

UN CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	7 Sep 1990	<p>CRC/C/SYC/CO/5-6</p> <p>5 March 2018</p> <p><a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fSYC%2fCO%2f5-6&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fSYC%2fCO%2f5-6&amp;Lang=en</a></p> <p><b>III. Main areas of concern and recommendations</b></p> <p><b>D. Civil rights and freedoms (arts. 7, 8 and 13–17)</b></p> <p><b>Rights of the child to a name and nationality, to know and be cared for by his or her parents and to his or her identity</b></p> <p>20. The Committee remains deeply concerned that no law has been enacted to ensure the right of children born out of wedlock to know their biological father and that the State party considers implementing the Committee’s recommendations to be difficult owing to sociocultural aspects. The Committee is also concerned that the Citizenship Act does not provide for the acquisition of citizenship of the State party by children born to unknown parents or abandoned by their parents on the territory of the State party, a situation which may render them stateless.</p> <p><b>21. Taking note of target 16.9 of the Sustainable Development Goals on providing legal identity for all, including birth registration, and reiterating its previous recommendations (see CRC/C/15/Add.189, para. 31 and CRC/C/SYC/CO/2-4, para. 41), the Committee urges the State party to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Urgently revise legislation to ensure that all children born out of wedlock have the legal right to know and maintain contact with both their biological parents;</li> <li>(b) Introduce legal safeguards for children in the State party who would otherwise be stateless, in line with article 6 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, and consider</li> </ul>

		<p>ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness;</p> <p>(c) Seek technical assistance from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF, among others, for the implementation of these recommendations.</p> <p><b>E. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24 (3), 28 (2), 34, 37 (a) and 39)</b></p> <p><b>Corporal punishment</b></p> <p>22. The Committee welcomes the fact that the Education (Amendment) Bill 2017, prohibiting corporal punishment in schools, was passed by the National Assembly in December 2017. However, the Committee is concerned that its other relevant previous recommendations have not been implemented, namely explicitly prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings.</p> <p>23. Reiterating its concluding observations (see CRC/C/15/Add.189, paras. 32–33, and CRC/C/SYC/CO/2-4, para. 43) and with reference to its general comments No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence and No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment, the Committee urges the State party to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Expedite the amendments to the Children Act repealing section 70 (7), which allows for corporal punishment, and explicitly prohibit the use of corporal punishment at all settings, including at home, in alternative care settings, in day-care institutions and in penal institutions;</li><li>(b) Strengthen public education, awareness-raising and social mobilization programmes involving children, families and communities on the harmful effects of corporal punishment, with a view to changing attitudes and promoting alternative, positive and non-violent forms of child-rearing and discipline.</li></ul> <p><b>F. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9–11, 18 (1) and (2), 20, 21, 25 and 27 (4))</b></p> <p><b>Family environment</b></p>
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<b>OPSC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	11 Dec 2012	
<b>OPAC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	10 Aug 2010	
<b>ICCPR</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	5 May 1992	
<b>ICESCR</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	5 May 1992	
<b>CEDAW</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	5 May 1992	
<b>CRPD</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
<b>CRPD/C/SYC/CO/1</b>		16 April 2018  <a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fSYC%2fCO%2f1&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fSYC%2fCO%2f1&amp;Lang=en</a>  <b>III. Principal areas of concern and recommendations</b>

		<p><b>B. Specific rights (arts. 5–30)</b></p> <p><b>Children with disabilities (art. 7)</b></p> <p>16. The Committee notes with concern:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Delays in the review of the Children Act and other child-related laws and that corporal punishment has not been prohibited in all settings;</li><li>(b) That children with disabilities do not access basic services, including education, health-care services and rehabilitation, on an equal basis with others;</li><li>(c) The absence of mechanisms for children with disabilities to freely express their opinion on matters that affect them.</li></ul> <p><b>17. The Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>(a) Expedite the revision of the Children Act and ensure the inclusion of a disability perspective in line with the Convention and a ban on corporal punishment in all settings;</b></li><li><b>(b) Implement measures, including support services and financial allocations to parents and families of children with disabilities, to ensure that, in practice, children with disabilities can exercise their rights on an equal basis with others, particularly relating to the right to access inclusive education, health-care services and rehabilitation;</b></li><li><b>(c) Develop and adopt mechanisms to ensure that children with disabilities can freely express their views on all matters affecting them.</b></li></ul> <p><b>Liberty and security of the person (art. 14)</b></p>
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		<p>28. The Committee is concerned that provisions in civil and criminal law, including the Civil Code (art. 510 (2)) and the Mental Health Act (2006), permit the involuntary hospitalization and institutionalization of persons with disabilities, including children, on the basis of their actual or perceived impairment.</p> <p><b>29. The Committee, in accordance with its guidelines on the right to liberty and security of persons with disabilities (see A/72/55, annex I) , recommends that the State party expedite the revision of all relevant legislation to:</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>(a) Repeal all relevant provisions in the Mental Health Act (2006) that legitimize the involuntary hospitalization or institutionalization of persons with disabilities and to increase the availability of community-based mental health services;</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>(b) Repeal the Civil Code provision that explicitly deprives persons with disabilities of their liberty by involuntarily committal to mental health institutions.</b></p> <p><b>30. The Committee recommends that, in the meantime, the State party ensure that persons with disabilities deprived of their liberty on the grounds of their actual or perceived impairment have access to a court of law to challenge any such action.</b></p> <p><b>Living independently and being included in the community (art. 19)</b></p> <p>33. The Committee is concerned about:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) The absence of legal measures in the State party to ensure that persons with disabilities can live independently;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) The limited support that persons with disabilities and their families receive to enable them to exercise their right to independent living and inclusion in the community, which has resulted in cases of abandonment of persons with disabilities and their being placed in the care of the State in a residential institution;</p>
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		<p>(c)The absence of a deinstitutionalization strategy for those persons with disabilities placed in existing residential institutions.</p> <p><b>34. The Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <p><b>(a) Expressly recognize in its legislation the right of persons with disabilities to choose with whom and where they wish to live;</b></p> <p><b>(b) Provide sufficient support to persons with disabilities and their families to enable them to exercise their rights to independent living and to be included in the community;</b></p> <p><b>(c) Urgently start the process of deinstitutionalization of those persons with disabilities still in a residential setting and increase the availability of community-based services aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to live and participate in the community.</b></p> <p><b>Respect for home and the family (art. 23)</b></p> <p>39.The Committee is concerned about the insufficient support services available to strengthen the capacity of parents and families of children with disabilities.</p> <p><b>40. The Committee recommends that the State party allocate sufficient resources to support parents and families of children with disabilities, especially single parents and parents with disabilities.</b></p>
UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	25 Jan 2016	<a href="http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/SCIndex.aspx">http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/SCIndex.aspx</a>
Hague Intercountry Adoption	Accession Date	Link to Country Profile



	26 Jun 2008	<a href="https://www.hcch.net/en/states/other-connected-states/details2/?sid=127">https://www.hcch.net/en/states/other-connected-states/details2/?sid=127</a>
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**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