



PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT (CAAC)

CONFERENCE REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The evolution of conflict dynamics over the years and violations committed against children pose the greatest threats to child protection in conflict situations. Contemporary conflicts present more challenges for children, especially given the increasing number of violations committed against children, the growing number of actors in any given conflict, and the complexity of drivers of conflict that have had the consequence of delaying and complicating resolution processes and the protracted nature of the conflict itself.

The diversity of conflict in Africa precludes the possibility of presenting a universal picture thereof and children's experiences from a Pan-African perspective. Some African countries have experienced prolonged and protracted conflicts that have almost wholly undermined governance and led to the partial or total collapse of child protection systems. Of the 21 country situations outlined in

the 2021 annual report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, 19 (90 per cent) have continued to be highlighted in the annual report for the last eight years. As the conflicts become more protracted, families get forced to leave their homes and ecosystems of livelihoods resulting in increased susceptibility to violations, especially among children.

2. There is a vast body of international legal instruments, Security Council Resolutions, standards, guidelines, procedures and protocols, provisions in peace agreements, and concrete commitments made by parties to protect children in conflict situations. Regionally, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) is the principal instrument framing the full spectrum of rights, protection and welfare of children, including those in situations of armed conflict, tension, and strife. Article 22 of the Charter speaks explicitly to the protecting and caring for children affected by armed conflict. The presence of such robust frameworks notwithstanding, the protection of children in situations of armed conflict remains one of the most daunting challenges of the 21st Century. These frameworks seem to have a limited effect on guaranteeing children's safety and well-being, noting that the number of children living in conflict zones on the continent continues to increase, and children continue to be subject to rights violations, including violence that is both incidental and targeted.
3. There is a growing disposition within the African Union, the regional economic communities and mechanisms (RECS, RMs) and the Member States to

intensify efforts to protect children from the effects of conflict, cognisant of the increasing incidence of grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict. This outlook can be argued to have been inspired by the push for regional and sub-regional organisations to address the plight of children affected by armed conflict, as illustrated in various platforms, including the 2018 Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict and UN Security Council Resolution 2427 as the most recent Security Council resolution on the subject of children and armed conflict. The 2018 Annual Report urged regional and sub-regional organisations to strengthen dedicated child protection capacities and assist in developing tools to prevent grave violations. This position has been supported by the Member States, which have recognised "the strategic advantage of regional organisations in addressing the impact of armed conflicts on children."

4. Appreciating the contribution of relevant actors to the promotion of peace, security, and stability on the continent and their critical role in protecting and preventing the violation of the rights of children in conflict, COMESA, Save the Children, and the African Child Policy Forum convened a conference on Protecting Children Affected by Armed Conflicts under the theme "Reinvigorating Our Commitment to Protect Children in Conflict Situations" on 28 – 30 November in Nairobi. The conference saw the participation of stakeholders from the region to initiate dialogue and consensus-building toward approaches aimed at bridging identified gaps in the implementation of the CAAC agenda on the continent and reinforcing advocacy in a call for action for more effective and accountable ways of protecting children affected by armed conflict.

5. A three-day conference themed, 'THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICTS IN AFRICA REINVIGORATING POLITICAL ACTION' was convened from the 28th to 30th of November 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya. Some of the specific objectives included: Advocating for more robust protection of children in situations of armed conflict; Awareness creation, Learning and Knowledge exchange on CAAC; and Mobilizing commitments and investments in CAAC. The conference brought together stakeholders from the RECs, government officials, local and international NGOs, development partners and children's parliaments' representatives from Nigeria, Mali, Ethiopia, Somalia and Mozambique.

6. **ON THE FIRST DAY**, stakeholders reaffirmed their political commitments to the CAAC agenda. Children formed an important part of the deliberations urging partners to act quickly to promote child inclusion in policy formulation and implementation. The need

for the implementation of effective continental and regional strategies was emphasized in a bid to strengthen child protection efforts.

7. **THE SECOND DAY** of the conference brought to light emerging and devastating threats associated with conflicts such as climate change, violent extremism and sexual violence against children, with the International Peace Security Training Centre, auspiciously launching their book 'Children Peace and Security'. Samuel Hall Consultants and Save the Children presented the findings of the Conflict-Sensitive Capacity Gap Assessment to Respond and Protect Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups (CAAFAG). The objective of the study was to understand the structures, networks, and systems in place to provide support through integrated stakeholder mobilization and sensitization and re-positioning child protection at the center of [SCI's] programming. The session aimed to reflect

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on CAAFAG programming in Somalia, including emerging trends and achievements, and propose recommendations for action by the different actors in Somalia.

8. The hallmark of **THE THIRD DAY** of the conference featured engaging exchanges between ministers and the child representatives. The children were given an opportunity to present their communiques to the government officials and recurrent issues on food insecurity, climate change, poverty, and lack of education were reiterated. The ambassadors then gave statements on functional processes that address child rights violations in their respective countries which focused primarily on mitigating learning disruptions in schools, capacity building for child protection personnel, vertical and horizontal integration of child protection mechanisms, and the dignified reintegration and rehabilitation of affected children into the community. This was followed by the launch of the SWOC (Stop the War on Children) report by Save the Children which identified deeply concerning trends for the safety and well-being of children living in conflict areas in Africa. Six out of the ten worst conflict-afflicted countries to be a child were found in Africa: the DRC, Mali, Nigeria, Cameroon, Sudan and the CAR.

9. **THE FINAL SESSION** involved discussions on Child Protection Humanitarian Funding and Partnerships that exposed glaring deficiencies in the financing of the child protection agenda. Member states were urged to devise innovative solutions and not be entirely reliant on aid with respect to all child protection matters.



POLITICAL COMMITMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF CAAC

MODERATOR: Anthony Njoroge, CAAC Program Lead Africa, SCI

PANELISTS: Ms. Elizabeth Mutunga, Head of Governance, Peace and Security Unit, COMESA

Ambassador Caroline Vicini, Embassy of Sweden to Kenya

Dr. Michael Sitawa, Senior Researcher, Peace and Security Research Department, International Peace Support Training Centre

Mr. Kevin Mackey, National Director for World Vision, Somalia

Ms. Virginia Gamba, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

Hon. Robert Doya, Special Rapporteur on Children and Armed Conflict, African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

Angel Mbuthia, East Africa's Representative to the COMESA Youth Advisory Panel

Hon. Ibrahim Sunoma, President of the Children's Parliament, Borno State, Nigeria

Ambassador Kennedy Mokaya, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

DAY 1



SUMMARY OF THE KEY MESSAGES

BY PRINCIPAL STAKEHOLDERS ON REVITALIZING POLITICAL COMMITMENTS TOWARDS CAAC

10. Elizabeth Mutunga,
the Head of Governance,
Peace and Security in
COMESA

Emphasized the need for the implementation of regional strategies through a multipronged approach within the African Peace and Security Architecture framework in a bid to strengthen child protection. The incorporation of youth affairs as a major programmatic area had already been undertaken by the organization. She discussed the significance of leveraging evidence-based data and decision analytics to systematically inform appropriate interventions and responses in situations of armed conflict.

11. Amb. Caroline Vicini,
Embassy of Sweden to
Kenya

Ascertained the Swedish government's pledge towards meaningful change in the CAAC agenda. She cited three key areas that her government has focused on through joint collaboration with local governments and relevant stakeholders. These are: Strong leadership and strengthening of advocacy efforts; Implementation of existing policies and Accountability and Oversight through optimization of monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

12. Dr. Michael Sitawa,
Senior Researcher, Peace
and Security Research
Department, IPSTC

Underscored the significance of the IPSTC (International Peace Support Training Centre) as an institution whose core mandate is research and training, focusing on Peace Support Operations (PSO) capacity building at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels within the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). It was noted that the institution is focused on an agenda that develops a contextualized understanding of the dynamics of child protection in the training offered and is guided by instruments such as the Geneva Conventions and the African Charter of the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC).

Dr. Sitawa noted that the IPSTC had offered training courses to over 50,000 participants since its establishment. The institution also offers training courses in child protection in peace support operations, in partnership with SCI and the Swedish government. He further noted that given the multidimensional and fragile nature of child protection, the institution welcomed actors to participate in their research projects, capacity-building workshops, and symposia to further propel the agenda. He was excited to announce that they were planning a book launch that would renew and reinvigorate efforts towards the achievement of the CAAC agenda at national, regional, and continental levels.



THERE'S NEED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REGIONAL STRATEGIES THROUGH A MULTI-PRONGED APPROACH WITHIN THE AFRICAN PEACE AND SECURITY ARCHITECTURE FRAMEWORK



FOCUS ON STRONG LEADERSHIP AND STRENGTHENING OF ADVOCACY EFFORTS

50,000

PARTICIPANTS TRAINED BY IPSTC

13. Kevin Mackey,
National Director for World
Vision, Somalia,

Touched on addressing the root causes of armed conflict in affected areas as a cross-cutting preventive measure and fostering the empowerment of children as peace-builders through the ECAP (Empowering Children as Peace-builders) model. He mentioned that World Vision had also worked on peace and reconciliation efforts in Sudan and Somalia through organizing tribe-state peace conferences and engaging partners to improve accessibility to extremely remote areas.

14. Ms. Virginia Gamba,
Special Representative of
the UN Secretary-General
for Children and Armed
Conflict,

Mentioned that her office had initiated and participated in endeavors to reaffirm commitments to cease the recruitment and use of children by armed groups. She added that further vulnerability was occasioned and exacerbated by issues of gender-based violence and disability. Her recommendations were to develop and adopt conflict preventive measures such as those that were being taken by the AU (African Union) and AFRO (African Regional Office) on the continent. Cross-border protection endeavors were underway in the Lake Chad Basin and Sahel regions, recent handover protocols had been developed for children recovered in Burkina Faso and Nigeria, and engagements with non-state armed groups in Mali had taken place in 2021 to stop the recruitment and use of children in conflict. She also expressed the importance of community reintegration and rehabilitation, and the sustainability and comprehensiveness of stakeholder efforts in the achievement of the CAAC agenda. She encouraged stakeholders to continue to offer children a platform and elevate their voices.

15. Hon. Robert Doya,
Special Rapporteur
Children and Armed
Conflict, the African
Committee of Experts on
the Rights and Welfare of
the Child

Focused on the stock-taking of normative frameworks based upon existing child rights protection frameworks such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Article 22 of the African Charter. These provisions are important for the protection and promotion of children's rights, the prohibition of harmful practices and the provision of an enabling environment for children to thrive. Member States were, again, encouraged to leverage data analytics coupled with consistent fact-finding and follow-up missions to facilitate the identification and continued improvement of pre-existing engagements with respect to the CAAC agenda. He emphasized the importance of the alignment of guiding continental strategies, interventions informed by the child, and the need for the development and application of more systematic processes to measure relevant progress in the achievement of CAAC objectives. He also recommended taking into account the differences in the ages and stages of these children in order to offer them more appropriate services. He reminded member States that the ultimate goal was to create an Africa fit for children and children fit for Africa.

16. Angel Mbutia,
East Africa's
Representative to the
COMESA Youth Advisory
Panel

Noted that there were up to 450,000,000 children living in conflict zones globally by 2021. She explained that these numbers had grown as a result of resource wars which were essentially unnecessary. She surmised that positive change on the continent could be impacted through honest leadership and equity in resource allocation.



EMPOWER CHILDREN AS PEACE-BUILDERS



CEASE THE RECRUITMENT AND USE OF CHILDREN BY ARMED GROUPS



MEMBER STATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO LEVERAGE DATA ANALYTICS COUPLED WITH CONSISTENT FACT-FINDING AND FOLLOW-UP MISSIONS

450m

CHILDREN LIVING IN CONFLICT ZONES GLOBALLY BY 2021

17. Hon. Ibrahim Sunoma,
President of the
Children's Parliament,
Borno State, Nigeria,

Highlighted the plight of children in North East Nigeria, where the conflict has raged on for over a decade. He noted that children have been killed, maimed, abducted, displaced, and experienced multiple grave violations. Further, hunger, the education crisis, various forms of gender-based violence, particularly against girls, and the worsening situation for children with disabilities continue to remain issues of concern not only in Nigeria but other countries across the continent. He elucidated the devastating effects that these conflicts were having on the mental and psychological health of children shattering their dreams and robbing them of their future. He urged partners to act quickly and promote the inclusion of children in policy formulation because of the unique perspectives they possess. Children are the leaders of tomorrow, and partners should reflect on how many more generations they were willing to sacrifice before they came together to collectively end the war on children. He added that lasting and sustainable solutions were required across Africa and the world to prevent all the six grave violations so that all children can be able to learn, survive and are protected.



