



# Convention on the Rights of the Child

Distr.: General  
13 May 2016

Original: English

---

## Meeting of States parties

### Sixteenth meeting

New York, 30 June 2016

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Election of nine members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in accordance with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as amended (see General Assembly resolution 50/155)**

## **Election of nine members of the Committee to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 28 February 2017**

### **Note by the Secretary-General**

1. In conformity with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the sixteenth meeting of the States parties to the Convention is to be held at United Nations Headquarters on Thursday, 30 June 2016 for the purpose of electing nine members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child from a list of persons nominated by States parties (see table), to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 28 February 2017 (annex I). The nine members who will continue to serve on the Committee until 28 February 2019 are listed in annex II.
2. In accordance with the procedure set out in article 43 (4) of the Convention, the Secretary-General, in a note verbale dated 2 March 2016, invited the States parties to submit their nominations for the election of nine members of the Committee by 2 May 2016. All the curricula vitae received by that date are included in the present document. Addenda to the present note will be issued for nominations received after the deadline.
3. In compliance with the provisions of article 43 (4) of the Convention, the Secretary-General has the honour to list below, in alphabetical order, the names of the persons nominated for election to the Committee, and the States parties that nominated them. Biographical data of the persons nominated, as furnished by the States parties concerned, are contained in annex III.

---

**Persons nominated by States parties**


---

<i>Name of candidate</i>	<i>Nominated by</i>
Ms. Amal Salman <b>Aldoseri</b>	Bahrain
Mr. Oumarou <b>Bocar</b>	Mali
Ms. Karla <b>Cueva</b>	Honduras
Ms. Milena <b>Grillo Rivera</b>	Costa Rica
Ms. Olga A. <b>Khazova</b>	Russian Federation
Mr. Cephas <b>Lumina</b>	Zambia
Mr. Benyam Dawit <b>Mezmur</b>	Ethiopia
Mr. Joseph Ndayisenga	Burundi
Mr. Wanderlino <b>Nogueira Neto</b>	Brazil
Ms. Mikiko <b>Otani</b>	Japan
Ms. Sara <b>Oviedo Fierro</b>	Ecuador
Mr. Luis Ernesto <b>Pedernera Reyna</b>	Uruguay
Ms. Ann Marie <b>Skelton</b>	South Africa
Ms. Velina <b>Todorova</b>	Bulgaria
Ms. Nazgul <b>Turdubekova</b>	Kyrgyzstan
Ms. Renate <b>Winter</b>	Austria

---

4. In compliance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 68/268, information regarding the current composition of the Committee, reflecting the balance in terms of geographical distribution and gender representation, professional background and different legal systems, as well as the tenure of current members, is contained in annexes I and II to the present document and in the biographical data of current members, which can be found on the web page of the Committee ([www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/Membership.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/Membership.aspx)).

5. In paragraph 13 of its resolution 68/268, the General Assembly encouraged States parties, in the election of treaty body experts, to give due consideration, as stipulated in the relevant human rights instruments, to equitable geographical distribution, the representation of the different forms of civilization and the principal legal systems, balanced gender representation and the participation of experts with disabilities in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies.

## Annex I

### Members of the Committee whose terms expire on 28 February 2017<sup>a</sup>

<i>Member</i>	<i>Country of nationality</i>	<i>Member since</i>
Ms. Amal Salman <b>Aldoseri</b>	Bahrain	2013
Mr. Peter <b>Gurán</b>	Slovakia	2009
Ms. Olga A. <b>Khazova</b>	Russian Federation	2013
Mr. Benyam Dawit <b>Mezmur</b>	Ethiopia	2013
Ms. Yasmeen <b>Muhamad Shariff</b>	Malaysia	2013
Mr. Wanderlino <b>Nogueira Neto</b>	Brazil	2013
Ms. Sara <b>Oviedo Fierro</b>	Ecuador	2013
Ms. Maria Rita <b>Parsi</b>	Italy	2013
Ms. Renate <b>Winter</b>	Austria	2013

<sup>a</sup> With regard to professional background and different legal systems, biographical data of the members may be found on the web page of the Committee, under “Membership”, by clicking on the name of the individual members. See [www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/Membership.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/Membership.aspx).

**Annex II****Members of the Committee whose terms expire on 28 February 2019**

<i>Member</i>	<i>Country of nationality</i>	<i>Member since</i>
Ms. Suzanne <b>Aho Assouma</b>	Togo	2015
Ms. Hynd <b>Ayoubi Idrissi</b>	Morocco	2015
Mr. Jorge <b>Cardona Llorens</b>	Spain	2011
Mr. Bernard <b>Gastaud</b>	Monaco	2011
Mr. Hatem <b>Kotrane</b>	Tunisia	2003
Mr. Gehad <b>Madi</b>	Egypt	2011
Mr. Clarence <b>Nelson</b>	Samoa	2015
Mr. José Angel <b>Rodríguez Reyes</b>	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	2015
Ms. Kirsten <b>Sandberg</b>	Norway	2011

## Annex III\*

### Amal Salman Aldoseri (Bahrain)

**Date and place of birth:** 22 December 1959, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

**Current position/function:**

- Member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child since 2013
- Vice-chairperson of the Committee, (Candidate for chairperson of the Committee in June 2014), member of the Bureau of the Committee
- Member of the Working Group on the 3<sup>rd</sup> optional protocol on a communications procedure
- Member of the Arab Committee on the Rights of the Child, League of Arab States, Cairo
- Ex member and present resource person of the National Committee for Childhood, headed the team to draft the first National Child Strategy and plan of action

**Working languages:** Arabic, English, French and first certificate in German

**Main professional activities:**

- Participated in developing 4 General Comments for the CRC: Harmful Practices (jointly with CEDAW), Children in Street Situations, Children's rights in public spending, Children in Migration Situations (with CMW).
- Member in the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CRC working group and participated in hangout meeting with children from different parts of the world.
- Participated in the preparation committee for the special session on children, New York 2001.
- Headed a professional team to draft the "Child Law" in accordance with the CRC, which was adopted in August 2012.
- Manager of the first National Youth Strategy 2005-2009 and the update 2011-2015, including young people's participation and rights.
- Manager of National Child Strategy in Bahrain and Action Plan 2012-2016.
- Manager of Situation Analysis (Sit-An) 2003 and 2011, focusing on the challenges facing the implementation of the Convention.
- Project Manager of Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, in coordination with UNICEF.
- Main contributor in writing Bahrain's initial, second and third periodic reports on CRC and member of the delegation for the dialogue with the CRC Committee, Geneva.
- Teacher, head of department, and then advisor on teaching methodology in the Ministry of Education.

