

National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC)

2019 - 2024 (Child Friendly Version)





social development

Department:
Social Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The National Plan of Action 2019-2024, Child Friendly Version is a summary of the NPAC 4

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

It is 25 years since South Africa ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This ground-breaking Convention, which sets out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of children, was the first international treaty ratified by the new democratic government.

The rights of children are protected in our Constitution, and since 1994 we have instituted a range of legislative, policy and regulatory instruments to advance and promote these rights. Despite our significant developmental gains as a nation since the advent of democracy, widespread poverty and inequality persists, and continues to have a particularly dire effect on children's lives, education and health outcomes.

This fourth National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC) for the period 2019-2024 is a review of the progress we have made in advancing child rights and sets out our programme to advance this key mandate of government over the next five years.

The NPAC was born out of the need to design and implement an appropriate, responsive and effective framework for advancing children's rights. It aims to mainstream children's rights across government and drive collaboration with sectoral stakeholders and wider civil society.

As a planning and implementation tool, the NPAC is aligned with our Constitutional mandate, national priorities and aspirations as a developmental state. It places child rights at the centre of our national development agenda and facilitates the progressive realisation of children's civil, social, economic and cultural rights.

The fourth NPAC is being published as we are working to reconfigure the machinery of state to make it more streamlined, efficient and people-centred.

We are working to ensure greater alignment between government departments and entities in the design and implementation of programmes that

serve our people and meet their needs.

The NPAC will play an invaluable role in driving inter-governmental collaboration between all organs of state to advance children's rights.

As a nation, we have an obligation to honour the rights of children both as a collective and individually. We have to ensure that ours is a nation that invests in our children to enable them to reach their full potential. It is not a task that falls to government alone.

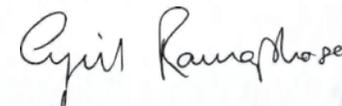
The success of this fourth NPAC rests on the support of wider society. We will continue to depend on parents and caregivers, families and households, faith and community-based organisations, non-governmental organisations, traditional healers, the business sector, traditional leaders, parliament, UNICEF and other international agencies to support us in the implementation of this NPAC.

This ongoing support will be critical. It is through these partnerships that we can accelerate our efforts to be a country where every child has equal opportunity and whose rights are both protected and advanced. The fourth NPAC is a clear roadmap as we move together towards this destination.

In this final decade towards the realisation of Vision 2030 of the National Development Plan, we must strive with added urgency to give full effect to the rights of the child; recognising as we do that South Africa's prosperity lies with our young.

It is only in respecting their rights and giving effect to them, and in providing an enabling environment for our young people to grow and thrive, that our country can be said to be truly democratic, prosperous and free.

As President Nelson Mandela said, our children are our greatest asset as a nation and are the rock on which our future will be built.



Mr Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa

MESSAGE FROM MINISTER

MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FROM UNICEF

Children and their future are core to South Africa's values. This is a progressive country for children, where their rights are explicitly enshrined in the South African Constitution and the various international instruments that South Africa has ratified. The Bill of Rights in the South African Constitution specifically guarantees that "a child's best interests are of paramount importance in every matter concerning the child".

However, children still face multiple deprivations during childhood that have been exacerbated by the broad ranging impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. This fourth edition of the National Plan of Action comes at an opportune time to reinstate our 'Call to Action for Children' and to renew our commitment to put children at the centre of policies, plans, budgets and decisions to build a safer, fairer and better South Africa for every child.

The National Plan of Action for Children is key in protecting, promoting and fulfilling the rights of children nationally and also in monitoring progress on the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We look forward to supporting the government, civil society and other partners to successfully implement and monitor the National Plan of Action to ensure that every child in South Africa survives and thrives, to ultimately fulfill their full potential.



Christine Muhigana

UNICEF Representative, South Africa, 11 November 2020

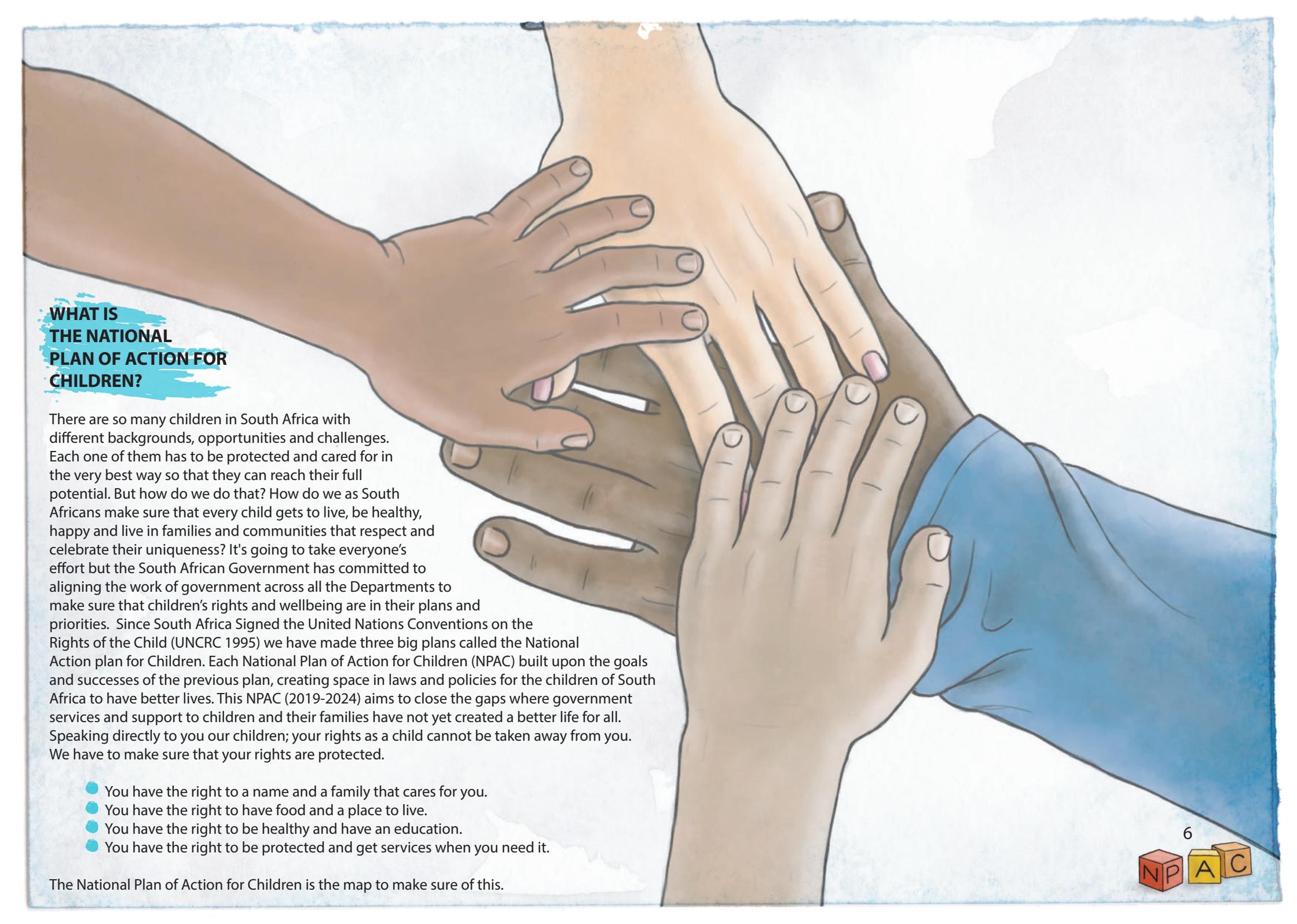
"We cannot be true liberators unless the liberation we will achieve guarantees all children their rights to life, health, happiness and free development, respecting the individuality, inclinations and capabilities of each child.

