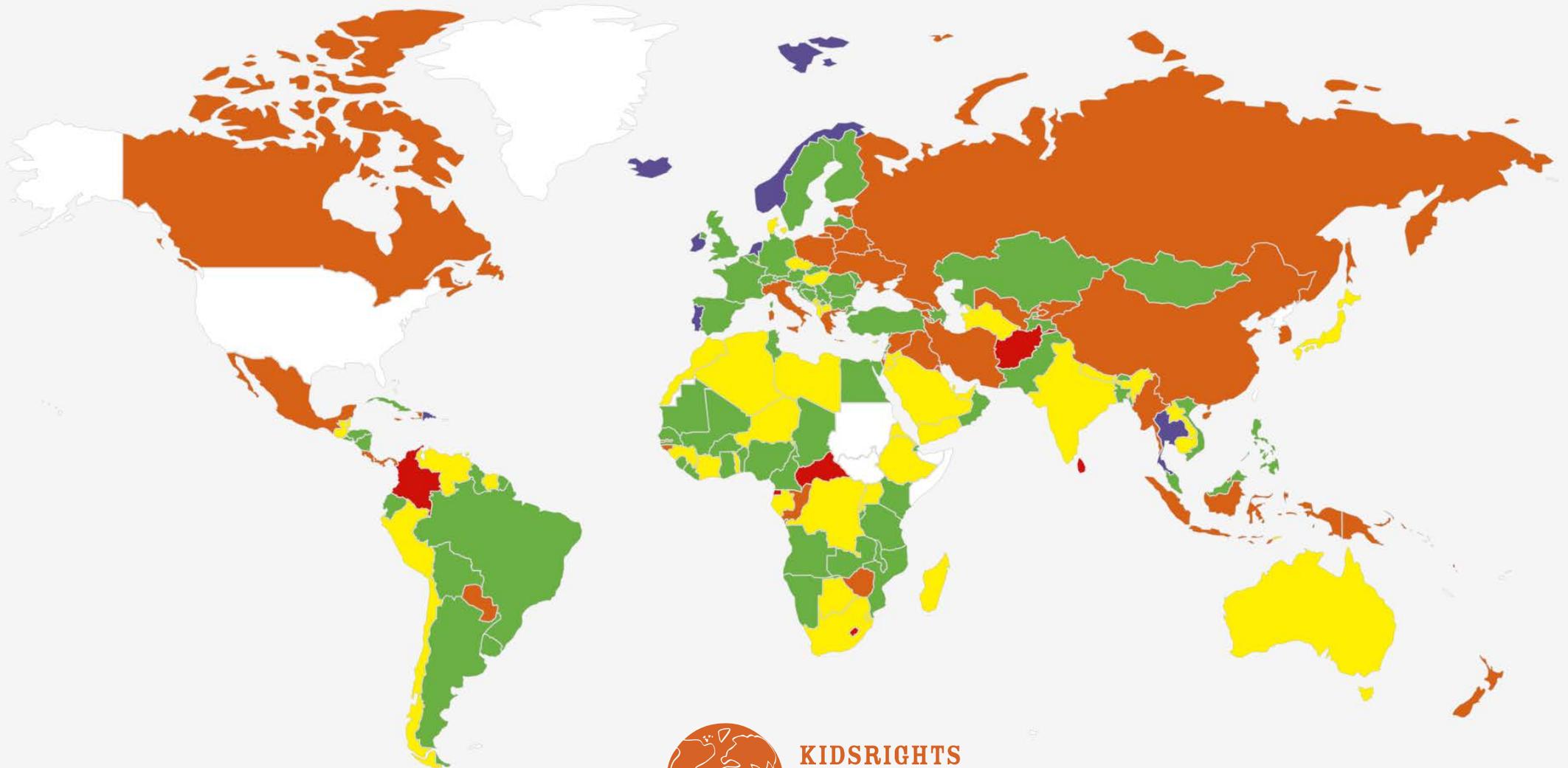


The KidsRights Index

Domain 5: Child Rights Environment Scoretable



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#	Country	Non-discrimination	Best interest of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget / Resources	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
1	Afghanistan 2011	(1) para. 25: grave concern about gender-based discrimination of girls	(1) para. 27: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not adequately applied by legislative bodies and is therefore absent from most of the legislation concerning children, as well as from the judicial and administrative decisions and policies, and programmes relevant to children	(1) para 31: concerned that traditional societal attitudes towards children limit, and often totally prevent, children from expressing their views; the right of children to be heard in any judicial or administrative proceedings affecting them is rarely respected	(1) para. 7: Concerned that child rights continue to be negatively affected by the application of different sources of law, namely codified, customary and sharia laws, and that legislation contradictory to the Convention remains in force.	(1) para. 15: information about budget allocation for implementing the rights of children is extremely limited, and there is no effective mechanism for tracking and monitoring the allocation and impact of resources from national and international sources	(1) para. 19: concern about the absence of a comprehensive data collection system, which allows disaggregation and further analysis of data on the living conditions of children, particularly girls, children in poverty, or children with disabilities; para. 59: budgetary allocations to the education sector remain insufficient	NA
2	Albania 2012	(2) para. 8: urge to address COs of the initial report that have not been sufficiently implemented, particularly those related to non-discrimination; para. 27: While welcoming the enactment of Law No. 10221 .. and the appointment of the Commissioner for the Protection against Discrimination ..., the Committee is concerned about serious discrimination of girls, minorities, Roma .	(1) para. 29: While noting the full incorporation of the best interest principles in the Family Code, the Committee expresses concern that major pieces of legislation (the Penal Code, the Code of Penal Procedure and the Code of Administrative Procedures) do not uphold the best interests principle. Also concerned about disregard of the best interests of the child in adoption procedures and in dealing with children in conflict with the law.	(2) para. 33: welcomes the creation of Youth Parliaments and a National Youth Strategy; ... The Committee is however concerned about limited effects and exclusion of minority or disabled children and about traditional and cultural attitudes limiting space for child participation.	(2) para. 8: urge to to address COs of the initial report that have not been sufficiently implemented, including on legislation; para. 9: notes the adoption of numerous child-related laws ...; concerned about inconsistencies between the new and remaining unreviewed old laws .	(1) para. 9: no specific budget for the Action Plan for Children 2012-2015; para. 15: concerned that the proportion of the budget allocated to areas of direct relevance to children has decreased in the reporting period; no budgetary allocations for critical social services; para. 71: need to increase budget for education.	(2) para. 17: noting the collection of data on children by the National Statistics Institute (INSTAT), concerned that INSTAT has not established a comprehensive data-collection system; para. 82: welcomes creation database on victims of trafficking	(2) para. 15: the State party relies excessively on civil society for budget; para. 83: calls for supporting CSOs who assist victims of trafficking; para. 89: calls for making available the CRC reporting documentation to civil society
3	Algeria 2012	(2) para. 8: urge to to address COs of the initial report that have not been sufficiently implemented, particularly those related to non-discrimination; par. 29: notes with satisfaction the measures taken to increase girls' school enrolment; but also persistence of legal provisions that discriminate against girls and women such as in the 2005 Family Code. Concerned that limited measures have been taken to change societal discriminatory and patriarchal attitudes and behaviours as well as stereotyping of gender roles; and concerned about persistent de-facto discrimination of specified groups.	(2) para. 31: notes with satisfaction that the principle of the best interests of the child was included in the Family Code in 2005; concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child has not been incorporated in all legislation concerning children and is therefore not applied in all administrative and judicial proceedings, nor in policies and programmes relating to children	(1) para. 35: ad hoc initiatives to develop youth participation, but limited sustainable actions were undertaken to change societal attitudes; limiting effect of obligation to get guardian's authorization; right not to be heard remains largely ineffective;	(2) para. 11: notes as positive legal reforms and harmonization with CRC, in particular as regards nationality and civil registration. The Committee is however concerned about: lack of progress in the adoption of the Child Protection Code and gender discrimination in Family Code;	(1) para. 15: concerned about the lack of specific budgetary allocations for the National Plan of Action for Children (2008-2015); para. 19: concern that while the State party has a flourishing economy, the budgetary allocations for social sectors and especially for the health sector remain extremely limited; corruption remains pervasive continues to divert resources that could enhance the implementation of the rights of the child; concerned about the high level of military expenditure in contrast to allocations to the health sector; para. 57: budgetary allocations to the health sector remain greatly insufficient	(1) para.21: notes with concern the limited progress made to establish a national, comprehensive and centralized data collection system; particularly concerned that data by geographic location, socio-economic status and groups of vulnerable children as well as data on violence, abuse and exploitation is completely lacking and that policy makers often use unreliable national data; para. 73: since 2008 no data collected on children in the streets	(1) para. 8: urge to to address COs of the initial report that have not been sufficiently implemented, particularly those related to cooperation with civil society; para. 27: concern that members of non-governmental human rights organizations, including those monitoring the situation of child rights as well as journalists are often subjected to intimidation, harassment and arrests; and about legal limitations on receiving international funds; para. 77: civil society is prohibited from operating shelters for victims of trafficking because they would be penalized for harbouring undocumented migrants

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4	Andorra 2012	(2) para. 24: welcomes the establishment of the National Equality Commission in 2010 to address anti-discrimination issues and the initiative to develop a National Action Plan for Equality; concern about non-prioritization of the work of the Commission since its establishment though and that little progress has been made; concerned about the existing patriarchal attitudes, practices and stereotypes that discriminate against girls and children with disabilities	(2) para. 26: noting that different governmental bodies, such as the Technical Commission for Children and Young People take into account the best interest of the child in all of its decisions and proposed measures for children, the Committee is concerned that the principle of the best interest of the child is not systematically or sufficiently integrated in legislation, policies, programmes and decision-making processes; para. 45: Act on Immigration does not take the best interests into account.	NA	(1) para. 9: notes with concern the absence of specific legislation dedicated to child protection covering basic provisions of the Convention; para. 23: call for raising minimum age for marriage to 18 in legislation; para. 31: call for legislation banning corporal punishment; para. 34: need to strengthen the legislation on child pornography; para. 43: lack of domestic legislation on asylum seekers and refugees, and absence of measures to protect unaccompanied and refugee children.	(2) para. 15: notes the economic grants provided by the State party during the economic crisis through different ministries to families in vulnerable situations; concerned about lack of specific budget allocated for the implementation of the Convention; para. 16: more budget needed for vulnerable children; para. 41: more budget required for children with disabilities	(2) para. 8: urge to address COs of the initial report that have not been sufficiently implemented, particularly those related to data collection; para. 17: notes the signing of a cooperation agreement with the Andorra Foundation to develop a joint national database; reiterates its previous concern at the lack of data on children and the absence of a centralized and comprehensive data collection system to analyse the situation of children, including the impact of the economic crisis; recalls that the absence of data on children severely restricts effective and systematic monitoring of children's rights as well as the designing and planning of policies and programmes	NA, barely references to CSOs
5	Angola 2010	(2) para. 28: welcomes new Constitution article on non-discrimination; concerned about ongoing discrimination against children with disabilities, children with HIV/AIDS and San children due to traditional attitudes in society.	(1) para. 30: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not well understood in the family or by State authorities, and that it is not consistently applied in practice; para. 8 notes inclusion best interests in new Constitution.	(2) para. 32: notes the State party's indication that children have the right to be heard in administrative and judicial proceedings; regrets the absence of information on children's participation in student parliaments or school councils and in provincial and municipal bodies, and on the weight that is given to children's voices in these institutions; concerned that children's views are not given weight in the development of policies, action plans and strategies	(2) para. 8: notes with interest the entry into force in February 2010 of the new Constitution that, inter alia, makes specific reference to the rights of children	(2) para. 7 notes lack of action on previous COs; para. 16: notes that budget allocations for health, education and child protection have been increased in recent years; remains concerned that allocations are still low and it is not clear to which extent these allocations are spent on children; concern about corruption.	(2) para. 18: notes with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to increase capacity for data collection and analysis; notes, however, that the lack of capacity and resources hinder the development of a central system for comprehensive data collection in the State party	(3) para. 22: takes notice that NGOs are strongly represented in the National Council for Children and participated in the drafting of the State party's report under review, and welcomes the State party's indication that it closely cooperates with civil society in the implementation of children's rights at all levels of the country
6	Antigua and Barbuda 2004	(1) para. 26: noting that discrimination is prohibited under the Constitution, regrets that the grounds mentioned in the Constitution are not in full compliance with article 2 CRC, and that no additional legislation exists that explicitly prohibits all forms of discrimination and in greater detail; concerned that some groups of children suffer from discriminatory attitudes and disparities in accessing basic services.	(2) para. 29: noting that some legislation providing for the best interests of the child exists; concerned that the principles laid down in article 3 are not fully applied and duly integrated into the policies and programmes of the State party.	(1) para. 31: concerned that the views of the child are not given sufficient consideration in all areas of children's lives and that the provisions of article 12 are not fully integrated into the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, or in policies and programmes relevant to children	(3) para. 10: welcomes the Family Law and Domestic Violence Reform Initiative, involving a comprehensive review of all laws to ensure compliance with the Convention. However, given the fact that a study for such a comprehensive review was completed in 1992, the Committee expresses some concern about the slow pace of the review	(1) para. 18: aware of the economic difficulties facing the State party, is nevertheless concerned at the lack of sufficient budgetary allocation	(1) para. 20: concerned at the absence of comprehensive and up-to-date statistical data in the State party's report and the lack of an adequate national data collection system	(1) para. 24: notes with concern that insufficient efforts have been made to involve civil society in the implementation of the Convention

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7	Argentina 2010	(2) para. 31: notes national plan against discrimination; and welcomes efforts of the State party to attend to the needs of disadvantaged children, as well as to establish programmes indigenous children; nevertheless concerned at persistent reports of discrimination, social exclusion and physical, sexual and psychological abuse of indigenous children	(1) para. 34: notes with concern that the principle of the best interests of the child may be used to evaluate if a child should be deprived of his/her liberty under the Juvenile Justice Act, which has not yet been reformed to conform to the Convention; further concerned that this principle may not be taken into account in all decisions, administrative and judicial procedures and programmes concerning children.	(2) para. 36: welcomes the introduction in Act No. 26061 of the right of the child to be heard and the obligation of the authorities to guarantee that right in all proceedings that concern a child; concern about making the hearing subject to the child's own request, which may give rise to discrimination and inconsistencies in practice; concern at the absence of formal procedures; praise for new legal provision on free birth registration	(3) para. 13: welcomes the legal reforms of the State party to bring its legislation into line with the provisions of the Convention, and in particular Act No. 26061 (2005) on Comprehensive Protection of the Rights of Children and Adolescents.	(2) para. 17: no budgetary allocations National Plan; para. 21: welcomes the sustained increase since 2002 in social investment; however notes with serious concern that disparities between provinces remain, and are as extreme as 500 per cent between the poorest and richest provinces.	(2) para. 23 welcomes efforts made but remains concerned that the absence of a systematic approach to data collection and analysis is lacking.	(2) para. 27: welcomes the consultations by the State party with civil society in the preparation of the report of the State party and the responses to the list of issues, though it regrets that such consultations did not take place in the provinces
8	Armenia 2013	(1) para. 18: concerned at the prevalence of discrimination on the basis of gender ... particularly concerned about sex-selective abortion in rural areas ... remains concerned at the de facto discrimination against categories of children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations, including children with disabilities, children living with HIV, children from poor families, children living in rural areas, children in street situations and children living in institutions	(1) para. 20: notes the inclusion of the "legitimate interests of the child" principle in the Family Code of 2004, but ... considers that the "legitimate interests of the child" is not equivalent to "the best interests of the child" in its scope. ... regrets the lack of information on guidelines and procedures for ensuring that the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration is applied consistently throughout the State party's policies, legislation and programmes.	(2) para. 22: notes that the right to be heard is included in a number of laws, but is concerned that children's views are not taken into account on a regular basis in all matters that affect them and regrets that the existing Youth Parliaments are not functioning effectively. ... also concerned that consent to medical intervention for children under the age of 18 is given only by the child's representative.	(2) para. 8: notes the adoption of several child-related laws over the reporting period, in particular amendments to the Law on the Rights of the Child of 1996. ... also notes that numerous legislative initiatives aimed at improving the situation of children's rights are pending approval by the Parliament. ... regrets that adoption of some of this draft legislation has been delayed for several years, which has impeded the full and effective realization of children's rights in many areas.	(1) para. 10: notes the adoption of the National Programme for the Protection of Children's Rights for 2013-2016 and many other strategies and plans covering different areas of the Convention. However ... regrets that the programme and strategies lack adequate financial resources and mostly rely on funding by international organizations. ; para. 14: concerned about the significant decrease in budget allocations, in particular in the areas of health and education ... and regrets the lack of information on a child rights based perspective in the budgeting process	(1) paras. 6 and 7: need to address previous CO and develop a comprehensive system for the analysis of data collected in order to assess progress achieved in the realization of children's rights and to help design policies to implement the Convention.	NA

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9	Australia 2012	(2) para. 29: welcoming Australia's Multicultural Policy and the National Anti-Racism Partnership and Strategy, the Committee notes with concern that racial discrimination in general remains a problem; serious and widespread discrimination faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children;	(1) para. 31: The Committee is concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not widely known, appropriately integrated and consistently applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and in policies, programmes and projects relevant to and with an impact on children; para. 53: not paramount in adoption decisions; para. 80: or in asylum and refugee determinations;	(2) para. 8: urge to address COs of the initial report that have not been sufficiently implemented, particularly those related to respect for the views of the child; para. 33: welcomes the establishment of the Australian Youth Forum as a communication channel between the Government, the youth sector and young people; remains concerned about inadequate fora for taking into account the views of children who are below the age of 15 and/or of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and for facilitating meaningful and empowered child participation in the policies and decision-making affecting them in schools.	(2) para. 4 and para. 11: positive on the adoption of certain laws; para. 8: urge to address COs of the initial report that have not been sufficiently implemented, particularly those related to legislation; para. 11: positive on the efforts to pass several acts of legislation at federal and state level to implement aspects of the Convention; remains concerned that there continues to be no comprehensive child rights Act at the national level; due to the State party's federal system, the absence of such legislation has resulted in fragmentation and inconsistencies in the implementation of child rights; para. 29: absence of federal legislation protecting against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity; concerns about legislation on freedom of association (para. 39), privacy (para. 41) ETC.	(2) para. 19: bearing in mind that Australia is one of the most affluent economies of the world and that it invests sizeable amounts of resources in child-related programmes; notes that the State does not use a child-specific approach for budget planning and allocation in the national and state/territories level budgets, thus making it practically impossible to identify, monitor, report and evaluate the impact of investments in children and the overall application of the Convention in budgetary terms.	(2) para. 21: welcomes the ongoing work of the Australia Bureau of Statistics to improve its collection of data; notes as positive the State's data collection initiatives such as the Australian Early Development Index, and the collation of nationally comparable data on government-funded services for persons with disabilities; remains concerned that these data are not disaggregated nor analysed regarding important areas of the Convention and are sparse or not available; para. 51: absence of national data documenting the criteria and decisions leading to the placement of a child in care;	NA, barely references to CSOs
10	Austria 2012	(2) para. 7: urge to address COs of the initial report that have not been sufficiently implemented, particularly those related to non-discrimination; para. 24: noting the specialized and legislation, remains concerned about instances of hate speech by politicians and manifestations of Neo-Nazism, racism, xenophobia and related intolerance	(2) para. 3: welcomes that the Federal Constitutional Law on the Rights of Children protects the best interests of the child; para. 26: and in other relevant legislation too; concerned that in practice, this principle is not always duly taken into consideration in decision-making processes and in the allocation of resources; para. 42: insufficient in intercountry adoptions	(2) para. 28: noting that the voting age was lowered from 18 to 16 years in 2007 and that the right to participation is protected in article 4 of the Federal Constitutional Law on the Rights of Children; recommends research to monitor the impact of the lowering of the voting age and educate children on the exercise of the right to vote in an effective manner;	(2) para. 10: welcoming the Federal Constitution Law on the Rights of Children of 16 February 2011; notes with concern that it does not include all the rights protected under the CRC, in particular social and cultural rights of children; notes with concern that despite the State's efforts to harmonize the youth protection laws of all Länder, in line with the principles and provisions of the Convention, most continue to have divergent standards; para. 52: lack of legislation on inclusive education.	(1) para. 16: regrets the lack of information on the level of resources allocated to children as well as on mechanisms for the identification tracking and protection of strategic budget lines	(2) para. 18: notes that the Austrian statistics institution publishes data disaggregated by age, sex and geographic location on the population, labour market, youth employment, education, culture, health and social affairs on a regular basis; concerned that such data is not sufficiently disaggregated for all areas covered by the Convention, e.g. on migrant children, refugee and asylum-seeking children, and other vulnerable children; para. 40: no adequate statistical data available to ensure the quality control of alternative care institutions and family type alternative care	NA

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11	Azerbaijan 2012	(1) para. 30: deeply concerned about the discrimination frequently experienced by children in vulnerable situations, particularly by children with disabilities, children without parental care, and children in economically disadvantaged households, see also paras. 56(a)	(2) para. 32: While noting that the State party's legislation does make reference to the best interests of the child, concerned by the inadequate application of the principle. In the context of judicial proceedings, the Committee is concerned at the lack of capacity among law professionals in understanding and representing the child's perspective and best interests.	(2) para. 36: notes the positive steps taken to establish a Children's Parliament and introduce, on a limited scale, a pilot project on "child-friendly" schools; notes with concern that in the majority of schools, the opportunity for children to participate in decision-making affecting them, remains limited; further concerned that in judicial proceedings, the views of children are not taken into account, having regard to age and maturity.	(2) para.7: previous COs on legislation not addressed; para. 9: noting that the Constitution of the State party accords priority to international ratified treaties over domestic laws and, in principle, allows for the direct application of international treaties,	(2) para. 17: noting the increase in financial allocations for health, education, and addressing the needs of children in an internally displaced situation; concerned that the overall level of resources allocated for social services remains low; is further concerned at the absence of a child-rights approach to allocations in the State party's national, regional and local budgets.	(2) para. 21: noting as positive the publication of a statistical overview of children in Azerbaijan, and recently established databases; reiterates its previous concerns about the general continued absence of data necessary for the implementation of the Convention; remains particularly concerned at the lack of an effective system for collecting disaggregated data on infant and child mortality, child malnutrition, children with disabilities, sexual abuse and exploitation	(2) para. 27: welcomes the 2011 Law on social services, which facilitates government collaboration with NGOs in the provision of social services as well as the establishment of a State Council for support to NGOs; notes that NGOs continue to lack adequate support and cooperation from the State party and are not sufficiently consulted on legislative processes.
12	Bahamas 2005	(1) para. 28: concerned that societal discrimination persists against vulnerable groups of children, including children living in poverty, Haitian immigrant children and CWDs and that the Constitution does not prohibit discrimination on the grounds of disability	NA	(1) para. 31: concerned that, due to certain traditional attitudes in the society, children have limited opportunities to freely express their views	(2) para. 10: notes with appreciation the efforts undertaken to harmonize its legislation and the reform of the Constitution which intends to include children's rights in the Constitution; However, concerned that the existing legislation does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the Convention.	(2) para. 18: noting the substantial budgetary allocation in social services and infrastructure, particularly in the area of health and education, the Committee is nevertheless concerned that budgetary allocations are insufficient	(1) para. 20: concerned at the lack of disaggregated and analytical data on persons under the age of 18 years in all areas covered by the CRC, including the most vulnerable groups, children living in poverty, children with disabilities and immigrant children.	(2) para. 24: noting the significant steps taken to facilitate the establishment of NGOs; remains concerned that insufficient efforts have been made to systematically involve civil society, particularly in the area of civil rights and freedoms
13	Bahrain 2011	(1) para. 30: despite the adoption of a National Strategy, the Committee is seriously concerned that de facto discrimination against the girl child, children with disabilities and children living in different areas of the country, is widespread.	(1) para. 32: concerned that certain actions and practices concerning children do not fully reflect the concept of the best interests of the child, inter alia, because of the poor training provided to decision makers in assessing BI. In the absence of a Child Act reflecting this basic principle of the Convention, BI continues to be ignored, in particular in the practice of early marriages, custody after divorce, and children in institutions.	(2) para. 36: notes as positive the possibility for the judges in family cases to hear children concerned by the decisions; however, remains concerned that the structures provided for children are still inadequate to ensure their full participation on matters of concern to them.	(2) para. 7: previous COs on legislation not fully implemented; para. 8: Committee notes ongoing efforts to reform the national law pertaining to the rights of the child; however, concerned at the considerable delay in the adoption of the Child Rights and Education Bill, as well as some other important legislative acts, and that this ongoing process has not yet ensured the full compliance of national legislation with the Convention.	(1) para. 16: regrets that the budgeting process in the State party does not allow clear identification of the level and the structure of the resources allocated to children	(1) para. 18: concerned at the considerable delay in the development of a central mechanism (DevInfo), responsible for the collection of information	(2) para. 26: notes that the State cooperates with NGOs, in particular in the area of early child development; concerned at the considerable delay in promulgating the Law on Civil Society, which would enable civil society to be more active; concerned that civil society may be facing constraints and undue pressure to curtail its activities.

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14	Bangladesh 2009	(2) para. 32: While noting the commitment in Constitution and "Vision 2021"; concerned that the principle of non-discrimination contained in article 2 of the Convention is not fully respected in practice. Girls continue to face discrimination and disparities, as do particular groups of children, including refugee children, CWDs, children in slums and rural areas and children of ethnic and religious minorities; also concerned about discrimination on the basis of social origin, or other status of parents.	(2) para. 34: appreciates the efforts to increasingly incorporate BI in national policies and programmes that affect children; notes with concern that the principle of best interests of the child has not been clearly defined in national legislation.	(2) para. 38: notes with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to promote and respect children's right to freely express their views; nevertheless, the right to be heard needs further development; concerned at the few opportunities that the family in particular provides for voicing a child's own opinion and for participation in family, school, and community decision-making; concerned over the lack of information regarding the practical implementation of the right of the child to express his or her views in judicial and administrative proceedings.	(2) para. 12: appreciates that specific laws have been adopted or amended in efforts to achieve more consistency with the CRC; however, the Committee remains concerned that some aspects of domestic legislation continue to be in conflict with the CRC; regrets that there is no comprehensive law to incorporate the Convention into domestic legislation. In particular, the Committee is also concerned that the 1974 Children's Act has not been revised in line with the Convention.	(2) para. 8: previous COs not fully addressed; para. 20: appreciates the efforts made by the State party in recent years to increase its investment in the social sectors; regrets that investment in children, especially regarding health, education and social protection, continues to be too low; concerned that a significant percentage (44 per cent in 2007) of the national budget comes from donor and external sources, which may not be sustainable; para. 22: notes corruption	(2) para. 24: notes with appreciation the efforts made to improve data collection and monitoring mechanisms; concerned that the lack of reliable disaggregated data from the national to the district levels hampers effective follow-up; particularly concerned that reliable, disaggregated data in important areas of the Convention are not available; notes with concern the lack of coordination and collaboration among government agencies in data collection and the inadequate technical capabilities for data collection, analysis, and reporting.	(2) para. 28: appreciates the cooperation between the State party and civil society organizations; concerned that this reflects mainly a use of NGOs as contractors for the implementation of projects; notes with concern the limited participation of NGOs in the formulation and monitoring of policies and strategies to implement the Convention as well as in the preparation of reports.
15	Barbados 1999	(2) para. 15: welcomes the general commitment to the prevention of discrimination; gender-based discrimination	(1) para. 29d: refers to need to take decisions regarding legal assistance for children in conflict with the law on the basis of BI	(2) para. 17: acknowledges the information regarding the applicability of British common law which has in some cases been used by courts in the State party to consider the wishes of younger children according to the "maturity principle"; remains concerned that the implementation of article 12 of the Convention regarding the need to give due weight to the views of the child in accordance with his or her evolving capacity is excessively constrained by subjective interpretation under existing legislation.	(1) para. 3: welcomes the mandate of the National Committee to carry out a thorough review of legislation; para. 8: concerned that the State party has not yet given adequate attention to the need to review existing legislation thoroughly to examine its conformity with the provisions of the Convention. The Committee notes that inconsistencies remain; para. 13: concerned about legislation and policies that allow the use of flogging of children (see also para. 22); para. 23: legislation is still not sufficient to provide strong protection against child abuse, including sexual abuse.	(2) para. 11: concerned about the lack of data regarding the maximum allocation of available resources; notes that the budgetary provisions for social services affecting children and their rights, and in particular for poverty alleviation programmes and the Child Care Board, have increased steadily in recent years	(1) para. 10: takes note of the difficulties experienced in ensuring the collection of disaggregated data; notes current plans to standardize and computerize data collection; lack of data on breastfeeding and on budget.	NA
16	Belarus 2011	(2) para. 27: welcomes the 2008–2010 National Plan of Action on gender equality; remains concerned at the extent of gender-based discrimination and the absence of legislation specifically prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex; concerned at harassment and discrimination of Roma children	(1) para. 29: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not systematically reflected in the State party's legislation	(1) para. 31: concerned that the views of the child on decisions affecting them are rarely given due weight, especially in the home; further concerned that children are not provided with the opportunity to be heard in all judicial and administrative proceedings affecting them; c concerned at the high age (14 years) required for children to file a petition with a court of law without the consent of the parents and seek legal assistance.	(1) para. 7: previous COs on review legislation not or insufficiently implemented; regrets that the State party has not undertaken a complete review of its legislation in order to harmonize it with the Convention; further concerned that children's rights in the State party seem to be governed mainly by Presidential decrees, rather than laws enacted by the Parliament.	(2) para. 16: welcoming the intention to increase the proportion of gross domestic product (GDP) allocated for children in the plans for 2011–2015; regrets that the budgeting process in the State party does not allow clear identification of the resources allocated to children	(2) para. 18: appreciates the efforts to strengthen data collection in areas concerning children, notably through the creation of a national social and economic database, BelarusInfo; however, concerned at the lack of information on e.g. the situation of children belonging to minority groups, in particular Roma children, and stateless children and violence against children.	(1) para. 23: takes note of the closure of the commission for registrations (and re-registrations) of civil society organizations and the transfer of its functions to the Ministry of Justice; remains concerned that CSOs experience difficulties in registering, due among other reasons, to the high fees required to register; also concerned at the difficult working conditions for NGOs

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17	Belgium 2010	(2) para. 8: previous COs on discrimination of children living in poverty insufficiently implemented; para. 31: notes the initiatives taken at community level to combat discrimination, in particular in accessing education; reiterates its serious concern as to the multiple forms of discrimination of children living in poverty, CWDs and children of foreign origin.	(2) para. 33: noting that BI has been integrated into legislation; expresses concern that it is still not reflected as a general principle in all legislation regarding children.	(2) para. 35: welcomes the numerous initiatives taken to promote the participation of children in various domains; the Committee notes with concern that Belgium children feel that their opinions on matters which directly concern them are rarely taken into consideration.	(2) para. 11: noting the efforts made to harmonize its legislation, notes that legislative developments vary among the three Communities, which creates situations where children in some Communities do not enjoy the full range of rights that other children enjoy in the rest of the country; concerned that legislative development in the German-speaking Community has not kept pace	(1) para. 19: concerned that social expenditure in the State party is comparatively low; also expresses concern at the absence of a consistent budgetary analysis and child-rights impact assessment; para. 15: no specific budget attached to National Plan of Action	(2) para. 8: previous COs insufficiently implemented; para. 21: while welcoming the statistical annexes provided with the replies to the list of issues, the Committee remains concerned about the fragmented approach to data collection, which does not cover all areas of the Convention and is carried out unevenly at the regional and community levels.	(2) para. 27: notes with appreciation the cooperation of the State party with the civil society, including their representation within and involvement in the work of the National Commission for the Rights of the Child; regrets that civil society's contribution to the State party's report has been insufficiently reflected.
18	Belize 2005	(2) para. 25: appreciating that some measures have been taken to promote the principle of non-discrimination against children; concerned at the persistent discrimination faced by girls, CWDs, migrant children, children living in poverty, children belonging to minorities, indigenous children, children infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS, children living in rural areas, and pregnant students and teenage mothers in schools.	(1) para. 28: this principle is not fully reflected in the State party's legislation, policies and programmes at the national and local levels.	(2) para. 30: despite some good examples of the implementation of article 12 of the Convention and of child participation, the Committee is concerned at the persistence of traditional and authoritarian attitudes in the State party which limit children's right to participate	(2) para. 3: takes note of the adoption of several laws; para. 9: appreciates the ongoing efforts to bring its domestic law into conformity with the provisions and principles of the Convention, resulting in recent legislative reforms and amendments; para. 50: flaws as regards laws on CWDs; para. 68: idem for sex offence legislation; para. 71: idem for juvenile justice	(1) para. 6: that a limited number of human, financial and technical resources have impeded progress; para. 15: while noting the devastation caused by hurricanes and the budgetary burden of reconstruction, concerned that there are no budget allocations for children, that resources are insufficient to meet the needs of all children and that there are regional disparities, particularly between urban and rural areas, with regard to a range of social indicators.	(2) para. 17: takes note of the establishment, in 1996, of the Social Indicators Committee, which supervises the national social sector statistics and monitors the quality of such statistics. However, the Committee regrets the lack of adequate resources allocated to the Social Indicators Committee and the interruptions in its work. The Committee is concerned at the insufficient data in some areas covered by the Convention	(2) para. 19: noting with appreciation the efforts to strengthen cooperation with NGOs; concerned that the State party has shifted some of its responsibilities and duties with regard to the implementation of some provisions of the Convention to NGOs without providing them with adequate resources, policies and guidelines.
19	Benin 2006	(2) para. 7: previous COs on non-discrimination insufficiently addressed; para. 25: noting that the Constitution and other domestic laws guarantee non-discrimination; notes with concern that this principle is not fully implemented for girls, children in need of alternative care, CWDs, street children, children infected by HIV/AIDS, children living in rural areas, and children living in poverty	(2) para. 28: notes efforts undertaken; concerned that BI has not yet been clearly incorporated in the domestic legislation and is not adequately respected and implemented in practice in all domains of policy affecting children.	(2) para. 32: welcomes the efforts to promote the respect of the views of the child, including the preparation of a draft law on the Children's Parliament which should institutionalize its existence and define its goals; remains concerned that traditional societal attitudes limit children in freely expressing their views.	(2) para. 9: welcomes the measures taken to strengthen the legal framework on the rights of the child and to bring the national legislation into conformity with the CRC; notes that the national legislation in some areas, inter alia corporal punishment, has still not been brought into full conformity with the CRC; see also paras. 28, 68b, 69,	(2) para. 17: noting a general increase in funds allocated to expenditures relating to children, including to basic social services; concerned that the budgetary allocations are insufficient to ensure the implementation of the CRC, including the effective functioning of the programmes and reforms undertaken; concerned at regional disparities between rural and urban areas and the fact that a large number of children living in poverty do not receive enough support.	(2) para. 7: previous COs on data-collection insufficiently addressed; para. 19: notes with appreciation the efforts to collect, analyse and disaggregate statistical data on children and child rights, including the creation of BenInfo database; concerned at insufficient data regarding the situation of children belonging to the most vulnerable groups, including child victims of violence and sexual abuse, children in alternative care, street children, children infected with HIV/AIDS, children with disabilities, and children living in poverty	(3) para. 23: takes note of the relationship between the Government and civil society and their mutual cooperation. The Committee also notes the active role played by civil society in the provision of services, particularly social services.

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20	Bhutan 2008	(2) para.25: notes efforts to improve the situation of vulnerable children, particularly those living in rural-remote areas, and CWDs; remains concerned about e.g. gender discrimination, the lack of services for CWDs, the gap of resources between rural and urban areas; para. 27: notes with appreciation that national legislation incorporates the principle of the best interests of the child. However, the Committee is concerned that this general principle is not fully applied in practice	(2) para. 27: notes with appreciation that national legislation incorporates BI; concerned that this general principle is not fully applied in practice.	(2): para. 29: notes with appreciation the measures undertaken by the State party to improve the respect for the view of the child; concerned that certain practices and customary attitudes may still limit the full implementation of the right to be heard contrary to article 12 of the Convention	(2) para. 5: welcomes that the Constitution, the Penal Code and the Civil and Criminal Procedure Code contain explicit provisions for children; welcomes the inclusion of fundamental rights in the Constitution; expresses concern that article 7.22 may be used to unduly restrict these rights by the adoption of new legislation; notes that a draft child care and protection act is expected to be adopted	(2) para. 13: notes with satisfaction that a considerable part of public expenditure is allocated to health and education and that education is prioritized for foreign assistance; regrets that the impact of budgetary allocations on the implementation of child rights has not been systematically assessed	(2) para. 17: pleased to note that the National Statistical Bureau is currently developing a database to disaggregate statistics; acknowledges the completion of the National Population and Housing Census in 2005; concerned that there still are not sufficient and reliable data in relation to children and the implementation of their rights.	(2) para. 15: notes that the State party recognizes the important role played by NGOs in carrying out, monitoring, evaluating child rights related programmes and welcomes the inclusion of civil society representatives in the NCWC. The Committee however expresses concern that the Civil Society Act of 2007 may result in restrictions on civil society organizations.
21	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	(2) para. 28: welcomes the broad definition of discrimination in the new Constitution, the creation of the National Office; concerned about the non-existence of coherent institutional and legal mechanisms to respond to the challenges of discrimination, and about the reported increase in acts of racism against indigenous peoples and afro-descendants; concerned about the significant disparities in the implementation of the rights enshrined in the CRC, reflected in a range of social indicators	(2) para. 30: notes with appreciation that BI is incorporated in the State party's legislation, notably in article 60 of the new Constitution; concerned that children are not fully treated as subjects of rights and regrets that BI is still not reflected as a primary consideration in all legislative and policy matters affecting children; further concerned that this principle is not adequately implemented by all professionals, including the judiciary.	(2) para. 32: notes that the principle of the respect for the views of the child is incorporated in legislation and that the Children's Plurinational Legislative Assembly is an interesting process of democratic elections by children themselves; concerned that the views of the child are sometimes not duly solicited or taken into account, including in judicial proceedings, at school, and in public debates; concerned that the participation of children is weak	(2) para. 7: welcomes the new Constitution which includes a section on child rights; regrets that national legislation is not in conformity with the CRC in certain areas; notes difficulties with the dual legal system and certain incompatibilities between positive law and the indigenous customary law	(2) para. 15: welcomes the efforts to improve the allocation of resources for children, such as the conditional cash transfers in the areas of health and education, but is concerned that budget allocations for children may need a longer-term perspective; concerned at the difficulty to track investment on children across sectors, departments and municipalities, as well as at the fact that areas such as child protection and justice are not yet prioritized	(2) para. 19: notes efforts made to further improve data collection mechanisms as demonstrated by recent surveys on children in school; concerned at the lack of a comprehensive system of data collection and analysis and at inadequate data on specific groups of children	(2) para. 24: takes note with appreciation of the importance that the State party gives to the participation of civil society; concerned at the lack of a strategy to ensure civil society participation in relation to the rights of the child; regrets that the State party's report was not prepared on the basis of a wide consultation
22	Bosnia and Herzegovina 2012	(2) para. 4: notes as positive the adoption of a law on discrimination; para. 29: welcomes the adoption of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination, in July 2009, and the Revised Action Plan on the Educational Needs of Roma, in July of 2010; para. 29: notes with concern that racial discrimination remains serious and widespread; including in education; Roma	(2) para. 31: noting that the principle of the best interests of the child is taken into account in most of the State party's legislation, the Committee is concerned that the principle is not adequately applied in situations concerning children deprived of a family environment	(2) para. 33: notes as positive that the State's legislation, including family laws and others, recognizes the right of children to express their views in relevant legal proceedings; notes initiation of the Enhancing the Social Protection and Inclusion System for Children programme in 2009 to support the introduction and improvement of children's participation at the community level; concerned about lack of implementation.	(2) para. 9: noting that the majority of the State's laws have been harmonized with the CRC; concerned about lack of comprehensive child rights legislation at the national level giving full and direct effect to the CRC in the State's national law; due to the State party's complex political and administrative structure (2 entities, 10 cantons and administrative districts), the absence of such legislation results in inconsistencies	(1) para. 15: noting that the State devotes significant proportions of its national budget to social protection; concerned that the majority of these expenditures are for war-related beneficiaries, resulting in insufficient funds for other persons in situations of vulnerability; para. 29: budget limitations projects on education for Roma	(2) para. 17: notes the State's efforts to collate available data relating to children through the establishment of a common DevInfo database; remains deeply concerned at the lack of statistical data relating to CRC implementation and the limited capacity of the State party's statistical offices; reiterates its concerns about the lack of a clear division of responsibilities for collection, consolidation and analysis of data; para. 41: lack of a national database on domestic violence against children, para. 51: and on children eligible for adoption; para. 76: children in conflict with the law	(2) para. 25: notes as positive the continued growth of civil society and NGOs addressing child rights in the State party; concerned that while NGOs have a major role in the provision of child protection services in the State party, they are dependent on foreign donors and remain subject to the same tax liabilities as private, profit-oriented entities; para. 81: CRC reports to be made widely available to CSOs.

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23	Botswana 2004	(1) para. 27: concerned that, as noted by the State party, the Constitution is inconsistent with the non-discrimination provision of the Convention; also concerned that societal discrimination persists against vulnerable groups of children	(1) para. 30: notes with concern the information that BI is not fully applied and duly integrated into the State party's legislation and into the implementation of the policies and programmes	(2) para. 32: welcomes the organization of a Children's Forum in 2001; remains concerned that the opinions of children are not given sufficient consideration and that respect for the views of the child remains limited within the family, at schools, in courts, administrative authorities and in the society at large	(2) para. 10: notes with appreciation the comprehensive review of the Children's Act with a view to harmonizing it with the provisions of the Convention; remains concerned that this process has been slow and that the current act is outdated and does not fully take into account the CRC; also concerned that the CRC is not incorporated in the domestic legislation and therefore cannot be invoked before a court of law. Furthermore, customary laws and traditions do not fully reflect the principles and the provisions of the Convention.	(2) para. 18: while appreciating the commitment of the State party in providing resources for social expenditure, remains concerned that budgetary allocations are insufficient to respond to national and local priorities	(2) para. 21: welcomes the statistical data provided in the written replies but is concerned at the absence of a mechanism to systematically collect and analyse disaggregated quantitative and qualitative data on persons under the age of 18 years in all areas covered by the Convention, especially the most vulnerable groups	NA
24	Brazil 2004	(2) para. 12 and 29: notes with extreme concern the dramatic inequalities; laws in place but discriminatory practices persistent	(2) para. 32: welcomes integration in Constitution and Statute of the Child and Adolescent; concern about non-systematic implementation in policies and programmes.	(2) para. 32: welcomes efforts made by state; remains concerned about traditional attitudes towards children in society	(3) paras. 4 and 13 : welcomes constitution; notes with appreciation adoption of other laws; some concern about federal states	(2) para. 4: welcomes increase of federal social expenditure; remains concerned at lack of budgetary information at state and municipal levels, and about unequal distribution	(1) para. 23: takes note of the extensive statistical data provided in the report and in the written replies to the list of issues; regrets lack of a disaggregated national data collection system	(2) para. 23: notes with appreciation cooperation, but finds that it needs to be further improved
25	Brunei Darussalam 2003	(1) para. 24: concerned that the principle of non-discrimination is not included in legislation and that discrimination, contrary to article 2 of the Convention, still persists in the State party; concerned about discrimination against girls and children born out of wedlock	(1) para. 29: concerned that, in actions concerning children, the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in article 3 CRC is not always a primary consideration, such as in matters relating to family law	(2) para. 31: noting, inter alia, the right of the child to choose who (s)he wishes to live with in cases of divorce and the presence of student councils in some schools; remains concerned that traditional attitudes towards children in society and local communities may limit respect for their views, especially within the family and schools	(2) para. 6: notes the adoption of various legislative measures with respect to children's rights, but remains concerned that they do not sufficiently reflect a comprehensive rights-based approach to the implementation of the Convention	NA	(1) para. 18: concerned at the existing lack of systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated data for all areas covered by the Convention and in relation to all groups of children	(1) para. 14: concerned that insufficient efforts have been made to involve civil society in the full implementation of the Convention and in the reporting process
26	Bulgaria 2008	(2) para. 24: noting the efforts undertaken by the State party to counter discrimination; deeply concerned at the persistent discrimination against Roma children, as well as children living in institutions and CWDs	NA	(2) para. 26: noting that the principle of the respect of the views of the child is incorporated in the Child Protection Act; concerned that traditional practices and cultural attitudes limit the full implementation of article 12 of the Convention, especially in judicial and administrative decisions; concerned that no information on children's participation was received	(2) para. 8: appreciates the steps taken by the State party to harmonize legislation in order to ensure greater consistency with the Convention, it is concerned that some aspects of domestic legislation are not consistent with the CRC	(2) para. 16: noting the increase of funds budgeted for specific child rights programmes, the Committee is concerned at the inadequate State annual budget allocated for areas affecting children including for health, education and social assistance in general; concerned about corruption	(2) para. 18: commends the State party for having set up a data collection system which is active in eight regions of the country; regrets that disaggregated data on many areas of the CRC are not available such as on children victims of violence, CWDs, child labour, street children, economic and sexual exploitation, and marginalized children; regrets that the State party does not have a centralized system of data collection.	(2) para. 22: welcoming the efforts undertaken by the State party to establish relationships between the Government and civil society including NGOs; concerned that cooperation with NGOs with regard to preparation of the report as well as to the implementation of the Convention remains insufficient.

