For participants only

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COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD Twentieth Session Pre-sessional Working Group 12-16 October 1998

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

List of Issues to be taken up in connection with the consideration of the initial report of Chad (CRC/C/3/Add.50)

GENERAL MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION

(Arts. 4, 42, and 44, para.6 of the Convention)

1. In light of the information provided in paragraph 21 of the report, please provide an update as to the status of the recommendation made by the National Sovereign Conference for the review and update of existing legislation relating to children and for the drafting, adoption and implementation of a comprehensive children's code.

2. Please describe the administrative setup of the Department of Children and Disabled Persons, including the level of resources (financial, human and technical) allocated for its effective functioning. Additionally, please highlight the difficulties and constraints faced by the Department in fulfilling its mandate to implement all aspects of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

3. Please describe the level of cooperation and coordination between the Department of Children and Disabled Persons and other national institutions and programmes dealing with the promotion and protection of children's rights, such as the Child Protection Office; the Committee for the Coordination and Implementation of the Objectives of the National Programme for Chadian Children; and the Urban Programme for Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances. Additionally, please describe the system established and/or foreseen by the Department of Children and Disabled Persons to monitor children's rights. Further, please indicate the extent to which non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are involved in the coordination, design and implementation of policies and programmes for children.

4. Please indicate whether indicators have been developed and disaggregated data collected on the status of children, especially the most vulnerable groups, such as children victim of abuse or ill-treatment, children affected by armed conflict, children living in rural areas, children born out of wedlock, children with disabilities, children working and/or living on the streets, children living in institutions, refugee children, and children belonging to minority groups. Further, please describe the extent to which these indicators and data are used in the formulation of policies and programmes for the effective implementation of the Convention. Please indicate whether consideration has been given to the establishment of an independent monitoring body for children's rights.

5. In light of article 4 of the Convention, please describe the extent to which the difficulties and limitations described in paragraphs 25-37 of the report have affected the implementation of the Convention, particularly as regards health, education and social services. Additionally, please specify the percentage of the national budget that is allocated to children's programmes and indicate whether there is an intention to increase the allocation.

6. Please provide information on the measures taken and/or envisaged to ensure that the principles and provisions of the Convention are disseminated at all levels of society, particularly within the school system and in the rural communities. Further, please indicate whether additional training is envisaged for professionals working with and for children.

DEFINITION OF THE CHILD

(Art. 1 of the Convention)

7. In light of the information provided in paragraph 41 of the report, please indicate whether the State party intends to establish legal minimum ages for sexual consent and legal and medical counselling of minors without parental consent. Further, in light of the information provided in paragraph 46 of the report, concerning the legal minimum age for marriage, please indicate whether the State party envisages increasing the legal minimum age for marriage for marriage for girls to the equivalent of that for boys (18 years).

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

(Arts. 2,3, 6 and 12 of the Convention)

8. Please provide further information on specific measures taken and/or envisaged to ensure that the principles of non-discrimination (article 2), the best interests of the child (article 3), and respect for the views of the child (article 12) are reflected in legislation as well as actions taken by social welfare institutions, courts of law and administrative authorities. Please also provide some examples of implementation of these principles by courts and/or administrative bodies.

9. With reference to the principle of non-discrimination (article 2), please provide additional information on the legislation, policies and programmes implemented and/or foreseen to ensure non-discrimination of girls in all aspects of society. Additionally, please provide information on the situation of children living in rural areas and among nomadic communities, including information on the accessibility of social services, especially basic health and education. In light of Article 2.2 of the Convention, please describe the measures taken to prevent discrimination against children based on the political or other opinion of their parents or guardians. Further, in light of information provided in paragraph 49 of the report concerning discrimination against children not recognized by their fathers, please describe the attitude of society toward single mothers and indicate whether programmes and facilities are available to assist and accommodate them.

10. Please describe the ways in which the principle of respect for the views of the child is reflected in practice within the family, in schools as well as in other institutions, and

generally within society. Further, please outline the measures taken and or foreseen to sensitize public opinion on the participatory rights of children and to further encourage children to exercise their right to freely express their views, in light of article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

(Arts. 7, 8, 13-17 and 37 (a) of the Convention)

11. Please indicate whether there is an intention to establish a monitoring system to ensure the registration of all children at birth, particularly those living in rural areas and among nomadic communities.

12. With respect to article 17 of the Convention, please indicate whether children are allowed adequate access to information, particularly those children living in rural areas. Further, in light of information provided in paragraph 82 of the report, please indicate whether steps have been taken to make the censorship committee operational or to introduce alternative measures to protect children from harmful information, including violence and pornography.

13. With reference to article 37 (a) of the Convention, please provide information on the legal and other measures implemented and/or foreseen to prevent and prohibit acts of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of children. Additionally, please indicate whether complaint procedures are easily accessible and available to children whose rights are violated in this regard.

14. Please provide additional information on the use of corporal punishment in families, schools, care institutions, juvenile correctional facilities and in the society at large. Additionally, please indicate whether there is an intention to prohibit by law all forms of corporal punishment.

FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AND ALTERNATIVE CARE

(Arts. 5, 18(1) and (2), 9, 10, 11, 19, 20, 21, 25, 27 (4), and 39)

15. Please provide information on the measures taken and or foreseen to assist parents, especially single mothers and those living in rural areas, in their child rearing responsibilities. Additionally, please provide information, including statistical data, on the occurrence of divorces, separations and deprivation of parental responsibilities.

