



**Convention on the
Rights of the Child**

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ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Eighteenth session

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE 454th TO 475th MEETINGS

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
from 18 May to 5 June 1998

Corrigendum

The present document contains the corrections received from participants and the Secretariat applying to the English text of the summary records of the meetings of the Committee on the Rights of the Child at its eighteenth session (CRC/C/SR.454 to 475).

With the issuance of the present corrigendum, the summary records of the meetings held by the Committee at its eighteenth session are to be considered as final.

454th meeting

Page 2, first line

Replace text by the following:

The meeting was called to order at 11. 05 a.m.

458th meeting

Paragraph 37, third line

Between although and some insert in

463rd meeting

Paragraph 7, sixth line

Instead of In 1997, there had been 780 *read* In 1998, there were about 600

Paragraph 8, second and third lines

After by delete a falling birth rate combined with an ageing population and

Paragraph 9, first line

After taken delete in response to the guidance given by the Committee

Third line

After initial report insert , written in accordance with the guideline set by the Committee

Paragraph 12, fourth line

After were being planned insert in various communities

Paragraph 13, fifth line

Instead of Doctors were now *read* Professionals concerned with children such as doctors
were

Page 3, paragraph 14, last line

Instead of violence *read* bullying

Page 4, paragraph 14, first line

Instead of a problem *read* the problem

Seventh line: *instead of* or 90 per cent *read* including 90 per cent

Paragraph 15, fourth line

Instead of A government team *read* A project team consisting of Diet members of the
ruling parties

Last line: *Instead of* at the beginning *read* at the end

Paragraph 28, fifth line

Instead of of the Minors' Code *read* and 49 of the Juvenile Law

Page 7, fifth line

Paragraph 30. should read 31.

Renumber following paragraphs accordingly.

Paragraph 32 (former paragraph 31), fifth line

Instead of the legislation on the age of majority read consistency with terminologies used in other domestic laws

Sixth line: instead of gido read jido

Eighth line: between Japanese and rules insert school

Last line: instead of minors read minorities

Paragraph 33 (former paragraph 32), tenth line

Instead of Education councils read Some of them

Paragraph 34 (former paragraph 33), third and fourth lines

Replace by the following text: under the coordination of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In the course of preparation of the report hearings of opinions of NGOs were conducted and they were taken into consideration when appropriate. At their

Paragraph 35 (former paragraph 34), lines 4 and 5

Replace text by the following:

had happened that it had been invoked before the courts by the parties, but there had been no case so far in which the court had decided that a law or a regulation had violated the Convention. When the

line 6

Instead of Legal Affairs Bureau read Legislative Bureau

Page 8, paragraph 35 (former paragraph 34), second line

Instead of Japanese law read Japanese Juvenile Law

Instead of majority read "juveniles"

Line 3

Insert below before 20

Lines 3 and 4

Instead of children's interests read interests of juveniles including children

Line 4

Instead of children in custody read juveniles in custody

Line 6

Delete moreover

Instead of a subject of law read a subject of rights

Paragraph 36 (former paragraph 35), first line

Replace text by the following:

The leaflet with the text of the Convention prepared by the Government was available in Japanese and English only

Second line

Before information insert other

Line 3

Instead of at the request of local authorities read upon request

Line 5

After obtained insert and distributed

Line 7

Replace text by the following:

arrangements to make the provisions of the Convention better known to judges,

Line 10

Instead of since read In relation to 20/20 Initiatives endorsed in

Line 11

Instead of particularly read including those

Line 12

Replace text by the following:

regard to child health and education, had reached more than 20 per cent of the total since 1993. Japan also

Last line

After contribution *add* (on Japanese yen basis) in 1998

Paragraph 38 (former paragraph 37), lines 3 to 6

Replace text by the following:

Needed to be looked into. It would be further discussed in a council which was set up in March 1997, to deal with education and public awareness of human rights and relief measures in case of violations of human rights. For the time being, the commissioners who had been appointed in all the regions, came under the Ministry of Justice. On the question of whether the budget

