

Kenya to reduce violence against children by 40% in the next two years .

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By Mary Wangui.

The Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection Mr. Simon Chelugui has said that the government, in collaboration with social development partners, plan to reduce prevalence of violence against Children by 40% by the year 2023.

Mr. Chelugui stated that the ministry is committed to protecting children against all forms of violence through implementation of various policies and laws; and programmes meant to safeguard the rights and welfare children in the country.

Mr. Chelugui added that, data from the Ministry's Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS), shows that, 105,759 cases of violence against Children were reported between January and June 2021. He said, 93% of the cases were related to physical abuse. He added that, other reported cases were early marriages, FGM and emotional and sexual abuse.

The Cabinet Secretary who made the remarks in Nairobi during the Inter-religious conference on ending violence against the children in the Kenya, said that the ministry has disseminated information and implemented the National Prevention and Response Plan on Violence Against Children 2019-2023 as a strategy to reduce and end the vice.

He observed that the ministry with the help of partners, is carrying out campaigns on "Spot it Stop" to promote change in norms, attitudes and behavior that discourage violence against children in the society.

The Cabinet Secretary commended the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops, the National Council of Churches of Kenya, Evangelical alliance of Kenya, SUPKEM, The Joining Forces Alliance and UNICEF among other partners for advocating for the rights of children in the country.

He explained that the ministry will attempt to establish new partnerships and collaborations in key areas that will seek to protect, and serve the interest of the children in the country.