

UN CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	<p>22 Sept 1995</p>	<p>CRC/C/TUV/CO/2-5 31 March 2020</p> <p>https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fTUV%2fCO%2f2-5&Lang=en</p> <p>III. Main areas of concern and recommendations</p> <p>C. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12)</p> <p>Best interests of the child</p> <p>18. While welcoming the recognition of the principle of the best interests of the child in the Labour and Employment Relations Act 2017 and the child welfare and protection bill, the Committee is concerned that this principle is not sufficiently incorporated into all legislation, policies and programmes that are relevant to and have an impact on children, and is not fully implemented in decisions affecting children, including in the family, schools, the community and administrative and judicial proceedings.</p> <p>19. Recalling 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The principle of the best interests of the child is incorporated in all legislation, policies, programmes and projects that are relevant to and have an impact on children; (b) The right of the child to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration is fully respected in the family, schools, the community and administrative and judicial proceedings, and

		<p>that procedures and criteria are developed in order to ensure that the best interests of the child are properly assessed when a decision with regard to a child is made.</p> <p>Respect for the views of the child</p> <p>20. While noting the policy measures taken to provide the youth with opportunities to express their views on issues that affect them, the Committee is concerned that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Children cannot participate in the Falekaupule meetings where decisions relating to education and health are made;(b) Owing to traditional customs that hinder respect for the views of the child, children remain excluded from decision-making processes that affect them, including in the family, community and schools. <p>21. With reference to its general comment No. 12 (2009) on the right of the child to be heard, the Committee recalls its previous concluding observations (CRC/C/TUV/CO/1, para. 28) and recommends that the State party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Ensure that children’s views are not disregarded because of traditional customs, but rather given due consideration in all matters affecting them, including those relating to education and health;(b) Ensure respect for the views of the child within the family, community and schools, as well as in the courts and all relevant administrative and other processes concerning them through, among others, adopting appropriate legislation, training professionals working with and for children, and raising the awareness of the public, especially traditional, religious and community leaders and parents. <p>E. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24 (3), 28 (2), 34, 37 (a) and 39)</p>
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		<p>Abuse and neglect</p> <p>29. The Committee welcomes the enactment of the Family Protection and Domestic Violence Act 2014 that provides for child protection measures for all children under 18 years of age. It is concerned, however, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) The lack of comprehensive data on cases of abuse and neglect of children, including domestic violence, despite its reportedly high prevalence in the State party;(b) The absence of effective mechanisms and clear reporting procedures in response to cases of abuse and neglect;(c) The lack of specialized social, psychological, medical and legal support and services for the rehabilitation and reintegration of child victims;(d) The insufficient capacity of law enforcement and judicial officials on handling cases of abuse and neglect of children, including domestic violence. <p>30. With reference to its general comment No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence and taking note of target 16.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Develop a comprehensive policy and strategy for preventing and combating child abuse and neglect, including domestic violence, that includes awareness-raising and education programmes and campaigns;(b) Collect data on child victims of abuse and neglect, including domestic violence, in the State party and undertake a comprehensive assessment of the extent, causes and nature of such violence;
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OPSC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	N/A	
OPAC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	N/A	
ICCPR	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	N/A	
ICESCR	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	N/A	
CEDAW	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	6 October 1999	
CRPD	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	18 December 2013	
UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	9 May 2018	https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/TVIndex.aspx

Hague Intercountry Adoption	Ratification Date	Link to Country Profile
	N/A	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