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27	Burkina Faso 2010	(1) para. 26: reiterates the concern previously expressed at the persistence of de facto discrimination against children belonging to the most vulnerable groups, such as CWDs, children living in rural areas, girls	(2) para. 28: noting that the principle of the best interests of the child is reflected as a general principle in some legislation concerning children, the Committee expresses concern at the insufficient information provided by the State party on how it is taken into consideration and effectively applied in State party legislative, administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children	(2) para. 32: while noting the Child Parliament, expresses concern at the lack of information provided by the State party about respect for the views of the child and at the absence of legal recognition of this right, specifically in schools and communities	(2) para. 8: commends the State party for the significant legislative reform undertaken in the field of child rights and the elaboration of a child code as previously recommended; concerned that the draft code does not include all the principles and provisions of the Convention and is restricted to children in conflict with the law	(2) para. 7: previous COs not sufficiently implemented; para. 16: noting that an increasing part of the State party budget is devoted to education and health; remains concerned at the low proportion of budgetary resources devoted to implementation; concerned that the sector of social action and national solidarity receives less than 1 per cent; absence of specific allocations for children; concern about corruption.	(2) para. 18: noting the establishment of a permanent data collection system in 2002; concern that this system is not yet operational, as reflected by the lack of up-to-date, comprehensive and disaggregated data and information in the report of the State party on all the areas covered by the Convention; also concerned that the population census of 2006 was not used to collect data on children	(2) para. 22: commends the assertion of the State party as to the necessity to better coordinate the efforts of all stakeholders working on child rights; notes that the Permanent Secretariat of the National Action Plan for the Survival, Protection and Development of Children lacks a comprehensive view of all the organizations /associations working in this field
28	Burundi 2010	(2) para. 8: previous COs on discrimination Batwa minority not sufficiently addressed; para. 29: notes as positive that article 22 of the Constitution incorporates the principle of non-discrimination; remains concerned that de facto discrimination of children vis-à-vis girls, children born out of wedlock, albino children, children belonging to the Batwa minority and those placed into kafala families	(2) para. 31: welcomes the recognition of BI in article 44 of the Constitution and the Family Code in relation to parental responsibility; remains concerned that BI is neither incorporated into all current legislation concerning children, nor sufficiently applied in practice, in particular in judicial and administrative decisions	(2) para. 35: taking note of the State party's commitment to establish a children's forum; concern at the fact that children from poor households, out-of-school children, orphans and children in street situations are deprived of their right to participation in decision-making processes including in civil, penal, judicial and administrative proceedings	(2) para. 9: welcoming the efforts made to harmonize legislation with the CRC; concerned that plans to adopt a comprehensive legal instrument gathering all provisions relating to the rights of children have not yet been completed; concerned that customary laws and practices are not in conformity with the CRC	(2) para. 18: while noting efforts to reduce military expenditure, is concerned that the percentage of total budget allocated to social infrastructure and social services including health, education, water and sanitation remains insufficient	(2) para. 20: noting the establishment of the socio-economic database developed by the Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies; concerned at the inadequacy of the existing database on children in general, and in particular data in relation to children in vulnerable situations	(2) para. 26: noting the State party's information on the involvement of civil society in the elaboration of national policies regarding children's rights; nevertheless concerned that CSOs have not been involved in the follow-up to the Committee's previous COs or afforded adequate opportunities to present their views during the preparation of the State party's second periodic report
29	Cambodia 2011	(1) para. 7: previous COs on non-discrimination insufficiently addressed; para. 28: concern about increasing inequities and disparities in the enjoyment of rights among children living in rural areas, children belonging to ethnic minorities are in a particularly disadvantaged situation as regards access to health, education and welfare; gender	(2) para. 30: welcomes progress made to incorporate the general principle of the best interests of the child into domestic legislation; concerned about the lack of concrete information on how the best interests of the child are taken into consideration into policies and programmes;	(2) para. 34: notes with appreciation that numerous consultations with children were organized during the preparation of the State party's report and the drafting of the National Plan of Action on Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation (2005-2013); concerned about the persistence of traditional attitudes which limit children's rights to express their views in decision-making procedures affecting them and about the absence of a policy and supportive mechanism to promote child participation;	(2) para. 8: welcoming the Constitutional Council Decision that the courts must consider the CRC when interpreting Cambodian law and deciding cases; notes the adoption of numerous child-related pieces of legislation and the indication given during the interactive dialogue that the State party is developing a comprehensive child-protection law; para. 40: there is legislation prohibiting corporal punishment, but not by parents and not for disciplinary purposes.	(1) para. 16: limited human, technical and financial resources are devoted to child protection and social welfare, with most of the current services being financed by development partners; concerned that in spite of the significant economic growth in the State, the budget devoted to social sectors has only increased half as much as in other areas since 2007, and the budget dedicated to education is only 1.9 per cent of GDP; further notes with serious concern that corruption remains pervasive and continues to divert resources.	(2) para. 18: commends the State party for the significant efforts made to develop databases, notably on child victims of trafficking and children in alternative care settings; concerned that insufficient data have been collected in some areas covered by the Convention: children with disabilities, and that data collection mechanisms remain fragmented; further concerned that there is insufficient coordination among the relevant ministries to ensure the setting up of a systematic and comprehensive disaggregated database covering all areas of the Convention	(1) para. 24: expresses deep concern over threats, harassment, physical attacks and arrests of human rights defenders in the State party, especially those who defend the right of families and children to housing; CSOs often remain excluded from the development of policies, laws and strategies on children

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30	Cameroon 2010	(1) para. 27: deeply concerned at the persistence of de facto discrimination among children; especially girls, indigenous children, children with disabilities, refugee children, children from poor rural areas, and children in street situations, traditions of male heirs;	(2) para. 29: notes the efforts made to take into account the best interests of the child, including in judicial procedures and in penal and administrative matters; remains concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not incorporated into all current legislation, nor sufficiently applied in practice; par. 47: non-compliance with the principle of the best interests of the child in adoption cases	(2) para. 31: notes the progress made, especially through youth municipal councils, student governments and a youth parliament; acknowledges with satisfaction the inclusion in the National Youth Policy and Action Plan of the right of children to express their views; regrets that the youth parliament has not been institutionalized yet and that the views of the child are not systematically taken into account; also regrets the lack of information on the participation of children in judicial and administrative proceedings, and in decision-making in the home; para. 57: notes Programme on the Participation and Development of the Adolescent	(3) para. 3: notes with appreciation the adoption of legislation providing protection for the rights of the child; para. 9: notes with interest that several laws and regulations have been elaborated since the initial report of the State party; notes with appreciation the elaboration of a draft code on child protection and a draft code on persons and family; para. 25: notes the efforts of the State party to harmonize its legislation with the Convention; para. 82: concerned at the absence of legislation guaranteeing the rights of indigenous children.	(2) Para. 7: welcomes the measures taken by the State party to fight corruption; notes with appreciation that the State has increased the budget allocated to the various ministries responsible for the realization of children's rights; expresses concern at the insufficient budget allocations to ensure the rights of the child; inappropriate use of allocated resources, and the persistence of corruption, including at local levels, which hampers the implementation of children's rights, as well as the lack of transparency in budgetary allocations; para. 65: remains concerned over the low budgetary allocation for education	(2) para. 29: welcomes the adoption in 2008 of a comprehensive National Strategy for the Development of Statistics and the plans to establish a new monitoring and evaluation system; concerned at the constraints and difficulties facing the National Institute of Statistics in collecting and analysing data and information on children; also concerned at the lack of reliable data that is disaggregated, and on children with disabilities, children in street situations, and children victims of child labour, trafficking and sexual exploitation; para. 49: continuing lack of official data on the abuse and neglect of children; par. 74: idem on trafficking	(2) para. 23: notes the efforts made to cooperate with civil society; concerned at the limited cooperation between the State party and civil society in the implementation of the Convention; regrets the limited participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the preparation of the present report, the lack of transparency in the legal procedure to grant NGO status, as well as the limited number of NGOs working on children's rights that are recognized by the state.
31	Canada 2012	(2) para. 8: urges to address previous concluding observations that have not been or insufficiently implemented including on non-discrimination; para. 32: welcoming the State's efforts to address discrimination and promote intercultural understanding, such as the Stop Racism national video contest, nevertheless concerned at the continued prevalence of discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, gender, socio-economic background, national origin and other grounds.	(1) Para. 34: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not widely known, appropriately integrated and consistently applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and in policies, programmes and projects relevant to and with an impact on children; not appropriately applied in asylum-seeking, refugee and/or immigration detention situations (cf. para. 73).	(2) Para. 36: welcomes the Yukon Supreme Court decision (2010) which ruled that all children have the right to be heard in custody cases; concerned that there are inadequate mechanisms for facilitating meaningful and empowered child participation in legal, policy, environmental issues, and administrative processes that impact children.	(2) para. 8: urges to address previous concluding observations that have not been or insufficiently implemented including on legislation; para. 10: welcoming numerous legislative actions related to the implementation of the Convention; remains concerned at the absence of legislation that comprehensively covers the full scope of the Convention in national law; notes that given the State party's federal system and dualist legal system, the absence of such overall national legislation has resulted in fragmentation	(2) Para. 16: Bearing in mind that the State party is one of the most affluent economies of the world and that it invests sizeable amounts of resources in child-related programmes, the Committee notes that the State party does not use a child-specific approach for budget planning and allocation in the national and provinces/territories level budgets, thus making it practically impossible to identify, monitor, report and evaluate the impact of investments in children and the overall application of the Convention in budgetary terms;	(1) para. 8: urges to address previous concluding observations that have not been or insufficiently implemented including on data; Para. 20: notes with concern the limited progress made to establish a national, comprehensive data collection system covering all areas of the Convention; notes that the complex data collection systems utilize different definitions, concepts, approaches, and structures across provinces and territories, which makes it difficult to assess progress to strengthen the implementation of the Convention; also see paras. 57, 59a and 79 for gaps.	NA

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32	Cape Verde 2001	(1) Para. 26: concerned that the principle of non-discrimination is not fully reflected in the State's legislation, administrative and judicial decisions, policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local level; Para. 28: concerned that the Constitution does not prohibit discrimination against children with disabilities and that discrimination against women, which may have an impact on their children, remains commonplace in practice;	(1) Para. 26: concerned that the principle of best interests of the child (art. 3) is not fully reflected in the State's legislation, administrative and judicial decisions, policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels.	(1) Para. 26: concerned that the principle of respect for the views of the child (art. 12) is not fully reflected in the State's legislation, administrative and judicial decisions, policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels; Para. 31: noting the State's efforts, including both the establishment of a children's parliament and efforts in 1998 to raise awareness of the children's right to participate; remains concerned that this right is not adequately respected in the context of, inter alia, the family, schools and policy-making	(2) Para. 8: noting the recent efforts to amend the Minors Code and the Family Code, remains concerned that further strengthening of legislation is required;	(2) Para. 18: noting the State's provision of significant proportions of its budgetary resources to sectors of benefit to children; remains concerned that the lack of adequate data makes it difficult to assess accurately the investment made directly for the CRC's implementation; concerned that additional resources are urgently required for securing respect for the economic, social and cultural rights.	(1) Para. 14: concerned at the lack of the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated data for all areas covered by the Convention and in relation to all groups of children in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved and assess the impact of policies adopted;	(1) Para. 20: concerned that civil society, including NGOs, was not sufficiently involved in the process of drafting the State party's report and has been insufficiently implicated in CRC implementation;
33	Central African Republic 2000	(1) Para. 28: concerned that there is extensive discrimination against girls in particular regarding access to education and inheritance rights; discrimination against children with disabilities and against minority populations, including Pygmies	(1) Para. 30: concerned that the best interests of children are not respected	(1) para. 34: joins the State party in expressing its concern for the limited respect given to the views of children, including as a result of customary and traditional practices, in schools and in the family and particularly within rural communities.	(1) para. 12: concerned at the lack of an appropriate legal framework, with the judicial system still reliant upon colonial-era legislation which is not always appropriate to the current situation	(1) para. 18: concerned that an insufficient proportion of budgetary resources is devoted to implementing the provisions of the Convention; para 30: non-observance best interests principle linked to the location of insufficient resources for the respect and protection of children's rights	(1) para. 20: that the State party lacks sufficient data for the formulation and implementation of policy on child rights	(1) para. 22: concerned that civil society is under-resourced, insufficiently well organized and consequently unable to contribute fully to the implementation of children's rights; concerned also at the absence of a single coalition of NGOs focusing on child rights.
34	Chad 2009	(2) para. 30: welcomes that Chadian legislation accords the same juridical status to children born in and out of wedlock; welcomes that the draft law provides for the registration of all children born on the State party's territory, including children of refugees; notes with regret that while articles 13 and 14 of the Constitution affirm the principle of non-discrimination, including equality between the sexes, de facto discrimination between boys and girls exists, particularly in the areas of education and succession and inheritance.	(2) para. 33: welcomes that the principle of the "best interests of the child" is taken into account in the draft child protection code and by the court, in some instances such as divorce proceedings, in its decision making; notes with regret that there are only a few references to this principle in legislation, projects and programmes relating to children.	(2) para. 35: notes that children of a certain age/maturity have the right to express their point of view on certain questions, such as adoption or custody issues; notes with appreciation the Children's Parliament; welcomes the State party's indication that children are involved in the elaboration and implementation of policies and programmes concerning them; regrets that the Chadian legal system does not impose a systematic obligation to hear the views of the child when a decision is to be taken in matters affecting him/her; notes with concern that children do not have the right, under Chadian law, to initiate legal proceedings.	(3) para. 11: notes with interest that many laws and regulations have been elaborated by the State party in order to ensure the harmonization of its legislation with the Convention, such as the draft child protection code, the draft code on the person and the family and the draft penal code; welcomes the promulgation of an Act on reproductive health, which, inter alia, provides protection against FGM, early marriage, domestic violence and sexual violence;	(1) para. 20: notes that, in real terms, budget allocations to the health and education sectors may have increased only marginally, if at all; concerned that these allocations may still not be enough to achieve the MDGs related to child health and education; that the transfer of funds to the decentralized levels of government remains a challenge and that the Ministry for Social Action and the Family, which is responsible for the implementation of the CRC does not receive adequate financial and human resources to carry out its work.	(2) para. 22: recognizes that considerable efforts were put into a demographic and health survey in 2004, but data were not updated; concerned that the National Institute of Statistics is not adequately staffed and financed in order to systematically collect data needed to assess progress achieved in the implementation of child rights, in particular with regard to children from vulnerable groups.	(2) para. 26: welcomes the state's collaboration with NGOs and international donors in the delivery of services and programmes for children and notes the state's indication that civil society is often represented or consulted in actions taken by the government; concerned about reports that some human rights advocates have experienced intimidation, threats and violence at the hands of government agencies.

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35	Chile 2007	(2) para. 5: call to implement earlier CO on non-discrimination; para. 29: recognises the policy measures undertaken to advance the implementation of the principle of non-discrimination, in particular in health services; remains concerned that certain vulnerable groups, including indigenous, migrant and refugee children, children with disabilities, as well as children from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds and those living in rural areas, continue to be victims of discrimination, particularly in their reduced access to education; notes the prevalence of gender based discrimination; concerned that homosexual relations, including those of persons under 18 years old, continue to be criminalized, indicating discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation; see also paras. 63 and 73	(1) para. 32: concerned that current legislation and policy fail to take into account the principle of the best interests of the child;	(2) par. 34: recognises as positive the increased participation of children and adolescents in student organizations; notes that the views of children are inadequately taken into account when designing policies relating to e.g. family and criminal justice;	(2) para. 5: call to implement earlier CO on legislation; para. 7: welcomes the incorporation of numerous articles on child rights in the Constitution and numerous legislative amendments; regrets that the reform of the Juvenile Act has not been completed; para. 63: regrets that the State party has still not adopted adequate legislation in accordance with international obligations for refugee protection; para. 71: concerned about the new legislation regarding juvenile justice that allows for deprivation of liberty for up to 5 years for adolescents between 14 and 16 and the application of penal responses for children under 14 in certain circumstances.	(2) para. 16: welcomes the increased allocation for social expenditure, in particular in the areas of education and health; remains concerned that unequal distribution of State funds continues to have a negative impact on the well-being of children, in particular affecting those from more vulnerable sectors of society, such as indigenous peoples and female headed households; para. 53: welcomes the substantially increased budget allocations in the public expenditure for health; para. 61: welcomes the considerable budget allocations for education	(2) para. 20: welcomes the progress made in the compilation of statistical data and information, in particular through the Index de infancia, however it is concerned over the lack of disaggregated data, in particular regarding vulnerable groups and disparities between urban and rural areas; para. 40: notes the lack of statistical data on the number of reported cases of corporal punishment;	(2) para. 25: welcomes the initiative establishing an advisory committee of civil society for children and adolescents in 2003; regrets that cooperation with civil society is still limited.
36	China 2013	(1) para. 25: deeply concerned at the continuous violations of the rights of and discrimination against Tibetan and Uighur children and children of Falun Gong practitioners in mainland China, including their right to freedom of religion, language and culture. ... further concerned about the persistence of discrimination against children with disabilities, children of migrant workers, refugee and asylum-seeking children, and children infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS, particularly in relation to education, housing, health care and other social services; para. 27: deeply concerned about the pervasive discrimination against girls and women in mainland China.	(2) para. 31: concerned that the best interests of the child is not always fully reflected and incorporated in key child-related acts and policies in mainland China, Hong Kong, China and Macao, China. While welcoming the statement that in Hong Kong, China the best interests of the child are necessary considerations which are paramount in all relevant decision-making ... concerned about the lack of general legislation providing for the best interests of the child; para. 53: concerned that the best interests of the child are not sufficiently considered in family crisis situations.	(2) para. 37: notes the establishment of child participation forums, concerned about the lack of effective and broad mechanisms ... to promote and facilitate respect for the views of all children and children's participation in all matters affecting them; para. 53: concerned that ... the right of the child to be heard are not sufficiently considered in family crisis situations.	(2) para. 3: welcomes the adoption of certain legislative measures; para. 53: concerned about the absence of procedures for regular review of the placement of children in care ... and the lack of legislation on the termination of parental rights when necessary; para. 96: regrets that the efforts to ensure measures to protect child victims and witnesses are insufficient and not properly reflected in the State party's legislation	(1) para. 12: seriously concerned about inadequate resources allocated to local governments for the implementation of children's rights; para. 13a: concerned that budget allocations from the central Government and funding for policies and plans concerning children's rights ... are inadequate (gross domestic product allocation to health and education is 1.4 per cent and 4 per cent, respectively) and depend on provincial and lower-level resources, resulting in sharp inequities in public resource allocations; para. 62: gaps in the allocation of health resources between urban and rural areas;	(1) para. 15: reiterates its concern about the limited public accessibility to reliable and comprehensive statistical data in mainland China in all areas covered by the CRC ... particularly concerned that due to laws and regulations on guarding State secrets in mainland China, disaggregated data and important statistics critical for effective implementation and monitoring of the CRC are often not available in the State party; para. 17: While noting some progress in Macao, China ... reiterates its concern that a comprehensive and reliable data collection system is still not in place there, nor in Hong Kong, China; data concerning children is scattered among different departments; and there is a lack of disaggregated data on children under 18 years in some areas of the CRC.	(1) para. 8: concerned about the lack of participation of independent experts and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the assessment and evaluation of plans and policies on children; para. 21: deeply concerned about the obstacles faced by NGOs and the limited scope for human rights defenders and journalists to report, inter alia, on children's rights violations in mainland China due to continuous threats, police harassment, enforced disappearances and arrests of human rights defenders. ... further notes with serious concern reports of government persecution of families, including children of human rights activists and dissidents, and retaliation against and harassment of families advocating for children's rights, as in the case of parents seeking accountability for the deaths of children due to the collapse of schools during the 2008 Sichuan earthquake

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37	Colombia 2006	(1) para. 6: some previous COs insufficiently or only partly addressed, including those related to non-discrimination; para. 35: deeply concerned that widespread discrimination exists towards certain vulnerable groups, such as displaced children, Afro-Colombian and indigenous children and children living in rural and remote areas.	(1) para. 38: concerned that current legislation and policy fail to take into account the principle of the best interests of the child;	(1) para. 46: notes that the views of children are inadequately taken into account in the family, schools and other institutions.	(2) para. 6: some previous COs insufficiently or only partly addressed, including those related to legislation; para. 8: welcomes the incorporation of numerous articles on child rights into the Constitution, which also affirms that international instruments ratified by Colombia prevail over domestic legislation; regrets that the reform of the inadequate Minors' Code 1989 has not yet been completed despite 10 years of debate and numerous calls by the UN for amendments	(1) para. 16: concerned that departmental and municipal authorities fail to shoulder their responsibility to include and prioritize resources for children in their policy and budget planning; para. 20: regrets the lack of clear information on budget allocations, concerned that one of the major causes of poverty in Colombia is the unequal distribution of State funds, which severely impacts on the well-being of children, in particular in vulnerable sectors of society; deeply concerned over the declining expenditure for education, health and welfare services.	(2) para. 6: some previous COs insufficiently or only partly addressed, including those related to data collection; para. 26: welcomes the statistical data and information provided in the report and the written replies; concerned that disaggregated data is lacking, in particular on vulnerable groups and disparities between urban and rural areas. The absence of such information is a serious obstacle	(1) para. 31: concerned that the role of civil society and in particular of NGOs is rather limited in the promotion and implementation of the CRC; considers that the State party does not take fully into account the importance of an active and diverse civil society; regrets that the work of human rights advocates has been impugned by senior officials.
38	Comores 2000	(1) para. 7: concern about non-accession to CERD; para. 23: expresses its concern at patterns of discrimination on grounds of gender, religion, ethnic origin, disability and birth or other status (e.g., children born out of wedlock)	NA	(1) para. 25: seriously concerned at the way in which the principle of respect for the views of the child is interpreted in the State party; concern about the insufficiency of the measures taken to promote the participation of children in the family, in the community, at school and in other social institutions, as well as to ensure the effective enjoyment of their fundamental freedoms, including freedom of opinion, expression and association.	(2) para. 9: aware that a study on the compatibility between the Convention and domestic legislation has been undertaken, remains concerned about the lack of harmonization between domestic legislation and the CRC; concerned about the difficulties experienced in finalizing the adoption of new or amended legislation, including the draft family code; para. 21: lack of a uniform and clear definition of the age of majority in the Comoran legislation is a matter of concern	(1) para. 14: expresses concern at the lack of information on the current allocation of resources in favour of children, particularly in a context of widespread poverty;	(1) para. 15: recommends that the State party develop and implement a data collection system relevant to the implementation of the Convention;	NA
39	Congo 2014	(2) para. 28: welcomes measures taken by the State party to strengthen national legislation guaranteeing the principle of non-discrimination, including the law on the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples. Nevertheless, concerned by the slow implementation of such legislation and regrets that the Constitution has yet to be amended to prohibit discrimination on any grounds covered by the Convention... expresses its strong concern about the lack of systematic efforts to combat and change discriminatory attitudes and practices	(1) para. 30: concerned about the lack of information on the State party's efforts to ensure the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration in all actions concerning children, and to apply that right in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings, as well as in policies and programmes relating to children	(1) para. 32: recalls its concern that the general principle of respect for the views of the child is not fully respected and applied ... notes with concern the lack of progress in adopting the law on the inclusion of the Parliament of the Congolese Child in the parliamentary process	(2) para. 10: takes note of the efforts by the State party to review its legal framework on the rights of the child with the aim of bringing national legislation into line with the Convention ... notes with concern that the Convention has still not been fully domesticated in national legislation and that the draft law on the modernization of the justice system has not yet been adopted	(1) para. 16: notes with concern that, despite earnings from the country's oil sector, the State party's social indicators have not improved and investment in the social sectors continues to be insufficient for all children to fully exercise their rights ... noting the increased spending earmarked by the Ministry of Social Affairs for children belonging to vulnerable groups, the Committee is concerned that the measure is benefiting only children from the capital. The Committee also notes that corruption remains pervasive, despite efforts by the State party to eliminate it	(2) para. 18: welcomes the State's efforts to improve the availability of data ... regrets the absence of a comprehensive system for data collection in the State party ... notes with concern that reliable, disaggregated data on important areas of the Convention are not available and that there is insufficient coordination and collaboration among government agencies regarding data collection	(2) para. 24: notes with appreciation the contribution of civil society organizations to the implementation of activities related to the rights of the child. While welcoming the overall provision of services for children by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the Committee is concerned that the State party appears to delegate provision of services to NGOs as contractors or in its place ... expresses its concern that, even though they serve the public interest, many civil society organizations face challenges, as they are not recognized as State-approved organizations

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40	Cook Islands	(1) para. 25: concerned that due to geographical constraints and limited allocation of funds, only a minimum of services in the areas of health and education is provided to children living in the Outer Islands; while noting the ongoing reforms, concerned about the existence of various discriminatory provisions in the present Crimes Act relating to girls with disabilities and boys victims of sexual abuse and in the Cook Islands' Act 1915 related to the adoption of children of non-Cook Islands' origin;	(2) para. 27: notes with appreciation the envisaged inclusion of the principle of the best interests of the child in the Family Law Bill; concerned about the lack of reference to the principle of the best interests of the child in most of the laws concerning children, in judicial and administrative decisions, and policies and programmes relevant to children.	(2) para. 29: notes the State's efforts to encourage children to have their opinions and views expressed, but concerned about the traditional societal attitudes towards children, in particular children with disabilities and child victims of sexual abuse that hamper the realization of this principle; concerned about the limited opportunities for the child to express his/her own views in the family and in the community and in particular about the lack of effective children's councils in all schools.	(2) para. 5b: welcomes the establishment of a ministerial working group in 2006 that works together with the Law Commission on aligning domestic legislation with the CRC and CEDAW; para. 8: notes the steps undertaken to bring national legislation in compliance with the CRC, including through the ongoing legal review carried out by the Law Commission; remains concerned at the slow progress of the legal review and at the fact that some pieces of domestic legislation remain inconsistent with the principles and provisions of the CRC; para. 41: inadequate legislation on intercountry adoptions; para. 51: lack of legislation concerning drug trafficking	(2) para. 15: appreciates the steps taken to allocate higher investments in health promotion and early childhood education; concern at the limited resources allocated for the Outer Islands; notes the limited information provided on overall allocations to children and the lack of capacity to monitor the allocation and impact of resources from a child rights perspective; para. 16b: recommends to develop capacity to utilize a child rights approach in the elaboration of the national budget by implementing a tracking system for the allocation and the use of resources for children throughout the budget, thus providing visibility to the investment in children;	(2) para. 17: noting the information provided by State party's delegation during the dialogue concerning its plan to consolidate all data available on children; the Committee expresses its concern about the absence of an effective system of data collection covering all areas of the Convention; para. 53: notes with concern the lack of data on school drop-out and absenteeism rates in secondary schools; para. 55: lack of data on the number of teenage pregnancies that derive from incest or rape;	(1) para. 21: concerned that the State party delegates many of its training obligations under the CRC to the civil society, including NGOs who may lack the necessary capacities or financial resources to carry out these training; para. 39: while appreciative of the State's cooperation with CS actors and with the church with regard to housing children in distress, alarmed about the State's over reliance on non-State actors for offering protection of abused children;
41	Costa Rica 2011	(1) para. 8: urges state party to address previous COs on discrimination against indigenous children and children belonging to other minorities; para. 29: remains concerned about continued discriminatory attitudes and prejudices against indigenous children, children of African descent, Nicaraguan and other migrant children;	(1) para. 32: urges the State party to strengthen its efforts to ensure that the principle of the best interests of the child is appropriately integrated and consistently applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings as well as in all policies, programmes and projects relevant to and with an impact on children; legal reasoning of all judicial and administrative judgments and decisions should also be based on this principle.	(1) para. 33: notes with concern that the views and special linguistic requirements of children and adolescents are not adequately taken into account in judicial and administrative decision-making processes, including at the municipal level and within the local Protection Boards established by the Children and Adolescents Code.	(2) para. 9: notes the efforts made towards strengthening the legal and normative framework related to the implementation of the CRC; para. 52: inadequate legislation on adoption; para. 55: notes with concern that it has not adopted any implementing legislation or an integrated policy to protect the rights of children with disabilities; para. 73: welcoming the recent legislation adopted by the State party to protect children from the worst forms of child labour	(2) para. 16: the National Child Welfare Agency (PANI) was exempt from recent budget cuts affecting all public institutions; remains concerned that the continued lack of an adequate and stable budget for all public institutions dealing with the comprehensive promotion and protection of child rights, both at the national and local levels, may undermine their effectiveness; para. 67: welcomes art. 78 of the Political Constitution which increases the budget for education to 8% of GDP; takes note of the efforts made by the State party to provide financial subsidies; no dedicated budget for combatting child labour	(2) para. 8: urges state party to address previous COs on data collection; takes note of the current efforts to strengthen Statistical Information System on the Rights of Children and Adolescents, with a view to obtaining disaggregated statistical data on all areas covered by the CRC, and the establishment of an Observatory for analysis, in cooperation with civil society; regrets the lack of disaggregated data on the implementation of children's rights with particular attention to children at risk, such as children with disabilities, indigenous children and children affected by migration; para. 61: no information provided on mental health issues; para. 73: absence of updated statistical data on the number of child and adolescent workers	(2) para. 23: welcomes the general cooperation with civil society organizations but takes note of the State party's observation that coordination between the public and private sectors needs to be improved, including in the report preparation process

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42	Côte d'Ivoire 2001	(1) para. 22: noting that discrimination is prohibited under the Constitution, the Committee is concerned at the persistence of discrimination in the State party; concerned at the occurrence of discrimination against non-citizen children, children with disabilities, children born out of wedlock, children from ethnic minorities, Muslim children and girls;	NA	(2) para. 26: welcoming the existence of a Children's Parliament; concerned that respect for the views of the child remains limited within the family, in schools, in the courts and in the society at large, due to traditional attitudes; para. 37: recommends that appropriate weight be given to children's views in legal proceedings	(2) para. 8: notes that a study was undertaken to identify the inconsistencies between domestic legislation and the CRC; remains concerned that domestic legislation, and in particular customary law, still does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the CRC; para. 21: disparities in legislation regarding minimum-age requirements;	(2) para. 14: noting the priorities set by the State party on policies for children, notably the efforts to increase the budget allocated to education, the Committee expresses its concern that insufficient attention has been paid to article 4 of the Convention regarding the implementation to the "maximum extent of ... available resources" of the economic, social and cultural rights of children.	(1) para. 16: concerned at the lack of systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated data for all areas covered by the CRC and in relation to all groups of children	NA
43	Croatia 2014	(2) para. 20: welcoming the adoption of the Act against Discrimination and the Act on Gender Equality, in 2008, and other efforts undertaken to counter discrimination, such as amending the Penal Code to include hate crimes ... concerned that de facto discrimination against children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations continues to be prevalent and that the number of complaints received by the Ombudsperson for Children relating to discrimination against children, in particular Roma children in the field of education, has risen	(2) para. 22: welcomes the inclusion of the principle of the best interests of the child in the State party's legislation and policy documents, as well as its consideration by judges in decisions affecting children ... remains concerned that the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration is not applied consistently and that there is a lack of systematic training and guidance for relevant authorities	(2) para. 24: notes that the right to be heard is included in a number of laws, ... and that Children Town and County Councils have been established. However, ... concerned that: (a) Children's views are not adequately taken into account in practice in all matters that affect them, including judicial and administrative proceedings; ... (c) Traditional societal attitudes towards children continue to place restrictions on respect for their views in the family, schools, other institutions and society at large; (d) Existing National School Students Councils and Youth Councils are not functioning effectively; (e) Consent to medical intervention for children under the age of 18 can only be given by the child's representative.	(2) para. 6: ... welcoming the progress made by the State party in harmonizing its legislation with the CRC, ... remains concerned about the lack of effective and full implementation of all legislation relevant to the CRC. In particular, ... concerned that: (a) Laws are frequently changed, which leads to inconsistent implementation and legal uncertainty; (b) Insufficient time and space is provided for public debates and the involvement of all stakeholders, before the adoption of laws; ... (d) The adoption of subsidiary legislation necessary for implementation is often protracted.	(2) para. 12: While welcoming the State party's commitment, expressed during the dialogue, that, in times of fiscal and budgetary constraints, efforts are made to sustain social investment for, and the social protection of, children, ... expresses its concern at the negative effects of austerity measures on public spending, which affect benefits and services provided to families with children, especially the Roma, as well as the high level of corruption. ... reiterates its concern about the lack of disaggregated data with regard to resources allocated for children at the national and local levels.	(2) para. 14: While noting that some progress has been made with regard to statistical data collection, the Committee reiterates its concern that data available through official statistics are not representative of the situation of all children, especially children belonging to different ethnic groups and children living in vulnerable situations. In particular, the Committee is concerned that data are not disaggregated and are presented in age groups that do not correspond to the definition of the child, as provided for in the Convention, or they focus on adults; some of the data relevant for understanding the situation of children in the State party are not systematically registered, such as data on school dropouts; and challenges regarding consistency and reliability of data remain	(1) para. 7: In the light of its previous recommendations ... recommends that the State party Promote and facilitate regular public debates and the active involvement of children and civil society organizations, before adopting draft laws

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44	Cuba 2011	(2) para. 24: while welcoming the initiatives taken to combat patriarchal attitudes and deep-rooted gender stereotypes regarding the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family, concerned that such attitudes are still widespread and persistent, leading to domestic violence against women and children;	(2) para. 26: acknowledges the reference in the report of the State party that the principle of the best interests of the child is incorporated in the administrative and judicial components of the national legislation, but concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not duly integrated in the legislation as it does not fully consider children as persons entitled to individual rights, in conformity with article 3(1) CRC.	(2) para. 28: welcoming the adoption of Instruction 187/07 (2008), which provides for the views of children over 7 years to be heard in family proceedings on parental authority involving them; concerned at the lack of information on whether the children's views are systematically sought and taken into consideration with regard to other decisions that might affect them, including judicial and administrative proceedings, policy-making processes, as well as in schools and care institutions.	(2) para. 6: taking note of the information provided by the delegation regarding the efforts to undertake a revision of domestic legislation to harmonize it with the CRC; reiterates its concern about the national legislation in force in the State party, which was enacted before the CRC, in particular the Family Code (1975), the Child and Youth Code (1978) and the Law on Adoption, Alternative Care Settings and Foster Families (Decree-Act No. 76 of 1984); concerned about the difficulties adopting new or amended legislation, including the draft Family Code; para. 16: remains concerned that because the principles of the CRC are not fully integrated in the legislation currently in force	NA	(2) para. 14: takes note of the efforts currently undertaken to strengthen its Statistical Information System on the Rights of Children and Adolescents, in particular the development of a statistical application using the DevInfo 6.0 platform; regrets the lack of disaggregated data on e.g. children in alternative care institutions, children in conflict with the law, children deprived of their liberty, as well as children engaged in prostitution.	(2) para. 18: takes note of the information provided during the dialogue about the existence of over 2,200 registered civil society organizations in Cuba; but concerned that CSOs are often viewed as being strictly linked to the government; concerned that Cuban civil society is not fully independent and has not been sufficiently involved or consulted in policy formulation and programme development on children, nor in the reporting process to the CRC.
45	Cyprus 2012	(2) para. 21: notes the draft Law for the Welfare, Care and Protection of Children, which incorporates the principle of non-discrimination as a general principle in all legal proceedings, including administrative and/or judicial proceedings; remains concerned that there continues to be discrimination against children of Turkish origin and other minorities.	(1) para. 23: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not widely known, appropriately integrated or consistently applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and all policies, programmes and projects relevant to and with an impact on children	(2) para. 27: commends the State party for establishing an effective and active children's parliament; welcomes the establishment of the Cyprus Youth Board, which allows youth to provide advice on policies affecting them and supports the implementation of youth-related programmes that have been approved by the Council of Ministers; concerned that the Youth Board has not been allocated adequate funding and resources; the views of children are not always taken into account in judicial proceedings; respect for the views of children in the general context of Cypriot society is not well understood and respected.	(2) para. 8: call to implement previous COs on legislation; para. 9: notes that progress has been made in a number of areas; but concerned that the State party's draft Law for the Welfare, Care and Protection of Children has yet to be implemented. In that context, there continues to be prolonged and serious gaps in the protection of child rights.	(2) para. 15: significantly increased the financial resources allocated to programmes and services benefiting families in general; but regrets that the State party has been unable to provide information on the budget and adopt a budgeting process that takes into account child rights;	(1) para. 8: call to implement previous COs on data collection; para. 17: remains deeply concerned that the State party has no centralized national registry for the collection of data, with individual ministries and services implementing separate data collection systems which are not interlinked or coordinated; also concerned at the severe lack of disaggregated data with regard to, inter alia, urban/rural residence, membership of minority group, ethnicity, religion and disability; para. 35c: lack of statistical data on violence in the family	NA

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46	Czech Republic 2011	(2) para. 7: call to implement previous COs on non-discrimination; para. 30: notes with appreciation the State party's acknowledgement of the severity of the discrimination faced by the Roma population in its territory and also welcomes the various non-discrimination awareness-raising campaigns and projects undertaken; deeply concerned that there continue to be serious and widespread issues of discrimination, particularly against the minority Roma children in the State party, including the systemic and unlawful segregation of children of Roma origin from mainstream education	(2) para. 32: notes with appreciation the State party's assurance, during its dialogue with the Committee, that it was applying the principle of the best interests of the child in various programmes, including the National Action Plan to Transform and Unify the System of Care for Vulnerable Children (2009) and the National Action Plan for Inclusive Education (2010); concerned about the continued lack of reference to the principle of the best interests of the child in most of the legislation concerning children, as well as in judicial and administrative decisions, and policies and programmes relevant to children.	(2) para. 34: noting that the State party has implemented elements of the right of the child to have his/her views considered in, inter alia, its Civil Procedure Code and Education Act, the Committee is concerned that traditional perceptions of children as objects rather than subjects of rights is widespread; concerned that not all legal and administrative proceedings, including in asylum cases, allow for the views of the child to be heard directly and independently of his or her legal representative or guardian; concerned that, in practice, on matters such as custody and/or withdrawal from existing family environment, the views of the child are not taken into account.	(2) para. 10: welcoming Amendment No. 134/2006 Coll. to the State party's Social and Legal Protection of Children Act (Act No.359/1999 Coll.); concerned that a comprehensive review of all its legislation in order to accord children their rightful status as rights holders and ensure the full compatibility of its domestic law with the CRC has yet to take place; para. 39: notes with concern there that is still no legislation which explicitly prohibits corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the family; para. 59: notes that the State party does not have legislation providing for social housing	(1) para. 18: regrets that its previous recommendation on the allocation of resources has not been adequately implemented; remains concerned that the State party's budget continues to lack an allocation of resources that is clearly and specifically designated for the implementation of all the rights of children under the CRC;	(1) para. 7: call to implement previous COs on data collection; para. 20: reiterates its concerns on the need for the State party to further strengthen its data collection system	(2) para. 26: notes the opportunities for civil society to participate in the implementation of the rights of the child; concerned that there is no consistent, timely and transparent system for allocating grants and subsidies to relevant civil society organizations; concerned that the current system does not allow for adequate dialogue with civil society on issues relating to resources, policies and priorities for children.
47	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	(1) para. 19: concerned that, despite the Constitutional guarantees, the principle of non-discrimination is not fully respected in practice, vis-à-vis children with disabilities, children living in institutions, and children who are in conflict with the law; concerned that children may face discrimination on the basis of the political or other opinion, social origin, or other status, either of themselves, or of their parents; para. 42: concerned about the de facto discrimination faced by children with disabilities	(1) para. 21: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not systematically integrated into all policies and legislation affecting children, and notes that this concern is closely linked, inter alia, to the allocation of insufficient resources for the respect and protection of children's rights; para. 36: placement of children in alternative care is frequently not decided with respect to the best interest of the child	(2) para. 25: notes the State party's efforts to promote and respect children's right to express their views and to participate in society, such as children's newspapers and magazines, news boards in schools and contests; but notes with concern that the existing structures for child participation may limit children's right to express their views in schools and in the community at large.	(2) para. 7: notes the efforts undertaken by the State party to harmonize legislation in order to ensure greater consistency with the CRC; remains concerned that some aspects of domestic legislation remain inconsistent with the principles and provisions of the CRC; para. 66: concerned about the absence of comprehensive legislation to prevent sexual exploitation of children	(2) para. 15: noting the State party's information regarding the increased budget allocations to the health and education sectors; concerned that these are not sufficient to achieve the MDGs related to health and education of children; regrets that the lack of meaningful statistical data on the allocation of resources for children in the State party has made it difficult to assess the progress achieved by the State party in this regard.	(1) para. 5: call to implement previous COs on data collection; para. 17: while welcoming the accomplishment of a census conducted in October 2008, notes with concern that the lack of reliable statistics in the State party report are hampering effective follow-up or evaluation of the implementation of the CRC; particularly concerned that data that is disaggregated in important areas of the Convention are not available, such as health, education, child abuse and neglect, juvenile justice, and in particular, with regard to vulnerable groups of children, such as children living in remote areas, children in extreme poverty and children working and/or living in streets; para. 40: notes with concern the absence of comprehensive data and information on child abuse and neglect in the home and in care institutions	(1) para. 13: noting the statement by the State party that "no restriction is placed on the activities of the NGOs and inter-governmental organizations for the implementation of the Convention"; concerned that existing NGOs lack the autonomy which distinguishes them from state-sponsored organizations; also regrets that it did not receive any information from civil society organizations in DPRK on the implementation of the Convention.

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48	Democratic Republic of the Congo 2009	(2) para. 28: notes with interest the measures taken to eliminate the disparity between education of girls and of boys; nevertheless deeply concerned that certain groups of children face discrimination and marginalization, including children with disabilities, children accused of witchcraft, Batwa children, hidden children, demobilized child soldiers and internally displaced children; concern at the persisting societal discrimination against girls.	(2) para. 8: notes with regret that many of the previous COs, including on such issues as best interests of the child, have not been significantly addressed; para. 31: welcomes the reference to the best interests of the child in the Child Protection Code; concerned that, generally, the principle of the best interests of the child is not translated into legislation, policy documents or capacity building activities;	(1) para. 8: notes with regret that many of the previous COs, including on such issues as respect for the views of the child, have not been significantly addressed.	(2) para. 3: notes with appreciation the adoption by the State party of legislation providing protection for the rights of the child; para. 10: notes with appreciation the adoption of legislative texts that enhance the protection of the rights of the child; nevertheless, concerned about the existence of conflicting laws since older laws are often not repealed when new laws are adopted; para. 59: regrets the lack of explicit legislation prohibiting FGM.	(2) para. 18: while noting that an increase in budget allocations has been agreed to in the health and education sectors, remains concerned that allocations to these sectors, and other sectors having an impact on children's rights, remain insufficient; concerned that there is no comprehensive information on allocations to the social sector; para. 65: slightly increased budget allocations for education are not sufficient to cover the costs of a functioning, quality educational system;	(1) para. 8: notes with regret that many of the previous COs, including on such issues as data collection, have not been significantly addressed; para. 29: expresses concern about the absence of an efficient data collection system, that the National Statistical Research Centre lacks the capacity to carry out its work and that data that is gathered on child rights is disparate and does not receive enough attention from the appropriate authorities; para. 49: concerned at the lack of data on child abuse and neglect; para. 51: concern, nevertheless, that in practice there is no data on children with disabilities or on policies or programmes to ensure the implementation of their rights; para. 74: concerned that data on refugee and displaced children is lacking; para. 82: concerned at the lack of data on the actual situation of trafficking and sale of children	(2) para. 24: notes that the State party is cooperating with a limited number of NGOs working in the field of the rights of the child; remains concerned at the insufficient financial assistance provided to these NGOs and the lack of an official policy for systematic cooperation with civil society.
49	Denmark 2011	(1) para. 31: expresses concern at the State party's new immigration laws; concerned that this may have the de facto effect of exacerbating discrimination against immigrants, especially Roma children with respect to their access to education and other essential social services; concerned at the disparity in State assistance provided to disadvantaged families newly arrived in the State party, the majority of whom belong to ethnic minorities, compared to the assistance provided to other residents in similar circumstances;	(2) para. 34: welcoming the new focus on the best interests of the child encompassed by the Child Reform Act; remains concerned that it is not yet given sufficient consideration in, particularly, the determination by municipalities of the placement of a child outside his or her home as well as in the applications from unaccompanied asylum-seeking children;	(2) para. 36: welcomes the fact that new legislation has led to strengthening child involvement in decision-making; but notes that there is insufficient clarity with regard to the rights of the child to be heard in administrative and legal proceedings, including placement, and that when drafting the municipal child policy called for in the above mentioned legislation, municipalities do not sufficiently involve children; para. 45: concerned that in general, in schools as well as in care institutions and foster-family settings, the views of the child with disabilities are not often heard	(2) para. 7: call for action on previous COs including those related to legislation; para. 10: CRC not fully incorporated into the national legislation of the State party; para. 12: welcomes legislative actions undertaken by the State party that have direct bearing on the lives of children; remains concerned that there is no legislative framework of a more comprehensive nature covering the full scope of the CRC; also concerned that child rights legislation in Greenland and the Faroe Islands has yet to be harmonized with the CRC principles and provisions.	(1) para. 21: concerned that making municipalities entirely responsible for the financing, supply and allocation of social services with only partial State reimbursement for high-cost cases may lead to situations where children in some municipalities, particularly the most disadvantaged, do not enjoy the full range of necessary social services; concerned that insufficient resources have been allocated for the realization of the right to education for children in Greenland and the Faroe Islands, and for mental health services throughout	(2) para. 7: call for action on previous COs including those related to data collection; para. 23: appreciating the improved data collection system in the territory of Greenland, the Committee remains concerned about the lack of adequate resources for the effective collection of statistical data on the implementation of the CRC in the Faroe Islands and notes the lack of statistics for both territories on poverty and on cases of abuse.	NA

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50	Djibouti 2008	(2) para. 26: welcomes efforts to ensure that all children have access to education, health and other social services, in particular, through the construction of schools and health centres in rural localities, awareness-raising campaigns for equal access to schools of girls, and the repeal of provisions reserving school for children born of Djiboutian parents; regrets that disparities remain, in particular with regard to children living on the streets, migrant children, refugee children and children with disabilities; para. 58: discrimination against persons affected by HIV/AIDS remains widespread	NA	(2) para. 31: notes with appreciation that the Family Code recognizes the right of the child to express himself/herself freely and calls on all persons to respect this right; notes that measures have been taken to allow children to express their views in the education sector and that child delegates have been given the opportunity to express their views and concerns to the President. However, the Committee notes that this right is not systematically applied in administrative and judicial proceedings.	(3) para. 10: notes that the State party has made efforts to harmonize its legislation with the Convention, in particular through the adoption of the Family Code, the Labour Code, the Nationality Code and laws on the orientation of educational and health policies.	(2) para. 18: welcomes the increase in budget allocations to the social sectors, including education and health; notes with interest that social spending in favour of children has increased since consideration of the State party's initial report; notes with regret that these allocations are insufficient, particularly in the health sector and in the area of advancement of children and women.	(2) para. 20: welcomes the surveys that have been carried out in a number of areas, including poverty, education, and health; notes that gaps exist in these surveys and that there is a lack of capacity to centralize and analyze data on the population; expresses regret that its recommendation to establish a data collection system for all areas covered by the Convention, made in its previous concluding observations on Djibouti's initial report, has not been addressed.	(2) para. 24: welcomes the State party's indication that it provides support to civil society through training and encouraging activities of these organizations; but notes that there is often a high degree of dependency on civil society to provide social services to children.
51	Dominica 2004	(1) para. 21: concerned that societal discrimination persists against vulnerable groups of children, including Carib Indian children; para. 36: concerned about children with disabilities who often suffer from societal discrimination	NA	(2) para. 24: taking note of the establishment of the National Youth Council, the Youth Parliament and the Youth Division; remains concerned that, owing to cultural norms and societal attitudes, children have limited opportunities to freely express their views within the family, in schools and in the courts.	(2) para. 5: noting the efforts undertaken by the State party to harmonize its legislation with regard to children, nevertheless concerned that the existing legislation does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the CRC.	(2) para. 13: welcomes the various measures taken to improve the economic growth of the country such as debt restructuring, diversification of agriculture and the creation of various funds; remains concerned that budgetary allocation is still insufficient for the implementation of the CRC, particularly in the areas of health and education.	(2) para. 15: taking note of the efforts made in the collection of statistical data by the various ministries; nevertheless concerned about the lack of an integrated, analytical and disaggregated data-collection system which cover all areas of the Convention.	NA

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52	Dominican Republic 2008	(2) para. 6: call to implement previous COs on non-discrimination; par. 27: welcomes that Law No. 136-03 provides an unquestionable legal basis to combat all forms of discrimination against children; but seriously concerned that children of Haitian immigrants and Haitian descendants have restricted access to education, health and social services; widely shared discriminatory practices in the population and in administrative bodies against children of migrants and other origin; notes that girls are not given the same status as boys in legal regulations, family and society; poor children, children from remote rural areas and children living and working in the streets are excluded; para. 65: concerned at reports of discrimination against children and adolescents living with HIV/AIDS	(2) para. 30: notes that the Law No. 136-03 emphasizes the principle of the best interests of the child, but regrets that limited information is available about the extent to which this principle has been integrated in all laws, programmes and measures which affect children;	(2) para. 32: notes that Law No. 136-03 incorporates children's rights to express their views and to participate in decision-making but regrets that there was not sufficient information about the implementation of article 12 in all institutions attended by children, in the administrative and judicial system and in family and community.	(3) para. 8: welcomes the adoption of Law 136-03 on the System for the Promotion and Rights of Children and Adolescents establishing the Code on the System of Protection of the Fundamental Rights of Children and Adolescents.	(2) para. 6: call to implement previous COs on resource allocation; para. 19: notes that resource allocation has increased in both the health and education sector and that some programmes in these budget sector ('Programas Protegidos') are protected against reductions of resource allocations; concerned that budgets for the implementation of child rights including the provisions of the Law No. 136-03 and the corresponding administrative and judicial structures do not take account of the requirement to allocate resources to "the maximum extent of available resources" (article 4); concerned that public information about the budget is limited and that there is no effective mechanism for tracking and monitoring allocation of resources	(2) para. 6: call to implement previous COs on data collection; para. 21: notes the significant progress made by the National Statistics Office (ONE) in establishing an improved system of data collection on children and also notes that CONANI has begun to set up a system for gathering data related to its areas of expertise and service delivery; concerned that there is no baseline due to the many unregistered children living in the country, the unsatisfactory disaggregation of data according to criteria beyond age, sex, socio-economic status and region, the lack of data about the extent and conditions of different forms of abuse and violence against children as well as about commercial sexual exploitation and children in conflict with the law.	(3) para. 2: notes that the State party's cooperation with civil society is well developed; nevertheless, this relationship could be further strengthened.
53	Ecuador 2010	(2) para. 34: welcomes the recognition in the new Constitution of the plurinational and intercultural character of the State party; concerned about the high proportion of persons belonging to the indigenous peoples and Afro-Ecuadorian communities who continue to suffer in practice from racism and racial discrimination, including children; further concerned at the clear manifestations of such discrimination; discrimination of girls; para. 72: of street children	(2) para. 36: welcoming that the principle of the best interests of the child is incorporated in the Constitution and the Code on Children and Adolescents, the Committee is concerned at the lack of information on how this principle is implemented in practice; concerned that this principle may not be taken into account in all decisions, administrative and judicial procedures and programmes concerning children	(2) para. 17: participation of children in the National Plan of Action is not ensured; para. 40: welcomes the establishment of the National Consultative Council for Children, and that both the Constitution and the Children's Code guarantee the respect for the views of the child; still concerned that traditional societal attitudes limit children's right to be heard in schools, within the family or other settings; concerned about inadequate implementation of children's right to be heard in judicial and administrative proceedings.	(2) para. 9: takes note with appreciation of the progress made in the legislative review process; notes with satisfaction the new Constitution, which establishes human rights as fundamental; but very concerned that in the legislative reform, the specific rights of children may become subordinated to more general issues and/or disappear under broader structures; notes that national legislation is not entirely in conformity with the CRC	(2) para. 17: welcomes the State party's efforts to strengthen its planning process and the formulation of the overall development plan, which is intended to be the instrument to reduce disparities in budgetary allocations and decentralize expenditure; remains concerned about inappropriate funding; para. 21: insufficient budget allocation for implementation of the Code on Children and Adolescents; concerned that specific child-related spending, if not identified, may not be sustained over time as part of the national development strategy; para. 82: remains concerned at the low budgetary allocation per capita to the educational system in provinces with majority indigenous population	(2) call for implementation previous COs on data collection; para. 23: acknowledging recent efforts to improve data collection, planning and budgeting, the Committee is concerned at the inadequate data on specific groups of children, particularly indigenous and Afro-Ecuadorian children, children with disabilities, children out of school, working children and other children in need of special protection.	(2) para. 17: participation of civil society in the National Plan of Action is not ensured; para. 28: notes with satisfaction the involvement of civil society, including NGOs, in the preparation of the State party's report; notes with interest the Constitution's idea of a fifth power of the State on transparency and social control based on the people's mandate, but remains concerned that due account may not be taken of civil society participation and the contribution children and adolescents can make to put in place this State function.