---

\* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

**Educational background:**

- B.A., double major English Literature and translation, Kuwait University
- Post-graduate Diploma in Education, Bahrain University
- Master in Education- Sheffield University UK
- Course in “Innovation in Governance”, School of Government, Harvard University

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

- Initiated dialogue and lobbied to incorporate the CRC in the school curricula with Ministry of Education.
- Participated in the strategic planning for young people living in Bahrain in all fields, including human rights and civic participation.
- Founder of Bahrain Youth Parliament (age group 14-19 years).
- Founder of Y-PEER Education-Bahrain, the first and only in the region, in coordination with UNFPA to educate and train young trainers on sexual and reproductive health.
- Recognized trainer on capacity building and development of youth, children and women (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, League of Arab States (LAS)).
- Lead organizer of the Arab Child Festival.
- Launched Short Story Competition for Children to encourage writers and new young writers to produce story books for children.
- Lead organizer of the first Child Theatre Festival.
- Ex-Vice-president of International Council on National Youth Policy (ICNYP), Vienna.
- Ex-Board member of World Leisure Organization (WLO), USA.
- Member of non-profit Bahrain Society for Child Development, and member of Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Centre for speech and hearing, helping children with hearing disabilities.

**List of most recent publications:**

- “Child and Law in Bahrain”, 2003
- “Children’s Books in Public Libraries”, survey
- “Children’s Programmes in G.C.C. Television Channels”, survey

**Oumarou Bocar (Mali)**

[Original: French]

**Date et lieu de naissance :** 25 mai 1954 à Kirchamba (Diré)**Langues de travail :** le Français**Situation/fonction actuelle :**

Inspecteur des Services Judiciaires

Consultant pour mener des expertises et assistance technique de manière temporaire

Formateur occasionnel notamment en renforcement des capacités des professionnels en exercice

**Principales activités professionnelles :**

J'exerce actuellement les fonctions d'Inspecteur des Services Judiciaires qui consistent à procéder à l'inspection systématique des juridictions et autres services relevant du Département de la justice pour examiner le fonctionnement des structures, la qualité de la prestation des services, la qualité des décisions rendues, le traitement des dossiers et d'une manière générale la situation globale de la juridiction et son environnement. Ces inspections systématiques sont également l'occasion de fournir des conseils sur les aspects techniques, méthodologiques, déontologiques et éthiques aux magistrats et autres personnels, en exercice.

Je mène aussi des investigations sur des faits signalés commis par des acteurs de justice.

**Études :**

Diplôme de l'École Nationale d'Administration (Science Juridiques) Bamako-Mali

Diplôme de l'École Nationale de la Magistrature (Section Internationale) Paris-France

Diplôme d'Étude Approfondie (DEA) en Sciences Criminelles et Droit pénal (Toulouse)  
Doctorat en Droit Pénal et

Sciences Criminelles (Université des Sciences Sociales – Toulouse – France)

**Autres activités principales dans le domaine intéressant le mandat de l'organe conventionnel auquel postule le candidat :**

Pendant plusieurs années, nous avons eu l'occasion de travailler avec le bureau de l'UNICEF (Mali-Bamako) en qualité de consultant – Expert en Droit de l'Enfant.

Nous avons mené l'étude sur l'harmonisation de la législation nationale à la convention relative aux Droits de l'Enfant.

Cette étude a passé en revue l'ensemble de la législation nationale pour déceler les contrariétés, les vides et proposer des réformes pertinentes. Dans le même temps, nous avons mené des réflexions – actions pour la levée des réserves émises par le Mali. Aussi, nous avons lancé l'idée du « Code de protection de l'Enfant au Mali » et élaboré la première charpente de ce « Code » dans le cadre d'une expertise pour l'UNICEF-Mali.

Nous avons présidé la commission nationale de rédaction du rapport qui a eu le prix d'excellence CIWARA et effectué plusieurs missions dans la sous-région.

**Liste des publications les plus récentes du candidat dans ce domaine :**

Nous n'avons pas encore publié de travaux.

En revanche nous avons produit plusieurs communications, réflexions, contributions et études sur le Droit de l'Enfant, son évolution, sa mise en œuvre en égard aux différentes réalités nationales, internationales (culturelles, économiques, politiques, etc...) et animé plusieurs conférences, séminaires au Mali et à l'étranger.



**Karla Cueva (Honduras)**

[Original: Spanish]

**Lugar y fecha de nacimiento:** Copán Ruinas, Copán, 5 de octubre de 1970**Idiomas de trabajo:** Español e Inglés**Cargo o función actual:**

Subsecretaria de Derechos Humanos y Justicia

Gobierno de Honduras

2014 a la fecha

**Principales actividades profesionales:**

Coordinar la política pública de derechos humanos y el Plan Nacional de Acción en Derechos Humanos 2013-2022. Impulso al programa de formación en derechos humanos a funcionarios públicos, cuerpos del orden, gobiernos locales, entre otros. Coordinar el análisis para la prevención de la conflictividad social con enfoque de derechos humanos, coordinar el mecanismo de protección a defensores de derechos humanos, periodistas y operadores de justicia y coordinar la elaboración de los informes del Estado ante los órganos de tratados de derechos humanos.

**Títulos académicos:**

Licenciada en Ciencias Jurídicas y Sociales. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras 1993.

Abogada. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras. 2002.

Master de Estudios Avanzados en Derechos de la Niñez. Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch y University of Fribourg. Suiza. 2008.

**Otras actividades principales en el campo relacionado con el órgano correspondiente:**

Amplia experiencia en el estudio y defensa de los derechos de la niñez, desarrollo e inclusión social desde sociedad civil, (Casa Alianza Honduras, ChildFund, Ayuda en Acción, Plan International) organismos de cooperación internacional (IPEC/OIT, UNICEF, Banco Mundial) e instituciones públicas (Comisionado Nacional de los Derechos Humanos, Instituto Hondureño de la Niñez y la Familia, Secretaría de Desarrollo Social, Secretaría de Derechos Humanos, Justicia, Gobernación y Descentralización. Amplia experiencia en la elaboración de leyes, reglamentos, políticas públicas y programas sobre trata y explotación sexual comercial y trata de personas, trabajo infantil, desarrollo infantil temprano, entre otros temas. Autora y Coautora de diversos estudios sobre derechos de la niñez. Representante del Estado de Honduras ante el Consejo de Derechos Humanos (EPU 2010 y 2015), Comité de Derechos del Niño 2015 y Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos. Ex Subsecretaria de Política Social 2010-2012.

**Publicaciones más recientes en ese campo:**

Honduras: Ejecuciones Extrajudiciales De Niños, Niñas Y Adolescentes. Casa Alianza Honduras. 2002.

“Estudio De La Legislación Sobre Trabajo Infantil Doméstico En Honduras. Un análisis de la legislación nacional e internacional”. 2004.

“Análisis de la normativa nacional e internacional en materia de familia y niñez en Honduras”. 2008.

“Informe Latinoamericano Situación de la Niñez sin cuidado parental en riesgo de perderlo en América Latina. Contextos, Causas y Respuestas”. 2010.

**Milena Grillo Rivera (Costa Rica)**

[Original: Spanish]

**Lugar y fecha de nacimiento:** San José, Costa Rica; 21 de agosto de 1946.**Idiomas de trabajo:** Español, lengua materna; Inglés, dominio.**Cargo o función actual:**

Directora Ejecutiva, Fundación PANIAMOR, Costa Rica, con responsabilidad por el avance de su misión, la cual es “catalizar cambios perdurables en la calidad de vida y el cumplimiento de los derechos de las personas menores de edad en Costa Rica”. Representación legal y oficial de la organización ante los órganos y comisiones gubernamentales, intersectoriales, y redes de sociedad civil en el país e internacionalmente.