Our liberation would be untrue to itself if it did not, among its first tasks, attend to the welfare of the millions of children whose lives have been stunted and turned into a terrible misery by the violence of the apartheid system."

Oliver Tambo (1987)

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WHAT IS THE NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR CHILDREN?

There are so many children in South Africa with different backgrounds, opportunities and challenges. Each one of them has to be protected and cared for in the very best way so that they can reach their full potential. But how do we do that? How do we as South Africans make sure that every child gets to live, be healthy, happy and live in families and communities that respect and celebrate their uniqueness? It's going to take everyone's effort but the South African Government has committed to aligning the work of government across all the Departments to make sure that children's rights and wellbeing are in their plans and priorities. Since South Africa Signed the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC 1995) we have made three big plans called the National Action plan for Children. Each National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC) built upon the goals and successes of the previous plan, creating space in laws and policies for the children of South Africa to have better lives. This NPAC (2019-2024) aims to close the gaps where government services and support to children and their families have not yet created a better life for all. Speaking directly to you our children; your rights as a child cannot be taken away from you. We have to make sure that your rights are protected.

- You have the right to a name and a family that cares for you.
- You have the right to have food and a place to live.
- You have the right to be healthy and have an education.
- You have the right to be protected and get services when you need it.

The National Plan of Action for Children is the map to make sure of this.

WHERE DOES THE NPAC FIT INTO THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN FOR SOUTH AFRICA?

Our government has looked at the struggles of children and the families of South Africa and seen that many children still don't have the basic things they need to live. The government has seen that they have to move faster and be stronger to meet the needs of our people. There is an important goal for the year 2030 when you will be a grown-up, where we will look back to see if we moved fast enough and made the plans work so that the children in our country have a better life. The National Development Plan (NDP) is the handbook that has all of the plans, not just for children, but for all people to make South Africa the best country in Africa to live in. The NDP has seven very important goals called "priorities" and in the NPAC 2019-2024, we looked at what is important for you and how the government can ensure that these priorities benefit you in real life.

PRIORITY 1: Create opportunities for families to work and earn money.

- Make sure all children that are born have enough support to survive.
- Make sure that families are doing better from tracking statistics.
- Make sure no child lives in deep poverty through social assistance and grants.

PRIORITY 2: All children are healthy and have an education.

- Make sure that children are healthy and get the right medicine when they are sick.
- Make sure that children can go to school and learn from their teachers.
- Make sure that children don't go hungry.
- Make sure that children and their families can receive help when they struggle in their relationships.



Dear minister

HERE ROADS

Dear minister I want you to make some road on Olievenhoutbosch because some extions are having some road but other they dont have road and our parents are complaining of the road they say they cant buy some cars cause the road is not good



HERE HOUSES

Even dear minister the houses we want some good houses because at Olievenhoutbosch the are not the same house we can understand that this Olieven is a same city or what even some are having propoh house some are having Zozos



PRIORITY 3: All children can receive quality basic services from the government.

- Make sure that children have access to quality public services.
- That these services are available, accessible and effective.
- That children living with disabilities and their families can access these services when they need them.

PRIORITY 4: All children have a place to live in a community that is supported by a working municipality.

- That children can stay with their families near the places where their caregivers work.
- All kinds of families can get the services that they need to help them raise their children.
- That children's homes protect them from the wind and rain, heat and cold.

PRIORITY 5: All children can feel they belong as South Africans in a safe community.

- That all children are loved and cared for by their families.
- That all children learn to become good citizens from the examples of the grown up's.
- That all children are protected from abuse and live without being afraid of violence.

PRIORITY 6: Build a government that is strong and able to develop our resources to everyone's benefit.

- That children's voices are heard and remembered when our Government makes big decisions.
- That children can take part in Government through child participation processes such as the Children's Parliament or public debates.
- That children can hold our Government accountable to the promises and plans we make.

PRIORITY 7: Build a better Africa and world.

- That all children can grow up and become a citizen able to contribute to Africa's development and growth.
- To create opportunities for our children's future skills and talents to advance South Africa and Africa.

WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE NPAC?

- Always act on the best interest of the child.
- Do not discriminate in your actions, be fair to all.
- Work towards the survival and development of all children.
- Give children a chance to participate in decisions that affect their lives.
- Use and learn from our indigenous best practices.
- Build social cohesion by giving opportunities to get to know each other.
- Always work towards transformation and unity.
- Always promote and protect children's rights.

WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE NPAC?

There are a whole lot of organisations, government structures and people involved in the development, promotion and support of the National Plan of Action for Children. This includes international agreements that our country signed to commit to the development of children. These agreements are:

International, regional and national instruments and commitments:

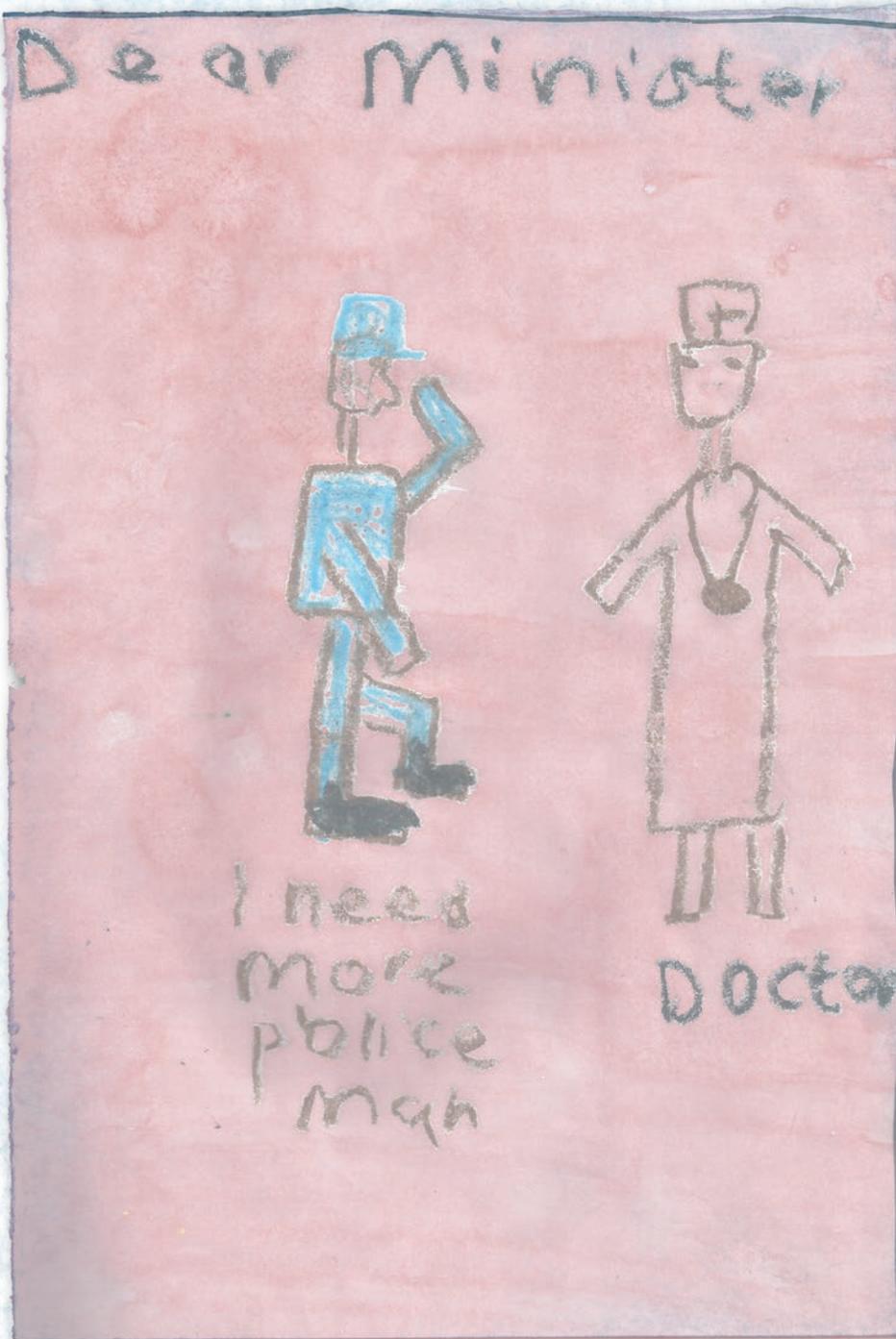
- The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- The National Development Plan
- The Sustainable Development Goals

