

Day 1 Program: 15 January 2026

Time	Session	Speakers	Intended Outcomes
	MC: Benjamin Perks		
10:35 - 11:05	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director general de la OMS. 	
	Opening Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Eva Granados, State Secretary for International Cooperation, Spain Kitty van der Heijden, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Alyoscia D'Onofrio, Vice President and Head of Technical Excellence, International Rescue Committee (IRC) Sidsel Kristensen, CEO, The LEGO Foundation 	<p>Establish high-level recognition of universal caregiver support by defining the concept, making the case for culturally-sensitive universal parenting support across all contexts, and presenting the baseline business case—highlighting return on investment, efficiency, and positive impacts on children and societies.</p> <p>Generate visibility and momentum for the Forum by securing earned media attention and leveraging photo/video content for social media to amplify the message of universal caregiver support.</p>
11:10 - 11:30	Keynote Address 1	Speaker: Dr. Lisa Damour, Clinical psychologist and author	Being there: How responsive caregiving powers healthy human and societal development
	Keynote Address 2	Speaker: Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, Pediatrician and former Surgeon General of California	Ending our biggest, costliest and least discussed public health problem.
11:30 - 12:00	INTERLUDE		
12:00 - 13:15	Session 1: Caregiving and parenting as the foundation of child development Moderator: Inah Kaloga, Senior Director, Violence Prevention and Response Unit - IRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Mar Faya, Head of Service of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychology Service at the Niño Jesús University Children's Hospital in Madrid, Spain H.E Jelena Zaric Kovacevic Minister of Family Care and Demography, Serbia H.E. Dr. Ahsan Iqbal, Minister of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Pakistan H.E. Imaan Sulaiman-Ibrahim, Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development, Nigeria Bernadette Black, SEEDS Futures National Preventative Framework Australia 	To share a common understanding of the science and policy implications of parenting and child development.

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13:15 – 14:15

LUNCH

14:15 – 15:30 **Session 2:** Parenting as the critical protective factor in the life of every child.

Moderator: Sheema Sen Gupta, Director of Child Protection and Migration, UNICEF

- H.E. Natalia Plugaru, Minister of Labour and Social Protection, Moldova
- H.E. Doreen Mwamba, Minister of Community Development and Social Services, Zambia
- H.E. Asma Jebri, Minister of Family, Women, Children, and the Elderly, Tunisia
- H.E. Pattana Promphat, Minister of Public Health, Thailand
- H.E. Sok Chan Chhorvy, Secretary of State, Ministry of Women's Affairs, Cambodia
- Dr. Aala El-Khani, UNODC
- María del Mar Líndez, Executive Director, SOS Children's Villages Spain
- George Hoskings, Transforming Scotland in a Generation process

To share a common understanding of the science and policy implications of parenting and child protection and primary prevention of harm.

15:30 – 16:00

BREAK

16:00 - 16:10 **Keynote Address 3**

Speaker: Prof. Frances Gardner CMG, Professor of Child and Family Psychology, Oxford University

16:10 – 17:10 **Session 3:** Reaching Every Child

Moderator:

Dr Natasha Azzopardi
Muscat, Director, Division of Health Systems, WHO
Regional Office for Europe

- H.E. Dr. Agnes Naa Mom Lartey, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ghana
- H.E. Haneen Sayed, Minister of Social Affairs, Lebanon
- H.E. Melrose Karminty, Minister of Social Welfare, Sierra Leone
- Ms. Tuanny Karen Souza Ramos, General Coordinator of Cross-sectoral Programmes, Ministry of Social Development, Brazil
- H.E. Wafa Saed Bani Mustafa, Minister of Social Development, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- Prof. Matthew Sanders, Professor of Parenting Studies and Family Psychology Founder of the Triple P Positive Parenting Program
- Dr. Susana Carmona, Head of the Neuromaternal Lab at the Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria Gregorio Marañón, and Van Leer Foundation Fellow

Present the return on investment case for investing in caregiving support—its efficiency, effectiveness, and the potential impact of universal investment.

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MC: Chemba Raghavan

17:10 - 17:20	Keynote Address 4	Speaker: H.E. Rym Al Falasi, Secretary General, the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood (SCMC), United Arab Emirates
17:20 - 18:20	Session 4: Roadmap to Universal Caregiver Support Moderator: Christine Kolbe-Stuart, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Baena, founder of Club Malas Madres • Mónica Corrales, Director of sectoral, European and multilateral cooperation, Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo • H.E. Rym Al Falasi, Secretary General, the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood (SCMC), United Arab Emirates • H.E. Dr Vojislav Šimun, Minister of Health, Montenegro • Mr. Luís Martínez- Sicluna, Secretary General, Federation of Spanish Municipalities • Jenny Doubt, Senior Research & Scaling Strategist, Parenting for Lifelong Health • Sidsel Kristensen, CEO The LEGO Foundation
18:20 - 18:30	Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Pablo Bustinduy, Minister of Social Rights, consumption and Agenda 2030, Government of Spain • Ida Thyregod, International Programme Lead, The Lego Foundation
18:30 - 19:00	COFFEE AND NETWORKING	