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54	Egypt 2011	(2) para. 34: recognizes efforts undertaken to ensure equal enjoyment of rights for all children in the State party; shares the State party's concern at continued discrimination against the girl child and children living in poverty and regrets reports of discrimination against children of migrant workers and refugee children, especially in relation to the right to education;	(2) para. 10: call for implementation previous COs on the best interest of the child; para. welcomes the fact that the principle of the best interests of the child has been incorporated into article 3 of the Child Law (2008) according to which the principle will assume paramount priority in all decisions and measures taken or implemented concerning children; but concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not well understood and known among State authorities and civil servants and remains insufficiently integrated in policies, programmes and decision-making processes; concerned that the principle is rarely considered with respect to decisions concerning children in street situations, children deprived of a family environment and children in conflict with the law	(2) para. 40: welcomes that the Child Law (2008) protects the right of the child to form and express his/her views and to be heard in all matters affecting him or her and that the Family Courts Act provides for the right of the child to be heard in legal and administrative proceedings; While further noting initiatives aimed at strengthening children's participation and adolescents' decision-making skills, such as the Youth Network and child/youth advisory boards, remains seriously concerned at the limited practical application of children's right to be heard and that it is not systematically integrated in the development of public policies and programmes or in judicial and administrative proceedings; particularly concerned about reports that educational institutions and youth centres remain weak in terms of encouraging child participation and about a perception in society of children as recipients of benefits rather than as rights holders, including the right to freely express themselves.	(2) para. 11: welcomes the comprehensive review of the Child Law No. 12/1996 amended through Act No. 126 (2008) which requires the State party to guarantee, as a minimum, the rights under the CRC and other relevant treaties, and stipulates harsher penal sanctions when crimes are committed against a child; remains concerned that some provisions of domestic law, including family law, are still not in full conformity with the provisions of the CRC, mainly due to restrictive interpretation of some domestic laws; para. 44: commends the State party for adopting legislation granting equality between Egyptian men and women in passing the nationality to their children; para. 57: gravely concerned that all forms of violence against children are still not prohibited in domestic legislation	(2) para. 10: call for implementation previous COs including those related to allocation of resources; para. 19: notes as positive the unprecedented rights-based tracking of public budgeting for children in 2006; deeply concerned that budgetary allocation directed to children has decreased in relative terms in recent years and that Government spending decreased;	(2) para. 10: call for implementation previous COs on data collection; para. 21: welcomes efforts to strengthen its data collection system on child rights, notably the creation of a central database at the National Child Rights Observatory of the National Council of Childhood and Motherhood; notes as positive that the collection of data from all line ministries through the coordination committee for data collection has started, and the ongoing efforts of the NCCM to develop child rights indicators as well as a child rights index; deeply concerned that the absence of a comprehensive data collection system contributes to the State party's lack of data on children deprived of their liberty, children subjected to torture and ill-treatment, children with disabilities, and children in street situation; para. 60: very limited available data on children with disabilities; para. 64: adolescent health; para. 78: economically exploited	(2) para. 27: notes the high number of CSOs involved in promoting understanding of the CRC and the Child Law (2008) and the active cooperation by the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood with such organizations, notably in the areas of education and health; welcomes the provision in the Child Law (2008) calling for the inclusion of representatives from NGOs in all Child Protection Committees at governorate and district levels; concerned at the State party's reliance on CSOs in the provision of social services for children, notably in the fields of family support, care of children deprived of their family environment, children with disabilities, and children who are victims of violence and abuse, which may reduce the responsibility of the State party as the primary duty-bearer for the realization of the rights guaranteed under the CRC.
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55	El Salvador 2010	<p>(1) para. 27: regrets that, despite the State party's efforts to combat racism and discrimination, discriminatory attitudes and social exclusion still affect some sections of the child population, and in particular adolescents, children with disabilities, girls, children living in rural and remote areas, indigenous children and children from economically excluded families; notes the persistence of a traditional patriarchal conception of the family, which often results in girls being given subordinate and dangerous tasks; para. 91: daily life discrimination of indigenous people and their children</p>	<p>(2) para. 29: notes with appreciation that the principle of the best interests of the child is already included in the Family Code (art. 305) and is also enshrined in the LEPINA, notably in its article 12; concerned that the principle is not sufficiently implemented in practice, especially in the areas of prevention, corporal punishment, child protection and juvenile justice;</p>	<p>(2) para. 33: appreciates the efforts made to promote, facilitate and implement in practice the principle of respect for the views of children and their participation in all matters affecting them; notes with appreciation that more than 600 children and adolescents from 6 to 18 years participated in the process of formulating LEPINA, providing valuable contributions, especially on the topics of violence against children, the right to identity and to a name and the right to be heard; regrets that while the principle of respect for the views of children has been formally achieved, it continues to be an element that is too often missing from the formulation, implementation and evaluation of public policies as well as in judicial and administrative procedures.</p>	<p>(2) para. 9: notes the State party's numerous efforts to bring its legislation in line with the Convention, including the recent adoption of the Law for the Integral Protection of Children (LEPINA); regrets that national legislation is not yet in conformity with the Convention in some areas, for instance, with respect to corporal punishment, the minimum age for marriage, the adoption regime and the administration of juvenile justice.</p>	<p>(2) para. 17: while welcoming the State party's approach to allocation of resources based on an approach of equity and social inclusion is concerned about the low allocation of resources to education (2,9 per cent of the GDP) and to health (1.7 per cent of the GDP); para. 58: Allocation of resources to child health issues is insufficient; para. 68: decrease in the budget allocated to education since 2002;</p>	<p>(2) para. 21: notes that the newly established Secretariat of Social Inclusion within the Office of the Presidency of the Republic has started a consultative process to collect information and statistics in areas where this is virtually absent, such as on indigenous children and children with disabilities; notes that ISNA will now also have investigation and research capacity as well as the role of collecting data in areas relevant for the Convention; remains concerned at the current lack of a comprehensive nationwide system of data collection</p>	<p>(3) para. 19: notes with appreciation that the State party's delegation has stressed during the dialogue the importance of the work of civil society stakeholders and the need to consult them systematically in developing programmes and policies for the rights of the child. In this respect, the Committee notes that some concerns expressed by civil society organizations with respect to the LEPINA will be discussed and taken into account in the near future for possible amendments to the law.</p>
56	Equatorial Guinea 2004	<p>(1) para. 23: concerned that societal discrimination and cultural practices persist against vulnerable groups of children, in particular girls, children born out of wedlock, children with disabilities, children belonging to ethnic minorities and children from poor and rural families, and that the measures taken to prevent and combat this discrimination are insufficient.</p>	<p>(1) para. 26: concerned that in actions concerning children, the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in article 3 CRC is not always a primary consideration, in particular in a number of Spanish laws from before 1968, which the State party continues to apply on a subsidiary basis.</p>	<p>(1) para. 28: notes with concern that little attention is given to the views of the children in the family and in the adoption of public policies, and that traditional practices and attitudes still limit the full implementation of article 12 of the CRC, in particular for girls;</p>	<p>(2) para. 5: notes the efforts undertaken by the State to examine the compatibility of the domestic legislation with the CRC and that the Constitution and some laws have been adopted to harmonize the existing legislation with the CRC and other international human rights standards; it also welcomes the information that a new Family Code is being prepared in a consultative process; but concerned that in some cases newly enacted legislation does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the CRC or other international human rights standards; concern about the fact that some customary laws are incompatible with the principles and provisions of the CRC; para. 42: concerned about the lack of appropriate domestic legislation regulating adoption procedures</p>	<p>(1) para. 13: welcomes the State's commitment made in 1997 to allocate 40 per cent of all its oil revenues to the social sector; regrets that the necessary measures have not been taken to fully meet this commitment; regrets the lack of information about the budget allocated to social expenditures for children, including for health, welfare and education, at the central and local levels; concerned that budgetary allocations are insufficient to respond to national and local priorities for the protection and promotion of children's rights; para. 46: insufficient budgetary allocations for health services</p>	<p>(1) para. 15: regrets the lack of comprehensive and up-to-date statistical data in the State party's report; para. 34: notes with concern the lack of available data on ill-treatment of children; para. 48: concerned at the absence of statistical data and a comprehensive policy for disabled children, para. 58: concerned that the State party's report lacks specific data on sexual exploitation and trafficking of children</p>	<p>(1) para. 17: concerned about the limited number of NGOs working for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child and about the reported low level of cooperation between the Government and the national civil society organizations in this regard; concerned about existing legislation (e.g. Law No. 1 of 1999) that seems to limit NGO activities.</p>

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57	Eritrea 2008	(2) para. 25: notes as positive that the principle of non-discrimination is incorporated in the Constitution as well as efforts to narrow the gender gap; also recognizes efforts by the State party to reduce regional disparities by the establishment of more colleges and hospitals, yet notes that regional disparities remain a concern; concerned that de facto discrimination against certain groups of children persists, particularly girls, children living in poverty, children affected by and/or infected with HIV/AIDS, orphans and children belonging to nomadic and pastoralist minorities	(2) para. 28: appreciates the efforts of the State party to incorporate the best interest of the child into certain decision-making processes, however is concerned that there is little evidence that the best interests is a primary consideration by the legislative, executive and judicial branches of power;	(2) para. 30: noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child, notably in custody and adoption cases; remains concerned over the lack of adequate opportunities for children to express their views and that traditional societal attitudes limit the consideration given to children's views, including in the community, schools and within the family; concerned that sufficient legal provisions have not been implemented to guarantee the right of the child to be heard in judicial and administrative proceedings affecting the child.	(1) para. 8: remains concerned at the lack of progress of Eritrea in reforming its legislation with a view to harmonizing it with the CRC; regrets that a systematic legislative review by the Child Law Committee has not been completed;	(2) para. 16: notes information that resources in some areas have been increased, but remains concerned that the allocated resources are insufficient to effectively improve the implementation and protection of children's rights; concerned that information regarding allocations for children is imprecise and not related to the total budget or gross domestic product; notes the considerable military expenditure in contrast to allocations to education and health; para. 66: increased budget allocation for education	(2) para. 6: calls for implementation previous COs on data collection; para. 18: welcomes the improvements made with regards to data collection since the last periodic review in 2003; notes that the figures given do not indicate the proportion of children in need and that updated data remains lacking in numerous areas, inter alia on alternative care, child abuse, sexual exploitation and child labour; para. 44: concerned over the lack of accurate data on the number of children in institutions and over the high number of orphans	(1) para. 23: seriously concerned over the limitations placed upon certain organizations of civil society and in particular regrets the severe administrative and practical restrictions upon the operation of international and national NGOs, in particular those working in the area of human rights and humanitarian assistance for children.
58	Estonia 2003	(1) para. 21: concerned that the right to non-discrimination is not fully reflected in the State's legislation, policies and programmes at the national and local levels; para. 23: concerned that the current discriminatory attitudes towards linguistic minority communities (e.g. the Russian-speaking community), non-citizens, especially those without legal status, and other disadvantaged groups may restrict directly or indirectly the rights guaranteed under the CRC to children belonging to those groups	(1) para. 21: concerned that the best interests principle is not fully reflected in the State's legislation, policies and programmes at the national and local levels;	(1) para. 21: concerned that the child right to express his or her views freely and to have those views taken into account according to age and maturity (art. 12) is not fully reflected in the State's legislation, policies and programmes at the national and local levels; para. 26: while noting the information received on the active involvement of students in the education system in Estonia, regrets that little information was provided in the report on the actual respect for and enjoyment of this right in the family, administrative bodies and courts.	(2) para. 3a: welcomes the adoption of new legislation; para. 5: noting the adoption of various legislative measures with respect to child rights; noting that the 1992 Child Protection Act reflects some principles and provisions of the CRC; concerned that there is no process of harmonization between the existing legislation and the CRC and between the various legislative acts.	(2) para. 5: notes adequate budgetary allocation 1992 Child Protection Act; para. 15: concerned that the increase in public expenditure on children is not commensurate with the State's overall budget increase and is not "to the maximum extent of ... available resources"; concerned that legislation, strategies and policies are not linked to detailed resource allocation.	(2) para. 9: welcomes the statistical information provided in the written replies; notes the insufficiency of data in some areas and is concerned at the insufficient evaluation of data to devise policies and programmes; para. 32: insufficient collection of adequate data on children in institutions	(1) para. 17: recognizing the important role played by civil society; concerned that insufficient efforts have been undertaken by the State to facilitate the involvement of NGOs in the implementation of the CRC in a more structured and sustainable manner

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59	Ethiopia 2006	(2) para. 24: concerned at the actual discrimination against certain groups of children, particularly girls, children with disabilities, children living in poverty, refugee children, children affected by HIV/AIDS and children belonging to ethnic minorities; acknowledges the positive steps taken to enhance the status of the girl child but remains concerned that vulnerable groups of girls remain victims of harmful traditional practices, deprived of education (primary and secondary), victims of sexual and physical violence as well as commercial exploitation; para. 39: concerned that children who have been unofficially adopted suffer discrimination; para. 51: persisting de facto discrimination of disabled children	NA	(2) para. 29: while noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child, such as the child forum, the Committee remains concerned that traditional societal attitudes appear to limit children in freely expressing their views in the community, the schools, the courts, or within the family.	(2) para. 8: notes that some progress has been made by the State in the effort to bring domestic laws into compliance with the CRC; but remains concerned at the lack of a systematic legislative review and adoption of a comprehensive Children's Code; regrets that the CRC has not yet been published in the Official Gazette as previously recommended	(2) para. 6: call to implement previous COs on resources allocation; para. 16: welcomes the increased budget allocation for education and health; concerned that the resources for the implementation of the National Plan of Action are insufficient in order to effectively improve the promotion and protection of children's rights; notes the considerable military expenditure in contrast to allocations to education and health.	(1) para. 18: notes with concern the lack of data on areas including domestic adoption, street children, children involved in armed conflicts, children without parental care, children involved in the justice system, and sexually abused and trafficked children; para. 39: lack of statistical data on the number of disabled children	(2) para. 22: appreciating that in its report, the State acknowledges the importance of the contribution of NGOs in the implementation of the CRC; seriously concerned over restrictions placed upon civil society since the elections in 2005 and, in particular, regrets the arbitrary mass detentions, including of children, that place severe restrictions upon the freedom of expression which is a fundamental element of a free civil society
60	Fiji 2014	(2) para. 22: While welcoming the existence of several laws prohibiting discrimination ... notes with serious concern that children from ethnic minorities, children living with HIV/AIDS and children with disabilities are often faced with stigma and discrimination ... welcoming the State party's first National Gender Policy of 1 April 2014 ... deeply concerned about the prevalence of patriarchal attitudes, deep-rooted perceived gender roles and existing laws and regulations that discriminate against girls in the family and in the community	NA	NA	(2) para. 20: welcomes that the State party has raised the age of marriage from 16 to 18 years for girls, making it the same as for boys, through the Marriage Act (Amendment) Decree 2009. However, ... concerned that, in spite of the definition of the child in the Constitution as a person under the age of 18, some of the State party's legislation is not yet in full conformity with the CRC; para. 28: notes with appreciation the adoption of the Domestic Violence Decree; para. 37: notes the draft adoption decree, aligning domestic legislation with the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption of 29 May 1993. However, ... regrets that the draft has been pending approval by the Cabinet since June 2012	(2) para. 12: While welcoming the allocation of financial resources to child protection programmes in the 2014 budget, the Committee notes with concern that no other budget lines have been identified for the implementation of the Convention	(1) para. 7: urges the State party to take all the necessary measures to address those recommendations from the concluding observations of the initial report under the Convention that have not been sufficiently implemented, particularly those related to allocation of ... data collection; para. 14: regrets the lack of reliable and disaggregated data on many areas of the Convention, as well as of any mechanism to systematically assess the impact of policies and programmes in relation to the implementation of the Convention;	NA

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61	Finland 2011	(2) para. 7: call to implement previous COs including those related to discrimination against children from ethnic minorities and immigrant children; para. 25: notes the State party's efforts to reform the Non-discrimination Act; remains concerned about the prevalence of discrimination against children with disabilities, immigrant and refugee children and children from ethnic minorities, such as Roma children	(2) para. 27: welcomes information that the Child Welfare Act (2007) includes the concept of the best interests of the child in the assessment of a child's need for welfare measures, but regrets that there is no comprehensive reference to the best interests of the child in the State party's other legislation and that the principle is not adequately understood or taken into account in decisions affecting children; para. 60: notes the 2006 Migration Policy Programme, in which the principle of the best interests of the child is taken into account in asylum and refugee policy.	(2) para. 7: call to implement previous COs including those related to respect for the views of the child; para. 29: welcomes the State's participation as a pilot country in the Council of Europe policy review on the participation of children and adolescents; welcomes the right of the child to be heard irrespective of his/her age under the Child Welfare Act; concerned that, according to the Administrative Procedure Act, only children above 15 years have the right to be heard individually in matters concerning them; under the Aliens Act a child younger than 12 seems not to be heard as a general rule; and that children are insufficiently heard in custody cases; concerned that the right of children with disabilities to be heard is not properly realised; concerned at the insufficient use of alternative ways to hear children who have reached the age of 12 outside of the courtroom, and that they may be compelled to attend oral hearings.	(2) para. 8: notes the legislative actions undertaken by the State aimed at strengthening the constitutional, legal and normative framework related to the implementation of the CRC, but remains concerned at the lack of a consolidated legislative framework covering the full scope of the CRC and of its OP on the involvement of children in armed conflict	(2) para. 16: notes that municipalities enjoy extensive autonomy in providing and financing public services, and is concerned that this might lead to insufficient allocation of resources to services for children and adolescents by some municipalities resulting in regional and local disparities in resource allocation to children;	(1) para. 18: concerned at the insufficient data available on the living conditions of children in vulnerable situations, including children affected by poverty, children with disabilities, minority/ immigrant children and children in alternative care; concerned at the limited statistics on abuse, neglect and violence against children and on services provided to them.	NA
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62	France 2009	(2) para. 28: welcomes the establishment of the High Authority to Combat Discrimination and Promote Equality; notes with appreciation the effort to establish equality between children, irrespective of the circumstances of their birth; notes the abolishment of discrimination with regard to financial benefits for non-French children and parents of "large families"; para. 30: expresses concern at persistent discrimination, in particular in the field of economic and social rights, especially with respect to children residing in the Overseas Departments and Territories, asylum-seeking and refugee children, children belonging to minority groups such as Roma, travellers and religious minorities; para. 48: expresses concern over the discrimination against younger children regarding their freedom of association	(2) para. 61: insufficient consideration of the child's best interests when deciding on alternative care; para. 35: notes that in 2005, the Court of Cassation has aligned its jurisprudence with that of the Council of State acknowledging the direct applicability of article 3(1) CRC; it also takes note of the integration of the principle of the best interests of the child in legislation on childcare and child protection, divorce, succession and donation; remains concerned about the paucity of impact assessments of certain government actions and decisions on the best interests of the child, as well as the persisting differences in practice in understanding the application of this principle; this principle is rarely put into action by the legislative bodies, at the municipal, regional and national levels.	(2) para. 39: welcomes the changes introduced by the Law No. 2007-308 of 5 March 2007, which recognizes the child's right to a hearing in all proceedings concerning parental authority, succession, guardianship and adoption; reiterates its concerns that making the exercise of this right subject to the child's own request may give rise to discrimination and inconsistencies in practice; welcomes the existence of a children's parliament; however it regrets that its recommendations are rarely taken into consideration; para. 61: insufficient consideration of the child's views when deciding on alternative care.	(2) para. 4: notes with appreciation the adoption of various laws; para. 30: concern that the new law on control of immigration, integration and asylum providing for DNA testing for immigration applicants and quotas for deportations, could contribute to generate a climate of discrimination against immigrant children; para. 65: expresses concern at the State party's new draft law on adoption	(2) para. 18: notes with appreciation the increase in expenditures on children in recent years, such as in the area of education; concerned that such increase is not sufficient to eradicate poverty and tackle inequalities, in particular with regard to the right to housing and medical services in school; the lack of consistent budgetary analysis and child-rights impact assessment makes it difficult to identify the expenditure allocated to children throughout the country and whether it serves to effectively implement policies and legislation affecting them; shares the concern expressed by the CNCDH with regard to the disparities in resource allocation in the different departments, including overseas.	(2) para. 20: takes note of the establishment of a centralized data collection and monitoring centre gathering information relating to children at risk; remains concerned at the process of collecting data from different sectors and whether there is a unified method in assessing and documenting the data which is harmonized between data providers; further concerned at the conditions under which data providers and processors can access the information collected, in particular at the lack of a comprehensive policy on the use of personal data; para. 50: notes with concern the multiplication of databases, in which personal data of children are gathered, stocked and used for a lengthy period	(2) para. 24: welcoming the efforts undertaken by the State party to establish relationships between the Government and civil society, including non-governmental organizations (NGO); concerned that cooperation with NGOs with regard to the preparation of the report as well as to the implementation of the Convention remains insufficient
63	Gabon 2002	(2) para. 22: concerned that the principles of non-discrimination (article 2), is not fully reflected in the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels; para. 24: noting that discrimination is prohibited under the Constitution (art. 2) and that the State has taken measures to suppress discrimination against children born out of wedlock and against disabled children, the Committee is concerned by the persistence of de facto discrimination in the State; concerned at the disparities in the enjoyment of rights experienced by children belonging to the most vulnerable groups, such as girls, children with disabilities, children born out of wedlock, children living in rural areas and Pygmy children.	(1) para. 22: concerned that the principle of best interests of the child (art. 3), is not fully reflected in the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels; para. 37: complicated adoption procedure which may lead to practices that do not pay adequate attention to the best interests of the child	(2) para. 22: concerned that respect for the views of the child (art. 12) are not fully reflected in the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels; para. 27: welcoming the existence of a Children's Parliament, the Committee is concerned that, owing to traditional attitudes, respect for the views of the child remains limited within the family, in schools, in the courts, and before administrative authorities and in the society at large.	(2) para. 6: notes that new laws have been adopted to harmonize the existing legislation with the CRC and welcomes the comparative study of national laws, the CRC and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child that was carried out in 1998; but remains concerned at the fact that domestic legislation, and in particular customary law, still does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the Convention.	(2) para. 12: noting the priority given by the State party to increasing the budget allocated to education and health, the Committee expresses its concern at the decrease of governmental funding of social services; concerned that insufficient attention has been paid to article 4 CRC;	(2) para. 14: welcoming the publication of the Demographic and Health Survey in March 2001; concerned at the lack of a systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated data for all areas covered by the CRC and in relation to all groups of children in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved and assess the impact of policies adopted; para. 39: deeply concerned at the lack of statistical data on abuse and neglect; para. 49: concerned at the very limited statistical data on children with disabilities	(1) para. 16: taking note of the Act on NGOs (Act No. 35/62), concerned that insufficient efforts have been made to involve civil society in the implementation of the Convention;

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64	Gambia 2001	(2) para. 25: noting that the 1997 Constitution sets out to eliminate all forms of discrimination; concerned that section 33(5) of the Constitution excludes matters of personal law such as marriage, divorce and inheritance, and matters ruled by customary law, and that the principle of non-discrimination is not adequately implemented with respect to certain vulnerable groups of children, especially girls, children born out of wedlock and children with disabilities;	NA	(1) para. 28: notes with concern that traditional practices and attitudes still limit the full implementation of article 12 of the Convention.	(2) para. 11: noting that chapter IV of the new Constitution (1997) is entirely devoted to fundamental human rights and freedoms, with a special section on children (sect. 29), concerned that domestic legislation, including customary law and the sharia, does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the CRC; also concerned that the legislation relevant to children's rights is fragmented in different laws.	(2) para. 19: welcomes the strong efforts to take steps towards sustainable development, notes the increase in the budget allocations for social services and is aware of the economic and social challenges faced by the State; remains concerned that in light of CRC art. 4, not enough attention has been paid in allocating budgetary resources,	(1) para. 15: concerned that the data collection mechanism within the State party does not ensure the adequate collection of disaggregated data on all aspects of the Convention, monitor and evaluate progress achieved, and assess the impact of policies; para. 44: lack of adequate data in the area of adolescent health, violence, suicides, mental health, alcohol and substance abuse, and, especially, early and forced marriage and early pregnancy and STDs; para. 62: lack of information and adequate data on the situation of child labour and economic exploitation	NA
65	Georgia 2008	(1) para. 21: concerned that, despite the Constitutional and other guarantees, the principle of non-discrimination is not fully respected in practice with certain groups of children, including for children belonging to minorities; children with disabilities; refugee and asylum-seeking children; children who are internally displaced; children of disadvantaged families; street children; children in juvenile justice system and children living in rural or remote areas; notes with concern that girls in particular are disproportionately affected, due to gender discrimination	(1) para. 23: concerned that procedures to determine the best interest of the child (art. 3) are lacking in the laws and the decision-making processes of the State party on matter relating to children, particularly in the areas of juvenile justice and adoption;	(2) para. 25: notes with appreciation the State party's efforts to promote and respect children's right to freely express their views and to participate in society; concerned that the State party's efforts to promote the right to participation of those children who belong to vulnerable groups, including internally displaced children, have been insufficient, particularly in civil, judicial and administrative procedures; regrets that children's forums for participation and decision making for matters affecting them, such as the Youth Parliament, are no longer supported by the State party; further notes with concern the traditional attitudes in Georgian society may limit children's right to freely express their views within the family, in schools and in the community at large	(2) para. 6: call to implement previous COs on legislation; para. 31: noting the legal prohibition of corporal punishment in school; para. 40: welcoming the enactment, in June 2006, of the Law on Combating Domestic Violence, Prevention of and Support to Victims; para. 58: welcoming the April 2007 amendments to the Law on Refugees Issues which grant refugees registered in Georgia temporary residence permits, and that the Law is in the process of being revised to bring it closer in line with international standards; para. 66: absence of comprehensive legislation to prevent sexual exploitation of children	(2) para. 6: call to implement previous COs on allocation of resources; para. 10: regrets that the previous National Plan of Action for Children (2002-2003) was not implemented due to insufficient financial backing from the State budget; para. 12: regrets that the Child Rights Centre does not have adequate human and financial resources to fulfil its mandate throughout the country; para. 56: notes with appreciation the increase in the allocation of State resources to education, particularly in the 2006 and 2007 budgets	(2) para. 15: while noting that the State Department for Statistics under the Ministry of Economic Development is responsible for comprehensive data collection; remains concerned that the lack of reliable statistics on children are hampering effective follow-up or evaluation of CRC implementation; particularly concerned that disaggregated data and analytic information in important areas of the CRC are not available such as on children with disabilities, refugee and internally displaced children, child abuse and neglect, children who are victims of sexual exploitation, including prostitution, pornography and trafficking, substance abuse and children working and/or living in streets; para. 38: lack of data on adoption; para. 66: absence of data on the extent and patterns of sexual exploitation and prostitution	(1) para. 19: notes with regret that insufficient efforts have been made to support civil society as partners in the implementation of the CRC, and to involve non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the preparation of the third periodic report to the Committee

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66	Germany 2014	(2) para. 24: welcomes the anti-discrimination measures adopted by the State party, particularly those aimed at promoting a culture of understanding and tolerance. However, ... remains concerned that children with disabilities and children with a migration background continue to face discrimination in the State party, particularly regarding education and health-care services.	(2) par. 26: While noting that the welfare of the child is a guiding principle in the State party's legal order and one that is increasingly being applied, ... also notes with concern that the principle of the best interests of the child has not yet been fully incorporated into federal legislation and the prioritization of the child's best interests has not yet been integrated into all areas of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government. In particular, it is frequently disregarded in cases concerning children from educationally and socioeconomically disadvantaged families, including refugee and asylum-seeking children.	NA	(2) para. 3: welcomes the adoption of specified legislative measures; para. 9: notes with satisfaction that most Länder have explicitly recognized children's rights in their constitutions. However, ... remains concerned that children's rights have not yet been explicitly recognized in the constitutions of Hamburg and Hesse, or in the Federal Constitution (Basic Law). ... further notes that under article 59, paragraph 2, of the Basic Law, the CRC is placed at the level of an ordinary federal law.	NA	(2) para. 15: notes that the State party is aware of the importance of establishing a comprehensive data collection system. However, ... concerned that the State party does not have a comprehensive system for collecting data on all areas covered by the CRC. This is one of the major obstacles for the effective planning, monitoring and evaluation of policies, programmes and projects for children, especially in the fields of violence against children, children with disabilities, juvenile justice and child refugees, particularly unaccompanied child refugees.	(2) para. 11: notes that the 2005--2010 National Action Plan initiated a broad discussion on children's rights. However, ... regrets that the practical implementation of the National Action Plan did not sufficiently involve civil society organizations and other actors at the local level.
67	Ghana 2006	(2) para. 25: noting that the Constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, creed, religion, social or economic standing or political opinion; expresses its concern at the fact that discrimination against certain groups of children such as girls, children with disabilities, children of immigrants, children infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS and street children still exists in practice	(2) para. 28: notes that the principle of the best interests of the child is reflected in the Constitution and also in the Children's Act. However, the Committee is concerned that the use of this principle is dependent on the sensitivity of the officials of the particular institution concerned and may not be systematic.	(2) para. 30: noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party in order to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child, the Committee is concerned that prevailing societal attitudes appear to limit children to express their views freely in schools, within the family and judicial and administrative proceedings, particularly in rural areas.	(3) para. 9: positive steps taken by the State party in the context of the comprehensive legislative reform;	(1) para. 9: concerned about the lack of adequate human and financial resources for an effective and systematic implementation of the Children's Act and other laws and regulations relevant for the promotion and realization of child rights; para. 17: concerned about the very limited information on budget allocations for the implementation of the CRC. These allocations seem to be insufficient.	(2) para. 7: call for implementation earlier COs on data collection; para. 19: taking note of the efforts made in improving the data collection systems by the different ministries, departments and agencies, the Committee remains concerned about the lack of a permanent system of data collection with expertise in child rights; para. 69: concern at the lack of data on the number of children trafficked;	(2) para. 21: notes the efforts made in carrying out sensitization programmes, including through civil society organizations with the assistance of the vibrant media; para. 23: appreciating the fact that NGOs have been involved in the preparation of the State party's report; is of the opinion that the role of civil society and in particular of NGOs is not sufficient in the promotion and implementation of the CRC
68	Greece 2012	(2) para. 26: noting some measures taken to address the discrimination against Roma children; expresses concern at the persistent discrimination against Roma children, children of Turkish origin, children belonging to the Muslim community of Thrace or to the Macedonian minority; also concerned at the existence of discrimination towards children with disabilities, children in street situations and children of undocumented migrant parents; concerned at the local disparities in different regions of the State party.	NA	(2) para. 30: noting the establishment of the Youth Parliament; concerned at the lack of information with regard to the representation of children from distinct ethnic, religious, linguistic or cultural groups in the Youth Parliament; concerned that in spite of the existing provisions of the State party's legislation on respect for the views of the child, these provisions are rarely used by the courts, mainly because of lack of awareness, which means that children's views are not taken into account	(1) para. 9: notes with regret that some aspects of domestic legislation are still not consistent with the principles and provisions of the Convention and that	(1) para. 8: call for implementation previous COs on allocation of resources for children; para. 17: While noting the serious financial and economic crisis currently being faced by the State; expresses its deep concern at the negative effects that it is having on public spending affecting services provided to children; reiterates its concern that the national budget and the budget process do not allow for a clear understanding and identification of financial resources allocated for the implementation of the rights of children at the national and local levels; concerned at the persistence of corruption in public institutions, the judiciary and other sectors	(1) para. 8: call for implementation previous COs on data collection; p para. 19: concerned at the lack of a national database with comprehensive and disaggregated data on children; concerned at the lack of statistics on children at risk of domestic violence and/or other forms of abuse and ill-treatment, child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, and other children in need of special protection, including children with disabilities, unaccompanied children, and refugee and asylum-seeking children; para. 50: statistical data on children with disabilities in the State party is still unavailable	(2) para. 8: call for implementation previous COs on cooperation with civil society; para. 21: reiterates its previous recommendation to further improve cooperation and coordination on a regular basis with NGOs and involve them in the Convention's implementation

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69	Grenada 2010	(2) para. 6: call for implementation of previous COs on discrimination; para. 25: notes with interest the development of a National Gender Policy and that activities aimed at discouraging discrimination take place in schools; regrets that the State's legislation has not been amended to also offer boys protection against sexual abuse and exploitation and that the minimum age of consent to sexual activity refers only to girls.	NA	(2) para. 28: notes with interest the establishment of student councils as well as the organization of an Annual Youth Parliament and the creation of a Youth Arm of the Grenada National Coalition on the Right of the Child; notes with concern that in judicial and administrative procedures the right of the child to be heard is not properly respected; also concerned that little has been done to increase the awareness of the general public	(2) para. 6: call for implementation of previous COs on harmonization of legislation; para. 7: notes that a number of bills on issues related to child rights exist; however these bills have not yet been passed; regrets that the Convention has still not been integrated into national legislation; concerned that there are insufficient human and material resources to draft legislation.	(1) para. 15: notes with regret that there is no identifiable budget for children; concerned that there are insufficient resources for the protection of children's rights and that the State party relies mainly on donor funding, which may not be sustainable, for its social protection measures and programmes;	(1) para. 17: reiterates the concern expressed in its previous concluding observations at the lack of a system of data collection and analysis in the State party to provide systematic and comprehensive desegregated quantitative and qualitative data for all areas covered by the Convention in relation to all groups of children, in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved and assess the impact of policies; para. 45: lack of adequate data in the area of adolescent health	NA
70	Guatemala 2010	(1) para. 40: reiterates its concern, shared by other treaty bodies, at the alarming level of discrimination suffered by Maya, Garifuna and Xinca children; notes that the measures taken by the State party so far are not sufficient to eliminate structural obstacles which prevent the full exercise of the rights of these children, who constitute over half the total population of the State party; also concerned at discriminatory attitudes affecting some sections of the child population, in particular adolescents, children with disabilities, girls, children living in rural areas and children from marginalized families	(2) para. 43: notes that the principle of the best interests of the child has been incorporated in the State party's Constitution, the PINA Law, and in the comprehensive public policy for children and its plan of action adopted several years ago; but it is still not sufficiently well known, understood or correctly applied in legislative, administrative, economic, social, cultural and judicial decisions of the State party, which has a negative impact on children; welcomes the fact that municipalities have incorporated this principle in municipal public policies, but is concerned that the best interests of the child are not taken into account in practice at national, regional and municipal level.	(2) para. 49 :notes with interest that the right to be heard is incorporated in the legislation of the State party; regrets the lack of information about the implementation of this principle; concerned that the views of the child are not duly solicited or taken into account in all settings affecting the child, including in judicial proceedings, in matters concerning school administration, alternative care and classroom education, and in public debates; also concerned that the participation of children is low in the decision-making process in family and community life and in the development and evaluation of policies and programmes targeted at children	(3) para. 13: notes the State party's efforts to bring its legislation in line with the Convention and its two Optional Protocols.	(2) para. 12: call for implementation previous COs on budget; para. 25: welcomes the efforts to enhance the allocation of resources for children, such as the conditional cash transfers in the areas of health and education, but is concerned that budget allocations for children need a longer-term perspective; concerned at the low social spending in the State party, and the difficulty of tracking investments on children across sectors, departments and municipalities; also notes with concern that the particularly low tax collection in the State party has a negative impact on the national revenue, and may limit resources for children	(1) para. 12: call for implementation previous COs on data collection; para. 27: notes with concern that an adequate data collection system has not been established, which has resulted in incomplete and confused data. It regrets the lack of coordination and feedback among different institutions which results in contradictory data, and that existing statistics often refer only to the capital city and urban areas	(1) para. 32: regrets that cooperation with non-governmental organizations and indigenous traditional leaders is insufficient

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71	Guinea 2013	<p>(1) para. 11: concerned about: (a) The existence of a plural legal system which includes customary law that results in discrimination particularly against girls and encourages harmful practices; ... (c) persisting discrimination in the Children's Code on the grounds of the parents' marital status at birth; para. 35: acknowledges the State party's efforts to eliminate discrimination against children in situations of vulnerability, including children with disabilities, children living in rural areas, children living in poverty, refugee children and children born out of wedlock ... however, notes with concern that these measures remain insufficient ... ; para. 36: expresses serious concern that girls are still subjected to gender-based discrimination from the earliest stages of their life through their childhood ... also concerned that no systematic efforts have been undertaken, including with religious leaders, opinion makers, and the mass media, to combat and change discriminatory attitudes and practices concerning the tasks and roles of women and girls.</p>	<p>(2) para. 38: welcomes the inclusion of the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration in the Children's Code, but is concerned that this right remains insufficiently respected in households, schools, courts and other institutions working with or for children ... also concerned that there is a lack of concrete information on the way the best interests of the child are effectively considered in governmental programmes and policies and in all judicial and administrative decision-making.</p>	<p>(2) par. 42: welcomes the establishment of a Children's Parliament in 2001 and the first National Forum on Children in June 2012... concerned that the Children's Parliament lacks resources and is insufficiently consulted and heard. While the right to be heard has been integrated in the Children's Code, ... regrets that traditional social beliefs and attitudes continue to prevent children from freely expressing their opinions within the family, schools and the community at large. ... also concerned about the lack of provisions for the respect of this right in judicial and administrative proceedings and that, in reality, very few children are heard in the official decisions; para. 85(11): The views of the children are not fully heard during police questioning or hearings</p>	<p>(2) para. 11: notes with appreciation the adoption of the Children's Code in 2008, which intends to harmonize the national legislation with the provisions of the CRC ... is however concerned about: (a) The existence of a plural legal system which includes customary law that results in discrimination particularly against girls and encourages harmful practices; (b) The fact that many provisions remain unclear and in some cases are contradictory ... ; (d) The limited knowledge of the law by both the general population and law enforcement authorities which results in a high level of impunity for child rights violations.</p>	<p>(1) para. 17: expresses concern that allocations to the health sector represent 4.2 per cent of the national budget and that allocation to the education sector is a mere 1.4 per cent of the State party's gross domestic product (GDP), ... also concerned about the lack of specific information on budget allocations for the implementation of the CRC. ... further concerned that the State party does not define specific budgetary allocations for the provision of critical social services to children, including those in the most vulnerable situations; para. 65: insufficient budgetary allocations to the health sector, especially in rural areas; para. 73: concerned at the limited budgetary allocations to education</p>	<p>(1) para. 21: notes that the Unit designated to collect data on children will be upgraded to a Division and will get more resources in the future to carry out its work. However, ... remains concerned at the absence of a central data collection system covering all areas of the Convention and about the limited data available on the enjoyment of children's rights, notably disaggregated statistics on child protection, children in street situations, children in situations of exploitation, and children in rural areas, internally displaced children and refugees; pra. 75: concerned at the lack of disaggregated statistical information on the situation of refugees</p>	<p>(2) para. 15: notes the existence of the Guinean Committee for Monitoring, Protection and Defence of the Rights of the Child designated to be the coordinating body and to improve coordination between governmental bodies and civil society in implementing the Convention; para. 29: welcomes the fact that cooperation with the NGO Coalition on the Rights of the Child (COLTE) is effective. However, regrets that there has been no participatory process organized with civil society during the elaboration of the State party's report ... expresses concern that in the recent past, members of non-governmental human rights organizations, including those monitoring the situation of children as well as journalists have been subjected to various human rights violations.</p>
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72	Guinea Bissau 2013	(1) para. 24: concerned that discrimination against certain groups of children persists in the State party, in particular girls, children with disabilities and children living with HIV/AIDS. ... particularly concerned that girls continue to be subjected to multiple gender-based discrimination, e.g. with regard to practices like FGM/C, forced and child marriages, and enrolment in and completion of education. ... remains deeply concerned that no systematic efforts have been undertaken, including with religious leaders, opinion makers, and the mass media, to combat and change discriminatory attitudes and practices against children; para. 50: concerned about discrimination against and social exclusion of children with disabilities;	(1) para. 26: concerned that the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration has still not been fully implemented by the State party or reflected in legislation, policy, programmes or activities, and that community and regional leaders are not sufficiently aware of the provisions in the Convention on the best interests of the child.	(2) para. 30: appreciates the establishment of the Children's Parliament. However, it remains concerned that traditional attitudes towards children in society limit, and often prevent, children from expressing their views on a wide range of issues that affect them within the family, schools, institutions, judicial system and in society at large.	(1) para. 10: concerned at the lack of progress of the State party in harmonizing its legislation with the CRC and related international standards. ... concerned that many aspects of customary law still constitute an obstacle to the implementation of the CRC; para. 50: lack of specific legislation prohibiting discrimination against children with disabilities	(1) para. 9: insufficient follow-up was given to previous CO on budgetary allocations; para. 16: notes with concern the information that less than 1% of the general budget of the State is allocated to women and children's issues and that the allocated resources are insufficient to effectively improve the implementation of children's rights, especially children in vulnerable situations. ... notes the large percentage of current aid going to governance and security sector reform, in contrast to allocations to health and education sectors;	(2) para. 18: takes note of the State party's efforts to improve data collection ..., but is concerned that routine data collection is still not systematic and needs improvement in quality. Whereas data collection on education, health and groups of children in need of special protection has improved, data are still lacking on children in conflict with the law, children in contact with the justice system, the percentage of children with disabilities enrolled in school, substance abuse by children and children in street situations. ... also concerned that those responsible for data collection ... do not systematically use the indicators for child protection ...	NA
73	Guyana 2013	(2) para. 24: welcomes the ... adoption of the Amerindian Act in 2006, the establishment of the Indigenous Peoples Commission to address discrimination and marginalization faced by Amerindian children, and other measures taken to address discrimination against Amerindians. ... remains concerned at the prevalence of discrimination against Amerindian children, and children with disabilities. ... concerned about discrimination against children on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity.	(2) para. 26: welcomes the inclusion of the best interests of the child principle in the ... Protection of Children Act, 2009. However, ... concerned at the absence of guidelines and procedures for ensuring that the right of the child to have his/her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration is applied continuously throughout the State party's policies, legislation and programmes.	(2) para. 28: welcomes the inclusion of clear provisions on the right of the child to be heard in the Adoption Act (2009) and Protection of Children Act (2009), as well as the existence of Children's Parliaments. However, ... remains concerned that in practice, respect for this right remains limited, with no systematic approach in place for the participation of children and young people in local governance. ... reiterates its previous concerns on sociocultural attitudes and traditions that continue to restrain children from freely expressing their views in schools, courts and within the family.	(2) para. 8: notes the adoption of numerous child-related laws over the reporting period and in particular the adoption of the Childcare and Protection Agency Act No. 2 of 2009 and Protection of Children Act No. 17 of 2009. However, ... concerned that the State party has not yet undertaken a comprehensive review of its laws to ensure full compatibility with the CRC, including finalizing the necessary reforms of its judiciary and legislation for the establishment of a Family Court. ... concerned that the State party has yet to adopt its 2008 Juvenile Justice Bill.	(2) para. 14: welcomes the State party's 2008–2012 Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and the resulting increase in social-sector spending, including for education, health, water, sanitation and housing, which contributes to fulfilment of children's rights. ... remains concerned that the social budget of the State party does not define specific budgetary allocations for the provision of critical social services to children, exacerbating the substantial discrepancies between the urban and hinterland regions.	(2) para. 16: notes the State party's ongoing efforts to improve its data collection, including through the establishment of a common DevInfo database and Child Protection Monitoring System (CPMS). However, ... concerned that these are not comprehensive and there are no plans to establish a central data collection unit. ... shares the State party's concern about the lack of statisticians and about other technical and capacity-related reasons that prevent these databases from becoming fully operational.	NA

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74	Haiti 2003	(2) para. 23: concerned that the general principles contained in the Convention, e.g. the right to non-discrimination (art. 2) is not fully integrated into the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, or in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels; 25: noting that discrimination is prohibited under the Constitution, but remains concerned by the persistence of discriminatory legal rules regarding children born out of wedlock, the de facto discrimination in the State party, the disparities in the enjoyment of rights experienced by children belonging to the most vulnerable groups, such as girls, restavek, children from poor families, street children, children with disabilities and children living in rural areas.	(1) para. 23: concerned that the general principles contained in the Convention e.g. the best interests of the child (art. 3) are not fully integrated into the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, or in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels; para. 28: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not fully recognized and implemented in the relevant legislation and in decisions relevant to children.	(2) para. 23: concerned that the general principles contained in the Convention e.g. respect for the views of the child (art. 12), are not fully integrated into the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, or in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels; para. 30: notes that the Decree of 12 December 1960 provides for the right of children to express themselves in the family; however, it is concerned that children's opinions are not given sufficient consideration and that respect for the views of the child remains limited within the family, at schools, in the courts and before administrative authorities and in the society at large.	(2) para. 5: notes that a draft Code on Children is being prepared to harmonize existing legislation with the Convention, but remains concerned, nonetheless, that domestic legislation still does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the Convention.	(2) para. 13: concern at the limited budget allocations and resource mobilization for the social sector, in particular for those areas addressing the needs of the most vulnerable groups of children; para. 52: welcomes the increasing budget allocated to education	(1) para. 15: concerned at the absence of reliable data and the lack of an adequate data collection system; para. 42: concerned at the lack of statistical data on violence and abuse; on disabilities (para. 50)	(1) para. 17: concerned that the State party has not developed a well-structured, systematic cooperation with NGOs and that it does not evaluate the activities of such organizations.
75	Holy See 2014	(2) para. 25: Holy See has initiated a review of its legislation with a view to withdrawing the discriminatory expression "illegitimate children", contained in the Canon Law, in particular Canon 1139 ... noting as positive the progressive statement delivered by the Pope in July 2013 ... concerned about past statements and declarations made by the Holy See on homosexuality, which contribute to the social stigmatization of and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender adolescents and children raised by same sex couples; para 27: regrets that the Holy See continues to place emphasis on the promotion of complementarity and equality in dignity, two concepts which differ from equality in law and practice provided for in article 2 of the Convention, and which are often used to justify discriminatory legislation and policies	(1) para. 29: concerned that children's right to have their best interests taken into account as a primary consideration has been insufficiently addressed by the Holy See in legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings, as well as in policies, programmes and projects that are relevant to and which have an impact on children. ... particularly concerned that in dealing with allegations of child sexual abuse, the Holy See has consistently placed the preservation of the reputation of the Church and the protection of the perpetrators above the child's best interests, as observed by several national commissions of inquiry.	(1) para. 31: concerned that the Holy See has a restrictive interpretation of children's right to express their views in all matters affecting them as well as their rights to freedom of expression, association and religion ... concerned that the Holy See continues to view the rights enshrined in article 12 of the Convention as undermining the rights and duties of parents	(2) para. 13: welcoming the Holy See's approach to ensuring that the legislation of Vatican City State complies with the Convention ... regrets that the same approach has not been followed in relation to its internal laws, including Canon Law ... concerned that some of the provisions of the Canon Law are not in conformity with the provisions of the Convention, in particular those relating to children's rights to be protected against discrimination, violence and all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse	(2) para. 17: appreciates the numerous activities undertaken at the grassroots level and funded by Catholic churches, foundations and organizations worldwide to support and protect children in the most vulnerable situations and to provide them with, among others, education opportunities, health and social care and other family support services ... notes the absence of a comprehensive child rights-based approach to the allocation of resources to support children and the lack of a system to track spending on children by the Holy See, and church-related organizations and institutions in States parties where the Holy See has influence and impact	NA	NA

