

UN CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	14 May 1991	<p>CRC/C/ETH/CO/4-5</p> <p>3 June 2015</p> <p><a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2fCRC%2fCOC%2fETH%2f20797&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2fCRC%2fCOC%2fETH%2f20797&amp;Lang=en</a></p> <p><b>III. Main areas of concern and recommendations</b></p> <p><b>A. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44, para. 6, of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Allocation of resources</b></p> <p>12. The Committee, while welcoming the increasing budgetary allocations to the education and health sectors, regrets the lack of information and data relating to the budget specifically allocated to children belonging to the most vulnerable groups of society, including children of ethnic minorities and indigenous populations, children with disabilities, children in street situations, children affected by and/or infected with HIV/AIDS and children living in poverty in rural and remote areas.</p> <p>13. In the light of its day general discussion in 2007 on “Resources for the Rights of the Child – Responsibility of State”, the Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Ensure the allocation of adequate human, technical and financial resources in all areas affecting children, by paying particular attention to children belonging to vulnerable groups of the population and with the aim to eliminate regional disparities in the implementation of the Convention; and</li> <li>(b) Establish a clear, comprehensive and participatory budgeting process, with specific indicators and mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the adequacy and efficiency of the distribution processes.</li> </ul>

		<p><b>B. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12 of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Best interests of the child</b></p> <p>25. The Committee welcomes the efforts made by the State party to ensure that the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken into account as a primary consideration is respected through the development of training programmes and the establishment of child friendly benches and special investigation and prosecution teams. However, the Committee remains concerned that the best interests of the child are not adequately considered with respect to decisions concerning adoption and family reunification processes and legal proceedings, alternative care and early marriage.</p> <p><b>26. In light of its general comment No. 14 (2013) on the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration, the Committee recommends that the State party ensure that this right is appropriately integrated and consistently applied in all policies, programmes and projects that have an impact on children, as well as in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and decisions, in particular with respect to decisions concerning notably adoption and family reunification processes, alternative care.</b></p> <p><b>Respect for the views of the child</b></p> <p>31. While noting the positive steps taken by the State party to implement the principle of respect for the views of the child, such as the children parliaments and the child rights clubs, the Committee remains concerned that traditions and cultural attitudes continue to limit the full implementation of the right of the child to be heard. Furthermore, the Committee notes with concern that except for the specific provision in the Revised Family Code concerning the adoption process, there is no information on other legal provisions guaranteeing the respect of the right of the child to be heard in schools, judicial and administrative proceedings, alternative care settings, and in the family, and there is no reference to programmes and initiatives for children in vulnerable situations.</p>
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		<p><b>(b) Further develop programmes promoting positive forms of discipline, in the home, in schools, alternative care, and other institutions, by focusing particularly on children in vulnerable situations, including children with disabilities, children in street situations, children deprived of parental care, children living in poverty, children in conflict with law.</b></p> <p><b>Freedom of the child from all forms of violence</b></p> <p>45. While welcoming the positive steps taken by the State party to address the issue of child abuse and neglect, notably through the elaboration and implementation of training and educational programmes, the Committee is deeply concerned that violence against children still persists in the school, home and alternative care settings, and deeply regrets the absence of information on the number of investigations and prosecutions of such cases.</p> <p><b>46. In the light of its general comment No. 13 (2001) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence, the Committee recommends that the State party take urgent measures in order to:</b></p> <p><b>(a) Protect all children from all forms of physical and mental violence, in particular, girls, children with disabilities, refugee children, children living in street situations, in poverty, in rural and remote areas;</b></p> <p>...