

---

**The Children's Convention Monitoring Group (CMG)**

The CMG was formed in February 2011 to monitor how the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is being progressed in New Zealand.

View our Terms of Reference:

<https://www.occ.org.nz/assets/Uploads/CMG-ToR-UPDATED-September-2019.pdf>

**CMG members:**

Children's Rights Alliance  
Aotearoa

Save the Children NZ

UNICEF NZ

Human Rights Commission

Office of the Children's  
Commissioner (OCC)

**Contact:**

You can contact the CMG through the Office of the Children's Commissioner:

[s.morris@occ.org.nz](mailto:s.morris@occ.org.nz)

04 470 8717

---

## **QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE CHILDREN'S CONVENTION MONITORING GROUP (CMG) October-December 2019**

### **Celebrating 30 years of the Children's Convention**

CMG members successfully advocated for the New Zealand Government to join the global pledge of recommitment to the Children's Convention on November 20<sup>th</sup> 2019, International Children's Day. The Government made an [individual pledge to recommit to the promotion, protection and realisation of the rights of the child](#) by highlighting the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.

The OCC and CMG members published an anniversary [pocket edition book of the Children's Convention](#) in English and Te Reo as a way to mark 'CRC@30' and took part in a number of activities on International Children's Day. Save the Children hosted a children's event at Parliament where the Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and the Speaker of the House Trevor Mallard opened a playground at Parliament and announced the Government's recommitment to the Children's Convention. UNICEF New Zealand hosted a youth-led event in Wellington and the Office of the Children's Commissioner co-hosted an event at Parliament in the evening with Ministers Sepuloni and Martin.

### **Engagement with Officials on Government coordination and implementation of the Children's Convention**

The OCC has continued to meet regularly with MSD on behalf of the CMG (three times this quarter).

The CMG met once this quarter with the Children's Convention Deputy Chief Executives Group (Chaired by the Ministry of Social Development) who are progressing the Children's Convention cross-agency government work programme. Topics of discussion at this meeting included updates on the cross-agency work programme; progress on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy; an update on the Simplified Reporting Process; and current priority issues for children. MFAT noted that there are plans for a UN Committee review session to take place in Samoa in March 2020. This will be the first time that the UN Committee have undertaken a hearing outside of Geneva.

### **Children's Rights Symposium publication**

Members of the CMG contributed to a publication called '[Children's Rights in Aotearoa New Zealand](#)' a collection of reflections stemming from the Children's Rights Symposium hosted by Victoria University with support from the Borrin Foundation, the Law Foundation, Massey University and the Office of the Children's Commissioner.