



Convention on the Rights of the Child

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Committee on the Rights of the Child

Seventy-fifth session

15 May-2 June 2017

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Consideration of reports of States parties

List of issues in relation to the combined third to fifth periodic reports of Bhutan

The State party is requested to submit in writing additional, updated information (10,700 words maximum), if possible before 23 February 2017. The Committee may take up all aspects of children's rights set out in the Convention during the dialogue with the State party.

Part I

1. Please inform the Committee about progress made concerning the child-related indicators in the national key result area on vulnerable groups and in the sector key result areas with regard to the National Plan of Action for Child Protection, which forms part of the eleventh five-year plan (2013-2018).
2. Please provide information on the extent to which the multisectoral Child Welfare Committees provide adequate coverage for all children throughout the territory of the State party and on how the Committees have strengthened coordination at the local level for the effective protection of children.
3. Please provide information on the measures taken to enforce the prohibition of child marriage effectively, particularly with regard to girls.
4. Please provide detailed information on the activities and results of the Child Protection Programme of the Youth Development Fund in preventing and responding to violence against, and exploitation and abuse of, children. Please inform the Committee about the main findings of the Violence Against Children Study in its current phase and the follow-up measures.
5. Please provide information on the measures taken to provide the National Commission for Women and Children with the resources necessary to implement its child protection activities. Please also provide information on the procedures used by the

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Commission and by the civil society organization Respect, Educate, Nurture and Empower Women (RENEW) and its community-based network of volunteers, when receiving, processing and referring cases of violations of children's rights.

6. Please provide information on the measures taken to make primary education compulsory for all children under the jurisdiction of the State party. Please inform the Committee about the measures taken to promote girls' representation in the final years of secondary school and at tertiary level.

7. Please inform the Committee about the measures taken to regulate the emerging private education sector. Please clarify how the residential central schools, provided for in the draft education blueprint and which will require children as young as 6 to live in boarding schools, will respect the students' right not to be separated from their families.

8. Please inform the Committee how the National Education Plan promotes inclusive education for children with disabilities, including vocational training, and indicate what measures have been taken to adapt school infrastructure to the specific requirements of those children.

9. Please explain how the right to education, enshrined in the Constitution, is effectively ensured to all children of Nepalese ethnic origin (*Lhotshampas*).

10. Please provide information on the activities of the multisectoral child labour task force to combat child labour (beyond training labour inspectors) and on the status of the system for receiving complaints concerning child labour. With reference to paragraphs 287 and 288 of the State party report (CRC/C/BTN/3-5), please explain how the minimum working age of 13 does not interfere with the minimum mandatory education period of 11 years.

11. Please provide information on the measures taken to separate children from adults in all places of detention and on the activities undertaken to facilitate the reintegration into society of children in conflict with the law after their release.

Part II

12. The Committee invites the State party to provide a brief update (no more than three pages) on the information presented in its report with regard to:

- (a) New bills or laws, and their respective regulations;
- (b) New institutions (and their mandates) or institutional reforms;
- (c) Recently introduced policies, programmes and action plans and their scope and financing;
- (d) Recent ratifications of human rights instruments.

Part III

Data, statistics and other information, if available

13. Please provide consolidated information for the last three years on budget lines regarding children and social and justice sectors by indicating the percentage of each budget line in terms of the total national budget and the gross national product. Please also provide information on the geographic allocation of those resources.

14. Please provide, if available, updated statistical data disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, geographic location and socioeconomic status, for the past three years, on:

- (a) Cases of neglect and abuse, especially in institutions and alternative care settings;
- (b) Parents, guardians or staff of care institutions accused, indicted or convicted of child abuse, including sexual abuse;
- (c) Children of Nepalese ethnic origin in schools and classes;
- (d) Children working in the informal sector and children in street situations;
- (e) Child victims of trafficking and abduction.

15. Please provide data disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, geographic location and socioeconomic status regarding the situation of children deprived of a family environment, for the past three years, on the number of children:

- (a) Separated from their parents;
- (b) Placed in institutions;
- (c) Adopted domestically or through intercountry adoptions.

16. Please provide data disaggregated by age, sex, type of disability, ethnic origin, national origin, geographic location and socioeconomic status, for the past three years, on the number of children with disabilities:

- (a) Living with their families;
- (b) Living in institutions;
- (c) Attending regular primary schools;
- (d) Attending regular secondary schools;
- (e) Attending special schools;
- (f) Out of school;
- (g) Abandoned by their families.

17. Please provide detailed, disaggregated information, for the past three years, on the number of child rights complaints received by the legal unit of the National Commission for Women and Children, including the number that led to investigations and prosecutions and the number and type of convictions applied to perpetrators.

18. Please provide disaggregated data, for the past three years, on children who have benefited from the Child Protection Programme of the Youth Development Fund, which is aimed at preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children.

19. Please provide detailed information on cases of trafficking in children, including the number of reported cases, investigations conducted and perpetrators convicted and the sentences issued.

20. Please provide disaggregated data on the number of children in conflict with the law who have benefited from legal aid and diversion programmes.

21. Please provide the Committee with an update of any data in the report that may have been outdated by more recent data collected or other new developments.

22. 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.