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76	Honduras 2007	(2) para. 8: notes insufficient implementation of previous COs on discrimination and calls for measures; para. 31: while noting the State party's efforts aimed at combating all forms of discrimination (...) is nevertheless concerned that discrimination and stigmatization continue to exist towards certain vulnerable groups, such as indigenous children, street children, children living in rural and remote areas and towards certain children because of their appearance.	(2) para. 33: welcomes the principle of the best interests of the child being enshrined in the State party's legislation, nevertheless concerned that this principle is neither recognized nor applied in practice; for instance in the allocation of resources, in the area of child protection and in the administration of justice.	(2) para. 37: welcomes some positive initiatives in the area of child participation, such as the National Children's Congress and the Student Legislative Congress, but is concerned that the right of the child to express his/her views is rarely implemented in practice, partly due to the fact that children are not recognized yet as right-holders. Furthermore, the Committee regrets the paucity of information on the participation of children in the justice system.	(1) para. 10: despite the adoption of the Code on Children and Adolescents and of various relevant pieces of legislation, there is still insufficient harmonization of the national legislation with the provisions of the Convention	(1) para. 7: regrets the lack of information about the resources allocated for implementation of National Plan; para. 72: no specific funds have been allocated for implementing the National Plan; para. 8: insufficient financial and human resources of the Honduras Institute of Children and the Family (IHNFA); para. 19: concerned that the increase in the funds available through, for instance, poverty reduction strategies, debt reduction programmes and int. cooperation did not result in a proportionate strengthening of the mechanisms for the integral care and protection of children either at the national or local level; para. 23: chronic lack of resources for training.	(2) para. 21: welcomes the measures taken by IHNFA to improve the system of data collection, including the joint project between the Institute and NGOs to set up a database to study the extent of commercial sexual exploitation of children; concerned that information on children remains insufficient, especially regarding vulnerable groups such as street children, children with disabilities, and indigenous children, and that there is no centralized data management system to monitor progress in the implementation of the Convention.	(3) para. 23: training courses organized with civil society support; para. 26: notes with appreciation the involvement of NGOs in several relevant activities for the implementation of the Convention.
77	Hungary 2014	(2) para. 19: notes that Act C of 2012 criminalizes acts that are racially motivated, and acknowledges programmes and projects to promote tolerance among schoolchildren ... concerned about the still-prevalent discriminatory attitude of the public against children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations — such as children with disabilities, children living in family forms other than heterosexual marriage, children belonging to ethnic or religious minorities, children with different sexual identities, and migrant and unaccompanied children — which has been exacerbated by the economic crisis and poverty ... concerned about the intrinsic gender stereotypes in the society, which have a significant negative effect on girls	(2) para. 21: notes that the State party's legislation provides for the best interests of the child, in particular in its Fundamental Law and in the Child Protection Act ... concerned that the State party's legislation and policies in many areas, including its regulation on juvenile justice, are not appropriately based on the principle of the best interests of the child	(2) para. 23: notes that, under the new Civil Code, children should be heard if they are considered to be able to judge the situation ... concerned that under the Family Act, children below the age of 14 years do not have an automatic right to be heard in decisions related to their custody, and that in practice, children below the age of 14 are heard only as an exception, even in divorce and child custody cases ... concerned that child rights representatives assigned to children in institutions and foster care have had limited contact with children and have been found to be ineffective	(2) para. 4: welcomes the adoption of specified legislation; para. 25: concern about regulation on associations (2014); para. 33: notes that the State party's legislation prohibits the use of corporal punishment against children in all settings.	(1) para. 8: to take all necessary measures to address those recommendations from the concluding observations that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented, and in particular, it recommends and urges the State party to allocate adequate resources for the economic, social and cultural rights of children, in particular for those living in families with scarce economic means, "to the maximum extent of... available resources and, where needed, within the framework of international cooperation"	(1) para. 8: to take all necessary measures to address those recommendations from the concluding observations that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented, and in particular, it recommends and urges the State party to ... thoroughly examine the existing laws and regulations that impede the collection of disaggregated data, ensuring that the collection and publication of data broken down according to ethnic origin can be done in full respect of human rights, as well as significantly improve the collection of data relevant for the implementation of the Convention	(1) para. 17: concerned that the centralization and nationalization of services for children in public care facilities and other areas have resulted in the exclusion of many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from the support of the State party ... concerned about the information that some NGOs have been subjected to investigation for receiving foreign funds

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78	Iceland 2012	NA	(2) para. 26: welcomes information that the concept of the best interest of the child is generally taken into consideration in the assessment of a child's need for welfare and public services; however, concerned that the best interests principle may not be fully taken into account in certain individual cases, especially with regard to ensuring parents' access to the child.	(2) para. 28: notes the State party's indication that the Children's Act secures the right of children to form their own opinions and to express them; appreciates that under the Youth Act municipal authorities may establish youth councils to advise authorities on youth affairs; remains concerned that there is no legal requirement that such councils be established nor any procedures and regulations governing the functioning of such councils, leaving them at the discretion of municipalities; also concerned that all children may not have equal opportunity to express their views.	(3) para. appreciates the legislative actions that are being undertaken by the State party to strengthening the constitutional, legal and normative framework related to the implementation of the Convention	(2) para. 6: notes with appreciation the State party's fiscal efforts to protect the rights of children, especially regarding special protection measures, and that it intends to redress the budget cuts to social investment, including education and health, as its financial and economic situation steadily continues to improve; para. 18: recognizes the difficult financial and economic situation faced by the State party since 2008 and appreciates the efforts made to avoid direct effects on services protecting children and families in situations of vulnerability. The Committee, however, expresses its concern at extensive budget cuts to the education and health sectors and that, despite efforts, the rate of families with children below the low-income threshold, in particular single parent families, has increased.	(2) para. 7: call to implement previous CO on lack of a data collection system; notes with appreciation the data provided by the State party on various areas concerning children; regrets that the system of data collection does not cover all areas of the Convention, and that there are insufficient mechanisms for the processing, evaluation and assessment of such data; para. 34: regrets lack of data on children with disabilities disaggregated by types of disabilities, age and gender	NA
79	India 2014	(1) para. 31: concerned at the disparity among different groups of children in access to education, health care, safe water and sanitation and other social services and to the enjoyment of the rights enshrined in the Convention ... persisting discrimination against children from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, children with disabilities, children with HIV/AIDS, as well as asylum-seeking and refugee children; para. 33: deeply concerned about the pervasive discrimination against girls and women in the State party and the persistent patriarchal attitudes and deep-rooted stereotypes and practices that perpetuate discrimination against girls	(2) para. 35: While noting that the National Policy for Children, 2013, incorporates the principle of the best interests of the child as a guiding principle in all administrative and judicial proceedings, policies and programmes relating to children, the Committee is concerned at the lack of detailed information on measures taken to ensure that, in practice, the right of children to have their best interests taken as a primary consideration is consistently applied by professionals working for and with children in all areas affecting them; para. 59: concerned that the best interests of the child are not always taken into account, including when sentencing parents	(2) para. 37: welcomes the State party's initiatives, such as the Child Reporters Initiative, to increase children's participation in society, as well as its efforts to increase children's participation in civil proceedings affecting their rights and well-being. However, the Committee is concerned that children are generally not perceived as rights holders by society and that their participation in the public sphere and opportunities to have their voices heard in the family, schools, community and at the central level are insufficient	(2) para. 11: notes that since the consideration of its second periodic report, the State party has adopted or amended a number of federal laws to strengthen the legislative framework for children's rights. However, the legislation still does not cover the full scope of the Convention ... concerned that the different levels of authority and competencies within the State party's federal structure have resulted in a differentiated application of the legislation on children's rights and fragmentation and inconsistencies in the implementation of children's rights across the State party	(2) para. 17: notes the State party's efforts to improve the planning and budgetary processes and to increase the budget allocated to schemes and programmes for children ... concerned that budget allocations do not adequately take into consideration child protection needs. It is also concerned at the mismanagement of allocated resources, which is exacerbated by a high level of corruption, and the lack of effective monitoring and evaluation systems	(1) para. 19: particularly concerned at the scarcity of available data on children between 15 and 18 years and limitations in the type of data collected, which does not cover all areas of the CR; para. 55: concerned at: (a) The lack of disaggregated data on children in need, children provided with services and in different forms of alternative care, support services for parents and kinship caregivers, abandonment, neglect and abuse of children and measures adopted, other than legislation; para. 85: lack of data on sale, trafficking and abduction of children; para. 87: inadequate data on children in conflict with the law.	(2) para. 27: notes with appreciation the State party's coordination with NGOs in various areas of service delivery ... concerned that such cooperation is not systematic and that the State party appears to delegate the provision of services for children to NGOs contracted by the respective states, but does not monitor and evaluate the quality of the services delivered

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80	Indonesia 2014	(2) para. 3: welcomes adoption of Law No. 28 of 2008 on the Elimination of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination; para. 19: while welcoming the State party's gender mainstreaming programme, ... deeply concerned about discriminatory provisions that still remain in national legislation and the prevalence of de facto discrimination, including: (a) Discrimination against girls ...; (b) Particular discrimination against children with disabilities in access to health care and education; (c) Ongoing severe discrimination against children belonging to certain religious minorities and the State party's failure to deter attacks; (d) Various forms of discrimination against children belonging to indigenous communities, such as insufficient access to education and health care.	(1) para. 21: regrets that despite its previous recommendations, the principle of the best interests of the child is not integrated into most child-related legislation in the State party ... notes with concern that decisions regarding adoption and custody are often taken on the basis of the child's religion, rather than his or her best interests, and that, according to Sharia law applicable to Muslims, in divorce proceedings decisions relating to custody of children are based on their age	(2) para. 25: welcoming the establishment of the National Forum for Child Participation, the Teen Parliament, the Indonesian Child Congress, the Child Council, Election of Young Leaders, and National Child Consultation, the Committee is concerned that these forums are not fully inclusive, children's opinions voiced in these forums are not sufficiently taken into consideration in decision-making processes, Law No. 23/2002 establishing the right of the child to be heard, requires that the right be applied in accordance with "morality and decency", which hampers effective, transparent implementation	(1) para. 11: notes with concern that the provisions of the Convention have not been fully incorporated into the State party's domestic law. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned that, further to the decentralization process that has led to the formation of new provinces and districts, with each one responsible for delivering public services, several by-laws adopted at the provincial or district level are inconsistent with the provisions and principles of the Convention; para. 19: concerned about discriminatory provisions that still remain in national legislation	(2) para. 15: concerned about the State party's total health expenditure of only 2,7 per cent of its gross domestic product in 2011, which it considers to be low. Furthermore, while welcoming the significant increase in the annual education budget, ... regrets that the budget is not sufficient to ensure education for all children in the State party; para. 61: insufficient budget allocations for early childhood care and education.	(1) para. 8: reiterates its recommendations that the State party continue to upgrade its system of data collection to cover all areas of the Convention; para. 43: lack of an adequate system of disaggregated data collection on children living in institutions; para. 45: The absence of systematic data collection on children with disabilities	NA
81	Iran (Islamic Republic of) 2000	(1) para. 2: significant gaps in the state report's information relating to general measures of implementation, particularly non-discrimination; para. 21: concerned at the persistence of discrimination under the law; para. 23: concerned about the large disparities in the enjoyment of rights in provinces inhabited largely by persons belonging to ethnic minorities; para. 35: concerned at the situation of members of non-recognized religions, including the Baha'is, who experience discrimination	(1) para. 2: significant gaps in the state report's information relating to general measures of implementation, particularly the best interests of the child; para. 25: concerned that in all actions concerning children, the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in article 3 of the Convention is not a primary consideration, including in matters relating to family law;	(2) para. 31: welcomes the initiation of the "school mayor" programme, but is nevertheless concerned that respect for the views of the child remains limited owing to traditional societal attitudes towards children in schools, the courts, and especially within the family; concerned that the child's views may only be represented in judicial proceedings affecting him or her through the father, paternal grandfather or other appointed guardian and not directly by the child.	(2) para. 7: Noting information from the State party that a Governmental working group has been established to study the compatibility of existing laws with the CRC, the Committee is nevertheless concerned that the broad and imprecise nature of the State party's general reservation potentially negates many of the CRC's provisions and raises concern as to its compatibility with the object and purpose of the CRC; para. 39: concerned that legislation provides for corporal punishment within the family	(2) para. 13: Noting the State party's efforts to implement various child-oriented programmes, concern that insufficient attention has been paid to CRC article 4 regarding the implementation to the "maximum extent of ... available resources" of the economic, social and cultural rights of children;	NA	(1) para. 15: notes that cooperation with non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the Convention, including preparation of the report, remains limited.

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82	Iraq 1998	(2) para. 16: wishes to express its concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions, especially its general principles, as reflected in its article 2 (non-discrimination) in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, or in its policies and programmes relevant to children; para. 17: notes that the principle of non-discrimination (art. 2) is reflected in the Constitution and in other domestic legislation; concerned that domestic legislation does not explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of national or ethnic origin, political or other opinion, and disability. Though Iraqi legislation prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, the Committee is concerned that in practice there are still disparities between boys and girls, particularly with respect to inheritance rights and the right to education.	(1) para. 16: wishes to express its concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions, especially its general principles, as reflected in its article 3 (best interests of the child), in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, or in its policies and programmes relevant to children.	(1) para. 16: wishes to express its concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions, especially its general principles, as reflected in its article 12 (respect for the views of the child), in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, or in its policies and programmes relevant to children; para. 18: concern regarding the participatory rights of children.	(2) para. 7: the Committee notes that the State party has developed a substantive legislative framework, it is still concerned that the provisions and principles of the Convention are not fully reflected in law; para. 20: concern that corporal punishment is not expressly prohibited in domestic legislation.	(1) para. 13: concerned that insufficient attention has been paid to allocating budgetary resources in favour of children "to the maximum extent ... available ... and, where needed, within the framework of international cooperation".	(2) para. 12: notes the establishment and expansion of the Mother and Child Unit within the Central Statistical Office, but remains concerned that no adequate measures have been taken for the development of indicators and the systematic collection of disaggregated quantitative and qualitative data; para. 23: particularly concerned over the absence of data on adolescent health, including on teenage pregnancy, abortion, suicide, violence and substance abuse	(1) para. 10: concerned at the insufficient coordination between the different bodies and agencies working with and for children; recommends that greater efforts be made to ensure closer cooperation with non-governmental organizations working in the field of children's rights
83	Ireland 2006	(2) para. 20: welcomes the establishment of the National Action Plan against Racism in 2005 and in particular, the five objectives of the plan for protection, inclusion, provision, recognition and participation; concerned that the principle of non-discrimination might not be enjoyed equally by all children in the State party and that children of different ethnicities and children belonging to minorities face higher levels of racism, prejudice, stereotyping and xenophobia; para. 789: remains concerned that adequate recognition, action and positive measures have not yet been taken to enhance the enjoyment of the rights of children belonging to the Traveller community	(2) para. 22: notes that steps have been taken in some areas to ensure respect for the best interests of the child, yet remains concerned that the principle is still insufficiently addressed; para. 30: that the principle of the best interests of the child is not taken into account in the decision-making process on family reunification, para. 50: or intercountry adoptions;	(2) para. 24: notes with appreciation the measures taken to promote the respect for the views of the child, including through the Children and Youth Parliaments, and progress made to establish effective student councils in post-primary schools; however, concerned at the lack of sufficient provisions for guardian ad litem and the fact that these measures are not taken in a systematic and comprehensive manner and that the local level and subject-specific authorities are not addressed; also notes that a high number of the complaints received by the Ombudsman for Children relate to a lack of respect for the views of the child	(2) para. 3: notes with appreciation the adoption of new legislation and policy measures; para. 8: welcomes the steps taken to further develop the legal framework but expresses regret that the CRC has not been incorporated into domestic law as recommended by the Committee in its previous concluding observations; para. 34: concerned that the legislation in place on adoption does not fully correspond to international standards	NA	(2) para. 16: notes the progress made in the collection of statistical data, notes with appreciation the the references to a new National Data Strategy; remains concerned that there is a lack of systematic and comprehensive data on children, disaggregated by age, sex, ethnicity, and rural and urban areas	(3) para.10: notes with appreciation the broad-based cooperation and public consultations undertaken in the development of the National Strategy, including with NGOs and academics;

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84	Israel 2013	<p>(1) para. 21: While taking note of court decisions on discrimination ... reiterates its concern ... that non-discrimination is not expressly guaranteed under the Basic Laws of the State party. ... also expresses concern about the adoption of numerous discriminatory laws over the reporting period ... which primarily affect Palestinian children, in all aspects of their life, but also Arab Israeli, Bedouin, and Ethiopian children as well as children of migrant workers and asylum seekers. ... deeply concerned that the establishment of separate means of transport and road services as well as the implementation of two separate legal systems and institutions amount to de facto segregation and lead to inequality between Israeli and Palestinian children in the enjoyment of their rights.</p>	<p>(2) para. 23: welcomes the numerous measures taken over the reporting period to ensure respect for the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration ... welcomes the 2006 and 2008 rulings of the Supreme Court which revoked decisions of Sharia and Rabbinical Courts granting custody of children to their father without taking into consideration the best interests of the children. ... however concerned that the right of children to have their best interests assessed and taken as a primary consideration has not been appropriately integrated and consistently applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings as well as in all policies, programmes and projects relevant to, and with an impact on children, and that this right can be subject to misinterpretations ... also concerned that the best interests of Palestinian children continue to be disregarded by the State party.</p>	<p>(2) para. 27: notes as positive the steps taken to expand to all courts by 2014 the experimental programme initiated in 2007 at the Haifa and Jerusalem Family Matters Courts with the participation of children involved in family matters proceedings as well as the Hadassah University hospital's practice of including children in decision-making on medical treatment and procedures. ... however concerned that: (a) In proceedings involving conversion, or admission to a psychiatric hospital, courts are not obliged to hear the opinions of the child if it would cause harm to the child, and that derogation to the right of the child to be heard in adoption proceedings is permissible when children are not aware of being adopted. ... further concerned that migrant and asylum-seeking children are rarely heard in proceedings that concern them; (b) The participation of children in decision-making processes, while receiving increased attention in the State party, is still not a widespread practice and the views of children are not sufficiently solicited or taken into account, especially in public policy decisions.</p>	<p>(2) para. 4: welcomes the adoption of several legislative measures; para. 11: takes note of the information provided by the delegation during the interactive dialogue about the progressive incorporation of the principles and provisions of the CRC into its domestic legal system. ... however concerned that this process is yet to be completed, a situation which affects the justiciability of children's rights in the State party.</p>	<p>(1) para. 13: regrets that insufficient information has been provided by the State party on the resources allocated for the implementation of the CRC, on the impact on children of its budgetary decisions and on the specific budgetary allocations for the provision of critical social services to children, including those in the most vulnerable situations. ... also concerned that the average spending per child in the Arab localities is estimated to be more than a third lower than in Jewish localities and that the State party fails to take into account the unequal level of resources provided to the two health systems to explain the persistent disparities in relation to health indicators between the Arab and Jewish children.</p>	<p>(1) para. 3: considers that the State party's persistent refusal to provide information and data ... on children living in the ... OPT ... greatly affects the adequacy of the reporting process and the State's accountability for the implementation of the CRC. para. 9: previous CO not followed up: on collecting data on all persons under 18 years for all areas covered by the CRC, including children in the most disadvantaged situations and use this data to assess progress and design policies to implement the CRC.</p>	<p>(1) para. 17: regrets that limited information was provided on the involvement of civil society in the elaboration of the State party's report and that NGOs are not systematically involved in planning policies and laws for children as acknowledged by the State party in its report. ... also expresses concern that Palestinian NGOs and international human rights organizations working in the OPT are increasingly perceived as a threat to national security and are subject to, among others, harassment, arrest and denial of work permits. ... further concerned about the denial of work permits to foreign nationals working for humanitarian organizations in the OPT and about the tightened control of foreign funding of NGOs when they cooperate with UN fact-finding missions.</p>
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85	Italy 2011	(1) para. 7: call to implement previous COs on non-discrimination; para. 24: seriously concerned at policies, laws and practices that discriminate against children in vulnerable situations, including Roma and children born out of wedlock;	(1) para. 7: call to implement previous COs on the best interests of the child; para. 42(a): recommends to introduce the principle of the best interests of the child as a paramount consideration in legislation on adoption;	(2) para. 26: welcomes the declaration by the Constitutional Court on art. 12 CRC as directly applicable in the domestic legal system and that the child may be considered an interested party in proceedings; further notes as positive Act No. 54/2006, which provides for the hearing of the child in parental separation, divorce and custody cases; remains concerned at: (a) the absence of an explicit right of the child to be heard in all civil, criminal and administrative proceedings, and (c) lack of systematic consultation of children in the process of making laws and policies affecting them at the national, regional or local levels, and the absence of more specific guidelines on children's participation in the development of future plans of action; para. 41: welcomes the mandatory provisions on the need to listen to the views and opinions of the child in domestic and intercountry adoptions	NA	(1) para. 10: concerned that no budget has been allocated for implementation National Plan, and that the process of allocating funds for the Plan of Action at the regional level could further delay its implementation; para. 14: concerned over recent cuts in budgets for education, the non-financing of the 2010 Extraordinary Plan for Development of Social and Educational Services, and about the reduction in funds for the Family Policy, the National Fund for Social Policies and the National Fund for Children and Adolescents; concern at regional disparities in the allocation for and spending on children; further concerned at the recent deterioration of the State party's international ranking as regards corruption and the effects this may have on children's rights.	(2) para. 16: takes note of the creation of a national information system on the care and protection of children and their families, to be concluded in 2012. Nevertheless, remains concerned at the limited data available on the enjoyment of children's rights, notably statistics on child victims of violence, children deprived of their family environment (including children in foster care), child victims of economic exploitation, children with disabilities, adopted children, and refugee and asylum-seeking children. The Committee expresses concern at the significant discrepancies in the capacity and effectiveness of regional data collection mechanisms.	NA
86	Jamaica 2003	(1) para. 5: call to implement previous COs on non-discrimination; para. 23: concerned that the Constitution of Jamaica does not fully reflect the provisions of art. 2; the State party does not pay enough attention to the problems of racial discrimination; Children with disabilities and children who are known to be infected with HIV/AIDS are discriminated	(1) para. 26: remains concerned that the principle is not fully recognized and implemented in all relevant legislation and in decisions relating to children, including with regard to the administration of juvenile justice and the right to health;	(2) para. 28: noting the State party's efforts to ensure child participation, including through the annual child month, the Committee remains concerned that children have limited opportunities to express their views in school, in courts, within administrative processes or within the family	(1) para. 5: call to implement previous COs on incorporation of the principles and provisions of the CRC into national legislation through constitutional reform and legislative review; para. 7: very disappointed that eight years later these plans still have not been implemented; concerned at the very slow legislative process of harmonization of the national legislation with the CRC; the Committee is concerned that the proposed Child Care and Protection Act does not fully take into consideration the provisions and principles of the Convention	(1) para. 17: aware of the economic difficulties facing the State party, is nevertheless concerned that the budgets for education and health are decreasing as percentages of the national budget and that the State party has not fully complied with the provisions of article 4 of the Convention in terms of the allocation of resources for the implementation of the Convention	(2) para. 5: call to implement previous COs on data collection; para. 15: welcomes the information that the State party, in collaboration with UNICEF, has developed JAMSTATS, a database collecting disaggregated data and using several child rights indicators on the basis of childinfo (the UNICEF database management software), and that this programme will be launched in July 2003; para. 50: notes the scarcity of data with regard to child labour and on para. 52: street children and para. 54: sexual exploitation	(2) NA/para. 38: noting the progress made in the area of the rights of children with disabilities, including the work done in cooperation with NGOs

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87	Japan 2010	(1) para. 8: call to implement previous COs on non-discrimination; para. 33: concerned that, in spite of several legislative measures, children born out of wedlock still do not enjoy the same rights as children born in marriage under the laws governing intestate succession; also concerned that societal discrimination persists against children belonging to ethnic minorities, children of non-Japanese nationality, children of migrant workers, refugee children and children with disabilities; para. 58: concerned that deep-rooted discrimination still exists of children with disabilities	(1) para. 37: notes with concern that the Child Welfare law, adopted in 1974, does not adequately reflect the primacy of the best interests; concerned that this right is not formally and systematically integrated into all legislation through a mandatory process of integrating the best interests of all children, including refugee and undocumented migrant children;	(2) para. 43: noting the State party's information that children's views are taken into account in judicial and administrative proceedings in schools, children's institutions and in the family, remains concerned that formal regulations set a high age limit, that child welfare services, including the guidance centres, give little weight to children's views, that schools limit the areas in which children's views are given weight and that policy-making processes rarely refer to children and their views; remains concerned that traditional views which fail to respect the child as a human being with rights severely limit the weight given to children's views.	(2) para. 11: notes the promulgation and amendment of several pieces of legislation in the area of child rights, which contribute to the improvement of children's living conditions and development; remains concerned that the Act on the Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People does not cover the full scope of the CRC or guarantee child rights and, that there is no comprehensive child rights law in place; also notes that certain aspects of domestic legislation, including in the area of juvenile justice, are still not consistent with the principles and provisions of the CRC.	(2) para. 19: expresses deep concern that the State party's social expenditure is lower than the OECD average; welcomes the new allowance system and the law on waiving upper-secondary school fees, it remains concerned that there is no clarity on budget allocations for children in the National and Municipal Budgets, making it impossible to track and evaluate investment in terms of its impact on children's lives; para. 29: concerned that the State party has consistently decreased ODA budget allocations which, at 0.2 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), are far below the internationally agreed 0.7 per cent of the GDP to be spent on ODA.	(2) para. 21: aware that a significant amount of data on children and their activities is regularly gathered and published, expresses concern at the lack of data in relation to some areas covered by the Convention, including on the school enrolment rates of children living in poverty, children with disabilities and non-Japanese children, as well as on violence and bullying in schools.	(2) para. 25: noting the State party's information on a number of meetings with civil society organisations; nevertheless concerned that a practice of continuous cooperation, which is important at all stages of the development, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes for child rights, has not yet been established; also concerned that civil society organisations were not involved in the follow-up to the Committee's previous concluding observations or afforded adequate opportunities to present their views during the preparation of the State party's third periodic report.
88	Jordan 2014	(1) para. 15: reiterates its concern about de jure discrimination against children born to a Jordanian mother and a non-Jordanian father, on the basis of the nationality of the father, and against children born out of wedlock ... concerned about discrimination suffered by children of Palestinian origin, children with disabilities, children living in institutions, children living in extreme poverty and children in remote areas; para. 17: expresses concern that, despite repeated recommendations from treaty bodies, the legislation of the State party and the way it is applied continue to discriminate against girls, notably in the fields of inheritance, marriage and protection from violence	(2) para. 19: While noting the willingness of the State party to make the best interests of the child one of the key principles of its interim Personal Status Code, Act No. 36 of 2010, ... concerned that there is a misinterpretation of the best interests of the child as reflected in several provisions of the Act, in particular those relating to child custody, marriage, inheritance and transmission of nationality, which are incompatible with the right of children to have their best interests taken into consideration. ... particularly concerned that, according to the law ... and jurisprudence of the State party, the marriage of a girl to her rapist can be considered as being in her best interests.	(2) para. 23: welcomes the initiatives taken by the State party over the reporting period to promote the right of the child to be heard, in particular through the consultation of children in the context of the preparation of the State party's report, the Second National Youth Survey and the creation of children's parliaments. The Committee nevertheless reiterates its concern that legal and administrative proceedings do not systematically provide for the right of children to be heard and that respect for the views of children remains limited owing to traditional societal attitudes towards children, and especially girls, within the family and the community at large	(2) para. 11: notes with appreciation that the legal status of the Convention and its precedence over domestic laws was clarified by its publication in the official gazette pursuant to Act No. 50 of 2006, in accordance with the Committee's previous recommendation ... concerned about the considerable delay in adopting the Children's Rights Bill and the draft law on juvenile justice ... concerned that efforts made to harmonize the domestic legal framework with the principles and provisions of the Convention have remained insufficient; para. 31: concerned that the legislation of the State party fails to protect boys from sexual abuse and exploitation or to provide sentences commensurate with the gravity of sexual crimes against children	(2) para. 13: welcomes the study undertaken by the National Council for Family Affairs to analyse budget allocations for children, as well as the development of a budget model that includes strategic goals and tasks for each ministry, with a view to meeting children's needs and protecting their rights ... concerned that general cuts in the national budget have been threatening the progress achieved by the State party in the field of children's development	(1) para. 8: reiterates its recommendations to the State party to Strengthen its mechanisms for data collection by establishing a central database on children, and ensure that data are collected on all areas covered by the Convention and that such data are disaggregated, inter alia, by age for all persons under 18 years, by sex, by urban and rural areas and by those groups of children who are in need of special protection; para. 41: Limited data is available regarding children with disabilities	NA

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89	Kazakhstan 2007	(2) para. 26: appreciates the significant efforts undertaken to combat discrimination; concerned at the fact that stigmatizing words, such as "invalid" and "illegitimate child", are consistently used in legislation and official literature produced by the State party.	(2) para. 28: notes that the principle of the best interests of the child is taken into account in the Constitution and in several laws, it is concerned that this principle is not adequately respected and implemented in all regulations as well as in practice in all domains and for all children.	(2) para. 30: notes that the principle of the respect for the views of the child is secured in the Constitution and in some legislation and that the State party considers abolishing the law setting the age-limit for a child to express his/her views at 10 years; concerned that traditional practices and cultural attitudes might limit the full implementation of CRC article 12.	(2) para. 5: call to implement previous COs on legislation; notes the efforts undertaken by the State party to harmonize legislation in order to ensure greater consistency with the CRC; remains concerned that some aspects of domestic legislation are not consistent with the principles and provisions of the CRC such as in the area of child labour and sexual exploitation.	(2) para. 18: notes the significant increase in budget allocations in the national budget to children's education, culture, health and social security and social assistance in monetary terms; but remains concerned that the means provided for urgently needed improvements in the sectors of education, health, social security, and in particular, family assistance, are not available.	(2) para. 20: notes the extensive data provided in the report as well as in the written replies; regrets that disaggregated data in important areas of the Convention are not available such as on refugee children, child abuse and neglect, children involved in sexual exploitation, including prostitution, pornography and trafficking, substance abuse, child labour and children working and/or living in streets.	(1) para. 24: notes that NGOs were involved in the data collection and are aware of the preparation of the State party's periodic report; concerned that cooperation with NGOs and civil society is insufficient.
90	Kenya 2007	(2) para. 24: welcoming the information that the State party has reviewed certain discriminatory legislation to ensure that children's rights are not breached; expresses concern at the fact that discrimination against certain groups of children still exists in policy as well as in practice, particularly with regard to the girl child, children of certain minorities such as pastoralists and hunter gatherers, children with disabilities, refugee children and the children of asylum-seekers; also concern at the de facto discrimination faced by children born out of wedlock, children infected with HIV and/or affected by HIV/AIDS, orphans, street children and children born of Kenyan mothers and non-Kenyan fathers.	(2) para. 26: welcomes the principle of the best interests of the child being reflected in the Children's Act; However, the use of this principle depends on the understanding and sensitivity of officials and others who make decisions concerning children and the Committee is concerned that the best interest of the child is not systematically taken into account, among other things owing to the lack of adequate training.	(2) para. 28: appreciates the State party's efforts to promote and respect children's right to freely express their views and the process of drafting National Guidelines for Child Participation aimed at facilitating participation of children at all levels; However, concerned that the prevailing sociocultural and traditional attitudes and practices are serious obstacles to guaranteeing this right and the full consideration of children's views in administrative and judicial decision-making processes at local or national levels.	(2) para. 8: welcomes the enactment of a Children's Act in 2001 (Cap 586 Laws of Kenya) and notes the various legislative measures undertaken by the State party as listed in the second period report; however, it is concerned that national legislation needs further harmonization and strengthening.	(2) para. 14: welcomes the general increase in the budgetary allocation to social services such as health and culture, but is concerned that it is not possible to identify the funds spent on children or have a clear understanding of this proportion of the budget; regrets the regional disparities and the lack of prioritization of children's economic, social and cultural rights, especially for marginalized children, and the lack of budget allocations with a view to alleviating disparities.	(2) para. 16: taking note of the efforts made to provide disaggregated data in the State party's reply to the list of issues in improving the data-collection system and the development of a national database on children in need of special protection, the Committee remains concerned at the lack of a centralized data-collection system and a disaggregated representation of specific categories of children; para. 67: regrets the lack of data on the number of children in conflict with the law.	(2) para. 18: notes with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to ensure and enhance cooperation between the State institutions and civil-society organizations in the implementation of projects related to children's rights; Nevertheless, notes that there is a need to further improve and formalize this cooperation in order to enhance sustainability and continuity.
91	Kiribati 2006	(2) para. 25: welcomes the indication by the State party that the gender gap in school enrolment has decreased; however concerned at reports of persistent discrimination experienced by children from economically disadvantaged families.	(1) para. 28: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not given adequate attention in national legislation and policies and that awareness of its significance is low among the population; para. 40: concerned that the best interests of the child are not a priority in decision-making processes on children without a family	(2) para. 30: welcomes the efforts of the State party to promote and implement the right of children to express their views and actively participate in various levels of society; concerned at the persistence of traditional attitudes in the State party which limit children's rights to participate and to express their views.	(1) para. 7: concerned that there is no specific legislation to protect the rights of the child and that domestic law, including customary law, is not in full compliance with the CRC principles and provisions; further concerned that Kiribati has only ratified two of the seven core international human rights treaties; para. 64: concerned that there is no specific legislation on juvenile justice	(2) para. 17: notes that the State party assigns significant resources to the health and education sectors; nevertheless concerned about the economic difficulties that the State party encounters which prevent it from allocating more resources to children and families; para. 9: however, regrets the scarcity of human and financial resources allocated to KNACC, which does not allow it to effectively carry out its work; para. 13: concerned that inadequate resources have been allocated for the effective implementation of the National Plan of Action.	(1) para. 15: concerned at the lack of systematic and comprehensive data disaggregated by age and sex that would enable analysis of the situation of vulnerable groups of children in the State party;	(2) para. 21: welcomes the participation of NGOs in the work of KNACC and the creation of the Kiribati Association of Non-Governmental Associations (KANGO); however, notes that there are few associations which are active on issues related to the rights of the child.

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92	Kuwait 2013	(2) para. 6: previous CO still needs to be addressed; para. 27: notes as positive the establishment in 2010 of the Central System to Resolve Illegal Resident Status, the issuance of birth certificates for some bidoon children and the assurances given ... that the situation of bidoon families will be resolved in the next five years. ... nevertheless deeply concerned about the persistent discrimination against bidoon children, with a great proportion of them being deprived of their basic rights, in particular their rights to birth registration and access to health care, social services and education, and living in precarious conditions in the State party, in continued violation of CRC article 2.	(2) para. 31: While noting as positive that the legislation attaches paramount importance to the interests of the child, ... notes with concern that the right of children to have their best interests assessed and taken as a primary consideration has not been appropriately integrated and consistently applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and in all policies, programmes and projects relevant to and with an impact on children. ... also concerned that this right is also subject to misinterpretation, notably as regards guardianship, and disregarded in the case of bidoon children and in judicial proceedings where parents are involved, and especially when sentencing parents to death.	(1) para. 33: expresses concern that children are generally not perceived as rights holders in Kuwaiti society and that their participation in the public sphere and their opportunity to have their voices heard in decision-making processes are absent at the policy level and insufficient at the family, school and institutional and community levels.	(2) para. 9: notes that a draft Child Act, which envisages, inter alia, establishing a Higher Council for Childhood, has been elaborated and is currently being reviewed at the ministerial level. ... concerned about the considerable delay in the process of its adoption, which was recommended by the Committee in 1998 ... also concerned that the draft law is based on existing national laws related to children, some of which are not fully in compliance with the CRC and its Optional Protocols.	(2) para. 15: notes as positive that financial allocations to education accounted for 14 per cent of the State budget in 2008 and that spending on health care increased in 2013. ... regrets that insufficient information has been provided by the State party on the resources allocated for the implementation of the CRC and in particular on the specific budgetary allocations for the provision of critical social services to children in the most disadvantaged situations, particularly bidoon children, children with disabilities and children of migrant workers.	(1) para. 17: expresses concern about the continued limitation in statistical data available on the situation of children in the State party, which has a negative impact on the State's capacity to monitor and evaluate progress achieved with respect to children and prevents the Committee from properly assessing the situation of children in the State party. ... also concerned that there is still no comprehensive and centralized data collection system covering all areas of the CRC; para. 57: lack of comprehensive data and information on the health status of adolescents in general.	(1) para.21: notes with concern that civil society and children were not involved in the preparation of the State party report and are generally not aware of the role they could play during the reporting process.
93	Kyrgyzstan 2014	(2) para. 18: notes the efforts of the State party in combating discrimination, but is concerned that discrimination continues to be prevalent against children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations, such as children belonging to minority groups, including Lyuli children, children in care institutions, children with disabilities, girl children, children of migrant workers, children not registered as residents and children belonging to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGTBI) group; para. 59: concerned about discriminatory practices against minority groups and the continuing atmosphere of insecurity and tension since the ethnic conflict in 2010	(2) para. 20: notes that the 2010 Constitution and the Children's Code include provisions on the best interests of the child ... concerned that insufficient measures are being taken in practice to implement the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration ... concerned that the term "legitimate interests of the child", which is used in some of the State party's laws, is not equivalent to "the best interests of the child" in its scope	(1) para. 7: urges the State party to take all the necessary measures to address those recommendations from the concluding observations that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented, and, in particular, it urges the State party to Undertake measures to ensure that children's views are given due consideration in schools, courts, within the family and during relevant administrative processes concerning children through, inter alia, adoption of appropriate legislation, training of all caregivers and professionals working with and for children and the use of information campaigns	(2) para. 8: welcomes the amendments to the Children's Code on 10 July 2012, making it more consistent with the Convention, in particular in the areas of juvenile justice and deinstitutionalization of children. However, it regrets the lack of information on the implementation of the Code and other legislation in the area of children's rights ... regrets that the courts of the State party do not apply the Convention directly and do not refer to its provisions in their judgements when considering cases concerning the child's rights and interests	(2) para. 14: notes that, despite the budgetary constraints of the last few years, the State party managed to maintain its planned level of social spending ... concerned that social spending remains very low and that resources for children are not always allocated efficiently	(1) para. 7: urges the State party to take all the necessary measures to address those recommendations that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented, and, in particular, it urges the State party to Develop a comprehensive system for collecting disaggregated data covering all those under the age of 18 years; that data can be used as a basis for assessing progress achieved in the realization of children's rights and to help design policies to implement the Convention	(1) para. 7: urges the State party to take all the necessary measures to address those recommendations from the concluding observations that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented, and, in particular, it urges the State party to Involve non-governmental organizations, especially rights-based ones, and other sectors of civil society working with and for children more systematically throughout all stages of the implementation of the Convention

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94	Lao People's Democratic Republic 2011	(2) para. 7: call to implement previous COs on non-discrimination; para. 26: notes that the Constitution prohibits, inter alia, ethnic and gender discrimination; nevertheless, concerned at reports of continuing inequalities in the treatment of certain ethnic groups in terms of access to basic services, financial and other resources, decision making and capacity development opportunities; also notes with concern that girls do not have the same opportunities in the field of education as boys.	(2) para. 28: notes with appreciation that the State party's Constitution (art. 29) and the Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Children (art. 4) have established the best interests of the child as a principle to be observed in all actions undertaken with regard to children; nevertheless, concerned that this principle is not regularly applied in practice, and that the judicial, administrative and legislative bodies are not taking into account the best interests of the child in all decisions relevant to children.	(2) para. 30: notes the State party's declaration that children and youth are represented in consultative meetings on their rights and interests organized at central, provincial, district or village levels; while also noting that some awareness-raising programmes on the right of the child to express his/her opinion have been conducted, regrets that no training sessions have been carried out to raise awareness of this issue among persons who work with or for children, including judges, police officers, detention centre personnel and teachers; also concerned that the views of the child are not respected before the courts, where children do not have the right to be a witness or to bring a complaint or seek reparation without the consent of their parents.	(2) para. 8: welcomes the promulgation in 2007 of the Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Children; while noting that certain CRC principles and provisions have been incorporated into laws addressing fundamental rights and freedoms, the Committee nevertheless notes that the status of the CRC is unclear and that the Constitution does not give precedence to its provisions over national laws.	(1) para. 7: call to implement previous COs on allocation of resources; para. 16: noting the rapid economic growth that has taken place in the country over recent years, nevertheless concerned that budget allocations in the fields of health and education remain insufficient; notes, in particular, that budget allocations to the education sector are among the lowest in the world.	(2) para. 7: call to implement COs on data collection; para. 18: notes that progress is being made in establishing systems for collecting data on child rights; concerned that data on child rights is generally not available, and when data is available, it is often unreliable and not disaggregated by age and gender; para. 49: concerned at the lack of quantitative and qualitative data on children with disabilities and their needs	(1) para. 7: call to implement previous COs on cooperation with civil society; notes with interest the adoption of the Decree on Association in 2009, which allows the establishment and registration of civil society groups and organizations; however, concerned that the registration process is slow and tedious and no organization has yet received a permanent license; while taking note of the existence of the youth union, the Committee notes with regret that there are no NGOs specifically addressing child rights.
95	Latvia 2006	(2) para. 20: welcomes the declaration of the State party that all children in Latvia enjoy the same rights irrespective of their citizen-status as well as the decision to remove the mandatory requirement to record ethnic origin in passports. reiterates, however, its previous concern that the principle of non-discrimination is not fully implemented in Latvia for children belonging to minorities, including Roma children, children with disabilities, and children living in rural areas, in particular with regard to their access to adequate health and education facilities.	(1) para. 22: concerned that the best interests of the child are insufficiently addressed under the pressure of the economic transformation and the consequences of an aging population.	(2) para. 24: notes with appreciation the measures undertaken to promote respect for the views of the child, including through active participation in student government, on school boards and in the recently established children's council; concerned, however, that children from a disadvantaged background are not included to the same extent in these structures; regrets that little information was provided on the attitudes towards children's views and proposals, as well as information on the extent to which their views have been sought, expressed or integrated in all institutions attended by children at the local level and in the family.	(3) para. 8: notes with appreciation that the State party has taken steps to develop a legal framework for the protection of children's rights; welcomes the adoption of legislative measures related to the rights of children, including amendments to the Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child and to the Law on Social Services and Social Assistance and revised by-laws.	(2) para. 6: call to implement previous COs on coordinated policies and institutional mechanisms relating to the rights of children; the allocation of adequate budgetary resources; para. 14: welcomes the increases in budgetary resources allocated to education and maternal and child health care; nevertheless concerned that these allocations are inadequate to ensure effective CRC implementation;	(2) para. 16: takes note of the State party's progress with regard to the collection of statistical data and notes with appreciation the detailed and updated information provided by the State party in its written replies; remains concerned that there is still a lack of systematic and comprehensive data that has been disaggregated	NA

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96	Lebanon 2006	<p>(2) para. 27: notes with appreciation that the Constitution of Lebanon promotes the principle of non-discrimination; notes with concern that the Constitution and domestic laws guarantee equal status only to Lebanese children, but leave, for example, foreign children and refugee and asylum-seeking children without such protection; concerned at the persistent de facto discrimination faced by children with disabilities, the aforementioned foreign, refugee and asylum-seeking children, Palestinian children, children living in poverty, children in conflict with the law, and children living in rural areas, especially with regard to their access to adequate social and health services and educational facilities; also notes with concern the reports of the expressions of racial discrimination and xenophobia in the State party.</p>	<p>(2) para. 30: noting that the State party has given consideration to the principle of the best interests of the child, the Committee is of the view that this principle is not adequately reflected in the State party's legislation, policies and programmes.</p>	<p>(2) para. 34: notes with appreciation efforts to promote and respect children's right to freely express their views and to participate in society, such as children's municipality councils and youth cabinets, and the national plan of action to increase the participation of children and young people; welcomes the State party's efforts to promote the right to participation of those children who belong to the most vulnerable groups, such as Palestinian refugee children; para. 35: nevertheless, notes with concern that the religious and sharia courts decide on issues related to custody and care of the child without hearing the child's opinion; also shares the State party's concern that the traditional attitudes in Lebanese society may limit children's right to freely express their views within the family, in schools and in the community at large.</p>	<p>(2) para. 9: acknowledges the legislative efforts of the State party to strengthen the implementation of children's rights shown by the amendments to various laws and the preparation of bills but it is concerned at the slow progress made in this regard;</p>	<p>(1) para. 17: takes note of the State party's national expenditure on health care, social services and education, and it shares the State party's concern at the inefficiency observed in government expenditure on social services; notes with concern the lack of budget allocations for children at the local level.</p>	<p>(2) para. 19: welcomes the implementation of the "Child Info" programme on indicators relating to children and it is encouraged by the plan to establish a research, information and documentation centre for childhood within the framework of the programme of cooperation between the Lebanese Government and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 2002-2006; concerned about inadequate mechanisms to collect, analyse and disaggregate statistical data on children and adolescents, and it regrets the lack of updated information and data concerning many issues covered by the CRC, e.g. suicides among adolescents, residential care institutions, youth literacy, working children, Palestinian refugee children, children belonging to minorities and migrant children.</p>	<p>(2) para. 13: welcomes the activities of the Higher Council for Childhood, which includes representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations; para. 21: notes with appreciation the State party's close collaboration with non-governmental organizations and the active role of civil society in the implementation of the rights of the child and in the provision of education, health and social services. As regards the process of privatizing or contracting out services to NGOs, notes with concern the weak accountability and transparency of this process, as well as the lack of critical information provided by external monitoring and assessment mechanisms.</p>
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97	Lesotho 2001	(2) para. 25: noting that the principle of non-discrimination is reflected in the Constitution of Lesotho as well as in other domestic legislation, remains concerned that there continues to be serious discrimination in the State party, which has a negative impact on respect for children's rights and particularly on the rights of girls; concerned that married women have the legal status of minors; also concerned that the State party has not taken measures to address discrimination against children who are born out of wedlock, those affected by HIV/AIDS, children in remote rural areas, children born of incestuous relationships, institutionalized children, pregnant girls, children with disabilities, street children and children of ethnic minority groups; also concerned that many children do not have adequate or equal access to education and health services, in particular children in the vulnerable groups mentioned above.	(1) para. 27: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not respected;	(1) para. 9: concerned that children do not have sufficient opportunities to participate in the policy-making process; para. 27: concerned that some traditional practices and attitudes can limit implementation of the right of children, especially girls, to express their views and to participate in decision-making processes; also concerned that the evidence of children is not given appropriate weight in courts of law; limited implementation of children's right to be heard.	(1) para. 9: noting the recent efforts made, remains concerned that domestic legislation does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the CRC and that several recent efforts to amend domestic legislation have yet to be adopted;	(1) para. 9: notes the recent activities of the Law Reform Committees, resulting in, inter alia, the Married Persons Equality Bill and the Sexual Offences Bill, but remains concerned that their work is hindered by a lack of human and financial resources; para. 17: concerned that the State party has not used to the maximum extent possible the available budgetary, human and other resources for the Convention's implementation.	(1) para. 15: joins the State party in expressing concern that current data collection mechanisms are insufficient to ensure the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated quantitative and qualitative data for all areas covered by the Convention and in relation to all groups of children, with a view to the monitoring and evaluation of progress achieved and the assessment of the impact of policies adopted with respect to children; para. 41: lack of data on abuse and neglect; para. 45 on HIV/AIDS; para. 57: on sexual exploitation; para. 61: on juvenile justice	(1) para. 19: joins with the State party in expressing concern at the need for additional technical assistance and international cooperation; concerned that civil society, including NGOs, have insufficient opportunities to influence children's rights policy making and implementation.
98	Liberia 2012	(1) para. 33: regrets that insufficient measures have been taken to implement previous recommendations COs on discrimination, in particular against children in vulnerable situations; particularly concerned at the extent of gender-based discrimination in the State party, in particular against girls living in and coming from rural areas, who experience persistent discrimination in relation to access to education and social services, and their right to property and security. Statutory and customary laws which discriminate against women remain in force, in particular the Revised Rules and Regulations governing the Hinterland; also concerned about harassment and stigmatization of children with disabilities.	(2) para. 35: While commending the incorporation of the principle of the best interests of the child in the Children's Law, concerned that this principle is not systematically reflected in the State party's legislation and national policies; further concerned about the general societal perception in the State party that the best interests of adults should prevail over those of the child.	(2) para. 39: While commending the State party for establishing a Children's Parliament as well as child clubs at all county levels by virtue of the Children's Law, the Committee is concerned that the views of children on decisions affecting them are rarely given due weight, especially in the home, and in particular that girls are expected to be less participative than boys. Children are not provided with the opportunity to be heard in all judicial and administrative proceedings affecting them, in accordance with their age and maturity, including in cases of deprivation of parental rights.	(2) para. 9: call to implement previous COs on legislation; para. 10: welcomes the enactment of the Children's Law in February 2012; remains concerned that the State party has not undertaken a complete review of its legislation in order to harmonize it with the Convention, and that some provisions of the existing legislation and customary law are not consistent with the principles and provisions of the Convention, in particular those relating to the minimum age for marriage, adoption, and juvenile justice.	(2) para. 14: regrets the lack of information on the resources allocated to the Division, while noting that its parent Ministry receives one of the lowest budgetary allocations from the national budget; para. 16: While noting that Liberia was one of the countries in Africa that performed fairly in 2006-2008 in allocating resources to sectors that benefit children, remains concerned that national budgetary resources for CRC implementation remain very insufficient;	(2) para. 20: notes the State party's intention to create a central data collection system in areas concerning children together with the Child Protection Network; reiterates its concern about the lack of information and the inability to access disaggregated data about children on most areas, in particular children in poverty, children subjected to violence, children with disabilities, children deprived of a family environment and children engaged in child labour.	(2) para. 28: The State party is encouraged to strengthen its cooperation with civil society for CRC implementation; recommends that the State party consider strengthening the capacity of civil society in order to allow it to effectively discharge its duties, including funding local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to support activities in communities where the State is not present.