**Principales actividades profesionales:**

Incidencia política y movilización social para la prevención de violencia e inclusión social, desde los enfoques de derechos de la niñez y adolescencia y género - alcance regional.

Investigación aplicada al diseño y cabildeo de buenas prácticas para la acción institucional y social, en primera infancia y adolescencia.

Producción de modelos para la gestión institucional y social de la prevención de la violencia contra la niñez y la adolescencia.

Asesoría en la formulación de proyectos de ley y propuestas de política pública cultural sensitivos, para la protección efectiva de derechos de niñas, niños y adolescentes.

Diseño conceptual de mecanismos digitales para la participación adolescente ciudadana.

**Títulos académicos:**

Maestría en Ciencias Sociales, con énfasis en estudios de la violencia familiar y social.

Diploma en Derecho.

**Otras actividades principales en el campo relacionado con el órgano correspondiente:**

Representante ECPAT Internacional en el Panel de Alto Nivel para el Estudio global sobre explotación sexual en viajes y turismo, desde 2015.

Representante de la Región de América Latina en el Consejo Internacional ONG sobre Violencia contra la Niñez (INTCO), desde 2012.

Integrante Consejo Asesor, Defensoría de los Habitantes de la República, desde 2015.

Integrante Grupo de tarea contra la explotación de la niñez y la adolescencia en el turismo, Organización Mundial de Turismo, desde 2006.

**Publicaciones más recientes en ese campo:**

Somos Familia. Empoderamiento de las familias para una crianza respetuosa. PANIAMOR, Ministerio de Salud y otros. Costa Rica 2016 (en prensa); Niñez Ciudadana. Reconociendo y desarrollando capacidad de agencia desde la primera infancia. PANIAMOR, Ministerio de Salud y otros. Costa Rica 2014; Adolescencia y TIC en Costa Rica: nuevas oportunidades, nuevos desafíos. En: Ciberseguridad en Costa Rica. PROSIC, Universidad de Costa Rica. 2010.

## **Olga A. Khazova (Russian Federation)**

**Date and place of birth:** 25 July 1950

**Working languages:** Russian (native), English (fluent) and French (beginner)

### **Current position/function:**

Russian leading specialist in Russian and comparative family law, Associate Professor, Senior Research Fellow

Member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, elected at the Fourteenth meeting of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 18 December 2012

### **Main professional activities:**

Methodological Council at the RF Ministry of Justice – member of the Council, February 2010 – present.

Consultant and co-author for Lawyers for Constitutional Rights and Freedoms (JURIX) Foundation, participating in a funded project on protection of an individual against discrimination (2006-2007).

Consultant/advisor for the Russian-American Rule of Law Consortium (RAROLC); participated in the RAROLC Conferences on juvenile justice, child protection and domestic violence in Boston, USA (April, 2005) and Pskov, Russia (May 2005).

Expert in the meetings of a Group of Scientific Experts on Medical Liability of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation, Council of Europe (June 2006).

### **Educational background:**

Cornell Law School, Ithaca, N.Y., USA (LL.M. degree, May 30, 2004)

Institute of State and Law, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia (Doctor of Law Degree (Ph.D. in Law), 1982)

Moscow State Academy of Law (All-Union Law Institute), Moscow, Russia

Law Degree (J.D. equivalent), 1975

### **Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

As a member of the UN CRC: Visit to the UK (England and Wales) at the invitation of the Children's Commissioners (3-4 September 2015)

Lectured for the students at Geneva University Summer School on 'Children at the Heart of Human Rights' (9 June 2015)

Participated in the European Conference on the "Best interests of the Child" within the framework of the 25th anniversary of the UN CRC and Belgium's Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

Participated in a panel discussion on children in the digital environment, organized in the framework of the first meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2016-2019 (DECS-ENF), Strasbourg, 13-14 November 2014

### **List of most recent publications in the field:**

The first year of Application of the Hague 1996 Convention on Protection of Children in Russia: success story // *International Family Law*, London, 2014, No. 3. P. 165-169

Russia's Accession to the Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction 1980: New Challenges for Family Law and Practice // *Family Law Quarterly* (ABA, USA), 2014, Summer issue. Pp. 253-266

## **Cephas Lumina (Zambia)**

**Date and place of birth:** 13 June 1962, Kabwe, Zambia

**Working languages:** English

### **Current position/function:**

Research Professor of Public Law, Nelson R Mandela School of Law, University of Fort Hare (since 2014)

Extra-Ordinary Professor of Human Rights Law, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria (since 2010)

Visiting Professor of Law, University of Lusaka (since 2015, lecturing human rights law, among other courses)

Advocate of the High Court of Zambia (admitted 1986)

### **Main professional activities:**

Conducting research and supervising postgraduate student research mainly in the field of human rights; fostering the research culture in the Faculty of Law at the University of Fort Hare; conducting training on human rights issues (including children's rights) in both academic and non-academic contexts; presenting guest lectures on human rights at various universities; presenting papers at international conferences on human rights; participating in the activities of professional bodies (such as the African Network of Constitutional Lawyers, the International Association of Constitutional Law and the ETO Consortium); and consulting for international organisations, as well as governments and non-governmental organisations (including, UNDP, Canadian International Development Agency, Swedish International Development Agency, International Development Law Organisation, Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs [Zimbabwe], Legal Resources Centre [South Africa], Human Rights Trust of Southern Africa, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, No Peace Without Justice [Italy/Libya], and the Court of Appeal of Tanzania).

### **Educational background:**

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in International Law/Human Rights, Griffith University (1999)
- Master of Laws (LLM) in International Human Rights Law, University of Essex (1993)
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (with Merit), University of Zambia (1985)
- Postgraduate Diploma in International Human Rights Law, Abo Akademi University (2003)
- Certificate of Admission to Practice as an Advocate of the High Court of Zambia (1986)

### **Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

- Served as the United Nations Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights (2008-2014)
- Contributed to the development of international human rights standards (including the Guiding Principles on foreign debt and human rights [which I wrote], the

Guiding Principles on Human Rights and Extreme Poverty; and the Draft Guiding Principles on human rights and international solidarity)

- Member of the International Institute of Human Rights (since 2010)
- Visiting Professor, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (2007-2008) and Visiting Lecturer, Makerere University (2006)
- Senior Lecturer in Law, University of KwaZulu-Natal (2003-2009) and Lecturer in law, University of Swaziland (2000-2002)
- Legal practitioner, Zambia (1987-1993)

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

Numerous publications including reports prepared as UN Independent Expert on foreign debt and human rights and the following academic and non-academic work:

