

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	11 Sep 1990	<p>CRC/C/ZWE/CO/2 7 March 2016</p> <p><a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fZWE%2fCO%2f2&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fZWE%2fCO%2f2&amp;Lang=en</a></p> <p><b>IV. Main areas of concern and recommendations</b></p> <p><b>A. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44 (6))</b></p> <p><b>Dissemination, awareness-raising and training</b></p> <p>22. The Committee welcomes the dissemination of the Convention among the general public, parliamentarians, government officials, community and religious leaders and through the school curriculum. However, it notes with concern the lack of knowledge about the Convention and its practical application among relevant professionals dealing with children's issues.</p> <p>23. The Committee reiterates that systematic information and awareness-raising campaigns should be launched to create a deeper understanding of the Convention and respect for and protection of children's rights (para. 26). The Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(b) Undertake systematic education and training on the provisions of the Convention for all professional groups working for and with children in both rural and urban areas, in particular law enforcement officials, teachers, health personnel, social workers, staff of child-care institutions, as well as religious and traditional leaders.</p> <p><b>B. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12)</b></p> <p><b>Non-discrimination</b></p>

		<p>26. While welcoming the inclusive non-discrimination provision in the Constitution, the Committee is concerned that national legislation remains inconsistent with the nondiscrimination provisions of the Convention. It reiterates its concern (para. 12) about high levels of discrimination against certain groups of children, including children with disabilities, children in street situations, children living in rural areas, children born out of wedlock, orphans, children living in foster care, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex children and children affected or infected by HIV/AIDS. The Committee is seriously concerned about the situation of girls, in particular adolescent girls, who suffer marginalization and gender stereotyping, which compromise their educational opportunities, and who are more vulnerable to sexual violence, abuse and HIV/AIDS.</p> <p><b>27. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation (para. 22) and urges the State party to harmonize its legislation with article 2 of the Convention, and to ensure the full implementation of all legal provisions. The Committee recommends that the State party carry out comprehensive public-education campaigns to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination, including gender stereotyping, in line with the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (see CEDAW/C/ZWE/CO/2-5, para. 22).</b></p> <p><b>E. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24 (3), 28 (2), 34, 37 (a) and 39)</b></p> <p><b>Sexual exploitation and abuse</b></p> <p>44. The Committee notes the legislative and policy measures taken by the State party to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and abuse of children, to ensure the prosecution of perpetrators and to support victims. Nonetheless, the Committee expresses serious concern regarding:</p> <p>(a) The prevalence of sexual exploitation and abuse against girls, orphans, children with disabilities, child migrants and children living in poverty;</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>45. The Committee urges the State party to take the measures necessary to ensure that all children who are vulnerable to or at risk of any form of sexual exploitation and abuse are provided with all necessary assistance and protection. In particular, the Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p>
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		<p>(a) Ensure that victims of sexual exploitation and abuse have access to childprotection centres throughout the country and that the centres are staffed with professionals trained in child protection and handling child victims of abuse;</p> <p>(b) Establish accessible, confidential and child-friendly mechanisms, procedures and guidelines to ensure the effective and mandatory reporting of cases of sexual abuse and exploitation of children and, to that end, continue to work with community police and the gender and children's desks in a joint effort;</p> <p>(c) Provide adequate resources to the Interministerial Task Force on Gender-based Violence and the Protocol on the Multisectoral Management of Sexual Abuse and Violence in Zimbabwe, as well as to the justice system, to ensure the documentation and prompt and effective investigation of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children and the prosecution of perpetrators;</p> <p>(d) Conduct awareness-raising programmes, in particular for children, parents and caregivers, to combat the stigmatization of victims of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, including incest, and promote knowledge of reporting channels for such violations;</p> <p>(e) Ensure the development of programmes and policies for the prevention, recovery and social reintegration of child victims, in accordance with the outcome documents adopted at the World Congresses against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.</p> <p><b>F. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9-11, 18 (1-2), 20-21, 25 and 27 (4))</b></p> <p><b>Family environment</b></p> <p>48. The Committee is concerned about the high number of child- and grandparentheaded households in the State party and notes that one fifth of children below the age of 18 years do not have either parent alive. The Committee is further concerned about the existence of discriminatory legislation that regulates the guardianship of children based on a distinction between children born within and outside marriage and the sex of the child, and that children born outside marriage have limited contact with their father.</p> <p>49. The Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <p>(a) Strengthen the financial support and community structures to grandparent- and child-headed households to assist them in meeting needs related to nutrition, shelter and access to essential</p>
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		<p>targeted programmes for families that are particularly vulnerable to poverty, implemented at the community level;</p> <p>(b) Pay particular attention to the rights and needs of children when implementing its poverty reduction strategy and all other programmes intended to improve the standard of living in the State party, in particular with regard to health, nutrition, education and housing;</p> <p>(c) Seek technical assistance from, among others, UNDP and UNICEF.</p> <p><b>I. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32-33, 35-36, 37 (b)-(d) and 38-40)</b></p> <p><b>Children in situations of migration</b></p> <p>70. The Committee is concerned that the prolonged socioeconomic crisis in the State party has led to the migration of children to neighbouring countries, either with parents or unaccompanied, in search of employment or relatives. It is particularly concerned about the exposure of children to a number of risks along the migration routes, including sexual and physical abuse and exploitation, malnutrition and attacks by wild animals.</p> <p><b>71. The Committee recommends that the State party implement comprehensive measures to address the root causes of economic migration. It further recommends that the State party take measures to mitigate the effects of migration on the welfare of affected children, including through the provision of support at the local level, the training of caregivers and improved social and psychological support to affected children deprived of a family environment. The State party is encouraged to enter into bilateral agreements with neighbouring States for adequate protection of migrant children in their countries of destination.</b></p> <p><b>Sale, trafficking and abduction</b></p> <p>74. The Committee welcomes the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act (2014) and the creation of the Interministerial Task Force on Human Trafficking. However, the Committee notes with concern persistent reports of trafficking of children in the State party in the context of the high rate of migration of unaccompanied children. The Committee expresses its concern at the insufficient programmes for the physical and psychological recovery and social and family reintegration of child victims of trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation, including for prostitution and pornography.</p>
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		<b>Country Report</b>
		<b>CRC/C/ZWE/2</b>



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<b>CEDAW</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
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Hague Intercountry Adoption	Ratification Date	Link to Country Profile
	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
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