Burma/Myanmar has ratified (pledged to follow) the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This means that Burma/Myanmar must respect the rights of the child and listen to what children have to say. Are the rights of the child respected in Burma/Myanmar? You and other children are the experts.

18 MILLION CHILDREN
53.9 million people live in Burma/Myanmar. Almost 18 million are children, and 4.6 million of the children are under five years old.

NAME AND NATIONALITY
From the day you are born you have the right to have a name and to be registered as a citizen in your country. 944,000 children are born every year in Burma/Myanmar. 3 out of 10 of them are never registered. There is no documented proof that they exist!

SURVIVE AND GROW
You have the right to life. Burma/Myanmar must do all it can to allow children to survive and develop. 1 out of 20 children in Burma/Myanmar (46,000 every year) dies before the age of 5, usually due to causes that could have been prevented.

EDUCATION
You have the right to go to school. Primary and secondary schools should be free for everyone. More than 9 out of 10 children in Burma/Myanmar go to school, but many of them leave school too early.

HEALTH
You have the right to food, clean water, medical care and to privacy when consulting an adult about any health problem. 8 out of 10 children in Burma/Myanmar have access to adequate sanitation facilities, and 8 out of 10 have access to improved water sources.

HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR
You have the right to be protected against both economic exploitation and work that is hazardous to your health or which prevents you from going to school. All work is prohibited for children under 12. Some children are forced into the worst forms of child labour, such as being debt slaves, child soldiers or used for commercial sexual exploitation. Many children in Burma/Myanmar have to work.

PROTECTION AGAINST VIOLENCE
You have the right to protection against all forms of violence, including neglect, maltreatment and abuse. Only 53 countries have forbidden all forms of corporal punishment for children. Burma/Myanmar has not. Many schools still allow caning.

Your voice must be heard
You have the right to say what you think about any issue that affects you. The adults should listen to the child’s opinion before they make decisions, which must always be made in the best interest of the child!

Sources: Unicef 2017, Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children 2017

www.worldchildrensprise.org