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99	Libya 2003	(1) para. 7: reiterates its concern that several rights contained in the Convention (e.g. non-discrimination) are not adequately reflected in the laws, including personal status laws; para. 23: concerned that, contrary to CRC art. 2 , discrimination, both direct and indirect, against certain children, their parents or legal guardians, persists in the State party, particularly with respect to birth out of wedlock; para. 25: concerned that xenophobia, particularly towards migrant workers, persists in the State party and that it is harmful to the child's developing respect for human rights, including the right to non-discrimination	(1) para. 7: reiterates its concern that several rights contained in the Convention (e.g. the best interests of the child) are not adequately reflected in the laws, including personal status laws; para. 27: concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in CRC art. 3 is not explicitly incorporated in all legislation concerning children and is not always considered in practice; not persuaded that a rigid custodial line of mother, maternal grandmother and father and the exclusion from custodial arrangements of foreign parents outside the State party necessarily give effect to this principle.	(2) para. 29: welcomes efforts by the State party to promote respect for the views of children, such as in school congresses, courts, and institutions; concerned that traditional attitudes towards children in society may limit the respect for their views, especially within the family.	(2) para. 7: notes the adoption of the Child Protection Act No. 5 of 1997, in addition to the numerous other laws and decisions that have been adopted with a view to improving the welfare of children; concerned, however, that many measures reflect a predominantly welfare-rather than rights-based approach.	(2) para. 15: welcomes information on progress achieved in addressing economic disparities between regions, but is concerned at the lack of specific information in terms of the percentage of the national budget allocated for expenditures in the various CRC areas, and that insufficient attention has been given to the allocation of resources for programmes and policies to promote the civil and political rights of children.	(3) para. 11: notes progress in the collection of data on children by the National Organization for Information and Documentation and the sectoral information and documentation centres.	(2) para. 17: notes information on cooperation with national associations in the development and welfare sectors, but is concerned that little effort has been made to involve civil society in CRC implementation, particularly in the area of civil rights and freedoms; notes that the delegation was unable to provide complete information on the limitations imposed by law on, in particular, the registration and funding of organs of civil society.
100	Liechtenstein 2006	(3) para. 16: welcomes the adoption in 2003 of the five-year National Action Plan on the follow-up to the Durban Programme of Action and welcomes the inclusion in school curriculum of activities on the prevention of exclusion, intolerance and racism; also welcomes the appointment of the working group dealing with questions of social discrimination.	NA	NA	(2) para. 8: welcomes the revision of the Youth Act with a view to incorporating diversion measures in criminal law better and to liberalize the curfew; however, remains concerned that the Youth Act has not yet been adopted.	NA	(1) para. 6: call to implement previous CO on data collection; reiterates its concern about the lack of adequate data-collection mechanisms within the State party to ensure the collection of disaggregated data on all aspects of the CRC and to monitor and evaluate progress achieved effectively as well as to assess the impact of policies adopted with respect to children; no reliable data on: para. 26: HIV/AIDS.	NA
101	Lithuania 2013	(1) para. 16: concerned about gaps in the implementation of the 2008 Equal Opportunities Law and ongoing discrimination against children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations, including children with disabilities, Roma children, children living in poverty, children living in care institutions and children in conflict with the law.	(1) para. 18: concerned that the "best interests of the child" are not fully incorporated into domestic legislation, since they are not equivalent to the "interests" or "legitimate interests" of the child. The principle of the best interests of the child does not therefore seem to be properly understood and consistently applied.	(2) para. 20: while noting that the right to be heard is included in a number of the State party's laws, ... concerned that there are gaps in the implementation of these laws and that the right of the child to express his or her opinion is often considered to be a mere formality.	(2) para. 8: takes note of the draft Law on Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child, which, according to the State party's information, contains many provisions that are in compliance with the CRC. However, it regrets the delay in the finalization and adoption of the law. ... concerned that the proposed draft contains provisions that are in conflict with the principles established by the Convention, inter alia, because they do not fully recognize children as rights holders.	(1) para. 14: notes the State party's assertion that, despite the economic crisis, budget allocations to areas concerning children's rights have not been affected. However, ... concerned that the budget allocations to children's rights remain inadequate and that they are not efficiently managed; para. 39: concerned that the budget allocations to maternal and child health-care programmes are continuously decreasing	(1) para. 7: ensure that the previous CO on disaggregated data will be followed up; para. 45: lack of reliable data on dropout rates from schools.	NA

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102	Luxembourg 2013	(1) para. 22: acknowledges information by the State party's delegation that, in practice, discrimination against children born out of wedlock never happens. Nevertheless, it is concerned that the State party continues to have legislation that might result in discrimination against children born out of wedlock ... takes note that a draft law on parentage will eliminate current distinctions with regard to children born out of wedlock.	(2) para. 24: welcomes the inclusion of the principle of the best interests of the child into the Act ... on support for children and the family. However, ... concerned about the lack of adequate guidelines and procedures for implementing the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration in actual practice and throughout all State party institutions, bodies, policies and programmes.	(2) para. 26: welcomes the National Youth Assembly but is concerned that a similar channel for children under the age of 13 years to express their views in the public domain does not exist. While noting with appreciation the appointment by courts of lawyers for children, ... concerned that the right of the child of any age to be heard in judicial and administrative proceedings is not sufficiently respected as it is not compulsory for judges to listen to a child.	(2) para. 12: welcomes efforts undertaken by the State party to pass new legislation to implement the CRC and notes with interest information about bills under consideration which would reform legislation on the rights of the child. However, ... concerned by the slow advance of these efforts and the lack of guidelines to ensure the consistent application of domestic legislation.	(1) para. 15: recommends that the State party allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources for implementation of a comprehensive policy and strategy for realizing the CRC; para. 16: National Children's Bureau ... does not have sufficient human, technical and financial resources for its effective functioning; para. 20: reiterates concern about the insufficiency of the resources allocated to the Ombuds Committee for Child Right; para. 49: State's Socio-Educational Centres (CSEE) are entrusted with children with a wide range of needs and do not have sufficient resources to adequately deal with them.	(1) para. 18: reiterates its concern about the inadequate data collection system on child-related data; para. 46: concerned about the lack of data concerning sexual exploitation, trafficking and abuse.	NA
103	Madagascar 2012	(2) para. 23: welcomes the efforts by the State party to address discrimination, including the adoption of Decree 2009-1147 on inclusive education and legislation against discrimination due to HIV status; however, remains concerned that discrimination is still widespread in the State party, in particular against girls, twins, children with disabilities and children living with HIV/AIDS; para. 31: notes with concern that legislation on nationality discriminates against children born to a Malagasy mother and a father of foreign nationality, as well as children born out of wedlock in some cases, and welcomes the indication given by the State party that this legislation is currently being reviewed.	(2) para. 25: welcomes the incorporation of the principle of the best interest of the child into national legislation. The Committee is nevertheless concerned at the low level of awareness of this principle among professionals working with children and for children, the general public and in particular among children.	(1) para. 29: concerned that traditional attitudes towards children in society limit, and often prevent, children from expressing their views on a wide range of issues that affect them within the family, schools, institutions, judicial system and society at large; concerned that the views of the child are only sought on special occasions such as on child and youth days.	NA	(1) para. 12: concerned that relevant sectoral plans of action on children's rights have been developed but do not have a budget allocated to them; para. 16: concern that the current suspension of international development aid to the State party owing to the political situation in the State party has negatively affected the provision of services for children, in particular in education and health; notes with concern that the State party has increased its 2010 budget for domestic security and the Armed Forces, while reducing funding in the areas of health, education, social affairs, justice, and youth; notes that disaggregated analyses on budget allocations for children are not available.	(2) para. 19: takes note of the State party's efforts to improve data collection through the National Statistics Institute but is concerned that data in relevant areas are still lacking or not sufficiently disaggregated; notes that data is lacking on children living with HIV, alcohol and drug consumption by children, the percentage of children with disabilities enrolled in school and children living on the streets; concerned about the lack of coordination of data collection between different ministries and between national and regional levels	NA

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104	Malawi, 2009	(2) para. 28: notes with appreciation the various policies and programmes aimed at addressing the issue of non-discrimination; welcomes the Gender Equality Bill which proposes to abolish harmful gender related customary laws and practices, with specific reference to the girl child; continues to be concerned that de facto societal discrimination persists against girls and vulnerable groups of children, including children with disabilities and orphans.	(2) para. 30: While noting that the Law Commission Review recommended that the principle of the best interests of the child be included in the Constitution, reiterates its concern raised in its previous concluding observations that the principle of best interests of the child is not fully taken into account in domestic legislation, programmes and services for children.	(2) para. 34: notes with appreciation the plan to decentralize the National Child Parliament to District Assembly level with the aim to increasing child participation in the elaboration and implementation of policies and programmes concerning them; remains concerned that traditional and societal attitudes appear to limit children in freely expressing their views in schools, communities and within the family.	(2) para. 3: notes with appreciation the adoption of legislation on domestic violence, orphans etc.; para. 6: call to implement previous CO on legislation; para. 8: notes with appreciation that the State party has undertaken a Constitutional Review process through the Malawi Law Commission which has been highly participatory and very inclusive; notes with interest the various legislative reforms aimed at harmonizing existing legislation with the provisions enshrined in the CRC; strongly regrets that none of these proposed bills has been enacted into law due mainly to the political situation in the State party.	(2) para. 16: noting the significant increase in budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Women and Child Development in the past year; concerned that the Ministry's budgetary allocations had been steadily declining in the preceding five years;	(2) para. 6: call to implement previous CO on data collection; para. 18: While noting with appreciation the State party's indication that progress has been made in the domain of data collection for policy-makers and planners covering all persons below the age of 18, remains concerned at the lack of systematic disaggregation, with specific emphasis on those who are in need of special protection; para. 49: concerned at the lack of comprehensive disaggregated data on disabilities; para. 64: on refugee children attending schools and accessing health-care facilities; para. 70: on the number of children involved in sexual exploitation; para. 72: on trafficking.	(2) para. 24: welcomes the State party's collaboration with civil society in the promotion of the Convention and in the provision of programmes and services for children; concerned that the State party delegates these responsibilities and duties to civil society organizations which may not have adequate support and resources.
105	Malaysia, 2007	(2) para. 31: While noting with appreciation the principle of non-discrimination in article 8 of the Federal Constitution, as well as in the preamble of the Child Act 2001 (Act 611) and the special measures taken to advance and protect the status and existence of indigenous peoples, concerned that many children belonging to vulnerable groups are likely to experience de facto discrimination in everyday life; insufficient efforts made to address discrimination based on sexual orientation.	(2) para. 36: notes with appreciation the provisions of the Child Act 2001 (Act 611) which incorporate the principle of the best interests of the child, and takes note of many other national laws that enshrine this principle; concerned that this general principle is not fully applied and duly integrated in the implementation of the legislation, policies and programmes of the State party as well as in administrative and judicial decisions.	(2) para. 42: notes with appreciation that children are given an opportunity to express their views on the Government's policies, programmes and matters pertaining to children through the Malaysian Youth Council; expresses concern that traditional perceptions of children as objects and as the "property" of parents and elders rather than as subjects of rights hinder their right to express their views and to participate in the family, schools and local communities; also notes with concern that in legal and administrative proceedings it is in practice left to the discretion of the judge to decide whether the child is heard; regrets that the Child Act 2001 (Act 611) does not contain a specific provision on children's participation.	(2) para. 15: welcomes the establishment of the cross-sectoral Committee, which includes Muslim clerics, Syariah Court judges, legal practitioners, academics and government representatives to address the differences between the two legal systems; concerned, however, at the slow pace of enacting and reforming the laws related to the implementation of the Convention.	(2) para. 23: commends the State party on its significant investment in social and health services, education and child protection but regrets that the impact of budgetary allocations on the implementation of child rights has not been systematically assessed.	(2) para. 25: takes note of the extensive statistical data provided in the report and particularly in the written replies to the list of issues; regrets the lack of a national data collection system in respect of all areas covered by the CRC which limits the State party's capacity to adopt adequate policies and programmes, in particular with regard to underserved groups of children and under-served geographical areas; regrets the insufficient data on e.g. non-Malaysian children living in Malaysia, violence against children, child victims of trafficking for exploitative purposes, sexual exploitation of children, and working children; regrets the insufficient official data on the number of children with disabilities; para. 95: on trafficking	NA

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106	Maldives, 2007	(1) para. 33: notes with concern that children born out of wedlock are not entitled to equal rights and that they face both de facto and de jure discrimination in their everyday life; notes with particular concern that these children are denied legal access to information on their biological father and that they can neither have their father's name nor inherit from the paternal side; notes with concern the existing naming practice, which further stigmatizes children born out of wedlock.	(2) para. 40: noting that the Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child (Law No. 9/91) embodies the spirit of CRC art. 3; concerned that this principle is not given adequate attention in national legislation and policies and that this principle is not a primary consideration in decision-making regarding children, for example custody decisions; also notes with concern that awareness of its significance is low among policymakers, lawmakers and judicial and administrative officials enforcing provisions, regulations and policies.	(2) para. 44: notes with appreciation that the State party has introduced family conferencing to facilitate participation of all parties, particularly children, in the discussions during the administration of juvenile justice and that the draft Education Act encourages children to participate in decisions affecting their education; While noting that the Family Law provides children with the right to be heard at any proceeding that may impact his or her right, concerned that there exists a gap between the law and practice; notes with concern that the child's right to be heard in judicial proceedings is basically limited to custody cases; also notes with concern that general practices in the Maldives do not encourage the freedom of expression of children.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous CO on harmonization of domestic legislation; para. 11: notes with appreciation the State party's efforts to bring domestic laws into compliance with the CRC; reiterates its concern regarding the need to amend the Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child to fully comply with the CRC provisions and principles.	(1) para. 21: concerned that, in the light of CRC art. 4, not enough attention has been paid to allocating budgetary resources in favour of children "to the maximum extent of ... available resources"; regrets that the State party's recent allocations to health and welfare as well as to education sector are on the decrease in percentage terms.	(2) para. 23: welcomes the establishment of "Maldives Info" and it notes with appreciation the efforts of the Ministry of Gender and Family to gather information, in collaboration with UNICEF, on the situation of children and the significant improvements in data collection, particularly in Malé; regrets the lack of a national data collection system in respect of all areas covered by the CRC, which limits the State party's capacity to adopt adequate policies and programmes and assess the impact of policies adopted, in particular with regard to children living in atolls which are isolated; notes with concern that the progress in data collection is impeded by the lack of adequately trained personnel and insufficient coordination between State authorities and child welfare agencies.	(2) para. 27: while noting examples of collaboration between governmental institutions and NGOs, such as financial and technical support provided to Journey (the Maldives' first community-based after-care and relapse-prevention NGO for recovering drug addicts), it nevertheless notes that cooperation with NGOs should be further promoted and reinforced.
107	Mali 2007	(2) para. 31: noting that the Constitution and the Child Protection Code prohibit discrimination on the grounds of social origin, colour, language, race, sex, religion or political opinion, concerned that discrimination against girls and certain groups of children still exists in practice, particularly against children with disabilities, children born out of wedlock, children of disadvantaged families and street children, including garibou.	NA	(2) para. 33: noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child through awareness-raising campaigns and the establishment of the Children's Parliament, the Committee remains concerned that traditional societal attitudes limit the ability of children to freely express their views within the family, schools, communities, courts and other institutional settings.	(3) para. 3: notes with appreciation the enactment of (specified) legislation; para. 10: notes that the CRC takes precedence over national legislation and that certain legislative and regulatory steps have been taken to give effect to the CRC, such as the Child Protection Code and the draft Individuals and Family Code.	(1) para. 19: concerned that the budgets allocated for children present a very low percentage of the gross domestic product (GDP) and that it is unclear whether and to what extent budget allocations are provided for children belonging to vulnerable groups and/or living in rural and remote areas; also concerned at the limited budget allocated to the Ministry for the Advancement of Women, the Child and the Family and to the social sector; notes with concern that the budget allocation for education has been reduced.	(2) para. 21: notes the progress made by the State party in the data-collection system; concerned that the current data-collection mechanism is insufficient to ensure the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated quantitative and qualitative data for all areas covered by the CRC in relation to all groups of children, in order to monitor and evaluate progress and assess the impact of policies adopted with respect to children; para. 45: lack of statistical data on child abuse and neglect; para. 48: concerned at the lack of information and statistical data on the status of children with disabilities; and on HIV/AIDS (para. 56), on the number of children trafficked (para. 68)	(3) notes the efforts undertaken by the State party to cooperate with civil society in the promotion of children's rights particularly in the preparation of the State party report and in the dissemination of the Convention.

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108	Malta 2013	(2) para. 28: notes as positive the amendment of the Civil Code which aims at ensuring equality of rights for children regardless of the marital status of their parent(s). However, ... remains deeply concerned about serious instances of discrimination against children in irregular migration situations.	(2) para 30: notes that the Commissioner for Children is empowered to promote and advocate the rights of children and the paramount consideration of the best interests of the child. However, ... reiterates its previous concern ... on the principle of the best interests of the child not being systematically incorporated in all relevant legislation affecting children. Furthermore, ... particularly concerned at the inadequate understanding and application of the principle of the best interests of the child in asylum-seeking, refugee and/or immigration detention situations.	(2) para. 32: notes as positive that the 2003 Civil Court and Family Court Regulations provide for an office for mediators and children's advocates to represent the best interests of the child in legal proceedings. However, ... concerned that effective implementation of legislation recognizing the rights of children to express their views in relevant legal proceedings is not systematically practised. In particular, ... concerned at the limited access that children have as parties to legal proceedings and that the age of hearing the children, including in adoption proceedings, is often too high, frequently resulting in limitations of the right of the child to be heard.	(2) para. 4: welcomes the adoption of several legislative measures; para. 9: insufficient follow-up previous COs; para. 10: welcomes the adoption of the Commissioner for Children Act in 2003 ... which seeks to strengthen protection for children, promote child rights and improve the provision of services to children. However, ... concerned that the State party has not undertaken a comprehensive review of its legislation to ensure compliance with the Convention and not all national laws are in full compliance with the CRC; para. 26: concerned that in numerous areas of legislation, such as the provision of child welfare services and support, the State party does not provide for the coverage of children above the age of 16 years	(2) para. 16: notes the general increase in financial resources allocated to areas related to CRC implementation. However, ... remains concerned at the lack of separate, clearly identifiable and monitored budget allocations for CRC implementation.	(1) para. 40: concerned about the insufficient data and awareness of the sexual exploitation of children in the State party; para. 53: remains concerned about the low rates of breastfeeding in the State party and the lack of data on the root causes of this.	NA
109	Marshall Islands 2007	(2) para. 27: noting that the Constitution of the Marshall Islands prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, place of birth, family status or descent, remains concerned that the principle of non-discrimination is not fully implemented for children living in the outer islands and in disadvantaged urban communities, especially with regard to their access to adequate health and educational facilities.	NA	(2) para. 30: noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child, in particular through the development of a five year Strategic Plan following the second Marshall Islands Youth Congress, remains concerned that traditional attitudes still prevailing in the country may not be conducive to the full participation of children in family, community, school and social life.	(2) para. 3: notes with appreciation the enactment of (specified) legislation; para. 8: notes the measures undertaken by the State party to review its legislation with a view to ensuring its conformity with the CRC; however, concerned that not all principles and provisions of the CRC are covered by the State party's legislation.	(2) para. 20: notes that the State party assigns significant resources to the health and education sectors; concerned at the negative impact that the lack of an effective system of accountability may have on the allocation of resources to effectively improve the promotion and protection of children's rights;	(1) para. 6: insufficient follow-up to previous CO on data collection; para. 22: noting that the State party has received support for data collection through a bilateral assistance project financed by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Committee is concerned at the lack of an adequate mechanism for the systematic collection of comprehensive disaggregated data for all areas covered by the CRC and in relation to all groups of children; para. 45: concerned at the lack of data, appropriate measures, mechanisms and resources for the prevention of and fight against domestic violence, including child sexual abuse.	(2) para. 25: appreciating the fact that the number of NGOs is increasing in the Marshall Islands, and taking note of the recently established Marshall Islands Council of NGO, is of the opinion that the role of NGOs should be further strengthened in the promotion and implementation of the CRC; also concerned at the lack of awareness on rights-based approaches to development among many civil society actors.

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110	Mauritania 2009	(2) para. 29: notes as positive that the principle of non-discrimination is incorporated in the Constitution; however concerned that de facto discrimination against girls and certain groups of children persists, particularly with regards to children living in slavery or of slave descent, children living in poverty and orphans.	(2) para. 32: appreciates the efforts of the State party to incorporate the best interests of the child into certain decision-making processes, however is concerned that it is not explicitly enshrined in national legislation nor is referred to in national jurisprudence.	(2) para. 34: noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child, and in particular the establishment of a children's parliament, remains concerned over the lack of adequate opportunities for children to express their views and that societal attitudes limit the consideration given to children's views, including in the community, the schools, the family, and in judicial and administrative proceedings.	(2) para. 7: welcomes that the Constitution establishes the primacy of international treaties over domestic legislation and that such instruments can be invoked before national courts; however remains concerned over practical challenges with the pluralist legal system and in particular regarding the incompatibility between Sharia law, customary law and positive law, including the Personal Status Code of 2001.	(2) para. 18: notes information that resources for education have been increased; remains concerned that the overall resources allocated by the State party for children are insufficient and in fact have been decreasing, which impedes the progressive implementation and protection of children's rights; particularly concerned that allocations to the health sector are inadequate in order to achieve the MDGs relating to health; encouraged that an Oil Fund to protect future generations is being established, under extractive industries international standards; para. 55: regrets that budget allocations for the health sector fluctuate and notes that this impedes the progressive realization of the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health; para. 65: recognizes the increased budgetary allocations by the State party for the education sector.	(2) para. 20: notes as positive the collaboration of the State party with the United Nations country team and the establishment of a DevInfo-based national database, however is concerned that data related to the implementation of the CRC, including at the regional level, is still missing; para. 46: concerned over the lack of accurate data on the number of children without parental care	(3) notes the increasing involvement of civil society actors in the discussion, design and implementation of child-related strategies, including the fact that NGOs were consulted in the elaboration of the State party report.
111	Mauritius 2006	(2) para. 26: appreciating that several measures have been introduced to support vulnerable groups, expresses its concern at the fact that discrimination against certain groups of children still exists in practice, particularly with regard to children with disabilities, children affected and/or infected by HIV/AIDS, children from disadvantaged families and girls.	(2) para. 29: notes that although the principle of the best interests of the child is not specifically stated in the Constitution, various national laws provide for the best interests of the child; concerned that this principle is not fully applied and duly integrated in the implementation of the policies and programmes of the State party or in administrative and judicial decisions for instance in cases of custody and visitation rights.	(2) para. 31: noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party in order to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child, the Committee is concerned that the views of the child are not systematically taken into account, such as in school settings and in policy development.	(2) para. 4: notes with appreciation the adoption of (specified) legislation; para. 10: notes with appreciation the various measures undertaken by the State party to amend existing laws and introduce new laws to ensure compliance with the CRC; remains concerned about the fact that some of the legislation does not conform to the principles and provisions of the area of adoption and juvenile justice.	(1) noting the positive economic development in the State party, concerned that the resources allocated for the implementation of child rights are insufficient. In this respect it is further concerned about disparities between urban and rural developments as well as among the different islands;	(2) para. 20: while appreciating the data provided by the State party in its report as well as in the written replies, expresses its concern at the lack of qualitative and quantitative data disaggregated by sex, age and region in some areas of the Convention;	(2) para. 24: while appreciating the State party's efforts to strengthen cooperation with NGOs, concerned that the State party has relinquished some of its responsibilities and duties with regard to the implementation of some provisions of the CRC to NGOs without providing them with adequate resources, policies and guidelines.

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112	Mexico 2006	(1) para. 4: insufficient follow-up to previous CO on non-discrimination; para. 23: deeply concerned about the significant disparities in the State party in the implementation of the rights enshrined in the CRC, reflected in a range of social indicators such as enrolment in and completion of education, infant mortality rates and access to health care, indicating persistent discrimination against indigenous children, girls, children with disabilities, children living in rural and remote areas and children from economically disadvantaged families.	(1) para. 25: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not given adequate attention in national legislation and policies and that awareness of its significance is low among the population.	(2) para. 27: welcomes the efforts of the State party to promote and implement the right of children to express their views and actively participate at various levels of society. In particular it notes ... the Children's Parliament and the holding of the Children's and Young People's Survey 2003; remains concerned at the persistence of traditional attitudes in the State party which, among other things, limit children's right to participate and to express their views; notes with concern the limited possibilities available to children to participate in and express their views in decision-making procedures affecting them, particularly in courts, schools and communities.	(2) para. 6: welcoming the measures taken to bring national legislation into conformity with the CRC and with other international standards; also concerned that not all national legislation is in full conformity with the CRC, including the substantive and procedural civil codes that do not give children the opportunity to be heard by judicial authorities.	(1) para. 15: notes with concern that, despite some increase in social expenditure over the last decades, budget allocations for children are low and remain insufficient, in particular for those social expenditures concerned with health and education.	(2) para. 13: While noting some improvements in the system of data collection, remains concerned that the data available does not allow for a comprehensive and systematic analysis of the situation of child rights in the State party; existing data are not systematically disaggregated at the state and municipal level, making it difficult to visualize and address regional disparities; concerned about the lack of up-to-date and disaggregated data on the number and geographic location of children out of school, working children between ages 6 and 14, cases of violence and abuse of children, commercially and sexually exploited children, trafficked children, children deprived of liberty, migrant and indigenous children, and children who were not registered at birth.	(1) para. 19: regrets the lack of systematic consultations with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the process of drafting and planning of policies and programmes on the rights of the child, and in the implementation of these programmes and of the CRC.
113	Micronesia (Federated States of) 1998	(2) para. 14: concerned at the fact that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC general principles as contained in its art. 2 (non-discrimination), in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, and in its policies and programmes relevant to children; para. 32: noting existing legislation prohibiting discrimination, also emphasizes that the principle of non-discrimination must be fully implemented, including with regard to the girl child, disparities between states and social status. In this regard, the Committee encourages the State party to send additional information on the caste system.	(1) para. 14: concerned at the fact that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC general principles as contained in its art. 3 (best interests of the child) in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, and in its policies and programmes relevant to children.	(1) para. 14: concerned at the fact that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC general principles as contained in its art. 12 (respect for the views of the child), in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, and in its policies and programmes relevant to children; para. 32: wishes to encourage the State party to further develop a systematic approach to increasing public awareness of the participatory rights of children in the light of CRC art. 12	(1) para. 4: notes the draft legislation on sexual abuse and exploitation of children which is presently before Congress; concerned that domestic legislation does not fully conform to the provisions and principles of the CRC. In particular, concerned at the absence of legislation regulating child labour providing for a minimum age for employment, the absence of a clear definition of the minimum age for criminal responsibility, the low minimum age for sexual consent, the lack of harmonization between the different ages of sexual consent among the four states, and the lack of legislation on neglect, abuse and sexual exploitation; also concerned at the possible conflicts between customary and statutory law, in particular for marriage and adoption.	(1) para. 8: concerned that insufficient attention has been paid to the provisions of article 4 of the Convention concerning budgetary allocations; para. 25: encourages the State party to ensure appropriate distribution of resources at all levels.	(1) para. 2: notes with regret that the data in the state report were not up to date; para. 11: concerned at the insufficient attention paid to systematic, comprehensive and disaggregated qualitative and quantitative data collection at the national, state and local levels, and to the identification of appropriate indicators and mechanisms to evaluate the progress and the impact of policies and measures adopted for all areas covered by the CRC, especially the most hidden such as child abuse or ill-treatment, but also in relation to all groups of children including girl children.	(1) para. 30: In order to strengthen the partnership with all components of the civil society in implementing the CRC, strongly encourages the State party to strengthen its cooperation with non-governmental organizations

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114	Monaco 2013	(2) para. 22: While ... welcoming the adoption of Act No. 1387 of ... 2011 permitting naturalized Monegasque men and women to pass their nationality on to their spouse, it remains concerned about the restriction that prevents naturalized women from transmitting Monegasque nationality to their children in the event of a divorce.	(2) para. 24: notes that the concept of the best interest of the child underpins the State party's legal framework in respect of children's rights. However, ... regrets that the State party's legislation contains neither the elements to be taken into account when assessing the child's best interests, nor the procedural safeguards to guarantee its implementation.	(2) para. 26: welcomes the fact that the new Act No. 1382 of 20 July 2011 has consolidated children's involvement in judicial and administrative procedures. However, it regrets that there is insufficient clarity with regard to the right of children to be heard in other contexts.	(2) para. 3: welcomes the adoption of several laws; para. 20: concerned that the State party's legislation does not explicitly state the obligations of companies acting under the State party's jurisdiction or control to respect the rights of the child in operations carried out outside of the State party's territory and that legislation does not provide for accessible procedural safeguards in the case of such violations; para. 28: regrets that the State party continues to lack legislation explicitly prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings; para. 37: concerned that domestic legislation and practice still do not guarantee free medical assistance to foreign children residing in the State party for fewer than five years; para. 43: concerned that domestic legislation does not expressly guarantee free education to children of foreign nationalities whose parents or legal representatives are neither resident nor lawfully established in the State party	(1) para. 12: regrets that it has not been provided with sufficient information by the State party on the resources allocated for CRC implementation. ... also concerned about the absence of a mechanism to assess the impact of budgetary allocations for children	(2) para. 14: notes with appreciation the data provided by the State party on various areas concerning children and the establishment of the Monegasque Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies. However, ... concerned that the system of data collection does not cover all areas of the Convention, and that there are not sufficient mechanisms for processing and assessing such data.	NA
115	Mongolia 2010	(2) para. 8: insufficient implementation of previous CO on non-discrimination; para. 25: notes that, in principle, measures have been taken to protect vulnerable children from discrimination; remains concerned that gender-based discrimination affects both boys and girls, and that in practice, children experience unequal treatment (alag uzdeg) based on, inter alia, a child's ethnic group, disability, living standards or those of the child's family, or given the child's residential location; also concerned about the inequalities existing among the population in the Western region and the Kazak minority, and other minorities.	(2) para. 27: notes the wealth of existing national legislation that gives primary consideration to the best interests of the child; regrets the fact that, in practice, provisions are not sufficiently enforced.	(2) para. 31: notes that the State party has incorporated the principle of respect for the views of the child into relevant legislation but regrets that in practice, due to insufficient enforcement of existing provisions, the principle has not been implemented; regrets that the draft national policy on child participation (2005) has not yet been approved by Parliament.	(2) para. 8: insufficient implementation of previous CO on legislation; para. 9: notes the efforts taken by the State party to align domestic legislation with the CRC, remains concerned that some legislative provisions are not in full conformity with the principles and provisions of the CRC	(2) para. 17: recognizes the efforts made by the State party to increase the social budget, particularly in education, which represents up to 20% of the national budget; concerned that economic crises and inflation, as well as corruption, have had a negative impact on sustainable investment in children's rights and that the risk of regression and lack of resources for the enjoyment of basic children's rights persists; notes with concern the regional as well rural and urban disparities in a country with a vast territory and the difficult access to existing support programme severely disadvantaged families and children; regrets the decision to stop the Child Money Programme.	(2) para. 8: insufficient implementation of previous CO on data collection; para. 19: notes efforts by the State party to collect statistical data for children, such as the establishment of a State Information Centre, through Web portals of governmental organizations, and ongoing projects; expresses its concern about: (a) lack of coordination between the National Statistics Office and other governmental organizations to collect, analyse, and report on child-related statistics; (b) insufficiency of national data compiled and analysed on children living in difficult situations, and the unavailability of national statistics on child protection due to a decentralized and underdeveloped child protection system; and (c) persisting difficulties in collecting, processing and obtaining reliable statistical data.	(2) para. 23: welcomes the participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and child representatives in the consultative process for preparing the State party's report; notes the limited participation of NGOs in the formulation and monitoring of policies and in the development of strategies to implement the Convention.

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116	Montenegro 2010	(2) para. 25: noting the efforts undertaken by the State party to counter discrimination especially against minorities through a variety of laws, strategies, plan of actions and projects; concerned at the persistent de facto discrimination against inter alia children belonging to minority groups, refugee children, and children with disabilities, in particular with regard to access to education, health care and housing.	(2) para. 28: While noting that the State Party has introduced the principle of the best interests of the child into some of its legislation, it regrets that this principle is not yet sufficiently reflected in all legislative and policy matters affecting children, especially with regard to children in institutions, and that it is not well applied by the judiciary and administrative authorities.	(2) para. 30: noting that the principle of the respect for the views of the child is incorporated in the Family Law and the existence of children's parliaments in many schools, concerned that certain traditions and cultural attitudes might limit the full implementation of art. 12 of the CRC especially in judicial hearings concerning children, in matters concerning school administration and classroom education, and in public debates.	(2) para. 5: appreciates the steps taken by the State party to harmonize legislation in order to ensure greater consistency with the CRC, remains concerned that some aspects of domestic legislation, such as the Law on Child and Social protection are not consistent with the CRC principles and provisions;	(1) para. 7: concerned at the lack of sufficient resources for the implementation of the CRC and the Optional Protocols; para. 13: concerned at the inadequately low proportion of State annual budget allocated to health care, family support and other areas of direct relevance to children, and the decrease in allocations for education	(1) para 15: deeply concerned at the lack of a systematic mechanism for collecting and analyzing data, disaggregated inter alia by age, sex, ethnic or social origin and urban/rural areas, to provide systematic and comprehensive quantitative and qualitative data for all areas covered by the CRC and its Optional Protocols in relation to all children, in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved and assess the impact of policies adopted with respect to children.	(2) para. 7: concerned about the limited possibilities for civil society and children to participate in the Council of Child Rights' work; para. 21: notes the high number of NGOs active in the State party and welcomes the 2009 Strategy on collaboration between the Government and NGOs; nevertheless concerned about the lack of consultation with civil society in the preparation of the State party's report and the insufficient cooperation in the design and implementation of legislation and policies in areas concerning children's rights.
117	Morocco 2014	(2) para. 24: welcomes the statement by the State party's delegation that measures will promptly be taken in order for children not to be identified as born out of wedlock in their identity documents. ... however, concerned about: (a) De jure and de facto discrimination against girls and children born out of wedlock, including in areas relating to personal status (e.g. family name, inheritance); ... (d) The persistent discrimination against children with disabilities; para. 10: concerned about the numerous provisions of the Family Code that continue to discriminate against girls and to maintain severe gender discrimination.	(2) para. 26: While appreciating the inclusion in the Family Code of the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration, the Committee regrets that the practice of early and forced child marriages, the placement of children in residential institutions, and the recourse to custodial measures for children in conflict with the law still contradict the best interests of many children ... concerned that this right has not been incorporated in legislation concerning children and is therefore neither applied in all administrative and judicial proceedings, nor in policies and programmes relating to children	(1) para. 28: concerned that the eligibility criteria in the Children's Parliament do not make the Parliament representative of all children, especially children in the most vulnerable and disadvantaged situations. It also regrets that insufficient efforts have been made by the State party to establish child municipal councils, as recommended by the Committee in 2003 ... concerned that limited sustainable actions have been undertaken to change societal attitudes within the family, schools and the community at large that impede children from expressing themselves	(2) para. 10: notes with appreciation the recognition, through the new 2011 Constitution, of the supremacy of international conventions over domestic laws, as well as the significant legislative reforms undertaken during the reporting period to incorporate the rights and principles of the Convention into domestic legal order, as previously recommended ... concerned about lack of progress in adopting a comprehensive Children's Code, the elaboration of which was proposed in 2003, numerous provisions of the Family Code that continue to discriminate against girls and to maintain severe gender discrimination, lack of effective enforcement of existing legislation relating to children, due mainly to the lack of resources, capacities and supervision	(2) para. 16: notes as positive the significant public expenditure on education, as well as the significant increase of the health budget from 2007 to 2012 ... concerned that the State party has not yet set up a specific mechanism to ensure traceability of the funds allocated for the implementation of the Convention, the alleged fraudulent management of the National Fund for Social Security as well as the high levels of corruption negatively impact on the implementation of the Convention in the State party; para. 54: welcoming the 20 per cent increase in the budget of the Ministry of Health between 2007 and 2012	(1) para. 7: recommends that the State party take all necessary measures to address those recommendations that have not been implemented or not sufficiently implemented and, in particular, those related to data collection	(2) para. 20: notes as positive the reinforcement of partnerships between government agencies and non-governmental organizations working in the field of children's rights over the past few years. It is, however, concerned that civil society organizations are only consulted on an ad hoc basis ... concerned that while these organizations continue to provide children in need or in marginalized and disadvantaged situations with a variety of services, the State party reduced its funding to them while its own capacity to respond to child protection needs remains inadequate ... regrets that the system of project funding prevents non-governmental organizations from undertaking sustainable actions for children

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118	Mozambique 2009	(2) para. 29: noting the efforts made to provide services for all children to enjoy their rights; deeply concerned at the significant and persistent disparities between different regions of the State party resulting in the unequal enjoyment by children of the rights enshrined in the CRC; the disparities are reflected in a range of demographic and social indicators, including enrolment in and completion of education, infant mortality rates and access to health care, and indicate persistent discrimination against girls, children with disabilities, children living in rural and remote areas and children from economically disadvantaged families; noting with satisfaction that since the revision of the Family Law in 2004 children born in and out of wedlock legally enjoy the same rights, concerned at cases of children born out of wedlock who are still being deprived of their rights, notably to inheritance.	(2) para. 31: notes with appreciation that the principle of the best interests of the child is incorporated in the state party's legislation, notably in art. 47 of the Constitution; regrets that the principle of the best interests of the child is still not reflected as a primary consideration in most legislative and policy matters affecting children and that it is not adequately taken into account by professionals working with children, including the judiciary.	(2) para. 35: notes that the principle of respect for the views of the child is incorporated in the State party's legislation, in particular in the Constitution (art. 47) and in the Family Law, and in cases of adoption, and that the participation of children in decision-making processes is receiving increased attention in the State party; concerned that the views of the child are sometimes not solicited or taken into account in various settings concerning children, including judicial hearings of cases, matters of school administration and education, and public policy debates; also concerned that certain traditional societal attitudes continue to limit children, especially girls, from freely expressing their views; appreciates the creation of the Child Parliament, but is concerned that its methods of work and election process may affect its legitimacy and effectiveness.	(2) para. 3: notes with appreciation adoption of (specified) legislation; para. 9: welcomes the significant legal reforms carried out to harmonize the State party's domestic legal framework with the CRC, and the fact that children have been associated in these processes; notes with satisfaction the adoption in 2008 of the Child Rights Protection Law which translates the CRC principles into national child rights legislation, and of the Juvenile Justice Law; noting that the new Constitution includes several sections on the rights of the child, further concerned that the CRC does not prevail over domestic legislation and is not directly applicable.	(2) para. 17: noting that the second Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper 2006-2009 calls for more resources to be allocated to sectors that contribute to children's well-being and development; concerned that the already limited budget allocations to priority social services have been reduced since 2008, further affecting the realization of the rights of the child; also concerned about the inequitable allocation of resources among provinces, with the lowest expenditures being allocated to the provinces where child well-being indicators, including child poverty, are among the worst in the country; further concerned at the widespread corruption in the State party which mainly results from minimal accountability and a culture of impunity.	(2) para. 23: notes with interest that a consumer survey was conducted in 2008 and a multiple indicator cluster survey in 2009 which will provide a comprehensive overview of the status of key indicators related to the CRC; concerned at the lack of up-to-date, comprehensive and accurate data and information from the national data collection system in the State party's report.	(2) para. 27: commends the State party's assertion in its report of the indispensable role played by civil society, including national and foreign non-governmental organizations (NGOs); concerned that participation by civil society in public decision-making remains weak, including during the policy formulation, planning and budgeting phases of Government programmes.
119	Myanmar 2012	(1) para. 8: non-implementation previous CO on non-discrimination; para. 35: reiterates its concern about the multiple forms of discrimination that persist in the State party, particularly those against girls and children in vulnerable and disadvantaged situations, such as children from ethnic and religious minority groups (including Rohingya children), children from remote and border areas, internally displaced children, children in street situations, children affected by HIV/AIDS, children with disabilities, orphans and children in situation of poverty.	(2) para. 37: noting that the principle of the best interests of the child is mentioned in art. 27 of the Child Law, concerned that the knowledge of this principle remains insufficient and no action has been taken by the State party to include it in any other legislation or budgets, or to ensure that it is sufficiently applied in the judicial and administrative decisions.	(1) para. 39: reiterates its concern that traditional attitudes towards children in society continue to limit respect for their views and that the State party has not taken sufficient measures to ensure that the views of the child are given due consideration, especially in courts, schools, relevant administrative and other processes and within the family, other institutions and society at large.	(2) para. 9: noting the indication given by the State party that the 1993 Child Law is being reviewed to integrate some CRC provisions, the Committee is concerned that all principles and provisions of the CRC have not yet been fully incorporated into domestic law and that legal provisions contrary to the CRC remain in force; also expresses its concern about the application of different sources of law, namely codified and customary laws, which may undermine the State party's efforts to harmonize its legislation with the CRC.	(1) para. 17: reiterates its deep concern about the extremely low level of resources allocated to the social sectors, in particular education, health and nutrition, at the severe lack of financial resources for the protection and promotion of children's rights, and conversely at the disproportionately high allocation of public financial resources to the military and State-owned enterprises. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned about the absence of transparency in the budgetary process.	(2) para. 23: noting some initiatives by the State party to improve interdepartmental information systems and progress made in collecting national level data on the socioeconomic situation and health and education status of the child population, concerned at the lack of methodological coherence in the undertaking of data collection and the absence of disaggregated data on areas covered by the CRC.	(2) para. 29: noting the recent progress made in cooperation with the civil society, concerned that civil society participation, and in particular children's participation, remains limited in the formulation of policies and programmes; also concerned that insufficient efforts have been made to involve civil society in CRC implementation and that a high level of distrust between civil society and the Government remains; expresses its concern about reports that individuals and organizations are punished for carrying out human rights education and engaging with the international human rights mechanisms.

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120	Namibia 2012	(2) para. 9: insufficient implementation previous CO on discrimination against girls and children with disabilities; para. 30: notes the efforts by the State party to address discrimination, including through the formulation of numerous policies and programs, such as the Education Sector Policy for Orphans and Vulnerable Children and the National Policy on HIV/AIDS for the Education Sector; concerned about (a) human rights violations resulting from widespread discrimination against children from indigenous communities, in particular Ovahimba and San, children with disabilities, those living in poverty, children in street situations and refugee and migrant children; (b) pervasive marginalization and discrimination against women and girls, including patriarchal attitudes and deep-rooted norms and customs that discriminate against girls and place severe restrictions on their human rights. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned about the customary laws and practices that discriminate against women and girls, including those relating to marriage and inheritance.	(2) para. 32: notes that the principle of the best interests of the child is explicitly protected by the Constitution and the proposed Child Care and Protection Bill and the Child Justice Bill; concerned that this principle is not adequately applied by legislative bodies and, therefore, is absent in most legislation, policies and programmes concerning children; further concerned at the lack of awareness on the principle of the best interests of the child among the general public, including traditional and religious leaders and government officials.	NA	(2) para. 9: insufficient implementation previous CO on legislative reform; para. 10: welcoming the initiatives to review laws from the pre-independence period, regrets the failure of the State party to adopt and implement key national legislation concerning children, as required by the CRC; notes with concern that despite discussions that began over a decade ago, two notable laws on children's rights, the Child Care and Protection Bill and the Child Justice Bill, have not yet been adopted; noting the existence of plural legal systems, concerned that the customary law and practices are not consistent with the CRC principles and provisions, in particular those relating to the minimum age of marriage, to divorce and to inheritance.	(2) para. 16: noting that the State party has allocated considerable resources in its national budget to the social sectors, particularly in education, concerned that such a level of spending has not necessarily resulted in improved outcomes in many areas of children's rights, including the education sector; also notes with concern that the State party has not yet undertaken a child rights approach to budgeting to track the allocation and use of resources for children across different sectors.	(2) para. 18: welcomes that the National Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2009/10 included for the first time a child poverty assessment, it is concerned about the absence of a comprehensive data collection system for the disaggregation and analysis of data on all children under the age of 18; also regrets the lack of information on the cases of violence against children, including corporal punishment and children with disabilities, disaggregated by sex, age, socioeconomic background, geographic location, and those attending and/or out of schools.	NA
121	Nauru = NOT AVAILABLE							

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122	Nepal 2005	(2) para. 14: insufficient follow-up previous CO on non-discrimination; para. 35: noting that discrimination is prohibited under the Constitution and other relevant legislation, as well as the various efforts undertaken by the State party to eliminate discrimination, reiterates its deep concerns about the widely prevailing de facto discrimination against girls and children belonging to the most vulnerable groups such as the Dalit community, children belonging to indigenous or ethnic minority groups, refugee and asylum-seeking children, street children, children with disabilities and children living in rural areas; notes with grave concern that as a consequence of prevailing discriminatory attitudes, children belonging to vulnerable groups are particularly likely to fall victim to abuse and exploitation.	NA	(2) para. 39: noting the initiatives taken by the State party in cooperation with members of civil society to promote children's right to be heard, concerned that the views of the child are not given sufficient consideration in all areas of children's lives and that the provisions of art. 12 are not fully integrated into the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, or in policies and programmes relevant to children.	(2) para. 3: notes positively the adoption of (specified) laws; para. 14: insufficient follow-up previous CO on legislation; para. 16-17: welcomes the State party's plans to amend its domestic legislation, most notably the 1992 Children's Act, to ensure full conformity with the CRC principles and provisions; expresses some concern about the pace of such undertakings; also reiterates its previous concern regarding the disparities in legislation, in particular, in local, customary and religious laws, which result in uneven and discriminatory protection and promotion of children's rights.	(2) para. 14: insufficient follow-up previous CO on resource allocation for children; para. 22: also concerned that resources currently allocated to these bodies may not be sufficient for it to effectively carry out their functions; para. 27: aware of the economic and political difficulties facing the State party, and of the efforts taken to increase spending on basic social services and education, is nevertheless concerned at the lack of sufficient budget allocation for children and the implementation of their rights.	(1) para. 14: insufficient follow-up previous CO on data collection; para. 29: concerned at the absence of comprehensive and up-to-date statistical data in the State party and the lack of an adequate national data collection system on all areas covered by the CRC.	(1) para. 33: expresses concern over the wide-ranging restrictions placed by the authorities on civil society organizations such as re-registration requirements, censorship, travel ban, and requirement of obtaining governmental authorization prior to receiving grants from donors.
123	Netherlands 2009	(2) para. 26: welcomes legislation; concerned that racial discrimination still persists.	(2) para. 28: welcomes efforts in decisions concerning children; but not always codified in legislation.	(2) para. 34: but concerned about limited support for National Youth Council and youth organizations	(3) paras. 4 and 12: notes with appreciation adoption of new legislation; and harmonization efforts	(3) para. 18: welcomes allocation of extra resources	(2) para. 20: welcomes new system of data collection but regrets absence of nationwide system to collect data on all areas covered by CRC	(2) para. 24: notes with appreciation cooperation in reporting process; concerned about inadequate government funding for NGOs
124	New Zealand 2011	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation previous CO on non-discrimination; para. 24: noting with interest the Youth Voices: Youth Choices project and the various efforts undertaken by the State party to improve the situation of the Maori, particularly in the fields of education and health, remains concerned at continuing manifestations of discrimination against the Maori population, including children, as evidenced by their unequal access to services.	NA	(1) para. 26: notes with regret that the views of children are not adequately respected within the family, in schools and in the community; also regrets that there are no means by which children can express their views in the public domain, that the State party does not systematically take into consideration children's views when formulating laws and policies that may affect them and that their right to be heard in judicial and administrative proceedings is not sufficiently respected.	(1) para. 10: notes with concern that in spite of recent legislative developments in the field of child rights, the harmonization of national law with the Convention and its Optional Protocols is not completed (for example, in the area of adoption legislation) and that not all domestic laws affecting children are harmonized even among themselves; also concerned that the Children, Young Persons and Their Families Amendment Bill No. 6 has been before Parliament since 2007.	(2) para. 16: notes with appreciation the increase in expenditure on children in recent years and the tax-credit initiative to reduce poverty; concerned that the increases are not sufficient to eradicate poverty and address inequalities; regrets that the budgeting process still does not allow clear identification of allocations for children, which prevents the tracking of expenditure on children by the State party and the evaluation of its impact.	NA	NA

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125	Nicaragua 2010	(2) para. 36: welcomes the legislative action taken by the State party to guarantee equal rights of people, especially those with disabilities, living with HIV/AIDS and indigenous and Afro-descendants; also welcomes the establishment of the Office of the Special Ombudsperson for the Rights of Indigenous People and Ethnic Communities, and its local office in the Caribbean Coast autonomous region, as well as the Office of the Special Ombudsperson for Sexual Diversity; shares the concerns that indigenous peoples and peoples of African descent, as well as women, girls and children in rural and remote areas continue to suffer de facto discrimination.	(2) para. 38: notes that, according to art. 9 of the Children and Adolescents Code, the best interests of the child should be taken into account as a fundamental principle; concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not well understood in the family or by State judicial and administrative authorities, and that it is not consistently applied in practice.	(2) para. 41: commends the achievements made with regard to children and adolescents' right to be heard through school and municipal councils, for example, but notes that the efforts are not deep enough and that the new forms of "direct democracy" (such as the Gabinetes de Participación Popular) seem to be adult-centred and authoritarian; also concerned that children's views are not always duly taken into account in the family and in judicial and administrative proceedings.	(3) para. 7: insufficient implementation previous CO on legislation; para. 8: notes the efforts made by the State party towards strengthening the constitutional, legal and normative framework related to CRC implementation.	(2) para. 18: welcoming the increase in spending on health and education over the past years, especially from national resources, concerned at the insufficient level of resources available overall for social policies and specific plans and programmes for children; further concerned that due to the financial crisis and the low public revenue base, financial resources, including contributions for budget support and specific programmes from international cooperation, may decrease further.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation previous CO on data collection; para. 21: welcomes the five-year plan for the modernization of the National Development Information Institute and the National Statistical System; particularly commends the process to design and implement the statistical information system on children and adolescents and establish a system of child rights indicators in close cooperation with all concerned institutions; concerned that data on children at risk is still not available and that sufficient financial and human resources are not allocated for the full functioning of the system.	(1) para. 28: concerned that the long-standing tradition of collaboration between the State party and an extensive network of national and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) has recently become more limited due, inter alia, to the weakening of CONAPINA.
126	Niger 2009	(2) para. 27: welcomes all the efforts made by the Government in promoting girls' education and in particular the awareness-raising campaigns carried out with the support of traditional and religious chiefs in the regions where girls' enrolment is particularly low; remains concerned at the persistent discrimination which girls suffer in the State party; also remains concerned at the legal discrimination against children born out of wedlock and the persistent social discrimination experienced by the most vulnerable groups, such as children with disabilities and children living in rural areas.	(2) para. 29: notes the State party's indication that the principle of the best interests of the child is taken into account by the State institutions, and that an inventory of good practices conducive to the protection of children's rights before the courts was adopted by the Judiciary in 2007; notes with regret that customary law and certain practices remain an impediment to the implementation of this principle.	(1) para. 31: remains concerned that the principle of respect for the views of the child is not clearly expressed in the State party's legal framework; also concerned about traditional societal attitudes which prevent children from freely expressing their views within the family, schools, communities, as well as in judicial and administrative proceedings.	(2) para. 7: welcomes the elaboration in 2005 of a draft Children's Code in order to abolish the legal pluralism in the field of children's rights and harmonize the national laws with the CRC; concerned that this Code has not yet been examined by the Government and submitted to the National Assembly for adoption; enjoyment of child rights continues to be negatively affected by the application of three different sources of law, namely positive, customary and religious laws.	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up of previous CO on allocation of resources; para. 17: welcomes the increase in budget allocation to the health and education sectors, it is concerned that the part of the national budget devoted to social services has been decreasing and that overall allocation of resources remains insufficient to effectively guarantee the fulfilment of all rights for all children; further concerned about the State party's inability to clearly identify the amount and proportion of the State budget spent for children; concerned over reports of continuing corruption which have a negative impact on the allocation of already limited resources for the promotion and protection of children's rights.	(2) para. 19: welcomes the efforts made with regard to data collection and, in particular, the creation in 2005 within the Ministry for the Protection of Children of a Statistics Department, and the adoption in 2007 of a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics; concerned at the unavailability of quality data and analysis on children's rights, especially with regard to children belonging to the most vulnerable groups, including child victims of violence and sexual abuse, street children, children working as domestic servants, children in conflict with the law and children living in poverty.	(2) para. 23: welcomes the State party's indication that State institutions work in close collaboration with NGOs and the participatory process through which the State party's report was drafted; seriously concerned over the limitations placed upon certain organizations of civil society and, in particular, the severe administrative and practical restrictions upon the operation of international NGOs working in the area of human rights and humanitarian assistance for children.