- ‘The Protection of Children in Armed Conflict,’ in F Viljoen & D Kuwali (eds), “*All Means Necessary*”: *Protecting Civilians and Preventing Atrocities in Africa* (forthcoming).
- ‘Sovereign Debt and Human Rights.’ In OHCHR, *Realizing the Right to Development: Essays in Commemoration of 25 Years of the United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development* (pp. 289-301). Geneva & New York: United Nations, 2013.
- *Manual on Human Rights State Party Reporting*. Harare: UNDP/Ministry of Justice, 2009.
- ‘Free Trade or Just Trade? The World Trade Organization, Human Rights and Development (Pts 1 & 2)’. *Law, Democracy & Development*, vol. 12, No. 2 (2008): 20-40 and vol. 14, No. 3 (2010): 1-26.
- ‘Terror in the Backyard: Domestic Terrorism in Africa and its Impact on Human Rights.’ *African Security Review*, vol. 17, No. 4 (2008): 112-132.
- ‘Child Soldiers: War Criminals or Pawns in a Deadly Game?’ *African Yearbook on International Humanitarian Law* (2007): 76-104.
- ‘Counting the Cost: The Impact of Corporate Warfare on the Human Rights of Women and Children in Africa.’ In S Gumede (ed), *Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa: The Need for a New Continental Approach*. Monograph No. 147 (pp. 101-120). Pretoria: Institute for Security Studies.
- ‘Counter-Terrorism Legislation and the Protection of Human Rights: A Survey of Selected International Practice.’ *African Human Rights Law Journal*, vol. 7, No. 1 (2007): 35-67.
- ‘An assessment of the human rights obligations of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund with particular reference to the World Bank’s Inspection Panel.’ *Journal for Juridical Science*, vol. 31, No. 2 (2006): 108-129.
- ‘The Promotion and Protection of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Right to Development under the African Regional Human Rights System.’ *Obiter*, vol. 27, No. 2 (2006): 316-332.

## **Benyam Dawit Mezmur (Ethiopia)**

**Date and place of birth:** 22 May 1980, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Working languages:** English and Amharic

### **Current position/function:**

Associate Professor of Law, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa and lecture/supervise on an ad hoc basis at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Director (Acting) of the Dullah Omar Institute<sup>a</sup> for Constitutional Law, Governance and Human Rights and Coordinator of its Children's Rights Project, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa

Chairperson, United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child

### **Main professional activities:**

Mr Mezmur is currently the Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and served as Vice-Chairperson from May 2013 until May 2015. As an academician Mr. Mezmur has lectured masters courses/ and supervised students on children's rights, the rights of persons with disabilities, international protection of human rights, international family law, and the African human rights system. He has also lectured in a number of academic institutions in Africa [Ethiopia and South Africa] and Europe [Belgium, Switzerland, The Netherlands, UK etc]. He coordinates/conducts research on children's rights in a number of African countries, and has been involved in institutional efforts aimed at providing technical support to governments through UN agencies such as UNICEF. In addition, he is involved in advocacy work on the rights of the child with treaty bodies at the UN, the Human Rights Council, and regionally, he continues to serve on the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child of the African Union.

### **Educational background:**

Doctorate in Law (LLD), (2010), University of Western Cape, (research paper on child rights in intercountry adoption)

Masters in Law (LLM) in Human Rights and Democratization (CHR), (2005), University of Pretoria, South Africa (research paper on child soldiers)

Postgraduate Diploma in international protection of human rights, (2007), Abo Akademi, Finland

Bachelor of Laws (LLB), (2003), Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia; and Certificates in mental disability law (CEU, Budapest); development law; international criminal and humanitarian law; ESC rights; etc.

---

<sup>a</sup> Formerly known as "Community Law Centre", and re-named after its founding Director, the first Minister of Justice of democratic and post-apartheid South Africa, Advocate Dullah Omar.

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

In addition to Mr. Mezmur's main professional activities mentioned above, he has also taken part in the negotiations to draft the 3rd Optional Protocol to the CRC; participated (since 2007-2012) in the contribution of submissions to the CRC Committee in its Days of General Discussion; and made submissions to the Human Rights Council, and participated in its Day on the Rights of the Child; etc. Formerly Mr. Mezmur was a Legal Officer (2003-2005) at the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF), and continues to serve on its International Board of Trustees, which is chaired by Mrs. Graca Machel. Mr. Mezmur also serves/served in Expert Groups/Meetings/Advisory Councils/Task Forces such as on the Sustainable Development Goals; children's rights and digital media; budgeting for children; children's rights and the business sector; commercial sexual exploitation (ECPAT); juvenile justice (UNODC); financial aspects of intercountry adoption (HCCH); violence against children including harmful practices (SRSG VAC and ACPF) and the right to education. Mr. Mezmur has also been invited as a speaker to more than 50 international and regional meetings/conferences/workshops in the last five years including more recently to the Council of Europe child rights conference (April 2016, Sofia), African Union Conference on the 25th anniversary of the African Children's Charter (Nov 2015, Addis Ababa), regional child rights forum on children and business (Sept 2015, Johannesburg), and regional nationality and statelessness conference (Feb 2015, Abidjan). Mr. Mezmur is a member of a number of child rights organizations' boards and professional bodies.

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

Mr. Mezmur has more than 50 published academic and lay publications/reports/etc on child rights in the last few years including:

- (1) "Madonna, Mercy, Malawi, and international children's rights law in adoption" (2012) 20 *International Journal of Children's Rights*;
- (2) "Corporal punishment and the African Children's Charter" (2012) (*Save the Children*);
- (3) "'Listen to us': Arguing for child participation in NEPAD" (2009) 17 *AJICL*;<sup>b</sup>
- (4) "The right to education in Africa: Taking stock" (Chapter in book) (2009);<sup>b</sup> (5) "Children at both ends of the gun: Child soldiers in Africa" (Chapter in book) (2008);
- (6) "From Angelina (to Madonna) to Zoe's Ark: What are the 'A-Z' lessons for intercountry adoptions in Africa" (2009) 23 *International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family*;
- (7) "2 + 2 = 5? Exploring the domestication of the CRC in the South African courts (2002-2006)" (2008) 16 *International Journal of Children's Rights* 1.<sup>b</sup>

---

<sup>b</sup> With J Sloth-Nielsen.



**Joseph Ndayisenga (Burundi)**

[Original: French]

**Date et lieu de naissance :** 17 novembre 1974, Gitega-Burundi**Langues de travail :** Français, Anglais et Kiswahili**Situation/fonction actuelle :**

Je suis le Directeur Général de la Solidarité Nationale au Ministère des Droits de la Personne Humaine, des Affaires Sociales et du Genre depuis le Décret Présidentiel du 22 juillet 2006 à nos jours. À ce titre, nous assurons la coordination de trois directions qui s'occupe respectivement de l'Intégration Sociale, de l'enfance et de la famille et celle de l'action humanitaire et assistance aux victimes des catastrophes.