**...VARIOUS FORMS
OF GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE REMAINS
ONE OF THE ISSUES
OF CONCERNS
ACROSS THE
CONTINENT**



**END IMPUNITY,
AND COMPEL
PERPETRATORS
TO COMPLY WITH
INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN LAWS**

**18. Ambassador Kennedy
Mokaya,** Ministry of
Foreign and Diaspora
Affairs,

Declared that the CAAC agenda was a major priority of the Kenyan government, with the country hosting over half a million refugees. He pointed out that the 6 grave violations were still rife in Africa and recommended the need for Member States to be active in ending impunity, and compelling perpetrators to comply with international humanitarian laws.



DAY 2



AN OVERVIEW OF THE CAAC AGENDA IN AFRICA

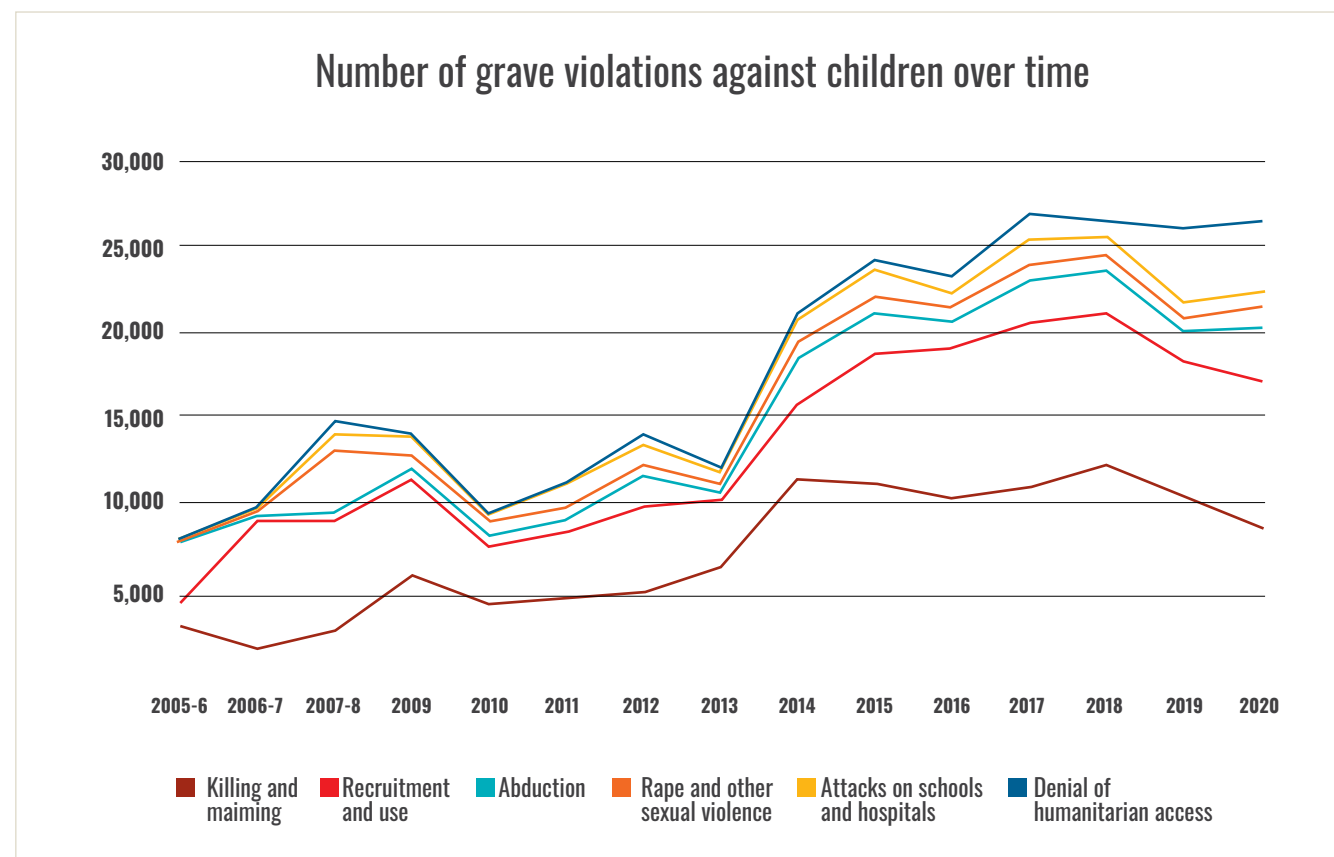


Figure 1 Source: Office of the Special representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Progress and Challenges for Children Since the 1996 Publication of the Graca Machel's Report on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children

19. The impact of war economies on children was discussed and violations against children shown to be on the rise. The effects of conflict on children are best conceptualized through guidelines conceived by the UN Monitoring and Reporting mechanism on grave violations against children. These violations include: killing and maiming of children, recruitment and use of children by armed forces and groups, attacks on schools and hospitals, rape or sexual violence against children, abduction of children and denial of humanitarian access to children.



THE EFFECTS OF CONFLICT ON CHILDREN ARE BEST CONCEPTUALIZED THROUGH GUIDELINES CONCEIVED BY THE UN MONITORING AND REPORTING MECHANISM ON GRAVE VIOLATIONS AGAINST CHILDREN.

SUMMARY OF THE OBSERVATIONS MADE DURING THE PANEL DISCUSSIONS ON THE CAAC AGENDA

20. Conclusions made during the 3-day deliberations can be divided into the following sub-themes:
- The role of Regional Economic Communities and regional mechanisms in the CAAC agenda.
 - An overview of the CAAC agenda on the continent.
 - The implementation of a continental CAAC strategy.
 - Emerging threats associated with the CAAC agenda.
 - The role of CSOs/ INGOs in shaping the CAAC agenda.
 - Conflict-sensitive Capacity Gap Assessment to respond and protect children associated by armed forces and armed groups.
 - Child Protection Humanitarian Funding and Partnerships.

A) THE ROLE OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES AND REGIONAL MECHANISMS IN THE CAAC AGENDA

MODERATOR: Rachel Amondi, Director Regional Programming Unit, Save the Children

PANELISTS: Elizabeth Mutunga, Head Governance, Peace and Security in COMESA
 Shepherd Madhiko, Program Officer, SADC Liaison Office to the African Union.
 Dr. Musavengana Chibwana, Senior Humanitarian and Education Advocacy Advisor, SCI
 Hon. Cherif Haidara, Children's Representative, Mali
 Hon. Madina Abdulkadir, Children's Representative, Nigeria
 Hon. Joy Mungoi, Children's Representative, Mozambique

21. It was established that the incorporation of children's issues in the overall mandates and agenda of regional economic communities was paramount. Elizabeth Mutunga from COMESA advocated for this in the application of conflict early warning systems in child protection interventions. It was noted that monitoring and evaluation indicators peculiar to children were to be developed in line with these systems to facilitate better outcomes. Key responsibilities for the RECs include CAAC-specific policy creation, the ratification of legal instruments and oversight with respect to implementation at the country level. RECs may offer technical support in the domestication of laws as well as sensitization exercises in member states. They also provide military assistance to aid in the containment of conflict in certain areas. In addition to the aforementioned tasks, they assist financially and advocate for justice for victims.
22. For RECs to augment their functions as regards the CAAC agenda, Dr. Chibwana recommended the development of both structural and operational frameworks that include the institutionalization of child functions in the peace and security teams; the development of a costed CAAC strategy and child safeguarding policy; the development of technical guidance notes and the incorporation of standard operating procedures; the development of training manuals and policy briefs for member states on CAAC related issues.



KEY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE RECS INCLUDE CAAC-SPECIFIC POLICY CREATION, THE RATIFICATION OF LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND OVERSIGHT

B) AN OVERVIEW OF THE CAAC AGENDA ON THE CONTINENT

MODERATOR: Retta Getachew, Programme Manager, Child Development and Protection, African Child Policy Forum (ACPF)

PANELIST: Andy Brooks, Child Protection Regional Advisor, UNICEF East and Southern Africa Regional Office,

23. Provided a review of the prevalence of verified grave violations committed against children in conflict situations on the agenda of the UN Secretary-General in East and Southern Africa, West and Central Africa and North Africa. With regard to the engagement of parties to conflict to end and prevent grave violations against children, it was noted that 29 Action Plans were signed by state and non-state actors in Africa. Member States were urged to protect children from grave violations during armed conflict by, inter alia, ratifying the relevant legal and normative frameworks, and scaling up support for child protection capacity for monitoring, reporting, and programmatic response efforts. Entities, including the Country Task Forces on Monitoring and Reporting, were urged to improve data disaggregation and analysis for better response and prevention. The donor community was encouraged to allocate long-term, predictable funding to entities working to protect children in situations of armed conflict to enable robust prevention and protection initiatives. To sustainably protect children, it was noted that engagements with all parties to conflict to develop action plans should be continuously encouraged, in addition to dialogue with national authorities to develop legislative measures that will enable accountability for grave violations.

24. He also provided insights for the continent detailing the listing and delisting strategies for parties involved in child rights violations. He added that incentives to desist from these violations also incorporate conditional aid clauses in which affected governments are required to commit to child protection or donor aid is restricted.



REVIEW OF THE PREVALENCE OF VERIFIED GRAVE VIOLATIONS COMMITTED AGAINST CHILDREN IN CONFLICT SITUATIONS



29 ACTION PLANS WERE SIGNED BY STATE AND NON-STATE ACTORS IN AFRICA. MEMBER STATES WERE URGED TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM GRAVE VIOLATIONS DURING ARMED CONFLICT



THE DONOR COMMUNITY WAS ENCOURAGED TO ALLOCATE LONG-TERM, PREDICTABLE FUNDING



INCORPORATE CONDITIONAL AID CLAUSES IN WHICH AFFECTED GOVERNMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMMIT TO CHILD PROTECTION OR DONOR AID IS RESTRICTED

C) THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A CONTINENTAL CAAC STRATEGY

PANELIST: Dr. Musa Chibwana, Senior Humanitarian and Education Advocacy Advisor, Save the Children

25. Stated that the vision of the strategy is to foster an Africa fit for children and children fit for Africa. The six predominant conflict zones in Africa are the Central Africa Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia and South Sudan. These states face a challenge in protecting their citizens resulting in the formation of local militia groups. The strategy offers an opportunity for introspection and environmental appreciation for the effective delivery of children in situations of conflict. It is meant to guide the continental initiatives for AU organs and their partners and align stakeholders' efforts to ensure respect, protection and fulfillment of children's rights. The Rationale for the Continental Strategy is to take advantage of each partner's area of comparative advantage, align efforts, mobilize resources, and allow collaboration among partners to achieve demonstrable results. The guiding principles for the strategy include non-discrimination, the best interest of the child, child participation, do no harm, and the presumption of childhood. Dr. Musa mentioned that this strategy was still in its draft stage and had been therefore presented to the conference to enable participants to provide input for its improvement. Normative underpinnings of the strategy include aspirations 4 and 6 of Agenda 2063, aspiration 9 of Agenda 2040 on the impact of conflicts and continental studies such as the AU Stock-take Study on the impacts of conflict on children. The strategy approach encompasses a triple nexus which involves conceptualizing the transition of from conflict to peace as a continuum; ensuring that interventions address immediate vulnerabilities of children and long-term investments address systemic causes of conflict and vulnerability; and strengthening collaboration, coherence and complementarity between humanitarian, development and peace actors.

