

UN CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	26 July 1990	<p>CRC/C/MUS/CO/3-5 4 February 2015</p> <p>http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fMUS%2fCO%2f3-5&Lang=en</p> <p>III. Main areas of concern and recommendations</p> <p>A. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44, para. 6)</p> <p>Comprehensive policy and strategy</p> <p>11. While welcoming the National Child Protection Strategy and its Action Plan and noting the National Human Rights Action Plan 2012-2020, the Committee is concerned that the National Child Protection Strategy does not integrate all the provisions of the Convention, and that the Action Plan is not properly implemented.</p> <p>12. The Committee recommends that the State party take measures for the National Child Protection Strategy and its Action Plan to cover all areas under the Convention, including measures concerning children deprived of their family and child victims of trafficking and prostitution, and that it effectively implement the National Human Rights Action Plan 2012-2020, and ensure monitoring of its implementation.</p> <p>C. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12)</p> <p>Non-discrimination</p> <p>27. While noting the establishment of the Equal Opportunities Act, the Committee is concerned that discrimination prevails notably in the form of obstacles in accessing and enjoying the various services and facilities, particularly with regard to children from disadvantaged and marginalised families, including street children, children who are affected and/or infected by HIV/AIDS, children using drugs, children deprived of their family environment, children with disabilities and minor offenders.</p>

		<p>28. The Committee recommends that the State party take all necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including by incorporating a general prohibition of direct and indirect discrimination in the Children’s Bill and putting in place relevant policies and mechanisms to be effectively implemented in order to eliminate discrimination such as training for public officers. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that the State party integrate principle of non-discrimination into education curricula, and increase the visibility and effectiveness of the complaints mechanisms of the Equal Opportunities Commission.</p> <p>E. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24, para. 3, 28, para. 2, 34, 37 (a) and 39)</p> <p>Corporal punishment</p> <p>37. The Committee is concerned that corporal punishment is applied in general as part of the school culture even though it is prohibited through the Education Regulations of 1957 and that corporal punishment is not explicitly prohibited by law in all settings, including in the home and alternative care settings as well as in the penal system.</p> <p>38. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that its legislation including the Children’s Act explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings. The Committee also urges the State party to promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline. The State party is also encouraged to establish a clear reporting system of incidents of corporal punishment, notably in schools.</p> <p>Child abuse, violence and neglect</p> <p>39. The Committee notes the State party’s efforts in terms of child protection, emergency protective services, alternative care and prevention of sexual exploitation of children. However, it is concerned about the high prevalence of violence against children in the State party, evidenced by more than 6000 cases of children victims of violence, ill- treatment and sexual abuse which have been reported to the Child Development Unit of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare. The Committee is also concerned about the inadequate staffing of the Child Development Unit to effectively deal with the cases of child abuse, violence and neglect of children.</p> <p>40. The Committee recommends that the State party formulate a comprehensive strategy for preventing and combating child abuse, violence and neglect, and in particular that it:</p>
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		<p>(a) Take further measures to prevent the high incidence of abuse, violence and neglect of children, notably by strengthening awareness-raising, community-based and education programmes with the involvement of children, former victims, volunteers and community members;</p> <p>(b) Ensure effective investigation of complaints and bring those responsible to justice;</p> <p>(c) Establish a national database on all cases of domestic violence against children, and undertake a comprehensive assessment of the extent, causes and nature of such violence;</p> <p>(d) Ensure the allocation of adequate human, technical and financial resources to the Child Development Unit and adequately train its personnel to enable it to implement long-term programmes for addressing the root causes of violence and abuse and provide protection to child victims.</p> <p>F. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9-11, 18 (paras. 1 and 2), 20-21, 25 and 27 (para. 4))</p> <p>Children deprived of a family environment</p> <p>43. While noting the efforts of the State party to improve the alternative care system, the Committee is concerned that institutionalization, in particular of children under the age of 3 years, is used more often than family-based care and that foster care is inadequately professionalized. The Committee is also concerned about:</p> <p>(a) The lack of a national strategy and programmes implemented to support parents and families to fulfil their child-rearing obligations and the lack of family counselling and parenting programmes, which increase the risk of neglect, maltreatment and abuse of children within the family;</p> <p>(b) The lack of disaggregated data on children in need and on those provided with services and in different forms of alternative care;</p> <p>(c) The lack of information on the assessment, selection, training, remuneration and supervision of foster parents and kinship caregivers, review procedures for children in care, as well as</p>
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		<p>accreditation, minimum requirements for and supervision of children’s homes, and a complaint mechanism for children in public care, including State and private, NGO or church run facilities.</p> <p>44. Recalling the United Nations Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children (A/RES/64/142), the Committee emphasizes that financial and material poverty or conditions directly attributable to it should not be the sole justification for removing a child from parental care. The Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Establish adequate support services for parents, as well as adopt and implement awareness-raising and training programmes on parenting skills, including on alternatives to corporal punishment;(b) Support and facilitate family-based care for children wherever possible, and for children in single-parent families, and establish a system of professionalized foster care for children who cannot stay with their families, with a view to avoiding placement of children under the age of 3 in institutions, and reducing the institutionalization of children in general;(c) Ensure adequate safeguards and clear criteria, based on the needs as well as best interests of the child, for determining whether a child should be placed in alternative care;(d) Ensure independent and periodic review of the placement of children in foster care and institutions, and monitor the quality of care in Residential Care Institutions, including by providing accessible channels for reporting, monitoring and remedying maltreatment and abuse of children;(e) Collect disaggregated data on children in need, on those provided with services and in various forms of alternative care, on support services for parents and kinship caregivers, on abandonment, neglect and abuse of children, and on measures adopted, other than legislation;(f) Ensure that adequate human, technical and financial resources are allocated in priority to develop foster and community based alternatives to institutionalization and to relevant child protection services, in order to facilitate the quality of rehabilitation and social reintegration of children resident therein to the greatest extent possible, including through adequate psychological, psychiatric and social support.
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		<p>Committee also recommends that the State party ensure that incarcerated parents are guaranteed systematic contact with their children and the Children Development Unit, including in the cases of adoption, and that children of incarcerated parents who do not reside in institutional care are provided with sufficient psychological treatment and social support.</p> <p>G. Disability, basic health and welfare (arts. 6, 18 (para. 3), 23, 24, 26, 27 (paras. 1-3) and 33)</p> <p>Children with disabilities</p> <p>49. The Committee welcomes the codification of the Mauritian sign language, including a dictionary of such language, and the development of a database on disability. The Committee is however concerned that the State party continues to apply the medical model of disability which consists in integrating children with disabilities instead of engaging in the elimination of the physical, socio-economic and cultural barriers that prevent the full inclusion of children with disability in schools and society and the full enjoyment of their rights. The Committee is particularly concerned that:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(e) Children with disabilities who are placed in shelters because they are abandoned, orphaned and homeless often do not receive special care or psychological support;</p> <p>50. In the light of article 23 of the Convention and of its general comment No. 9 (2006) on the rights of children with disabilities, the Committee urges the State party to adopt a human rights-based approach to disability and specifically recommends that it:</p> <p>(a) Set up comprehensive measures to develop inclusive education and ensure that inclusive education is given priority over the placement of children in specialized institutions and classes. To this effect, the Committee urges the State party to urgently remove children with disabilities who had been placed in the “Centres de sauvegarde”;</p> <p>...</p> <p>(e) Ensure that children with disabilities who are placed in shelters because they are abandoned, orphaned and homeless receive special care or psychological support by adequately trained personnel.</p>
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		<p>(b) Develop initiatives that offer effective alternatives to institutionalization and facilitate the reunification of children in street situation with their families, whenever feasible and appropriate, taking into account the best interests of the child. In this context, the Committee recommends that the State party develop programmes that support their long-term educational and developmental needs, including through psychological support where possible;</p>
		Country Report
		<p>CRC/C/MUS/3-5</p> <p>http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fMUS%2f3-5&Lang=en</p>
OPSC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	14 June 2011	
OPAC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	12 Feb 2009	
ICCPR	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	12 Dec 1973	
ICESCR	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	12 Dec 1973	
CEDAW	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	9 July 1984	