**Principales activités professionnelles :**

- Coordonner l'organisation de la célébration des Journées relevant du domaine de la solidarité nationale dont la Journée de l'Enfant Africain célébrée le 16 juin.
- Favoriser l'émergence d'une culture d'entraide et de solidarité au niveau de toutes les couches de la population et des partenaires du Gouvernement ; coordonner.
- Contrôler et évaluer toutes les actions menées dans le cadre de l'intégration sociale, de l'enfance et de la famille, de l'action humanitaire et de l'assistance aux victimes des catastrophes.
- Contribuer à la promotion des systèmes de protection sociale; impulser et coordonner l'action des partenaires du Gouvernement et de la communauté dans l'assistance des personnes nécessiteuses.

**Études :**

Diplôme de Licence en Psychologie et Sciences de l'Éducation de l'Université du Burundi avec comme Mémoire de fin d'études universitaires : « L'Association des Garçons et Filles de Ménages "AGFM" telle qu'elle est perçue par les employeurs de la Mairie de Bujumbura », Mémoire présenté et soutenu publiquement le 11 juin 2003 avec comme sanction la note de 15 sur 20 (15/20).

**Autres activités principales dans le domaine intéressant le mandat de l'organe conventionnel auquel postule le candidat :**

- Deuxième Vice-Président du Comité Africain d'Experts sur les Droits et le Bien-être de l'Enfant, réélu lors de la 26<sup>ème</sup> Session Ordinaire du Comité qui s'est déroulée à Addis-Abeba (Éthiopie), du 16 au 21 novembre 2015 ;
- Président du Comité Technique National de Protection de l'Enfance depuis 2012 ;
- Président du Comité de suivi du processus de mise en place de la ligne d'assistance aux enfants depuis 2012, laquelle ligne a été lancée au mois de décembre 2015 ;
- Vice-Président du Conseil d'Administration du Fonds d'Appui à la Protection Sociale depuis le décret présidentiel de mai 2015 à nos jours ;
- Président du Comité National de Coordination de toutes les interventions en faveur des Orphelins et autres Enfants Vulnérables (OEV) d'avril 2008 jusqu'en 2010.

**Liste des publications les plus récentes du candidat dans ce domaine :**

Étant Président du Comité Technique National de Protection de l'Enfance, nous avons assuré la coordination de l'élaboration des politiques, stratégies et documents divers sur la

protection de l'enfance comme la Politique Nationale de Protection de l'Enfance, la Stratégie Nationale de Prévention et de Lutte contre le phénomène des enfants en situation de rue, le document sur les minima de standard pour les centres résidentiels.

## **Wanderlino Nogueira Neto (Brazil)**

**Date and place of birth:** 21 March 1945, Salvador, Brazil

**Working languages:** Spanish

**Current position/function:**

- Member of the Thematic Group for Monitoring the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child - Brazilian section of the network “Defense of the Children International” - DNI/DCI (Associação Nacional dos Centros de Defesa de Crianças e Adolescentes - ANCED). São Paulo, Brazil.
- Ad hoc Consultant for various entities and public agencies.

**Main professional activities:**

- Public Attorney (retired) for the Office of the State Attorney of the State of Bahia. Brazil.
- Attorney-General of the State of Bahia.
- General Director for the Justice Court of the State of Bahia.
- Secretary-General for the Office of the State Attorney of the State of Bahia.
- Secretary for the General Office of Internal Affairs of Justice of the State of Bahia.
- Legal Consultant for the Presidency of the Justice Court of the State of Bahia.
- Professor of Public International Law. Universidade Federal da Bahia. Brazil.
- Public Attorney for the Civil Chamber of the Justice Court of the State of Bahia.
- Public Attorney for the First Popular Justice Court of the District of Salvador. Bahia.
- Prosecutor for the Court of the Treasure of the District of Salvador. Bahia.
- Prosecutor for the Court of the Districts.

**Educational background:**

- B.A. in Law, Universidade Federal da Bahia. Brazil.
- Master in Economic Law, Universidade Federal da Bahia. Brazil.
- Post-graduation in Rights of Minors, Università di Macerata. Italy.
- Internship at the Center for Studies and Formation for the Judicial Protection of Youth. Ministry of Justice. Vaucresson/Paris. France.

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

- National Secretary of the Forum of Defense of Children and Adolescents.
- (Forum DCA). Brasilia. 1993.
- Special Consultant at the UNICEF Representative Offices in Brasília (Brazil), Praia (Cape Verde), Luanda (Angola) and Asunción (Paraguay). (1996-1999).
- Consultant at UNESCO in the area of Human Rights. Brasília, Brazil.
- Member of the Delegation of the Civil Society Coalition of Brazil to the Committee of the Rights of the Child (United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights),

which prepared the 2004 Alternative Report, and also, presented it to the aforementioned Committee in Geneva on June 2004.

- Coordinator of 19 Seminars on Juvenile Justice promoted by the Brazilian Association of Juvenile and Child Protection Judges and Public Attorneys, all over Brazil, in order to discuss the Social-Educative Treatment for the Adolescent in Conflict with the Law, within the framework of Human Rights and the National System of Social-Educative Treatment (SINASE). (2008-2009).

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

1 - 2007: Guia Estratégico para elaboração de Planas de Erradicação de Trabalho Infantil. OIT e Fórum PETL. Brasília, Brazil.

2 - 2006: Sistema de Garantia de Direitos. Revista Serviço Social e Sociedade - vol. 83. Cortez. São Paulo, Brazil.

3 - 2004: Direitos Humanos Geracionais. SEDH-CEDA/CEARÁ. Fortaleza, Brazil.

4 - 2003: Guia Metodológico para Implementação de Conselhos Tutelares. SEDH-CEDCA-CEARA. Fortaleza, Brazil.

5 - 2002: Ciranda dos Direitos. SEDH-CEDCA-CE. Fortaleza, Brazil.

6 - 1999: Sistema de Garantia de Direitos. Banco Interamericano de Desenvolvimento - BIRD & CENDHEC/PE. Recife, Brazil.

7 - 1987: O novo Ministério Público na Constituição de 1988. Empresa Gráfica da Bahia e UNBA. Salvador, Brazil.

8 - 1989: Conselhos paritários deliberativos numa visão gramsciana do Estado. PUC-RS. Porto Alegre, Brazil.

## **Mikiko Otani (Japan)**

**Date and place of birth:** 18 November 1964; Osaka, Japan

**Working languages:** English and Japanese

### **Current position/function:**

- Partner lawyer, Toranomom Law and Economic Offices; Lecturer (part-time), Soka University Graduate School of Law
- Chair, Japan Federation of Bar Associations Committee on International Human Rights
- Co-representative, Japan NGO Network for CEDAW
- Country representative of Japan, Family Law & Family Rights Section of LAWASIA (The Law Association for Asia and the Pacific)

### **Main professional activities:**

Ms. Mikiko OTANI is a practicing lawyer who specializes in family law with an advanced academic background and extensive experience of NGO activities in international human rights law. Her focus areas include migrant women and children, human trafficking, international child abduction, remedies for victims of human rights violations, access to justice and human rights education. Ms. Otani played an instrumental role in Japan's contracting the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction in 2014.

