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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[17 August 2021]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



Voice of the Child Victims of Terrorism as the Voice of the Butterflies

Children are essential elements in the life and they are hope of society. This sensitivity led countries and the international community to develop special laws and regulations to care for them and emphasize on their protection in all circumstances. They insisted all governments, groups and bodies to abide by these laws. So, 20 November 1989 was proclaimed as World Children's Day to mark the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Children are the epitome of compassion, kindness, and serenity in our turbulent and perilous world, so we inevitably liken them to butterflies in order to bring our minds closer together and attract public attention. Children are similar to butterflies in many ways, as if the Creator of the universe jointly entrusted tenderness and freshness to these two beings and gave meaning in an exceptional situation.

But unfortunately cruelty of Evil's companions destroys this symbol of tenderness and beauty, which happens in a moment of silence. How can we say that the world of war and terrorism hit the bodies and souls of children, robbing their glory of life, the future and their innocence? And this is how children are the highest price of human society for the wickedness of extremists. Children die innocently without any understanding of the conditions of the conflict.

Today, on the occasion of World Children's Day, we commemorate the anniversary of the crimes committed by the former president of Iraq (Saddam Hussein) in this place and in the classrooms of this school in which 68 children were martyred it a city mourned for losing their beloved children. It was a separation that will never be forgotten.

The Children's Movement for Children, while sympathizing with all children affected by terrorism, believes that humanitarian aid is a necessary response to these children, but it is not enough, and the most important measure is to eliminate the catastrophes and the long-term consequences from the lives of children. It will only be possible by providing trial situations for children affected by terrorism.
