

For participants only

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COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD
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Pre-sessional Working Group
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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

List of issues to be taken up in connection with
the consideration of the second periodic report of
Sweden (CRC/C/65/Add.3)

GENERAL MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION

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

1. Please indicate any new legislation in relation with the rights of the child, adopted since the submission of the report. In relation to information provided in paragraphs 86 and 87 of the report, please indicate any new development in the activities of the Children's Commission regarding the revision of Swedish law and practices in relation to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
2. Please indicate whether the State party envisages ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.
3. Please provide additional information on the Children's Ombudsman, including the mandate, functions and budget. Please also indicate whether the Children's Ombudsman is independent from the Government and how this independence is guaranteed in practice. Please also indicate whether the Children's Ombudsman is mandated to receive individual complaints and, if not, what are the reasons.
4. Please provide further information on existing or foreseen mechanisms to coordinate the activities between the local and central authorities, as well as with NGOs. Please also indicate whether any survey has been undertaken to assess the impact of the decentralization and reallocation of responsibilities between national and municipal authorities on the enjoyment of the rights of the child.
5. Please provide further information on existing mechanisms, including at the local level, for the monitoring of the situation of children, in particular those belonging to vulnerable groups, as well as statistical data and other indicators relating to the situation of foreign children, children with disabilities, children from single parents and other vulnerable groups.
6. Please provide additional information on the implementation of article 4 of the Convention in regard to the allocation ~~A~~to the maximum extent of (...)

available resources@ for the rights of the child, within both national and local budgets, and measures taken or foreseen to evaluate the impact of cuts in public spending, in particular for the most vulnerable groups. Please indicate if any studies have been undertaken in this area.

7. With regard to information provided in paragraphs 51 to 59 of the report, please indicate what measures have been taken, or are planned, to establish systematic training and retraining programmes on the Convention for professional groups such as: lawyers, army personnel and officials, immigration officers, civil servants including at the local level, personnel working in institutions or places of detention for children, teachers, health personnel and social workers. In addition, please indicate, recent developments, if any, in the efforts to raise awareness of the mass media, as well as the public at large, including children themselves, in particular in minority languages.

8. Please provide further information on the process of writing the report and indicate in which manner NGOs were involved. In the light of the information provided in paragraph 59 of the report, please provide updated information on the distribution and diffusion of the report.

DEFINITION OF THE CHILD
(Art. 1 of the Convention)

9. Please provide further information on the measures taken to implement the Committee's recommendation (see CRC/C/15/Add.2, para. 11), with regard to sexual maturity as well as the minimum legal age to receive legal or medical counseling without parental consent.

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

10. Please provide further information on measures adopted to ensure the rights set forth in the Convention to each child under the jurisdiction of the State without discrimination of any kind, including asylum-seeking and refugee children, immigrants children, and children belonging to a minority group. Please provide information on the incidence of racism and racial hatred, in particular among juveniles, and measures taken or foreseen to combat racism.

11. Please further indicate the specific measures adopted to prevent and reduce economic and social disparities to prevent discrimination against the most disadvantaged groups of children, including children belonging to minorities or indigenous communities, children of economically poor families or unemployed parents, children living with a single parent, and children with disabilities.

CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS
(Arts. 7, 8, 13-17 and 37 (a))

12. In light of paragraph 269, please indicate any new development relating to the Swedish Citizenship Act in order to reduce statelessness.

13. Please provide further information on the incidence of violence and pornography in the media, and measures envisaged or already taken to prevent and combat its negative effects on children. Please also indicate measures taken or foreseen to prevent and combat harmful effects of the new media, such as CD-ROMs and Internet, on children.

14. Please provide further information on the implementation of the laws protecting children against torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. In this regard, please provide information on the incidence of violent crimes, including rape and sexual exploitation, against children.

FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AND ALTERNATIVE CARE

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

15. In light of information provided in paragraph 347 of the report, please provide disaggregated data on cases of deprivation of parental authority.

16. Please provide additional information on the monitoring of the situation of children placed in foster families and alternative care, and the difficulties they may face. Please also provide, if available, disaggregated data, by age, gender, social and national origin, on children concerned by such measures. Please provide further information on their contacts with their biological families.

17. In light of paragraph 400 of the report, please provide further information on the special approved homes for young persons, special powers of the staff and remedy in case of abuse, as well as disaggregated data on children concerned by those measures.

18. Please provide additional information on the availability, progress and difficulties of family counseling services and parental education programmes, as well as on measures adopted or foreseen for assisting single-parent families, in particular those belonging to the most disadvantaged groups.

19. Please provide further information on the alleged increase of violence, including abuse and neglect within the families, in particular in the major urban areas.

BASIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

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

20. Please provide further information on adolescent health, in particular on the incidence of early pregnancies, abortion, suicide and other mental health problems.

21. Please provide additional information on children affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS and the measures taken to provide assistance to them. In particular please provide further information on measures for public awareness on the threat of HIV/AIDS, including for adolescents and other vulnerable groups, as well as on measures adopted to prevent and combat discriminatory attitudes against children infected by HIV or with AIDS, or whose parents or family members have been infected.

22. Please provide disaggregated data (rural/urban, national origin, municipalities..) on children living in poverty.

EDUCATION, LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

(Arts. 28, 29 and 31)

23. Please provide information on the incidence of violence and bullying at school, and measures taken or foreseen to prevent and combat it.

24. Please provide information on the impact of budgetary cuts on the education system, such as health services, including psychological counseling, in schools.

SPECIAL PROTECTION MEASURES

(Arts. 22, 30, 32-40)

25. Please provide further information on procedures of investigation of children seeking asylum who are accompanied by their family. In light of the information provided in paragraphs 488 and 681 of the report, please clarify the entitlement of asylum seeking children and refugee children to preventive and acute medical and dental care. In light of the information provided in paragraphs 685 and 687 of the report, please provide additional disaggregated and updated data on children seeking asylum, children guaranteed refugee status as well as children denied refugee status. Please also provide additional information on voluntary return of refugee children. Additionally, please provide information on the assessment of the impact of the new legislation on refugee children.

26. Please provide further information on the establishment of a mechanism for monitoring the situation of unaccompanied and asylum seeking children.

27. Please provide additional information on children deprived of their liberty and on compliance with article 37, in particular with regard to separation from adults (see Committee's recommendation, CRC/C/15/Add.2, para. 12).

28. In light of information provided in paragraphs 755 to 766 of the report, please provide further information on measures foreseen or adopted, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to prevent the abuse by children of drugs and alcohol. Please also provide disaggregated data on the incidence of drug and alcohol abuse among children. Please provide additional information on measures undertaken to assist children and their families, and policies and strategies designed to ensure the physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of children concerned.

29. Please provide further information on any new developments about the implementation of the laws relating to sexual abuse, trafficking and sexual exploitation of children, including the use of children in prostitution, pornography and sex tourism. Please provide disaggregated data, if available, on the incidence of child pornography and sexual exploitation of children, and indicate any study available on this matter. Please also provide information on the implementation of the extra-territorial effects of the legislation as well as difficulties in this regard. Please further detail measures to prevent the use of children in pornography as well as to rehabilitate children victim of such abuses. Please further clarify protection from sexual exploitation of children between 15 and 18. Finally, please indicate whether the State party has adopted a comprehensive Plan of Action to follow-up the recommendations of the 1996 Stockholm World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and whether regional cooperation initiatives have been undertaken in this area.