2013 United Nations Universal Children’s Day
Theme: Children’s Education as an Imperative to Sustainable Development

The United Nation’s Universal Children’s Day was established in 1954 and is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children’s welfare. November 20th is an important date as it is the date in 1959 when the UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. It is also the date in 1989 when the UN General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Since 1990, Universal Children’s Day also marks the anniversary of the date that the UN General Assembly adopted both the declaration and the convention on children’s rights.

Last year, Friends of Education for African Children Orphaned by AIDS (FEACOBA) marked the day by addressing universal education for Less Privileged Children & Children Orphaned by AIDS: Implication for Secretary General’s Education First Initiative. The program came up with the following Resolutions:

- The conference is most concerned on the universality of education of children who are from less privileged situations; especially in Africa, children who are orphaned by AIDS and lack the opportunity to obtain basic education
- The conference will advocate for all children with less privileged areas of the world and focus on the mission of the newly launched Education First Initiative of UN Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki Moon
- The conference admonished that the Universal education and Education First Initiative must be made available to these group of children if success must be achieved on the MDGs by 2015
- The conference affirmed the need to provide opportunities for intellectual enrichment to children to ferret out hidden talents; especially to children living in underserved communities
- The conference resolved to be committed to ensuring that children with a lower economic status have access to educational opportunities by ensuring programs are in place to foster a child’s talent and inner Einstein
- The Conference resolved to put into consideration the concept of individualism and collectivism in achieving successes and result outcome
- The outcome of the conference is focused on the need to have every less privilege child or AIDS Orphan back to school
- The conference resolved that the concerns on education of the less privilege and AIDS Orphan should be advocated to education organizations and International education Agencies
- Children should be encouraged to advocate and speak out for their fellow children who have little or no opportunity as they have.

FEACOBA is pleased to commemorate this year’s Universal Children’s Day in collaboration with Tahrık Tarsile Qur’an Inc., Human Affect Ad Hoc Unit and Centa Organization Development on November 20 with focus on Children’s Education as an Imperative to Sustainable Development. Statistics has indicated that millions of children worldwide are out of school, subjected to various forms of violence,
abuse, neglect, exploitation and child labor thereby derailing their school years. These negatively affect their future, growing up and development, dignity, and physical and psychological integrity.

The objective is to address the

i. Significant need for education of children to sustainable development in contribution to Post 2015 Sustainable Development Agenda
ii. Address various forms of Violence against children, harmful traditional practices that hinder education of World children
iii. Increase the level of global understanding as to the critical importance of education of children to sustainable future
iv. Facilitate awareness and action in support of education of the less privilege children and AIDS Orphans

The November 20th event will showcase the work that FEACOBA does to speak and advocate for education of children around the world especially children in less privilege situations, AIDS Orphans and education disadvantaged children.

Program Segment:
The program which is intended to hold with support of UN Missions and Agencies as UNICEF, UNESCO, Office of the Special Representative of Secretary General on Violence against Children, United Nations Office of Human Rights, African Union Permanent Observer Mission to the UN, Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Central American Integration System, Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, European Union, International Organization of la Francophonie, League of Arab States, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and Office of the Secretary General on Sustainable Development will take the following segments
Press Briefing at 9:00AM
Conference at 12-5pm
Award Dinner Recognition for those who have contributed to education of children globally at 7pm

Outcome:
The overall outcome will promote global awareness advocacy and campaigns on Children’s education for sustainable future. The program will plan to implementation on education awareness campaigns especially in focusing on the education needs of children in less privilege situations, AIDS Orphans, and Children from most disadvantaged communities and nations. The program will also increase global awareness and knowledge of education rights and needs of all children in addressing the “Leave no one behind” goal from the Eminent Persons report on Post 2015 Agenda. There is need to ensure active involvement and participation of children in all decisions and awareness campaigns on education of children as imperative to Sustainable Development. The program will through the call to Action come up with resolutions for contribution to Post 2015 Agenda on children’s education and forms of violence on children.