WHO WATCHES OVER THE NPAC?

In South Africa we also have organisations that are responsible for the implementation of the National Plan of Action for Children. They will also check up on how the NPAC was used to make your life better. These oversight mechanisms include:

- National Children's Rights Intersectoral Coordination Committee (NCRICC)
- Office on the Rights of the Child (ORC)
- Departmental children's rights focal points
- National, Provincial and Municipal Offices on the Rights of the Child
- Civil society umbrella organisations supporting children's rights
- Mayoral Councils of towns and cities
- Provincial Legislatures
- South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)
 - The South African Parliament
 - Children themselves through child participation opportunities





HOW YOU CAN INTERACT WITH THE NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR CHILDREN

This book is for you, our children – to explain what the South African Government is planning to do between 2019 and 2024 to protect and build your rights. This child friendly book contains the most important messages of the NPAC 2019-2024. With this booklet, we want to make sure that children will get information about what we are planning in the coming years.

3-5 YEAR OLD CHILDREN

- The pictures in the book are especially for the children. Read the headings to them, show them the pictures and ask them what they think of them.
- Look at the pictures, ask your parent or caregiver, even your teacher to explain the pictures in the book to you.
- Tell young children they are important and everyone is making plans to help them succeed.

6-10 YEAR OLD CHILDREN

- Let your teacher read a section of the book to you each week.
- Look at the pictures and talk about how each theme or picture work in your life.
- You can even draw pictures or make rhyming songs about your rights and freedoms.

11-14 YEAR OLD CHILDREN

- You can make a speech choir about the history of the NPAC and recite the poem on the children's voices on page 13.
- You can host a drawing competition or a debate at your school on how children can use technology safely.
- Write to your local mayor or ward councillor about issues you are facing in your community that you want to make them aware of.

15 YEARS AND ABOVE

- Hold a debate on the role of the National Plan of Action for Children and which of these plans you see in action in your community.
- Host a poetry competition about the themes you read about in the NPAC.
- Act out or make a play about children's issues that are discussed in the NPAC.
- Volunteer or collect food for a local NGO supporting poor families to live out your civil responsibilities.

THE ROAD TO CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

We have come a long way, it's been a long road
When you were just a hope
We thought of you – to make sure you have a
better chance
To make sure you have a better place
To make sure you have a louder voice
We spoke of you, we reminded the world that
you would be born;
Free-children!
We wanted to be ready for you

It's been a long road, we have come so far
Yet we still have a way to go so
that when you are standing where we are,
You can also think of children yet to come and,
Make sure they have a better chance
Make sure they have a better place,
Make sure they have a louder voice

1976 Soweto Uprising -
the state went to war with
its children

1987 Zimbabwe-
we spoke about our
"Children, Repression
and the Law in Apartheid
South Africa

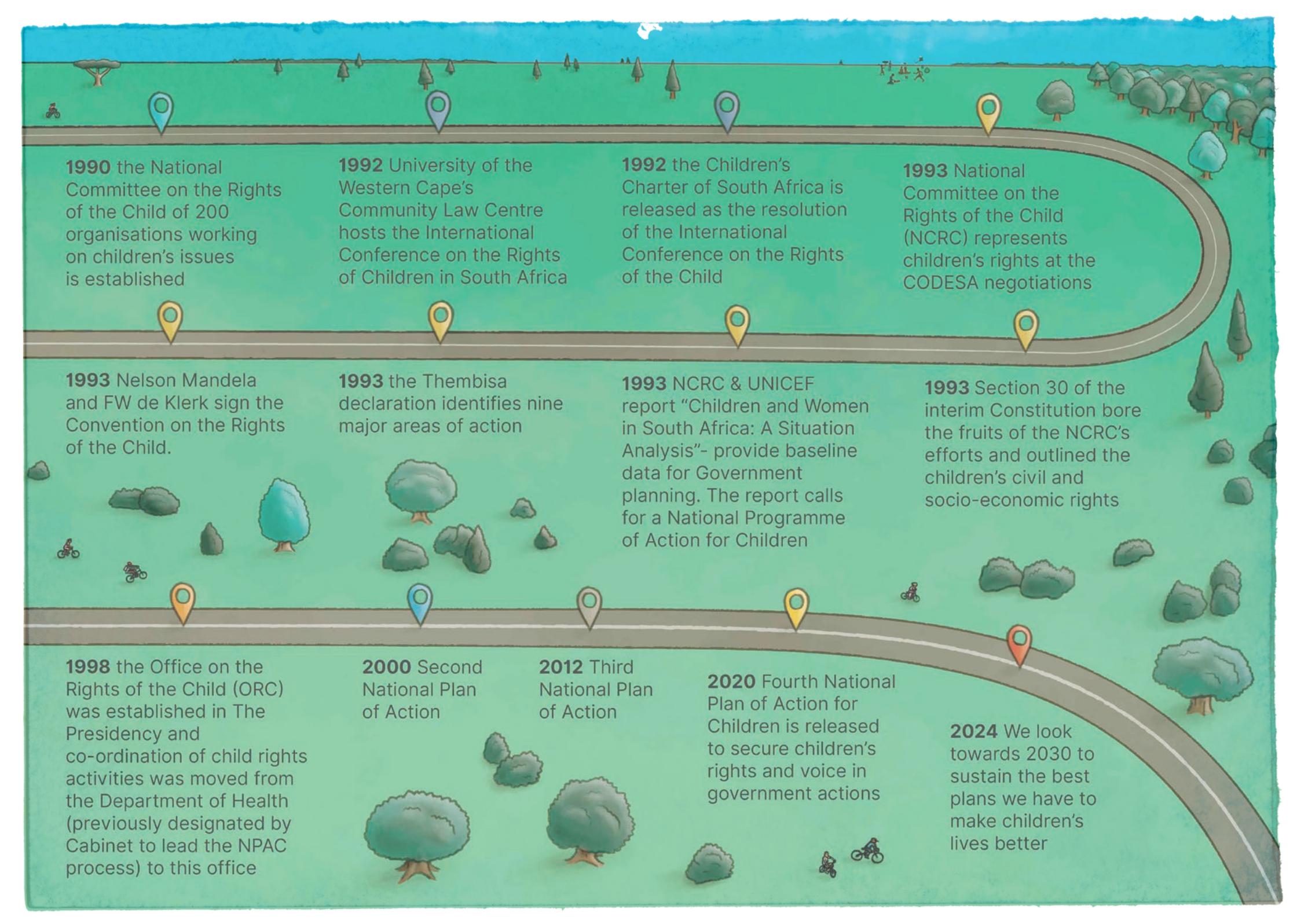
1988 UNICEF report -
"Children on the front
line" calls society to
advocate for the rights
of children