16. In light of article 27 of the Convention and the information provided in paragraph 102 of the report, please indicate whether financial or any other assistance is provided by the State in cases where a parent may be financially incapable of the payment of maintenance.

17. Please provide information, including statistical data, on the status of alternative care in the country. Additionally, in light of information provided in paragraph 104 of the report, please indicate whether measures have been taken to ensure that the Koudoul Centre for Children is fully operational and periodically reviewed and monitored. Further, please indicate whether foster parenting has been institutionalized and a process of recruitment and evaluation of foster parents established.

18. With respect to information provided in paragraph 106 of the report, please describe the measures implemented by the Child Protection Office to monitor the situation and development of children under the intercountry adoption programme. In this regard, please indicate whether the State party intends to accede to the Hague Convention of 1993 on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption. Additionally, please provide information, including statistical data, on the occurrence of domestic adoption.

19. Please provide additional information, including statistical data, on the situation of neglect and abuse, including sexual abuse in the family and incest and outline the programmes implemented and/or foreseen to facilitate the rehabilitation of neglected and abused children. Further, please provide information on the situation of domestic violence.

BASIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

(Arts. 6, para. 2, 23, 24, 26, and 18, para. 3, and 27, paras.1-3)

20. Please provide additional information, including statistical data, on the status of children with disabilities including their access to education and vocational training. Additionally, please indicate whether health care services are available to children with disabilities who are not institutionalized, particularly those living in rural areas. With reference to the information provided in paragraph 133 (c) of the report, please highlight the activities undertaken to facilitate an increase in public awareness regarding the rights of children with disabilities. Further, in light of information provide in paragraph 134, please indicate whether there is an intention to expand the programme for persons with disabilities to include mental disabilities.

21. Please provide information, including statistical data, on adolescent health, including sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), HIV/AIDS, teenage mothers, abortions, reproductive health education, drug and substance abuse, violence, suicide and other mental health concerns. Please identify the policies and programmes implemented and/or foreseen to prevent these problems and to provide treatment and care for adolescents faced with these concerns.

22. In light of the information provided in paragraphs 135 to 141 of the report, please provide an update on the health care programmes implemented by the State party to combat early childhood diseases, malnutrition and infant mortality.

23. In light of information provided in paragraphs 35 and 126 of the report, please provide additional information on the measures taken and/or envisaged by the State party to combat the traditional practice of female genital mutilation and to counter the harmful effects of this practice on girls. Please indicate to what extent these measures have been effective.

EDUCATION, LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES (Arts. 28, 29 and 31 of the Convention)

24. Please provide additional information and disaggregated statistical data on the situation of

education, including enrollment and dropout rates at both the primary and secondary levels and highlight the measures taken to address these concerns. In light of information provided in paragraph 52 of the report, please identify any additional concrete measures taken to encourage and facilitate the enrollment of girls at all levels of the educational system. Further, please identify the measures taken by the State party to ensure that primary education is compulsory and available free to all.

25. Please provide an update as to the educational objectives outlined in paragraphs 166-175 of the report, highlighting the difficulties and constraints experienced thus far. Additionally, please indicate whether human rights, including the rights of the child, are included in the curriculum at school and whether training is available for school managers, administrators and teachers on the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

SPECIAL PROTECTION MEASURES

(Arts. 22, 30 and 32-40 of the Convention)

26. Please provide information, including statistical data, on asylum-seeking, unaccompanied and refugee children and outline the measures undertaken by the State to protect the rights of these children, particularly as regards education, health and other social services.

27. In light of information provided in paragraph 193 of the report, please indicate whether the State party has implemented its proposal to establish a juvenile court. Further, please provide information, including statistical data, on children in conflict with the law and identify the most common offenses for which they are brought before the courts.

28. Please provide information, in light of articles 37, 40 and 39 of the Convention, in particular on:

- (a) the use of arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child as a measure of last resort and for the shortest period of time;
- (b) the possibility to have prompt access to legal and other appropriate assistance, as well as for challenging the legality of the deprivation of liberty before a court or other competent, independent and impartial authority, and of having a prompt decision thereon,

29. Please provide further information on the treatment of children in conflict with the law, in particular on the following:

- (a) the measures taken to ensure contact between the child and his/her family;
- (b) how the conditions of children in detention are monitored;
- (c) whether there are complaint procedures to deal with issues such as illtreatment which are independent from the authorities of detention and correction institutions. How effective are these procedures?
- (d) educational, health and social services facilities;
- (e) services for the recovery and rehabilitation of children alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed the penal law and their effectiveness;
- (f) the measures taken to ensure the separation of children from adults;
- (g) the measures taken to ensure that legal aid is provided.

30. Please provide information on the situation of sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking

of children and identify the measures taken and/or foreseen to prevent and combat these concerns. Further, please indicate whether the State Party envisages adopting a comprehensive plan of action taking into account the recommendations of the 1996 Stockholm World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.

31. Please outline the measures taken to address the issue of child labour and to protect children from economic exploitation, particularly within the informal sector. Additionally, please indicate whether the State Party envisages becoming a party to ILO Convention No. 138 concerning the minimum age for access to work. Further, please indicate whether there have been reported cases of the sale, trafficking or abduction of children, particularly as regards child labour, and outline the measures taken to address these concerns.

32. In light of the information provided in paragraph 203 of the report, please outline the measures taken and/or foreseen by the State to guarantee the fundamental rights and freedoms of children belonging to minority groups.