

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	12 Dec 1990	<p>CRC/C/PAN/CO/5-6</p> <p>28 February 2018</p> <p><a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fPAN%2fCO%2f5-6&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fPAN%2fCO%2f5-6&amp;Lang=en</a></p> <p><b>III. Main areas of concern and recommendations</b></p> <p><b>B. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12)</b></p> <p><b>Non-discrimination</b></p> <p>16. The Committee recalls its previous concluding observations (see CRC/C/PAN/CO/3-4, para. 34) and recommends, in line with its general comment No. 20 (2016) on the implementation of the rights of the child during adolescence, that the State party allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources for the implementation of the inter-agency strategic plan for young people 2015–2019, disseminate this plan, and reinforce measures to:</p> <p>(e) Raise awareness of the fact that adolescents are rights holders, including through campaigns that are designed with the full participation of adolescents and are disseminated through the mass media. Focus especially on children and adolescents from Afro-Panamanian and indigenous communities, pregnant girls, children with disabilities, children with HIV/AIDS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex children, refugee and asylum-seeking children and other groups of children in marginalized situations, through such campaigns</p> <p><b>Respect for the views of the child</b></p>

		<p>17. The Committee notes the establishment of two councils of children and adolescents in municipalities and recommends that the State party strengthen efforts to give due consideration to children's and adolescents' views in decisions that concern them, in accordance with its general comment No. 12 (2009) on the right of the child to be heard, and that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(b) Institutionalize the Children's Parliament as a regular event, combining its action with the Youth Assemblies Programme (Programa Asambleas Juveniles). Ensure that these mechanisms are provided with a meaningful mandate and adequate human, technical and financial resources, and that eligible children from AfroPanamanian and indigenous communities, pregnant girls, children with disabilities, children with HIV/AIDS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex children, refugee and asylum-seeking children and other groups of children in situations of vulnerability are able to fully participate and that their views are taken into account when defining the legislative agenda and national policies;</li></ul> <p><b>D. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24 (3), 28 (2), 34, 37 (a) and 39)</b></p> <p><b>Corporal punishment</b></p> <p>21. The Committee is concerned at indications in the State party report that 44.9 per cent of children under 14 years of age experienced some form of violent discipline in 2013, and urges the State party, with reference to its general comment No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment, to its previous concluding observations (see CRC/C/PAN/CO/3-4, para. 46) and to the State party's commitments under both cycles of the universal periodic review, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Revise articles 319 and 443 of the Family Code and explicitly prohibit, through legislative and administrative provisions, the use of corporal punishment in all settings, namely in schools, in childcare institutions, including early childhood care institutions, in alternative care settings, in the home and in juvenile detention centres;</li><li>(b) Reinforce measures to raise the awareness of parents, professionals working with children and the public in general about the harm caused by corporal punishment, and promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of childrearing and discipline;</li></ul>
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		<p>(c) Seek technical assistance from UNICEF in that regard, including on child-friendly school programmes.</p> <p><b>E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9–11, 18 (1) and (2), 20, 21, 25 and 27 (4))</b></p> <p><b>Children deprived of a family environment</b></p> <p>26. Drawing attention to the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children (see General Assembly resolution 64/142, annex), the Committee emphasizes that financial and material poverty — or conditions directly and uniquely attributable to such poverty — should never be the sole justification for removing a child from parental care, for receiving a child into alternative care or for preventing a child’s social reintegration. In this regard, the Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Ensure adequate safeguards and clear criteria, based on the needs as well as the best interests of the child, for determining whether a child should be placed in alternative care;</li><li>(b) Strengthen efforts to accelerate reduction of the number of institutionalized children, including by allocating adequate human, technical and financial resources to allow reduction of delays in investigations and in the processing of files, extending the deinstitutionalization process to public institutions, encouraging foster families to adopt children regardless of their age or disability and providing the necessary training and support to suitable families to appropriately take care of a child with a disability;</li><li>(c) Strengthen efforts to train shelter staff on the implementation of the Protocol for Dealing with Children without Parental Care in Shelters and allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources for the monitoring of its implementation;</li><li>(d) Accelerate the regularization of shelters;</li><li>(e) Ensure proper regulation of the foster care system and fully implement the Foster Care Programme.</li></ul> <p><b>Adoption</b></p> <p>27. The Committee recommends that the State party involve civil society in the revision of provisions of the Adoption Act and ensure its full compliance with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the</p>
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<b>OPSC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	9 Feb 2001	
<b>OPAC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	8 Aug 2001	
<b>ICCPR</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	21 Jan 1993	
<b>ICESCR</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	8 Mar 1977	
<b>CEDAW</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	29 Oct 1981	
<b>CRPD</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
<b>CRPD/C/PAN/CO/1</b>	7 Aug 2007	29 September 2017  <a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fPAN%2fCO%2f1&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fPAN%2fCO%2f1&amp;Lang=en</a>

		<p><b>III. Principal areas of concern and recommendations</b></p> <p><b>B. Specific rights (arts. 5-30)</b></p> <p><b>Women with disabilities (art. 6)</b></p> <p>16. The Committee is concerned about the lack of a gender equality plan, the fact that disability policies do not specifically cover women and girls and the lack of policies and strategies on the prevention and punishment of violence against women and girls with disabilities, including indigenous persons and persons of African descent with disabilities.</p> <p><b>17. The Committee recommends that the State party, in consultation with organizations that represent women and girls with disabilities and bearing in mind the Committee's general comment No. 3 (2016) on women and girls with disabilities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>(a) Include women with disabilities in the plans and strategies of the National Secretariat for Disabilities;</b></li><li><b>(b) Revise its disability policies to incorporate a gender-based approach;</b></li><li><b>(c) Revise its policies on violence against women with a view to introducing a disability dimension;</b></li><li><b>(d) Allocate dedicated human and financial resources to the advancement and empowerment of women with disabilities;</b></li><li><b>(e) Be guided by article 6 of the Convention in pursuing targets 5.1, 5.2 and 5.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals.</b></li></ul>
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UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	6 May 2015	<a href="http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/PAindex.aspx">http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/PAindex.aspx</a>



Hague Intercountry Adoption	Ratification Date	Link to Country Profile
	29 Sep 1999	<a href="https://www.hcch.net/en/states/hcch-members/details1/?sid=59">https://www.hcch.net/en/states/hcch-members/details1/?sid=59</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