



Convention on the Rights of the Child

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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 combined second, third and fourth periodic report of Guyana (CRC/C/GUY/2-4)

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 inform the Committee whether the State party intends to adopt a comprehensive policy and strategy for the implementation of children's rights, covering all areas of the Convention.
2. Please inform the Committee whether the Constitutional Commission on the Rights of the Child established in 2009 has become fully operational and whether it is fully independent and effective, in compliance with the Paris Principles. Please also indicate whether the Commission has a mandate to receive and examine individual complaints concerning children's rights. If so, please indicate the number and the nature of the complaints received and remedies provided by the Commission during the reporting period.
3. While noting the State party's efforts to increase social sector spending, please provide information on whether the State party has allocated resources that are clearly and specifically designated for the implementation of children's rights under the Convention.
4. Please inform the Committee on measures taken by the State party to ensure that children of Amerindian origin, children in rural and interior areas, and Afro-Guyanese children have equal access to basic social and child protection services. In this regard, please indicate how effective has the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs been in ensuring Amerindian children's rights.

5. In light of the 2008 Minimum Operational Standards and Regulations for Children's Homes, please provide information on the mechanisms in place to monitor the compliance with these regulations. Please also provide information on the findings of the Visiting Committees referred to in paragraph 243 of the State party's report.

6. Please provide more information on the measures taken to address the general problem of violence against women and children, including sexual abuse and corporal punishment, especially at home, in childcare institutions, schools and communities. Please provide detailed information on the investigations, prosecutions and sanctions against perpetrators of violence against women and children over the reporting period.

7. Please inform the Committee of cases of torture of children in detention. Please provide information on investigations, prosecutions and punishment of perpetrators in such cases.

8. Please inform the Committee of the measures taken to implement the 2010 Persons with Disabilities Act in respect of children with disabilities, especially with regard to their access to all services, including public buildings and transportation, and integration into mainstream education, and to address specifically the situation of children with disabilities living in remote areas.

9. Please provide information on laws, policies and other measures concerning adolescent health, in particular with regard to:

- (a) Reproductive health services for children and adolescents;
- (b) Teenage pregnancies and abortions;
- (c) Drug and alcohol abuse.

10. Please inform the Committee about policies, strategies and other measures taken by the State party to:

- (a) Ensure quality education in all schools, including in remote areas;
- (b) Increase the enrolment rate and reduce the dropout rates both in primary and secondary education, especially for boys;
- (c) Ensure that pregnant teenagers are given the opportunity to continue their education.

11. Please clarify whether the State party's legislation provides for regulation of companies and individuals, including adjudications, sanctions and reparations, for direct or indirect involvement of children in child labour, especially with regard to concessions to oil and timber companies.

12. Please inform the Committee if there has been any study conducted on the scale and the root causes of sexual exploitation of children, which is reportedly high in the country, as well as measures taken to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish perpetrators of child sexual exploitation and protect children victims of such crimes.

13. Please inform the Committee on the status of the draft Juvenile Justice Bill of 2008. Please also provide information on whether any measures have been taken to ensure that children up to 18 years of age are provided with adequate special protection and are dealt with by 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 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

1. Please provide, if available, statistical data on how many children are living in foster care settings disaggregated by sex, age, ethnic origin, geographic location and socio-economic background covering the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 .
2. Please provide information on the number of complaints and number of victims of sexual abuse and exploitation of children disaggregated by sex and age, the number of investigations and prosecutions carried out in this regard and perpetrators punished covering the years 2010, 2011 and 2012.
3. Please specify the number of children with disabilities, up to the age of 18, disaggregated by age, sex, type of disability, ethnic origin and socio-economic background covering the years 2010, 2011 and 2012:
 - (a) Living with their families;
 - (b) Living in institutions;
 - (c) Placed in foster care;
 - (d) Attending regular schools;
 - (e) Attending special schools;
 - (f) Not attending school.
4. Please provide, if available, statistical data on:
 - (a) The number of students dropping out of schools, including pregnant teenagers, disaggregated by sex, age, ethnic origin, geographic location and socio-economic background;
 - (b) The number of children and adolescents who are employed in agriculture, family businesses and farms;
 - (c) The number of children living and working in street situations.
5. Please provide information on the number of children who are in detention.
6. 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.