</p> <p><b>(f) Further strengthen the framework of prevention, physical and psychological rehabilitation and reintegration of child victims, notably through the establishment of specialized centres and shelters, and to ensure that adequate human, technical and financial resources are made available;</b></p> <p><b>F. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9-11, 18 (paras. 1 and 2), 20-21, 25 and 27 (para. 4))</b>  <b>Children deprived of a family environment</b></p> <p>49. While acknowledging the steps taken by the State party to address extreme poverty, particularly in rural and remote areas, and to establish a regulatory framework on alternative child care, the Committee remains deeply concerned at the significantly high number of children deprived of family environment and at the absence of a national strategy and action plan focusing on alternative family and community-based options for children deprived of a family environment. The Committee also regrets the absence of detailed statistical</p>
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		<p>information on children placed in different types of alternative child care, including community based care services, and particularly regarding children in vulnerable situations.</p> <p><b>50. Drawing the State party’s attention to the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children (General Assembly resolution 64/142, annex) of 20 December 2009, the Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) Support single-parent and vulnerable families and develop policies and tools for the purpose of reducing reliance on institutional care;</b></li> <li><b>(b) Elaborate and develop a comprehensive strategy on family and community-based alternative care for children deprived of family environment while giving due weight to the child’s best interests;</b></li> <li><b>(c) Ensure regular and systematic evaluation of placement of children in alternative care and the quality of the provided services, and establish accessible channels for reporting, monitoring and remedying maltreatment of children;</b></li> <li><b>(d) Provide adequate human, technical and financial resources to alternative care institutions and child protection services, in order to facilitate children’s rehabilitation and reintegration; and</b></li> <li><b>(e) Develop a disaggregated data collection system on children placed in alternative care institutions, as well as on children reunified with their family.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Adoption</b></p> <p>51. The Committee remains concerned at the lack of disaggregated statistical information on inter-country and domestic adoptions and the absence of an independent central authority competent to oversee child providers and adoption agencies, and to monitor and report on domestic and inter-country adoptions. Although the Committee notes the delegation’s comments that no adoptions have taken place of children while in utero, it is concerned about the provision of the Family Code which allows for the adoption of children who are “merely conceived”.</p> <p><b>52. The Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) Develop and implement a comprehensive framework on domestic and inter-country adoptions, by paying particular attention to the child’s best interests;</b></li> <li><b>(b) Ensure that the views of child are always heard and respected in adoption cases;</b></li> </ul>
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		<p>(c) Take appropriate measures in order to enhance the supervision and oversight of child providers and adoption agencies;</p> <p>(d) Encourage family and community-based domestic solutions instead of inter-country adoptions;</p> <p>(e) Repeal the provision of the Family Code which allows for the adoption of children who are “merely conceived;” and</p> <p>(f) Ratify the 1993 Hague Convention No. 33 on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Inter-country adoption.</p> <p><b>G. Disability, basic health and welfare (arts. 6, 18 (para. 3), 23, 24, 26, 27 (paras. 1-3) and 33)</b></p> <p><b>HIV/AIDS</b></p> <p>57. While commending the State party for its efforts to combat HIV/AIDS and particularly the mother to child transmission (PMTCT), through the expansion of HIV counselling and testing services and the development of awareness-raising programmes, including campaigns, the Committee remains concerned that HIV/AIDS still remains a major challenge, particularly in the urban areas and for children in vulnerable situations, including orphans, children in street situations, and children living in poverty and in single parent and child headed households. The Committee also regrets the absence of information concerning the allocation of resources to institutional structures mandated for the management of HIV/AIDS.</p> <p><b>58. In the light of its general comment No. 3 (2003) on HIV/AIDS and the rights of the child, the Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <p>...</p> <p><b>(b) Further develop and implement programmes and strategies to combat HIV/AIDS for specific categories of children, including girls, children in single parent households, orphans and children in street situations, who are most vulnerable to sexual exploitation and abuse;</b></p> <p><b>Adolescent health</b></p> <p>59. While welcoming the 2007 National Adolescent and Youth Reproductive Health Strategy, and the development of awareness-raising programmes, including campaigns, on adolescent health and drug and</p>