26. Proposed promotion strategies for the CAAC agenda included systematic engagements with the AU, Peace and Security Council, the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child on CAAC; a robust communication and visibility strategy; the appointment of a Special Envoy on CAAC; and the establishment of a CAAC discourse shaping platform.

27. The accountability gap was emphasized and accountability mechanisms noted to consist of four interrelated components which include assigning responsibility for violations by perpetrators, enforcing laws through sanctions and prosecutions, reforming systems by negotiating with relevant institutions and empowering children and their communities. Institutional collaboration at the local, national, regional and international level is required for these mechanisms to function optimally.

28. The laxity in the endorsement of soft laws, especially the Safe Schools Declaration, by some Member States, was brought to light, including additional legislative gaps that allow recruitment and use of children by some countries. The role of foreign actors in fueling conflicts on the continent through arms proliferation was also illuminated, and the consequent need for border-strengthening initiatives emphasized.

29. At the end of this session, propositions were made for longer-term predictable and sustainable funding, special attention to the girl child, appeals to governments to allow and support engagement with armed groups since these can be sensitive, consolidation of diplomatic efforts, setting up task forces to facilitate monitoring and reporting, strengthening legislation and involving key government stakeholders in similar conferences. The economic facet of conflict should be prioritized in government programing and the harmonization of existing strategy documents by different RECs was also suggested.

30. Participants were keen to understand more on the development and implementation of robust accountability and recourse mechanisms for victims, and suggestions were made to include key community stakeholders, such as religious leaders, as active participants in policy formulation and implementation at the community level. Additional perspectives included considerations on the role of continental projects such as the African Continental Free Trade Area in ensuring the economic welfare of victims of conflict.



CHILDREN'S SESSION: CAAC CONTEXT FROM AFFLICTED AFRICAN COUNTRIES

MODERATOR: Lavina Oluoch, Save the Children

PANELISTS: Hon. Cherif Haidara and Hon. Marietou Kanoute, Mali
Hon. Madina Abdulkadir and Hon. Ibrahim Sunoma, Nigeria
Hon. Ekram Abrar and Hon. Tedros Dadi, Ethiopia
Hon. Fardus Mohamed and Hon. Zahra Ahmed, Somalia
Hon. Fatima Jailone and Hon. Joy Mungoi, Mozambique.

31. In implementing a four-year program funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Save the Children focuses on enhancing the protection of rights and welfare of children in situations of armed conflict in sub-Saharan Africa. The overarching ambition of the program is to ensure that children affected by conflicts are protected from neglect, exploitation, violence and abuse. A key element of the program is to ensure the participation of children in areas affecting them. Child participation, or a child's right to be heard, is a fundamental tenet and one of the four core guiding principles of the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

32. As part of the program's objective, "Increased influence and participation by children, youth and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in processes for peace and reconciliation in Sub-Saharan Africa", children in Nigeria were asked to contribute to the regional Children Affected by Armed Conflict (CAAC) Strategy by answering questions and providing information on the issues that affect them and what strategies they thought that governments could implement to prevent grave violations against children. The child representatives shared the findings from their consultations conducted in-country prior to the conference with participants. The children represented the following countries: Nigeria, Mali, Mozambique, Somalia and Ethiopia.

33. The child representatives reiterated the devastating and extensive effects that the major violations cause to children. Cross-cutting themes on the six grave violations were highlighted with each panelist giving a unique account based on their individual experiences, calling attention to the prevalence of harmful traditional practices, child marriages, gender-based violence, early pregnancies and the associated deaths of young mothers during childbirth, food insecurity, effects of climate change, poverty and gender inequality among others. They called for the full implementation of Children's Acts in their respective countries and lauded the Children's Councils as platforms for growth and exchange of information for improvement.

34. Lack of education was given special consideration, with issues of the fear of schooling by both children and parents brought to the fore. These were magnified by rampant school abductions, physical inaccessibility, governments opting to shut down schools for security reasons, and the use of schools as both IDP camps and militia bases rather than learning centers.

35. It was clearly demonstrated that children living with disabilities were more vulnerable and marginalized, especially in situations of armed conflict, with visually impaired children being unable to distinguish between friend and foe and physically challenged children being unable to flee war zones without assistance from others.

36. It was noted that the inclusion of children in meaningful policy discussions and formulation in the continent had not yet been standardized. Countries like Mali, had already institutionalized their children's parliament while other countries had not implemented the same. The children's representatives expressed their deep desire to be included in active decision-making particularly in matters affecting them, and for them to be viewed as peers with meaningful contributions. That these youth and children's platforms were not to be purely cosmetic - 'No change for us without us.'

37. The children's representatives recommended the implementation of gender-sensitive curricula and programs focusing on equality, affirmative action in education, signing of the Safe Schools Declaration by all the Member States, inter-sectoral collaboration, platforms to easily report violations, increasing the presence of security agents, creation of employment opportunities in settlement centers and value addition with respect to policy implementation. The institutionalization and empowerment of child protection committees from the community to the national level was proposed to ensure the continuum of safety for victims, even in displacement camps. Member States were also implored to make use of host families to help take in these children and help them transition to a normal life, offering mental and psychosocial support. It was reported during the conference that Burundi had implemented this model successfully.



**INSURE THAT CHILDREN
AFFECTED BY CONFLICTS ARE
PROTECTED FROM NEGLECT,
EXPLOITATION, VIOLENCE AND
ABUSE**



**CHILDREN LIVING WITH
DISABILITIES WERE
MORE VULNERABLE AND
MARGINALIZED, ESPECIALLY IN
SITUATIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT**



**INCLUDE CHILDREN IN
MEANINGFUL POLICY
DISCUSSIONS AND FORMULATION
IN THE CONTINENT HAD NOT YET
BEEN STANDARDIZED**



**THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION
AND EMPOWERMENT OF CHILD
PROTECTION COMMITTEES
FROM THE COMMUNITY TO THE
NATIONAL LEVEL WAS PROPOSED**



D) EMERGING THREATS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CAAC AGENDA

MODERATOR: David Momanyi, Executive Director, Horn of Africa Youth Network

PANELIST: Hon. Joy Mungoi, Child Representative, Mozambique
 Retta Getachew, African Child Policy Forum (ACPF)
 Muneinazvo Kujeke, University of Johannesburg
 Lweendo Kambela, Dag Hammarskjöld Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies

38. This session focused on addressing emerging trends associated with the CAAC Agenda, focusing on climate change and its impact on children in conflict situations, prioritizing children's rights in the prevention and response to terrorism and violent extremism, and accountability for sexual violence against children.

39. It was noted that at the core of the conflict in Mozambique was the fight for natural resources such as gas and gold, which should ideally be used to better the society, fight malnutrition and mitigate the challenges that abound in the education system and infrastructure, but are instead used to fuel conflicts.

40. Retta Getachew, Programme Manager, Child Development and Protection, African Child Policy Forum (ACPF), mentioned that climate change needed to be analyzed comprehensively as it had significant policy implications. It was noted that the nexus between climate change and conflicts was not just linear but more nuanced, thus, careful analysis is required. Substantial evidence had shown that climate change could exacerbate the traditional causes of conflict. Climate change causes food insecurity, water scarcity, competition for resources, disruption of livelihoods and the displacement of people. These issues result in clashes over resources and create distrust. Furthermore, countries most affected by climate change become fragmented and more vulnerable to armed conflict.

41. Sub-Saharan Africa has 35 out of the 45 countries globally at the highest climate risk, which affects close to half a billion children under 18. Climate-induced armed conflicts on the continent were noted to increase children's risks of facing grave violations. The opportunities presented to key actors on climate matters included the AU's consideration to establish the office of a Special AU Envoy for Climate Change and Security, to work closely with the Committee of African Heads of State on Climate Change and the chance to review the findings of the upcoming annual report of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict on CAAC and the climate change nexus. The AU Peace and Security Council had held multiple open discussions on climate change and security since 2016 and an upcoming report by the Special Representative of the Secretary general CAAC was due for the first quarter of 2023 on the CAAC and climate change nexus.

42. The recommendations from the 9th International Policy Conference on the African Child (IPC) included putting children affected by armed conflict at the center of climate discussions and considering the role of state and non-state actors together with religious leaders. It also featured suggestions on improving the capacity of CEWS (Continental Early Warning Systems) and the planning capacity of the AU peace support operations in climate security. It is important to factor in climate change impacts at all policy stages namely: early warning and assessment, planning and financing, implementation and monitoring of peacemaking and peacekeeping strategies.



CLIMATE CHANGE CAUSES FOOD INSECURITY, WATER SCARCITY, COMPETITION FOR RESOURCES, DISRUPTION OF LIVELIHOODS AND THE DISPLACEMENT OF PEOPLE



INCORPORATE CONDITIONAL AID CLAUSES IN WHICH AFFECTED GOVERNMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMMIT TO CHILD PROTECTION

43. Muneinazvo Kujeke, an expert from the University of Johannesburg noted that violent extremism was not just a transnational threat but a continental threat. The threats posed by violent extremism included the recruitment of children, killing, maiming, parricide and the orphaning of children, abduction, harassment, deprivation of health care and education, displacement from homes, emotional scars and sexual exploitation. She made recommendations for governments to focus on the prevention of child involvement in crime and violence, the protection of child victims and witnesses in a manner that respects their right and their dignity, and the prevention of and responses to serious forms of violence against children committed by terrorist and violent extremist groups.

44. With regard to accountability mechanisms for sexual violence against children, current trends in research and advocacy had shown a bias towards girls as compared to boys in terms of impact and service delivery. Current trends and debates on sexual violence against children in conflict situations have been influenced by, among others, corruption which enables perpetrators to escape legal consequences and allows a culture of impunity; the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, which diverted resources away from life-saving services to survivors of sexual violence; and the prevalence of terrorism and violent extremism which compounds the already diminished humanitarian access. Proposed recommendations include documentation and analysis of patterns of sexual violence against children, political commitment to enhancing accountability at the national, regional and international levels, identifying critical actors and institutions, providing technical assistance for national justice system actors and strong coordination among actors such as investigators, health workers. A novel gender dynamic in violent extremism was the use of young girls as suicide bombers and the escalating abuse of young boys given that it is often a societal taboo for these cases to be reported.

45. Some of the bottlenecks in addressing sexual violence have been the impact of COVID-19 on children in conflict zones, conditions that hinder boy survivors to report sexual violence and poor political will to hold perpetrators of sexual violence against children accountable.

46. Lessons learnt during these presentations included the importance of timely interventions, strong coordination among stakeholders, and prioritization of the most vulnerable community groups.



THE THREATS POSED BY VIOLENT EXTREMISM INCLUDED THE RECRUITMENT OF CHILDREN, KILLING, MAIMING, PARRICIDE AND THE ORPHANING OF CHILDREN, ABDUCTION, HARASSMENT, EMOTIONAL SCARS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION...



THE EFFECT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC DIVERTED RESOURCES AWAY FROM LIFE-SAVING SERVICES TO SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE



PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE DOCUMENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF PATTERNS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN, POLITICAL COMMITMENT TO ENHANCING ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE NATIONAL..



LESSONS LEARNT INCLUDED THE IMPORTANCE OF TIMELY INTERVENTIONS, STRONG COORDINATION AMONG STAKEHOLDER

47. It was recommended during the discussion sessions that National Plans of Actions should be child-sensitive, especially when reviewing climate change policies to ensure that NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) respond to vulnerable children. Conflicts were seen to be a key driver of sexual violence against children as they exacerbate climate change impacts and vice versa. Africa needs to focus on addressing the root causes of conflicts, such as finding innovative solutions to curb food insecurity and the involvement of religious leaders in conflict management and eradication, as most armed groups are fueled by extreme religious pervasion.

E) THE ROLE OF CSOS/ INGOS IN SHAPING THE CAAC AGENDA.

