts
	2. creating recommendations for members of the committee in order to bolster their efforts against child abuse and harassment,
	3. sponsoring low-funded efforts/campaigns to tackle the issue, on the behalf of the United Nations;
4. Calls upon all member states to raise awareness of the abuse and violence inflicted upon children using methods including, but not limited to:
	1. social media campaigns informing the public of the shocking statistics unearthed by the UN,
	2. government-sanctioned talks carried out by educated professionals to parents/guardians, outlining:
		1. the lifelong repercussions that abuse and harassment as a child has on an individual
		2. the concerning increase in abuse and exploitation against children in recent years
		3. the importance of communication between children and adults in these situations
		4. the signs to recognize in case a child is in a dangerous situation involving abuse
	3. government-sanctioned talks carried out by educated professionals to children, outlining:
		1. the rights a child is entitled to, especially when put in a dangerous situation
		2. ways for children to recognise when they are put in dangerous situations
		3. websites and hotlines for children to contact someone when they feel they are in a dangerous situation;

1. Requests to take charge of children who have been diagnosed with having received a form of child abuse and harassment in order to guide them through the period of recovery and rehabilitation, with methods including, but not limited to:
	1. providing legal protection as well as legal counsel to those children concerned such as:
		1. a restraining order
		2. physical protection, if needed
		3. a court case
	2. providing help for any mental or physical issues stemmed through the abuse by means of:
		1. professional child therapist(s)
		2. doctors (of the victim’s desired gender)
		3. physical rehabilitation
		4. psychiatrist
	3. the measures, which have been mentioned, should only be taken into usage if the child voluntarily agrees on those;
2. Further calls upon all states to facilitate the possibility of a free self-defence course for children, such as, but not limited to:
	1. courses at school,
	2. courses in public gyms,
	3. courses in refugee homes and orphanages.