Committee on the Rights of the Child

Fifty-fourth session
25 May-11 June 2010

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

List of issues related to the consideration of the initial report of Colombia (CRC/C/OPSC/COL/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 provide statistical data (disaggregated by sex, age, ethnic group and location of the crime) for 2009 on the following:

(a) Reports on the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism with additional information on the type of follow-up provided on the outcome of the cases, including the prosecution and sanctioning of perpetrators;

(b) Child victims provided with recovery assistance or compensation, in accordance with the provisions of article 9, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Optional Protocol.

2. Please inform the Committee of the number of intercountry adoptions conducted through ICBF (Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar), as well as through other entities, since the last periodic review by the Committee in 2006. Please provide information on the ratio of intercountry adoptions in relation to domestic adoptions. Please also inform the Committee whether there have been any criminal investigations initiated in relation to irregular adoptions for profit (art. 232 of the Penal Code) and which sanctions have been applied, if applicable.

3. Please provide updated information on concrete measures to implement the National Plan of Action for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents 2006-2011, to what degree such measures have been implemented at the departmental level, how many children have been beneficiaries (including data on indigenous and Afro-Colombian children) and whether there have been efforts to evaluate progress in the implementation of the plan to date and to identify obstacles.

4. With reference to the State party’s report (CRC/C/OPSC/COL/1, para. 342), please provide the Committee with updated information on measures taken to monitor and enforce codes of conduct to combat child sex tourism.

5. Please provide the Committee with information regarding legislation adopted, and measures taken to ensure effective implementation, subsequent to the submission of the State party’s report under the Optional Protocol, notably Law 1329 of 17 July 2009 and Law 1336 of 21 July 2009.

6. The Committee notes that the State party has extradited a person for prosecution on charges relating to the Optional Protocol, please inform the Committee whether further similar extraditions have taken place since the submission of the report.

7. Please inform the Committee of specific measures taken to identify vulnerable groups of victims among displaced, Afro-Colombian and indigenous children and to ensure that they are provided with equal access to physical and psychosocial recovery and social reintegration measures.

8. Please provide additional information on the role of the Family defenders (CRC/C/OPSC/COL/1, paras. 137-138) and provide information on the number of such professionals, and on whether they have received specialized training on how to conduct child-sensitive interviews. How many lawyers are employed as Family defenders and how many victims of crimes under the Optional Protocols have they represented since 2006.