

SPEECH BY GEORGE OCHIENG – SLUM CHILD FOUNDATION – NAIROBI, KENYA

Excellencies, all protocol observed allow me to thank you for giving me the floor and the opportunity to address the CCPCJ Intersessional segment on the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration, kindly let me speak for the young people from the low resources countries who cannot get the opportunity to address you individually both at your individual countries or even at the high-level places like where you are now, I speak as a youth for the youth and with the heart of the youth who make up the bigger population for the world yet we are the voiceless.

Allow me to relate and connect with where I come from, Crime among youths more so the minor in the slums of Korogocho remain a big challenge since it is also intertwined with Drug and substance use intake and if there a no proper intervention to curb the same, the community will be on the losing end and it might bring the generational gaps in the society and later in the world since we the youths will be no more, reason being, death rate from drugs and crime are on the rise each and every single day.

Both the civil society and state parties need and should work together to address drugs and crime among young people through policies made each year at the CND and CCPCJ, we are your children please do not let deaths from crime and drugs take us away, please implement fully with us the Kyoto Declaration and other related conventions, treaties and policies related to drugs and crime.

After the launch of Kyoto Declaration early this year, each state parties took home notes that should be used to curb crime among young people, however this might become a thing of the past and as an organization we would request state parties for the provision of resources to ensure youth lead organization like me, slum child foundation, where I come from are able to domesticate Kyoto Declaration in their countries with its Implementation to the latter since it is the best document suited to address the challenges of crime among youths more so from low resources areas like where I come from.

We have started engaging youths in small scale to give their views and how best they can use the documents to address their issues, as a young person I believe there is nothing for the youths without the youths, as youths we lead from the front by being involved in all the stages, we have the best evidence-based interventions that can help our fellow youths, please work with us and avail resources to ensure we save fellow youths using youths who are at the youthful stage.

Kyoto Declaration is the best tool to cure crime among youths in low resources areas, we have seen the fruits of the same on the little interaction we have had with youths in Korogocho slums and we strongly believe Kyoto Declaration is Possible using youth centered approach in its implementation.

Thank you for the floor.