



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Fifty-fifth session

26 February–5 April 2024

Agenda item 3

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

### **Written statement\* submitted by Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, 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 2024]

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



## **Children's Rights in Lebanon between Education and Displacement**

### **Schools forcibly closed**

The beginning of the school year in southern Lebanon was an unusual start for children in border villages, which since last October have witnessed the most violent strikes against civilian targets, not seen in the July 2006 war. This forced them to abandon their school seats and migrate to safer areas.

As a result of the tension in the southern villages, public and private schools have closed their doors, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Education in Lebanon, this came after the Israeli shelling affected the Aita Al-Shaab Public School, although it is empty of students.

### **6,800 students without education**

Figures indicate that 6,800 students are still without education, due to the massive displacement movement that has disrupted education even in villages far from direct confrontations.

A number of residents who left the village and enrolled in schools in the displacement area, a minority, according to a secondary school principal in the south, some of whom were displaced and did not attend school. Another part of his family preferred to stay in the village, so he remained without education after the closure of schools.

### **Strikes on children**

A number of behavioral disorders that resulted from war trauma appeared in students, some have experienced a return to childish behaviors less than their age, such as "finger sucking" or bedwetting or even using phrases "children's language".

In addition to eating problems, where some children stop eating or reduce the size of their food portions and thus suffer from loss of appetite, while others may overeat and eat a lot of sugary foods such as chocolate and biscuits.

In some cases, some children have lost the ability to speak or express, and the disclosure of their feelings and thoughts is often limited..

### **Urgent recommendations**

Proceeding from Article 38 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which provides for the protection of children in war and guarantees children the right to protection during war. We include some urgent recommendations that contribute to the protection of children and ensure their psychological and physical well-being, thus guaranteeing them their right to access an education appropriate to secure their lives.:

- Pressure Israel to cease military operations and compel it not to attack civilian targets, especially schools and children .
- Supporting specialized programs for the care of children in the front villages, dealing with psychological and recreational support programs
- Work on the production of educational programs in cooperation with the Lebanese Ministry of Education to support students in the lessons they missed as a result of the bombing and the disruption of schools in the front villages due to the war
- Work to strengthen legal texts that protect children and the mechanisms for their implementation, especially in places of armed conflict