



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PLAY 2026

Agenda: UNHQ High-level Event

The International Day of Play (IDOP) on June 11 is a global celebration dedicated to championing every child’s right to play. To advance these outcomes for play, the core group of member States who tabled the IDOP resolution - Bulgaria, El Salvador, Jamaica, Kenya, Luxembourg, and Viet Nam will be co-organizing a high-level event on IDOP together with UNICEF, UNESCO, and supported by the LEGO Foundation, the LEGO Group and a group of non-governmental and private sector partners.

Draft Agenda for the High-Level Event

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00pm

Venue: UNHQ Conference Room 6 (TBC)

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers/Details
10:00 – 10:15 am	Arrival <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guests are seated ▪ Videos play in background 	All
10:15 – 10:18 am	Play Activation	Children
10:18 – 10:20 am	Introduction	Child rep
10:20 – 10:25 am	Welcome Address	Ambassador Do Hung Viet, Permanent Representative of Vietnam to the UN and Chair of IDOP 2026
10:25 – 10:35 am	Opening Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catherine Russell, Executive Director, UNICEF (TBC) • UNESCO, Eliot Minchenberg, UNESCO Representative to the UN (TBC) • LEGO Foundation
10:35 – 10:40 am	Special Message from a play champion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Video from GWA ▪ In person remarks 	GWA
10:40 – 10:55 am	Panel session: Children on Why Play Matters	Moderated by child panelist. Child panelist 1

		Child panelist 2 Child panelist 3
10:55 – 11:00 am	Data Spotlight: Highlights from the IDOP 2026 global data report on play, connecting findings to policy actions.	Claudia Cappa Senior Adviser, Statistics and Monitoring Data and Analytics Section, UNICEF Office of Strategy and Evidence – Innocenti
11:00 – 11:15 am	Intergenerational Q&A	Child-led Child Moderator Oluwatosin Akingbulu Member State Rep
11:15 – 11:30 am	Reflections: Protecting Play for Every Child <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remarks ▪ Video messages 	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myuri Komaragiri, Education Specialist at Right To Play (Play Movement) • Rep from Children’s Museum • Play at TED • LEGO Group • UNICEF - Chemba
11:30 am – 11:55 pm	Commitment from Member States <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remarks ▪ Video messages 	Participating countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulgaria • El Salvador (video) • Jamaica • Kenya • Luxembourg • Viet Nam • Zambia • South Africa • Mexico (TBC)
11:55 – 12:00 pm	Closing Remarks	Child participant



Draft Agenda for the Play Experience

Time: 12:30 pm to 5pm

Venue: UNHQ lawn

To mark the day, Member States, UNICEF, UNESCO and partners, will transform the UN Headquarters Lawn into a joyful, child-centred public space—bringing together children and young people, UN leadership, Permanent Missions, and partners in an immersive play experience.

In 2026, IDOP aligns with a unique global moment: the World Cup 2026. This convergence presents a powerful opportunity to promote the right to play and spotlight why safe, play spaces must be protected everywhere.

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers/Details
12:30 – 1:00 pm	Arrival <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guests go to the refreshment tent• Music plays in background	All
1:00 – 2:20pm	Creative Play Zone Activation	All
2:20 – 2:30pm	Guests move to the World Cup premiere viewing	All
2:30 – 2:40 pm	Welcome Address	UN DSG (TBC)
2:40 – 2:55 pm	Opening Remarks	PR of Vietnam PR of Mexico PR of South Africa
2:55 – 3:00 pm	Special Message from a play champion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Video from GWA	GWA (TBC)
3:00 – 4:50 pm	World Cup 2026 viewing event starts	



	IDOP videos play during 15 minutes break time	
4:50 – 4:55 pm	Closing Remarks	