

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
<p>CRC/C/GNB/CO/2-4</p> <p>Concluding observations on the combined second to fourth periodic reports of Guinea-Bissau, adopted by the Committee at its sixty-third session (27 May–14 June 2013).</p>	<p>20 Aug 1990</p>	<p>8 July 2013</p> <p><a href="http://docstore.ohchr.org/SelfServices/FilesHandler.ashx?enc=6QkG1d%2fPPRiCAqhKb7yhsuEggJeJjsLU4LE33%2b%2f%2bgLEeLYq6WYPJa0J6YblbCeAqblu8CuT%2bc%2fg04thz4ZA1J9jnWGtMHBDt5h0uyijzZ%2faosAA1%2fonEOf%2bsONT5JI5U">http://docstore.ohchr.org/SelfServices/FilesHandler.ashx?enc=6QkG1d%2fPPRiCAqhKb7yhsuEggJeJjsLU4LE33%2b%2f%2bgLEeLYq6WYPJa0J6YblbCeAqblu8CuT%2bc%2fg04thz4ZA1J9jnWGtMHBDt5h0uyijzZ%2faosAA1%2fonEOf%2bsONT5JI5U</a></p> <p><b>D. Violence against children (arts. 19, 37 (a) and 39 of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Corporal punishment</b></p> <p>36. The Committee notes that, although corporal punishment is prohibited in schools, it remains lawful in the home and alternative care settings. The Committee regrets that the State party report provides limited information on corporal punishment.</p> <p><b>37. Taking due note of the Committee’s general comment No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment, the Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Consider enacting legislation to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including within the family and in alternative care settings;</li> <li>(b) Ensure that laws prohibiting corporal punishment are effectively implemented and that legal proceedings are systematically initiated against those responsible for violence against children; and</li> <li>(c) Introduce public education, awareness-raising and social mobilization campaigns on the harmful effects of corporal punishment with a view to changing the general attitude towards this practice and promote positive, non-violent, participatory forms of child-rearing and</li> </ul>

		<p>education as alternative forms of discipline.</p> <p><b>E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 18 (paras. 1-2), 9-11, 19-21, 25, 27 (para. 4) and 39 of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Children deprived of a family environment</b></p> <p>48. The Committee takes note of reports that in 2011 18.9 per cent of children did not live with their parents, and that this percentage increased to 24 per cent for children between the ages of 10 and 14 and 30.2 per cent for children between the ages of 15 and 17. The Committee also notes that the percentage of children who had lost both their parents was 11 per cent in 2010. The Committee is further concerned that children deprived of their family environment are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, including sexual abuse, and may be unable to attend school. The Committee is also concerned that there are not enough suitable centres and alternative care options for children deprived of a family environment and children in other vulnerable situations.</p> <p><b>49. The Committee recommends that the State party, while taking into account the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children annexed to General Assembly resolution 64/142 of 18 December 2009, undertake the necessary measures to protect the rights of children deprived of a family environment and address their needs with a focus on, inter alia:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>(a) Improved assistance and guidance to extended families and other community members who care for children that are deprived of their family environment and to child-headed households;</b></li><li><b>(b) Strengthening the monitoring of situations of children entrusted to the care of family members or friends, including training of social workers on identifying areas of need and detecting signs of abuse;</b></li><li><b>(c) Providing access to complaints mechanisms for the children in alternative care;</b></li></ul>
--	--	--

		<p>(d) Further promotion of and support for family type and community-based forms of alternative care for children deprived of parental care;</p> <p>(e) Continued contact with their birth families when appropriate for children receiving alternative care.</p> <p><b>H. Other special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 38, 39, 40, 37 (b)-(d), 32-36 of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Sale, trafficking and abduction</b></p> <p>66. While the Committee notes the adoption of the Act on Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children, and of the National Action Plan on Human Trafficking and Prevention, as well as the creation of the National Committee on the prevention and fight against trafficking in persons, the Committee is concerned about:</p> <p>(a) The increasing number of children leaving their communities who may be at risk of being involved in begging, exploitation, the sex trade, or living in precarious conditions;</p> <p>(b) Trafficking for sexual exploitation inside and outside the country;</p> <p>(c) That the Act on Trafficking is not sufficiently implemented and, in particular, that the law has not resulted in any known convictions to date.</p> <p><b>67. The Committee urges the State party to:</b></p> <p>(a) Conduct an in-depth study on the nature and extent of the sale and abduction of children and internal trafficking in order to address those issues;</p> <p>(b) Ensure the effective enforcement of relevant legislation, policies and programmes to combat sale and trafficking in children;</p> <p>(c) Ensure systematic investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of trafficking in, and sale of</p>
--	--	--

		<p>children and to impose penalties that are commensurate with their crimes and dissuasive enough, as already recommended by the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in 2011;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(d) Ensure the allocation of sufficient human and financial resources for the effective implementation of the National Action Plan to address trafficking;</li><li>(e) Ensure that the judiciary, prosecutors, law enforcement officials, social workers and other relevant professionals receive specialized training in combating trafficking in, and sale of children;</li><li>(f) Strengthen collaboration among border police, customs and social workers to coordinate support for victims of trafficking and other children in vulnerable situations on the move;</li><li>(g) Strengthen awareness-raising programmes, including campaigns on trafficking, in particular targeting vulnerable communities where children are most at risk, including rural areas and areas of poverty;</li><li>(h) Take steps to conclude bilateral cooperation agreements with neighbouring countries to combat child trafficking efficiently;</li><li>(i) Ensure protection of children who have been victims of trafficking and sale, including a formal determination of the best interests of the child; the adoption of child-specific protection measures, such as the appointment of guardians; the gathering of information on the role parents might have played in the trafficking situation of their children; the observance of specific safeguards in cases of repatriation of unaccompanied or separated children; and rehabilitation and social integration of child victims;</li><li>(j) Address the root causes of trafficking, sale and exploitation by increasing its efforts to both improve as well as expand access to education for both girls and boys, so that children are not vulnerable to child labour and sexual exploitation nor trafficking. This also includes the importance of enforcing child labour laws.</li></ul>
--	--	---

		Country Report
<b>OPSC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	1 Nov 2010	
<b>OPAC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	N/A	
<b>ICCPR</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	1 Nov 2010	
<b>ICESCR</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	2 Jul 1992	
<b>CEDAW</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	23 Aug 1985	
<b>CRPD</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	N/A	
<b>UPR</b>	<b>Date of Consideration</b>	<b>Link to Page</b>
	7 May 2010	<a href="http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/GWSession8.aspx">http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/GWSession8.aspx</a>
<b>Hague Inter-country Adoption</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Link to Country Profile</b>

	N/A	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