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127	Nigeria 2010	(2) para. 28: notes as positive that the Constitution incorporates provisions of non-discrimination and welcomes the fact that the Anti-Discrimination Bill is about to be passed by the National Assembly; remains concerned however that de facto discrimination of children prevails and is tolerated in the State party, in particular vis-à-vis the girl child, but also against children with disabilities, children in street situations and children of minority groups.	(2) para. 30: welcomes the express provision in the Child Rights Act that the child's best interests shall remain "paramount" in all considerations affecting the child and appreciates information that courts of the State party frequently base their decisions on this principle; concerned, however, that certain practices that are inconsistent with this and other general principles of the CRC appear to be considered as reflecting the best interests of the child; This includes information on the placement of children from vulnerable groups in remand homes and the detention of child offenders charged with status offences, and of children at the request of their parents for being "beyond parental control", for their own protection.	(2) para. 34: welcomes the establishment of Children's Parliaments in all 36 states of the Federation, in line with the Committee's recommendation and their active participation in international as well as national forums; remains concerned about the limited participation of children in matters affecting them in children's institutions of all kind, in the community, in the family and in judicial and administrative procedures. It regrets the low level of acceptance thereof, especially in rural areas, and appreciates the State party's acknowledgement of this situation.	(2) para. 3: welcomes adoption of (specified) legislation; para. 7: welcomes the ongoing constitutional review in the State party and, in this context, the proposal to place the Child Rights Act (CRA) in the concurrent list of legislation which would make it automatically applicable in all states of the federation; remains concerned, however, that most northern states of the State party have not yet domesticated the CRA and about reports that some states that have passed such legislation have adopted a definition of the child which is not in compliance with that of the CRC; regrets that a comprehensive review on the compatibility of the existing statutory, religious (sharia) and customary laws with the Convention and the Child Rights Act has not been carried out.	(2) para. 16: welcomes information that budget allocations to health and education have increased and that funds saved from the State party's debt relief programme will be invested in children's programmes; welcomes information from the State party that a specific budget line on maternal health and the new born child has been included in the 2010 Government budget; notes with appreciation the implementation of a comprehensive economic and anti-corruption reform programme; nevertheless reiterates its earlier concern about insufficient budget allocations to children and that corruption remains endemic in the State party and its adverse effects on the protection and promotion of children's rights; notes with much concern information that due to the fact that the state and local governments are not required to provide budget or expenditure reports to the federal government, the latter is unable to monitor the expenditure of funds.	(2) para. 6: inadequate follow-up to previous CO on data-collection systems; para. 18: notes with appreciation the establishment of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and its fully fledged department dealing with statistics on children during the reporting period; welcomes the appointment of the CRC Chair at the University of Lagos and the undertaking of a National Baseline Survey on child protection, including indicators, by the same; notes that data on children deprived of a family environment, refugee and internally displaced children, children in conflict with the law, children with disabilities, as well as single-parent families still has to be collected and analysed.	(2) para. 23: welcomes the State party's indication that state institutions work in close collaboration with civil society organizations in furthering the implementation of children's rights, as witnessed in the participatory process during the preparation of the State party's report; concerned about the reliance of the State party on civil society organizations in the provision of social services of the CRC, notably in the fields of child care and education, which may affect the responsibility of State party as the primary duty-bearer for the realization of the rights guaranteed under the Convention.
128	Niue = NOT AVAILABLE							
129	Norway 2010	(2) para. 19: welcomes the entry into force in January 2006 of the Antidiscrimination Act and the establishment also in 2006 of an Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud, an Equality and Anti-Discrimination Tribunal and the adoption of an Action Plan to Promote Equality and Prevent Ethnic Discrimination; takes note of the ongoing debate as to whether age discrimination of children should be included in the law and whether children should be given the right to file complaints if they are discriminated against due to their age; concerned at information, including from children, that minority and indigenous children feel stigmatized and maltreated, including by other children, and that children with disabilities complain that their rights are not respected.	(2) para. 22: recognizes that the best interests of the child are stressed as a guiding principle in the case treatment regulations of 2004 and the amendments to the Children Act of 2006, both referring to protection of children in custody cases, as well as in the new immigration Act of 2008; concerned that the principle of primary consideration of the best interests of the child is not yet applied in all areas affecting children, such as child custody cases and immigration cases, and that those responsible for taking the child's best interest into account are not always sufficiently trained to conduct a thorough case-by-case assessment of the best interests of the affected child.	(2) para. 24: welcomes the fact that amendments to the Children Act and the Child Welfare Act have lowered the age at which children have the right to express themselves in cases of concern to them, from twelve to seven years and that also younger children may be heard; concerned, however, that, in practice, the child's right be heard is not fully implemented or effectively practiced in all phases of decisions about and arrangements for children's lives, in particular in child care and immigration cases; regrets that children have the right to be heard regarding health issues only after the age of 12; notes with interest that a pilot project in 21 municipalities will allow children from age 16 on to vote in their local elections.	(3) para. 8: takes note of the ongoing activities of the Government to amend laws or to adopt new one's in order to bring legislation in full harmony with the CRC and welcomes the Government's initiative to order an expert review of the relation between the Convention and Norwegian law (the Sovig report).	(2) para. 15: welcomes information that the central budget for 2010 provides 400 additional posts for municipalities but notes that, in view of the extensive autonomy of municipalities, this provision may not necessarily be allocated for the improvement of services for children and also notes that according to State party, more posts will be needed in the coming years; concerned about information received, including from children, about disparities in the services available to children depending on the geographical location, and that some of these services are seriously understaffed and have inadequate resources	NA	NA

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130	Oman 2006	<p>(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous CO on non-discrimination; para. 24: noting that the Basic Law of the State and other domestic laws are based on the principle of non-discrimination and that the State party has taken measures to promote the principle of equality between women and men, particularly in the domain of civil and labour laws; concerned about the weak implementation of these laws and the persisting de facto discrimination against women and girls in the Omani society; Despite the ongoing efforts of the State party to provide equal opportunities for children with disabilities, including through community-based support and services, notes that the traditional charity-based welfare approach to address the issue of children with disabilities still prevails; discrimination against children born out of wedlock is an issue of particular concern; as regards the high number of children of migrant workers in Oman, concerned about discrimination on the basis of national origin in terms of social benefits, health, education and housing.</p>	<p>(1) para. 27: concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in CRC art 3 is not fully included in laws, regulations and practices concerning children;</p>	<p>(2) para. 29: notes with appreciation that the National Committee for the Follow-up on the CRC held a series of meetings for Omani children from different regions of the country in order to provide them with an opportunity to express their views and ideas freely and through organized channels and to develop their cultural, artistic and perceptive skills; expresses its concern that children are only allowed a very limited level of expressive freedom and that traditional perceptions of children as objects rather than subjects of rights hinder their full participation in the family, schools, local communities as well as in judicial and administrative proceedings.</p>	<p>(2) para. 9: notes with appreciation the comparative study of the Omani legislation in relation to the CRC provisions; Although some legislative measures are being taken, or proposed such as a bill for the care and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities and the draft act on juveniles, to strengthen the legal protection of children, is of the view that they are insufficient. In particular, concerned about the limited rights-based approach to children.</p>	NA	<p>(2) para. 18: notes with appreciation the State party's efforts to collect, analyse and disaggregate statistical data on children; regrets the lack of a central database on children and notes with concern the insufficient data concerning many areas covered by the CRC, particularly groups of children in need of special protection, for example, children affected by violence and abuse, including sexual abuse, children in alternative care, street children, migrant children and working children.</p>	<p>(3) para. 20: takes note of the active role played by civil society in the provision of services, particularly health and social services, for example for children with disabilities.</p>
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131	Pakistan 2009	(1) para. 28: remains extremely concerned at the evidence of serious discrimination against women and girls in the State party, as attested by the acute gender differentials in infant mortality rates and school enrolment rates and the continuing existence of early marriages and exchanges of girls for debt settlement, domestic violence affecting women and girls, and other such situations including bonded labour and economic exploitation of girls; regrets that despite similar concerns expressed in its previous concluding observations and by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2007, there seems to be little or no improvement in the country.	(2) para. 33: appreciates the efforts of the State party to incorporate the principle of the best interests of the child into certain decision-making processes and pieces of legislation; concerned that there is little evidence that the best-interests principle is a primary consideration for the legislative, executive and judicial branches of Government or that the principle is well understood by all professionals.	(2) para. 39: commends the State party for initiating child participation, in particular through youth forums and radio programmes, as well as for involving children in the development of new policies; remains concerned, however, that these initiatives do not reach all children across the State party's territory, especially at district level; regrets that the right to respect the views of the child does not appear to be widely known and implemented, and that the views of the child are rarely sought in establishing what may be in the child's best interests when relevant decisions are being made, including in administrative, civil and judicial proceedings.	(2) para. 8: notes the legislative measures that have been undertaken by the State party in order to ensure the implementation of the CRC, but remains concerned about the apparent lack of a legislative framework harmonized with the CRC in many areas and about delays in the adoption of laws that are instrumental to the implementation of the CRC. In particular, the Committee is concerned that the Charter of Child Rights Bill, which plans to incorporate all CRC principles and provisions into domestic legislation, has not yet been adopted etc.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous CO on resource allocations for children; para. 18: welcomes the commitment of the State party to increase allocation of resources for children, especially in the field of health and education; expresses concern, however, that budget allocations for the children remain extremely low, thereby undermining the State party's prospects of meeting its objectives to gradually raise allocations to education to 5 per cent of GDP by 2010 and to increase annually the allocations to the health sector by 16 per cent until satisfactory health services and prevention measures are accomplished; concerned that massive disparities of resource allocations hamper full and equal access to services and institutions by all children.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous CO on data collection; para. 20: notes with satisfaction that a Child Protection Monitoring and Data Collection System has been established but expresses concern that the National Commission for Child Welfare and Development, mandated to provide the resources for data collection and system management, may not have sufficient human and financial resources to overcome the shortcomings of the existing statistical system and to fulfil its mandate in an effective manner	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous CO on cooperation with NGOs; para. 24: noting the State party's efforts to strengthen its cooperation with civil society, including NGOs, remains concerned that the State party has relinquished some of its responsibilities and duties with regard to the implementation of some CRC provisions to NGOs without providing them with adequate resources, policies and guidelines; concerned that cooperation between the National Commission for Child Welfare and Development, its local network and civil society organizations is limited.
132	Palau 2001	(1) para. 30: concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions especially its general principles, as reflected in art. 2 (non-discrimination) in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in its policies and programmes relevant to children; para. 32: notes with concern that the principle of non-discrimination is not adequately implemented, in particular with respect to vulnerable groups of children, especially children of non-Palauan parentage, including children of immigrant families and children adopted through inter-country adoptions; children living in the outer islands; and children living and/or working on the streets; particularly concerned about their limited access to adequate health, education and other social services; expresses concern at the disparity in the legal minimum age for marriage of girls (16 years) and boys (18 years).	(1) para. 30: concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions especially its general principles, as reflected in art. 3 (best interests of the child) in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in its policies and programmes relevant to children; para. 34: concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child (art. 3) has not been taken fully into account in the State party's legislative, administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children; notes that under customary law, family matters usually reflect "the best interests of all concerned parties" as opposed to "the principle of the best interests of the child".	(2) para. 30: concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions especially its general principles, as reflected in art. 12 (respect for the views of the child), in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in its policies and programmes relevant to children; para. 36: notes that the views of children aged 12 years and older are heard in court on matters relating to their own adoption and that children are heard in criminal cases; in other matters the right of the child to express his or her views in court is at the discretion of the judge. While noting that family law matters are generally dealt with under customary law, concerned that traditional culture, values and attitudes may not always facilitate expression and consideration of the views of children.	(2) para. 12: notes that the State party has undertaken a study to determine the inconsistencies between its laws (both statutory and customary laws) and the CRC; concerned that insufficient efforts have been made to address the inconsistencies found; concern that domestic legislation still does not fully conform to the CRC principles and provisions	(1) para. 9: noted that a significant portion of the State party's financing is derived from transfer payments from the United States under the Compact of Free Association, the phasing out of which in 2009 may have an impact on the allocation of budgetary resources for children; para. 24: notes with concern that budgetary allocations for education and social services have been gradually reduced since independence (1994) and that there is a scarcity of resources for welfare and social services; further concerned that there is no social welfare system in the State party; concerned that in the light of CRC art. 4, not enough attention has been paid to allocating budgetary resources, at both the national and community levels, in favour of children "to the maximum extent of ... available resources"; insufficient efforts have been made to ensure that an adequate proportion of financing gained through international cooperation is allocated to children's programmes.	(2) para. 20: notes that the report and the core document of the State party both contain substantive statistical data; concerned that the State party's data collection mechanism does not adequately allow for the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated data on and the effective monitoring and evaluation of progress achieved in implementing policies and programmes for children below the age of 18 years.	(3) para. 3: notes with appreciation that the preparation of the State report was a collaborative process that involved a.o. civil society and the general public; para. 4: welcomes the inclusion of NGOs in the membership of CoPopChi and its work in cooperation with the Council of Chiefs;

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133	Panama 2011	(1) para. 33: remains concerned at the continued disparities affecting Afro-Panamanian, indigenous children and children with disabilities with regard to access to health care, education and other basic services, as is made evident by the higher rates of infant mortality, especially due to preventable diseases, malnutrition, maternal mortality and school dropout; also concerned at discrimination by police and other security forces against Afro-Panamanian children living in marginalized urban neighbourhoods, who are wrongly perceived as potential delinquents, as a result of such measures as curfew for children and campaigns through mass media linking adolescents to alleged increases in criminality.	(2) para. 35: takes note that articles 2 and 740 of the Family Code mandate the judicial and administrative authorities to afford primacy to the best interests of the child; expresses its deep concern at the high number of substantial norms regarding children that follow a guardianship or "children in irregular situation" perspective, which implies that decisions taken based on such norms do not apply the aforementioned principle; concerned that the lack of a comprehensive law on children's rights leaves the question of applying this principle at the discretion of the judge.	(1) para. 37: notes with concern that the views of children and adolescents are not adequately taken into account in judicial and administrative decision-making processes in matters that concern them.	(2) para. 8: insufficient follow-up to previous CO related to a comprehensive law to protect children's rights; para. 9: notes that a draft comprehensive law on child rights was submitted to Congress in 2007 but it remains to be approved; notes that the State party has recently set up an Inter-institutional Commission to elaborate a pre-draft law on the promotion and integral protection of the family;	(1) para. 17: regrets the lack of clarity of data on the extent of the investment on children, whether on aggregate terms or for specific programmes; notes that the State party is in a position to increase resources to the social sectors, especially for children, given the relatively positive economic development in recent years, but it regrets that proper analysis on social investment levels and trends and the impact on child rights is not possible.	(2) para. 19: notes the efforts of the State party towards establishing a data collection system, the Childhood, Adolescent and Women Indicators System (SINAMP); remains concerned at the lack of continuity of such effort as evidenced by the fact that data has not been updated; concerned that child rights data is not mainstreamed or visible in the statistical system of the State party.	(2) para. 25: welcomes the creation of an observatory for the rights of the child with the participation of civil society, academia and children, noting that the Ombudsman Office serves as the Observatory's Secretariat; welcomes the fact that the State party consulted with civil society in the reporting process; concerned that collaboration with civil society has been curtailed since the National Council on Children and Adolescents was abolished.
134	Papua New Guinea 2004	(1) para. 26: concerned that, as noted by the State party, societal discrimination persists against girls and women and vulnerable groups of children, such as children with disabilities, children living in poverty, children born out of wedlock, adopted children and children of mixed parentage, and that the Constitution does not prohibit discrimination on the grounds of disability.	(1) para. 29: concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in article 3 of the Convention is not always a primary consideration in all actions concerning children, in particular in customary law.	(1) para. 31: notes with concern that children's views are not systematically sought and taken into consideration with regard to decisions that may affect them and that respect for the views of the child remains limited within the family, at schools, in the courts and before administrative authorities and in the society at large.	(2) para. 8: noting that the State party has undertaken a legislative review programme and that the Child Rights Monitoring Committee (CRMC) has identified about 20 pieces of legislation that are not in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Child, concerned that the completion of this programme is not given the necessary priority.	(1) para. 16: concerned that the recent reduction of budgets for, inter alia, health care and education seriously hampers the State party's compliance with the provisions of CRC art. 4 in terms of budgetary allocations of resources for CRC implementation.	(2) para. 18: acknowledging the detailed data provided in the written replies to the list of issues in the area of health care and education, regrets the lack of comprehensive and up-to-date statistical data in the State party's report.	(2) para. 22: notes with appreciation the cooperation of the State party with NGOs in the provision of services and their involvement in the preparation of various programmes relating to the CRC; expresses its concern that this involvement may result in a diminished direct commitment on the part of the State party.

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135	Paraguay 2001	(1) para. 25: concerned that the principle of non-discrimination (CRC art. 2) is not fully reflected in the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels; para. 27: concerned that the principle of non-discrimination is not fully implemented for children belonging to indigenous groups or those groups speaking only Guaraní, urban and rural poor children, girls, street children, children with disabilities, and children living in rural areas, especially with regard to their access to adequate health and educational facilities; further notes with concern that pregnant girls are often not allowed to continue their education, especially in private schools.	(1) para. 25: concerned that the principle of best interests of the child (art. 3), is not fully reflected in the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels;	(1) para. 25: concerned that the principle of respect for the views of the child (art. 12) is not fully reflected in the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in policies and programmes relevant to children at both national and local levels.	(1) para. 9: notes with concern that the recently adopted Children's Code may not enter into force at the end of November 2001, six months after its promulgation; para. 49: legislation is inadequate on sexual exploitation;	(2) para. 13: noting the information that there has been an increase in public social spending, reiterates its concern that budgetary allocations for children are still insufficient to respond to national and local priorities for the protection and promotion of children's rights and to overcome and remedy existing disparities between rural and urban areas with respect to services provided to children; para. 11: the Committee notes with concern that a process of reform of the structure of ministries and secretariats in Paraguay may delay the entry into force of the Children's Code until July 2002, thereby preventing the allocation of funds in the 2002 budget for the new structure	(2) para. 17: while noting the creation in 1995 of a database to monitor the National Plan of Action for Children (PNAI), expresses its concern that statistical data are not updated and do not cover sufficiently nor are disaggregated for all areas covered under the CRC, and that, when available, these data are not used in an adequate manner to assess trends and as a basis for policy-making in the field of children's rights.	(2) para. 21: while noting examples of collaboration between governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations, e.g. in the preparation of the Children's Code and of the State party's second periodic report, nevertheless notes that cooperation with non-governmental organizations should be further promoted and reinforced
136	Peru 2006	(1) para. 5: insufficient follow-up previous CO on non-discrimination, resource allocation, respect for the views of the child; para. 26: concerned that de facto discrimination still exists towards certain vulnerable groups such as children with disabilities, indigenous children, children living in rural and remote areas and those working or living in the streets.	(2) para. 29: welcomes that the principle of the best interests of the child is enshrined in article VIII of the Code on Children and Adolescents, it is concerned that this principle is not fully applied in practice, for instance in the allocation of resources to children, in decisions on alternative care and their revision and in the administration of justice.	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up previous CO on respect for the views of the child; para. 31: notes the State party's efforts to promote respect for the views of the child in school, but it remains concerned about their still limited participation in matters affecting them, in particular in the family, in schools and in the local community; further concerned about reports that children were not included in decisions of local authorities which severely affected vulnerable groups of children.	(1) para. 7: notes that there are still discrepancies between some domestic laws and the Convention.	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up previous CO on resource allocation; para. 11: concerned that there is no specific budget allocation for the implementation of the Plan of Action; para. 19: concerned that - despite the constant growth in the economy (24 per cent between 2001 and 2005) and the incorporation of children's issues into policy priorities - the allocation and implementation of the current budget for children is insufficient; while welcoming the development of minimum standards for budgeting, concerned that recently some of the budget allocated for education, health care and other services has declined (on percentage of the budget/GDP) and that some of the budgets earmarked for specific groups of children were not exclusively spent for these target groups.	(2) para. 21: welcomes the presence of statistical data and information throughout the report and the written replies, it is concerned that information on children with disabilities and indigenous children is limited and that there is no centralized data management system to monitor progress on the indicators defined in the National Plan of Action for Children and Adolescents (NAPCA) and in other social programmes and plans.	NA

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137	Philippines 2009	(2) para. 10: insufficient follow-up to previous CO on discrimination against children born out of wedlock; para. 29: noting efforts by the State party to eliminate discrimination against children, reiterates its concern at discrimination faced by many children, in particular children living in poverty, children with disabilities, indigenous and minority children, including Muslim children living in Mindanao, migrant children, street children and children living in rural areas as well as children living in conflict areas, as regards their access, inter alia, to social and health services and education; remains concerned at the de facto discrimination still affecting the girl child and impeding the full enjoyment of her rights, mainly due to societal attitudes toward girls and women; further expresses its concern at the fact that the State party has not yet addressed the situation of children born out of wedlock, who still face discriminatory practices such as their classification as "illegitimate" and their restricted right to inherit.	NA	(2) para. 35: notes with appreciation the various initiatives and efforts of the State party to promote respect for the views of the child, such as the adoption of the National Framework for Children's Participation (NFPC) and the involvement of children at both local and national levels, including through the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) and the Student Councils in schools; welcomes the consultation meetings held with children and children's organizations in 2007 during the drafting process of the State party's report to the Committee, organised by the CWC, to allow them to express their views and to formulate recommendations for the protection and fulfilment of their rights; concerned that it is still generally difficult for children, in particular children belonging to the minority and indigenous population, to be heard in the State party, and that their right to be heard in proceedings affecting them may be limited.	(2) para. 11: noting a number of legislative initiatives in the State party, remains concerned at the lack of legislation with regard to the prohibition of corporal punishment, the prohibition of torture and the status of children born out of wedlock; also notes the fairly advanced general legal framework adopted by the State party but it remains concerned at the lack of implementation and legal enforcement of legislation pertaining to children, especially the 1992 Child Protection Act (Republic Act 7610).	(2) para. 19: welcomes the various poverty reduction strategies and initiatives targeting low-income families and aimed at attaining the MDGs and the World fit for children™ goals (WFFC); notes with concern that the budgetary allocations for children's social services, health services and education have decreased in terms of percentage of the national budget; reiterates its deep concern at the fact that the State party allocates more than 30 per cent of its national budget to debt service-interest payment and that the share allocated to debt servicing has increased over the last years; also concerned at the negative impact corruption may have on the allocation of already limited resources to effectively improve the promotion and protection of children's rights, including their right to education and health.	(2) para. 23: acknowledges the State party's efforts to improve its data collection system and welcomes, in particular, the development by the CWC of the Subaybay Bata Monitoring System (SBMS), linked to the major national government agencies, the development of 143 indicators for the seven major clusters of child rights, as well as the publication of Annual State of the Filipino Children Reports; reiterates its concern at the lack of disaggregated data by region, gender and age and at the insufficient data on children in need of special protection, in particular, children living in extreme poverty, abused and neglected children, children in conflict with the law and children belonging to minorities and indigenous groups.	(3) para. 28: welcomes the State party's collaboration with a high number of national and international NGOs in the promotion of the CRC and in the delivery of services and programmes for children and notes that these INGOs and NGOs are often consulted in actions taken by the Government; encourages the State party to continue to strengthen its cooperation with civil society, including national and international non-governmental organizations, and ensure cooperation on a broad level in all areas related to the promotion and protection of the rights of the child.
138	Poland 2002	(1) para. 27: notes with concern that the principle of non-discrimination is not adequately implemented with respect to certain vulnerable groups of children, including children of the Roma and other ethnic minorities, children living in institutions, children with disabilities, children of poor families and children with HIV/AIDS. In particular, the Committee is concerned about their limited access to adequate health, education and other social services and about reports of racially motivated violence in which police have failed to protect the victims.	NA	(2) para. 30: notes the State party's efforts to require administrative and judicial proceedings to take into account the views of the child, but is concerned that in practice this principle is not always implemented, particularly in proceedings involving unaccompanied children applying for refugee status, juvenile offenders and children placed in institutions, as well as in custody hearings.	(2) para. 11: while taking note of the adoption of the new Constitution in 1997 and the subsequent amendments to domestic legislation, nevertheless remains concerned that all domestic laws still do not fully comply with the provisions and principles of the Convention;	(1) para. 17: notes with concern that allocations for children from the central budget declined from 2000 to 2001 and are insufficient to respond to national and local priorities for the protection and promotion of children's rights and to overcome and remedy existing disparities between rural and urban areas with respect to services provided to children.	(2) para. 19: welcomes the additional statistical data contained in the written replies to the list of issues and the information that a programme called E-Poland will be initiated in order to improve the exchange of data between ministries and facilitate their comparison and analysis; remains concerned that very little data are specifically disaggregated by gender and that data and indicators are not available for all areas covered by the Convention.	(1) para. 21: despite the existence of a vibrant civil society, concerned that non-governmental organizations are not fully involved in the Government's efforts to implement the CRC.

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139	Portugal 2014	<p>(2) para. 25: welcomes the numerous measures, programmes and plans of action initiated by the State party to address discrimination in the context of children and families living in poverty, and groups in disadvantaged situations, notably the National Strategy for the Integration of the Roma Communities for the period 2013-2020, and other measures to combat discrimination, including support centres for immigrants and the establishment of Education for Citizenship Guidelines to sensitize school staff and other educational stakeholders in order to facilitate the integration of children of immigrants and ethnic minorities in schools ... concerned, however, that despite considerable action taken by the State party, immigrants, foreigners and ethnic and racial minorities, including the Roma minority and people of African descent, continue in practice to face discrimination in access to housing, employment, education, equal wages, health care and public services... concerned about reported cases of discriminatory conduct and ill-treatment of, and manifestations of racist stereotyping and prejudice towards, immigrants, foreigners and ethnic and racial minorities by law enforcement officials, as well as discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender adolescents; para. 45: notes with satisfaction the adoption of laws and policies pertaining to children with disabilities, in particular relating to non-discrimination, access to education and the promotion of social inclusion; para. 65: concerned ... as well as possible discrimination against immigrants and ethnic minorities in the judicial system</p>	<p>(2) para. 27: welcomes the inclusion of the principle of the best interests of the child in the Constitution and in legislation, as well as its use by judges and magistrates in decisions affecting children. It also welcomes the establishment in May 2012 of a governmental working group to assess proceedings and legal issues that relate to defining the best interests of the child ... concerned about the lack of a uniform process to determine the best interests of the child, as well as the lack of guidance to relevant authorities for the application of the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration; para. 43: expresses concern regarding certain aspects of the adoption system and legislation, including the possibility of returning an adopted child without taking the child's best interests sufficiently into consideration</p>	<p>(2) para. 31: notes the State party's ongoing efforts to ensure respect for the views of the child in protection cases, cases involving parental responsibilities, adoption proceedings, juvenile justice and other relevant areas, and the role of the Ombudsperson in ensuring this right ... concerned, however, that respect for the views of the child is not adequately implemented in practice in all relevant areas and at the national and local levels ... also concerned that the views of the child are not being sufficiently taken into consideration regarding the education system and its reform, and that there is insufficient training of professionals working with and for children regarding the right of the child to be heard</p>	<p>(3) para. 3-5: welcomes the adoption of numerous legislative measures; para. 9: notes the adoption of various child-related legislative measures during the period under review to ensure further conformity of domestic legislation with the principles and provisions of the Convention relating to, inter alia, the prohibition of all forms of corporal punishment of children; civil sponsorship; social protection of maternity, paternity and adoption; special education needs for children with disabilities; and procedures for granting asylum, subsidiary protection or refugee status, including for unaccompanied children</p>	<p>(2) para. 15: notes the State party's efforts to allocate resources with a view to protecting the most vulnerable members of society, including children. ... expresses its concern, however, at the negative effects of austerity measures on public spending, which affect benefits and services provided to families with children, especially Roma; para. 23: concerned that training on children's rights has been negatively affected by budget cuts due to the financial crisis; para. 47: concerned about recent reductions in the National Health Service budget.</p>	<p>(2) para. 15: lack of data on the proportion of budgetary allocations for the implementation of children's rights under the CRC and information on the impact of austerity measures on children in the State party; para. 17: recognizes the efforts of the State party to collect data on CRC implementation in the case of children placed in institutions and foster care ..., the 2006 National Adoption Lists, and other data collection mechanisms relating to juvenile civil cases, civil society organizations for children, and group homes for children. In spite of those initiatives, ... concerned that there is still no comprehensive mechanism for generating, collecting, analysing and coordinating data on the various aspects of children's lives. ... also concerned that data are not sufficiently disaggregated for all areas covered by the CRC.</p>	NA
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140	Qatar 2009	(2) para. 25: noting that the Constitution and other domestic laws are built on the principle of non-discrimination and ongoing efforts by the State party to promote the principle of equality between women and men, concerned about the remaining laws such as the Family Act and the Nationality Act which perpetuate discrimination against women and girls in the Qatari society; discrimination against children born out of wedlock and children of migrant workers is an issue of particular concern to the Committee.	(1) para. 8: insufficient implementation previous CO on best interests of the child; para. 27: concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in article 3 of the Convention is not fully integrated in national legislation, regulations and practices concerning children.	(2) noting the various programmes to promote the right of the child to express views, such as the school press and radio groups, student rights groups and student councils, the Committee expresses its concern that the views of the child are sometimes not duly solicited or taken into account in other settings affecting the child, including in judicial proceedings (trial in absentia), in public debates as well as within the family.	(2) para. 11: notes the legislative measures that have been undertaken by the State party in order to ensure the implementation of the provisions enshrined in the CRC; remains concerned at the frequent delays which obstruct the adoption of the Children's Bill;	NA	(2) para. 17: notes with appreciation the provision of statistical data in the State party's report and the efforts made to collect and analyse statistical data regarding children; regrets the limited data concerning some areas covered by the CRC, for example, violence against children, child abuse and children of migrant workers.	(2) para. 21: notes the active role played by various organizations, including entities such as the Qatari Foundation for the Protection of Children and Women and the Qatari Orphans Foundation, as well as by civil society in the provision of services, particularly health and social services for children, including children with disabilities and children without parental care; notes that the role and cooperation with civil society organizations need strengthening.
141	Republic of Korea 2012	(1) para. 28: regrets that the State party's draft Anti-discrimination Act was discarded without consideration at the National Assembly in December 2007 and that the legislative definition of discrimination does not contain an express prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation and nationality; concerned at the multiple forms of discrimination that continue to persist in the State party, including those against children from multicultural or migrant backgrounds or who have come from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; refugee children; children with disabilities; and single mothers, particularly those who are adolescent, including with regard to their preclusion from State support measures.	(1) para. 32: concerned about the lack of explicit reference to the principle of the best interests of the child in the legislation of the State party concerning children and the infrequent application of this principle in judicial and administrative decisions, as well as policies and programmes relevant to children.	(2) para. 34: welcoming the establishment of a State-party organized conference for children and youth to express their views, remains concerned that neither the legal processes of the State party nor its socio-attitudinal context take into account the views of the child, particularly those below the age of 15, on decisions affecting them.	(2) para. 10: welcomes the fact that the State party's Constitution allows for the direct applicability of the CRC in its national law; concerned that there are insufficient domestic regulations to implement the generic provisions of the CRC and that its courts very rarely apply the CRC directly; further concerned that the legislative prohibition of abortions, except in narrowly defined situations of exception, does not adequately take into account the best interests of pregnant adolescents;	(2) para. 18: welcomes the increase in financial resources allocated for the implementation of the social sectors (16.5 per cent higher than in 2008); notes with deep concern that, in the context of the State party's advanced state of economic development, current financial resource allocations as a proportion of available resources remain low. According to the 2009 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Family database, the Republic of Korea ranked the lowest among the 26 members; further concerned that there are significant disparities in the level of resources available to different municipal authorities for CRC implementation.	(1) para. 20: concerned at the lack of methodological coherency in the undertaking of data collection and the absence of disaggregated data on areas covered by the CRC in the State party; also concerned that, despite various policies and programmes to reduce relative and extreme poverty among children, there are no data on children living in poverty in the State party and there are no measures to reduce disparities in the budgets and capacities of local governments to support poverty reduction	NA

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142	Republic of Moldova 2009	(2) para. 25: concerned that, despite the legislative guarantees against discrimination, the principle of non-discrimination is not fully respected in practice, and that children from socially disadvantaged families, children with disabilities, children with HIV/AIDS or children belonging to a different ethnic group or holding different religious views may face discrimination; further concerned that Roma children are still victims of discriminatory treatment and have reduced access to education, health and an adequate standard of living; notes that, although the national medical insurance scheme is designed to assist children from families living in poverty or from families with special needs, these families do not enjoy equal access to health services.	(2) para. 27: notes that the Family Code and the Criminal Procedure Code provide for the consideration of the best interests of the child and that State institutions are required to take them into account when making decisions regarding them; also notes the existence of children's committees in schools, of the Children's Parliament and of the possibility for children to be associate members of child rights NGOs; concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not sufficiently implemented in practice, in particular in the judicial, legislative and administrative spheres.	(2) para. 31: welcomes the efforts of the State party to promote respect for the views of the child, inter alia through the provisions of the Family Code giving children the right to express their opinions in family matters affecting their interests, and to be heard during legal or administrative proceedings; remains concerned that this principle is not adequately respected in families, in schools and other childcare institutions and within the community, and that it is not fully taken into account in administrative and judicial proceedings or in the development and implementation of policies and programmes.	(3) para. 9: notes the efforts undertaken by the State party to harmonize legislation in order to ensure greater consistency with the CRC, in particular the amendments to the provisions of the Family Code and the Civil Code.	(1) para. 7: inadequate implementation previous CO on allocation of resources; para. 17: concern that budgetary allocations for children, in particular for children living in rural areas, are insufficient and that often resources allocated do not correspond to the needs identified.	(1) para. 19: reiterates its concern that data collection is not sufficiently developed and is not disaggregated for all areas covered by the CRC; notes that the available data on children is not used in an adequate manner to assess progress and as a basis for policy-making in the field of children's rights.	(3) para. 23: welcomes the active participation of the NGO community in providing social services to families as well as the collaboration between governmental institutions and NGOs, including through cooperation in the area of juvenile justice.
143	Romania 2009	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on discrimination against children belonging to the Roma minority; notes the work of various institutions on non-discrimination, including the National Council for Combating Discrimination (CNCD), the National Agency for the Roma, the National Agency for Gender Equality, and the Ombudsman; concerned that in practice certain groups of children, in particular Roma children, children with HIV/AIDS, children with disabilities, children victims of violence, children left behind by their parents, as well as children benefiting from social protection measures, including Roma children declared eligible for adoption, continue to experience discrimination and stigmatization.	(2) para. 28: notes with appreciation that the principle of the best interests of the child is incorporated in the legislation of the State party; regrets that the principle of the best interests of the child is still not reflected as a primary consideration in all legislative and policy matters affecting children, especially in the area of juvenile justice, and that it is not well understood by the judiciary.	(2) para. 32: notes that the principle of the respect for the views of the child is incorporated in the legislation of the State party, and welcomes various initiatives and various NGO activities etc.; para. 33: concerned that the views of the child are sometimes not solicited or taken into account in various settings, including in judiciary hearings of cases concerning children, in matters concerning school administration and classroom education, and in public debates; further notes that there are no specific provisions in criminal law and procedure for the hearing of child victims of crime, including sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.	(3) para. 7: appreciates the efforts made by State party to harmonize its national legislation with the CRC, particularly with the adoption of the legal package in 2005 and Law No. 288 modifying and completing the Family Code in 2007.	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on ensuring sufficient resource allocation; para. 15: notes the reported budget increase in public spending on education, health and child protection; concerned that the budget allocation process may be insufficiently demand-driven and therefore not ensure the most effective and efficient use of allocated resources, as exemplified by spending in the child care and protection system. In light of the serious circumstances, including the high rates of infant and under-5 mortality, affecting the right to life of children, notes with regret that there are no specific budget allocations to children, while also no information is collected on the overall state spending in fulfilling CRC obligations, making it difficult to evaluate the adequacy of provided resources; takes note that corruption is a problem at all levels of administration.	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on the strengthening of the Child Monitoring and Tracking Information System (CMTIS); para. 17: notes that some data collection is carried out by the newly created Department of Monitoring Children's Rights, however the system is not fully developed and information is collected only on severe violations and on the situation of vulnerable children; notes that, in spite of its previous recommendation, CMTIS is still experiencing difficulties; further notes that several state institutions collect information using the age group 15-19 as a demographic indicator and that there is no unified nation-wide system for collecting data for all persons under the age of 18, and for all areas covered by the CRC, in a manner that allows for disaggregated analysis.	(2) para. 21: while welcoming some synergies between the State party and civil society including the hearing of non-governmental organisations (NGO) in the deliberation of new legislation, is concerned that with the withdrawal of foreign donors NGOs are not able to secure the funds required for their operation; in particular, concerned that NGOs with proven track record now face competition for resources from the General Directorates of Social Assistance and Child Protection and that since the latter are responsible for both monitoring and allocating resources to such services, this has in some cases resulted in a decrease in the quality of the services provided.

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144	Russian Federation 2014	<p>(1) para. 10: concerned that the National Children's Strategy for 2012–2017 does not cover ... discrimination against children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations, including children from minority groups; para. 22: concerned that no anti-discrimination legislation has been adopted in the State party to date and that no definition of racial discrimination has been legally established. ... also concerned that discrimination continues to be prevalent against children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations, such as children belonging to minority groups, Roma children, the children of migrant workers, the children of stateless persons, girls in the North Caucasus and children who are not registered as permanent residents. ... particularly concerned about the increasing number of children joining nationalist movements which are involved in hate crimes against minority groups; para. 24: LGBTI children.</p>	<p>(2) para. 26: notes the State party's information that the obligation to take into consideration the interests of the child in all initiatives involving children has been set out in its legislation ... concerned that the State party's legislation refers to the "legitimate interests of the child", which is not equivalent in scope to "the best interests of the child", the State entities for child protection (tutorship and guardianship bodies) assess only the general physical safety of children and do not assess their emotional and psychological needs, the ongoing "anti-juvenile" campaign reportedly prioritizes the interests of parents over the interests of their children</p>	<p>(1) para. 6: notes with regret that some of the recommendations contained therein have not been sufficiently addressed; para. 7: urges the State party to take all necessary measures to address those recommendations contained in the previous concluding observation that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented and, in particular, it urges the State party to make further efforts to ensure the implementation of the principle of respect for the views of the child. In this connection, particular emphasis should be placed on the right of every child, including children who are members of vulnerable and minority groups, to participate in the family, at school, in other institutions and bodies and in society at large. That right should also be incorporated in all laws, judicial and administrative decisions, policies and programmes relating to children</p>	<p>(2) para. 8: welcomes the numerous positive legislative developments in the State party in the areas of preventing violence against children, child trafficking and birth registration ... concerned about legislative acts adopted during the period under review that have a negative impact on the rights of children, in particular in the areas of deinstitutionalization, adoption and non-discrimination, among others; para. 22: concerned that no anti-discrimination legislation has been adopted in the State party to date and that no definition of racial discrimination has been legally established; para. 26: notes the State party's information that the obligation to take into consideration the interests of the child in all initiatives involving children has been set out in its legislation; para. 49: notes the new law laying the foundations of social services, which allows for social services to be provided to families with children with disabilities free of charge and mostly in the place of their residence (at home)</p>	<p>(2) para. 14: notes the information provided by the State party that the budget is divided up by sector (department) ... concerned that there are no targeted budget allocations for children, especially children in disadvantaged situations, such as children of migrant workers, including irregular migrant workers, and children who do not possess permanent residence registration (propiska)</p>	<p>(1) para. 6: notes with regret that some of the recommendations contained therein have not been sufficiently addressed; para. 7: urges the State party to take all necessary measures to address those recommendations contained in the previous concluding observation that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented and, in particular, it urges the State party to strengthen its efforts to establish a comprehensive and permanent mechanism within the national statistical system to collect data, disaggregated by sex, age, rural and urban area, nationality and ethnic origin, incorporating all the areas covered by the Convention and covering all children below the age of 18 years, with emphasis on those who are particularly vulnerable</p>	<p>(1) para. 18: expresses its deep concern at the 2012 Federal Act regarding the regulation of activities of non-commercial organizations performing the function of foreign agents, which requires that organizations receiving financial support from sources outside the State party register and identify themselves publicly as "foreign agents" ... expresses its deep concern at recent amendments to the Criminal Code that expanded the definition of the crime of State treason to include "providing financial, technical, advisory or other assistance to a foreign State or international organization ... directed at harming Russia's security" and which are used against organizations working on children's rights</p>
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145	Rwanda 2013	(2) para. 21: welcomes the State party's efforts to address discrimination, such as the revision of all discriminatory provisions against women. ... also welcomes the various policies and strategies focusing on specific categories of children in disadvantaged situations, such as the National Policy for OVCs. However, ... remains concerned at the stigma and persistent discrimination faced by persons who were born as a result of rape during the genocide, children affected by HIV and AIDS, and children with disabilities, especially girls. ... also deeply concerned about continued discrimination against children living in poverty, children in street situations and child-headed households, children in residential care, orphans, and children from minority Batwa or 'historically marginalized communities' with regard to their access to social services, health care and education.	NA	(2) para. 23: notes the establishment and promotion of the yearly National Children's Summit since 2004. Nevertheless, ... concerned that due to traditional attitudes and resistance, respect for the views of the child remains limited within the family, in schools and village councils. ... further concerned that mechanisms for facilitating meaningful and empowered participation of children with disabilities, without parental care or from marginalized communities, such as Batwa, in legislative, policy and programme development processes which impact on them, are almost non-existent.	(2) para. 4: welcomes the adoption of certain legislation; para. 9: notes with concern that the implementation of national legislation related to the promotion and protection of the rights of children remains weak and inconsistent in the State party; para. 27: absence of legislation that explicitly prohibits corporal punishment in alternative care settings; para. 60: lack of clarity in the definition of child labour, specifically in legislation covering domestic work by young workers	(1) para. 11: expresses concern that implementation of the Integrated Child Rights Policy (ICRP) and its Strategic Plan in 2011 is ... hampered by the lack of clear and adequate budgetary allocations; para. 15: While noting the positive response of the development partners towards supporting efforts of the State party to fulfil children's rights, ... concerned that reliance on donors to implement the various activities ... could affect continuity and sustainability. ... also concerned about the absence of mechanisms to assess the impact of budgetary allocations for children; para. 17: seriously concerned that the Child Rights Observatory under the National Commission for Human Rights lacks adequate human and financial resources.	(2) para. 8: notes the progress made in the area of data collection; para. 29: The State party's report lacks comprehensive statistical data on violence against children; para. 36: regrets the lack of reliable and comprehensive data on the situation of child-headed households, community-based services for child-headed households and family-based care for children without parental care, such as foster care and kinship care; para. 52: lack of disaggregated data on enrolment and retention rates of children in vulnerable situations; para. 56: absence of official information and disaggregated data on Batwa children	(1) para. 19: expresses deep concern over reported threats, harassment, intimidation and arrests of human rights defenders, including journalists in the State party which has greatly reduced the scope for Rwandan organizations to report, inter alia, on children's rights violations and thereby contribute to the realisation of children's rights in the State party. ... also notes with concern that some relevant NGOs working in the field of children's rights do not have the opportunity to participate in the development of laws, policies and strategies on children.
146	Samoa	(2) para. 28: noting that the Samoan Constitution and national legislation provide the child some protection from discrimination, remains concerned at the many areas of potential discrimination, such as race, colour, property, disability, birth status, sexual orientation, HIV status, marital and pregnancy status.	(2) para. 31: notes that some legislation provides for the best interests of the child, particularly in relation to custody proceedings; concerned that the principle laid down in CRC art. 3 is not fully applied and duly integrated into common and traditional law, policies and programmes of the State party.	(2) para. 33: notes the implementation of regular Children's Forum both in Sava'ii and Upolu and that schools, communities, churches and other organizations provide some opportunities for children to participate and express their views; nevertheless concerned at the fact that traditional attitudes may limit children's rights to freely express their views within the family, in schools and in the community.	(2) para. 8: welcomes the analytical survey of existing laws in the State party with the aim of identifying provisions that need to be changed or need to be added to bring the laws in compliance with the CRC; concerned that the Office of the Law Reform Commission has not yet been established and that as a result necessary follow-up actions to this survey may be postponed, delayed or may not take place.	(1) para. 18: concerned at the lack of sufficient budgetary allocation to MWCSO in relation to children and the implementation of their rights.	(2) para. 20: acknowledging the efforts made by the State party in the domain of data collection, including the establishment of the Child Protection Information System (CPIS), concerned at the lack of an adequate mechanism for integrated data disaggregated in all areas covered by the Convention for analytical purposes.	(2) para. 24: welcomes the active role played by civil society, particularly in the provision of social services; notes that most NGOs did not have access to the State party report and were not aware of the reporting process to the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

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147	San Marino 2003	(2) para. 12: while noting that discrimination is prohibited under the Declaration of Citizens' Rights and of the Fundamental Principles of the San Marino Constitutional Order, remains concerned that no criminal law provisions exist to combat racism and discrimination etc.	(2) para. 15: noting the efforts undertaken by the State party, the Committee is concerned that a general principle of the CRC, as laid down in art. 3 (best interests of the child), is not fully applied and duly integrated into the implementation of the policies and programmes of the State party.	(2) para. 15: noting the efforts undertaken by the State party, the Committee is concerned that a general principle of the CRC, as laid down in art. 12 (respect for the view of the child), is not fully applied and duly integrated into the implementation of the policies and programmes of the State party.	(2) para. 4: welcomes Act No. 36 of 26 February 2002 which has changed the system of the sources of law in the State party by considering general international law as an integral part of its constitutional order and notes that new laws have been adopted by the State party to harmonize the existing legislation with the Convention, but remains concerned that domestic legislation still does not fully reflect the CRC principles; further concerned that <i>ius commune</i> is still the predominant rule, which may not always be conducive to the realization of children's rights;	NA	(1) para. 21: concerned at the lack of any concrete statistical data and other information on the prevention and prevalence of and intervention in cases of child abuse and neglect.	
148	Sao Tome and Principe 2013	(1) para. 6: insufficient follow-up to previous CO recommending in-depth revision of all legislation in order to fully guarantee the application of the principle of non-discrimination; para. 48: concerned at the stigma, discrimination and resulting obstacles to services and education to which pregnant teenagers ... are frequently subjected.	(2) para. 25: notes that the State party's legislation states that the courts should take into account the best interests of the child. However, ... concerned that there are inadequate guidelines and procedures, in actual practice and throughout the State party's institutions, legislative, judicial and administrative bodies, policies and programmes, for implementing the child's right to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration.	(2) para. 27: notes as positive the State party's efforts to enhance respect for the views of the child by conducting awareness-raising campaigns. However, ... remains concerned that taking into account the opinion of the child is optional, not mandatory, in its legal framework. Furthermore, ... concerned that the Children's Parliament has only been convened twice.	(2) para. 8: While noting that the State party has attempted to reform its national legislation to ensure compliance with the CRC ... shares the State party's concern that the reforms are inadequate to address the urgent need to fully integrate the provisions of the CRC into national legislation.	(2) para. 10: deeply concerned that previous CO on the importance of allocating sufficient resources to the National Child Rights Committee ... was not followed up as this body ceased to operate in November 2012, due to inadequate human, technical and financial resources; para. 13: welcomes the recent increases in the State party's budgetary allocations for health and education. However, ... concerned that: (a) The overall amount of resources allocated to social protection remains inadequate; ... (c) Current mechanisms and procedures for the allocation of resources for CRC implementing do not adequately take into account specific local needs.	(2) para. 15: notes the State party's ongoing efforts to improve its data collection, including through the establishment of the National Statistics Institute under the Ministry of Planning and Development. However, ... remains concerned about the severe absence of disaggregated data, especially in the areas of child protection, violence against children, neglect and children living in poor families. ... also concerned about the lack of effective data-sharing among the State party's ministries.	(1) para. 7: lack of follow-up to previous CO, ... in particular ... recommends and urges the State party ... to involve civil society in the preparation and implementation of the strategy and national plan of action.
149	Saudi Arabia 2006	(1) para. 27: the mere statement of the general principle of non-discrimination in domestic law is not a sufficient response to the CRC requirements; De jure and de facto discrimination against girls and de facto discrimination against children born out of wedlock are issues of particular concern as well as disparities in the enjoyment of economic and social rights experienced by non-nationals' children and other vulnerable groups, such as children belonging to religious minorities.	(1) para. 30: concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in CRC art. 3 is not systematically included in laws, regulations and practices concerning children, for example regarding the status of the child, the custody decisions and in the area of alternative care.	(2) para. 36: commends the State party for its efforts to respect the right of the child to have his/her views heard, inter alia, through establishing children's councils, recreational activities and, notably, in judicial proceedings; concerned that traditional attitudes towards children in society, in particular towards girls, limit the right to express their views and to have them taken into account, especially within the family, schools and media.	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up previous CO on domestic legislation; para. 9: welcomes the project of the Saudi National Commission for Childhood to prepare a comprehensive manual of all domestic legal instruments related to children with a view to amending its laws to be fully compatible with the CRC provisions.	(2) para. 25: notes with appreciation the significant investment in social and health services and education but is concerned that for other areas covered by the CRC, for example, regarding special protection, the budgetary allocations are limited.	(2) para. 17: welcoming the State party's and the United Nations Children's Fund's (UNICEF's) joint project to establish a national database on children, it expresses its concern at the insufficient data in some areas covered by the CRC, including children of non-Saudi workers (migrant workers), children with disabilities, abused and neglected children, children begging on the streets, children within the justice system and children belonging to minorities.	(2) para. 21: acknowledging the growing number of civil society associations for charitable purposes, concerned about the limited number of NGOs working for human rights-based development as well as the State party's inadequate dialogue and cooperation with civil society, in particular with NGOs working for CRC implementation.

