



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Distr.: General
20 July 2012

Original: English

Committee on the Rights of the Child

Sixty-second session

14 January-1 February 2013

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

List of issues concerning additional and updated information related to the consideration of the second periodic report of Malta (CRC/C/MLT/2)

The State party is requested to submit in writing additional, updated information, if possible before 16 November 2012.

The Committee may take up all aspects of children's rights contained in the Convention during the dialogue with the State party.

Part I

In this section, the State party is requested to submit its responses to the following questions (30 pages maximum).

1. Please indicate all measures taken by the State party since 2003 to adopt a comprehensive law on child rights with a view to harmonizing domestic legislation with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
2. Please inform the Committee of the impact that the conversion of the Department of Family Welfare Department into the Department for Social Welfare Standards has had on the coordination and implementation of the Convention. Please also inform the Committee of the mandate and capacity of the new Department to coordinate the effective implementation of the Convention across child rights sectors and divisions, and from national to local level.
3. Please provide information on the mandate and responsibilities of the Commissioner for Children, and also on the adequacy and autonomy of the human, technical and financial resources provided to independently monitor the implementation of the Convention.
4. Please inform the Committee of measures taken by the State party to prevent discrimination against children with disabilities and migrant children.
5. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendation (CRC/C/15/Add.129, 2000, para. 30), please indicate the measures the State party has taken to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings. Also, please indicate the specific measures adopted

throughout the review period to raise awareness of the harmful consequences of corporal punishment, and to foster positive methods of child-rearing.

6. Please update the Committee on the State party's plan to standardize the child day-care sector as mentioned in paragraphs 189 and 198, indicating which Ministry is taking the lead for realization of this goal and for implementing the new standards. Please also describe to the Committee all measures taken to introduce early childhood development programmes for children under three years of age.

7. With reference to adolescent health, please describe to the Committee:

(a) All measures taken to address problems of consumption of alcohol, drugs and other harmful substances among children. Please also provide information on the impact the "Tackling Substance Abuse – Procedures for Schools" policy (2000) mentioned in paragraph 75, has had on reducing substance abuse, and indicate whether the policy has been extended; and

(b) Measures taken by the State party to facilitate adolescents' access to confidential reproductive health services and assistance, and to introduce sexual and reproductive health and rights education for adolescents, particularly given the reportedly high number of teenage pregnancies. In doing so, please provide more information on the 2011 Sexual Health Strategy.

8. Please inform the Committee whether the policy on inclusive education (2000) has been evaluated, indicating the impact it has had on the enjoyment of the right to education by children with disability. Further, please provide information on whether inclusive education is included as an integral part of teacher training curricula in universities.

9. Please inform the Committee of measures adopted or envisaged by the State party, including by amending its Immigration Act, to avoid unnecessary detention of unaccompanied migrant children. Please also give details of steps taken to ensure rapid age assessment procedures and the subsequent release and transfer of unaccompanied migrant children to open centres.

10. Please give details of the steps taken toward the provision of meaningful guardianship and free legal representation to unaccompanied migrant children, inter alia, and indicate the capacity and mandate of the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers to effectively provide for meaningful guardianship.

11. Please provide details on measures taken to ensure effective enforcement of labour laws, in particular with respect to the protection of the rights of children in the context of short-term work in family businesses and tourism-related activities.

12. Please update the Committee on progress achieved in amending the State party's Criminal Code so as to bring it into conformity with the principles of the Convention, in particular with regard to raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility, and including children between 16 and 18 years of age in the juvenile justice system.

Part II

Under this section, the State Party is to briefly (three pages maximum) update the information provided in its report since 2003 with regard to:

- (a) Newly implemented policies, programmes and plans and their scope;
- (b) Newly established institutions or institutional reforms and the respective mandates;

- (c) Newly developed training programmes for professionals working with children;
- (d) Newly enacted bills and their regulations; and
- (e) Newly ratified human rights instruments.

Part III

Data, statistics and other information, if available

1. Please provide updated data, disaggregated by sex and ethnic origin of all children, including unaccompanied migrant children under 18 years of age in the State party.
 2. Please provide information on the annual budget allocated for the implementation of the Convention for the years 2009-2012.
 3. Please provide data on the number of children separated from their families for the years 2009-2012. In doing so, please include information on:
 - (a) Factors responsible for the separation;
 - (b) Type of placements allocated;
 - (c) Body/organization providing placements; and
 - (d) Duration of placements.
 4. Please provide data, disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin and socio-economic status, on cases of violence in the family for the period 2009-2012.
 5. Please provide data disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin and socio-economic status on school drop-out at primary and secondary levels and also on school absenteeism, for the period 2009-2012.
 6. Please provide data on the numbers of unaccompanied migrant children being placed in detention and the duration thereof, indicating whether or not they were separated from adults, for the years 2009-2012.
 7. Please provide data, disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin and socio-economic status, on cases of child exploitation, including economic and sexual exploitation, for the years 2009-2012.
 8. In addition, the State party may list areas affecting children that it considers to be of priority with regard to the implementation of the Convention.
-