



Convention on the Rights of the Child

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Committee on the Rights of the Child Fifty-fourth session

Summary record (partial)** of the 1515th (Chamber A) meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Monday, 31 May 2010, at 10 a.m.

Chairperson: Ms. Lee

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Consideration of reports of States parties (*continued*)

Third and fourth periodic reports of Guatemala

* No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.

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The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Consideration of reports of States parties (*continued*)

Third and fourth periodic reports of Guatemala (CRC/C/GTM/3-4, CRC/C/GTM/Q/3-4 and Add.1)

Expression of sympathy in connection with the recent volcanic eruption and tropical storm in Guatemala

1. **The Chairperson**, on behalf of all the members of the Committee, expressed sympathy to the Government of Guatemala in connection with the recent volcanic eruption and tropical storm in that country.
2. **Mr. Martinez** (Guatemala) thanked the Chairperson for the expression of sympathy. He said that a great deal of effort had gone into preparing the periodic report and the written replies to the Committee's list of issues. His Government recognized the Committee's concerns regarding the situation of children in Guatemala, but wished to highlight the progress made by State and civil society institutions, with the assistance of international mechanisms, in improving that situation. His Government was committed to meeting its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols. It was exactly three years since the Government had presented its second periodic report under the Convention, and a great deal had been done over the intervening years to implement the Committee's recommendations.
3. He regretted that, owing to the eruption of the Pacaya volcano on the evening of 27 May and to tropical storm Agatha, which had made landfall in Guatemala on 29 May, many members of the delegation had been unable to travel to Geneva to present the State party's third and fourth periodic reports. The presence of representatives of the media, government departments and the judiciary of Guatemala notwithstanding, he requested that consideration of the periodic report should be postponed until such time as the delegation could be present so that it could provide the required information and take on board the recommendations and opinions of the Committee.
4. **The Chairperson** said that consideration of the third and fourth periodic reports of Guatemala would be resumed at the earliest possible opportunity at the fifty-fifth or fifty-sixth session of the Committee.
5. **Ms. Ortiz** (Country Rapporteur) reiterated the Chairperson's expression of sympathy and said that the Committee remained at the disposal of the State party.
6. *The Committee decided to postpone consideration of the third and fourth periodic reports of Guatemala to a later session.*

The discussion covered in the summary record ended at 10.15 a.m.