



INVITATION

The Permanent Missions to the United Nations of **Belize, the Czech Republic, Sweden and Uruguay** in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Plan International, Save the Children and War Child Holland, cordially invite you to an:

Interactive Panel Discussion on Child Participation

Thursday October 15th 2009, at 6.30 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.
Danny Kaye Visitors' Centre, UNICEF House, 3 United Nations Plaza
(44th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenues), New York

The objective of the event is to explore the concept of child participation through the lens of children themselves. A panel of young people from different regions will interact with child participation practitioners and participants and share their stories, experiences and hopes in promoting meaningful child participation. The panel will be facilitated by Ishmael Beah, Author and UNICEF Advocate for Children Affected by War.

Child Participation is one of the guiding principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. As such it is one of the most important rights for children as it enables them to express their views and opinions, receive information, involve themselves and participate in all matters that affect their own lives – in keeping with their age and maturity.

Child Participation is the focus theme for 2009 for the yearly General Assembly resolution on the Rights of the Child, and the subject of the most recent General Comment issued by the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

The Panel will be followed by a **reception from 7.30 p.m.** with the participation of **Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy**, Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict and **Ms. Marta Santos Pais**, Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children.

Please RSVP to: anna.y.eriksson@foreign.ministry.se



Save the Children

