Multi-Religious Study on the Contributions of Religious Communities to the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

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**MISSION:**

- Arigatou is a faith based NGO with Buddhist roots promotes interfaith collaboration for the promotion of CRC and child rights

- Arigatou convenes diverse religious leaders, faith based, and child focused organizations to work together on children’s rights
Arigatou International
All for Children

GNRC
Global Network of Religions for Children

Ethics Education

End Child Poverty

Prayer and Action

Building a better world for children
CRC Study: Purpose

- Commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the CRC’s adoption.
- CRC Study from a multi-religious perspective is a unique contribution.
- Close collaboration with Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG).
- Collaboration with UNICEF.
- In Partnership – World Vision, KAICIID, others to be confirmed.
2019

February
- Side event during the Human Rights Council Session in Geneva

March
- Regional Consultation for Latin America in Montevideo

April
- National Consultations with Children held in Bosnia & Herzegovina, India, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, and Uruguay

1st Meeting of the Study Team in Tokyo
- Consultation in New York
Consultative Meeting with Religious Scholars and Child Rights Experts in Geneva

Side event at the High Level Political Forum in New York City at UNICEF HQ

Side event at the UN General Assembly New York City

May

June

July

September

November

Regional Consultation for the African region in Nairobi

Regional Consultation for the Middle East

Launch of the Study in Geneva in collaboration with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and parallel launches in New York and Nairobi on 20 November 2019
CRC Study:

Aims

- **Multi-religious perspective** from a diversity of religious traditions, drawing primarily on the experience and traditions of 7 religions namely, Baha'i Faith, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Sikhism
CRC Study:
Aims

- Address **common values** inherent in all the major religions which are reflected in the CRC’s principles and standards.
CRC Study:

Aims

- Highlight important role played by religious leaders and faith communities from their contributions during the CRC’s ten-year drafting process, to their advocacy for its adoption by the UN General Assembly in 1989 and subsequent ratification by U.N. Member States, and finally to their promotion of the treaty’s implementation during the past thirty years.
CRC Study:
Aims

- Provide a holistic analysis of the common ground found in the CRC and the major religions.
CRC Study:

Aims

- Mobilize diverse religious groups to further promote CRC.
The CRC Study will also...

- Review questions raised about the treaty, in particular in regard to the reservations to the CRC initially made by ratifying States on religious grounds, and address their current status.
The CRC Study will also...

- Discuss some of the controversial issues that have surfaced over the years around children’s rights within faith communities which have led to misunderstandings and confusion, and in some cases, hindered efforts to implement the CRC.
The CRC Study will also...

- Highlight selected examples of the valuable contributions by faith communities in different parts of the world to the CRC’s implementation, and identify best practices, lessons learned and recommendations.
CRC Study:
Intended Audience

• Faith communities, Religious Leaders, and Faith-based Organizations

• Other NGOs, academic institutions and universities

• UN Agencies, CRC Committee, Policy-makers, Governments

• Child rights Advocates

• Children and Youth
CRC Study: Methodology

- Diverse experts form writing team with research assistance
- Desk review of existing literature
- Consultations with diverse religious leaders and scholars
- Focus Groups with Children held in 5 countries
- Survey sent out through the Global Network of Religions for Children
- Written contributions received from diverse religious groups
Nov. 20, 2019
Launching and Dissemination

- Key findings will be incorporated into the Report of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children and presented to the High-level Political Forum for reviewing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – July 2019
Nov. 20, 2019
Launching and Dissemination

- Presented to the **UN General Assembly** at side event
- Presented to **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child**
- Presented to **faith based organizations** and their networks – 2019-2020
Nov. 20, 2019
Launching and Dissemination

- Disseminated on the Arigatou International Websites and updated

- GNRC and World Day of Prayer and Action for Children, Ethics Education for Children