MODERATOR: Nenita Bukalo, UNICEF Office to the AU and ECA

PANELIST: John Kon, Country Representative, Dallaire Institute for Children, Peace, and Security
Ben Omillo, Executive Director, The Eastern Africa Child Rights Network (EACRN)
Eyob Yishak, Peace Building Department, World Vision Ethiopia

48. The Dallaire Institute for Children, Peace, and Security in South Sudan has concentrated on the preventive aspect of conflict. They train police, community leaders, and the youth on the prevention of child recruitment and use and ensure that these key groups are also included in purposeful round-table discussions to foster peace and promote security.
49. The Eastern Africa Child Rights Network (EACRN) focuses principally on advocacy work on behalf of children. It was discovered that the six grave violations against children were not exhaustive and that other pertinent violations such as the trafficking and exploitation of children and children being used as bait by rebels, were commonplace on the continent. There is need for more involvement and engagement with the perpetrators of violence against children, CSOs, peacekeepers and academicians. There is also a need to review school curricula to include peace education. Parents were urged to take the lead when it came to the peace education efforts of their children, for instance through desisting from purchasing toys that imply violence such as toy guns.
50. World Vision has also involved the youth and children in the ECAP (Empowering Children and Youth as Peace Builders) program. The project which started in Gedio and West Guji - Ethiopia has been beneficial to peacebuilding processes through successful school peace club campaigns with more youth now engaged in peace advocacy and also through the creative use of sports to foster peace in the communities. The program has benefited 270 conflict-affected youth through small business creation such as barber shops. World Vision affirmed that the government was a key stakeholder in its peace-building interventions.
51. Recommendations from the discussions highlighted that there is a need to rehabilitate children affected by conflict with dignity to lower the chances of them going back to violent extremism as is the case in Somalia. Peacekeepers who are usually at the front line in conflict need to be provided with constant psychosocial support.
52. CSOs were encouraged to work together and not in silos as collaboration and partnership would do more for advocacy efforts in achieving the CAAC agenda. African governments were urged to work with CSOs without bias or suspicion as is sometimes the case.



DAY 3



LAUNCH OF THE BOOK CHILDREN, PEACE AND SECURITY – IPSTC

MODERATOR: Dr. Michael Sitawa, IPSTC

PANELISTS: Dr. Walter Samah, Conflict Resolution Specialist and Governance Expert
Mme Bernadette SOGODOGO, Researcher, Mali
Colonel Rhoda Mwasigwa, Head of research, IPSTC
Anthony Njoroge, Thematic Lead Children and Armed Conflict, Save the Children

31. A compelling presentation assessing the enduring battle to end the recruitment and use of children in Somalia was made by Dr. Samah. He pointed out that recruitment and use inevitably prolong conflict, as is the case in Somalia despite various efforts to try and reverse the state of affairs. He highlighted the proliferation of weapons, persistent conflict and insecurity, and humanitarian and socioeconomic factors as being the principal drivers of recruitment and use in Somalia. Lack of education and regular schooling was again shown to play a big role, considering that children out of school serve as a steady and readily available reservoir for recruitment by armed forces and groups, perpetuating the conflict in Somalia.

54. Various measures that have been taken so far to remedy the situation include the signing of action plans, the development of codes of conduct prohibiting the recruitment and use of children, the adoption of standard operating procedures for the reception and handover of victimized children, and the establishment of child protection units and national programs for the treatment and handling of disengaged combatants.

55. The United Nations verified the recruitment and use of 1,161 children in 2021 compared to 1,915 children in 2016. The number of children involved in recruitment and use from the year 2017 to the year 2021 was 2,087, 2,300, 1,495, 1,716, and 1,161 respectively. The recruitment and use of children is believed to be caused by factors such as state-fragility,

a weak sanctions regime, a culture of impunity, and harmful cultural norms and practices. He noted that the annual listing of parties involved in recruitment and use practiced by the US Government could have been a useful tool to promote accountability, but the ban on military assistance/arms sales to Somalia has consistently been waived by the US Government. He stated that ongoing joint government-community campaigns to fight Al-Shabaab had been adopted by the current government and could be successful with adequate support. It was noted that the government was working to curtail Al-Shabaab funding streams, which were noted to be predominantly internal and effected through extortion. Lack of access to the internet and other media platforms invariably meant that most of the information made available to the population was provided by militant groups.

56. He argued that the way forward was to address the root causes of recruitment and use, hold perpetrators of recruitment and use of children to account, ensure children's access to education, and the government urged to establish a birth registration system accompanied by a systematic registration campaign. Al-Shabaab had taken advantage of the lack of schooling and education to radicalize children. He appreciated and encouraged more international community support to facilitate the aforementioned initiatives.

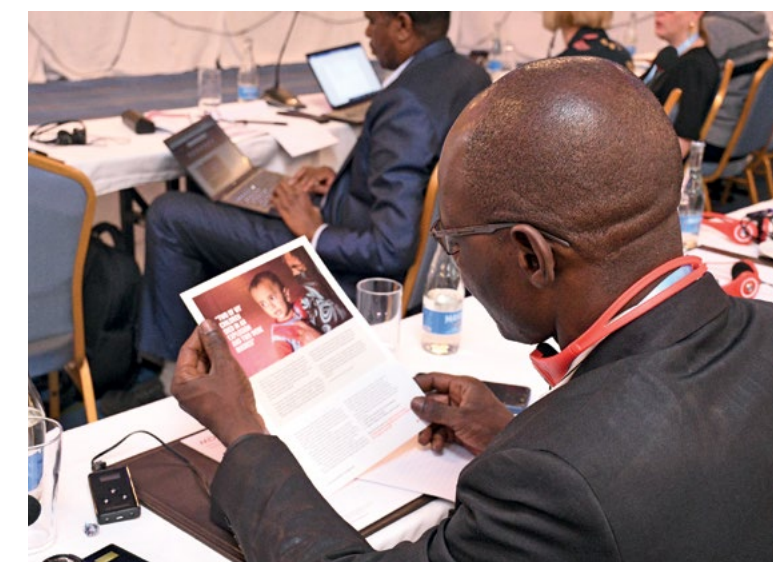
57. Mme Sogodogo, an independent researcher based in Mali, evaluated the impact of armed conflict in the Mopti region of Mali. She mentioned the area's unique disposition, having undergone a triple crisis, making it 'study-worthy' with respect to the evaluation of the effects of child rights violations. The triple crisis consisted of a political crisis, a security crisis and the Tuareg rebellion. She concluded that victims were motivated by revenge and turned to drug and substance abuse as a coping mechanism for the post-traumatic mental distress they experience due to horrific war-related events. Children were also said to escape engagement and interventions by humanitarian actors due to questions of distrust. Collaboration between actors needs to improve.

58. Colonel Rhoda Mwasigwa presided over the launch of the book 'Children Peace and Security' reaffirming that it would act as a reference document acknowledging the plight of children affected by armed conflict, citing gaps in practice and proposing solutions towards enhancing child protection efforts in hostile theatres. The book is the culmination of a regional research conference hosted in April 2022 at the Humanitarian Peace Support School bringing together military, police, and civilian personnel working within the child protection domain. The overall objective of the publication is to inform policy actors, practitioners and academia on the plight of children in conflict situations and dynamics such as intra-state conflicts, climate change, violent

extremism, and political instability that have had an impact on children in different contexts and geographical spaces.

59. Save the Children reaffirmed that the organization's primary approach was to reach the most vulnerable and marginalized child and that this made the work that IPSTC does through training and deployment of both civilians and military personnel, in conjunction with partners, the most effective way to positively impact intervention, response and reintegration.

60. Delegates pointed out the significant role that harmful cultural and traditional habits play in perpetuating war and conflict. Lasting solutions need to be sought to end the cycle of violence and conflict brought about by these pernicious practices that cause intergenerational trauma. Financial tracking by members states and the international community was proposed in order to dissuade investments in war and conflict and promote accountability. Inter-sectoral collaboration was emphasized especially with respect to maintaining education and literacy for conflict victims.



F) CONFLICT-SENSITIVE CAPACITY GAP ASSESSMENT TO RESPOND AND PROTECT CHILDREN AFFECTED BY ARMED FORCES AND ARMED GROUPS

MODERATOR: Mowlid Mudan, Deputy Head of Advocacy, Campaigns, Communication and Media, Save the Children

PANELIST: Hon. Zahra Ahmed Direy, Child Ambassador
Samuel Hall Consultants
Child Protection Unit, Ministry of Defense, Somalia
BADEF Development Foundation

61. This session targeted Somali government officials from key ministries responsible for CAAC, donors, INGOs and CSOs to disseminate the findings of an assessment that sought to understand the structures, networks, and systems in place to provide support through integrated stakeholder mobilization and sensitization and re-positioning child protection at the center of [SCI's] programming. The assessment identified the community and institutional capacity gaps and opportunities to tap into a gender and conflict-sensitive manner to improve current response and prevention mechanisms. The Somali government affirmed that the definition of a child was anyone below the age of 18 and that it prohibits the recruitment of children into the military. Any party committing this crime was liable to prosecution. Culture was equally seen as a considerable hindrance towards child protection. Young boys and girls were referred to as men and women and accorded adult responsibilities such as performing household chores and taking care of their siblings at a very early age, affecting their development and mental health.

62. Save the Children had commissioned Samuel Hall Consultants, an independent researcher, to conduct a conflict-sensitive capacity gap assessment to prevent and respond to the recruitment and use of children by armed groups in Somalia. This was in recognition of the need for stronger structures, policies and institutional coordination mechanisms to prevent and respond to the recruitment and use of children in armed forces and armed groups. In 2020, Somalia had been identified as being among the five regions with the highest number of grave violations against children, especially in the recruitment and use of children. One of the key lessons learnt in the prevention of conflict was the utility of community outreach and sensitization programs. Monitoring rehabilitated children was viewed as critical but needed to be more comprehensive. More advocacy was also needed to ensure that children were not prosecuted for their alleged association with armed groups. Further recommendations included the creation of gender transformative programming and addressing root causes rather than symptoms. A proposed theory of change model is depicted below.



GLOBAL OBJECTIVE

To better protect all children in Somalia from recruitment and use by armed groups and forces and support the sustainable reintegration of those who have

DESIRED IMPACT

Increase awareness and acceptance of child rights standards around recruitment	Help children to sustainably reintegrate into their community, without stigma, rejection or retaliation	Ensure that legal standards protect children from recruitment	Identify and provide support for children at risk of recruitment. Better monitor outcomes of reintegration	Ensure that legal standards do not penalise children for participation in armed group or forces
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RECOMMENDED APPROACHES

Advocate for legal and policy change in both domestic law and adherence to international legal standards and conventions. Strengthen also the capacity of judicial bodies to uphold children's rights	Create space for positive narratives about the potential contributions of children associated with armed groups and more positive narratives about the role of youth more generally.	Increase understanding of vulnerability, re-cruitment risks, and determinants of successful reintegration outcomes, through more research as well as monitoring and evaluation of existing programming	Scale up and expanding community outreach and awareness effort to help identify and target prevention efforts to areas with children at risk of recruitment	Cultivate sharing of information and best practices with other implementing actors, to increase knowledge on conflict and gender sensitivity, implicating more actors at the local level.
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CHALLENGES AND GAPS