Day 2 Program: 16 January 2026

Time	Topic
	MC: Radhika Mitter
9:00 – 9:45	<p>Day 2: Opening and recap - Summary of key takeaways from Day 1 and framing of Day 2</p> <p>Session 5 (Plenary session): Parenting Across the Life Course - Showcasing governments prioritizing parental support across the life course – from early childhood to adolescence and beyond – while sharing enablers for scale and presenting a Global Conceptual Framework for Universal Parenting Support as a systemic approach.</p> <p>Moderator: Ivelina Borisova, UNICEF</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie Lachman, PLH and University of Oxford • H.E. Dilrabo Mansouri, Deputy Prime Minister, Government of Tajikistan • Ms. Oksana Ovramenko, Deputy Director, Ministry of Social Policy, Government of Ukraine
	<p>Track 1 – Love, Play, Safety: The Ecosystem of Nurturing Care</p> <p>Track 2 – Driving Human and Social Development</p> <p>Track 3 – Reaching Every Child</p>
10:00 – 11:10	<p>Context, Environment, Enablers (Aims to deepen understanding of core behaviours associated with parenting, how to support parents through human-centred systems and behavioural insights approaches. Includes SBC-informed interventions to address harmful norms, engage faith leaders and communities, incorporate social protection, and support caregiver mental health)</p> <p>Lead: UNICEF and WHO</p> <p>Principal lead: Felicity Brown febrown@unicef.org</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Chiara Servili, WHO</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eng Margrit Saroufim Mina Youssef, Deputy Minister of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Social Solidarity – Egypt • Mr. Bahjat Hajjar, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, Government of Syria • Director General He Dan, Member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and Director General of China Population and Development Research Center. • Mr Victor Richard Rugarabamu, Principal Community Development Officer • Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, Government of the United Republic of Tanzania • Dr. Jill Popp, The LEGO Foundation • Dr. Felicity Brown, UNICEF • Inah Kaloga, IRC <p>Translation needs: Arabic</p>
	<p>Parenting & Gender Equality (Aims to explore how parenting support can prevent family violence, advance gender equality within families and broader society and prevent intergenerational violence)</p> <p>Lead: UNICEF, Equimundo and The Prevention Collaborative</p> <p>Principal lead: Kate Doyle, k.doyle@prevention-collaborative.org</p> <p>Moderator: Kate Doyle, Prevention Collaborative</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Natalia Plugaru, Minister of Labour and Social Protection, Moldova • Joyce Wamoyi, Tanzania National Institute for Medical Research • Godfrey Siu, CHDC, Makerere University, Uganda • Cody Ragonese, Equimundo • Jenny Doubt, PLH <p>Translation needs: None</p>
	<p>Innovation for Parents: Leveraging Technologies to Support Every Family (Aims to explore existing efforts and evidence on reaching parents with technological innovation and examine feasibility of digital scale)</p> <p>Lead: PLH and UNICEF</p> <p>Principal lead: Jamie Lachman, jamie.lachman@spi.ox.ac.uk</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Sanja Budisavljevic, UNICEF</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danijel Igrec, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs, Government of Serbia • Ms. Isabellah Sekawana, National Department of Social Development, Republic of South Africa • Patricia Nunez, Van Leer Foundation • Ivelina Borisova, Regional Adviser - Early Childhood Development, UNICEF Europe and Central Asia • Jamie Lachman, PLH & University of Oxford • Saurabh Agarwal, UNICEF • Lulu Ngcobo, Clowns Without Borders, South Africa <p>Translation needs: None</p>

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11:10 – 11:30

11:30 - 12:40	<p>Care & Support for Parents (Aims to enhance understanding and showcase best practices of care and support for parents, including family-friendly policies and caregiver mental health interventions)</p> <p>Lead: UNICEF and WHO</p> <p>Principal lead: Clara Ceravolo cceravolo@unicef.org</p> <p>Moderator: Sandra Astete, UNICEF Spain</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patricia Bezunartea, Directora General Diversidad Familiar y Servicios Sociales, Ministry of Social Rights, Government of Spain • Ms. Tang Mengjun, Senior Research Fellow of China Population and Development Research Center • Cristina Gomis, Head of Corporate Responsibility, Zurich Spain • Lina Abou Habib, Director, American University of Beirut • Himanshi Jain, World Bank • Dr. Chemba Raghavan, Global Lead - Early Childhood Development, UNICEF • Clara Ceravolo, UNICEF <p>Translation needs: Spanish</p>
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BREAK

