

SEMINARIO INTERNACIONAL DE

RELAF

PONIENDO FIN AL ENCIERRO DE NIÑAS, NIÑOS Y ADOLESCENTES.
MÉXICO EN EL CONTEXTO INTERNACIONAL



**Better
Care
Network**

Making Children's Care a Global Priority

*GLOBAL STRATEGIES AND IMPLEMENTATION
OF UNITED NATIONS GUIDELINES ON
ALTERNATIVE CARE*

Florence Martin, Executive Director Better Care Network





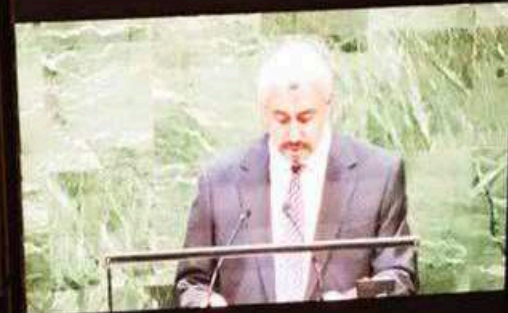
2019 Anniversary Year



**30TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE CRC**



**10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
OF THE GUIDELINES
ON ALTERNATIVE CARE**



GUATEMALA

PERU

INDONESIA

2019 UNGA Rights of the Child Resolution



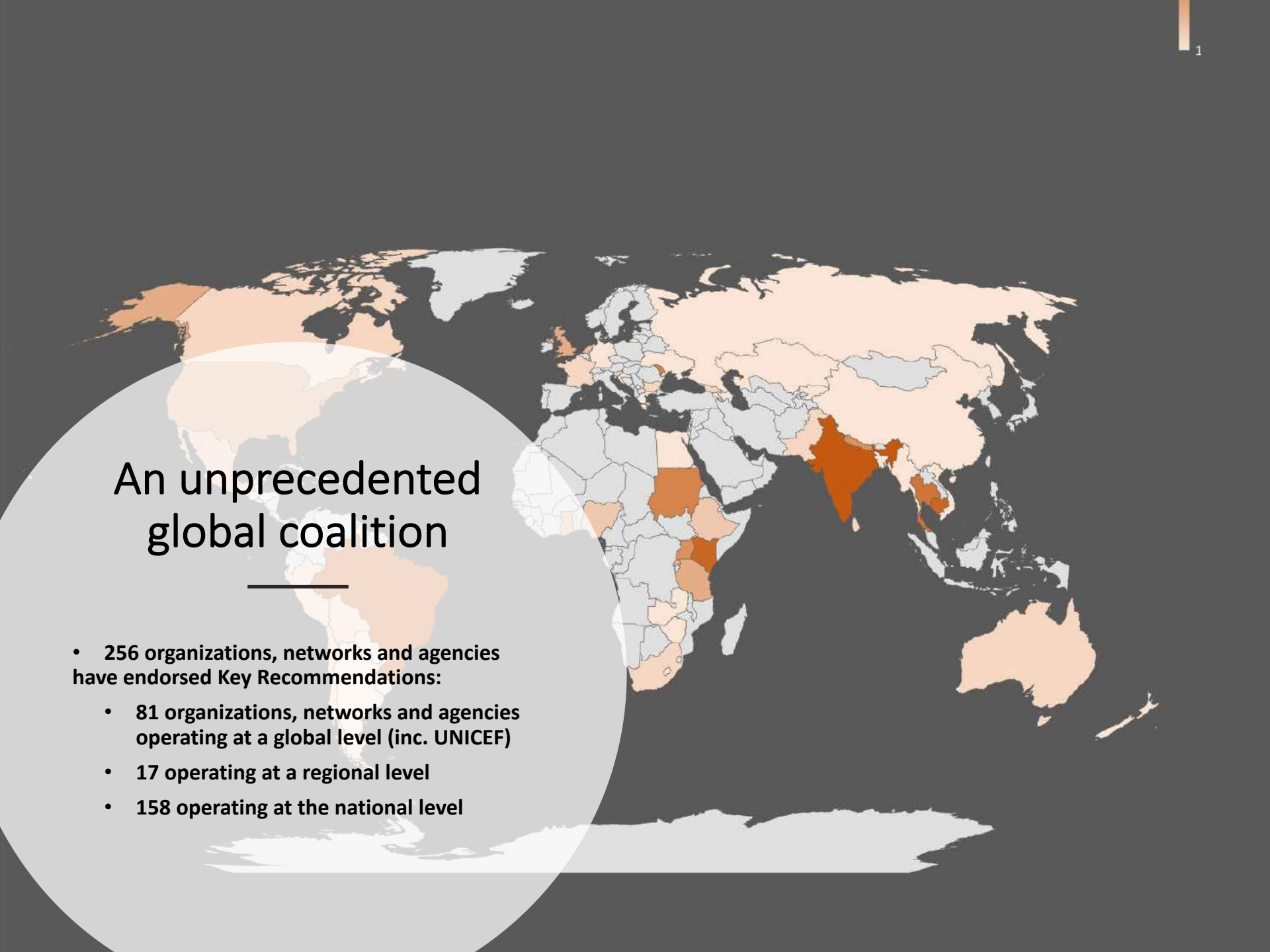
193 Member States of the UN General Assembly adopt by consensus first Resolution on the Rights of the Child focused on Children Without Parental Care