As a female leader representing civil society in Japan, Ms. Otani was an Alternate Representative of the Delegation of Japan to the 60th and the 61st UN General Assembly (Third Committee) (2005-2006) and an Advisor (NGO Representative) of the Delegation of Japan to the 53rd UN Commission on the Status of Women (2009). Ms. Otani has been actively involved with NGOs and professional organizations at the regional and the international levels, having served as a Regional Council member of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (2005-2014) and as Co-Chair of the Women Lawyers' Interest Group of the International Bar Association (2013-2014).

### **Educational background:**

1987 LL.B., Sophia University, Faculty of Law

1990 Diploma, Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court of Japan

1999 MIA, Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs

2003 LL.M., University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Law and Politics

### **Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

Ms. Otani has been actively involved in the reporting process for Japan under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women representing NGOs.

Ms. Otani has frequently been invited to speak on children's rights issues at regional and international conferences and to provide training on international human rights law, in particular, women's rights and children's rights, at professional training seminars for lawyers in various countries. She has also been invited to teach international human rights law at law schools in Japan and the USA.

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

- *Family Law: Jurisdictional Comparisons*, James Stewart (ed.) (European Lawyer Reference) (author for Chapter on Japan) (2013)
- *Practice of International Divorce* (co-author) (2012)
- “International Issues on Child Custody: Internationalization of Families and Need of International Response”, *International Affairs*, No. 607 (2011)
- “The Hague Convention on Child Abduction”, *Horitsu Jiho*, No. 1040 (2011)
- “Committee on the Rights of the Child”, Kentaro Serita et al. (ed.), *International Implementation of International Human Rights Law, Lecture on International Human Rights Law*, vol.4 (2011)

## **Sara Oviedo Fierro (Ecuador)**

**Date and place of birth:** 28 July 1952, Chambo, Ecuador

**Working languages:** Spanish

**Current position/function:**

- UN Committee on the Rights of the Child-Member (2013-2017) and Vice-chairperson of the Committee (2013-2017) of Latin America.
- Coordinator of the General Comment on Adolescents.
- Committee Focal point in the relationship between UNICEF and the Committee.

**Main professional activities:**

- Community Development Program for Childhood (MBS-UNICEF), General Coordinator, 1984-1989.
- Child Development Program, National Institute for the Child and Family, National Coordinator, 1989-2003.
- Ten-Year Plan for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents, General Coordinator, 2003-2004.
- National Council on Childhood and Adolescence, National Executive Secretariat, 2004-2012.
- Leadership on the formation of National System of Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents organisms: 215 Cantonal Councils, 131 Child Protection Committees, 483 Community Ombudsmanships and 92 Advisor Committees.
- Representative of Ecuador at the Inter-American Children's Institute, 2015-2012.
- President of the Board of Directors at the Inter-American Children's Institute, 2006-2008.
- Research and Consulting.

**Educational background:**

- University Degree in Sociology and Political, Master Degree in Sociology and Political, Universidad Central del Ecuador.
- Course on the design, evaluation and management of social projects, CONADE-UNICEF-PNUD-UNESCO-ILPES.
- Postgraduate course on Economic and Social Policy, ILDIS-UNICEF – Universidad Católica.
- Advanced course on youth and society in Latin America, Latin American Social Science Institute (FLACSO).

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

- Institutional consolidation of the National Council on Childhood and Adolescence, with approved Budget and statutes.
- Consolidation of the Ecuadorian Central Authority for the implementation of international rules and regulations on child abduction, child adoption and parental responsibility.

- Contribution to legislative developments on Criminal Code, Child Work, Rules and Regulations.
- Established ongoing links with other National System of Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents organisms: National Judiciary Council, National Special Police Unit for Children and Adolescents, Office of the Ombudsman, Office of the Public Prosecutor.
- Acted in defining the government policy of comprehensive protection of children and adolescents.
- Monitoring and exigibility of child rights.
- Developed the Social Agenda on Childhood and Adolescence as an instrument of public policy for comprehensive protect.

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

- Child development programme: minimum quality standards of child development centers.
- Article: “Lessons learnt and challenges of the children’s rights movement in Ecuador 1990-2008” in “Rights and guarantees for children and adolescents: towards the consolidation of the integral protection doctrine”.
- Article about the best interest of the child, in “Review of the House of Representatives”, Mexico.
- Article about “The Convention on the rights of the child” in “CDIA” review, Paraguay, 2015.



**Luis Ernesto Pedernera Reyna (Uruguay)**

[Original: Spanish]

**Lugar y fecha de nacimiento:** Bella Unión, Uruguay, 1969**Idiomas de trabajo:** Español (lengua materna); Francés (avanzado), Portugués (avanzado) e Inglés (conocimientos básicos)**Cargo o función actual:**

- Secretario Ejecutivo del Comité de los Derechos del Niño – Uruguay<sup>c</sup>
- Miembro del Consejo Coordinador de la Red Latinoamericana y Caribeña por los derechos de niños, niñas y adolescentes (REDLAMYC)
- Responsable del Área de Derechos de la niñez y adolescencia del Instituto de Estudios Legales y Sociales del Uruguay (IELSUR)
- Asesor en temas de derechos de infancia para organizaciones sociales

**Principales actividades profesionales:**

- Coordinador en Uruguay del Proyecto de la Organización Mundial Contra la Tortura (OMCT): “Implementing international standards to protect children deprived of liberty from torture and ill-treatment in Benin, Uruguay and Philippines”
- Coordinación, sistematización, redacción y presentación de los Informes Alternativo sobre aplicación de la Convención sobre los Derechos del Niño en Uruguay, Comité de los Derechos del Niño (años 2002, 2006, 2013)
- Consultor en el “Estudio de balance regional sobre la implementación de la Convención sobre los Derechos del Niño en América Latina y el Caribe. Impacto y retos a 20 años de su aprobación”, de la Red Latinoamericana y Caribeña por los Derechos del Niño (2009)
- Miembro del Consejo Nacional Honorario y Consultivo de Niñez y Adolescencia, creado por el Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia (2008 a 2011)

**Títulos académicos:**

- Estudios en Derecho – Facultad de Derecho, Universidad de la República (Udelar) 1989/1996
- VII Curso de Especialización “Protección Jurisdiccional de los Derechos del Niño para jueces, abogados y fiscales del cono sur”, realizado en Santiago de Chile entre los días 13 y 17 de diciembre de 2004, organizado por UNICEF y Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad Diego Portales

**Otras actividades principales en el campo relacionado con el órgano correspondiente:**

- Integrante de la delegación de sociedad civil para presentar los Informes No Gubernamentales de Aplicación de la Convención sobre los Derechos del Niño. (2002/2006/2015)
- Participación como ponente en la Reunión Anual sobre los derechos del niño del Consejo de Derechos Humanos (Marzo, 2012)

---

<sup>c</sup> Coalición de ong uruguayas que realiza el monitoreo sobre la aplicación de la Convención de los Derechos del Niño.