CRPD	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRPD/C/MUS/CO/1	8 Jan 2010	<p>30 September 2015</p> <p>http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fMUS%2fCO%2f1&Lang=en</p> <p>III. Principal areas of concern and recommendations</p> <p>B. Specific rights (arts. 5-30)</p> <p>Children with disabilities (art. 7)</p> <p>13. The Committee shares the concern expressed by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (see CRC/C/MUS/CO/3-5, para. 49) that the State party gives precedence to an integrative approach instead of eliminating the physical, socioeconomic and cultural barriers that prevent their full inclusion in schools and in society. The Committee is also concerned about the overreliance of the State party on non-governmental organizations to provide specialized services to children with disabilities without the necessary support, monitoring and regulatory guidance for these organizations; the insufficient measures to prevent the placement of children with disabilities in “centres de sauvegarde” (“abris des enfants en détresse”) and the rejection and stigmatization faced by these children.</p> <p>14. The Committee recommends that the State party take effective measures to ensure the provision of quality inclusive services for boys and girls with disabilities both in the public and private sectors, in compliance with the Convention, and allocate the necessary resources to these services. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that the State party ensure that non-governmental organization-run programmes be regulated and closely supervised and that staff of such organizations undergo specific monitoring. The Committee also recommends that the State party amend the national children’s policy and the national child protection strategy with a view to incorporating targeted measures for children with disabilities to enjoy their rights on an equal basis with other children.</p>

		<p>Liberty and security of the person (art. 14)</p> <p>25. The Committee is concerned that the legislation of the State party provides for the involuntary hospitalization and institutionalization of persons with disabilities, including children, on the basis of their impairments or because they are deemed to represent a danger to themselves and to society, and that no data is available in this respect.</p> <p>26. The Committee recommends that the State party amend legislation to prohibit involuntary placement and promote alternative measures in line with the Convention.</p> <p>Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse (art. 16)</p> <p>27. The Committee is concerned that limited measures have been taken to prevent and combat violence and abuse against persons with disabilities, especially sexual abuse of children with disabilities, including within the family. The Committee is also concerned about reports indicating the abuse and neglect of boys and girls placed in some nongovernmental organization-run institutions. The Committee is further concerned that persons with disabilities who are subjected of violence, especially boys and girls, receive hardly any help to escape abusive situations and that the abuse does not lead to prosecution.</p> <p>28. The Committee urges the State party to take urgent measures to prevent violence against women, men, girls and boys with disabilities, to protect those who are subjected to violence and to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice. The State party should, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Provide fully funded, accessible helplines and shelters for persons with disabilities who experience violence, whether inside or outside the home;(b) Provide specific training for all respective personnel to detect and report violence against persons with disabilities;(c) Ensure that persons with disabilities who are subjected to violence have access to effective remedies and receive all the necessary support for their mental and physical recovery. <p>Protecting the integrity of the person (art. 17)</p>
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UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	23 Oct 2013	http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/MUSession17.aspx
Hague Inter-country Adoption	Accession Date	Link to Country Profile
	28 Sept 1998	http://www.hcch.net/index_en.php?act=states.details&sid=111

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