Good afternoon (and welcome),

In the first panel, we gained greater understanding about the scope of child labour. In this second panel entitled: **JUDGE – How does child labour impact children’s dignity? A focus on health and education,** we will dive deeper into the reality of child labourers and consider how missed outcomes and lost opportunities affect the well-being of children and their communities. Pope Francis reminds us that exploitation of children “deprives boys and girls of their childhood and jeopardizes their integral development.”[[1]](#footnote-1) This panel will consider integral development of children from a variety of multi-level perspectives as we aim to address this issue dynamically. As brothers and sisters of the human family, it is clear that we have an obligation to think deeply about the ways in which the most innocent in our world are suffering. Through our shared dialogue today, we will take a closer look at social and structural causes of child labour, and express solidarity with all individuals and families who suffer the injustice of child labour.

I would now like to introduce you to our panelists:

**Dr. Máximo Torero Cullen** is the Chief Economist of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). He joined the Organization in January 2019 as Assistant Director-General for the Economic and Social Development Department. His major research work lies mostly in analyzing poverty, inequality, importance of geography and assets (private or public) in explaining poverty, and in policies oriented towards poverty alleviation based on the role played by infrastructure, institutions, and on how technological breakthroughs (or discontinuities) can improve the welfare of households and small farmers.

**Nasreen Sheikh** is an international speaker and advocate for global human rights. Her story about how she escaped Child labor and modern day slavery has been published in Forbes, Amnesty International and Cosmopolitan magazine. At around the age of sixteen, Nasreen founded [Local Women’s Handicrafts,](https://www.localwomenshandicrafts.com) a successful social enterprise empowering underserved women. She now leads a grass roots charity called [Empowerment Collective](https://empowermentcollective.org/) with the goal of ending modern day slavery by advocating 7 Keys for global human rights.

**Philip Goldman** is the Founder and President of Maestral International, a team of leading global experts supporting the development, strengthening and coordination of child welfare systems that meet the needs of children in adversity. Philip’s work focuses on helping governments and their partners to develop strategies, policies, programs, and services that can be scaled to reach the most vulnerable children and families at the community level.

Now we will listen to pre-recorded remarks from Dr. Masimo Torero Cullen.

1. <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200610_udienza-generale.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)