1994 June 16 NCRC present
the NPAC to Nelson Mandela
who confirms that the needs
of the child are paramount

1994 NCRC conference
unpacks the technical and
operational aspect of the
National Programme of Action
and NPA task team to prepare
the NPAC outline to the new
Democratic government

1995 President Mandela
announced that South
Africa had officially ratified
the CRC, the first-ever
international instrument to
be ratified by the new
Democratic Government
of South Africa

1996 Cabinet approved the
first National Programme of
Action for Children. Adhering
to its obligations under the
CRC. The government
submitted its initial national
report to the UN Committee on
the Rights of the Child in 1997



1990 the National Committee on the Rights of the Child of 200 organisations working on children's issues is established

1992 University of the Western Cape's Community Law Centre hosts the International Conference on the Rights of Children in South Africa

1992 the Children's Charter of South Africa is released as the resolution of the International Conference on the Rights of the Child

1993 National Committee on the Rights of the Child (NCRC) represents children's rights at the CODESA negotiations

1993 Nelson Mandela and FW de Klerk sign the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

1993 the Thembisa declaration identifies nine major areas of action

1993 NCRC & UNICEF report "Children and Women in South Africa: A Situation Analysis"- provide baseline data for Government planning. The report calls for a National Programme of Action for Children

1993 Section 30 of the interim Constitution bore the fruits of the NCRC's efforts and outlined the children's civil and socio-economic rights

1998 the Office on the Rights of the Child (ORC) was established in The Presidency and co-ordination of child rights activities was moved from the Department of Health (previously designated by Cabinet to lead the NPAC process) to this office

2000 Second National Plan of Action

2012 Third National Plan of Action

2020 Fourth National Plan of Action for Children is released to secure children's rights and voice in government actions

2024 We look towards 2030 to sustain the best plans we have to make children's lives better

MAKE MY VOICE HEARD

" Give me a chance to grow and develop
Include me in the centre of your plans, talk to me
Share your wealth with me willingly.
I cannot work, I depend on you to provide for me.

Share your ability with me when I am differently-abled
build a world that also works for me.
Give me a chance to catch up where I have fallen behind
close the gap for me.

Give me a place and a people to belong to
that is a house and a home to me.
When I am small, find a place in your eyes for me
when I am big, keep me in your heart.

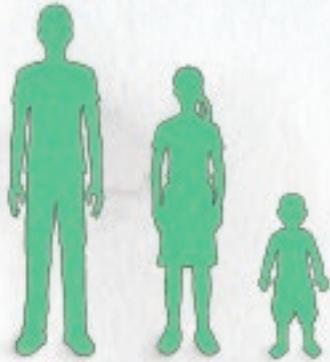
Make schools a place where I can become the best of me
where I can learn and become wise with your knowledge
Teach me about money, that I can keep my commitments one day
Teach me about the land that I can make it prosper

Hear me out, I have a say, I want to speak
Stretch out your hand to protect me not to harm me
I am of my mother and my father, I cannot choose between you
You gave me life now give me a chance to live!"

BASED ON THE CHILD PARTICIPATION DIALOGUES DURING THE DEVELOPMENT NPAC4

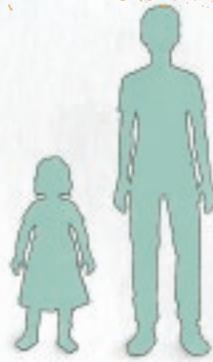


WHERE ARE WE NOW?



21 598 479

Number of children 18 years and younger



17 046 200

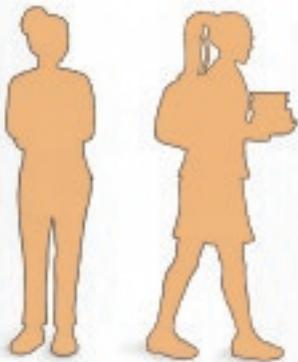
Children younger than 15



65% of all children under 6

The poverty of children younger than 6

We have made good progress in children's lives but we still have a long way to go. Did you know that there are 12 million children in South Africa that depends on a government grant every month? Our children live in dangerous homes and dangerous communities where they see violence and feel abuse regularly. We cannot be proud of our big achievements as a country when our smallest citizens still suffer. Here are some worrying and encouraging facts about how children in South Africa are doing.



98% but 1 in 2 children don't complete high school

Children attending school in SA

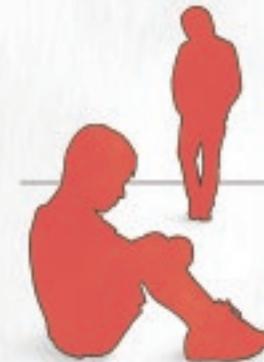


60% in 2002 to 71% in 2017

Children who have clean water in their homes

74% in 2002 to 79% in 2017

Children with basic sanitation (toilets and services)



2017-2018 to 2018-2019 increased 7,5%

Crimes against children

WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE BY 2024? Tracking children's progress with good data

We don't know enough about you, how you are doing, how well you are growing or what challenges you are facing. This would need to change so that we can see the full picture of how the children in South Africa are doing. We need to make better use of technology so that we can develop a report card covering the most important data about you. We will use computer systems to measure how well we do to support your growth and development. Using the systems and frameworks that are part of the National Development Plan (NDP), we will be able to track your well-being in these three important areas of our Government's activities.

Look at the numbers from Stats SA that keeps records of all of South Africa's children. We will look out for and track your well-being and keep track of issues of discrimination and make sure that all children and young people are treated equally.

As your government, keep track of our laws policies and guidelines that affects your rights and make sure it's protected in these policies. We will make sure that these laws and policies are put to work on your behalf.

Make sure we create many opportunities for you to participate, hear your voice and consider your views.

TRACKING YOUR PROGRESS THROUGH GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES

We have to make sure that we work together across different government departments and stay accountable to you for the way we put laws to work and make services available to you. We have two plans to make sure your rights are respected and we think of you in everything we do.

Our first plan is to bring back a special function called the "Office of the Rights of the Child" and have the people that make sure we keep your rights in place, work in the Presidency (the place where our President goes to work). Next, the Office on the Rights of the Child will bring together the government departments to make the plans of the NPAC work on the ground.

We gladly take the responsibility to make the NPAC work for you, BUT we cannot do it alone. We will need every one of you to also do your part. Every right you have comes with a great cost. It is your responsibility to take every chance you get, every service you receive from us and use it carefully and responsibly. This responsibility also reaches to your parents, caregivers, communities of faith and workplaces to support and build out your rights.



What would you do to improve the lives of children if you were the President?