Insufficient coordination and information sharing between implementing actors	Obstacles to access reintegration support services, due to insecurity, lack of information, distrust	Financial and material resources pose a challenge to scaling up efforts or providing long term support	Challenges with reintegrating into societies due to stigma, rejection or retaliation from the community	Legal frameworks leave children vulnerable to recruitment and its precursors (labour exploitation, trafficking)	Negative community perceptions of youth, especially boys, as threats, rather than agents of peace
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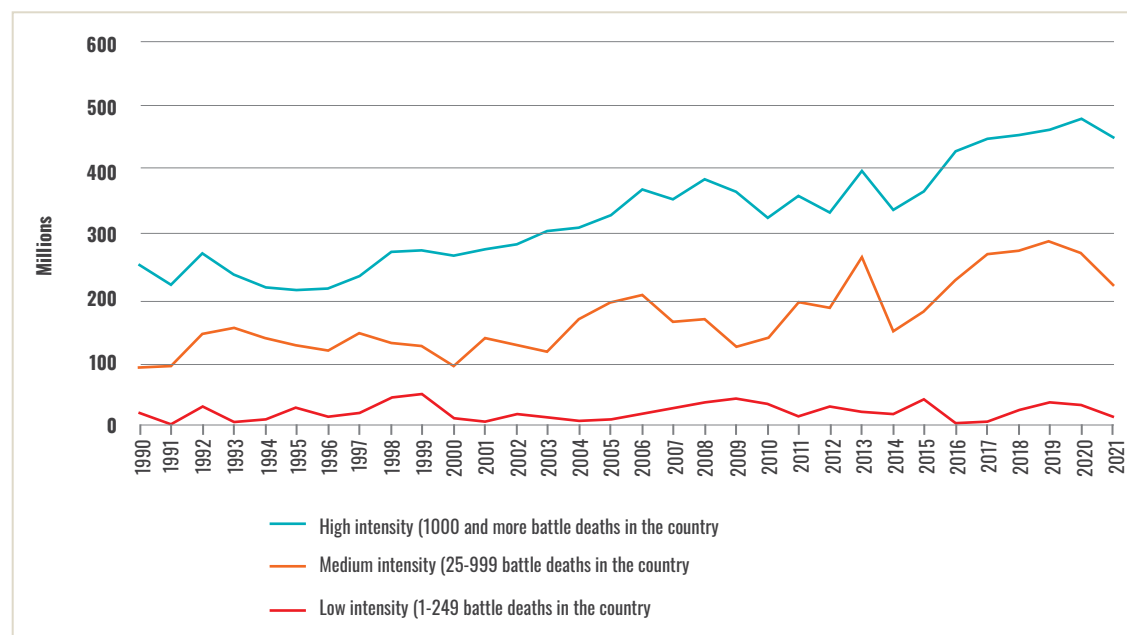
KEY ACTORS

Community and clan leaders	Children	Women's groups	Child Protection committees	Save the Children	Armed groups and forces
Youth leaders and youth groups	State actors	NGOs and CSOs	Case managers	Educators and Mentors	

Figure 2 Source: Samuel Hall

THE LAUNCH OF THE STOP THE WAR ON CHILDREN (SWOC) REPORT

MODERATOR: Anthony Njoroge, Thematic Lead – Children and Armed Conflict, Save the Children



53. Anthony Njoroge presented the report by SCI in collaboration with the Peace and Research Institute Oslo (PRIO). The report entitled 'The Forgotten Ones' was the seventh in a series from Save the Children that had identified trends for the safety and wellbeing of children living in conflict areas based on the analysis of the 2022 report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict and updated numbers from the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) of children living in conflict zones. Six out of the ten worst conflict-afflicted countries to be as a child were found in Africa and included the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Mali, Nigeria, Cameroon, Sudan and the Central African Republic (CAR) due to the relatively high number of verified grave violations against children in these countries. The African region was mentioned to have the greatest number of children affected by conflict, with about 180 million children living in conflict zones. Not all cases, however, had been captured by monitoring and reporting mechanisms, as it is widely acknowledged that all grave violations against children in conflict, and especially when it comes to rape and other forms of sexual violence, are significantly underreported. Undertaking accurate documentation of grave violations against children is challenging in times of peace and even more so in times of conflict.

54. With regard to media coverage, between January and the end of September 2022, Ukraine had received five times more media coverage than the combined coverage of the ten worst conflict-affected countries to be as a child in 2021, signaling biases and discrepancies in interest and prioritization. Moreover, humanitarian response plans in the ten worst conflict-affected countries were, on average, only 43% funded as of 4th November 2022.

MAIN SESSION



MINISTERIAL SESSION: STATEMENTS ON FUNCTIONAL PROCESSES THAT ADDRESS CHILD RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

MODERATOR: Dr Oita Etyang, COMESA

PANELISTS: Dr. Richard Masozera, High Commissioner of Rwanda to Kenya
Hon. Wael Attia, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Kenya
Hon. Bacha Debele Buta, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia to the Republic of Kenya
Rahitaba Desire Romain, Regional Director, Ministry of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action, National Reconciliation, Gender & Family, Burkina Faso
Souleymane Ramatou Albade, Head of Division, Strengthening the National Protection System, Directorate for the Protection of Children's Rights, Niger
Hon. Kamal Gubara, Ambassador of The Republic of Sudan to Kenya

53. The Hon. Amb. of Somalia to Kenya affirmed the Somali government's efforts to establish vocational training centers to facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration efforts of affected children.

67. Hon. Amb. Bankole Adeoye – AU Commissioner, Political Affairs, Peace and Security emphasized the five critical objectives for the continent with respect to child protection. These are the integration of child protection interventions into all humanitarian responses, the development of predictable and sustainable measures of ensuring child protection that were effective in all conflict situations, the provision of gender and age-appropriate services, advocacy for the release of all children in armed groups and the implementation of normative frameworks in relation to CAAC.

68. Rahitaba Desire Romain indicated that the threat of armed conflict was burgeoning in the country, with up to 40% of its territory currently under the control of armed groups. He reported that the grave violations against children continue to occur, and this was magnified by the fact that the details of almost half of the country's child population had not been recorded in the national civil registry, making it difficult to administer protection efforts. He added that the state was already taking action through the development of a national protection strategy that serves as a reference tool to guide the actions and provide capacity building for field personnel; setting up temporary schools that are secure to mitigate the schooling disruptions that occur due to attacks and invasions of schooling institutions; offering learning programs via radio and prior recordings; and the creation of national brigades for the protection of children in each region that bring together the police

and social workers to help streamline protection services. One of the major challenges they encounter is the successful reintegration of children whose original family ties had been cut, and most of the time in a very brutal fashion. Rehabilitation and readaptation were also noted to take a socioeconomic toll on foster families, straining their already meagre resources.

69. Hon. Bacha Debele Buta announced that a national school feeding program had been implemented to help curb food insecurity and malnutrition and keep children at school, minimizing learning disruptions.

70. Dr. Richard Masozera stated that deinstitutionalization programs were underway in the country, with the intention of removing as many children as possible from displacement camps and reintegrating them via family-based care. They also provide reintegration grants and financial assistance through a vulnerability support window initiative.

71. Hon. Wael Attia relayed the importance of the Cairo International Centre for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peace-building in Africa, a training center of excellence, specialized in training, capacity building and research. He was grateful for the work the center had done towards fostering peace and security efforts in Africa and the Middle East.

72. Hon. Kamal Gubara emphasized the importance of private sector involvement in fast-tracking the achievement of the CAAC agenda and pledged a 2% donation of profits from one of his family's private enterprises to Save the Children as a demonstration of his commitment to this cause.

G) CHILD PROTECTION HUMANITARIAN FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS

MODERATOR: Annika Otterstedt, Swedish Embassy

PANELIST: Geoffrey Oyat, Regional Child Protection Advisor, Save the Children;
James Hardiman, Senior Regional Partnerships Manager, Save the Children;
David Momanyi, Executive Director, Horn of Africa Youth Network
Dr. Musavengana Chibwana, Senior Humanitarian and Education Advisor, Save the Children

73. This was a strategic positioning session where development partners were expected to highlight their priorities regarding the CAAC Agenda on the continent, the current funding environment and discuss the alignment of regional and continental CAAC interventions. Hon. Caroline Vicini began by mentioning that about 50% of the population in the humanitarian context is mainly children, but the irony is that child protection remains largely underfunded in humanitarian response plans. In 2020, funding had dropped to less than a quarter of the amount planned for and thus the need for augmentation.

74. Child protection should be considered lifesaving in humanitarian response. Humanitarian response is not the only solution to conflict, but there should be investments in governance systems in the Member States. Member states were noted to be quick to mention the laws and policies they had promulgated, but it was key to note that the law needed reinforcement to take full effect. Save the Children was expanding the space for more partners in child protection by involving CSOs, development banks such as the World Bank, respective governments of member states and the private sector. It was agreed that there was a need for African countries to invest in knowledge management on matters CAAC. Governments were urged to take accountability for their own citizens as RECs may not be able to adequately intervene in all issues; such as schooling disruptions during conflicts. Women and children were encouraged to and should be involved in peace negotiations. Member states were urged be more accountable in child protection engagements and not depend too much on international actors.



OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WAY FORWARD

75. Recommendations stemming from the 3-day deliberations were captured in six thematic areas: Child protection; Funding for child protection; Sexual violence against children; Creating awareness; Children associated with armed groups; and Crosscutting issues and emerging threats.

With respect to;

CHILD PROTECTION:

- Child protection should be a key component of conflict early warning and early response should leverage evidence-based data and decision analytics to systematically inform interventions in situations of armed conflict.
- At the onset of crises, governments and child protection actors should prioritize conducting rapid assessments of child protection requirements and capacities in collaboration with community mechanisms, preferably using established assessment toolkits to ensure child protection services respond to the needs of children.
- The continental CAAC strategy needs further engagement with member states and other relevant stakeholders to ensure a harmonized and comprehensive approach to the CAAC agenda on the continent. Discussions on the strategy should also include its resourcing.
- Comprehensive intervention strategies need to be developed to combat the proliferation of arms on the continent. This should include strengthening porous borders in African countries to curb the smuggling of these arms.

FINANCING FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT:

- Funding for child protection in conflict emergencies should be made available to guarantee the sustainability of child-centered interventions in the entire conflict life cycle.
- Investing in shifting power and sharing knowledge and skills with the community, local and national actors, including shifting funding to them, will better integrate diverse local perspectives, expertise, and initiatives into responses that protect children.

- Financing child protection is critical in keeping children safe from harm as it leads to better outcomes for children in other sectors.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS AND BOYS SHOULD BE PREVENTED AND ADDRESSED:

- Member states and stakeholders are called upon to urgently address the persistence of sexual violence against girls and boys in conflict-affected countries on the continent.
- Gender and age-appropriate services should be put in place to offer services and assistance to survivors and support in reintegrating into families and communities when needed.
- Legal services should also be made available to assist survivors in seeking justice.

CHILDREN ASSOCIATED WITH ARMED FORCES OR ARMED GROUPS SHOULD BE RELEASED AND REINTEGRATED INTO THEIR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES:

- Prioritization of the release and reintegration of children formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups through comprehensive programs that include psychosocial support to the affected children.
- Families and communities should be supported to ensure long-term reintegration and prevent children's re-recruitment.

CREATING AWARENESS AMONGST CHILDREN, PARENTS, AND COMMUNITIES:

- Member States and partners should act swiftly to promote the meaningful inclusion of children in policy formulation because of their unique perspectives. The children's representatives expressed their desire to be included in active decision-making, particularly in matters affecting them.
- Child-friendly materials should be developed with children and distributed to children, parents and communities should aid in sensitization, create ownership, ensure accountability and initiate action by children.

- There is a need to involve the community and religious leaders in deliberations regarding conflict prevention and response, appreciating their influence at the community level;
- Member states, AU, RECs/RMs, CSOs, development partners, and local communities should focus on conflict prevention by leveraging regional, national, and local infrastructure for peace.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AFFECTING CHILDREN:

- Communities most affected by climate change were noted to become fragmented and vulnerable to armed conflict; thus, climate change actions need to be prioritized by Member States, AU, RECs/RMs and development partners.
- Investments are requisite in research that looks into the impact of climate change on children in situations of conflict. There is a need for member states, AU, RECs/RMs and development partners to focus on resource-based conflicts and their long-term impact on children.
- Member states are urged to uphold their obligations to children, particularly those affected by armed conflict, with perpetrators of violations against children held to account.



CLOSING REMARKS

MODERATOR: Eva Molt, Regional Director WCS Africa, Save the Children

PANELISTS: Hon. Joy Mungoi, Mozambique
Hon. Zahra Ahmed, Somalia
Retta Getachew, ACPF

76. Hon. Zahra from Somalia encouraged more deliberations involving children even in the future. These discussions had shown the similarities and differences of the tribulations children go through in countries affected by armed conflict. These challenges need to be documented and addressed by Africa appropriately and urgently. In her final call, she urged African countries to implement the laws already passed for child protection.



