



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Distr.: General
2 June 2026

Original: English
English, French and Spanish only

Committee on the Rights of the Child

List of issues in relation to the report submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran 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, if possible, by 15 October 2026. The Committee may take up all aspects of children's rights set out in the Optional Protocol during the dialogue with the State party. In the present document, the Committee uses the term "child" to refer to a person who is under 18 years of age.

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 exploitation of children for prostitution, the transfer of organs for profit or engagement in forced labour, including in waste management, or the production of child sexual abuse material, and for the purpose of marriage affecting girls, which is tantamount to the sale of children, as well as other forms of exploitation;

(b) Children trafficked from or through the State Party and children trafficked within the country for the purposes of sale, the 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) Reported cases investigated and prosecuted, convictions secured and penalties imposed, disaggregated by the nature of the offence, whether committed online or offline, the profile of the perpetrator, the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, and the sex and age of the victim;

(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 efforts made towards the establishment of a unified 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:

(a) Progress made by the national body on the Convention on the Rights of the Child to coordinate the implementation of the Optional Protocol, in the light of the information provided in paragraph 19 of the report of the State Party, and on the

* Adopted by the Committee intersessionally on 16 April 2026.



implementation of the 2015 national document on the rights of the child, in particular with regard to combating offences under the present Optional Protocol;

(b) Funds allocated specifically for the implementation of activities under the Optional Protocol.

5. Please inform the Committee about the following:

(a) Measures that are specifically aimed at preventing and countering the offences covered under article 3 of the Optional Protocol, in particular child labour and child sexual exploitation, including in the form of temporary religious marriages (*sigheh*);

(b) Efforts to identify and detect children at risk of becoming victims of offences under the Optional Protocol, in particular children in disadvantaged and marginalized situations, including children in street situations, and to address root causes such as extreme poverty;

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

(d) The availability of child-friendly mechanisms to report offences under the Optional Protocol, including anonymously. Please also report if these mechanisms are accessible also for girls on their own without the representation of their legal guardian.

6. Please provide information on the measures taken to prevent and respond to child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse material in the digital environment through an appropriate legal framework, raising awareness and training professionals to detect, block and remove online child sexual exploitation and abuse material and to report incidents to law enforcement authorities.

7. In addition to the information provided in the report of the State Party, please provide further details on preventive measures that 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 child marriages and domestic violence, children in street situations, child victims of labour exploitation, migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children, children living in institutions and children living in poverty. Please also inform the Committee about the measures taken to prevent trafficking in children by amending its legislation in line with international definitions and standards.

8. Please provide information on the efforts made 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, in particular girls, to come forward.

9. Please provide information on training programmes for professionals working with and for children, including law enforcement officials, prosecutors, judges and social workers, on the identification, investigation and handling of cases under the Optional Protocol.

10. In addition to the information provided by the State Party's report in paragraphs 47–63, please provide information on:

(a) The strengthening of the Law on protection of minors and adolescents (2020) and its enforcement with regard to all offences under the Optional Protocol, in the context of the Islamic Penal Code, including buying and selling of children;

(b) Plans to clarify statutory definitions of crimes and to ensure that all acts and activities related to the sale of children, as defined in articles 2 and 3 of the Optional Protocol, including the ones perpetrated in the digital environment, are explicitly defined, classified and criminalized in the Penal Code, with punishments commensurate to the gravity of crimes. Please inform how such cases are investigated and prosecuted.

11. Please clarify:

(a) 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, and provide information on the corresponding cases;

(b) 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;

(c) Whether measures have been taken to strengthen international cooperation, including bilateral and multilateral agreements, information-sharing, joint investigations and cooperation with international organizations, in order to prevent, investigate and prosecute offences under the Optional Protocol, including those committed in the digital environment.

12. Please elaborate on the following:

(a) 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, the 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;

(b) The measures taken to treat girl victims of sexual exploitation and abuse as victims and not as criminals and to shift the burden of proof from the victims to the State in such cases;

(c) The efforts made to provide child victims with accessible, child-friendly and effective mechanisms for compensation and remedies, including legal, administrative and judicial procedures. Please inform the Committee of the measures taken to remove barriers to access such mechanisms, including for girls, migrant children and children without legal guardians.

13. Please provide information on the measures taken to develop procedures to identify children, such as unaccompanied children entering the State Party, notably from Afghanistan, and Iranian children leaving the country to go abroad, who are or who may be at risk of becoming victims of sale, exploitation for prostitution and the production of child sexual abuse material and trafficking, and to provide such children with free legal aid and appropriate procedures for seeking compensation and redress without discrimination.