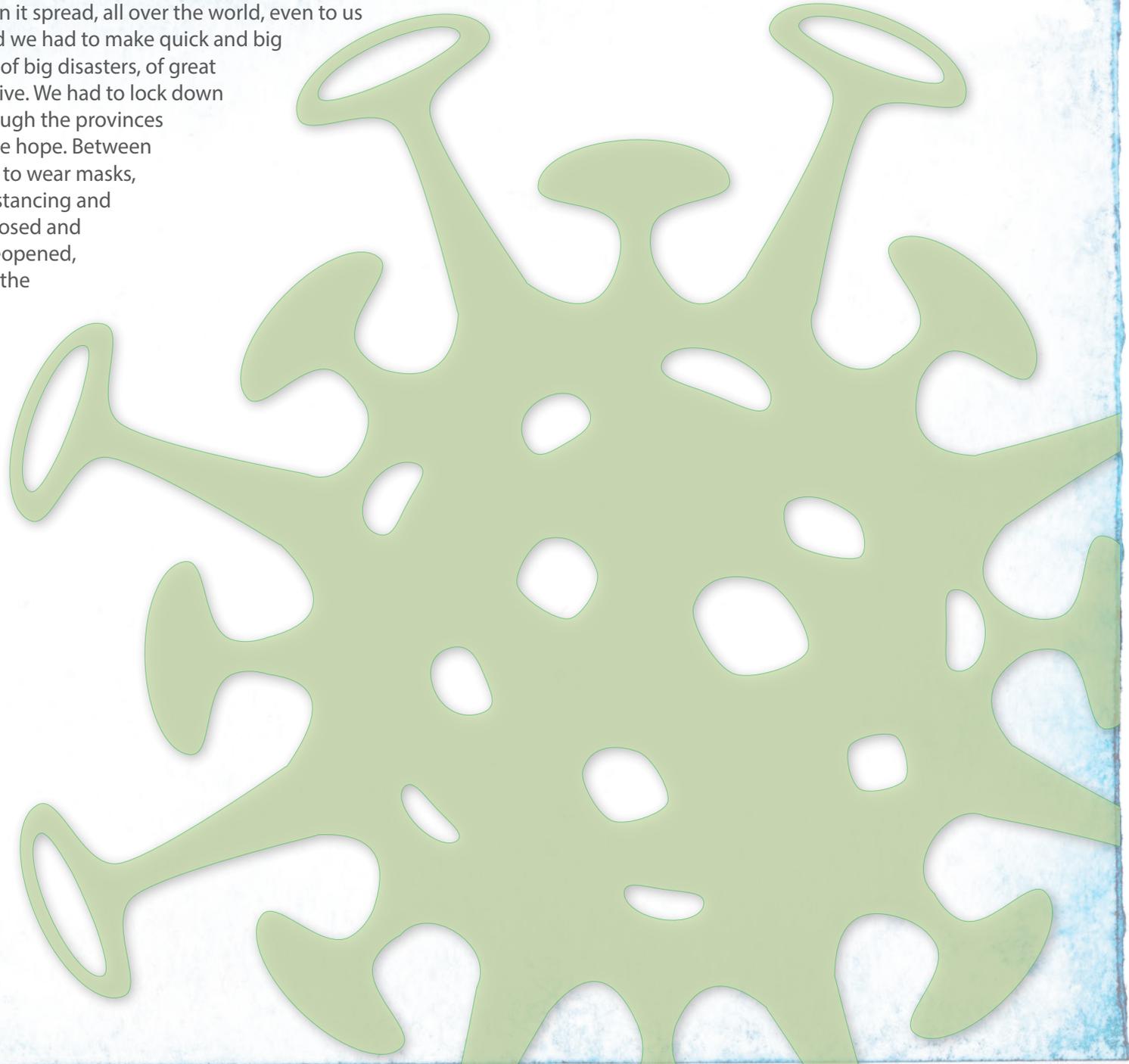
2020 CORONAVIRUS!

It started slow – just rumours of a new disease and then it spread, all over the world, even to us in South Africa. Suddenly it was a National Disaster and we had to make quick and big changes. In history, this year will be known as the year of big disasters, of great bravery and making sacrifices so that we all could survive. We had to lock down everything, learn about the disease as it traversed through the provinces affecting many. We lost lives and jobs but we didn't lose hope. Between March and September, we stayed at home, we learned to wear masks, to wash our hands, to sanitise and to practice social distancing and slowly we adapted to our new normal. Schools were closed and slowly reopened, businesses were closed and slowly reopened, travelling was stopped and slowly reopened to flatten the curve of Covid-19.

We had to give special protection through:

- We gave social relief of distress grants to unemployed persons,
- We increased all the other grants,
- We gave job protections and tax relief,
- We prepared hospitals
- We mobilised people to test for the virus in the communities.

We stood together. Collected food, gave out blankets. Gave shelter to the homeless. We looked after each other. We learned that violence in our families is a killer, and that substance abuse is the knife. We mourned lost mothers and children. We survived. We overcame. We continue. We don't yet know how this virus will change us, or the way we work or how it will affect our plans. But this we know – we must try hard to keep the promises we make to you.



WE COMMIT TO YOU AND YOUR BEST INTEREST

You are important. So important that we have laws here in South Africa and in the world that forces us to think what would be good for you, first, before we decide anything about you. These laws talk about and explain how we should work in 'THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD'. We have to look at what we do and see if it is going to be good for you or if what we decide will be bad for you. We have three big promises and laws that protect you.

Firstly, Section 28 of the Constitution of South Africa, the highest law of our land says that 'the child's best interest is of paramount importance in all matters concerning the child'.

Secondly, Section 7 in the South African Children's Act no 38 of 2005 explains in much more detail what we must think of when we consider your best interest.

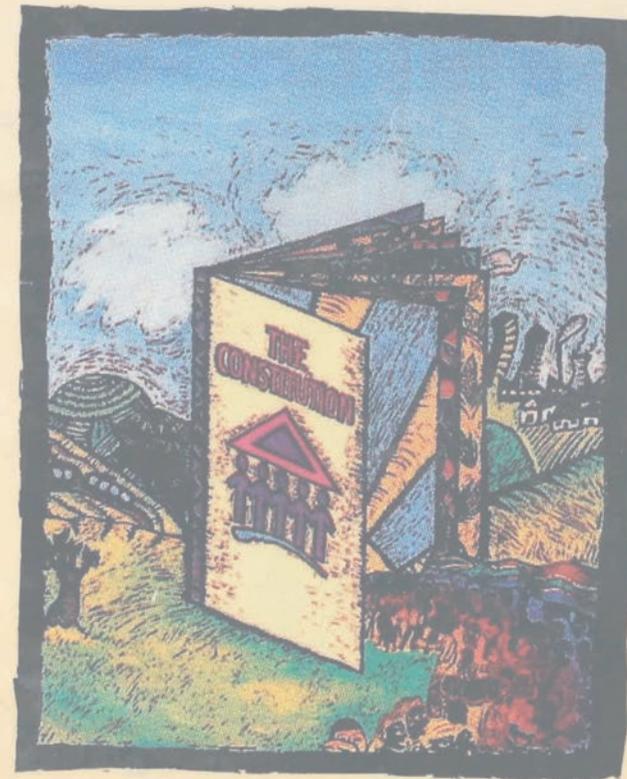
Thirdly, South Africa has promised along with many other countries in the world when we signed the United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child. This promise says in Article 3 "the best interest of the child as a primary consideration in all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies." Here in our continent the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child hold us accountable to how we treat you.

