



# Convention on the Rights of the Child

Distr.: General  
27 October 2023

Original: English  
English, French and Spanish only

## Committee on the Rights of the Child

### **List of issues in relation to the report submitted by Pakistan under article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography\*\***

1. The State party is requested to submit in writing additional, updated information, of 10,700 words maximum, by 15 February 2024. The Committee may take up all aspects of children's rights set out in the Optional Protocol during the dialogue with the State party.
2. Please provide statistical data for the past three years, disaggregated by sex, age, nationality, ethnic origin, socioeconomic background and urban or rural residence, on the number of reported cases of:
  - (a) Sale of children, in particular of children in street situations, working children and children living in poverty, for the purposes of sexual exploitation of children for prostitution the transfer of organs for profit or engagement in forced labour, including work in brick kilns, agriculture, coal mining, carpet production, farm labour and domestic labour in slave-like conditions, or the production of child sexual abuse material ("child pornography"), the kidnapping of girls for the purpose of marriage, as well as other forms of exploitation, including the sexual exploitation of children in the travel and tourism sector, and please provide additional information on the type of action taken as a result, including with regard to the prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators;
  - (b) Children trafficked from or through the State party and children trafficked within the country for the purposes of sale, exploitation of children for prostitution, engagement in forced labour, illegal adoption or organ transfer for profit, as defined in article 3 (1) of the Optional Protocol;
  - (c) Children offered, delivered, rented or accepted by whatever means for the purposes of exploitation of children for prostitution, engagement in forced labour, illegal adoption, organ transfer for profit, the production of child sexual abuse material or marriage;
  - (d) Children who have been victims of the offences listed above who have been provided with assistance with reintegration or who have received compensation.
3. Please provide information on the progress made towards the establishment of a centralized system of data collection covering all offences under the Optional Protocol and compiling data from all the State party's agencies involved in child protection activities under the Optional Protocol.
4. Please provide information on the progress made towards establishing a centralized system for the coordination of the implementation of the Optional Protocol, in the light of the information provided in paragraph 5 of the report of the State party,<sup>1</sup> and on the renewal

\* Reissued for technical reasons on 17 November 2023.

\*\* Adopted by the pre-sessional working group on 29 September 2023.

<sup>1</sup> CRC/C/OPSC/PAK/1.



and implementation of the national action plan for children, including strategies to combat the sexual exploitation of children.

5. Please inform the Committee about the following:

(a) Strategies and current action plans that are specifically aimed at preventing and countering the offences covered under article 3 of the Optional Protocol, in particular the forced labour, sexual exploitation, exploitation of children, including boys, for prostitution and online crimes, including live-streaming, sexual extortion and unsolicited sexting;

(b) Legal provisions that create an obligation to report cases of sexual exploitation and abuse;

(c) Human, technical and financial resources allocated for the implementation of the above-mentioned strategies and plans, including the national action plan on human rights, the national policy framework on human rights, the national child policy and the child protection policy for the federally administered tribal areas.

6. In addition to the information provided in the report of the State party,<sup>2</sup> please provide further details on preventive measures which have been taken to protect children from offences under the Optional Protocol, especially children in particularly vulnerable situations, such as girls who are victims of domestic violence and engaged in domestic work, children in street situations, migrant and refugee children, children living in institutions and children living in poverty.

7. Please provide information on the initiatives taken by the State party to criminalize the sexual exploitation of children in the travel and tourism sector and whether the State party has taken any measures to disseminate the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism developed by the World Tourism Organization.

8. Please provide updated information on long-term initiatives taken to further raise awareness and promote education about the offences enumerated in the Optional Protocol, including with a view to breaking the stigma around child sexual abuse and encouraging children who are victims of those offences to come forward. Please provide information in particular on the measures specifically aimed at making children aware of the harmful consequences of such practices and on resources for providing assistance aimed at preventing children from falling victim.

9. Please inform the Committee about the measures taken to define and criminalize the sale of children separately from the offence of human trafficking,<sup>3</sup> and clarify whether all acts and activities related to the sale of children, as defined in articles 2 and 3 of the Optional Protocol, in particular the transfer of organs of a child for profit, including the implementation of the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (2010), forced child labour and the sale or transfer of a child for the purposes of illegal adoption, are explicitly defined, classified and criminalized in the Criminal Code. Please also clarify how the State party ensures the right of boys to be protected by law in the same way as girls, including regarding the age of sexual consent. Please indicate the steps that the State party is taking to properly define the exploitation of children for prostitution and to ensure that penalties for such offences are proportionate to the gravity of those crimes.

10. Please clarify whether the legislation in force establishes the State party's extraterritorial jurisdiction over all the offences referred to in the Optional Protocol, especially when the alleged offender is a national of the State party or a person whose habitual residence is in its territory or when the victim is a national of the State party. Please also provide information on whether the Optional Protocol may be used as a legal basis for the extradition of a person suspected of the offences covered by the Optional Protocol.

11. Please elaborate on the measures taken to protect the rights and interests of children who are victims and witnesses of the crimes referred to under the Optional Protocol, at all stages of criminal proceedings, including the use of child-friendly interview techniques,

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., para. 93.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., paras. 20–22 and 24–26.

availability of access to psychological assistance and the establishment of child courts, to prevent revictimization and to ensure that they are not stigmatized and have access to efficient, adequate and long-term programmes and support systems to facilitate their reintegration and their physical and mental rehabilitation. Please provide information on the implementation of section 17 of the ICT Child Protection Act (2018).

12. Please provide information on the measures taken to develop holistic and victim-centred methods to identify children, such as unaccompanied children entering the State party, who are, or who may be at risk of becoming victims of sale, sexual exploitation for prostitution, the production of child sexual abuse material and trafficking.

---