

United Nations Human Rights Council
40th Session
Item 6: UPR outcomes
14 March 2019

**Oral statement by Save the Children:
Outcomes of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Mexico**

Mr. President,

We welcome the Mexican Government's commitment to work towards the full realization of human rights, and to endorse most UPR recommendations, particularly those related to children's rights. To this end, we urge the Government to ensure sufficient budget allocations for child welfare and social programmes and to refrain from pursuing austerity measures, including budget cuts, that undermine the State's capacity to respect, protect and fulfill children's rights.

On the eve of the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, we call on the Government to put the best interests of the child at the heart of its policies and to prioritize the following UPR issues:

- **Implement measures to effectively combat all forms of violence** against girls and women (UPR recommendation 132.216.) **and strengthen cooperation with independent experts and NGOs** in prevention efforts and data collection on violence against women and girls (UPR recommendation 132.211.);
- **Continue efforts to combat violence against children**, through a strong National Action Plan, **development of strategies and actions that address the structural causes of violence** and the inclusion of monitoring, evaluation and accountability mechanisms (UPR recommendation 132.225.);
- **Prohibit corporal punishment of children** in the General Act on the Rights of Children and Adolescents and the civil and family codes of the 32 federative entities (UPR recommendation 132.226.);
- **Ensure the alignment of federal and local legislation to the General Act on the Rights of Children and Adolescents** (UPR recommendation 132.230.);
- **Adopt a clear and budgeted program of work** for the National System for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents (UPR recommendation 132.231.);
- **Protect effectively and guarantee the safety and fundamental human rights of migrants, especially women and children**, including those who are in transit on the national territory, ensuring their access to justice, education, health and civil registry, incorporating the principle of the best interest of the child and the family unit (UPR recommendation 132.260.);

We call on the Government to implement specific and time bound measures under each UPR recommendation, to develop an action plan involving relevant ministries and to ensure space and the meaningful participation of civil society in the UPR follow-up and monitoring, so as to jointly construct effective public policies that respond to the needs of children in Mexico.

Thank you.