Do you know what this means? Your best interest must be looked at across all of the government departments and in places of work and service and it is enforceable with laws. If people don't take your best interest seriously, they can be taken to court for it.

If you can make a law to help children - what would it be?

The Constitution

of the Republic of South Africa, 1996



Act 108 of 1996

WE COMMIT TO BUILDING A SOUTH AFRICA FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION

Here in South Africa, every child is equal in the eyes of our laws. We have a Bill of Rights – a list of rights that every person has, that says you cannot unfairly discriminate against anyone. It doesn't matter who you are, if you are a girl or a boy, how old you are, which language you speak, what you do for a living, how much money you have, who you believe in, who you choose to love, where you live, or which colour your skin is, everyone is equal and have the same rights.

We have a very difficult past, where apartheid left many of our people in places and situations where they could not benefit from the wealth of our country. Our neighbourhoods can be very rich with high walls and large properties or it can be very poor with unsafe shacks and very little room for each other. Many families and their children are stuck in poor and unsafe situations. They need help first. We have to make the gap between the rich and the poor smaller. If you are very poor, we have to erase the effect of our apartheid past in your parents and your life.

If your mom or granny is the head of the house, if you don't come from a family of highly educated people, if your parents and carers are unemployed or you come from a very large family, it may be more difficult for you to get out of poverty because of the legacies of apartheid.

You are a child; we know you are vulnerable. We know that we have to reach out to you with services that will make a difference to you now.

Write down the name of your friends.
In what ways are you the same?
In what ways are you different



WE COMMIT TO THE SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALL OUR CHILDREN

Even before you are born and when you are a baby, you need people to look after you every day. This is the time that many babies struggle to survive. We must do our very best to make sure you live and thrive. You have the right to live and we must protect it. In the time of the 4th NPAC we want to do better in:

- Looking after you and your parents before, during and right after your birth.
- Make plans and put it in place so that more babies and young children live.
- To make sure that we look after you all the way through your childhood so you can grow to be a healthy adult.

As a little one, we want you to have enough food, a happy heart, a healthy body and a curious mind. None of you should go hungry for long, be sick from germs that we can prevent you from getting, be sad and scared with no one to make the world exciting to discover.

We want to make sure you can get what you need:-

- Enough food of different kinds to grow strong and healthy.
- Health services that make sure your development as a young one is on track.
- Meet your basic needs.
- Have a safe home emotionally and physically.
- Have places to learn and play.

Draw a picture of your home. Do you feel safe there?



WE COMMIT TO FINDING WAYS FOR CHILDREN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DECISIONS MADE ABOUT YOU

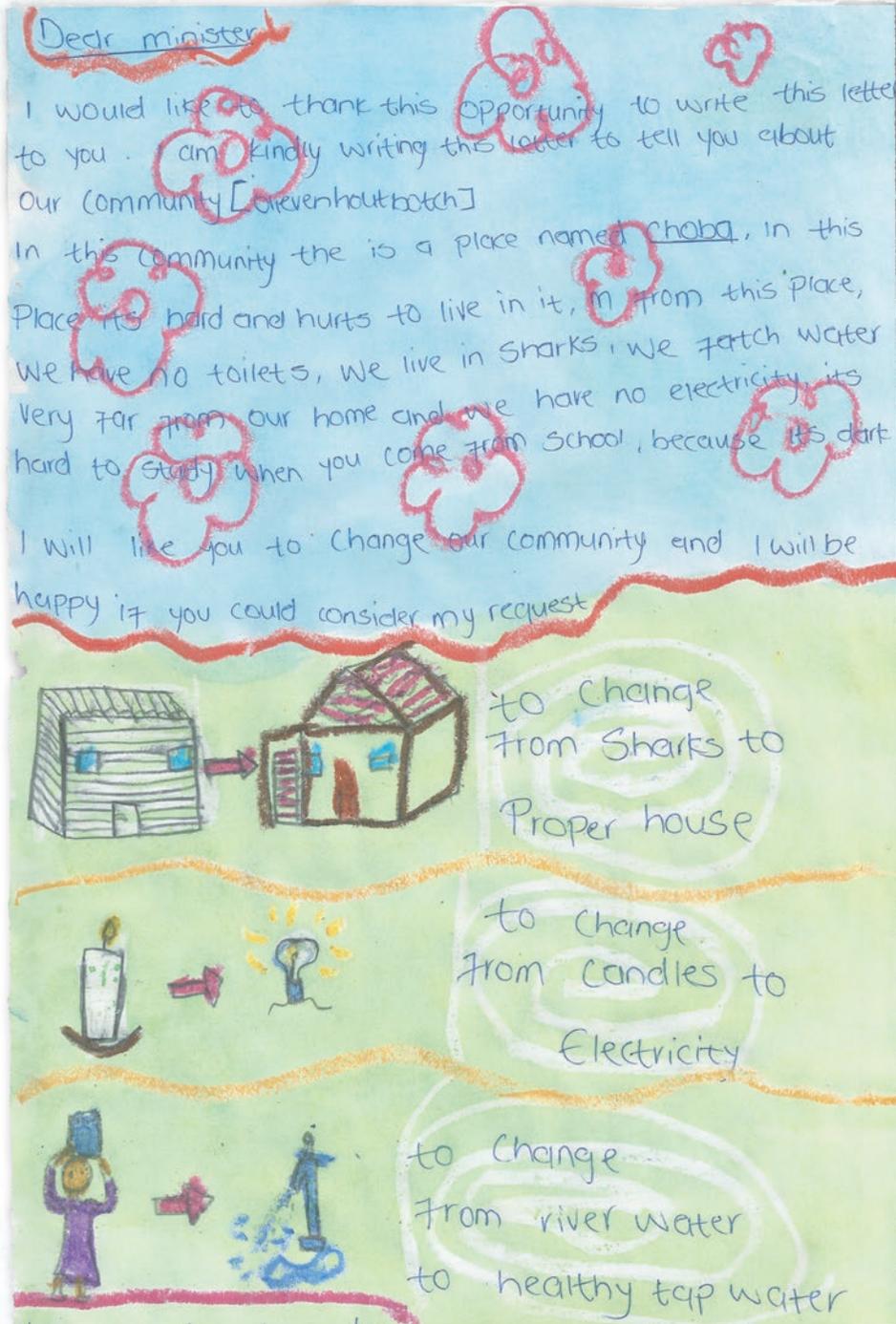
Children should be seen and heard! Not just one time but we have to keep on talking to you and getting your feedback on what we do. Even when we think of laws and policies, we can't think of you as an afterthought, you must be part of the conversation.

Because you are small, it can be difficult for you to be in big meetings with many adults that speak about things you don't fully understand. We want many people and organisations to help us to talk to you in child-friendly ways so that we can hear your voices and understand how you see the world.

You have a right to participate. We must create spaces for you to take part in the conversation. You must take this seriously so that when you are an adult, you can also teach your children to participate in the decisions affecting their lives in your home. As a child, we understand that you are vulnerable, we listen carefully to you and what you need, remembering that you need our protection, sometimes even from yourself.

Participation is a core value for South Africans. There was a time we couldn't participate, but those days are behind us, now we must share this value with you to be a true child of our land, standing together and building our future together.

What do you think the words "child participation" mean?