Page 9, paragraph 40 (former 39), second line

Instead of publicizing the Convention *read* protecting children's rights

Line 3

Instead of there were *read* the civil liberties commissioners cooperated with

Lines 7 and 8

Instead of would willingly agree, but *read* thought that

Paragraph 41 (former paragraph 40), line 4

Instead of teachers *read* teaching

Paragraph 42 (former paragraph 41), line 3

Instead of like *read* equally to

Line 7

Instead of authorize teaching in *read* provide an additional class for

After the language *insert* and culture

Last line

Replace text by the following:

to set up a school as a category of miscellaneous school providing education on their language and culture

Paragraph 43 (former paragraph 42), first line

Instead of explained read treated

Before social affairs insert the curriculum of

Second line

Delete lessons

Instead of 49 sociology read social study

Line 3

Delete 15

Line 4

Before responsibility insert direct

Paragraph 45 (former paragraph 44), first and second lines

Replace text by the following:

Mr. KAITANI (Japan) said that when submitting the initial report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Government had issued the press release. The text of the initial report had been published in 3, 000 copies and

Line 5

Instead of circulated read available

Paragraph 47 (former paragraph 46), lines 3 and 4

Replace text by the following:

Australian Government, which they knew had been working to develop indicators of children's situation, to find out how it had interpreted and developed "the indicator". To give a specific example of the way in which data

Paragraph 48 (former paragraph 47), line 4

Delete could

Page 11, paragraph 48 (former paragraph 47), lines 6 and 7

Replace text by the following:

would be responsible for taking any measures aimed at education and public awareness of human rights as well as improving a system for victim relief. When it had completed its work in that field, it

Line 13

After when insert and after

Line 15

Replace text by the following:

affairs bureaux. If a major

Line 16

Delete that

464th meeting

Paragraph 2, lines 3 and 4

Replace text by the following:

consideration of the periodic report should include not only women, but may also include children. She invited brief questions and

Paragraph 4, line 9

Instead of disparate read different

Paragraph 7, second line

Instead of draft read future

Line 4

Instead of municipal read domestic

Paragraph 10, line 5

Instead of profession groups read professional groups

Paragraph 12, lines 2 and 3

Delete International agreements did not automatically apply in Japan.

Line 4

Instead of municipal read domestic

Lines 5-9

Replace text by the following:

instruments were removed or amended. Whether or not to apply provisions of the Convention directly is judged in each case, taking into consideration the objective meaning and wording of the provisions concerned. International conventions had been invoked in Japanese courts in some cases.

Paragraph 14, lines 2 and 3

Delete Courts could therefore rule on complaints which relied on those conventions.

Line 3

After one case insert , for example,

Line 4

After found that insert "law" in

Line 5

Replace text by the following:

means not only laws adopted by the Diet, but also orders issued by local authorities.

Paragraph 15, line 3

Instead of article 1 read article 2

Paragraph 16, first and second lines

Replace text by the following:

Mr. KAITANI (Japan) said that there had not been any cases, in which a court had ruled on the point after the ratification of the Convention and it would be up to the courts to rule on the matter.

Line 3

Instead of he read He

Paragraph 31, last line

Instead of Huro read rural

Paragraph 39, line 5

Instead of Japanese legislation read the Law

Line 6

Instead of part-time and full-time read light

Last line

Replace text by the following:

Japan was trying to prepare basis towards the ratification of that Convention.

Paragraph 40, first line

Instead of In line with that Convention, the read The

Line 3

Delete small

Line 4

Instead of Teachers read School principals

Paragraph 41, first line

Before In order to *insert* Mr. HAYASHI (Japan), replying to the questions of children born out of wedlock, said that

Instead of In order to *read* in order to

Line 12

Instead of Ministry read Minister

Paragraph 44, lines 2 and 3

Instead of Family Courts read adjudication of domestic relations

Paragraph 45, first line

Instead of Mr. HAYASHI read Mr. YOSHIDA

Line 7

Instead of special schools read miscellaneous schools

Line 9

Instead of However read Therefore

Last line

Delete receive

Instead of tuition read classes

Paragraph 47, last line

Delete special

Paragraph 48, first line

After as children insert in Japan

Line 2

Instead of it could be caused by academic pressure read academic pressure could be one of the causes

