

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	10 Mar 1992	<p>CRC/C/LSO/CO/2</p> <p>25 June 2018</p> <p>https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fLSO%2fCO%2f2&Lang=en</p> <p>III. Main areas of concern and recommendations</p> <p>A. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44 (6))</p> <p>Legislation</p> <p>5. The Committee notes the legislative measures taken to implement the Convention, namely the adoption of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, the Education Act and the comprehensive Child Protection and Welfare Act (CPWA), as well as the ongoing law reform process that included a review of CPWA as part of the draft CPWA Amendment Bill (2018). However, the Committee is concerned that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) There are still no regulations for the implementation of CPWA; (b) There has been limited consultation with stakeholders and children regarding the drafting of the CPWA Amendment Bill. <p>6. The Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Put into place structures, mechanisms and/or systems to institutionalize the effective implementation of the Convention through related national laws and policies; (b) Adopt the CPWA Amendment Bill through a consultative and participatory process involving civil society organizations and children, along with regulations for the implementation of CPWA and allocate adequate human and financial resources for its implementation.

		<p>Comprehensive policy and strategy</p> <p>7. The Committee notes the Multisectoral Child Protection Strategy (2014–2018) and the review of the expired National Strategic Plan for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (NSPVC) (2012–2017). However, the Committee is concerned that several policies and frameworks have expired already and that none of them have yet to be renewed.</p> <p>8. The Committee recommends that the State party evaluate the expired childrelated policies and adopt renewed policies, such as NSPVC, on the basis of the evaluations, and allocate appropriate human, technical and financial resources for their implementation.</p> <p>Coordination</p> <p>9. The Committee notes the establishment of the Directorate of Child Protection Services and the National Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Coordinating Committee. However, it is concerned that there is no formal or statutory coordinating mechanism for all children’s issues under the Convention. It is also concerned that 4 out of 9 positions on the Coordinating Committee were vacant owing to budgetary constraints.</p> <p>10. The Committee recommends that the State party establish a formal or statutory coordinating system that is integrated, cost-effective and affordable, as well as an evaluation and monitoring mechanism, for all children and all areas of the Convention, and allocate the human, technical and financial resources necessary for its effective operation, including through filling the vacant posts.</p> <p>C. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12)</p> <p>Best interests of the child</p> <p>19. While welcoming that the principle of the best interests of the child is incorporated into national legislation, including CPWA, and with reference to 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</p>
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		<p>the State party strengthen its efforts to ensure that this right is appropriately integrated and consistently interpreted and applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and decisions, as well as in all policies, programmes and projects that are relevant to and have an impact on children, including alternative care and adoption procedures.</p> <p>Respect for the views of the child</p> <p>22. The Committee welcomes that the State party provided a budget for the Children’s Parliament for the year 2018/19. However, the Committee is concerned that the participation of children is still limited by cultural practices and that, despite legal protection, children’s opinions are not always taken into account in children’s courts.</p> <p>23. 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 ensure continuous funding and support for the Children’s Parliament as a platform for the meaningful participation of children. The State party should also ensure that children’s views are given due consideration in the family, in the community, at schools, and in all legal and administrative decision-making process relevant to them, in particular in court proceedings concerning them, through awareness-raising activities at both the national and community levels on the participation of children and through the training of associated professionals.</p> <p>D. Civil rights and freedoms (arts. 7, 8 and 13–17)</p> <p>Birth registration and nationality</p> <p>24. The Committee notes the creation of one-stop shops that provide birth registration services and the provision of space for birth registration in community council facilities since March 2018, mobile registration and citizenship centres, as well as the efforts of the Government jointly with other stakeholders to increase awareness of birth registration. However, the Committee remains concerned about:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(c) Foundlings, who appear to have been born in the State party, not being provided with citizenship even if they would otherwise be stateless;</p>
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		<p>(g) Provide alternative care for child victims where necessary and support non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that provide such services;</p> <p>...</p> <p>F. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9–11, 18 (1) and (2), 20, 21, 25 and 27 (4))</p> <p>Children deprived of a family environment</p> <p>35. The Committee notes the adoption of policies and guidelines, including the Standards of Care for Residential Care Facilities (2011), the Foster Care and Adoption Policy (2012), and the policy on the establishment of safe houses and shelters for abused children. However, the Committee is concerned that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Many orphans live in informal kinship care without legal recognition;(b) The State party relies on NGO/private-run childcare services and facilities that are inadequately supported and monitored;(c) Many children are placed in alternative care facilities without court orders, despite the legal requirement to do so;(d) There is inadequate data on children in informal foster care and residential care. <p>36. Drawing the State party's attention to the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children (see General Assembly resolution 64/142, annex), the Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Establish a system for recognizing informal kinship care that does not overburden the formal system, by ensuring strengthened community-based care and protection services;(b) Provide sufficient financial and other support to existing NGO/private-run alternative care centres for children, and ensure registration and quality assurance by requiring compliance with prescribed minimum standards;(c) Ensure that the placement of children in alternative care centres is done only by court order;(d) Establish and maintain a comprehensive and functional database on the number of children in alternative care centres and in kinship care;(e) Seek technical assistance in implementing these recommendations through regional and international cooperation.
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OPSC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	24 Sep 2003	
OPAC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	24 Sep 2003	
ICCPR	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	9 Sep 1992	
ICESCR	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	9 Sep 1992	
CEDAW	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	22 Aug 1995	
CRPD	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	2 Dec 2008	

UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	21 Jan 2015	https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/LSIndex.aspx
Hague Inter-country Adoption	Accession Date	Link to Country Profile
	24 Aug 2012	https://www.hcch.net/en/states/other-connected-states/details2/?sid=106

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