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		<p>alcohol consumption, the Committee regrets the absence of information on specific programmes targeting vulnerable adolescents and teenagers, particularly those in street situations, orphans, pregnant teenagers, and those living in poverty and in single-parent households. The Committee also regrets the insufficient available information on reproductive and mental health services for adolescents as well as institutional coordination in implementing and evaluating adolescent health programmes and policies.</p> <p><b>60. In the light of its general comment No.4 (2003) on adolescent health, the Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <p>...</p> <p><b>(b) Eliminate the barriers in terms of access to adequate mental and reproductive health services, by paying particular attention to vulnerable teenagers and adolescents, including pregnant teenagers and adolescent mothers, orphans, adolescents in street situations, living in poverty and in single parent households;</b></p> <p><b>I. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32-33, 35-36, 37 (b)-(d), 38, 39 and 40)</b></p> <p><b>Economic exploitation, including child labour</b></p> <p>63. The Committee welcomes the development of a National Plan of Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour 2010-2014 and 2013-15, and the establishment of a National Steering Committee on the worst forms of child labour. The Committee is nevertheless concerned about the persistent high prevalence of child labour, including its worst forms, the lack of disaggregated data on children engaged in the worst forms of child labour, and about the fact that the existing legal framework allows children above the age of 14 to be engaged in hazardous work, when this work is part of vocational training programmes. The Committee is also seriously concerned about the situation of child domestic workers, called seratenyas, of orphans and children in street situations, as well as of young girls moving to foreign countries and being economically exploited and abused.</p> <p><b>64. The Committee urges the State party to:</b></p> <p>...</p>
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		<p><b>(e) Further engage with international donors, agencies, civil society organizations and the business sector in order to combat child labour and economic exploitation, particularly for disadvantaged and marginalised children, girls, children in street situations, orphans, who are at risk of being engaged in worst forms of child labour.</b></p> <p><b>Children in street situations</b></p> <p>65. The Committee remains concerned at the high number of children living and/or working in streets, particularly in urban areas. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned at the absence of specific programmes with a view to facilitating access to education and healthcare for children in street situations, programmes for children in street situations with disabilities, girls and those living with HIV/AIDS, as well as at the lack of shelters and rehabilitation centres. The Committee notes with concern that the State party considers the involvement of children and youth in street situations in public construction activities as part of their rehabilitation and social reintegration.</p> <p><b>66. The Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>(a) Take measures to address the root causes of the phenomenon of children in street situations, notably by developing a comprehensive national strategy, and pay particular attention to the specific vulnerability of girls in street situations to sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as of children with disabilities and children living with HIV/AIDS;</b></li><li><b>(b) Elaborate and develop, with the full participation of NGOs and children themselves, a comprehensive and well-resourced policy and programmes offering effective alternatives to institutionalization, and facilitating the reunification of children with their families, whenever feasible and appropriate, taking into account the child's best interests;</b></li><li><b>(c) Establish centres for the protection, recovery and reintegration of children in street situations, and provide the adequate human, technical and financial resources in this regard; and</b></li><li><b>(d) Take measures in order to increase school enrolment of children in street situations, and to facilitate their access to quality health services, including reproductive health services. Refugee, asylum seeking and internally displaced children</b></li></ul>
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67. The Committee is concerned about the lack of security and protection of refugee, asylum seeking and internally displaced children from violence, exploitation and abuse within and outside the refugee camps. In this context, the Committee is seriously concerned about the reports of disappearances of refugee and asylum seeking children from the refugee camps, and about the living conditions in those camps. The Committee is further concerned that children of refugees are not registered at birth. The Committee also regrets the absence of information on the situation of internally displaced persons, particularly children, due to natural disasters, as well as of asylum seekers, particularly the Eritrean asylum seekers, including a large number of unaccompanied children.