Line 3

Instead of A 1992-1994 national survey read A broadcasting company's survey in 1992 and 1994

Line 6

Instead of the Diet was read the Central Council for Education and Curriculum Council were

Lines 8 and 9

Instead of The Central Education Council *read* These Councils

Paragraph 49, line 3

Instead of 95.5 *read* 95.9

Line 4

Instead of 43 *read* 43.4 *and instead of* 26 *read* 26.0

Line 6

Instead of 48.8 *read* 48.9

Before women-only *insert* while

Line 7

Instead of The Ministry *read* Even though these figures showed the results of their own choices, the Ministry

Line 10

Before The Ministry *insert* Under such a consideration, the Ministry was trying to provide career guidance to students.

Paragraph 50, first line

Instead of Mr. YOSHIDA (Japan) *read* He

Paragraph 54, line 3

Instead of had been *read* would be

Page 10, paragraph 54, first line

Instead of were currently *read* would be

Paragraph 55, first line

Instead of Mr. HAYASHI (Japan) *read* He

Last line

Instead of correctional *read* welfare

Paragraph 56, first line

Instead of Mr. YOSHIDA (Japan) read Mr. HAYASHI (Japan)

Lines 2 and 3

Replace text by the following:

between legitimate and illegitimate children on their legal and civil status, and therefore such differences are reflected in the Family

Line 4

Instead of rearing read treating

Line 5

Replace text by the following:

of wedlock, in the field of the Civil Code, children born in wedlock are entered in their family register as

Line 6

Delete were a

Last line

Replace text by the following:

wedlock are entered merely by their sex.

Paragraph 57, line 3

Instead of they usually did so read even when they register under Korean names, they sometimes use Japanese names in everyday lives

465th meeting

Paragraph 10, first line

Instead of the Ministry of Education read the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture

Second line

Instead of teachers *read* the prefectural boards of education, etc.

Paragraph 11, line 5

After School textbooks *insert* were to be authorized by the Ministry. However, they

Line 10

Instead of the Ministry of Education *read* the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture

Line 11

Instead of medical *read* physical

Page 4, paragraph 12, second line

After Otherwise, *insert* generally speaking,

Line 4

Instead of easily be naturalized *read* acquire Japanese nationality by satisfying the highly relaxed conditions for naturalization

Line 5

Instead of foreign *read* stateless

Instead of had an automatic right to *read* obtained

Paragraph 14

Replace text of the paragraph by the following:

Mr. KATSUURA (Japan) said that police officers with adequate knowledge of psychology provided assistance to children who had fallen victim to criminal acts, and to the families concerned. In addition, Japanese police had commissioned specialists such as clinical psychologists as "Counseling advisers for juvenile crime victims" and designed local residents as "Juvenile crime support volunteers" to offer appropriate support to the victims.

Paragraph 16, first line

After inhuman treatment were *insert* strictly

Lines 2 and 3

Instead of that all Japanese *read* relevant domestic

Delete referring to torture were consistent with the provisions of the Convention

Line 4

After Government *insert* had been and

Instead of possibility *read* problem

Paragraph 20, second line

Instead of the Ministry of Education *read* the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture

Line 3

Replace text by the following:

Stress, competition among children, etc. were considered to be notable among

Paragraph 22, line 3

Instead of Japan's *read* Japan had

Paragraph 30, lines 3 and 4

Replace text by the following:

Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption because it had some concerns related to the effect of special adoptions in accepting and receiving countries, etc. under the Convention.