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150	Senegal 2006	(1) para. 23: expresses its concern at the fact that discrimination against certain groups of children still exists in practice, particularly towards children born out of wedlock, children with disabilities, children affected by HIV/AIDS, girls, street children and talibés.	(2) para. 26: notes that steps have been taken in some areas in order to better respect the principle of the best interests of the child. Nevertheless, remains concerned that the principle is still insufficiently addressed in schools, courts and other institutional settings.	(2) para. 28 : noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to implement the principle of the respect for the views of the child, such as the child parliament, remains concerned that traditional societal attitudes appear to limit children to freely express their views within the family, schools, communities, courts and other institutional settings.	(2) para. 3: welcomes the incorporation of the CRC into the Constitution of 2001 as well as the enactment of the following legislation; para. 7: takes notes of the progress made by the State party in the effort to bring domestic law into compliance with the CRC, e.g. prohibiting female genital mutilation and criminalizing human trafficking; concerned at contradictions in legislations, such as article 245 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, related to vagrancy and by the lack of enforcement of legislation in remote and rural areas.	(2) para. 15: notes with appreciation the increased budget allocation for education and health; concerned that the resources for the implementation of the different plans of action within the poverty reduction strategy are still insufficient in order to effectively improve the promotion and protection of children's rights	(2) para. 17: welcomes the progress made by the State party in developing the data collection system; concerned that the current data collection mechanism is insufficient to ensure the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated data for all areas covered by the CRC in relation to all groups of children while paying particular attention to the disparities between rural and urban areas, in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved and assess the impact of policies adopted with respect to children.	(2) para. 21: welcomes the information contained in the State party report regarding the active participation of civil society in the preparation of the second periodic report to the Committee; remains concerned that consultation and cooperation with civil society is not yet formalized and does not reach all sectors of society.
151	Serbia 2008	(2) para. 25: commends the State party for the inclusion of special provisions on protection from discrimination in its legislation, such as the Law on Protection of Disabled Persons against Discrimination and the Law on the Protection of the Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, as well as initiatives targeted at the inclusion of minorities; notes that the draft law on prohibiting discrimination is awaiting adoption and is concerned that certain groups of children, including Roma children, children of returnees, children without birth certificate, children belonging to minorities and children with disabilities, face de facto discrimination, most importantly with regard to access to education and health care; also concerned at the lack of a comprehensive strategy to combat discrimination and the negative portrayal of these groups in the media.	(2) para. 27: noting that several laws of the State party such as the Law on Family Relations (art. 6) refer to the principle of the child's best interests; concerned that the principle is not sufficiently implemented in practice, in particular due to lack of understanding of its specific meaning; concerned that the principle is not sufficiently applied and is frequently misunderstood.	(2) para. 31: welcomes the efforts of the State party to promote the respect for the views of the child, inter alia by the adoption of the new Law on Family Relations; remains concerned that this principle is not adequately respected in families, schools and other institutions and in the community, and that it is not fully taken into account in the administrative and judicial proceedings and in the development and implementation of laws, policies and programmes.	(2) para. 7: welcomes the progress made in legislative reform related to human rights in general and more specifically to the rights of the child; notes that while the new Law on Family Relations, the Law on Protection of Disabled Persons against Discrimination and the Law on Juveniles appear to be harmonized with the CRC; concerned that, overall, legislation has not yet been fully harmonized with the CRC; concerned at the lack of a comprehensive Children's Act.	(1) para. 17: concerned that neither the report of the State party nor its written replies provide a clear picture of the financial allocations for children in its budgets; regrets that the budget allocation to education is one of the lowest in the region (Europe) at 3.6 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP).	(2) para. 19: notes the development by the State party of a system of monitoring its National Action Plan, including through the development, in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), of Devinfo; notes, however, that in many areas covered by the CRC reliable data for the monitoring and evaluation of the situation of children in the State party, including vulnerable groups, are not available.	(2) para. 23: notes that collaboration between governmental institutions and NGOs takes place, including through the cooperation of representatives of both governmental and nongovernmental entities, in the Council for the Rights of the Child; concerned that the cooperation with civil society organizations is not systematically encouraged.

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152	Seychelles 2012	(2) para. 9: insufficient follow-up previous CO on non-discrimination; para. 34: welcomes the mechanisms introduced by the Ministry of Education and the Gender Secretariat of the Policy, Planning and Cooperation Division to mainstream gender in education as well as programmes to provide gender-sensitive career guidance and counselling; remains concerned about the absence of legislation combating discrimination against girls, children with disabilities, children from poor families and ethnic minorities.	(2) para. 36: notes with appreciation the Children (Amendment) Act of 2005 which establishes and provides for consideration of the "interest of the child" who is the subject of the matter before the Family Tribunal; regrets that the Act is ambiguous and does not refer to the best interests of the child as contained in the CRC.	(2) para. 9: insufficient follow-up previous CO on respect for the views of the child; para. 38: noting the State party's information that there are youth councils, a National Youth Assembly, and a ten-year programme has been developed to take into account the opinion of the youth in various areas; concerned that children have limited opportunities in schools, institutions, courts, administrative processes and the home to express their views freely. In particular, children in secondary schools claim that their opinions are not taken into account in matters affecting them both in schools and in the home.	(2) para. 10: welcomes the amendment to several pieces of legislation in the area of child rights, including the Children Act, which contributes to the harmonization of national law with the provisions of the CRC; concerned that certain relevant and important legislation, such as on the minimum age of marriage for girls and boys, has not yet been amended.	(2) para. 18: notes the State party's information that budgetary allocations to programmes and services for children and families have improved; regrets that the State party did not provide any more details or figures on the allocations, while there are indications that the resources for children are inadequate.	(2) para. 22: appreciates that the State party has provided some data in relation to mortality rate, immunization, medical screenings in schools, children with disabilities, as well as in relation to children in detention, victims of sexual abuse and children involved in drug and substance abuse; concerned that there is no effective system of data collection covering all areas of the CRC which also allows for assessment, analysis and evaluation of the data; noting that the project "Child Well-Being" aims to collect data on the well-being of children in Seychelles, still concerned that it has not received any information on the progress of the whole project, including follow-up to its promising first report.	(2) para. 30: notes with appreciation the extensive involvement of civil society in the implementation of children's rights in the State party; concerned that the State party is more and more dependent on NGOs and that it delegates many of its implementation obligations under the CRC to the civil society, including NGOs, without ensuring the necessary framework or capacities for rights-based support to children.
153	Sierra Leone 2008	(2) para. 6: insufficient implementation previous COs on discrimination; para. 25: notes with appreciation the section on the principle of non-discrimination, including against girls, contained in the Education Act (2004) and the ongoing and increasing efforts to educate the public on the need for non-discrimination, particularly against the girl child and children with disabilities; regrets that the Constitution continues to allow discrimination against women and children, particularly in matters relating to marriage and inheritance, through restrictions and privileges available under customs and tradition.	(2) para. 27: takes note of the State party's affirmation that recent legislation and measures, including the Child Rights Act and the National Children's Policy, uphold the principle of the best interests of the child; also notes with interest the State party's declaration that the Ministry for Social Welfare and its partners use the principle of best interests in actions concerning children, including post-war rehabilitation and reintegration programmes; also notes with concern that the principle of the best interests of the child does not seem to be a priority in major actions regarding children, including with regard to budget allocations.	(2) para. 31: notes with appreciation that the Ministry for Social Welfare and its partners have ensured the active participation of children and their Child Forum Network administration in transitional justice programmes, including participatory child sessions with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; also notes with interest that children's views were heard and, to some extent, incorporated into the Child Rights Act and the National Children's Policy; concerned that such initiatives are not mainstreamed in all sectors and that children, particularly those belonging to vulnerable groups, are not always given the opportunity to express their views in administrative and judicial proceedings, the family, schools and the community.	(3) para. 8: particularly welcomes the recent adoption of the Child Rights Act, which broadly encompasses many areas of protection of child rights, as well as other legislation directly or indirectly relevant to child rights; takes note with appreciation of the fact that the Act was drafted to take into account the concluding observations relating to the State party's initial report in 2000; also notes with interest that an implementation plan is being prepared, and an information dissemination strategy is being designed, for the Child Rights Act.	(2) para. 16: notes with concern that the Ministry for Social Welfare itself receives only a small fraction of the State party's annual budgetary allocations and that it lacks adequate funding to carry out its work relating to children; also notes that the Ministry is very dependent upon development partners to implement its mandate for children, a situation that is not sustainable; para. 17: while noting the expressed commitment of the Government to pursue a vigorous anticorruption campaign, the Committee nevertheless expresses concern over reports of continuing corruption which may have a negative impact on the allocation of already limited resources for the promotion and protection of children's rights.	(1) para. 6: insufficient implementation previous COs on data collection and discrimination; para. 19: expresses its concern at the inadequate data collection, including on different categories of vulnerable children; concerned at the reported loss in 2005 of the database developed in cooperation with donors and that the data lost has not, as of yet, been retrieved.	(2) para. 23: takes note of the State party's indication that it has maintained and increased constructive working relationships with local and international NGOs and community-based organizations; welcomes the fact that the system of collaborative networking and joint monitoring between NGOs and community-based organizations, related to child protection, has been decentralized, and is currently working in the rural areas as well; concerned, however, that the limited capacity of national NGOs may not enable them to perform the tasks expected of them.

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154	Singapore 2011	(1) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on non-discrimination, reiterates its concern that the principle of non-discrimination is restricted to citizens and does not apply to all children within the jurisdiction of the State party, irrespective of the status of their parents, as provided for CRC art. 2; concerned about reports that discrimination against girls, children with disabilities and non-residents still persists.	(2) para. 31: notes with appreciation the inclusion of the guiding principle of the best interests of the child in the Children and Young Persons Act (as amended by Act 15 of 2010) and the various types of programmes to promote the principle of the best interests of the child, inter alia, the CHILD (Children's Best Interests, Less Adversarial) and IMPACT programmes; concerned about the lack of reference to the principle of the best interests of the child in most of the legislations concerning children, as well as in judicial and administrative decisions, and policies and programmes relevant to children.	(1) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on respect for the views of the child; para. 33: remains concerned that traditional attitudes towards children in society limit, and often prevent, children from expressing their views on a wide range of issues that affect them within the family, schools, institutions, judicial system and society at large; regrets that there is no formal procedure by which children are systematically invited to express their views in judicial and administrative processes that affect them.	(2) para. 8: welcomes the amendments to several pieces of legislation in the area of child rights, including the Penal Code, and the Children and Young Persons Act, which contribute to the improvement of children's living conditions and development; notes with concern that in spite of recent legislative developments, the Convention has not yet been fully incorporated into domestic legislation, and is not directly applicable in the State party.	NA	(2) para. 16: notes the extensive statistical data provided in the State party's report and replies to the list of issues; concerned, however, about the insufficient data on, inter alia, violence against children, child victims of trafficking, and sexual exploitation of children.	(2) para. 21: noting the "many helping hands" approach to working with the civil society, including Voluntary Welfare Organizations, concerned that there is a lack of clarity regarding roles and that cooperation with the civil society at the policy-making level or in the reporting process has been limited.
155	Slovakia 2007	(2) para. 21: that CRC awareness-raising covers only the prevention of discrimination, racism, etc.; para. 27: welcomes the reform of legislation, the adoption of action plans and the monitoring and information collection work carried out on the issue of discrimination; concern that certain Acts do not provide protection from discrimination in the areas of social security, healthcare, education and provision of goods and services on the grounds of ethnicity, disability, religion or belief, and sexual orientation; notes that the action plans are the only comprehensive and systematic tools of the State party's Government in the area of preventing discrimination and intolerance; remains concerned that in practice certain groups continue to experience discrimination; also concerned that, parents do not want their children to have any contact with Roma children from residential homes and that in some cases, citizens have rejected by referendum the existence of a children's home in the municipality and have caused the home to be relocated.	(2) para. 8: appreciates the State party's efforts to include the best interests of the child, in some of the legislation; para. 30: remains concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child (CRC art. 3) is not explicitly included in all legislative and administrative measures and programmes relevant to children;	(2) para. 8: appreciates the State party's efforts to include the right of the child to be heard in some of the legislation; para. 32: notes with appreciation the State party's indication that the right of the child to express his/her views has been reflected in several newly adopted provisions including regarding adoption; also notes that in the educational process, students have the possibility to form their own views and express them to teachers and school management through student school councils; remains concerned that the weight given in practice to the views of the child is limited, owing to traditional societal attitudes towards children, especially within the family.	(2) para. 5: welcomes the adoption of specified legislation; para. 8: appreciates the State party's efforts to harmonize its national legislation with the Convention and the inclusion of the right of the child to be heard and the best interests of the child, in some of the legislation; remains concerned that the CRC principles are not duly taken into account in all laws, including the Criminal Code.	(2) para. 17: welcomes the information that families with children which are unable to obtain or increase the resources necessary to satisfy their basic needs through their own efforts are provided social assistance by the State; concerned that allocated resources still fall short of meeting the needs of marginalized children.	(2) para. 19: while noting the State party's policy regarding the collection of data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs and other personal data, remains concerned at deficiencies in the collection and analysis of disaggregated data; concerned that the lack of such data will negatively impact the ability of the State party to accurately assess the situation of marginalized populations vis-à-vis health, education and employment sectors; observes nevertheless that such data has been collected in certain situations, such as criminal proceedings; moreover, concerned that the State party's policy concerning the collection of data based on ethnicity hampers the adequate collection and analysis of reliable disaggregated data on vulnerable groups, inter alia, the Roma community.	(3) para. 23: welcomes the cooperation between the State party and civil society when policies, strategies, action plans, and legal acts are being drafted and implemented in the fields of alternative family care, social and legal protection of children, and social guardianship.

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156	Slovenia 2013	(2) para. 7: insufficient follow-up to previous CO; para. 24: while being aware of legislative and policy measures adopted during the period under review to uplift Roma communities, remains seriously concerned about the persistent discrimination against Roma children in all stages of their lives, with no effective remedies for acts of discrimination committed by public and private actors; para. 26: concerned that children of same-sex couples face various forms of discrimination in school	(2) para. 28: takes note of the information provided on the incorporation of the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration in national legislation as well as in the envisaged Family Code ... concerned about information received on the inadequate application of the right in courts and Social Work Centres in cases involving children deprived of a family environment ... particularly concerned about the lack of understanding of the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration in asylum-seeking, refugee and/or immigration detention situations. ... further concerned about the lack of procedures and criteria for the determination of the best interests of the child.	(2) para. 32: appreciates the existence of the Child Parliaments aimed at encouraging children to express their own views through a democratic process. ... however, concerned that the child parliament project is run by civil society and therefore is not provided with adequate support, especially financial support, to enable the programme to be sustainable. ... further concerned that the right of the child to be heard in legal proceedings and in the Social Work Centres is not adequately implemented in practice. In this respect, ... particularly concerned about the overreliance of family departments on experts' opinions while insufficient weight is given to the views of the children concerned.	(2) para. 8: notes the adoption of various child-related legislative measures during the period under review. ... however, regrets the continued absence of a consolidated child law that would incorporate all the CRC provisions into the State party's national legislation.	(2) para. 14: appreciates the considerable allocation of resources for health, education and social services. ... however concerned that the 2012 Fiscal Balance Act has had an adverse impact on the enjoyment of child rights under the CRC. ... also concerned about the absence of a child right's perspective in the budgeting process, as well as mechanisms for the identification, tracking and protection of strategic budget lines to ensure children's rights.	(2) para. 16: While welcoming the creation of a Child Observatory to monitor the situation of children in Slovenia and establishing a separate database for children in 2004, ... concerned that the data are not sufficiently disaggregated for all areas covered by the CRC, particularly with regard to children belonging to minority groups including Roma children, children with disabilities, migrant children, refugee and asylum-seeking children.	(1) para. 22: concerned about the limited cooperation with civil society in all aspects of CRC implementation despite its previous recommendation. ... further concerned about the limited resources allocated to NGOs and also to children's organizations in the State party. This contributes to a narrowing of their scope for action and limits long-term planning; para. 39: concern about the absence of a consolidated data system on children at risk of abuse or neglect; para. 58: data on how many Roma children are living in poverty, have access to adequate housing, and to safe drinking water, are not collected; para. 69: concerned about the lack of disaggregated data on economic exploitation in the State party report
157	Solomon Islands 2003	(1) para. 21: concerned that there continues to be widespread discrimination against women and girls and that girls are underrepresented in schools; that the principle of non-discrimination is not adequately implemented for children of some ethnic minorities and of economically disadvantaged households, children living in remote islands, children born out of wedlock and children with disabilities, especially with regard to their access to adequate health care and educational facilities.	(1) para. 24: concerned that although it is contained in some statutes relating to children's issues, the principle of the best interests of the child is not defined in legislation and not implemented by the State party or reflected in policy, programmes or activities.	(1) para. 26: concerned that the principle of respect for the views of the child is not expressly provided for in the State party's legislation and that in practice, children's views are not systematically sought and taken into consideration with regard to decisions that may affect them.	(2) para. 5: notes that a child rights bill is being drafted in order to bring legislation into line with the provisions and principles of the Convention;	(2) para. 13: notes that at the time the State party report was written (2000), education and health services were receiving the largest and second-largest allocations from the national budget, but that since then funds have been diverted from these sectors to the point where some schools and hospitals have had to shut down; also concerned that in light of CRC art. 4, not enough attention has been paid to allocating budgetary resources "to the maximum extent of ... available resources" for the implementation of the Convention.	(1) para. 15: concerned at the severe lack of an adequate data collection mechanism within the State party to facilitate the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated quantitative and qualitative data for all areas covered by the Convention in relation to all groups of children in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved and assess the impact of policies adopted with respect to children.	NA
158	Somalia - did not ratify CRC							
159	South Africa 2000	(2) para. 18: legislation in place but insufficient guarantees in practice	NA	(2) para. 19: recognizes efforts, concerned about limits to full implementation	(2) paras. 3 and 10: good efforts are made; but concerned about remaining inconsistencies with CRC, especially of customary law	(2) paras. 7, 14 and 16): children's budget project South Africa rated positively in para. 7; paras. 14 and 16 refer to insufficient efforts and is concerned about the insufficient efforts made to ensure adequate distribution of resources	(1) para. 14: insufficient	(2) para. 4: National Programme of Action Steering committee comprises representatives from various ministries and agencies involved in the promotion of the rights of children as well as representatives of civil society; otherwise NA

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160	Spain 2010	(2) para. 8: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on discrimination; para. 25: welcomes all efforts made by the State party to combat discrimination in its territory, particularly concerning children of Roma origin, of migrant workers, unaccompanied foreign children, and children with disabilities; welcomes, in particular, the approval of the Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration 2007-2010, aimed at guaranteeing access by migrant students to mandatory education and facilitating integration into the education system; remains concerned at the obstacles encountered by children of foreigners in irregular situations in educational and health services.	(2) para. 27: welcomes the inclusion of the principle of the best interests of the child in legislation, as well as its use by judges and magistrates in decisions affecting children; remains concerned about the lack of a uniform process to determine what constitutes the best interests of the child, as well as persisting differences in each autonomous community in the understanding and application of the principle, particularly in cases relating to unaccompanied foreign children, repatriation and adoption.	(2) para. 29: welcomes the recognition in the State party's legislation of the child's right to be heard and other children's participation rights; concerned, however, that, in certain circumstances, recourse to higher courts is still necessary in order to obtain recognition for the right of a child to appear independently of his or her legal guardians in a court, in particular in judicial and administrative procedures affecting the child.	(2) para. 9: welcoming the efforts made by the State party to harmonize its legislation with the principles and provisions of the Convention, the Committee notes that the laws and regulations applied in autonomous communities differ and are not always consistent with the CRC in important areas, such as the protection of children at risk, neglected or in foster care, or the treatment of unaccompanied foreign children.	(2) para. 15: welcomes the upward trend in budgetary allocations to social sector activities up to 2008, including policies and programmes addressing children and adolescent rights; notes that difficulties in identifying specific allocations for children in the national budget continue to exist; expresses concern at the absence of children-specific items in the plans and budgets drawn up by the State to address the current crisis which is deeply affecting the State party, with an unemployment rate of some 20 per cent, and 25 per cent of children living in or at risk of poverty.	(2) para. 8: insufficient follow-up to previous Cos on data collection; recognizing the important role of the Children's Observatory in the areas of research, data analysis and collection; concerned about the fragmented approach to data collection, which does not cover all areas covered by the Convention, and which is carried out unevenly at the national and regional levels.	NA
161	Sri Lanka 2010	(1) para. 28: expresses concern at the persistent discrimination against children belonging to the Veddha, Muslim and Tamil communities, among whom those living in tea plantations are in a particularly disadvantaged situation; concerned that discrimination also persists against girls, rural children, refugee and internally displaced children, children of overseas workers, children in institutional care and children with disabilities; expresses further concern about caste discrimination, which affects 20 to 30 per cent of the Sri Lankan population and contributes to their poor living conditions, rejection and marginalization.	(1) para. 30: notes with concern that the principle of the best interests of the child as defined in CRC art. 3 and other provisions of the Convention has not been consistently applied in legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings, nor in policies and programmes relating to children.	(1) para. 34: reiterates its concern that the general principle of the right of the child to be heard (art. 12) is still absent from most of the legislations concerning children and is not applied in legislative administrative and judicial proceedings or in family, school and community settings.	(2) para. 9: welcoming the steps taken by the State party to identify inconsistencies in its legislation and harmonize it with the CRC principles and provisions as previously recommended; nevertheless notes with concern that the Convention has still not been fully domesticated in national legislation; also concerned that the enjoyment of child rights continues to be negatively affected by the application of emergency regulations and the three different sources of law: national laws, Kandyan laws and Muslim laws.	(1) para. 16: taking note of the process initiated in 2007 to collect disaggregated data on expenditure for children, regrets that the system is not yet functional and that insufficient information has been provided to enable the Committee to properly assess the allocation of resources for children in line with CRC art. 4; notes with concern that: only 2% of the total social protection budget is dedicated to children; that the State party has not yet conducted an assessment of the budget needs in relation to establishment of social services in the districts affected by armed conflict and the tsunami; and that corruption remains prevalent in the public sector, notably in education, due mainly to a lack of transparency in public financing and weak parliamentary oversight, which affects the efficiency of resources allocated and services provided for children.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation previous COs on data collection; para. 20: takes note of the initiatives for data collection currently being developed, primarily in the field of child protection; welcomes the indication given by the State party during the interactive dialogue that a general census of the population will be conducted in July 2011; concerned that there is no comprehensive data collection system covering all CRC areas and no adequate policy to protect the privacy of children who have been registered in the existing databases.	(1) para. 26: expresses serious concern at the reported growing pattern of intimidation of NGOs in the State party, including threats, harassment, physical attacks and arrests, and at restrictions placed on their work which greatly restrict their capacity to monitor the situation of children and to provide children with support services, especially in conflict-affected areas; also expresses concern that the NGO Secretariat responsible for the registration of NGOs has been placed under the authority of the Ministry of Defence, with stringent regulations which may not be conducive to NGO participation in humanitarian work; further concerned at the views expressed by the State party in its written replies and reiterated by the State party delegation during the dialogue that NGOs do not have any barrier to their work as long as they adhere to Government policies.

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162	St. Kitts and Nevis 1999	(1) para. 17: expresses its concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account CRC art. 2 (non-discrimination) in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in its policies and programmes relevant to children.	(1) para. 17: expresses its concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account CRC art. 3 (best interests of the child) in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in its policies and programmes relevant to children.	(2) para. 17: expresses its concern that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account CRC art. 12 (respect for the views of the child), in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, as well as in its policies and programmes relevant to children; para. 18: notes the efforts made by the Early Childhood Development Unit of the Ministry of Education and the Department for Community Development to encourage the participatory rights of children in all communities; concerned that traditional practices, culture and attitudes still limit the full implementation of CRC art. 12.	(2) para. 8: notes the recent efforts by the State party to undertake a review of existing legislation regarding children and the family; concerned, however, that domestic legislation still does not fully reflect the CRC principles and provisions.	(1) para. 14: remains concerned that in light of CRC art. 4, not enough attention has been paid to allocating budgetary resources in favour of children "to the maximum extent of (...) available resources".	(1) para. 11: concerned at the lack of a data collection mechanism within the State party for the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated quantitative and qualitative data for all areas covered by the CRC in relation to all groups of children in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved and assess the impact of policies adopted with respect to children.	(1) para. 12: notes with concern the lack of involvement of NGOs in the elaboration of the State party's report and the generally limited participation of civil society in CRC promotion and implementation.
163	St. Lucia 2014	NA	(1) para. 24: concerned about the lack of information on the State party's efforts to ensure the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration in all actions concerning children, and to apply that right in all legislation, administrative and judicial proceedings, policies and programmes relating to children	(2) para. 26: notes the State party's efforts to ensure respect for the views of the child through its National Youth Policy, the Youth Parliament, the National Youth Council and National Student Councils, as well as in judicial proceedings with respect to juvenile justice, custody, evidence and protection of witnesses ... concerned that respect for the views of the child is not adequately implemented in practice in all relevant areas and at the national and local levels	(2) para. 8: notes that some of the recommendations of the Committee in its previous concluding observations are being addressed within the framework of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (O ECS) and that the majority of draft bills have been submitted to the Government for consideration but have not yet been adopted ... concerned at the slow rate of adoption and implementation of various child-related legislative measures relating to, inter alia, non-discrimination concerning children born out of wedlock, recognition of the role of both parents in the upbringing and development of children, abuse and neglect, family contact for children deprived of a family environment, adoption and juvenile justice	(2) para. 14: in the light of the current financial crisis and government spending cuts, the Committee notes the State party's efforts to allocate resources with a view to protecting the most vulnerable members of society, including children ... notes the Government's commitment to poverty reduction, notably through the 2009 Poverty Reduction Strategy Action Plan ... concerned about the negative effects of austerity measures on public spending, in particular on benefits and services provided to families with children ... also concerned about the lack of data on the proportion of budgetary allocations for the implementation of children's rights under the Convention and information on the impact of austerity measures on children in the State party	(2) para. 16: While welcoming the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey and the National Population and Housing Census, as well as the introduction of the Child Health Passport, and noting that some data is collected by individual government ministries and departments and non-governmental organizations, the Committee is concerned that there is still no comprehensive mechanism for generating, collecting, analysing and coordinating data on the various aspects of children's lives ... also concerned that data are not sufficiently disaggregated for all areas covered by the Convention	(2) notes the establishment of the National Action Child Protection Committee (NACPC) in 2012, designated to be the coordinating body for government bodies and civil society in implementing the CRC, ... concerned that the NACPC lacks a clear mandate and the necessary authority and resources to effectively carry out its role.

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164	St. Vincent and the Grenadines 2002	(1) para. 19: concerned that the Constitution of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not fully reflect the provisions of CRC art. 2 and, in particular, does not specifically prohibit discrimination on the grounds of language, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status; that there are occurrences of racial discrimination affecting children, including the children of some minorities, such as the Amerindians and Asians, who form a disproportionate proportion of the population with lower-income levels; children with disabilities are de facto discriminated against by the absence of specific legislation to cater for their special needs and to provide them with appropriate facilities; Children who are known to be infected with HIV/AIDS are discriminated against at school by some teachers.	(2) para. 22: Noting the recognition of the best interests principle in the Adoption and Domestic Violence Acts; remains concerned that the principle is not fully recognized and implemented in other relevant legislation and in decisions relevant to children, including with regard to education and health.	(2) para. 24: noting the State party's efforts to ensure child participation, including through a mock parliament and debates in school, the Committee remains concerned that children have limited opportunities in school, in courts, administrative processes or in the home to express their views.	(2) para. 7: noting that the State party has begun, within the framework of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), a process of harmonizing its legislation with regard to children and the family; nevertheless concerned that this process is slow, that some existing legislation is outdated and does not fully take into consideration the Convention's principles and provisions, and that there has not been a general review of legislation of direct relevance to children since before the State party ratified the Convention.	(1) para. 11: concerned that the State party has not fully complied with the provisions of CRC art. 4 in terms of the allocation of resources for CRC implementation	(1) para. 13: joins the State party (as indicated in the replies to the list of issues) in expressing concern at the lack of an adequate data collection mechanism and the absence of up-to-date, comprehensive and accurate data.	(3) para. 5: notes, in addition, the State party's good cooperation with NGOs;
165	Sudan 2010	(1) para. 8: insufficient follow-up previous COs on non-discrimination; para. 29: concerned at the pronounced inequality in economic conditions between the northern and southern regions of the State party and at the discrimination experienced by Southern and non-Muslim Sudanese in all areas, including the social and political spheres, as well as ethnic discrimination; particularly concerned at the impact of this situation on the realization of the rights set out in the CRC by children belonging to these groups.	NA	(1) para. 33: in light of the predominance of traditional views on the rights of children, concerned that children's opinions are not given sufficient consideration and that respect for the views of the child within the family, at school, in the courts, before administrative authorities and in wider society remains limited.	(2) para. 9: welcomes the promulgation of the Child Act (2010); concerned, however, that the State party has yet to establish a regulatory and policy framework to effect its implementation; notes with particular concern the absence of a comprehensive body of subsidiary legislation and	(1) para. 8: insufficient follow-up previous COs on resource allocation; para. 17: concerned that financial resources allocated to the protection and promotion of children's rights are far from adequate and notes with concern the State party's information that no specific budget allocations have been made for the implementation of child rights; expresses its concern over the marginalization of social sector spending, as indicated by the considerable military expenditure in contrast to allocations for health and education.	(2) para. 19: noting the State party's information that it is in the process of establishing a national centre for child information within the National Council for Child Welfare, expresses concern at the absence of a centralized data collection system in the State party; notes that this is reflected in the lack of up-to-date, disaggregated data on many of the areas covered by the Convention, including children with disabilities, children in street situations, children infected with HIV/AIDS, child mortality and trafficking in children.	(1) para. 25: seriously concerned over the limitations placed on certain civil society organizations and regrets, in particular, the severe restrictions imposed on the operations of international and national NGOs, especially those working in the area of human rights and humanitarian assistance for children; also concerned that civil society organizations were not involved in the follow-up to the Committee's previous concluding observations or afforded adequate opportunities to present their views during the preparation of the State party's third and fourth periodic report.

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166	Suriname 2007	(1) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on the discrimination of children belonging to vulnerable groups; para. 26: concerned at the fact that discrimination against certain groups of children still exists in practice, particularly with regard to girls in general, children with disabilities, children living in poverty, children infected with HIV and/or affected by HIV/AIDS, and children belonging to ethnic minorities or indigenous peoples, recognizing the particular vulnerability of girls in these categories.	(2) para. 29: While some draft laws focus on guaranteeing the best interests of the child, concerned that these laws have not yet been enacted and that the best interests of the child (art. 3) have still not been taken fully into account in the State party's legislation, policies and programmes relevant to children.	(2) para. 31: welcomes the activities of the National Youth Council; advises the Government of Suriname on measures to be taken with respect to youth, and other measures taken to implement CRC art. 12, such as television and radio spots, a weekly child rights radio programme and the draft bill meant to give effect to CRC art. 12; notes, however, that children are given little opportunity to express their views in the family, schools and the community.	(1) para. 5: follow-up action on previous COs remains outstanding, particularly in the area of legislation; para. 7: while noting the various legislative efforts regarding children's rights, is deeply concerned at the very slow process of enacting and implementing legislative changes; there are many draft laws or amendments to laws that have not been submitted to Parliament; notes that the bill on hearing minors during court proceedings, as well as two bills on offences against public decency, were already referred to in the State party's initial report in 2000 as "ready for submission to the National Assembly" but have not yet been adopted.	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on the lack of budgetary resources; para. 10: notes with concern, however, that the National Child Rights Bureau does not currently have sufficient human or financial resources and that also the National Commission for the Rights of the Child may not have adequate financial and human resources; para. 16: notes that the Government allocates funds from its budget to implement policies for children; regrets, however, the unavailability of data on the allocation of budgetary resources to children, including those with disabilities, and expresses concern that there is no adequate budget tracking system in place for monitoring allocations for children; shares the State party's view that budgetary allocations for social services are still inadequate, particularly because of the high percentage allocated for recurrent expenses.	(2) para. 5: insufficient follow-up to previous COs on the need for disaggregated data on children; para. 18: welcomes the establishment of the Child Indiciary Monitoring System(CIMS) and the yearly publication of its data; notes with appreciation the development of the Children in Need of Special Protection (CNSP) monitoring system, which is a sub-system of CIMS, as well as other data- or information-collection systems; notes that the data collected by the CIMS and the CNSP systems are not sufficiently disaggregated, particularly in terms of providing information on a wide range of vulnerable groups.	(2) para. 22: welcomes the acknowledgement by the State party of the complementary role played by civil society in providing certain types of public services and its promotion of this process in order to create a basis for increased community participation; notes that NGOs are not yet involved as members in the State party's coordinating body.
167	Swaziland 2006	(2) para. 25: welcomes the fact that the Constitution has addressed the issue of non-discrimination, in particular with regard to persons born out of wedlock; concerned that, as noted by the State party, national legislation is inconsistent with the non-discrimination provisions of the Convention; also concerned that de facto societal discrimination persists against vulnerable groups of children, including children with disabilities, street children, children living in rural areas, children born out of wedlock, orphans and children living in foster care and children affected or infected by HIV/AIDS; deeply concerned at the situation of girls, in particular adolescent girls who suffer marginalization and gender stereotyping, compromising their educational opportunities and who are more vulnerable to sexual violence, abuse and HIV/AIDS.	(1) para. 28: concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not given adequate attention in national legislation and policies and that awareness of its significance is low among the population.	(2) para. 30: noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to give children the opportunity to express their views in public forums; remains concerned that traditional societal attitudes appear to limit children in freely expressing their views in schools, communities or within the family, and that so-called cautionary rules limit the due weight given to their views in judicial or administrative proceedings.	(2) para. 7: welcomes the enactment of the Constitution in 2005, which includes provisions which aim at guaranteeing that children are afforded special protection. It also notes that a Children's Bill and a Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill are currently being discussed in the State party; remains concerned at the lack of a systematic and comprehensive legislative review regarding compatibility of domestic legislation, policy and practice with the CRC.	(2) para. 15: acknowledges the increase in resource allocation in the field of education. It is concerned, however, at the low allocation of budgets for the protection and promotion of children's rights, particularly in the areas of health and child protection.	(1) para. 17: shares the State party's concern at the lack of a comprehensive data collection system for, inter alia, child mortality, adolescent health, children without parental care, and children with disabilities.	(2) para. 21: appreciating the support provided to NGOs in addressing the plight particularly of vulnerable children; of the opinion that the role of civil society, and in particular that of NGOs, should be further strengthened in the promotion and implementation of the CRC.

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168	Sweden 2009	(2) para. 5: notes that Anti-discrimination Act which entered into force on 1 January 2009, includes age as a ground of discrimination and prohibits discrimination in all parts of the education system; para. 25: reiterates its previous concern that, despite the adoption of legislative guarantees, including the new Anti-discrimination Act, the principle of non-discrimination is not fully respected in practice, and it is particularly concerned at de facto discrimination against and xenophobia and racist attitudes towards children of ethnic minorities, refugee and asylum-seeking children and children belonging to migrant families.	(2) para. 27: notes the new legislative measures incorporating the principle of the best interests of the child, including the Aliens Act (Swedish Code of Statutes – SFS 2005:716) and the amendments to the provision of the Children and Parents Code relating to custody, residence and access; concerned that the principle of the best interests of the child is not sufficiently implemented in practice, including in the administrative spheres; remains concerned that the best interests of asylum-seekers and migrant children are not sufficiently taken into consideration in asylum processes.	(2) para. 29: welcoming measures taken to increase the right of the child to be heard; concerned that regional disparities and inadequacies remain regarding active participation of children within schools, institutions and the social child and youth care services; also remains concerned that some children do not feel they have any real influence in matters concerning their life in society.	(2)para. 9: takes note of the explanation given in the report of the State party and in its written replies to the list of issues as to why the CRC has not been formally incorporated into the domestic legal system; concerned at the continuous lack of formal recognition of the Convention as Swedish law, which can have an impact on the rights contained therein and on the application of such rights;	(2) para. 17: welcoming the information available on the allocation of resources dedicated to CRC implementation, the Committee expresses its concern at disparities with regard to access to and availability of services for children, depending on where they live, both with respect to the content and execution of such services.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation previous CO on data collection; para. 19: notes various measures taken, including the statistical reports of the National Board of Health and Welfare and the work of Statistics Sweden (SCB); also notes that the working group tasked with developing indicators to measure and monitor initiatives within child rights policy has proposed a follow-up system using a set of objectives based on the CRC; reiterates its concern at the lack of statistical data regarding the total number of children with disabilities, child victims of abuse aged 15 to 18 years old, and the imprecise total number of children victims of sexual exploitation.	(3) para. 11: welcomes the establishment in June 2005 of a Child Rights Forum as a platform for structured dialogue between the Government and (NGO) working with and for children.
169	Switzerland 2002	(2) para. 21: acknowledging the prohibition of discrimination in the Constitution (art. 8); concerned at the de facto discrimination against foreign children and at incidents of racial hatred and xenophobia that can have a negative effect on the development of children; concerned that some of the cantonal disparities in practices and services provided and in the enjoyment of rights by children may amount to discrimination.	(1) para. 24: concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child (art. 3) is not fully applied and duly integrated in the implementation of the policies and programmes of the State party.	(2) para. 26: welcoming art. 11(2) of the Constitution recognizing that the child can exercise his/her own rights in accordance with his/her maturity and the numerous legal provisions recognizing the right of the child to express his/her views, and noting the establishment of various Youth Parliaments at the cantonal or municipal levels; still concerned that the general principle as laid down in CRC art. 12 is not fully applied and duly integrated in practice into the implementation of the policies and programmes of the State party.	(3) para. 9: aware of the numerous laws under revision in the State party, including in the cantons, which are relevant to children such as the federal bill on criminal procedures applicable to minors, the federal bill on the criminal status of minors, and the Foreign National Act;	NA	(2) para. 17: notes the measures under way to improve data collection, notably through the National Research Programme; remains concerned that age-brackets used by statistics - notably the national census - do not conform to the definition of the child as set out in the CRC and that not all areas of the Convention are covered.	(3) para. 5: welcomes the State party's close cooperation with civil society with regard to children's rights.

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170	Syrian Arab Republic 2003	(1) para. 9: concerned that in the area of personal status matters, the application of different laws (e.g. 1953 Law of Personal Status) governing different religious communities (i.e. Muslims, Druze, Christians and Jews), and consequently recourse to the different court systems (i.e. Sharia, madhabi, and ruhj courts), may lead to discrimination in the enjoyment of children's rights; para. 25: concerned that both direct and indirect discrimination against the child, or his or her parents or legal guardians persists, contrary to CRC art. 2, particularly with respect to: girls, children born out of wedlock and children belonging to minorities; and disparities in access to health and educational services between rural and urban areas, and particularly that the rural north and north-east of the country lag behind in social indicators.	(1) para. 28: concerned that the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in CRC art. 3 is not expressly incorporated in all legislation concerning children and is not always considered in practice; remains concerned that custody is determined by criteria such as age, rather than what arrangement is in the child's best interest.	(2) welcomes efforts by the State party to promote respect for the views of the child, including information that a children's parliament is to be established shortly; it is concerned that traditional attitudes towards children in society may limit the respect for their views, especially within the family and schools, and that children are not systematically heard in court and administrative proceedings in matters that affect them.	(2) para. 5: insufficient implementation previous COs in relation to the integration of the CRCs principles in legislation; para. 9: notes that the State party has undertaken a commitment to review national legislation vis-à-vis the CRC; notes various recent and proposed legislative measures with respect to child rights but is concerned that they do not sufficiently reflect a comprehensive human rights-based approach to CRC implementation; concerned that in the area of personal status matters, the application of different laws governing different religious communities (i.e. Muslims, Druze, Christians and Jews), and consequently recourse to the different court systems (i.e. Sharia, madhabi, and ruhj courts), may lead to discrimination in the enjoyment of children's rights.	(1) para. 5: insufficient implementation previous COs in relation to the prioritization of children's rights in budgetary allocation; para. 17: remains concerned that the budgetary allocations for areas covered by the CRC, in particular for health, education and child protection, are low, indicating that insufficient attention has been paid to CRC art. 4 regarding the implementation to the "maximum extent of ... available resources" of the economic, social and cultural rights of children.	(2) para. 13: notes the improvement of data collection in the areas of health, nutrition and education and welcomes information that a Child Information Unit has been established within the Central Bureau of Statistics; remains concerned at the scarcity and availability of reliable statistical data on areas covered by the CRC.	(2) para. 19: notes the information on good government cooperation with national associations in the development and welfare sectors, as well as with international organizations; concerned that little effort has been made to actively involve civil society, particularly in the area of civil rights and freedoms, in CRC implementation.
171	Tajikistan 2010	(2) para. 26: acknowledging the legislative amendments and actions taken to address discrimination against women and girls; remains concerned about the limited implementation of these laws and the persisting de facto discrimination against girls; particularly concerned about the high dropout rates of girls in rural areas from schools due to negative traditional and religious attitudes on the roles of girls and women in the society; concerned at discriminatory attitudes and discrimination against children with disabilities, children in care institutions and children living in rural areas.	(2) para. 29: notes that the State Party has introduced the principle of the best interests of the child in its legislation, in particular in the Family Code; it is concerned that this principle is not yet sufficiently reflected in the legislation.	(2) para. 31: welcoming the fact that the Family Code imposes the obligation to hear the view of the child, in particular in divorce cases; concerned that the right to be heard in all judicial and administrative proceedings is insufficiently implemented, and that the respect for the views of the child in schools, care institutions and especially within the family remains limited due to traditional societal attitudes towards children;	(2) para. 8: noting that the State party has adopted additional legislative and administrative measures relating to children's rights; remains concerned that the national legislation does not adequately address all the provisions enshrined in the Convention;	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous COs on increased budgetary allocation; para. 16: welcomes the reforms made in financing the education and health sectors; notes that the investments in the areas of health, education and social protection remain very low, and comprise very small percentages of the GDP; notes that, as a result of the international economic crisis, the remittances from Tajik migrant workers abroad, which amounted to a significant proportion (30%) of the GDP, have decreased dramatically; notes the lack of information about the subsidy programmes and their monitoring mechanisms; notes that much effort needs to be made by the State party to ensure transparent and efficient budgetary management and evaluation of the impact of investments on children.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous COs on increased budgetary allocation; para. 18: noting that some efforts to reform the national statistics system have been undertaken by the State party; remains concerned that data for persons under 18 years of age relating to the rights contained in the CRC is not systematically collected and disaggregated to assess progress and to design policies to implement the CRC.	(2) para. 22: notes the efforts made by the State party to involve the civil society in the implementation of the CRC, by allowing active participation in awareness-raising and training activities; remains concerned that much of this cooperation is project-based and that the State party relies heavily on NGOs for the implementation of some of the CRC provisions without providing them with adequate resources, policies and guidelines.

