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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 Platform for Youth Integration and Volunteerism, 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.

[30 January 2023]

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



Sale and Sexual Exploitation Of Children

Although significant efforts by UNHRC have been made to address the scourge of the sale and sexual exploitation of children however numerous gaps still remains. The nature of the issue has changed considerably over recent decades with far-reaching impact on children, including the expansion of the internet, migration flows, natural disasters, conflicts, climate-related upheavals, and the ever-evolving and increasing use of assisted reproductive technologies, such as surrogacy. Our organization wants to bring council attention on India where Sale and sexual exploitation of children is on rise with every passing day.

Poverty, lack of education, and the need to financially support their families are the root causes of sale and sexual exploitation of children in India. The unemployment rate in India is very high with the United Nations Development Programme estimating it to be at 3.5%. When children are offered work, they are likely to be exploited. Children in poverty are often forced to trade sex for a place to live or food to eat. In order to get out of poverty or to pay off debts, some parents have even been forced to sell their children to traffickers. Children are often trafficked by gangs and forced to beg on the streets. According to a local Human right NGO, on 16 December 2022, three children were rescued from the Bokajan railway station, one each was taken to Tinsukia and Dimapur in Nagaland and another 14 years old girl was reportedly saved from Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan, who was sold for 1.5 lakh in Jhunjhunu for the purpose of marriage with a 33-year-old male.

The Government of India is unable to control the sale and sexual exploitation of children. We urge this council to ask Indian government to control the different causes of sale and sexual exploitation of children and introduce concrete laws for protection of childrens.
