

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	<p>26 Oct 1993</p>	<p>CRC/C/VCT/CO/2-3</p> <p>3 Feb 2017</p> <p>http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fVCT%2fCO%2f2-3&Lang=en</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Country Report</p> <p>CRC/C/VCT/CO/2-3</p> <p>http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fVCT%2fCO%2f2-3&Lang=en</p> <p>II. Follow-up measures taken and progress achieved by the State party</p> <p>3. The Committee welcomes the progress achieved by the State party in various areas, including the ratification of or accession to international instruments, in particular the accession of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in 2005 and the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict in 2011, as well as the adoption and amendment of a number of new legislative acts and institutional and policy measures related to children’s rights since its last review, including the proclamation of the Status of Children Act (2011) and the Children (Care and Adoption) Act (2010). It also welcomes the establishment of the National Child Rights Committee as well as the improved birth registration system which now allows timely and universal birth registration. It commends the fact that the State party has maintained its level of basic services and reduced poverty despite the impact of the global economic crisis and a series of natural disasters.</p> <p>Legislation</p> <p>5. The Committee notes that some progress has been made to harmonize the State party’s legislation with the Convention, including the proclamation of the Children (Care and Adoption) Act (2010) in 2015. However, it is concerned that the process has been slow and several pieces of key legislation relevant to children are not yet fully in line with the Convention, including the Status of Children Act (2011).</p>

		<p>Corporal punishment</p> <p>(a) Explicitly prohibit through legislative and administrative provisions the use of corporal punishment in all settings, namely in schools, child care institutions, including early childhood care institutions, alternative care settings, in the home and in the administration of justice;</p> <p>(b) Sensitize parents, professionals working with children and the public in general to the harm caused by corporal punishment and promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline;</p> <p>E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9-11, 18 (1) and (2), 20-21, 25 and 27 (4))</p> <p>Family environment</p> <p>38. The Committee is concerned that:</p> <p>(a) A large number of families are headed by female single parents, fathers often fail to provide maintenance and other support and there is no effective mechanism for recovery of child maintenance beyond the CARICOM region;</p> <p>(b) The Maintenance Act obliges parents to provide maintenance for their child only up to 16 years of age;</p> <p>(c) Many children are left behind by parent(s) migrating abroad in the care of extended family or other persons.</p> <p>39. The Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <p>(a) Strengthen its efforts to secure child maintenance payments in adequate amounts and extend the obligation of parents to provide maintenance to children up to the age of 18;</p> <p>(b) Undertake a comprehensive study on all aspects of migration’s impact on children in the country and the role of child protection and social protection systems in providing services for children affected by migration;</p> <p>(c) Take all necessary measures to ensure the recovery of maintenance from abroad, including the countries outside of the CARICOM region, by entering into bilateral agreements with the major States of employment of Vincentian migrant workers;</p> <p>(d) Consider ratifying the Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance, the Hague Protocol of 23 November 2007 on the Law</p>
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	<p>Applicable to Maintenance Obligations and the Hague Convention of 19 October 1996 on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children.</p> <p>Children deprived of a family environment</p> <p>40. The Committee is concerned that the current number of social workers and other human resources are insufficient for the implementation of the newly proclaimed Children (Care and Adoption) Act (2010).</p> <p>41. The Committee recommends that the State party take measures to secure the sufficient number of social workers and other personnel for the full and effective implementation of the Children (Care and Adoption) Act (2010).</p> <p>Adoption</p> <p>42. The Committee recommends that the State party consider ratifying the 1993 Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption.</p> <p>F. Disability, basic health and welfare (arts. 6, 18 (3), 23, 24, 26, 27 (1)-(3) and 33)</p> <p>Children with disabilities</p> <p>43. The Committee is concerned that:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(d) The Immigration Restriction Act uses derogatory terminology on persons with disabilities, and foreign children with disabilities may be denied entry into the country State party on the ground of their disabilities, including in case of family reunification.</p> <p>H. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32-33, 35-36, 37 (b)-(d), 38, 39 and 40)</p> <p>Asylum-seeking and refugee children</p> <p>57. The Committee notes the State party's cooperation with the UNHCR on temporary acceptance of asylum-seekers and refugees, as well as in Caribbean regional level collaboration on the responses to the mixed migration flow. The Committee also notes that there has been no official record of refugee children in the State party. However, it is</p>
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		<p>concerned that the State party has not adopted national asylum and refugee legislation nor an effective refugee status determination mechanism and treats asylum-seekers and refugees as migrants.</p> <p>58. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt national legislation and procedures on asylum and refugee status in line with the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees which the State party ratified.</p> <p>Children in street situations</p> <p>61. The Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <p>(a) Update the study conducted in 2008 and regularly collect disaggregated data on children in street situations, and based on the study and data collected, develop a national strategy for recovery and reintegration measures as well as support to families and communities and for preventing children from living and working in the street;</p> <p>(b) Take all necessary measures to ensure that children in street situations are provided with care, adequate food, clothing, health care and educational opportunities;</p> <p>(c) Ensure that interventions made for and support provided to children in street situations, including reintegration with family or placement in alternative care, are provided with full respect for the child’s best interests and giving due weight to their autonomous views in accordance with their age and maturity.</p>
OPSC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	15 Sep 2005	
OPAC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	29 Mar 2011	
ICCPR	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	09 Nov 1981	

ICESCR	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	09 Nov 1981	
CEDAW	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	04 Aug 1981	
CRPD	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	29 Oct 2010	
UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	2 May 2016	http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/VCSession25.aspx
Hague Intercountry Adoption	Accession Date	Link to Country Profile
Connected State	n/a	https://www.hcch.net/en/states/other-connected-states/details2/?sid=124

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