**Children and Young People’s Second Consultation**

**15 November 2022 - 15 February 2022**

*If you would like the questionnaire in another language visit our* [*Children and Young People’s Consultation page*](https://childrightsenvironment.org/children-and-young-people/) *for more details.*

**Questionnaires cannot be saved so we recommend having a look at the questions before submitting**.

**What is the second consultation for?**

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child is a group of 18 experts who support governments and organizations to protect the rights of children and young people all over the world.

The Committee is preparing advice on Children’s Rights and the Environment, with a special focus on Climate Change. This is called [General Comment 26](https://childrightsenvironment.org/about/). It will explain what governments around the world must do to make sure that children and young people live in a clean, green, healthy and sustainable world.

Children and young people have a right to be heard in all matters affecting them and the Committee wants to make sure children’s views can inform the creation of General Comment 26.

Learn more about General Comment No.26 in our [child-friendly comic](https://childrightsenvironment.org/comic/).

The Committee has now prepared the [first draft of the General Comment.](https://childrightsenvironment.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/First-Draft_General-Comment-No.-26_November-2022.pdf) This was informed by global consultations, including the [findings of the first online questionnaire](https://childrightsenvironment.org/reports/) that was completed by 7,416 children and young people from 103 countries! In this second phase of consultation, the Committee wants to hear your views on the first draft of General Comment No. 26, and invite you to share more solutions on children’s environmental rights that will help inform the final version.

**What does the second consultation involve?**

**Questionnaire**

A global online questionnaire has been created for children and young people so you can have your say on the first draft of the General Comment No. 26, and share more ideas that will help inform the final version.

**Open Submission**

If you would like to share any further views, comments or ideas with the Committee for the development of General Comment No.26, you are welcome to do so in the final part of the questionnaire. We ask that responses are no longer than 1000 words.

Your answers will be anonymous which means your name or other personal details about you are not included. This questionnaire and open submission is optional which means you can decide if you want to take part or not. You can answer as many questions as you like. You do not have to answer all the questions if you do not want to.

If you need any support to complete the online consultation, we encourage you to reach out to individuals or organizations who can help you.

If you have any questions, please [contact us](https://childrightsenvironment.org/contact/).

**What is the deadline and what happens next?**

The deadline for completing the online consultation is 15 February 2023 at 11:59pm (EST).

All submissions will be analyzed and used for the development of General Comment 26. On completion of the final version of General Comment 26, a child-friendly version of the document will be created.

The findings will also be used to create a [Children’s Global Charter](https://childrightsenvironment.org/global-charter/), an inspirational message from children and young people around the world on their vision for a safe, healthy and sustainable world that respects their rights. This will be made up of children and young people’s own words and artwork and be launched alongside General Comment No. 26 to raise awareness of why it is so important for children and young people.

To get updates about General Comment 26, including further opportunities to get involved and its launch, you can [sign up to our newsletter](https://childrightsenvironment.org/subscription/).

**Thank you for taking part. Let’s get started!**

**Part 1: Taking Part**

**1a. Do you agree to take part in the online consultation?**

* Yes
* No

**1b. Are you under 15 years old?**

* Yes
* No

If yes, you will need permission from your parent or legal guardian to participate in this questionnaire.

**1c. Parental or legal guardian consent**

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child is inviting children and young people to participate in the development of General Comment 26 on Children’s Rights and the Environment, with a focus on Climate Change. You can find out more about this [here](https://childrightsenvironment.org/about/).

All data collected in this consultation is anonymous and will be stored and monitored securely by [terre des hommes](https://www.tdh.de/wer-wir-sind/information-in-english/) who is the lead partner to the Committee for the development of General Comment No. 26. The data collected will only be accessed and analyzed by staff and associates of the organizations working on this project together. Children and young people’s participation in the consultation is completely voluntary.

If you have any questions, please [contact us](https://childrightsenvironment.org/contact/).

**Parental or legal guardian’s consent:**

Do you agree to your child or the child in your care to participate in this consultation for the General Comment No. 26?

* Yes
* No

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**Part 2. About You**

Remember, your name and contact details will not be collected, so what you share is anonymous.

**2a. Which one of the following describes you best?**

* Boy
* Girl
* Other
* I don't want to say

**2b.** **What is your age?\*** (Please select your age from the drop-down box)

* 8
* 9
* 10
* …
* 17
* I don’t know / Other

**2c.** **What country do you live in?** (Please type in the box below)

**2d.** **Where do you live?**

* I live at home
* I live in a children’s residential home
* I live in a detention centre
* I live in a camp for refugees or migrants
* I live in a centre for homeless people
* I live somewhere else

**2e.** **How would you describe the environment where you live?**

* Urban area
* Rural area
* Other

**2f.** **Do you have a long-term disability, illness or medical condition?**

* Yes
* No
* I don’t want to say

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**Part 3. Sharing your views**

Environmental damage and climate change are impacting children and young people across the world in very different ways. The actions and solutions needed to uphold children’s rights today, and in the future, are also very different across the world.

**Right to a Healthy Environment**

Environmental damage and climate change are impacting children and young people across the world in very different ways. Governments have the responsibility to make sure countries do all they can to protect the environment and slow down climate change (also known as ‘mitigation’) whilst also adapting to the current and future impacts of climate change.

**3a. What do you think about what your government is doing (or not doing) to protect the environment, slow down climate change, and help your country adapt to the current and future impacts of climate change?**

**3b. What kinds of things should governments and businesses think about when considering the impact their plans and decisions will have on children and young people’s right to enjoy a healthy environment?**

**3c. When governments or businesses do not respect their responsibilities, what do you think they should be made to do?**

**Right to Information and Education**

Children and young people have the right to access quality information and education about the environment and climate change. Children and young people also have the right to know about their rights and how to get help or complain if their rights are not being met.

**3d. What challenges do children and young people face with finding information and learning about the environment and climate change?**

**3e. What are (or could be) the best ways for children and young people to find information about their rights?**

**3f. What are (or could be) the best ways for children and young people to find information about the impact of environmental damage and climate change on their lives and communities?**

**3g. What are (or could be) the best ways for children and young people to find information about government and businesses’ responsibilities to protect children and young people’s rights to a healthy environment?**

**3h. What are (or could be) the best ways for children and young people to find information about how to get help if their rights are not being respected?**

**3i. What do you think children and young people should learn in school about the environment and climate change and how should this be taught?**

**Right to Participation**

Children and young people have the right to have a say in matters that affect them, including the environmental and climate crisis, and to be taken seriously by adults. Governments and businesses have a responsibility to involve children and young people when they are creating new plans and making decisions about the environment and/or climate change, and reviewing what the impact has been. Children and young people also have the right to express their views freely - such as in protests, as child human rights defenders, in consultations, advisory groups and child/youth parliaments.

**3j. How can (or could) children and young people share their views and ideas when governments and businesses are making plans and decisions that impact the environment and/or climate change?**

**3k. How can (or could) children and young people be involved in reviewing government and businesses’ decisions which impact the environment and/or climate change?**

**3l. What do governments need to do to keep children and young people safe and well when they are expressing their views, standing up for their rights, or taking action?**

**Open Submission**

If you would like to share any further views, comments or ideas with the Committee for the development of General Comment No.26, you are welcome to do so here. We ask that responses are no longer than 1000 words.

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**Part 4. Supporting Adults/Organizations**

**4a. Are you completing this consultation with the support of an organization?**

* Yes
* No

**4b. [If YES] Please provide the following information:**

**a) Organization name**

**b) Contact name**

**c) Contact email**