

UN CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	8 May 1991	CRC/C/LAO/CO/3-6
		11 October 2018
		https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fLAO%2 fCO%2f3-6⟪=en
		III. Main areas of concern and recommendations
		A. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44 (6))
		Allocation of resources
		8. While the Committee welcomes the information that investment in the social sector has increased during the reporting period, it notes that the State party still falls short of the objective of 9 percent spending in the health sector, as decided by the National Assembly, and the minimum of 17 percent spending in the education sector, set in the Education Law. With reference to its General comment No. 19 (2016) on public budgeting for the realization of children's rights, the Committee recalls its previous recommendations (see CRC/C/LAO/CO/2 para. 17), and recommends that the State party:
		(b) Strengthen capacities to mainstream child care and protection issues into national and local planning and budgeting;



Data collection
9. While the Committee welcomes that statistics centres have been established in all provinces and districts in the State party, it however regrets that no progress has been made towards the establishment of a national central database. With reference to its general comment No. 5 (2003) on general measures of implementation, the Committee recommends that the State party:
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(c) Conduct more in-depth research where information is lacking, in particular on children with disabilities, commercial sexual exploitation of children, children in detention and children without parental care;
B. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12)
Respect for the views of the child
18. While welcoming the increasing number of forums where children can make their voices heard, the Committee is concerned that not all children in the State party have the same opportunities to participate in public life, and that while the Law on Juvenile Criminal Procedures stipulates that children have the right to participate in legal proceedings, this is not always followed in practice. With reference to its general comment No. 12 (2009) on the right of the child to be heard, the Committee recommends that the State party:
 (c) Carry out adequate and systematic training of all professional groups working with and for children, including law enforcement officials, teachers, health personnel, social workers and personnel of childcare institutions.



F. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9-11, 18 (1) and (2), 20-21, 25 and 27 (4))
Family environment
25. While welcoming the development of the Child Protection Networks, the Committee reminds the State party that the networks perform important community tasks and should be staffed with properly trained personnel and not just with volunteers, and should not substitute essential government institutions related to protecting children. Recalling its previous recommendation, (see CRC/C/LAO/CO/2 para. 42) the Committee recommends that the State party, while continuing to support the Child Protection Networks, at the same time expand its own assistance to families, with particular focus on families in situations of poverty or living in remote areas.
Children deprived of a family environment
 26. While the Committee welcomes the steps taken by the State party to develop a legal and regulatory framework in line with the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children (General Assembly resolution 64/142, annex), it remains concerned that: (a) The guidelines on children left without parental care have not yet been formally adopted, and personnel working with neglected children or children left without parental care have not been informed of or received training on the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children;
 (b) Children without parental care are increasingly being placed in residential care; (c) A system of monitoring of children's placement with the extended family and residential care is lacking in the State party;
(d) The child's right to be heard is not adequately taken into consideration when placing a child with extended family members, residential care or in "pagodas";
(e) The State Party did not fully address the previous recommendations by the Committee with respect to children in "pagodas", in particular with respect to the absence of a monitoring mechanism and the child's right to maintain contact with his/her family.
27. The Committee recommends that the State party:



 (a) Speed up the adoption of the guidelines on children left without parental care; (b) Ensure that residential care is used as a measure of last resort; (c) Ensure systematic periodic review of the quality of care and regular training of relevant professionals, including on children's rights, while taking into account the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children (General Assembly resolution 64/142, annex); (d) Ensure that the child's right to be heard is guaranteed during the placement in alternative care process, that he/she is able to maintain contact with his/her family, and establish a monitoring mechanism and periodic review of the decision to place a child in alternative care. The same rights should apply to children in "pagodas".
Adoption
28. Noting the low awareness of the 2014 Adoption Decree, the Committee recommends that the State party conduct awareness raising activities among relevant stakeholders on the Adoption Decree and ensure that clear and transparent adoption procedures prevent violation of the rights of children placed for adoption and particularly any possibility of using adoption for the purpose of the sale of children. Also, taking into account an increase in inter-country adoptions, the Committee recommends that the State party consider acceding to the 1993 Hague Convention No. 33 on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Inter-country Adoption.
I. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32-33, 35-36, 37 (b)-(d), 38, 39 and 40)
Children in migration
40. The Committee is concerned about the challenges to children's rights caused by the increasing migration, especially among ASEAN countries. With reference to the joint general comments No. 3 and No. 4 (2017) of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their



		Families / No. 22 and No. 23 (2017) of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the human rights of children in the context of international migration, the Committee recommends that the State party:
		 (d) Advocate for the development of a unified ASEAN policy on issues regarding migrant workers, refugees, stateless persons and unaccompanied and separated children.
		Country Report CRC/C/LAO/3-6
		25 October 2017
		https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fLAO%2 f3-6⟪=en
OPSC to CRC	Accession	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
	20 Sep 2006	
OPAC to CRC	Accession	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date 20 Sep 2006	
	-	
ICCPR	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
	25 Sep 2009	Come Deleted Concluding Observations
ICESCR	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	



	13 Feb 2007	
CEDAW	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
	14 Aug 1981	
CRPD	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
	25 Sep 2009	
UPR	Date of	Link to Page
	Consideration	
	20 Jan 2015	https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/LAIndex.aspx
Hague Intercountry	Ratification	Link to Country Profile
Adoption	Date	
	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
- ICCRP 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