# Committee: UNICEF Topic Area: The issue of child marriage Sponsored by: Russian Federation Submitted by: DPRK, Serbia, Ukraine, Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Iraq, South Africa, Australia, Monaco, India, Greece, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Brazil, Jordan, Mexico, Spain

*The UNICEF Committee,*

*Taking into consideration* the fact that child marriage is not directly mentioned in the Convention of the Rights of a Child and it is indirectly associated with other fundamental rights such as those of freedom of expression, of protection from all forms of abuse and the right to be protected from harmful traditional practices,

*Recognizing* that early and forced child marriage consists a barrier against personal development and helps to continue the cycle of poverty and that the risk of child is also exacerbated in conflict and humanitarian crises situation,

*Given that* poverty and insecurity are among the root causes of child early marriage especially in rural areas and among the poorest communities,

*Recognizing* that the immediate alleviation and eventual eradication of extreme poverty must remain a high priority for the international community,

*Bearing in mind* that enforced and uphold laws and policies aimed to prevent and end child marriage, require the consent of a judicial body before the marriage enters into force,

1. *Encourages* the provision of economic support by countries that are willing to help financially and incentives to children and their families such as but not limited to: (USA)

Loans,

Opportunities to learn an income-generating skill;

2. *Proposes* the reevaluation of the Sustainable Development Goals’ agenda and specific target 3 of Goal 5 to end child, early and forced marriage;

3. *Further proposes* the introduction of educational programs on the protection of sexual and reproductive health for adolescents and youth to be delivered by the educational sector specialists, in collaboration with NGOs and with the technical support of healthcare organizations and the involvement of adolescent physiologists;

4. *Calls* for the creation and establishment of laws to restrict the age of marriage for children, in order for the children’s lives not to be put into danger, due to early pregnancies, cases of rape and domestic violence and suggests corporal punishments for those who do not abide with the aforementioned laws;

5. *Encourages* girls to participate more fully in the society as well as enact laws that will reinforce gender equality in theocratic states;

6. *Draws attention* to the importance of informing children about child grooming and its consequences and also the importance of teaching them how not to be victimized;

7. *Encourages* youth health services use peer to peer education to share knowledge for as to reproductive health and challenge patriarchical gender stereotypes by discussing other alternatives that women can follow even in media or education;

8. *Adopts* a program in which poor families are given a financial incentives for providing sustainable educational and health conditions for children and adolescents;

9. *Endorses* a training that would enhance the capacity of the media into projecting healthy methods of integration of women in society while strengthening their role as a vital aspect of economy and civil society;

10. *Insists* on the international community’s commitments regarding child protection are put into practice by eradicating child forced marriage;

11. Requests the cooperation of the scientific and medical communities with the member states in order to:

1. Emphasize on the negative effects of child marriage for children
2. Educate local communities on the mental and physical, short-term and long-term effects

12. Urges member states to eliminate the issue of child grooming by:

Ensuring that children are not being groomed online by:

Raising awareness between families and children about this issue for the parents to monitor their children’s online activity

Increasing security on several applications through monitoring those apps

Emphasizing on the punishments for the predators and enforce laws which need to be implemented

13. Recommends increased educational attainment, laws that will increase the minimum age of marriage, informing parents in practising communities of the risk of child marriage through political and local system.

14. Considers training programs being added to schools to address the impact of child marriage and importance of objective and gender sensitive coverage by the media, taking into account cultural sensitivities on child marriage with the intent of promoting change, enhance the capacity of participants to engage and work with other stakeholders in addressing the harmful practices of child marriage.

15. Deplores the forced wedding of those with mental disability or intellectual deficits as:

These children would be unable to comprehend the process due to their disability and as such are:

Unaware of the risks posed thereafter,

unable to comprehend the effect it has on their physical health and wellbeing,

Traumatic events, such as child grooming , have a profoundly negative effect on the children, and can cause even more adverse effects on those with disabilities, such as:

Suicidal thoughts or actions,

Severe anxiety or depression,

A worsening mental state when coupled with pre-existing condition;

16. Wishes to remain actively seized upon the matter.