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172	Thailand 2012	<p>(2) para. 9: insufficient implementation of previous COs non-discrimination; para. 33: notes the measures that are being taken to eliminate to some extent the disparities in access to education and health as well as special measures taken concerning children in the disadvantaged North-East and South of the country; expresses concern that the efforts are insufficient to eradicate both direct and indirect discrimination against children, particularly with respect to the girl child, children with disabilities, children of indigenous, religious or ethnic minority communities, children of refugees and asylum-seekers, children of migrant workers, children in street situations, children living in rural areas, and children living in poverty; remains deeply concerned about regional disparities, especially in the North-East and South, regarding access to social, health and educational services for children.</p>	<p>(2) para. 35: noting the State party's information that various laws affecting the rights of children incorporate the principle of the best interests of the child; nevertheless concerned that this principle is not fully applied in judicial and administrative proceedings and decisions and in decisions regarding placement and management of alternative care.</p>	<p>(2) para. 39: noting the State party's information that there are Child and Youth Councils at national, regional and district levels; concerned that not all children have the opportunity to express their views freely and participate in the decisions that affect them in the home, community, and administrative and judicial procedures, partly due to traditional attitudes; also concerned that the Child and Youth Councils lack support in resources and personnel to organize activities.</p>	<p>(3) para. 11: welcomes the adoption of several specified pieces of legislation in the area of child rights, which contribute to the harmonization of national law with the CRC principles and provisions; welcomes the establishment of a Sub-committee under the National Child and Youth Commission with the aim of further revising the existing laws to be in conformity with the Constitution and the Convention;</p>	<p>(2) para. 19: notes the State party's information related to the 2010-2011 budget allocations to the MSDHS under various categories and to basic education; regrets the lack of further details on budgetary allocations to other sectors and areas for implementation of the full range of children's rights; concerned that the low ratio of 0.5 per cent of the national budget allocated to the MSDHS has not changed for several years to enable the coordinating agency for children's rights to carry out its functions effectively; para. 21: concerned about the reports indicating that corruption remains pervasive among, inter alia, municipal and local government officials and law enforcement personnel, and thus diverts resources that could enhance the efficacy of government policies and programmes to implement the rights of the child.</p>	<p>(2) para. 9: insufficient implementation of previous COs on data collection; para. 23: notes the establishment of the National Information Centre and the National Statistical Office, which maintain data in some areas of children's rights and a database on children with disabilities; concerned that there is no effective system of data collection covering all areas of the Convention which would allow for assessment, analysis and evaluation of the data and information on laws, policies, plans and programmes for children based on the Convention.</p>	NA
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173	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2010	(2) para. 26: welcomes the adoption of the Law on Prevention and Protection from Discrimination and provisions for the setting up of an anti-discrimination body; concerned that the new law does not explicitly cover certain grounds for discrimination and that it provides a long list of "exceptions" from what constitutes discrimination which may jeopardize the best interests of the child; concerned about de facto discrimination of children belonging to the minorities, especially Roma, children in institutions, children in street situations, children with disabilities and children in conflict with the law.	(2) para. 28: noting that the new law on juvenile justice recognizes the best interests of the child as a guiding principle; concerned that this principle is not systematically included in all relevant legislation and administrative procedures and is not adequately applied in practice.	(2) para. 30: while noting the incorporation of the principle of respect for the views of the child in parts of the State party's legislation, regrets that this is not done systematically and legislation still does not ensure the right of the child to be heard in all judicial and administrative proceedings affecting the child and in accordance with his or her evolving capacities; further regrets that traditional societal attitudes towards children limit respect for their views within the family and in schools, the community and society at large.	(1) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous CO on the review of national legislation; para. 8: concerned that the national legislation does not fully comply with the CRC principles and provisions and that there is weak enforcement of legislation.	(1) para. 12: concerned about the lack of specific funds that have been earmarked for implementation of the National Plan of Action; para. 16: remains concerned about a mismatch between budgetary allocations and the mandates of agencies; concerned about the lack of transparency in the use of international funds for programmes in areas concerning children, the selection of NGO activities for State financial support, and that a very small proportion of these funds are allocated for activities concerning children; concerned that no specific funds have been earmarked for the implementation of the National Action Plan on the Rights of the Child and that the funds earmarked for the implementation of the 2010 Programme for Compulsory Health Insurance for All Citizens are insufficient.	(2) para. 18: noting ongoing development of a child protection data system; regrets that there is no systematic approach to data collection for monitoring the situation of children in the State party and no centralized database on children, in general, and on children in vulnerable situations, in particular.	(2) para. 10: concerned about the limited possibilities for local government, civil society and children to participate in the Commission's work; para. 24: notes the adoption of a strategy for cooperation with the civil sector and a 2007–2011 action plan for its implementation, as well as plans to increase the number of and to extend equal voting rights to NGO members of the National Commission on the Rights of the Child; nevertheless, concerned about the lack of consultation with civil society in the preparation of the second periodic report and inadequate cooperation in the design of legislation and policies in areas concerning children's rights, and about lack of transparent criteria for NGO participation in the work of the National Commission on the Rights of the Child; concerned about the lack of recognition of the significant contribution of NGOs in the provision of services.
174	Timor-Leste 2008	(2) para. 26: commends the inclusion of special provisions for the protection of children from discrimination in the State party's Constitution, including in particular children born out of wedlock; notes with concern that certain groups of children, including children of returnees, children who are not in possession of a baptism certificate, children deriving from sexual relationships among family members and children with disabilities, face de facto discrimination, most importantly with regard to access to education.	(2) para. 28: notes that the State party is in the process of revising child-specific provisions of its legislation and strengthening the capacity of relevant public institutions; While these positive steps may help to ensure that the principle of the best interests of the child is given higher priority in relevant administrative actions and judicial proceedings, in accordance with CRC art. 3, nevertheless concerned that this principle does not so far seem to be a primary consideration in decision-making regarding children, e.g. with regard to adoption.	(2) para. 32: notes the State party's assurance that the need to ensure that the views of the child are given due weight in all matters affecting the child has been taken into account in the drafting of new legislation, standards and procedures; concerned, however, that the concept of respect for the views of the child does not appear to be well understood, and that the views of the child are rarely sought in establishing what may be in the child's best interests when relevant decisions are being made, including in administrative and judicial proceedings.	(2) para. 8: notes the State party's efforts to bring domestic laws into compliance with the CRC; concerned, however, about the apparent lack of consistent legislative frameworks in many areas, including juvenile justice and education, and about delays in the adoption of laws that are instrumental to CRC implementation.	(1) para. 16: while appreciating that the State party, in a situation of limited resources, is confronted with many competing needs, the Committee regrets that the State party has not provided any data on budget allocations relevant to CRC implementation;	(1) para. 18: notes that in many areas covered by the CRC, data for the monitoring and evaluation of the situation of children in the State party are not available; believes that such data are of great importance and may guide the State party in the planning of policies and setting of priorities.	(2) para. 20: while welcoming the adoption of the law on civil society organizations and noting examples of collaboration between Governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations, nevertheless holds the view that there is scope for the further reinforcement of such cooperation.

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175	Togo 2012	(1) para. 31: concerned that discrimination against vulnerable groups of children, in particular girls and children with disabilities, persists throughout the State party and that insufficient measures have been taken by the State party to implement the recommendations already made by the Committee in this regard; also concerned that according to article 248 of the Children's Code, a child born of an adulterous relationship cannot claim maintenance from his/her father if he/she has not been recognized by said father.	(2) para. 33: notes as positive the inclusion of the principle of the best interests of the child in the Children's Code and its progressive consideration and adoption as a leading principle in actions and decisions concerning children; notes that the definition of the best interests of the child contained in article 4 of the Children's Code is extremely vague; concerned that the Children's Code does not establish an obligation to incorporate the principle of the best interests of the child in all laws and to apply it in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings, as well as in policies and programmes relating to children.	(2) para. 37: notes as positive that the principle of respect for the views of the child is now legally recognized and that a National Child Consultative Council was recently set up to ensure better inclusion of children in the anti-violence strategies that concern them; reiterates its concern that opportunities for the child to express his/her own views in the family, in schools and in the community are still scarce and notes that children are rarely permitted to express their views on matters of concern to them; also concerned that children are insufficiently heard in judicial and administrative procedures.	(2) para. 9: welcoming the adoption of the Children's Code in 2007, the Committee regrets that this Code is only a compilation of existing legal texts concerning children; also concerned that (a) Children are not fully recognized as rights holders in the Children's Code and that the Code contains many provisions which are not in compliance with the CRC; (b) the Children's Code is not fully applicable, as the implementing regulations have not yet been adopted; (c) the Personal and Family Code, revised Criminal Code and revised Code of Criminal Procedure have still not been adopted.	(1) para. 17: the Committee is seriously concerned about the further reduction in social expenditure in recent years, which has had and will continue to have a negative impact on the implementation of the rights of the child in the State party; also remains concerned that corruption continues to be pervasive and diverts resources available for the effective implementation of the Convention.	(1) para. 19: concerned that little progress has been made to set up a comprehensive system to collect disaggregated data on all areas covered by the CRC and that the lack of such reliable disaggregated data remains a major obstacle for the effective planning, monitoring and evaluation of policies, programmes and projects for children.	(2) para. 25: noting the existing cooperation with civil society organizations, concerned about the stigmatization of human rights defenders in the State party, the reluctance of public authorities to give legitimacy to their work and the absence of measures to investigate and prosecute authors of threats and other acts of intimidation against them; also concerned that women human rights defenders are particularly vulnerable to ostracism within their own families and communities, and are frequently labelled as, inter alia, "bad mothers" and "family breakers".
176	Tonga - not available							
177	Trinidad and Tobago 2006	(2) para. 28: noting that discrimination is prohibited under the Constitution; but the grounds mentioned in the Constitution are not in full compliance with CRC art. 2 and no additional legislation exist that explicitly prohibits all forms of discrimination; some groups of children, in particular children living in poverty and children affected by HIV/AIDS, may suffer from discriminatory attitudes and disparities in accessing basic services; only battery and assault against male children is punished under the Children's Act and discrimination remains in sentencing of male and female offenders for sexual offences against children.	(2) para. 31: noting that the Family Court protects the best interests of the child; concerned that principles laid down in CRC art. 3 are not fully applied and systematically integrated into the policies and programmes of the State party.	(1) para. 33: concerned that the views of the child are not given sufficient consideration in all areas of children's lives and that the provisions of CRC art. 12 are not fully integrated into the State party's legislation and administrative and judicial decisions or in policies and programmes relevant to children.	(3) paras. 3: specified legislation welcomed; para. 10: welcoming the set of legislation enacted in 2000 to harmonize the domestic laws with the Convention	(1) para. 8: insufficient implementation previous CO on resource allocation for children; para. 18: while noting the positive economic development of the State party, concerned at the lack of sufficient budget allocation for children and the implementation of their rights, in particular about the fact that allocation of resources does not appropriately address regional disparities; para. 24: that the Government provides limited funding for NGOs.	(1) para. 8: insufficient implementation previous CO on data collection; para. 20: concerned at the absence of comprehensive and up-to-date statistical data in the State party's report and the lack of an adequate national data collection system on all areas covered by the CRC; such data is crucial for the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of progress achieved and impact assessment of policies with respect to children.	(2) paras. 22, para. 24: while welcoming the consultation held by the Human Rights Unit of the Office of the Attorney-General in the preparation of the second periodic report, notes that the dialogue with the civil society on CRC implementation of the Convention is limited and not systematic and that the Government provides limited funding for NGOs

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178	Tunisia 2010	(2) para. 21: reiterates the concern expressed in its previous concluding observations that the principle of non-discrimination (art. 2) is not adequately reflected in the Child Protection Code and that the legal framework addressing discrimination against children is not fully applied in practice for certain groups; para. 25: welcomes the information on the measures taken to address discrimination against children born out of wedlock, in line with the previous COs of the Committee; remains concerned that discrimination against children born out of wedlock continues to exist, as does discrimination against single mothers owing to negative social attitudes, which has a negative impact on children as demonstrated, inter alia, by the high rate of abandonment and the existence of some cases of infanticide of children born out of wedlock.	(2) para. 30: notes with appreciation that the principle of the best interests of the child is incorporated in the legislation of the State party, notably in article 4 of the Child Protection Code, and that it is generally implemented in decisions affecting children taken by legislative, judicial and administrative authorities of the State party; concerned, however, that article 58 of the Code of Personal Status, which provides that a female guardian must be unmarried, and that a male guardian should have available a wife to discharge the duties of guardianship, might be inconsistent with the principle of the best interests of the child.	(2) para. 32: appreciates the creation of the Child and Youth Parliaments and Children's Town Councils at the local level but regrets that, despite these efforts, the participation of children in public life and the ways in which they can actively participate in setting priorities and in implementing and evaluating programs are quite limited; also regrets that the Children's Town Councils benefit children living in urban areas only; concerned that the views of the child are not always sufficiently taken into account in matters concerning school administration and classroom education, in public debates, in the family, as well as in administrative and judicial proceedings.	(3) para. 9: commends the State party for the significant legislative reform undertaken in the field of the rights of the child;	(2) para. 15: welcoming the fact that budgetary allocation for children has been increasing in recent years; remains concerned at the lack of clarity as regards the resources allocated and spent by the different ministerial departments dealing with children; also concerned that the economic crisis could have a negative impact on budgetary allocations for children.	(2) para. 8: insufficient follow-up previous CO on data collection in particular as regards child abuse and neglect; para. 17: notes with satisfaction the major role played by the Observatory of Information, Training, Documentation and Studies on the Protection of Children's Rights (the Observatory) since 2002 in providing a national data collection system, producing each year a national report on the state of children in Tunisia and promoting a culture of children's rights; notes with satisfaction the steps taken by the Observatory to improve the database ChildInfo on indicators relevant to children, to improve the accessibility of data collected and to work more closely with relevant ministries to improve data collection; regrets, however, that the annual reports are mainly descriptive and that the availability, relevance, access and sharing of data at the national, regional and local levels remains an ongoing challenge, particularly in the area of child protection.	(2) para. 19: notes the assertion of the State party in its report that the report was drawn up using a participatory approach which involved civil society; concerned, however, that NGOs critical of State policies face obstacles in participating in the policy formulation, planning and budgeting phases of Government programme; deeply concerned at reports of harassment, persecution, arbitrary arrest and detention, and other human rights violations against human rights defenders, and restrictions placed on the activities of some NGOs; deep concern at the new draft bill amending article 61 of the Penal Code which, if adopted, might have a negative impact on the cooperation between international and regional human rights bodies and NGOs working in the field of human rights, and especially children's rights.
179	Turkey 2012	(1) para. 28: reiterates its concern that the principle of non-discrimination is not fully implemented for children belonging to minorities not recognized under the Treaty of Lausanne of 1923, in particular children of Kurdish origin; children with disabilities; girls; refugee and asylum-seeking children; and children living in the Eastern and Southeastern regions and in rural areas – especially with regard to their access to adequate health and education.	(2) para. 30: welcomes the inclusion of the principle of the best interests of the child in the Law on Child Protection of 2005 and in the Constitutional amendments of 2010, as well as the provision that court decisions which do not take into account the best interests of the child may be annulled by the Supreme Court; regrets the lack of information on the application of this principle in cases of domestic violence and family disintegration, in respect of which the State party seems to take punitive measures, rather than provide support to the family concerned.	(2) para. 34: notes with appreciation the State party's efforts to provide for the views of the child to be taken into account by establishing provincial Children's Rights Committees, organizing children's fora and "child-friendly cities." However, remains concerned as to whether the views communicated by children in these fora are genuinely taken into account; regrets that the overall implementation of this right is insufficient in the family, institutions, legal and administrative proceedings and the community.	(3) para. 10: notes significant improvement in legislation related to the rights of the child;	(2) para. 18: noting the information provided by the State party that the Ministry of Finance is planning to adopt a functional budgeting system over the coming two years, so that all expenditure on children will be more visible; concerned about the information that the State party's public social expenditure remains relatively low.	(2) para. 20: welcomes recent improvements in the State party's data collection system as well as the data provided by the State party in its report and written replies in some areas covered by the CRC; remains concerned about the lack of regular data in areas such as child poverty and well-being, child labour, children with disabilities, injury and risk behaviour; also regrets the lack of data disaggregated by gender, geographic location, ethnicity and socio-economic background, which would help to monitor the equal enjoyment of their rights by all children in the State party.	(1) para. 12: concerned about the lack of information on coordination between Government agencies, the private sector and civil society;

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180	Turkmenistan 2006	(1) para. 22: concerned that, inter alia as a result of the "Turkmenization" policy of the State party, discriminatory attitudes and practices exist towards certain national and ethnic minorities such as Russians, Uzbeks, Kazakhs, Turks, Kurds, Beludzhi and Germans. In particular, members of ethnic minority groups are denied a number of fundamental socio-economic rights, such as access to education, employment and the right to own property, as well as the right to enjoy their culture; further concerned that children belonging to families of persons condemned on political grounds are often victims of discriminatory and punitive practices, notably in access to education and other services.	(2) para. 28: notes that the principle of best interests of the child is included in the State party's legislation; concerned that it is not always taken into account in practice, in particular for children belonging to ethnic minorities.	(2) para. 30: notes that the Rights of the Child (Guarantees) Act recognizes the right of children to express their opinion and views freely in all matters affecting them, but is concerned that courts have the discretion to decide whether to admit children to proceedings affecting them.	(2) para. 5: welcoming the fact that recent legislative reforms have expanded the protection of the rights of children; concerned at inconsistencies and discrepancies in the national legislation, especially in the area of adoption and guardianship; while noting the Rights of the Child (Guarantees) Act of 5 July 2002, it is concerned that this Act does not cover all rights protected under the Convention.	(1) para. 13: concerned at the scarce information and the lack of transparency on budget allocations for children and for the implementation of the CRC principles and provisions; further concerned at the information that the improvement in the economic performance and macroeconomic indicators was not reflected in increased budgetary allocations to children's issues.	(2) para. 15: notes that the National Statistical and Information Institute "Turkmenmillikhasabat" collects data and carries out sociological studies on children's issues; concerned at the absence of data in the State party's report on most of the issues covered by the CRC, including children with disabilities, children belonging to ethnic minority groups and children in conflict with the law.	(2) para. 19: notes the amendment of 2 November 2004 to the Criminal Code of Turkmenistan rescinding article 223/1, which stipulated criminal penalties for unregistered activities of public associations, including non-governmental organizations, it is deeply concerned that serious obstacles are still hampering the independent activity of civil society organizations.
181	Tuvalu 2013	(1) para. 23: concerned that the anti-discrimination provisions in the Constitution of Tuvalu do not recognize discrimination based on gender and disability and that some discriminatory acts are permitted by the application of laws enacted prior to independence or undertaken during a state of emergency. ... further concerned that the legislation ... discriminates against women and girls, particularly single mothers and children born out of wedlock, in relation to land inheritance rights and child custody.	(1) para. 25: concerned that the legislation ... does not make reference to the best interests of the child, and that the best interests of the child is not taken into account as a primary consideration at all levels of decision-making affecting children by governmental institutions, courts, administrative authorities or legislative bodies.	(2) para. 27: notes with appreciation the efforts by the State party to seek and incorporate the views of children and young people in the preparation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development for 2005–2015, the National Youth Policy for 2005–2010 and the Ministry of Health Strategic Plan for 2008–2018, and the State party's initial report to the Committee. However, ... remains concerned that traditional customs appear to be contrary to the principle of respect for the views of the child. Children under the age of 18 years are prohibited from participating in Falekaupule meetings, where decisions are made with regard to education, health and other important matters affecting them.	(2) para. 3: welcomes the adoption of several legislative measures; para. 8: notes as positive the existence of some legal measures which safeguard the rights of the child in the State party, and the formulation of the Family Protection and Domestic Violence Bill. ... is, however, concerned that a comprehensive review of all laws relating to children has not been undertaken in the light of the CRC and that the enactment of the Family Protection and Domestic Violence Bill has been delayed.	(2) para. 14: recommends that the State party maintain its high investments in health and education; para. 12: sufficient resources have not been allocated to the National Advisory Committee for Children for it to fulfil all its responsibilities;	(2) para. 15: While noting that some data on children is available, including data disaggregated by sex and geographical location in the health and education sectors, ... concerned that there is no comprehensive data collection system to systematically assess the implementation of the CRC. ... also concerned that a census has not been undertaken since 2002 and that no disaggregated data is available on children with disabilities.	(3) para. 12: notes with appreciation that the State party established the National Advisory Committee for Children in 1998, with representatives from civil society in its membership, and which is responsible for coordinating policies and programmes on children's rights

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182	Uganda 2005	(2) para. 30: notes that the Ugandan Constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, creed, religion, social or economic standing, or political opinion; welcomes the information provided by the delegation that the Equal Opportunity Commission will be established within a year; concerned at the fact that discrimination against certain groups of children still exists in practice, particularly with regard to girls, children with disabilities, children living in poverty, refugee children, children affected by and/or infected with HIV/AIDS, former child soldiers and Batwa children.	NA	(2) para. 35: noting with appreciation the efforts made by the State party to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child, such as the child forum; remains concerned that traditional societal attitudes appear to limit children in freely expressing their views in schools, the courts, or within the family.	(2) para. 12: takes note that some progress has been made by the State party in the effort to bring domestic laws into compliance with the CRC, e.g. in the area of juvenile justice, but remains concerned at the lack of a systematic and comprehensive legislative review.	(1) para. 10: insufficient implementation previous CO on resources allocation; para. 16: concerned that insufficient allocation of resources has resulted in a lack of sustainable results; para. 20: notes the relatively high rate of economic growth in the State party and that considerable debt relief has been provided via the Heavily Indebted Poor Country Initiative, but it is concerned that the resources allocated for children are very limited and insufficient to respond to national and local priorities for the protection and promotion of children's rights.	(2) para. 22: noting that in the last few years the State party has made remarkable progress in its data collection system, including the creation of a semi-autonomous organization charged by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics with developing statistics in the country; nevertheless concerned at the lack of a comprehensive data collection system that gathers data from the village and sub-county levels and forwards them to the district level for consolidation and analysis.	(2) para. 26: while appreciating the fact that NGOs have been involved in the preparation of the State party's report; of the opinion that civil society, and in particular the role of NGOs, should be further strengthened in the promotion and implementation of the CRC.
183	Ukraine 2011	(1) para. 27: concerned at the reported increase in the number of racially motivated offences in the State party, in particular information on xenophobic and racist activities carried out by radical youth groups and skinheads; concerned that "patriotic education" is commonly identified as a priority issue in the allocation of State funds in support of children's and youth organizations; concerned that the principle of non-discrimination with respect to children with disabilities, children of minority groups (esp. Roma children), children in street situations, children living with HIV/AIDS and asylum-seeking and refugee children, is not fully implemented in practice; concerned at the lack of an express reference to the principle of non-discrimination with respect to the protection of children's rights in domestic legislation.	(1) para. 29: concerned that there is no systematic analysis of State policies and programmes in terms of the best interests of the child; concerned that the principle is poorly integrated in laws and policies relating to children deprived of parental care and children in contact with the law.	(2) para. 33: noting as positive changes in the Family Code allowing for the child to be heard in the context of adoption; nevertheless concerned that the views of the child remain unheard in the context of civil and administrative proceedings and in the administration of juvenile justice; regrets the lack of information on how respect for the views of the child is guaranteed in legislative, administrative and judicial decisions as well as in the family and in schools; recalling its 2007 CO, further notes with concern the lack of genuine participation of children in the community and public life and the State party's acknowledgment that children's participation in decision-making processes remains the exception rather than the rule.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous CO on harmonization of national legislation with the CRC and its Optional Protocols; para. 8: welcoming that the CRC and other international treaties take precedence over domestic law in case of conflict between them, and while noting the Child Protection Act (2001) and amendments (2007) to the Act on Child Care Institutions, Services and Specialized Institutions, concerned that domestic legislation on the rights of the child remains inadequate, with significant scope for further legislative implementation of the Convention and its Optional Protocols	(1) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous CO on allocation of resources; para. 13: concerned at the limited financial allocations to the State Programme in 2010 (0.3 per cent of the approved programme budget); para. 17: concerned that its previous recommendation to systematically identify the amount and proportion of the State budget spent on children through public and private institutions or organizations has not been implemented; concerned that funding of necessary social services is based on individual regions' financial capacity, and at the State party's acknowledgement that this system is not appropriately implemented.	(2) para. 7: insufficient implementation of previous CO on data collection; para. 19: appreciates ongoing efforts by the State party to establish an effective system of data collection for monitoring and evaluating its child protection policies, including through the establishment of the DevInfo System to oversee implementation of the National Plan of Action; nevertheless remains concerned at the continued lack of a national database with comprehensive and disaggregated data on children; concerned at the lack of statistics on children at risk of torture, domestic violence and/or other forms of abuse and ill-treatment, child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, children of minority groups and refugee and asylum-seeking children.	(2) para. 23: appreciates measures aimed at strengthening the role of civil society in protecting children's rights, such as the establishment of the Coalition of NGOs for Children and the active involvement of civil society organizations in the development of the National Plan of Action; concerned that the State party's cooperation with representatives of civil society to a considerable degree occurs indirectly through cooperation with international organizations or entities of the private sector.

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184	United Arab Emirates 2002	<p>(1) para. 2: there are significant gaps in information relating to rights such as non-discrimination; para. 7: concerned that several rights contained in the CRC (such as non-discrimination) are not adequately reflected in domestic law; concerned that with respect to the enjoyment of children's rights throughout the State party, the application of different laws governing different legal jurisdictions may lead to discrimination; concerned that discrimination, contrary to CRC art. 2, persists in the State party; concerned about discrimination against girls and women, and children born out of wedlock under existing personal status law (e.g. inheritance, custody and guardianship).</p>	<p>(1) para. 26: concerned that in actions concerning children, the general principle of the best interests of the child contained in CRC art. 3 is not always a primary consideration, such as in matters relating to family law.</p>	<p>(2) para. 28: notes information on the existence of a children's parliament in Sharjah, student councils at secondary schools, as well as social service units, which deal with complaints about student behaviour; concerned that traditional attitudes towards children in society may limit the respect for their views, especially within the family and in schools; concerned that children are not adequately informed about how to have input into policies that affect them, nor about how their views will be taken into consideration once they have been solicited, and that sufficient attention has not been accorded to the participation of primary and secondary students in school governance, including in areas such as school regulations and management of discipline.</p>	<p>(2) para. &: welcomes information concerning draft laws (i.e. the Child Protection Act, the Disabled Persons' Act and the Juvenile Delinquency Act); concerned that several rights contained in the Convention are not adequately reflected in domestic law.</p>	<p>(2) para. 15: notes significant investment in and increased budgetary allocations for health, education and other parts of the social sector; concerned that insufficient attention has been given to the allocation of resources for programmes and policies to promote the civil and political rights of children.</p>	<p>(3) para. 11: welcomes information on statistics provided in the written replies, and notes the statistics available from the Ministry of Planning's web site.</p>	<p>(2) para. 17: notes information on good government cooperation with national associations in the development and welfare sectors, but it is concerned that insufficient efforts have been made to involve civil society, particularly in the area of civil rights and freedoms, in CRC implementation.</p>
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185	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland 2008	(2) para. 6: previous CO on non-discrimination not fully implemented; para. 24: welcomes the State party's plans to consolidate and strengthen equality legislation, with clear opportunities to mainstream children's right to non-discrimination into the United Kingdom anti-discrimination law; also welcomes the adoption of action plans and the monitoring and information collection work carried out on the issue of discrimination; concerned that in practice certain groups of children such as: Roma and Irish Travellers' children; migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children; lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender children (LGBT) and children belonging to minority groups continue to experience discrimination and social stigmatization; concerned at the general climate of intolerance and negative public attitudes towards children, especially adolescents, which appears to exist in the State party, including in the media, and may be often the underlying cause of further infringements of their rights.	(1) para. 26: regrets that the principle of the best interests of the child is still not reflected as a primary consideration in all legislative and policy matters affecting children, especially in the area of juvenile justice, immigration and freedom of movement and peaceful assembly.	(2) para. 32: welcomes the Childcare Act 2006, and associated guidelines that require local authorities to have regard to the views of young children when planning services for children, as well as the requirement on inspectors to consult children when visiting schools and other institutional settings; welcomes the new duty on school governing bodies in England and Wales to involve children in the development of school behaviour policies; concerned that there has been little progress in enshrining article 12 in education law and policy; concerned about insufficient action taken to ensure that the rights enshrined in article 12 are applied to children with disabilities.	(2) para. 10: appreciates the State party's efforts to harmonize its legislation with the CRC, particularly with the adoption of the Children's Act 2004 for England and Wales which, inter alia, created the Children's Commissioner for England, and the Childcare Act 2006; remains concerned that the CRC principles are not duly taken into account in all pieces of legislation throughout the country and that the State party has not incorporated the CRC into domestic law nor has ensured the compliance of all legislation affecting children with it.	(2) para. 6: previous CO on budgetary allocations (paras. 10-11) not fully implemented; para. 18: notes with appreciation on the increase in expenditures on children in recent years; concerned that the increases are not sufficient to eradicate poverty and tackle inequalities and that the lack of consistent budgetary analysis and child rights impact assessment makes it difficult to identify how much expenditure is allocated to children across the State party and whether this serves to effectively implement policies and legislation affecting them.	(NA) NA in general terms; para. 70: lack of data on the number of children seeking asylum; para. 73: concerned at the lack of data on children victim of sexual exploitation, including in the Overseas Territories.	(3) para. 22: notes with appreciation the cooperation of the State party with civil society organizations in the preparation of the report, including formal consultations, as well as in the implementation of the Convention.
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186	United Republic of Tanzania 2006	(2) para. 26: noting that the State party has reviewed certain discriminatory legislation to ensure that children's rights are not breached, expresses concern at the fact that discrimination against certain groups of children still exists in legislation as well as in practice, particularly with regard to teenage pregnant girls, children with disabilities, children of asylum-seekers, children infected with and/or affected by HIV/AIDS, and street children.	NA	(2) para. 8: welcomes the information that views of all stakeholders on legislative review, including children, will be compiled, through the national "White Paper"; remains concerned at the lack of a clear time frame to finalize the consultative process and enact "The Children's Act"; para. 29: encouraged by the State party's efforts to promote and respect children's right to freely express their views, notably through the establishment of the Junior Council in 2002 with a nationwide initiative; of the view that children's right to free expression and to participation is still limited in the State party, partly due to traditional attitudes; also concerned that the Junior Council has not yet been incorporated into the decision-making process either at central or local levels.	(2) para. 6: insufficient follow-up to previous CO on legislation; para. 8: welcomes the information provided by the State party about the current legislative review process; remains concerned at the lack of a clear time frame to finalize the consultative process and enact "The Children's Act".	(2) para. 16: notes with appreciation the increase in budget allocations for CRC implementation; However, these allocations are insufficient to respond to national and local priorities for the protection and promotion of children's rights.	(2) para. 18: taking note of the efforts made in improving the data collection system by the different ministries departments agencies; remains concerned at the lack of a centralized data collection system.	(2) para. 22: welcomes the cooperation between the State institutions, civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the implementation of projects related to children's rights; Nevertheless, notes that there is a need to further improve and formalize this cooperation in order to enhance sustainability and continuity.
187	United States of America - did not ratify CRC							
188	Uruguay 2007	(2) para. 27: while recognising anti-discrimination provisions in the Code on Childhood and Adolescence of 2004, remains concerned that children born out of wedlock continue to be stigmatized and discriminated against, as unmarried under age parents may not have custody over their children, and that these children are not assigned the names of their biological parents; concerned that children are discriminated against because of their appearance (including their way of dressing) and that Afro-descendant children also suffer discrimination.	(2) para. 30: welcomes the fact that the Code on Childhood and Adolescence of 2004 affirms the best interests of the child as a general principle yet remains concerned that institutional practices still do not comply with this principle.	(2) para. 32: notes that the Code on Childhood and Adolescence of 2004 affirms the right of the child to be heard as a general principle; welcomes efforts to encourage child participation within the school environment; remains concerned that the State party fails to ensure this right at the community level and in judicial and civil proceedings.	(2) para. 5: insufficient implementation of previous CO on legislation; para. 7: welcomes the adoption of the Code on Childhood and Adolescence in 2004 and the fact that the new legal framework incorporates an integrated system of protection and the CRC principles; notes that the practical application of the Code remains a significant challenge, that several legislative reform proposals are pending and that further efforts are required to harmonize different branches of legislation.	(2) para. 16: while recognising the affirmative measures undertaken since 2005, remains concerned that allocations for social expenditure still do not sufficiently benefit children; in particular, the poor and vulnerable sections of society, such as children of female headed households and Afro-descendants, still do not receive enough allocations, despite new poverty reduction programmes; notes that the State party recognizes an over-representation of children among the population affected by poverty, as well as by extreme poverty, and regrets that social expenditure is primarily for protective measures, fails to disaggregate the proportion allocated for children and lacks a child rights-based perspective.	(2) para. 18: while welcoming increased efforts to systematize information on the situation of children, remains concerned over the lack of disaggregated data, in particular regarding vulnerable sections in society and disparities between urban and rural areas.	(2) para. 23: while recognising the cooperation between State institutions and civil society in the provision of services in order to implement children's rights, regrets that the cooperation between State entities and civil society at the policy planning and evaluation stage is limited.

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189	Uzbekistan 2013	(1) para. 7: insufficient follow-up to previous CO recommending increased efforts to adopt a proactive and comprehensive strategy to eliminate discrimination on any grounds, including by considering targeted programmes for addressing discrimination against girls and children in vulnerable situations such as refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced children, children with disabilities, abandoned children, children from ethnic minorities and those living in institutions and in regions with socio-economic development problems; para. 55: concerned about the discrimination that children with HIV/AIDS are subject to.	(1) para. 22: concerned about the inadequate incorporation of the right of the child to have his or her interests taken as a primary consideration in the national legislation of the State party which refers only to "legitimate interests of the child" or "interests of the child". With the absence of explicit references to the principle of the best interests of the child, ... concerned that the right of the child to have his or her interests taken as a primary consideration is not adequately fulfilled.	(2) para. 26: welcomes the establishment of Children's Parliaments and notes that the right of the child to be heard is provided for in the recently enacted ... Law on the Guarantees of the Rights of the Child. However ... regrets that the State party's interpretation of this right "does not ensure the freedom of expression as it is understood by the International Standards" ... remains concerned that the State party has legislation stating that children's freedom to have and express opinions may be limited by law ... remains concerned that, in practice, traditional societal attitudes towards children continue to limit respect for their views, within the family, schools, other institutions and society at large.	(2) para. 3: welcomes adoption of several laws; para. 8: While noting that the Preamble to the ... Constitution makes reference to the status of international agreements, ... regrets that the main body of the ... Constitution and the Law on "Normative Legal Acts" do not explicitly refer to the CRC as a source of law. Furthermore, ... concerned that the CRC is not directly applicable by courts or cited in court judgements; para. 65: appreciates that the State party's legislation on economic exploitation is in principle compliant with international standards	(2) para. 12: notes as positive the high proportion of budgetary allocations for the social sector. However, ... concerned that: (a) Current mechanisms and procedures for the allocation of resources for implementing the CRC do not adequately take into account specific local needs; (b) The reduction in financing of the social protection programmes for low-income families with children has resulted in a substantial decline in the number of households receiving support and a resulting increase in the number of children being placed in out-of-home care; (c) There are inadequate resources allocated to non-wage expenditures of educational and health-care institutions such as utilities, maintenance of facilities and other necessary consumables; and, (d) There are no adequate monitoring mechanisms to assess the effectiveness of resources allocated for children's rights.	(1) para. 7: insufficient follow-up to previous CO recommending to improve its data collection system to provide regular and independently verifiable data that is cross-comparable, and to analyse the data collected as a basis for assessing progress achieved in the realization of child rights and for designing policies and programmes to implement the Convention; para. 49: lack of disaggregated data collection on children with disabilities; para. 67: deeply concerned ... about the lack of data on street children	(2) para. 18: notes the positive steps taken by the State party to expand governmental consultation with civil society, including its ongoing deliberations on new legislation aiming to improve the operational environment for civil society organizations. However, ... remains concerned that freedom of association continues to be severely constrained, including for such organizations. Furthermore, ... concerned that the current system of government registration and authorization for children's rights civil society organizations results in the majority of such organizations compromising their independence, inter alia, in financial and policy terms.
190	Vanuatu 1999	(1) para. 14: concerned that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions, especially its general principles on non-discrimination, in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, and its policies and programmes relevant to children;	(1) para. 14: concerned that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions, especially its general principles on best interests of the child, in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, and its policies and programmes relevant to children;	(1) para. 14: concerned that the State party does not appear to have fully taken into account the CRC provisions, especially its general principles on respect for the views of the child, in its legislation, its administrative and judicial decisions, and its policies and programmes relevant to children;	(1) para. 7: expresses its concern that domestic legislation and customary law do not fully reflect the CRC principles and provisions;	(1) para. 9: concerned that a specific budget has not been allocated for the implementation of the National Programme of Action; para. 11: remains concerned that, in the light of CRC art. 4, not enough attention has been paid to allocating budgetary resources in favour of children;	(1) para. 10: concerned at the lack of a data collection mechanism within the State party to make possible the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated data for all areas covered by the Convention and in relation to all groups of children in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved and assess the impact of policies adopted with respect to children.	NA

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191	Venezuela 2014	(2) para. 27: notes with satisfaction the adoption of the Law against Racial Discrimination, in 2011, and other laws aimed at protecting the rights of indigenous peoples ... welcomes the adoption of the Education Act, in 2009, which includes a provision on non-discrimination ... concerned at reports that those legal advances have not been translated into greater protection of children from discrimination ... regrets the lack of information on the measures taken to combat discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and disability, as well as against children living with HIV/AIDS ... particularly concerned at the persistent patriarchal attitudes and gender stereotypes that discriminate against girls and the lack of adequate measures to address this situation. The Committee is also concerned at reports of cases of bullying and discrimination against children because of their sexual orientation or gender identity	(1) para. 30: remains concerned that, in spite of its legal recognition, the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration is not properly implemented in practice	(2) para. 34: welcomes the development of guidelines to ensure that children's right to be heard is implemented in legal proceedings. However, ... concerned about how the guidelines are translated into practice. Taking note of the legal progress made in allowing children older than 15 years to be part of the Community Councils, ... nonetheless, regrets the lack of information on the actual representation of the elected children, their role and the results achieved. ... further concerned about the lack of a comprehensive strategy to promote the participation of children in all spheres of life.	(2) para. 8: welcomes the reform of the Child and Adolescent Protection Act (LOPNNA), in 2007, and the adoption of various other legal instruments which have resulted in increased and harmonized legal protection of children's rights, in accordance with the Convention ... concerned about the lack of adequate implementation of this legislation in some areas and that accountability for children's rights is not systematically ensured ... further concerned that the State party has not yet reformed or adopted all relevant legislation in accordance with the Convention	(2) para. 16: welcomes the efforts made by the State party in terms of increasing social investment, during the reporting period, including through social missions. ... regrets that it is still difficult to disaggregate the precise spending on children in the total public expenditures. ... concerned about: (a) The reduction in real spending of the budget allocated to programmes and projects implemented by the Autonomous Institute of the National Council for Children's and Adolescent's Rights (IDENNA) from 2012 to 2013; (c) The lack of a preliminary evaluation of the impact of the recent budget cuts on the enjoyment of children's rights; para. 17: concerned about corruption ... resulting in less resources being available for the implementation of children's rights.	(2) para. 19: While noting the initiative to develop the Statistical Information System on Children and Adolescents (SIENNA) ... concerned about the slow progress with regard to establishing it; para. 42: no official data on sexual violence against children; para. 44: absence of disaggregated data on violence against children para. 50: lack of disaggregated data on children with disabilities.	(2) para. 23: welcomes the statement made by the State party during the dialogue about wide participation of children and civil society in discussions about new policies, plans and draft laws ... concerned that dialogue with independent civil society organizations specializing in children's rights in the State party is decreasing because of the expanding role of the "fora for participatory democracy", such as the Community Councils ... concerned about reports that the reformed Child and Adolescent Protection Act (LOPNNA) has not been fully implemented and that the lack of required regulation on civil society participation has led to reduced participation of civil society in the implementation of children's rights
192	Viet Nam 2012	(2) para. 9: insufficient follow-up to previous CO on non-discrimination; para. 29: aware of the efforts invested during the review period by the State party to eliminate discrimination against various vulnerable groups of children; this includes the adoption of special measures to improve the delivery of education and health services to children belonging to ethnic minorities, children with disabilities and migrant children; seriously concerned at laws and practices that continue to discriminate against children and the persistence of both direct and indirect discrimination against children in vulnerable situations in the State party; particular concerns about 4 specified issues.	(2) para. 9: insufficient follow-up to previous CO on the best interests of the child; para. 31: welcomes the introduction of the principle of the best interests of the child in the 2004 Law on the Protection, Care and Education of Children, and notes that various draft laws, including the draft amendment of the 2004 Law, fully incorporate this principle; however, concerned that the principle has not yet been included in all legislation affecting children, that the knowledge of the principle remains inadequate, and that it is not sufficiently applied in judicial and administrative decisions.	(2) para. 35: welcomes the various legislative measures adopted throughout the review period that acknowledged children's right to be heard, also in judicial and administrative proceedings, and the forums for children to make their voices heard in the provinces and at the national level; remains concerned at: (a) the lack of sufficient awareness of the importance attached to this principle and the lack of systematic application of the right of the child to be heard in all settings, including in judicial hearings; (b) the lack of systematic consultation of children in the process of making laws and policies affecting them at the national, regional or local levels, and the absence of more specific guidelines on children's participation in the development of future plans of action concerning children.	(2) para. 9: notes with appreciation the adoption of the 2004 Law on the Protection, Care and Education of Children, as well as the State party's efforts to harmonize the domestic legislation with the CRC; remains concerned that not all laws conform to the CRC, in particular as regards the definition of the child and juvenile justice, as well as about the slow pace of progress of the legal reform; also concerned about the inadequacies in the coherence of all child rights-related legislation, as well as about the inadequate resources allocated for the implementation of such legislation.	(2) para. 17: noting the increasing budget expenditure for education and health in recent years and recognizing the challenges the State party faces in the process of rapid socioeconomic development; remains concerned about the scarcity of resources allocated for children, as well as the disparities in the allocation for and spending on children, particularly in the areas of early childhood, child protection, education and health; also concerned about the lack of specific information on earmarked resources for children in the State party; aware of efforts made to combat corruption, it is still concerned at the high levels of corruption which reduce the funds available for the implementation of children's rights.	(1) para. 19: remains concerned at the absence of a central system of data collection covering all areas of the Convention, despite the State party's intent to introduce new regulations on data collection on children as envisaged in the amendment of the 2004 Law on the Protection, Care and Education of Children; expresses concern about the limited data available on the enjoyment of children's rights, notably disaggregated statistics on the social sector, child protection, children in street situations, children in situations of exploitation, and children in rural areas.	(2) para. 25: welcomes the progress achieved in fostering a civil society environment in the State party, including through the establishment of the Viet Nam Association for the Protection of Children's Rights in 2008, and notes the draft law on associations; remains concerned at the limited scope civil society is granted to monitor the fulfillment of children's rights in the State party; . further concerned about the lack of effective coordination and cooperation between civil society and governmental offices with respect to the fulfillment of child rights.

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193	Yemen 2014	(1) para. 29: concerned at the persistence of discriminatory social attitudes against categories of children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations, including children known as Muhamasheen children, children born out of wedlock and children with disabilities, all of which have a negative impact on the enjoyment of their rights ... deeply concerned at discrimination against girls from the earliest stages of their life and through their childhood owing to the persistence of traditional attitudes and norms by which girls are perceived as inferior to boys; para. 39: concerned at a discriminatory provision against children with disabilities contained in article 4 (b) of the Nationality Act No. 6 (1990), according to which one of the prerequisites for children born in the State party to foreign parents to acquire Yemeni nationality, once they have attained majority, is not to have a disability	(2) para. 31: notes the 2012 amendments proposed to the Child Rights Act in accordance with which the principle of the best interests of the child would be applied in all administrative and judicial proceedings, policies and programmes relating to children. However, it is concerned at the low level of awareness among professionals working with children that the best interests of the child are to be taken as the primary consideration in all areas affecting children, and at the persistence of norms and traditions that impede the application of the principle of the best interests of the child	(2) para. 35: notes as positive that the Children's Parliament has held its elections regularly since its establishment in 2004 ... expresses concern at the lack of adequate financial and technical support for holding the Children's Parliament sessions ... also concerned that children are generally not perceived as rights holders in Yemeni society and that their participation in the public sphere and opportunities to have their voices heard in decision-making processes are lacking at the policymaking level and in the family, schools and the community	(2) para. 9: welcomes the fact that recommendations made by working groups of the National Dialogue Conference include provisions guaranteeing children's rights, which are expected to be incorporated into the draft constitution. It also notes the comprehensive revision of 54 laws, bills and regulations related to children, which resulted in a package of draft amendments in line with the Convention and its Optional Protocol ... concerned that divergent views on the rights of the child within the Parliament, in particular on setting the age of majority and the minimum age of marriage at 18 years, risk delaying the adoption of the draft amendments	(2) para. 15: notes the information provided by the State party during the dialogue that a project was being developed to ensure budgetary allocations for children ... concerned at the lack of specific allocations for children in the social budget of the State party ... concerned at the reduction of financial allocations in the social sector, in particular health and education, compared to gross domestic product and public expenditure in the State party since the Committee last considered a report of the State party in 2005, and its negative impact on children	(2) para. 17: notes that the State party has developed a juvenile justice information system ... reiterates its concern at the lack of an adequate data collection mechanism allowing for the systematic and comprehensive collection of disaggregated data on all areas covered by the Convention and in relation to all groups of children; para. 53: notes the efforts of the State party to ensure the rights of children with disabilities through services provided by the Disability Fund for Care and Rehabilitation and the Social Fund for Development ... remains concerned about the lack of accurate disaggregated statistical data on children with disabilities	(2) para. 25: notes the efforts of the State party to strengthen its cooperation with civil society on issues related to children's rights ... regrets the scarcity of information received on the extent of the involvement of the civil society and children in the State party's reporting process
194	Zambia 2003	(2) para. 21: notes that the Constitution enshrines general provisions against discrimination (arts. 11 and 23), although it does not always apply to foreigners, and that further legislation and policies are not in line with the general principle of non-discrimination; concerned, however, that the principle of non-discrimination is not adequately implemented with respect to children belonging to the most vulnerable groups such as girls, children with disabilities, orphans, disadvantaged children, refugee children and children born out of wedlock.	(2) para. 24: notes that the principle of the best interests of the child is taken into consideration in various pieces of legislation, but remains concerned that it is not fully taken into consideration in domestic law; regrets that customary law and traditions are an impediment to the implementation of this principle.	(2) para. 26: notes with appreciation the information in the written replies that the Head of State is committed to the establishment of a Youth Parliament but remains concerned that traditional practices and attitudes still limit the full implementation of CRC art. 12, as illustrated, for example, by the information from the youth representative on the delegation that it is very difficult for children to talk with their parents about their rights.	(2) para. 5: notes the efforts undertaken by the State party to harmonize domestic legislation, including customary laws, with the CRC, notably through the activities of the Law Development Commission; remains concerned that domestic legislation still does not fully reflect the CRC principles and provisions and that, in particular, various customary laws are in opposition to the CRC in many respects.	(2) para. 15: aware of the economic and social challenges facing the State party, including high and increasing poverty levels as well as high debt payments and corruption, and welcomes in that regard the 2002 Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and the establishment of a task force to fight corruption; remains concerned that in the implementation of the PRSP, with its orientation on enhancing growth, not enough attention will be paid to CRC art. 4 which requires the allocation of budgets, at both the national and local levels, "to the maximum extent of ... available resources" for CRC implementation.	(2) para. 13: welcomes the disaggregated data provided by the State party, notably in its written replies, and the information imparted during the dialogue that the Central Statistics Bureau is restructuring its data collection system in accordance with a five-year strategic plan and that it will coordinate the statistical data collection; para. 38: lack of disaggregated data on AIDS orphans and placement in institutions; para. 44: lack of statistical data on violence and abuse; para. 52: lack of statistical data on children with disabilities .	NA

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195	Zimbabwe 1996	<p>(1) para. 12: notes with concern that the legislative measures taken to prevent and eliminate any form of discrimination in the light of CRC art. 2 are insufficient; notes in this regard that, according to section 23 of the Constitution, the principle of non-discrimination does not apply to private professionals or institutions; the same provision allows for derogations in important areas such as adoption, marriage, divorce and other matters of personal law and prevents, inter alia, girls from having inheritance rights. In addition, it allows for discrimination on the basis of race in relation to the minimum age for marriage, inheritance and children born out of wedlock; further notes in this regard the different minimum ages for marriage for girls and boys in the legislation.</p>	<p>(1) para. 16: further notes that insufficient attention has been paid to the principle of the best interests of the child both in legislation and practice;</p>	<p>(2) para. 3: notes steps taken to encourage children's participation, including by organizing a Children's Parliament and promoting Youth Councils and Child Mayors; para. 16: further notes that insufficient attention has been paid to the respect for the views of the child in school, social and family life; it is noted that, as recognized by the State party, the civil rights and freedoms of the child are to be exercised subject to parental consent or discipline, thus raising doubts as to the compatibility of this practice with the CRC notably articles 5 and 12.</p>	<p>(1) para. 11: concerned that the State party has not yet undertaken a comprehensive legal reform with a view to ensuring that the national legislation fully conforms to the CRC; notes that the existence of a dual system of common law and customary law creates additional difficulties in implementing the CRC and impedes effective monitoring of its enforcement.</p>	NA	<p>(1) para. 14: insufficient measures have been taken to gather reliable quantitative and qualitative data in all areas covered by the CRC and in relation to all groups of children, particularly those belonging to the most disadvantaged groups; para. 24: suggests that the system of data collection be improved and appropriate disaggregated indicators identified with a view to assessing the progress achieved in all areas covered by the CRC in all parts of the country and in relation to all groups of children.</p>	<p>(3) para. 5: encouraged by the combined efforts of the Government and NGOs to promote children's rights.</p>
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