**68. The Committee urges the State party to:**

- (a) Collect disaggregated data on refugee, asylum-seeking and internally displaced children, including unaccompanied and separated children;**
- (b) Enhance the security in refugee camps and ensure protection of all refugee children, particularly girls, against all forms of violence, including sexual violence, exploitation and trafficking, and establish appropriate mechanisms to report and investigate such cases, and to effectively prosecute the perpetrators;**
- (c) Urgently investigate reports of disappearances of children from the refugee camps, establish their whereabouts and prosecute those responsible for such crimes;**
- (d) Adopt targeted policies to promote the integration of refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, through the development of out-of-camp policies, and to elaborate and implement a comprehensive strategy for the protection of internally displaced persons;**
- (e) Withdraw its reservation to the 1951 Refugee Convention regarding primary education, and ratify the 1954 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 United Nations Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness; and**
- (f) Urgently improve the conditions in the refugee camps, particularly by providing adequate and quality nutrition, education and health services, including mental and reproductive health services;**
- (g) Ensure that children of refugees are registered at birth;**
- (h) Continue engaging with the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugee in this regard**

		CRC/C/ETH/4-5  23 December 2013  <a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fETH%2f4-5&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fETH%2f4-5&amp;Lang=en</a>
<b>OPSC to CRC</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	25 Mar 2014	
<b>OPAC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	14 May 2014	
<b>ICCPR</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	11 Jun 1993	
<b>ICESCR</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	11 Jun 1993	
<b>CEDAW</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	10 Sep 1981	
<b>CRPD</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	7 Jul 2010	CRPD/C/ETH/CO/1  4 November 2016

		<p><a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fETH%2fCO%2f1&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fETH%2fCO%2f1&amp;Lang=en</a></p> <p><b>III. Principal areas of concern and recommendations</b></p> <p><b>B. Specific rights (arts. 5-30)</b></p> <p><b>Children with disabilities (art. 7)</b></p> <p>15. The Committee is concerned about the lack of specific legislation to address and ensure the protection of the rights of children with disabilities against abandonment, neglect, mistreatment and corporal punishment in all aspects of life.</p> <p><b>16. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt and implement specific legislation to address the protection of children with disabilities against abandonment, neglect and mistreatment, including through the support of parents of children with disabilities. It also urges the State party to abolish, in law and in practice, corporal punishment against children with disabilities in all spheres.</b></p> <p><b>Liberty and security of the person (art. 14)</b></p> <p>31. The Committee is concerned that forced detention on the basis of impairment is allowed. The Committee is concerned that the legislation of the State party allows for persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities to be declared unfit to stand trial, without due process of law. It is also concerned that persons with disabilities who are declared to be unfit to stand trial are subjected to security measures and, on that account, deprived of their liberty without a time limitation.</p> <p><b>32. The Committee recommends that the State party repeal laws permitting deprivation of liberty on the basis of impairment and draft new legislation that prohibits that practice. It also recommends that the State party repeal those laws that allow for persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities to be declared unfit to stand trial, and that it allow that such persons benefit from due process of law</b></p>
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		<p>guarantees. Likewise, security measures cannot be applied to carry out the deprivation of liberty without proof of guilt. The Committee refers the State party to its guidelines on article 14.</p> <p><b>Respect for the home and family (art. 23)</b></p> <p>49. The Committee is concerned that legislation of the State party entails discrimination on the basis of disability regarding the rights of the family, namely, articles 34, 51 and 220 of the Family Code. The Committee notes with concern the inadequate availability of community-based support for families with children with disabilities and also for parents with disabilities.</p> <p>50. The Committee recommends that the State party repeal the provisions of the Family Code that entail discrimination on the basis of disability, such as articles 34, 51 and 220 and other legislation based on negative stereotypes of persons with disabilities regarding family life. It also recommends that the State party ensure the availability of community-based support for parents with disabilities and families with children with disabilities to guarantee enjoyment of the right to family on an equal basis with others.</p>
UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	6 May 2015	<a href="http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/ETSession19.aspx">http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/ETSession19.aspx</a>
Hague Inter-country Adoption	Accession Date	Link to Country Profile
		N/A

**Acronyms and Abbreviations:**

CEDAW      Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women  
 CRC        Convention on the Rights of the Child/Committee on the Rights of the Child

CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OPAC to CRC	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
OPSC to CRC	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
UN	United Nations
UPR	Universal Periodic Review