Annex III

**Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee on the Rights of the Child**

**Family name and first name**: Alswelem, Bander

**Date and place of birth**: Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Place of residence**: Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Nationality**: Saudi

**Email address**:

**United Nations working languages**: Arabic (native language), English (written & spoken), Spanish (basic)

**Current position/function**: [[1]](#footnote-1)

-Associate Professor of Educational Policy on Child and Family Studies at King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia since 1997 to date.

-Board Member of Family Affairs Council in Saudi Arabia since 2017 to date.

-Member of National Children Committee (under Family Affairs Council) in Saudi Arabia since 2017 to date.

-Teaching and supervising graduate students (Master’s degrees and doctorates) in the field of research methodology of children learning and development.

-Consultant to various institutions and organizations on the field of child learning, growth, and protection including UNESCO, UNICEF, AGFUND, ACCD[[2]](#footnote-2), ABEGS[[3]](#footnote-3), and KAICIID[[4]](#footnote-4).

**Other main professional activities, in particular related to children’s rights:**

-Secretary General of the Saudi National Commission for Childhood from 2009 to 2015.

-Chair of the working group in developing the National Child Rights and Protection Act, which emphasize child protection in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, legislated 2014.

-Member of the national experts in developing the law of protection from Violence; legislation to protect women and children against domestic abuse, legislated 2013.

-Chair the national team to draft the country report for the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, submitted by Saudi Arabia to the United Nations Committee on the rights of the child, 2015.

-Head of national team to draft the third and fourth report for the Convention on the rights of the child submitted by Saudi to the United Nations Committee on the rights of the child, 2012-2014.

-Program director for various issues pertaining to the implementation of Saudi’s Children rights obligations, including in the field of the education, social protection, and legislation.

-Guest lecturer on children’s rights and development at various universities and institutions.

**Educational background**:

-B.A in Education, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (1984).

-Master in Teaching and Learning: Early Childhood Education. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA. (1988).

-PhD in Child and Family Studies. University of Wisconsin Madison, WI, USA (1997).

-Other Certificates: Numerous workshops and seminars on advanced professional training in Policy development, strategic planning, and leadership-management.

**Relevant expertise on children’s rights.**

-Head of delegation at the third ICESCO Conference of Ministers in charge of children. Tripoli, Libya 2011, and head of delegation at the Fourth ICESCO Conference of Ministers in charge of children. Baku, Azerbaijan, 2013.

-Chair of the national team for developing Saudi National Strategic Plan for Children, 2008-2012.

-Member in board of trustee, Arab Council for Childhood and Development (ACCD), Egypt, 2009-2013.

-Representative of Saudi Arabia in the Sixth Special Commission meeting (Part I, June 2011; Part II, January 2012) of the Permanent office of the Hague Conference on the Child Abduction and Child Protection Convention, The Hague, Netherlands, 2011-2012.

-Member in the supervising board of Saudi Child Helpline, 2010-2013.

-Member of the international expert committee for the World Conference on Early Childhood

Care and Education (WCECCE) organized by UNESCO & Russian Federation, 2009-2010.

**List of most recent publications in the field of children’s rights**:

-AlSwelem, B. (in press). Capacity Building in Childhood professions; Need assessment for Interdisciplinary graduate program on Child right at Saudi University.

-AlSwelem, B. (2017). Children's issues in Saudi Newspapers. Journal of Modern Education Association. Issue No 36, April 2017.

-AlSwelem, B. (2017). Developmentally Appropriate Practices in Early Childhood. Journal of child Development. Issue No 20, September 2017.

-AlSwelem, B., and others. (2016). The Comprehensive Manual for National Procedures Handling Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect. Manual of institutional link and intersectoral collaborations. UNICEF and Saudi National Commission for Children, 2016.

1. It should be noted that membership in the Committee on the Rights of the Child requires participation in three (January/February, May/June and September /October) sessions of three weeks duration each per year; in addition, pre-sessional working groups are held immediately after each session during five working days in order to prepare the following session. The total number of weeks during which the Committee meets in Geneva therefore amounts to at least 12 weeks per year. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Arab Council for Childhood and Development. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The International Dialogue Centre.

   [↑](#footnote-ref-4)