WE COMMIT TO FINDING SOLUTIONS THAT COME FROM OUR CULTURES AND BELIEFS

There is wisdom in our cultures that can help and guide us into the future. Our cultural voices have been lost in our past but we are rediscovering them. We still have to look deeply into the wisdom of our cultures to take the best from our heritage so that we can hold it and plant it again in the soil.

We also know that some cultural traditions can harm you if we don't put down good guidelines on how these cultural practices can be part of your life. Sometimes these cultural practices are not in your best interest and can cause you harm if it is not done carefully. Then we must protect you and make sure you are not exposed to it.

When we start to talk about your culture, we also have to talk about your home, your parents and those who influence your life. We cannot forget them or exclude them. Many times, the way to make your life better, is to make the lives of your parents and caregivers better. As much as we need to hear your voice, we also have to find ways to hear and listen to their voices and concerns.

Draw a picture of something unique about your culture.





**WE COMMIT TO MAKE SOUTH AFRICA A PLACE
WHERE EVERYONE CAN FEEL THEY HAVE A PLACE TO
BELONG**

When you close your eyes, what do you see for your future? Is there something that is standing in the way to reach your dreams? When we feel we belong, our dreams seem much closer than when we feel apart. We know that only if we as all South Africans have one vision of a land where we all have a chance to succeed, we all have choices about our lives and we all can prosper, we will be able to move our country forward as a proud people where everyone is doing their part. We have many different people who speak many different languages. Sometimes we will misunderstand each other, sometimes we will have to work hard to find solutions when we see things differently. You know this, on the playground there are rules so that everyone can be safe and have a turn to play. Our world is just like this, when we want many different things, we have to find ways to work together and agree. You and I have to see building our nation as one big puzzle where everyone holds a piece to make the picture complete. If you hide your piece we won't be able to see the picture. Can we ask you – will you come and add your piece to the puzzle? Let's make a colourful picture together!

Write down or draw the dreams you have for your future. Who can help make to make them come true?



WE COMMIT TO PROTECTING AND ADVANCING YOUR CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

The Freedom that was won for you was very difficult to grab in our hands. But now you have it, it's written in our laws it is your birthright, you have the right to your unique identity, to be a citizen, to have real freedom and to be treated the same way as everyone else. Justice is not something only for grown-ups. Justice means:

- ✿ That we make sure everybody has a real chance to have a good life.
- ✿ That we treat everyone fairly, no matter who they are and where they come from.
- ✿ That when we make decisions, we think about and give opportunities to everyone, not just to a few selected people.
- ✿ We all have to stick to the rules and laws of our land and use these rules in the same way for everybody.
- ✿ We have to be truthful and respectful in everything we do.

When you play on the playground, work at school, when you are spending time with your friends or when you are at home with your family, remember to show that you understand "justice" in everything you do.

Do you know that children have rights?
Write or draw some of the rights you have as a child.

Draw a picture of yourself

Write your name

25



 **home affairs** G 2183995
Department: 2012118 83/DHA - 5
Home Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PARTICULARS FROM THE POPULATION REGISTER I.R.O:

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

CHILD IDENTIFY NUMBER: 1311430699087
SURNAME: NKOSI
FORENAMES: ENZOKUHLE

GENDER: MALE DATE OF BIRTH: 2020-10-02
PLACE OF BIRTH: CITY OF TSHWANE
COUNTRY OF BIRTH: SOUTH AFRICA

MOTHER: IDENTIFY NUMBER: 2513430979093

MAIDEN/SURNAME: NDLOVU
FORENAMES: MELOKUHLE

DATE OF BIRTH: 1990-07-30
PLACE OF BIRTH: LIMPOPO
COUNTRY OF BIRTH: SOUTH AFRICA

FATHER: IDENTIFY NUMBER: 9116555847082

SURNAME: NKOSI
FORENAMES: LUBANZI

DATE OF BIRTH: 1989-11-25
PLACE OF BIRTH: CITY OF TSHWANE
COUNTRY OF BIRTH: SOUTH AFRICA

ENDORSEMENTS:

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS	:
PRIVATE BAG XII	:
:	:
:	:
:	:
:	:
CITY OF TSHWANE 2020	:
CITY OF TSHWANE	:
: OFFICIAL DATE STAMP :	:
:	:

Siyabonga
DIRECTOR-GENERAL: HOME AFFAIRS

DATE PRINTED: 2020-10-05 ISSUED BY: SHL937

RSA RSA RSA  RSA RSA RSA

RIGHTS: YOUR BIRTH IS REGISTERED AND YOU HAVE YOUR OWN IDENTITY

The new birth is a celebration in the family. Each time a baby is born in South Africa, the parents must tell the government that they have a baby, what the baby's name and surname is, who the mom and dad of that baby is, if it's a boy or a girl and on which date the baby was born. They do this by registering the baby's birth with the Department of Home Affairs. If your birth was registered, you will have a piece of paper called a Birth Certificate with a special number on it called your Identification Number. This number is very special, no one else in the whole country has the same number as you. Your birth certificate and your ID number are like a key that unlocks all the services you will need from the South African Government. Without this number, you can't get a grant and it is very difficult to get a place in a school. We want to make sure that every child that can get a South African ID number is registered with the Department of Home Affairs.

For Children

Ask your parents whether you have a birth certificate.
Let them show it to you
Learn your ID number so that you can recall it by memory.
Don't give your ID number to anyone who should not have it.

For Parents

Make sure your baby's birth is registered.
If you know the father and he agrees that he is the father of the child, have his name also written on the birth certificate.
Make sure every child you have, is registered at the Department of Home Affairs and gets a birth certificate.
Make sure you help your child apply for their South African ID when they turn 16 years.
Keep you and your child's personal documents safe.

For Society

Be careful with the ID numbers of people and children.
Keep it safe and protect their identity in the way you do business.

For Government

Make it easier for children's births to be registered by making birth registration accessible.
Make sure that every child can access the services that their ID number gives them access to.

Draw a picture of yourself as a baby.



RIGHTS: THAT YOUR PRIVACY AND IMAGE IS PROTECTED

You are unique, your face is your own and so is your body. How you look, who you are and what you think and do is uniquely yours and most importantly it is private. It's nobody's business but yours! You have a right in how your image, your face and body, is showed in pictures or talked about in newspapers, magazines, books or on the Internet. When you are young, this right is protected by your parents who must give permission for anyone who wants to use your image. You can take many selfies and photos with your friends and family. You have a serious responsibility here; you should not put your own image and privacy or any other child's image and privacy at risk. You can't put pictures or words on social media or the internet that takes away the rights to privacy and image of yourself or your friends. No naked pictures and no bullying online or in real life.

For Children

Protect your image and privacy in real life and online.
Be responsible for your words and photos.
Don't say or post bullying words online.
Don't say or post sexually abusive words online.
Don't show or post naked pictures of yourself or anyone else online.

Draw a picture of your face.

For Parents

Be responsible for your child's rights to privacy and image.
Be responsible with what you post of your child online.
Don't degrade them or post images that compromise their safety.
Don't share personal information about your child with anyone you don't trust, especially online.
Give consent to the use of your child's image where needed for taking school photos or photos of events.

For Society

Be mindful of how you portray children and young people in the media.
Always get consent for photos you want to post, even for your corporate social engagement activities.
Be fair and pay for the use of their image.
Be positive and portray children and youths in the best light.
Highlight their concerns but don't exploit their situation and needs for your gain.