ENCOURAGE MORE DELIBERATIONS INVOLVING CHILDREN EVEN IN THE FUTURE

77. Retta Getachew was delighted that the conference had provided a platform for deep reflection on the matters of Children Affected by Armed Conflict. He posited that research had proven that the trauma affecting such children continues into adulthood, harming their mental health, social interactions and their ability to obtain livelihoods. He urged governments to put children's policies and programs at the center of their national agendas and emphasized on the need for the re-examination of the root causes of conflicts on the continent. He reminded the audience of the importance of the allocation of adequate public funding for prevention and reintegration programs such as mental health and psychosocial support. He then concluded by urging the international community to continue its partnership in the child protection agenda, especially through timely and sustained funding.



GOVERNMENTS TO PUT CHILDREN'S POLICIES AND PROGRAMS AT THE CENTER OF THEIR NATIONAL AGENDAS AND EMPHASIZED ON THE NEED FOR THE RE-EXAMINATION OF THE ROOT CAUSES OF CONFLICTS ON THE CONTINENT

78. Eva Molt thanked all the partners and governments represented for making the conference a success and recommitments were made to protect children affected by armed conflict. The Swedish Government was appreciated for its immense and continuous support towards the achievement of the CAAC agenda in Africa. The presence of the child representatives was proof that children's voices could no longer be ignored as they are much more familiar with their own issues. It was concluded that there was a need to achieve concrete and long-lasting solutions for children affected by armed conflict in Africa.



IT IS IMPORTANT TO ALLOCATE ADEQUATE PUBLIC FUNDING FOR PREVENTION AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS SUCH AS MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT



RECOMMITMENTS WERE MADE TO PROTECT CHILDREN AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT

ANNEX

COMMUNICATIONS: SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

MODERATOR: Eva Molt, Regional Director WCS Africa, Save the Children

PANELISTS: Hon. Joy Mungo, Mozambique
Hon. Zahra Ahmed, Somalia
Retta Getachew, ACPF

79. The social media engagement for the conference started two days prior to the event to mobilise the public to attend and follow the proceedings. Participants were encouraged to use user-generated content, such as sharing photos and videos, to increase engagement. The social media engagement peaked on the first day of the event and sustained active engagement during the three days of the event and a few days afterwards.

80. The social media analytics from the conference showed impressive results, particularly with regard to the potential reach and impact of the conference's online presence. The report analysed two key performance indicators (KPIs) of online presence and potential reach and impact, as well as other metrics such as audience growth and top contributors. The results demonstrate the success of the conference's efforts to increase engagement and reach a wider audience through social media. The combination of the pre-event mobilisation and sustained engagement during the event contributed to the overall success of the conference's social media efforts.

81. On Twitter, the online presence was strong, with 1,819 tweets over one week, averaging 259 tweets per day. The potential reach was even more impressive, reaching 1,177,771 people during the same period. This demonstrated the success of the conference's efforts to raise awareness and increase visibility through social media. The potential impact of the conference's online presence was equally impressive, with a total of 6,629,824 impressions (content views). These figures highlighted the value of the conference's social media engagement and showed a return on investment of 11,648 USD. The conference's primary hashtag (#CAACConference2022) and secondary hashtags emerged as the top hashtags in Kenya during that week, further emphasising the success of the conference's social media efforts.

82. In addition to the strong social media presence, the conference also utilised various forms of online communication to reach a wider audience. Partners were active in preparing short video clips summarising the daily events, and a live stream of the event was available on Facebook for those attending online. These efforts helped to increase engagement and reach an even larger audience, further enhancing the impact of the conference's social media efforts. The combination of traditional social media metrics and innovative online communications methods allowed the conference to achieve a strong and well-rounded online presence.

1,819
tweets over one week



1,177,771
people reached online



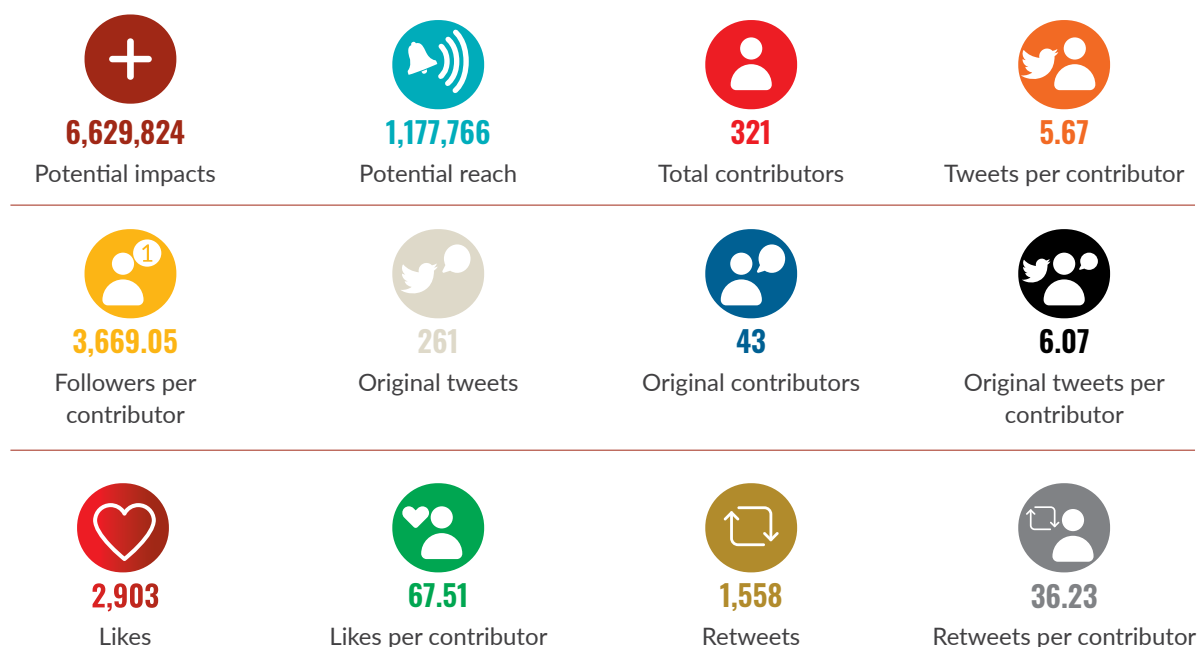
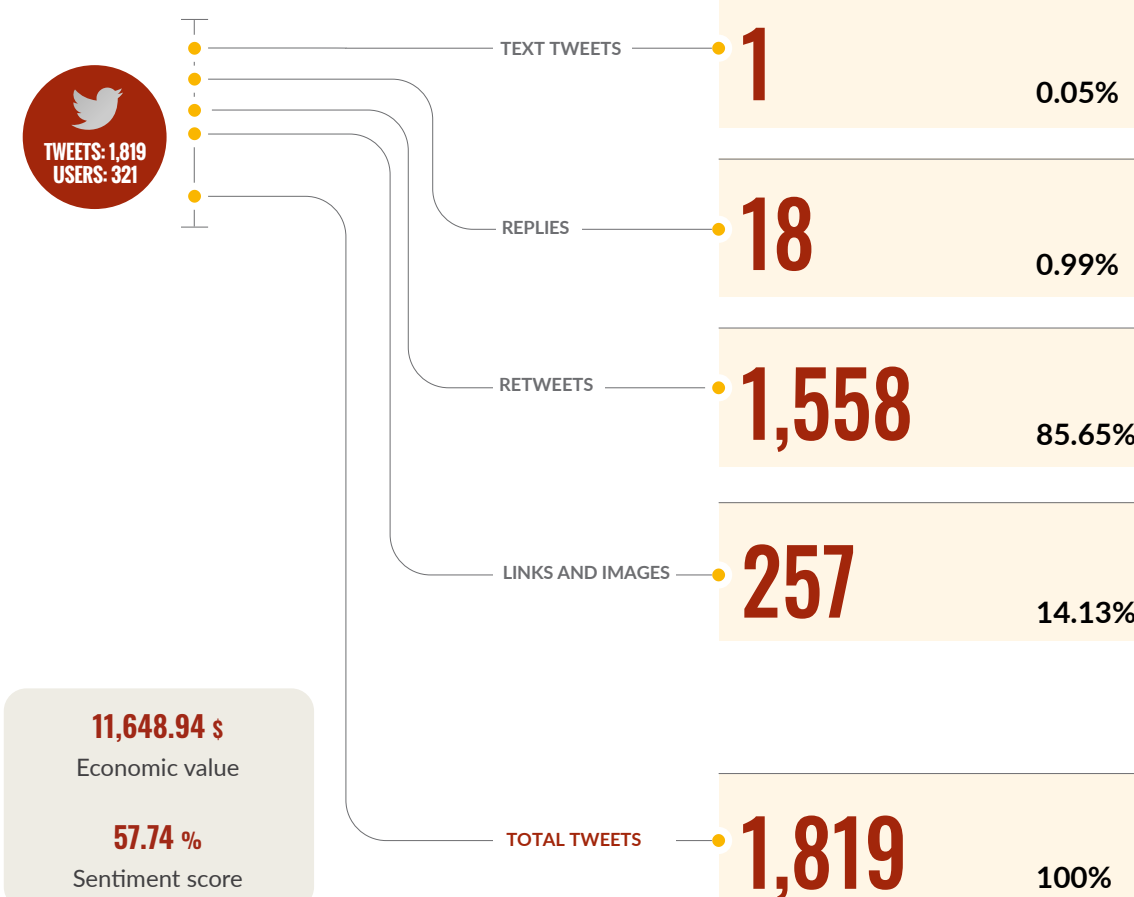
6,629,824
online content viewers



#CAACConference2022

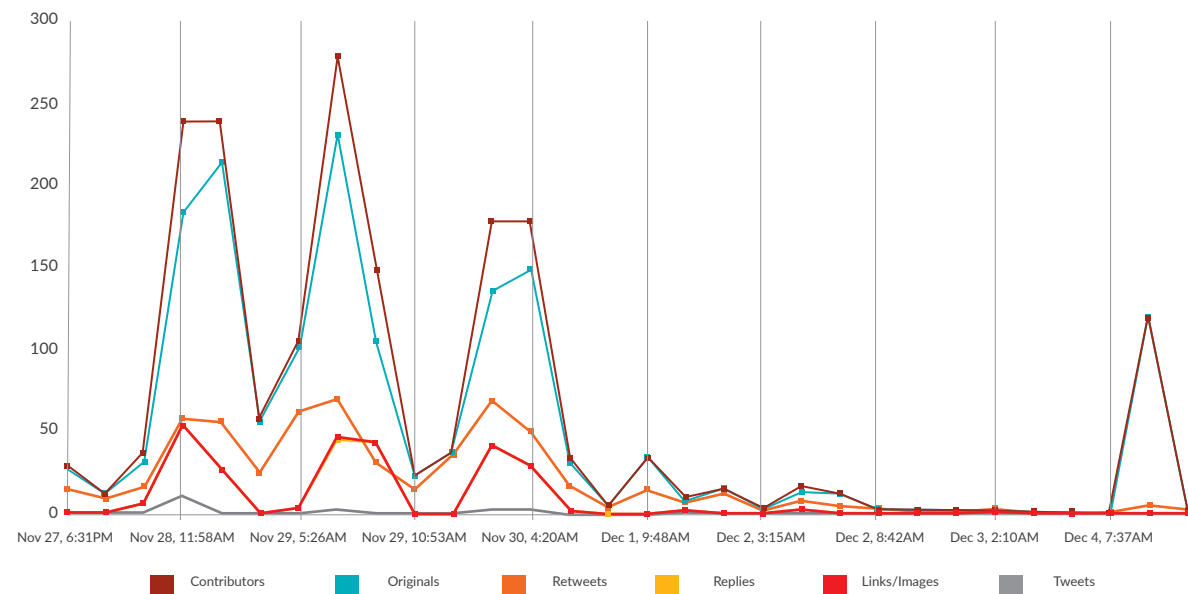
SUMMARY

TIME PERIOD 11/27/2022 - 12/4/2022



#CAACConference2022

TIMELINE



MOST RETWEETED TWEETS

miondokoo | 5 days ago | 62 Retweets

Add style to your home with @Liberty_stores at better price tags FOR ORDERS Call/whatsapp 0722948285 Delivery countrywide STIs #MainaAndKingangi #SpaceYaMagari Uhuru Kenyatta Grade 6 Kilifi County Kamukunji Jayden #Sakaja #CAACConference2022 #Accounting Mpakani Kenya 7s Twiga <https://t.co/gWxe9xr6HQ>