- Seleccionado entre los 20 representantes de las ONG para la reunión de revisión World Fit for Children Plus 5 Review. Commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, (Nueva York, Diciembre de 2007)
- Investigador del “Estudio sobre armonización legislativa conforme a los tratados de derechos humanos ratificados por Uruguay u otras normas con fuerza vinculante”, realizado en el marco del proyecto de Asistencia Técnica al Parlamento del PNUD y ACNUDH. (2005)

**Publicaciones más recientes en ese campo:**

- “Gritos Amargos”, en “Próximos pasos hacia una política penitenciaria de Derechos Humanos en Uruguay. Ensayos de seguimiento a las recomendaciones de 2009 y 2013” publicado por la Relatoría de Naciones Unidas contra la tortura, Washington College of Law y Antitorture Initiative, 2014.
- “Los peligros de la justificación educativa en las sanciones a los adolescentes: en el bien no hay excesos”, en La Escuela y lo justo. Ensayos acerca de la medida de lo posible, Myrima Southwell y Antonio Romano compiladores, UNIPE Editorial Universitaria, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2013.
- Niños o menores? El lenguaje de la Estigmatización. Los incorregibles de siempre, Luis Eduardo Moras, Luis Pedernera, en La permanente crisis de la política criminal. A 20 años del primer congreso de derecho penal y criminología, Comisión Ad Hoc de Derecho Penal del Centro de Estudiantes de Derecho - CIEJ, 2012.
- Estudio de balance regional sobre la implementación de la Convención sobre los derechos del niño. Impacto y retos a 20 años de su aprobación. Coautor con Silvana Pedrowicz, REDLAMYC, 2010.
- Llover sobre mojado. Consideraciones sobre infancia y adolescencia en el Uruguay de hoy: Infancia familia y genero. Múltiples abordajes. En coautoría con Sandra Leopold. Comp. Mónica de Martino, Ediciones Cruz del Sur, 2009.

## **Ann Marie Skelton (South Africa)**

**Date of birth and citizenship:** 13 July 1961, South African

**Working language:** English (home language) and French (basic)

### **Current position/function:**

Ann Skelton is a Professor of Law at the University of Pretoria, where she holds the UNESCO Chair in Education Law in Africa. She is also the Director of the Centre for Child Law which promotes children's rights in South Africa through advocacy, law reform, research and litigation. She is a practicing lawyer who often appears in South African courts, arguing landmark children's rights cases.

### **Main professional activities:**

Ann Skelton is recognised in her country and internationally as a foremost expert in child law. During a career spanning 25 years she has used the law as a means to advance children's rights. She has been instrumental in law reform in South Africa: She chaired the committee that the Child Justice Act (2008) at the SA Law Reform Commission, and was a member of the committee that drafted the Children's Act (2005). She continues to be invited by the government to draft amendments to child-related legislation, and frequently makes submissions to Parliament in this regard. She was recently appointed by the South African government as a member of a Ministerial Advisory Committee to review the social welfare white paper. Professor Skelton is also a member of the South African Human Rights Commission advisory committee on child rights and basic education. She is well respected amongst government, non-government and academic peers. The global acknowledgement of her expertise in child rights and child law has resulted in her being invited to give expert input in training and missions in many countries including Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, China, Thailand, Japan, Nepal, Vietnam, Fiji and Albania. She has also spoken at numerous international conferences. Professor Skelton has received several awards including the *Honorary World's Children's Prize*, presented to her by the Queen of Sweden in 2012.

### **Educational background:**

Ann Skelton has a doctorate in law (LLD) from the University of Pretoria, the thesis topic was child justice. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

### **Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

Ann Skelton is recognised within the United Nations system as an expert on children's and as such has been invited by UNICEF, UNODC, OHCHR, amongst others, to provide expert technical input, for example:

- March 2014: Participated in the expert meeting to discuss access to justice in the IDLO region (Eastern Europe) in Geneva, at the request of UNICEF.
- Jan 2012: Prepared the concept document for and participated in an expert consultation on '*Violence against children in the juvenile justice system*' in Vienna, at the request of the UNODC, the OHCHR and the SR of the UN Secretary General on Violence Against Children. This culminated in a thematic report. It was presented to the General Assembly on 27 June 2012 (A/HRC/21/25).

- September 2011: Participated as a plenary panel speaker at the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child ‘*Day of General Discussion: Children of incarcerated parents*’.
- July 2011: Participated in the expert group meeting to discuss ‘*The legal framework required to prohibit, prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children*’ in Geneva, at the request of OHCHR and the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
- March 2011: Participated in the expert group meeting to review a first draft of a ‘*Model Law on Juvenile Justice*’ in Vienna, at the request of the UNODC.
- June 2010: Participated in the expert group meeting to discuss ‘*The 3<sup>rd</sup> optional protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure*’, at the request of the OHCHR.

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

- Skelton A ‘South Africa’ in T Liefwaard and J Doek (eds) *Litigating Children’s Rights: The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in Domestic and International Jurisprudence* (2015) 1-13 Springer: Netherlands 978-94-017-9444-2.
- Skelton A ‘Freedom in the Making’ in F Zimring et al *Juvenile Justice in Global Perspective* (2015) 327-369 NYU Press: New York 9781479826537.
- Skelton A ‘S v Williams: A springboard for further debate about corporal punishment’ 2015 *Acta Juridica* 263.
- Skelton A ‘Proposals for the review of the minimum age of criminal responsibility 2013 (3) *South African Journal of Criminal Justice* 257-275.
- Skelton A ‘The role of the courts in ensuring the right to a basic education in a democratic South Africa: a critical evaluation of recent education case law’ 2013 46(1) *De Jure* 1-23.

## **Velina Todorova (Bulgaria)**

**Date and place of birth:** 3 May 1958, Bulgaria

**Working languages:** Bulgarian, English and Russian

### **Current position/function:**

Associate Professor (Docent): Law Faculty, University of Plovdiv and Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (1995-date). Research & teaching subjects: Civil & Family Law and Rights of Children. Member to the Experts' Committee on the CoE Strategy on the Rights of the Child (2014-15). Board member of the Bulgarian Centre for Non for Profit Law (2015). Editorial Advisory Board Member of the International Journal on the Rights of the Child, BRILL, Nijhoff.

### **Main professional activities:**

Deputy Minister of Justice (Dec 2011-May 2013) (sectors i.a.: International Child Protection and Adoption, Juvenile Justice Reform). National Program Manager for International Labour Organisation (ILO)/ IPEC (2004-09): on child labour, WFCL, incl. sexual exploitation and trafficking in children. Director International Cooperation – Agency for Child Protection to the Council of Ministers (2001-04). Extensive legal expertise and experience in: law making {Family Code (2008), Child Protection legislation (1999-2000, 2003, 2009; incl. Draft Child's Rights Act of 2010), Domestic Violence Act (2005), Supported Decision Making Draft Law (2014-16); new Juvenile Justice Legislation (2014-16); strategic planning (National Strategy on the Child (2008-18); Road Map on the Juvenile Justice Reform (2013-15). Awarded by the: President of the Republic of Bulgaria in the occasion of 25th anniversary of the UN CRC (2014) and by Chair of the State Agency for Child Protection (2016).

