

## Day 1 Program: 15 January 2026

Time	Session	Speakers	Intended Outcomes
10:30 - 11:00	<b>Welcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutional representatives</li> </ul>	
11:00 - 11:30	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <b>Moderator:</b> Elizabeth Lule, Executive Director, Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Union and Cooperation, Government of Spain</li> <li>Kitty van der Heijden, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director</li> <li>Dr. Etienne Krug, Director, Health Determinants, Promotion and Prevention, WHO</li> <li>Alyoscia D'Onofrio, Vice President and Head of Technical Excellence, International Rescue Committee (IRC)</li> <li>Sidsel Kristensen, CEO, The LEGO Foundation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Establish</b> 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><b>Generate</b> 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>
11:30 - 11:45	<b>Keynote Address 1</b>	<b>Speaker:</b> Dr. Lisa Damour, Clinical psychologist and author	Being there: How responsive caregiving powers healthy human and societal development
11:45 - 12:45	<b>Session 1:</b> Caregiving and parenting as the foundation of child development <b>Moderator:</b> Inah Kaloga, Senior Director, Violence Prevention and Response Unit - IRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Montserrat Graell, Head of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychology Service at the Niño Jesús University Children's Hospital in Madrid</li> <li>Representative of the Ministry of Health, Government of Lebanon</li> <li>Representative of the Ministry Family and Demography, Government of Serbia</li> <li>Representative of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Government of Ghana</li> <li>Sheema Sen Gupta, UNICEF Director of Child Protection and Migration.</li> <li>Bernadette Black, SEEDS Futures National Preventative Framework Australia</li> </ul>	To share a common understanding of the science and policy implications of parenting and child development.
12:45 - 13:45	<b>LUNCH</b>		

## Day 1 Program: 15 January 2026

13:45 – 14:00	<b>Keynote Address 2</b>	<b>Speaker:</b> Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, Pediatrician and former Surgeon General of California	Ending our biggest, costliest and least discussed public health problem.
14:00 – 15:00	<p><b>Session 2:</b> Parenting as the critical protective factor in the life of every child.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Sheema Sen Gupta, Director of Child Protection and Migration, UNICEF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Government of Moldova</li> <li>• Representative of the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, Government of Zambia</li> <li>• Representative of the Ministry of Family, Women, Children, and the Elderly, Government of Tunisia</li> <li>• Representative of the Ministry of Women’s Affairs, Government of Cambodia</li> <li>• Representative of SOS Children’s Villages Spain</li> <li>• Representative of Scotland in a Generation process.</li> </ul>	To share a common understanding of the science and policy implications of parenting and child protection and primary prevention of harm.
<b>15:00 – 15:15 BREAK</b>			
15:15 – 16:15	<p><b>Session 3:</b> Reaching Every Child</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Director, Division of Health Systems, WHO Regional Office for Europe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Frances Gardner, Professor of Child and Family Psychology, Oxford University</li> <li>• Representative of Van Leer Foundation</li> <li>• Wadih Maalouf, Programme Officer, Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section, UNODC</li> <li>• Professor Matthew Sanders AO, Professor of Parenting Studies and Family Psychology Founder of the Triple P, Positive Parenting Program</li> </ul>	<b>Present</b> the return on investment case for investing in caregiving support—its efficiency, effectiveness, and the potential impact of universal investment.

## Day 1 Program: 15 January 2026

16:15 – 17:15	<p><b>Session 4:</b> Roadmap to Universal Caregiver Support</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Jamie Lachman, Professor of Child and Family Global Health, University of Oxford; CEO, Parenting for Lifelong Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura Baena, founder of Club Malas Madres</li> <li>• Representative of the Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID)</li> <li>• Representative of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood (SCMC)</li> <li>• Representative of the Ministry of Health, Government of Montenegro</li> <li>• Representative of the Federation of Spanish Municipalities</li> <li>• Representative of LEGO Foundation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Inspire</b> commitment from policymakers, partners, and donors to support the roadmap towards universal parenting support.</p>
17:15 – 17:30	<p><b>Closing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative of the Ministry of Social Rights, consumption and Agenda 2030, Government of Spain</li> <li>• Representative of LEGO's Foundation</li> </ul>	