Liberty_stores | 4 days ago | 60 Retweets

We add value to your home At a better price tag Call/Whatsapp 0722948275 Delivery country wide. Sweetness Betty Kyallo Kindly DM #MachakosCountyExposed kibra #ClubsBanImpact BODMAS Tirries Tuesday KCPE #Nursing Twiga Nairobi

comesa_lusaka | 6 days ago | 21 Retweets

"When a child is robbed of their history, they settle for any future...If the mental health of these children is not taken care of, it will end up consuming everyone..." Ibrahim Zanna- Speaker of the Borno Children's Parliament #Nigeria. #CAACConference2022 #StoptheWaronChildren <https://t.co/MCrZdxrOsU>

ESASavechildren | 6 days ago | 19 Retweets

Amb. @CarolineVicini from @SwedeninKE ~ "we must live up to the promises we make to these children, then we will indeed work to protect & to respect the rights". #CAACConference2022 now live on <https://t.co/tJCxslH5na> #ProtectChildrenInConflict @save_children @comesa_lusaka <https://t.co/5CivhQeldK>

Liberty_stores | 5 days ago | 61 Retweets

Give your home a new look At a better price tag Call/whatsapp 0722948285 Delivery country wide. STIs #MainaAndKingangi #SpaceYaMagari Uhuru Kenyatta Grade 6 Kilifi County Kamukunji Jayden #Sakaja #CAACConference2022 #Accounting Mpakani Kenya 7s Ababu Namwamba Twiga <https://t.co/q19Snm06vF>

ESASavechildren | 6 days ago | 23 Retweets

Children convened at the #CAACConference2022 from various countries, called on governments in the region to ratify and implement policies to safeguard their rights to education and normal lives free of conflicts. @NYC_YouthVoice @Spread_truthKE @comesa_lusaka @SwedeninKE <https://t.co/eijrcb4OB>

BusisaHillary | 6 days ago | 20 Retweets

Kenya hosting #CAACConference2022 is an expression of the Gov't commitment to the protection of the rights of all children in conflict situations. @ESASavechildren @SwedeninKE @EUinKenya @AfricanUnion @IPSTCKenya @comesa_lusaka @AfricanChildFrm @NYC_YouthVoice @Spread_truthKE <https://t.co/Cquuq2sktp>

#CAACConference2022

MOST LIKED TWEETS

miondokoo | 5 days ago | 67 Likes

Add style to your home with @Liberty_stores at better price tags FOR ORDERS Call/whatsapp 0722948285 Delivery countrywide STIs #MainaAndKingangi #SpaceYaMagari Uhuru Kenyatta Grade 6 Kilifi County Kamukunji Jayden #Sakaja #CAACConference2022 #Accounting Mpakani Kenya 7s Twiga <https://t.co/gWxe9xr6HQ>

Liberty_stores | 4 days ago | 62 Likes

We add value to your home At a better price tag Call/Whatsapp 0722948275 Delivery country wide. Sweetness Betty Kyallo Kindly DM #MachakosCountyExposed kibra #ClubsBanImpact BODMAS Tirries Tuesday KCPE #Nursing Twiga Nairobi River Kambua Senator Raidon #CAACConference2022 <https://t.co/4kw1Stf6Hm>

NYC_YouthVoice | 5 days ago | 47 Likes

A significant number of children fail to meaningfully enjoy their childhood due to conflicts & crisis. The #CAACConference2022 is a platform to mitigate this by formulating standard frameworks and addressing existing gaps in legal frameworks. @ESASavechildren @SaveChildren_KE <https://t.co/ZtfzGjvt9i>

Liberty_stores | 5 days ago | 62 Likes

Give your home a new look At a better price tag Call/whatsapp 0722948285 Delivery country wide. STIs #MainaAndKingangi #SpaceYaMagari Uhuru Kenyatta Grade 6 Kilifi County Kamukunji Jayden #Sakaja #CAACConference2022 #Accounting Mpakani Kenya 7s Ababu Namwamba Twiga <https://t.co/q19Snm06vF>

kalu_lepariyo | 4 days ago | 47 Likes

Nairobi, Samburu and Baringo Youth Senators part of the delegation representing @YouthSenateKE at the ongoing #CAACConference2022 in Movenpick hotel, Nairobi. @LesuudaSilvana <https://t.co/HSw5bFKIt2>

NYC_YouthVoice | 6 days ago | 44 Likes

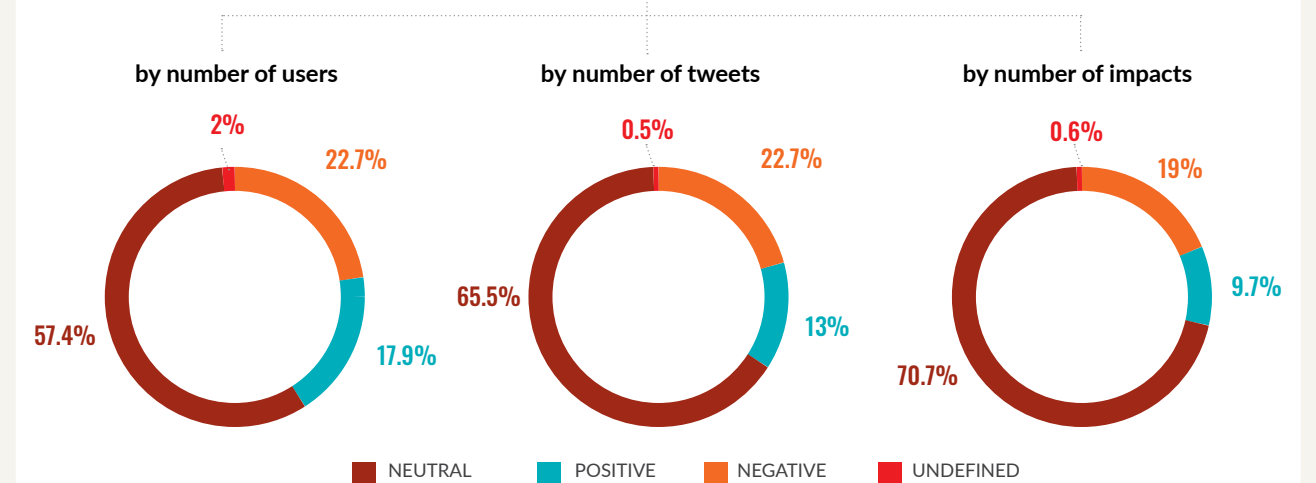
#CAACConference2022 "Having commitments from the decision makers & key stakeholders is a key step in the implementation agenda of #Protecting Children in armed conflict situations and should be celebrated"~@AngelMbuthia, expressing her views on the ongoing #CAACConference2022. <https://t.co/73B4f6CZUI>

ESASavechildren | 4 days ago | 43 Likes

A total of 24,515 grave violations against children were verified in 2021, a 9% decrease from 2020,& the lowest in five years.However, not all cases and incidents are captured~Mr @anjoroge while presenting the #SWOC report finding during the ongoing day 3 of #CAACConference2022 <https://t.co/2gNsOVBVgr>

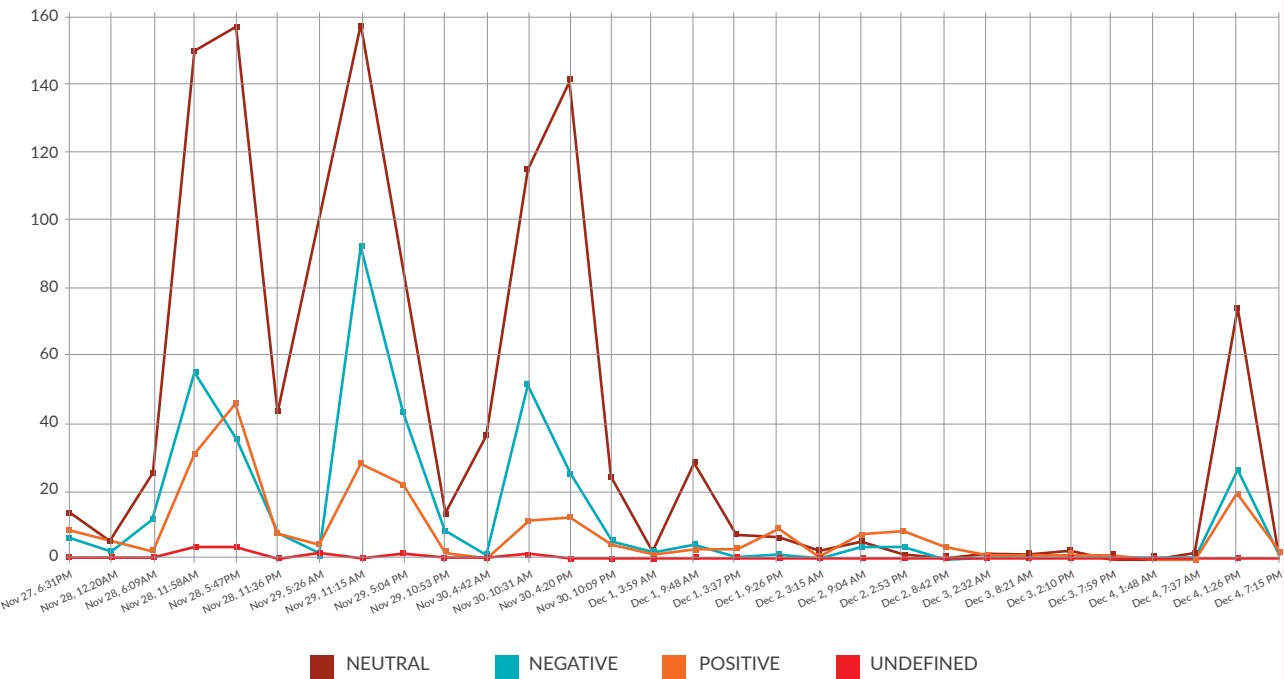
SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

57.74 sentiment score



#CAACConference2022

SENTIMENT ANALYSIS TIMELINE



SENTIMENT ANALYSIS STATS

	TOTAL TWEETS	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	CONTRIBUTORS	ECONOMIC VALUE	LINKS/PICS	RETWEETS
NEUTRAL	1,192	4,688,025	263	7,561.55	132	1,057
POSITIVE	237	645,258	82	1,078.85	44	193
NEGATIVE	381	1,257,333	104	2,352.9	77	303

CONTRIBUTOR RANKINGS

MOST ACTIVE		Tweets
	@anjoroge Anthony Njo...	114
	@ESASavechildren Save the Chi...	106
	@Spread_truthKE Spread Trut...	94
	@melvin87170938 melvin adhia...	91
	@PhoroCatherine Phoro Cathe...	91

RETWEETERS		Retweets
	@anjoroge Anthony Njo...	114
	@melvin87170938 melvin adhia...	91
	@PhoroCatherine Phoro Cathe...	85
	@oita_etyang Oita.Etyang	75
	@ItsKimaniThomas Kim's Republic	67

ORIGINAL TWEETS		Tweets
	@ESASavechildren Save the Chi...	58
	@Johnnybrown_ke #AskJBY	53
	@Spread_truthKE Spread Trut...	31
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	28
	@BusisaHillary Hillary Madi...	10

MOST POPULAR		Followers
	@Shann_099 Shan	166,973
	@zadama24 Zambia Daily...	124,161
	@DC_ASSEMBLERS FURNITURE...	82,524
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	46,580
	@migosi_brian Migosi	41,173

