

Commission on the Status of Women
55th Session
22 February-4 March 2011

Panel 3

Evaluation of progress in the implementation of the agreed conclusions on “The elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child”

Friday, 25 February 2011, 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Mr. Saad Houry was appointed UNICEF Deputy Executive Director in January 2008. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Houry has held a number of positions in UNICEF, both at Headquarters and in field offices, since joining the organization in 1978. He has served as Director of the Division of Policy and Planning in New York, as UNICEF Representative in Burkina Faso and Deputy Regional Director in Amman, Jordan, and has carried out special assignments and programme-related activities at UNICEF offices including Oman, Madagascar, and Mozambique. Mr Houry attended the American University of Beirut and the University of London, where he received a Master of Science degree.

Ika* is 19 years old in her first year at university. She raises awareness, facilitates workshop, and acts as a peer counselor and advocate on children’s rights issues such as trafficking, sex tourism and conflict with the law. Ika has led computer courses for children in her neighbourhood. She was an actor and videographer for a movie produced by UNICEF and the Child Protection Agency Surabaya (*AYLA*). For three years, Ika has been a member of the Indonesian Women Coalition (*Koalisi Perempuan Indonesia*). She lives in an urban slum, where many children are engaged in labour and commercial sex work.

Ya Marie* is 18 years old and in her final year of secondary school. Ya Marie lives in a rural area in Sierra Leone. Her personal expe