17:30 – 18:30

**COFFEE AND NETWORKING**

## Day 2 Program: 16 January 2026

Time	Topic		
9:00 – 9:45	<p><b>Plenary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opening and Recap:</b> Summary and reinforce key takeaways from Day 1; Frame Day 2 and explain the “tracks” and exercise with LEGO.</li> <li>• <b>Parenting Across the Life Course:</b> 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.</li> <li>• Introduction: Ivelina Borisova, UNICEF</li> <li>• Speaker: Jenny Doubt, PLH</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Track 1 – Love, Play, Safety: The Ecosystem of Nurturing Care</b></p>	<p><b>Track 2 – Driving Human and Social Development</b></p>	<p><b>Track 3 – Reaching Every Child</b></p>
10:00 – 11:10	<p><b>Care &amp; Support for Parents</b> (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><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government of Spain, Patricia Bezunartea, Directora General Diversidad Familiar y Servicios Sociales, Ministry of Social Rights</li> <li>• Zurich Spain, Cristina Gomis, Head of Corporate Social Responsibility</li> <li>• American University of Beirut</li> <li>• Representative of the World Bank</li> <li>• Representative of WHO</li> <li>• UNICEF Spain (moderator)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Parenting &amp; Gender Equality</b> (Aims to explore how parenting support can prevent family violence, advance gender equality within families and broader society and prevent intergenerational violence)</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative of the Prevention Collaborative</li> <li>• Representative of Equipundo</li> <li>• Representative of PLH</li> <li>• Representative of the Tanzania National Institute for Medical Research</li> <li>• Representative of CHDC, Makerere University, Uganda</li> </ul>	<p><b>Digital Tools and Apps</b> (Aims to explore existing efforts and evidence on reaching parents with digital parenting support tools and apps, and examine feasibility of digital scale)</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representatives of Government of Moldova or Government of Serbia</li> <li>• Representative of the Government of Malaysia</li> <li>• Patricia Nunez, Van Leer Foundation</li> <li>• Jamie Lachman, PLH &amp; University of Oxford</li> <li>• Isang Awah, University of Oxford</li> <li>• Ivelina Borisova, UNICEF</li> <li>• Sanja Budisavljevic, UNICEF (moderator)</li> </ul>

## Day 2 Program: 16 January 2026

11:10 – 11:30

**BREAK**

11:30 - 12:40

**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)

**Speakers:**

- Mrs. Randa Ragaey Mohamed Fares - Advisor to Egypt's Minister of Social Solidarity for Family, Women and Children Health and Development Affairs, Government of Egypt.
- Representative of the China Population and Development Research Center, National Health Commission
- Representative of the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups (MoCDGWSG), Government of Tanzania,
- Representative of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, Government of Syria
- Chiara Servili, WHO
- Inah Kaloga, Representative of IRC

**Families with 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.)

**Speakers:**

- Representative of the Ministry of Health, Government of Sri Lanka
- Representative of Peking University
- Representative of CHDC, Makerere University, Uganda
- Shona McDonald
- Ms. Heba Hagrass, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Ms. Olesia Samoilenko, leader of NGO and Board member of All-Ukraine Parenting Network

**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)

**Speakers:**

- Representative of Zimbabwe Government
- Mildred Anally Maldonado Vasquez (a.k.a Anally), CONACMI, Guatemala
- Caitronia Nic Mhuiris, Kinship Care Ireland
- Md Shakil Ahmed, Kinship care experienced youth, Bangladesh

12:40 – 13:40

**LUNCH**

## Day 2 Program: 16 January 2026

**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)

**Speakers:**

- Dr. Dutsadee, Director at the Department of Mental Health, Thailand
- Prof. Rumaya Juhari, Parenting Within the Preschool System in Malaysia or Rep from KEMAS rural preschool system in Malaysia/ Philippines govt/ Jennel Reyes, MaPa Inc
- Faith-based organization: Arigatou International: Eleonora Mura; Episcopal Relief: Abigail Nelson, Religions for Peace, Deepika Singh
- Emma Ursich, Generali/ THSN
- Sabine Rakotomalala, WHO
- Jamie Lachman, PLH & University of Oxford
- Isang Awah, University of Oxford

**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.)

**Speakers:**

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

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

**Speakers:**

- Representative of the Ministry of Gender, Family and Child, Government of DRC
- Representative of the department of policy, Ministry of social policy, Ukraine
- Yvonne Agengo, IRC
- Laura Miller, War Child Alliance
- Micaela Pasini, Chief of Child Protection UNICEF- State of Palestine

**14:50 - 15:20**

**BREAK**

**15:20 - 16:00**

**Plenary:** Looking forward and next steps - Readout on outcomes and reflections from thematic sessions, and developing a concrete plan for next steps

**16:00 - 16:30**

**Plenary:** Closing

- Dr Etienne Krug, Director, Health Determinants, Promotion and Prevention, World Health Organization
- UNICEF's representative
- Representative of AECID, Government of Spain

**16:30 – 17:30**

**Plenary:** Regional convenings