HIGHEST IMPACT		Impacts
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	3,120,860
	@ESASavechildren Save the Chi...	509,012
	@Shann_099 Shan	166,973
	@DC_ASSEMBLERS FURNITURE...	165,048
	@zadama24 Zambia Daily...	124,161

TOP PHOTOGRAPHER		Photos
	@ESASavechildren Save the Chi...	55
	@Johnnybrown_ke #AskJBY	53
	@Spread_truthKE Spread Trut...	31
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	26
	@BusisaHillary Hillary Madi...	10

VERIFIED USERS		Followers
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	46,580
	@WorldVisionEARO World Vision ...	5,409
	@Panos_PSAf Panos Institu...	2,583

TOP RTS ENGAGERS		RTs
	@miondokoo SHINSKI	62
	@Liberty_stores Liberty Furni...	60.5
	@HornofAYN Horn of Afric...	14
	@kalu_lepariyo Kalu Lepariyo	12
	@MargaretKiogora Margaret Ki...	11.5

TOP LIKES ENGAGERS		Likes
	@miondokoo SHINSKI	67
	@Liberty_stores Liberty Furni...	62
	@kalu_lepariyo Kalu Lepariyo	47
	@HornofAYN Horn of Afric...	39.5
	@MargaretKiogora Margaret Ki...	32

MOST RETWEETED		Retweets
	@ESASavechildren Save the Chi...	380
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	246
	@Spread_truthKE Spread Trut...	225
	@Liberty_stores Liberty Furni...	121
	@BusisaHillary Hillary Madi...	95

MOST FAVORITED		Likes
	@ESASavechildren Save the Chi...	610
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	530
	@Spread_truthKE Spread Trut...	368
	@BusisaHillary Hillary Madi...	167
	@Johnnybrown_ke #AskJBY	166

MOST MENTIONED		Mentions
	@ESASavechildren Save the Chi...	96
	@Johnnybrown_ke #AskJBY	58
	@comesa_lusaka COMESA Se...	55
	@Spread_truthKE Spread Trut...	53
	@swedeninke Sweden in K...	46

11,648.94 \$

REPORT'S ECONOMIC VALUE



The economic value of the hashtag or term analyzed is calculated after analyzing each one of the contributors (followers, following, list, etc.) and their tweets. This shows how much the hashtag is worth.

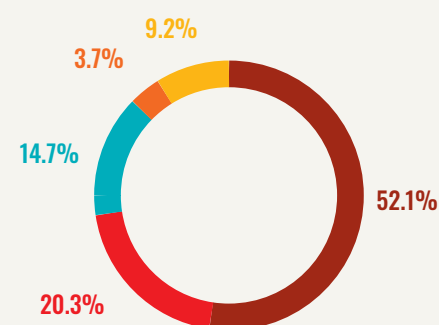
8.94 \$

average user's value

6.40 \$

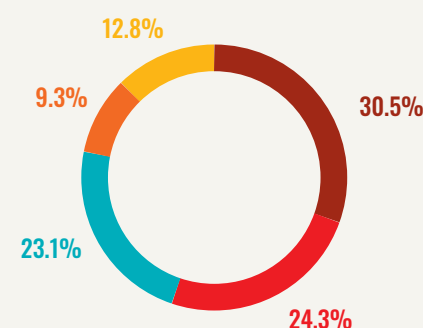
average tweet's value

ECONOMIC TWEET'S VALUE



XS: 0.00 \$ - 1.05 \$ S: 1.05 \$ - 3.16 \$ M: 3.16 \$ - 8.43 \$ L: 8.43 \$ - 15.81 \$ XL: >= 15.81 \$

ECONOMIC USER'S VALUE



TOP ACCOUNTS		Value
	@Shann_099 Shan	343.59 \$
	@zadama24 Zambia Daily...	262.50 \$
	@DC_ASSEMBLERS FURNITURE...	137.61 \$
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	128.09 \$
	@migosi_brian Migosi	95.37 \$

TOP ACCOUNTS		Value
	@EvansquezN Evansquez	62.66 \$
	@micanyonge Kevin Anyon...	53.50 \$
	@moruribrian	47.21 \$
	@JosefKiio Pablo	40.78 \$
	@JLetangule Ubuntu	38.94 \$

MOST EXPENSIVE USERS		Value
	@NYC_YouthVoice National You...	6,084.08 \$
	@ESASavechildren Save the Chi...	1,213.94 \$
	@comesa_lusaka COMESA Se...	277.72 \$
	@Johnnybrown_ke #AskJBY	175.04 \$
	@BusisaHillary Hillary Madi...	174.13 \$

MOST EXPENSIVE USERS		Value
	@Shann_099 Shan	171.79 \$
	@Spread_truthKE Spread Trut...	149.22 \$
	@DC_ASSEMBLERS FURNITURE...	137.61 \$
	@JLetangule Ubuntu	136.31 \$
	@micanyonge Kevin Anyon...	133.77 \$

TWEETS' ECONOMIC VALUE



Shann_099 | 4 days ago | 163.04 €

RT @Liberty_stores: We add value to your home At a better price tag Call/Whatsapp 0722948275 Delivery country wide. Sweetness Betty Kyallo Kindly DM #MachakosCountyExposed kibra #ClubsBanImpact BODMAS Tirries Tuesday KCPE #Nursing Twiga Nairobi River Kambua Senator Raidon #CAACConference2022 <https://t.co/4kwIStf6Hm>



Liberty_stores | 5 days ago | 62 Likes

The much-awaited #CAACConference2022 finally goes down this Monday, (28th Nov.2022). Calling for the amplification of children voices through formulation of normative & legal frameworks. Don't miss this noble conversation, visit <https://t.co/xq3JWsoojJ> @ESASavechildren <https://t.co/0M6gy59zW7>



NYC_YouthVoice | 5 days ago | 160.46 €

An emphasis on conflict prevention should be prioritized.This will help in advocating for the rights & well-being of children affected by conflict. Humanitarian support is also key. Follow this conversation via> <https://t.co/miBiJMIIAU> @SaveChildren_KE @ESASavechildren @Sida @moscakenya @Spread_truthKE @comesa_lusaka #CAACConference2022 <https://t.co/iy7pvK4Twv>



NYC_YouthVoice | 4 days ago | 145.87 €

With the right support, children can be incredibly resilient,they can recover & thrive from the toughest situations. Nevertheless, far more support is needed in conflict zones with humanitarian aid to #StopWarOnChildren. @ESASavechildren @Spread_truthKE #CAACConference2022 <https://t.co/u1qjbLDIVG>



NYC_YouthVoice | 4 days ago | 145.87 €

The child delegates have commended countries that have created platforms for the participation of children in decision-making on issues affecting them. @SaveChildren_KE @ESASavechildren @Sida @moscakenya @Spread_truthKE @comesa_lusaka #CAACConference2022 #StopWarOnChildren <https://t.co/dH28QCrrHPJ>



NYC_YouthVoice | 4 days ago | 145.87 €

A call has been made to duty bearers & world leaders, donors, members of the UN, & NGOs to protect children by holding perpetrators of child violations to account and ensuring all relevant policies & legal frameworks are implemented. #CAACConference2022 #StopWarOnChildren <https://t.co/OHOpVu1pOx>



NYC_YouthVoice | 4 days ago | 145.87 €

Enhancing military personnel's capacity to mitigate the effects of conflicts on children in affected areas can greatly help in furthering the agenda of #ProtectingChildrenInConflict. @SaveChildren_KE @ESASavechildren @Spread_truthKE @comesa_lusaka #CAACConference2022 <https://t.co/OX11BnZJA6>

INFLUENCE STATS

TWEETS/ CONTRIBUTORS		5.67 tweets/contributor
TWEETS	CONTRIBUTORS	% TOTAL
1	156	48.6%
2	56	13.71%
3	44	128.09 \$
4	17	5.3%
6	4	1.25%
>=7	38	11.84%

CONTRIBUTOR INFLUENCE		3,669.05 followers/contributor
TWEETS	CONTRIBUTORS	% TOTAL
XXS (0-10)	6	1.87%
XS (10-50)	22	6.85%
S (50-200)	45	14.02%
M (200-500)	50	15.58%
L (500-1000)	46	14.33%
XL (1000-5000)	100	31.15%
XXL (5000-∞)	52	16.2%

TWEETS/ CONTRIBUTORS		5.67 tweets/contributor
TWEETS	CONTRIBUTORS	% TOTAL
XXS (0-1)	65	20.25%
XS (1-2)	35	10.9%
S (2-3)	18	5.61%
M (3-4)	19	5.92%
L (4-5)	21	6.54%
XL (5-6)	33	10.28%
XXL (6-∞)	130	40.5%

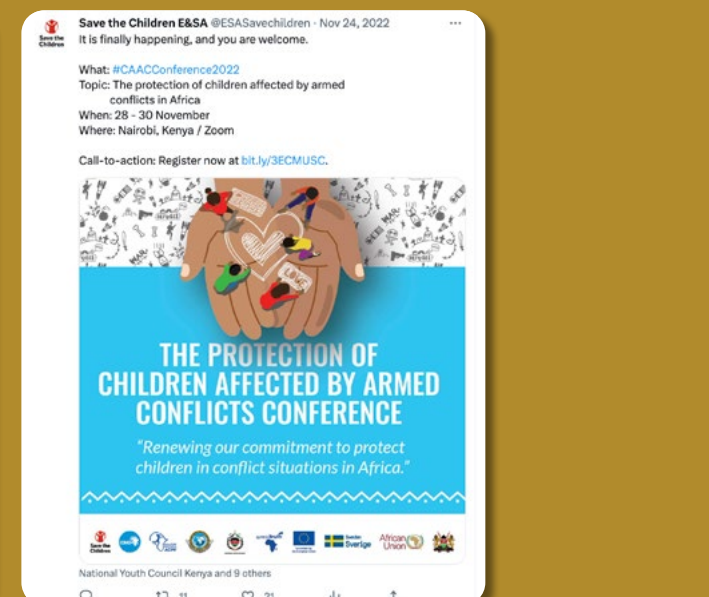
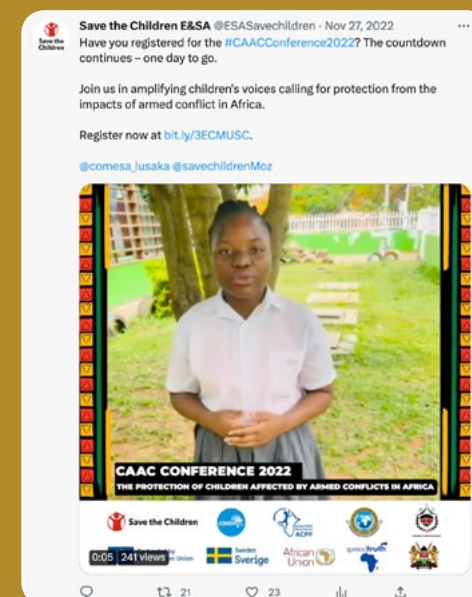
LENGTH OF THE TWEETS		243.56 characters/ tweet
CHARACTERS	TWEETS	% TOTAL
XXS (0-40)	1	0.38%
XS (40-80)	9	3.45%
S (80-120)	5	1.92%
M (120-160)	7	2.68%
L (160-200)	21	8.05%
XL (200-240)	33	12.64%
XXL (240-∞)	185	70.88%

ADDITIONAL RANKINGS

TOP LANGUAGES	
Language	TWEET S
English	1810
Undetermined	8
Indonesian	1
4	5.3%
6	1.25%
>=7	11.84%

TOP SOURCES	
Source	TWEET S
Twitter for Android	1329
Twitter for Iphone	272
Twitter Web App	209
Favecat	4
Linkedin	3
DCmovers	2

TOP HASHTAGS	
HASHTAG	TWEET S
#caacconference2022	1819
#protectchildreninconflict	235
#stopwaronchildren	219
#sakaja	111
#accounting	111
#mainaandkingangi	111
#spaceyamagari	111
#stopthewaronchildren	100
#protectingchildreninconflict	75
#nursing	56







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Save the Children East & Southern Africa Region



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