



**League of Arab States**  
**The Secretary General**

**ACTION COPY**



June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Dear Mr. Ban Ki-moon,

On behalf of the League of Arab States, I extend my greatest thanks and deepest appreciation for the key role of the UN to serve childhood issues on both Arab and global levels, especially the cases of children in armed conflicts, asylum and displacement that many countries are witnessing nowadays. Those cases have led to the aggravation of the numbers of orphan children, and created larger numbers of homeless ones who were left without patronage or protection and more vulnerable to exploitation and terrorist groups. All of that come as the result of the unstable security and bad economic conditions, which call us all as governments, regional and global organizations to combine all possible efforts to reach the best social and developmental welfare of orphan children who will lead the future of development in their countries. They are the responsibility of us all, and integrating them in the society is a key issue within developmental goals.

The League of Arab States is keen to direct the public view to give attention to orphan children issue. Also, based on the Arab Social Affairs Ministerial Council resolution in its 26<sup>th</sup> session, dated 18 December 2006, to dedicate an Arab day for the orphans for Arab states to celebrate according to their annual celebration programmes. The request to member states to annually celebrate that day at their highest level of patronage, and calling on Arab media to cover the event on the largest scale to raise public awareness regarding the issue of sponsoring orphans.

For all the above, the League of Arab States holds an annual conference in April to celebrate "The Orphan Arab Day", aiming at renewing the humanitarian and legal commitment towards children's rights and their best interest. Also, to ensure their humanitarian needs are met, especially the orphans, and to set practical programmes and launch projects that solidify the concept of partnership between governments, NGOs and private sector to patronage orphan children.

The League of Arab States has the pleasure to advise that the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Arab Childhood Committee that was held in Egypt has issued a recommendation that states the following: "To request the Secretary General



*League of Arab States  
The Secretary General*

*of the League of Arab States to send a message to the UN Secretary General on allocating the **Orphan Child Day** on the global level". Also, there is "The Orphan Arab Day" celebration that was held at the League of Arab States in 2015. Among the attendees were several Egyptian ministers, and Arab states representatives who are working in the field of orphan patronage, in addition to many religious, political, media and artistic public figures. That celebration has issued a recommendation that states the following, as well: "To request the League of Arab States to send a request to the UN to dedicate a day in April of each year to become 'The Global Orphan Day'. It is to act as a support for the segment of orphans in the society, and a motivation for the global public view to raise concern about orphans' issues and integrating them in the society".*

*This year, while we are starting to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, I invite you to dedicate "The Orphan Day on the Global Level", through which we can have determination to double efforts aiming at securing comprehensive patronage and protection to orphan children, and to make it a special day for studying their conditions, needs, and provide needed means of protection for them. We should work during that day, on both Arab and global levels, to raise public awareness regarding sponsoring orphan children and supporting them with a firm political will. There is no better or greater investment in our common future than investing in childhood.*

*Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

*Sincerely,*

*Nabil Elaraby*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Elaraby', with a stylized flourish at the end.

*Secretary General*

*H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary General  
United Nations*





**THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES**

Office of the Permanent Observer to the United Nations  
866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 494, New York, NY 10017  
Tel: (212) 838-8700 Fax: (212) 355-3909

AI/72/16

June 16, 2016

Excellency,

I have the honor to forward a letter addressed by H.E. Dr. Nabil Elaraby, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States to H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon suggesting on allocating "The Orphan Child Day" on the Global Level.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Fathalla

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Fathalla', is written over a horizontal line.

Ambassador

Permanent Observer

H.E. Mr. Edmond Mulet  
Under-Secretary-General  
Chef de Cabinet  
United Nations  
New York