### **Educational background:**

Last training: Oxford University, UK: Children & Family Law (2000); Human Rights Law; European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, Nottingham University UK Law Faculty (Sept.-Dec.1997); Family Law & Children Law, Brunel University – London (April-May 1996). Ph. D. in Sociology of Law (1989). Lawyer, MA, Law Faculty, Sofia University (1976-1980).

### **Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

NGO activists since 1995 (Women in Legal Profession, GERT, Centre on Women's Studies and Policies). Experience in reporting under the: CRC: Initial Report on Bulgaria's Progress and Delegation member (1996-97) and Second (Periodic) Report (2003); CEDAW (contributor to the Periodic (6 & 7 consolidated) Reports. Member of the: Commission on European Family Law – CEFL: <http://www.ceflonline.net/> and International Society on Family Law – ISFL. International consultancy on CRC, Family Law, Child Rights & Protection (Moldova, 2010, Tajikistan, 2011), on CRPD (Moldova, UNDP, 2014). Reporter to various national & international conferences.

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

Family Code: Thematic Commentary. 2015, Sofia, Chapters: Adoption; Parents – Child Relationship. Family Justice in Bulgaria: The Old System and the New Demands. In: Delivering Family Justice in 21st Century. Hart Publishers, 2015. The New Paradigm of the Legal Capacity: article 12 of the UNCPRD. Pravna Misal, 1/2014, Mothers and Fathers Disputing Parental Rights: For a New Gender Order in the Family Law? In: Family Relationships in the Changing Society. Sofia, SIBI, 2014. Child Relocation: the Law and Practice in Bulgaria. Pravna Misal, 3/2011. Children's Rights in Bulgaria after the End of the Communism. The International Journal of Children Rights, Vol. 17, No. 4, 2009.

## **Nazgul Turdubekova (Kyrgyzstan)**

**Date and place of birth:** June 17, 1972

**Working languages:** Kyrgyz (native), Russian (fluent) and English (working)

### **Current position/function:**

Director of Public Fund “Child’s Rights Defenders League” (2008-present). Overall coordination of Public Fund’s activities in the area of child’s rights defence from violence, promotion of child’s rights to education, child’s labour and protection of rights of children with disabilities. Supervision and monitoring of orphans, schools and boarding schools on its compliance to child protection legislation; coordination of public monitoring over implementation of child protection policy/legislation; participation in drafting of legislation; development of policy and programmes on maternity, family and childhood issues; preparation and presentation of alternative reports to the UN Committees.

### **Main professional activities:**

Public Adviser on Child Rights of the Vice Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan on Social Affairs (February 2016-present);

Chairman of the Coordination Council of National Center for the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment (2015-present);

Deputy Chairman of the Coordination Council on Social Protection and Child’s Rights under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (2015-present);

Member of the Coalition of NGOs for the Promotion of Socio-Economic Rights (2013-present);

Coordinator of the Programme “Monitoring of Human Rights in the Kyrgyz Republic”, NGO “Youth Human Rights Group” (2000-2008);

Social worker in two shelters for street children, “Ak-Jol” and Center for the Protection of Children (1996-2000);

Teacher of the Kyrgyz Language Grammar, School #29, Bishkek (1993-1996).

### **Educational background:**

Issyk-Kul University named after Tynystanov, Teacher (1989-1993); Graduate School of the University named by Arabaev (1996-1998), Pedagogy and Psychology; Kyrgyz-Slavic University, Lawyer (2003-2006); Advanced Course on Human Rights NGO Leaders, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Poland (2006-2007); Distance Learning Course, organized by the Women’s Gender Studies University of Oulu, Finland “Basis for Professional and Social Development: Prevention of Violence, Compassion and Non-violence” (January-March 2015).

### **Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

Preparation and presentation of Alternative NGO Reports to the following UN Committees:

- UN Committee on Child’s Rights (2013);
- UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2014);
- UN Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (2014);
- UN Committee on Human Rights (2014).

Provision of legal and direct support to vulnerable groups of children/families; handling of advocacy campaigns, monitoring, data collection and research in the field of children rights; training on children rights for government and non-government and business organizations, provision of legal expertise on children protection issues/children rights.

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

Monitoring report on implementation of the Plan on optimization of management and funding of residential institutions for child care in the Kyrgyz Republic 2015; Monitoring and Evaluation report on implementation of the Social Protection Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012-2014; Analysis of public policy for the protection of socio-economic rights of children and women in Kyrgyzstan 2013; Observance of the “Children’s right in family surroundings of the Kyrgyz Republic”, Report on the monitoring results 2010.



## **Renate Winter (Austria)**

**Date and place of birth:** 8 March 1944, Vienna

**Working languages:** English, French, Spanish, German and Dutch

### **Current position/function:**

Member of the Appeals Chamber of the residual Special Court of Sierra Leone (appointed by the UN Secretary General in June 2002).

Member of the Committee of the Rights of the Child since February 2013, Vice-president of the Committee since February 2015.

### **Main professional activities:**

Since June 2002 Judge to the Appeals Chamber of the Special Court for Sierra Leone; between 2002 and 2014 Interims President, Vice-president and President of the Court 2 years respectively, since 2014 member of the Appeals Chamber of the residual Special Court for Sierra Leone. President of the International Association of Youth and Family Court Judges and Magistrates for four years during this period.

2000-2002: International Judge with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) at the Mitrovica Regional District Court and Justice at the Supreme Court of Kosovo.

1996-2000: UN Centre for International Crime Prevention, Vienna, expert consultant on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on four continents.

1981-1996: Judge at the Vienna Youth Court.

### **Educational background:**

The candidate holds a Law Degree as well as a Master Degree in Interpretation from the University of Vienna.

### **Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

Throughout her career, Justice Winter has worked for child-friendly juvenile justice and the protection of children. She has worked with State parties from diverse legal cultures on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

As an international judge in post-conflict situations, Justice Winter acquired first-hand experience in tackling challenges in the protection of women and children, including the rehabilitation and reintegration of children affected by armed conflict.

Renate Winter has contributed to a number of United Nations draft model laws and manuals in the area of juvenile justice. She has long-standing expertise in the prevention of child abuse and the protection of children against organized crime, including trafficking.

- Founding member of the International Institute for the Rights of the Child (Institut International des Droits de l'Enfant – IDE)
- Contributor to the Draft Model Law on Juvenile Justice, the UN Manual on Juvenile Justice, and the Draft Model Law on Child Victims & Witness Protection as well as to the Youth Code of Georgia
- Rapporteur of the Council of Europe on Family Mediation
- Chair of the Scientific Committee for European Master Studies in Mediation
- Cross-regional field experience in juvenile justice projects

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

- Children as victims and witnesses – a question of law and of rights, 2009.
  - Les Droits de l’Enfant: Douze récits pour ne pas s’endormir, 2004.
  - Bringing medical evidence of torture to international tribunals, in: Shedding light on a dark practice, 2009.
  - Der Special Court for Sierra Leone. Ein Erfahrungsbericht, in: Vom Recht der Macht zur Macht des Rechts, 2006.
-