For Government

The same is true for our government – make sure you honour children's rights to privacy and image in all government communication.
Get consent from the parent or guardian to use photos of children and events.
Be fair and pay for the use of their image.
Highlight their concerns but don't exploit their situation and needs for your gain.

How can you protect you image?



RIGHTS: YOU HAVE ACCESS TO YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

There is a wonderful world to explore in real life and on line. The Internet is chock full of information, but you may need a grown-up to help you safely navigate the digital world. There is also information about you, your health, which medications you are taking or any other information about you that is sensitive and confidential. Your parents or caregivers should help you understand the information about you that is right for your age. When you are very young, they will make a lot of decisions for you from information that you may know very little about. When you are older you can know and understand more and they should let you participate and become aware of what is happening in your life.

For Children

Trust your parents and caregivers with your information.
Listen to them when they guide you about when and how you can access the Internet.
Don't take chances – there are people with bad intentions that can hurt you if you are not careful on line.

For Parents

Keep your child's information safe.
Support them according to their age and emotional maturity to process the information about them.
Help guide and teach your children about on line safety.
Lead by example – don't let them see things on your devices that will harm them.

For Society

Keep safe administrative records and systems that keep track of our local privacy laws.
Present programs that teach children on line safety.

For Government

Make sure we put laws in place to protect children's civil rights to information.
Makes sure that we can prosecute offenders who abuse children's safety and privacy.

Do you know any on-line safety rules? Write them down or visit www.childnet.com/resources to learn more.



WHAT ARE YOUR FREEDOMS?

Freedom. Something you have that cannot be taken away from you easily. It's your freedom. You can speak, act, dance, sing draw, write, and run after happiness with everything you have. You have the right to express yourself.

FREEDOMS: YOU CAN THINK AND DREAM AND EXPRESS YOURSELF

Your mind is a world of ideas and thoughts that should have a voice and be heard, in whichever way you want to say it. Here's the catch though, you can't use your freedoms to cage someone else. Your inner voice must also be guided by an inner compass of truth and longing to do good. Integrity and honesty will guide the safe expression of your creativity. Show us what you can create – we will make space for you to say it. Make sure you develop your voice. Don't run after others but find your uniqueness.

For Children

Express yourself
Be creative and try new things.
Be brave and think new thoughts.
Don't copy other's ideas or work, make your own.
Be respectful, remember to listen also to others' expressions.
Listen to the voices of your parents and caregivers when they have your best interests at heart.

For Parents

Allow your child to be different than you if they want to be.
Give them a chance to express their thoughts and feelings about what is happening at home.
Make them part of your decisions so that they can learn to give their opinions and find consensus.
Respect your child's right to express their thoughts and participate in the aspects of their lives as they grow older.

For Society

Invest in the voices and futures of children.
Let them participate in your world, giving them chances to give meaningful inputs.
Give them opportunities to express themselves and be creative in your work.
Engage them when you are planning work activities in their communities.
Give them places and spaces to play, to paint to write and to dance while they are still young.

For Government

Give children a chance to hold government accountable for the services and interventions they get.
Think of the children's parliament but bring it down into local government too.
Find out from them what works for them to make their lives better and do more of that.
Don't give lip service to child participation but find ways to regular and actively see children's inputs into decisions affecting their lives.

Draw a picture of something that symbolise freedom to you.



FREEDOMS: YOU CAN HAVE FRIENDS AND BE PART OF GROUPS THAT YOU CHOOSE

Your freedom allows you to be friends with who you want to be. You can be part of any group you want to be part of. You can choose to belong to groups of people who have the same ideals and values as you have, and if these values change you can choose not to be part of that group. Groups should not hold you captive. Groups can be very powerful. Able to move mountains such as apartheid. When people work together, they can get amazing things done. Groups can also be used for evil- be so careful who you choose to be friends with. In real life and online, your friends tell a story of who you are. Bad friends will lead you to bad places and bad actions. Good friends can lead you to good places and good actions. Use your freedoms wisely

For Children

Make good friends for life.
Choose the groups you belong to carefully.
Use the power of your group to build other children not to tear them down.
Make sure you are not part of a bully group.
Peer pressure can be used for good – stay away if it is leading you down the wrong path.
Remember to always make space for people who are different and maybe don't fit into your groups so easily, they need a place to belong as much as you do.

For Parents

Lead by example – use your family group to teach your child good values and good actions.
Be mindful that violence and drug or alcohol abuse is not in your family group and values you teach your child.
Be part of civil actions to build your community not to tear it down.
If you make criminals your friends, you set your child up for a lifetime of hardship.

For Society

Allow young people to join groups that build them up as people.
Faith-based communities can provide opportunities for young people to be part of something bigger than themselves and learn how to be a good group member.
Be mindful of peer pressure and expectations you create in marketing products and goods to children and young people.

For Government

We are on a national stage; we represent the people of South Africa.
We represent the children of South Africa, they are watching us, looking to see how we treat each other. Let's make sure we represent them well and show respect and tolerance towards all groups of people.

Draw a picture of your friends.

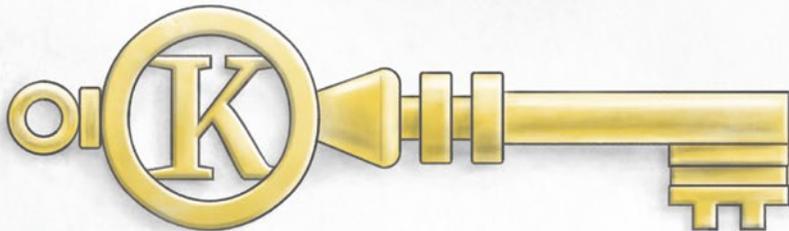
WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES?

You are the holder of human rights and your freedoms. You have seen that these rights and freedoms always comes with responsibilities, as much as what you want these rights and freedoms, other children also want it. The golden keys to unlocking your rights are Respect, Kindness and Duty



RESPECT – For other children and people’s differences and that they also have the same rights as you do

How can you be respectful of peoples differences?
What can you do to show respect to others?



KINDNESS – Give each other enough space and opportunity to live out your rights without taking theirs away

Can you remember when someone was kind to you?
How did it feel?



DUTY – Taking care of the actions you take in your family and among friends, to build and support your friends and family’s rights in every way you act towards them.

Do you have any responsibilities at home?
What will happen if you don’t do it?

HELPFUL RESOURCES

SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE:

Report all cases of rape, sexual assault or any form of violence to a local police station or call the toll-free Crime Stop number:

086 00 10111

LEGAL AID SOUTH AFRICA:

Call the toll-free Legal Aid Advice Line for free legal aid if you who cannot afford one

0800 110 110

GBV COMMAND CENTRE:

Contact the 24-hour Gender Based Violence Command Centre toll-free number to report abuse

0800 428 428

COMMISSION FOR GENDER EQUALITY:

Report Gender Discrimination and Abuse

0800 007 709

SOUTH AFRICAN DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY GROUP

Suicide Crisis Line

0800 601 011

SOUTH AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:

Report human rights violations.

011 877 3600

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE:

Stop Women Abuse

0800 150 150

AIDS HELPLINE:

Need help or advice:

0800 012 322

CHILDLINE SOUTH AFRICA:

Report child abuse to Childline

086 00 10111

SAPS EMERGENCY SERVICES:

10111

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

0800 202 933

SASSA TOLL-FREE HELPLINE

0800 601 011

