Committee on the Rights of the Child
Fifty-fourth session
25 May–11 June 2011

Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

List of issues to be taken up in connection with the consideration of the initial report of Belgium (CRC/C/OPSC/BEL/1)

The Committee may take up all aspects of children’s rights contained in the Optional Protocol during the dialogue with the State party. The present list of issues covers only some priority questions on which the Committee would like additional information before the dialogue.

The State party is requested to submit in written form additional and updated information, if possible before 6 April 2010.

1. Please advise if the State party intends to bring its legislation into line with the Protocol, by introducing specific offences covering the acts listed and defined in articles 2 and 3 of the Protocol, including those committed against children between 16 and 18 years of age.

2. Please provide, if available, statistical data (disaggregated by sex, age group and community federal level, as appropriate) for 2007, 2008 and 2009 on the number of:
   (a) Documented cases of the sale of children, illegal adoption and child pornography with additional information on type of follow-up provided on the outcome of the cases, including prosecution, decisions to discontinue or terminate the proceedings, and sanctions and remedial measures for perpetrators;
   (b) Documented cases of crimes related to child sex tourism involving Belgian citizens and residents, with additional information on type of follow-up provided on the outcome of the cases, including prosecution, decisions to discontinue or terminate the proceedings, and sanctions for perpetrators;
   (c) Child victims provided with physical and psychological recovery assistance and compensation for damages in accordance with the provisions of article 9, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Protocol.

3. Please provide data (disaggregated by type of offence, sex and country concerned) on cases of extradition for offences covered by the Protocol in the context of international judicial cooperation for 2007, 2008 and 2009.

4. Please provide information on budget allocations assigned to activities carried out by the State party to implement the Protocol for 2007, 2008 and 2009.

5. Please provide information on the dissemination of, and training on, the Protocol, for relevant professional groups, including immigration officers, judges, social workers, teachers and legislators.

6. Please indicate whether, as part of the school curricula, students are made aware of the dangers of sexual exploitation.