Split the paragraph in two after the first sentence, the rest of the paragraph forming new paragraph 31

Renumber the following paragraphs accordingly

Lines 1-4 of the new paragraph 31 (4-7 of the former paragraph 30)

Replace text by the following:

31. Mr. HAYASHI (Japan) said that one of the parents could claim for a remedy for his/her child in the event of their separation and when another parent wished to take the child abroad. The family court could hear such cases, and would take into account

Paragraph 32 (former paragraph 31)

The name of the speaker *should read* Mr. GOTO

Paragraph 33 (former paragraph 32), line 3

After mentioned *insert* a ban on

Line 4

Delete last sentence

Paragraph 34 (former paragraph 33), first and second lines

Replace text by the following:

34. He said that children refusing to go to school were not automatically placed in welfare institutions.

Paragraphs 44-47 (former paragraphs 43-46)

Replace text by the following:

44. Mr. GOTO (Japan) said that the Japanese authorities did not have any precise data on disorders in the development of the nervous system among Japanese children. It was true that the number of disabled children in Japan seemed low. Perhaps the explanation lay in the definition of disability used in Japan. He would look into the definitions of disabled children used abroad. Nevertheless, the Japanese people had recently learned that disabled children had been subjected to corporal punishment in specialist institutions, and the Government had taken very firm steps to prevent such cases from recurring, not excluding closure of institutions in which such acts had been committed. Since 1996, the authorities were applying awareness creation measures designed to awaken the social conscience of Japanese people where disabled children were concerned. In addition, in cases where it was proposed to place a disabled child in a specialist institution, the views of the child concerned were taken fully into account. However, placing a child in such an institution was in no way intended to cut him or her off from society. The child could be integrated in other institutional contexts or could follow classes in an ordinary school. He added that sex education should be tailored to the child's level of development. It should nurture respect for each gender and for life. Accordingly, classes were organized to ensure that children received all the information they required. However, there was a need to take care not to give too much information to children who were too young to assimilate it properly.

45. In relation to the growing number of abortions among adolescents, he said that there were health centres which gave young girls advice and took the steps required to prevent such situations. Lastly, since April 1998, seropositive persons were regarded as being disabled and hence could receive an allowance for medical care.

46. Mr. YOSHIDA (Japan) said that he acknowledged that education-related costs were high, because they included private education fees, such as "Juku" fee, which was fairly high, but pointed out that the State endeavoured to provide financial support to families when it was established that they did not have sufficient means to send their children to school. In higher education, scholarships were offered to deserving students who were in financial difficulties, and both public and private universities reduced or waived tuition fees if the financial situation of students required it.

47. In Japan, schooling was compulsory only for Japanese children in elementary schools and lower secondary schools. Nevertheless, non-Japanese children could, if they wished, enjoy the same access to education. Non-Japanese schools, whether international, American, Korean or others, did not fall under the "normal" school system because these schools could enjoy their own schooling systems apart from the Japanese one. And children who attended them could not subsequently enter the Japanese school system directly. That restriction applied to all foreigners and not only to Koreans.

Paragraph 48 (former paragraph 47), first line

Instead of Mr. YOSHIDA (Japan) read He

Last line

Replace text by the following:

he did not acknowledge whether children were involved in the programmes on drug use.

Paragraph 53 (former paragraph 52), line 3

Replace text by the following:

in 1996 and had conducted awareness-raising campaigns in cooperation with Japan Committee for UNICEF. In 1997 a follow-up conference had been organized in Tokyo.

Line 4

Delete cooperation UNICEF

Paragraph 54 (former paragraph 53), lines 1-5

Replace text by the following:

54. Mr. INADA (Japan), in relation to pornography involving children, pointed out that the consent of the minor in question did not deny the criminal responsibility of those who were prosecuted. In addition, once a bill

Paragraph 55 (former paragraph 54), first line

The name of the speaker *should read* Mr. KATSUURA

Paragraph 56 (former paragraph 55), first line

The name of the speaker *should read* Mr. INADA

Paragraph 64 (former paragraph 63), line 3

Instead of essential read important

Paragraph 65 (former paragraph 64), first line

Instead of The Japanese read He said that the Japanese

Lines 3-7

Replace text by the following:

Committee, and which would be discussed in greater depth in the Government. At the same time, he expressed some reservations whether all of them are acceptable for his Government or not. He was sure that as the years passed, understanding of the essence of the Convention was advancing in Japan.
