



OMEP

*Organisation Mondiale Pour L'Éducation Préscolaire
Organización Mundial Para La Educación Preescolar
World Organization For Early Childhood Education*

*OMEP has members in 72 countries around the world.
OMEP is an NGO with Consultative Status at the United Nations and UNESCO.*

**OMEP 2013 RESOLUTION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD
AS A HIGH PRIORITY ON THE POST-2015 AGENDA**
(Focusing on birth to school-entry age)

OUR VISION FOR YOUNG CHILDREN AND THE SOCIETIES WHERE THEY LIVE

To achieve the sustainable World We Want, children must survive; but, beyond that, they must be able to develop to their full potential and to experience the rights to which they are entitled in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Scientific evidence from many fields provides a clear and convincing picture of the critical importance of the early years. The foundation for human development, on both the individual and the societal levels, begins at birth. The first years of life are the most critical for future developmental outcomes. Investments in early childhood are among the best investments any society can make.

Referring to the proposed goals in the High Level Panel Report (May 2013) and similar recommendations by various other organizations and agencies, OMEP's position is that early childhood be specifically referenced and targeted in the following

HLP Goal 1: End Poverty

RECOMMENDED GOAL: Reduce by half the percentage of children between birth and primary school-entry age living in poverty.

HLP Goal 2: Empower Girls and Women and Achieve Gender Equality

RECOMMENDED GOAL: Begin empowerment and gender equality in early childhood, focusing on girls' access to quality preschools that are safe, non-violent, and non-discriminatory.

HLP Goal 3: Provide Quality Education and Lifelong Learning for sustainability

RECOMMENDED CHANGE IN GOAL 3A: Significantly increase the proportion of children able to access and complete quality preschool education, with the aim of 100% and a minimum of 50% having access by 2030.

RECOMMENDED GOAL: Introduce Education for Sustainable Development in early childhood settings, including preschools, focusing on all three pillars of sustainability: economy, environment, and equal and just society.

HLP Goal 6: Achieve Universal Access to Water and Sanitation

RECOMMENDED GOAL: Introduce WASH from the START (water, sanitation, and hygiene education) in preschools in cooperation with WASH in Schools.

We make this declaration in partnership with many other organizations and agencies promoting early childhood as a priority in the 2015-2030 Sustainable Development Goals, including Save the Children, USAID, Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development, International Child Fund, Global Partnership for Education, World Health Organization, UNESCO, and World Bank.

Hear the children's voices:

"Sustainability...it means like saving the world for later."