<p>Supporting Parents and Children with Disabilities (Aims to examine the unique challenges faced by families with disabilities and showcase inclusive strategies to ensure parenting support is accessible, equitable, and sustainable for all families.)</p> <p>Lead: PLH, WHO and UNICEF</p> <p>Principal lead: Isang Awah isang.awah@spi.ox.ac.uk</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Zarina Muminova</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Asiri Hewamalage, Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka • Dr. Zuyi Fang, Peking University, China • Javier Martínez, Responsable de Administración y Calidad, ASPACE Madrid. Asociación Madrileña de Organizaciones de Parálisis Cerebral • Chiara Servili, WHO • Dr Isang Awah, University of Oxford <p>Translation needs: Spanish</p>	<p>Alternative and Kinship Care (Aims to discuss the unique needs and challenges of children in alternative and kinship care. Highlight targeted, context-specific approaches to support caregivers and promote children's wellbeing, stability and development)</p> <p>Lead: WHO and Family for Every Child</p> <p>Principal lead: Sabine van Tuyll van Serooskerken Rakotomalala sabinev@who.int</p> <p>Moderator: Blessing Mutama, FOST, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tawanda Zimhunga, Government Representative, Zimbabwe • Mildred Anally Maldonado Vasquez, CONACMI, Guatemala • Md Shakil Ahmed, Kinship care experienced youth, Bangladesh <p>Translation needs: Spanish</p>
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12:40 – 13:40

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13:40 – 14:50 **Scale & Delivery Systems** (Aims to highlight diverse delivery systems used to scale parenting support and explore the factors that make these systems effective, sustainable, and contextually appropriate)

Lead: **PLH**, WHO and UNICEF ECARO

Principal lead: Isang Awah isang.awah@spi.ox.ac.uk

Moderator: Dr. Isang Awah, University of Oxford

Speakers:

- Dr. Kittisak Agsornwong, MD, Director General, Department of Mental Health, Government of Thailand
- Margareta Mađerić, State Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy, Government of Croatia
- Dr. Norliza Binti Mohammad Basiron, Head of Integrity Unit, Community Development Department, Malaysia
- Abigail Nelson, Executive Vice President & Chief Strategy Officer, Episcopal Relief & Development
- Emma Ursich, CEO, The Human Safety Net Foundation (Generali)
- Prof Mark Tomlinson, Co-Director of the Institute for Life Course Health Research Stellenbosch University
- Prof. Jamie Lachman, PLH & University of Oxford

Translation needs: None

Parenting in the Digital Age (Aims to explore strategies for equipping parents to protect children from online violence, risks associated with new technologies including AI etc.)

Lead: **UNICEF**, University of Oxford/PLH, UNICEF Spain

Principal lead: Afroz Kaviani Johnson akavianijohnson@unicef.org

Moderator: Lara Contreras, UNICEF Spain

Speakers:

- Irene Iglesias, Youth advocate (UNICEF Spain)
- Sandra Garmendia, General Director of Children and Adolescents' Rights, Government of Spain
- YBhg. Dato' Abdul Shukur bin Abdullah, Director-General of National Population and Family Development Board, Government of Malaysia
- Lauren Baerecke, University of Cape Town
- Oriol Querol, co-founder of Kings League
- Lisa Damour, Clinical psychologist and author
- Afnan Najjar, University of Oxford/Tel Aviv University
- Christine Kolbe-Stuart, UNICEF

Translation needs: Spanish

Parents in Humanitarian Settings (Aims to explore efforts to support parents in humanitarian settings through evidence-based parenting interventions)

Lead: **IRC**, UNICEF and WHO

Principal lead: Helena Minchew helena.minchew@rescue.org

Moderator: Alyoscia D'Onofrio, Vice President and Head of Technical Excellence - International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Speakers:

- H.E. Micheline Ombae Kalama, Minister of Gender, Family and Child, Government of Democratic Republic of Congo
- Ms. Oksana Ovramenko, Director of the Department of Policy, Ministry of Social Policy, Family, and Unity, Ukraine
- Yvonne Agengo, IRC
- Anthony Guevara, War Child Alliance

Translation needs: French

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14:50 - 15:20

BREAK

MC: Oluwatosin Akingbulu

15:20 - 16:30 Session 6: Looking forward and next steps - Readout on outcomes and reflections from thematic sessions, and developing a concrete plan for next steps

Moderator: Oluwatosin Akingbulu, UNICEF

Speakers:

- H.E. Micheline Ombae Kalama, Minister of Gender, Family and Children, Democratic Republic of Congo
- H.E. Saroja Savithri Paulraj, Minister of Women and Child Affairs, Sri Lanka
- H.E. Aliya Rustemova, Vice Minister of Health, Kazakhstan
- Matt Butterly, Triple P Positive Parenting Programme UK/Ireland
- Catarina Magalhães, Director of the Boavista Training and Development Center, Santa Casa, Portugal

MC: Chemba Raghavan

16:30 - 16:45 Plenary: Closing

- Dr. Etienne Krug, Director, Health Determinants, Promotion and Prevention, World Health Organization
- Sheema Sen Gupta, Director of Child Protection and Migration, UNICEF
- Antón Leis, Director of AECID, Government of Spain