



Human Rights Council – 58th Session
Annual Day on the Rights of the Child:
Early Childhood Development
Panel 1: Priorities to advance a child rights-
based approach to early childhood development
Oral Statement

With the support of



This statement is endorsed by the Early Childhood Peace Consortium.

Make Mothers Matter welcomes today's vital discussion.

Parents—especially mothers—are the **frontline workers** of early childhood development. It's time to **recognise and fully support** them as such.

Raising a child is a long, demanding journey—one most of us are unprepared for. Mothers, in particular, bear the brunt of the unpaid yet essential work of caregiving, while also working outside the home. **They can't do it alone, especially during those critical early years.**

Ensuring every child grows up in a **safe and nurturing** family environment must be a **shared responsibility**.

ECD policy must work for all families, especially single-parent households, and **provide the resources, time, and knowledge parents need**. No child—no family—should live in poverty. Maternal mental health, parenting education, and men's involvement in caregiving must also be prioritised.

Supporting parents—in particular mothers, starting from pregnancy—isn't a cost. It's the smartest, highest-return investment in our collective future.

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Make Mothers Matter believes in the power of mothers to make the world a better place, advocating for their recognition and support as changemakers. Created in 1947, MMM is an international NGO with no political or religious affiliations, transparently voicing the concerns of mothers at the highest level: the European Union, UNESCO and the United Nations (general consultative status).