Resolution drafted and proposed **by EU and GRULAC**



Large coalition of organisations, networks, UN agencies, faith actors came together to advocate for the resolution and agreed to **KEY RECOMMENDATIONS**

A world map with a dark background. The landmasses are shown in light gray. Several countries are highlighted in orange, including the United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, India, and several countries in Africa and Southeast Asia. A large, semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the left side of the map, containing the title and bullet points.

An unprecedented global coalition

- **256 organizations, networks and agencies have endorsed Key Recommendations:**
 - **81 organizations, networks and agencies operating at a global level (inc. UNICEF)**
 - **17 operating at a regional level**
 - **158 operating at the national level**

Key Recommendations



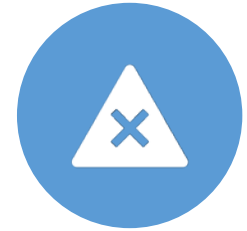
**RECOGNIZE AND PRIORITIZE
THE ROLE OF FAMILIES**



**SUPPORT FAMILIES AND
PREVENT UNNECESSARY
FAMILY-CHILD SEPARATION**



**PROTECT CHILDREN WITHOUT
PARENTAL CARE AND ENSURE
HIGH-QUALITY, APPROPRIATE
ALTERNATIVE CARE**



**RECOGNIZE AND PREVENT
THE HARM OF
INSTITUTIONALIZATION**



**STRENGTHEN CHILD WELFARE
AND PROTECTION SYSTEMS
AND SERVICES**



**ENSURE ADEQUATE
FINANCIAL AND HUMAN
RESOURCES**



**IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION
AND REGULAR REPORTING**



**ENSURE FULL PARTICIPATION
OF CHILDREN WITHOUT
PARENTAL OR FAMILY CARE**

2019 UNGA Rights of the Child Resolution



Deep concern on the potential harm of institutionalization and institutional care to children's growth and development;



States should **take action to progressively replace it** with quality alternative care, including **by redirecting resources** to family and community-based care services;



Adopt and enforce laws, policies, services and programmes, and budget allocations **to address the root causes of unnecessary separation and ensure children are cared for effectively by their own families and communities;**

2019 UNGA Rights of the Child Resolution



Strengthen the regulatory system and put in place **rigorous ‘gatekeeping’ procedures** to ensure alternative care is only used when clearly necessary and in an appropriate manner,



Improve data collection, information management and reporting systems related to children without parental care in all settings and situations in order **to close existing data gaps** and develop global and national baselines;

2019 UNGA Rights of the Child Resolution



States are responsible to **protect the human rights of children in alternative care**, including by **protecting them against all forms of violence and abuse in all care settings**;



Children with disabilities have equal rights with respect to family life, including by providing early and comprehensive information, services and support to them and their families to prevent concealment, abandonment, neglect (...)



Take appropriate measures to **prevent and combat the trafficking and exploitation of children in care facilities**, and to **prevent and address the harms related to orphanage volunteering, including in the context of tourism**.

Some of the Challenges of Implementation



Transitioning from one system to another takes political will, people, funding AND strategies for all 3



Different approaches needed in highly regulated systems vs unregulated



Attitudes and behavior change not just policy



Skills and capacity- Social service workforce reform



Addressing the drivers: Poverty, lack of access to basic services, violence etc.

Some of the Challenges of Implementation



Whole system approach: education, health, justice, finance...



Drivers can be external- funding, short term mission and orphanage volunteering (Haiti support 3 times budget of Ministry of Social Affairs)



Data! 2.7 or 5.4 or 8 million...?? “who are those kids? Where are they?”



Families are diverse and so is family care (data on vulnerability and risk factors)



Support for Kinship care (formalize or not, subsidies or not)

Some of the Challenges of Implementation



Gatekeeping- Making the right decisions for children



Alternatives must be available to address range of needs



Need to address role of residential care- not just shift from large to small



Regulating privately run institutions and services, including those run by religious organizations



Children with disabilities must be at center of reform agenda- not afterthought

What next?



HOW: Need more practitioner centered learning and evidence



EVIDENCE of what works (and what doesn't) in system reform



SHARE: www.bettercarenetwork.org



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¡Gracias!

