



Convention on the Rights of the Child

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Committee on the Rights of the Child

Fifty-eighth session

19 September – 7 October 2011

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 44 of the Convention

Concluding observations: Italy

1. The Committee considered the consolidated third and fourth periodic report of Italy (CRC/C/ITA/3-4) at its 1642nd and 1643rd meetings (see CRC/C/SR.4642 and CRC/C/SR.1643) held on 20 September 2011, and adopted, at its 1668th meeting, held on 7 October 2011, the following concluding observations.

I. Introduction

2. The Committee welcomes the submission of the State party's periodic report (CRC/C/ITA/3-4) as well as the written reply to its list of issues (CRC/C/ITA/Q/3-4/Add.1) which provided a better understanding of the situation in the State party. The Committee expresses its appreciation for the constructive and open dialogue held with the high-level, cross-sectoral delegation of the State party.

II. Follow-up measures undertaken and progress achieved by the State party

3. The Committee welcomes as positive the adoption of the following legislative measures:

(a) Act No 62/2011 on protection of the relationship between mothers in prison and their minor children;

(b) Law on establishment of a National Ombudsperson for Childhood and Adolescence, in July 2011;

(c) Law Concerning the Fight against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Pornography Also via Internet, in February 2006;

(d) Law No. 54 on Provision on the Separation of Parents and Shared Custody of Children, in February 2006;

(e) Law No. 296/2006 making education mandatory for at least 10 years and increasing the minimum age for working from 15 to 16 years, in December 2006;

(f) Law on Provisions concerning the Prevention and Prohibition of the Practice of Female Genital Mutilation, in January 2006.

4. The Committee also welcomes the ratification of or accession to:

(a) The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, in 2010;

(b) The International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, in 2009;

(c) The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in 2006;

(d) The Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, in 2007;

5. The Committee also welcomes the following institutional and policy measures:

(a) Establishment of the National Observatory on Childhood and Adolescence, in 2007 and its subsequently renewed mandate;

(b) National Plan of Action and intervention for the protection of rights and development of subjects in developmental age 2010-2011;

(c) The Extraordinary Plan of Intervention for the Development of the Territorial System of Socio-educational Services for Early Childhood (2007-2009);

(d) Establishment of the Committee of Ministers for Policies and Strategic Guidance on the Protection of Human Rights through Prime Ministerial Decree of 13 April 2007;

(e) Establishment of the Coordinating Committee for Government Activities against Trafficking in Human Beings (2007), the Inter-ministerial Commission for the Support of Victims of Trafficking, Violence and Serious Exploitation (2007) and the Observatory on Trafficking in Human Beings (2007);

(f) National Plan of Action against Poverty and Social Exclusion 2006-2008.

III. Main areas of concern and recommendations

A. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44, para. 6 of the Convention)

The Committee's previous recommendations

6. The Committee welcomes efforts by the State party to implement the Committee's concluding observations on the State party's previous report (CRC/C/15/Add.198, 2003) and on the initial reports under the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (CRC/C/OPSC/ITA/CO/1, 2006) and the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (CRC/C/OPAC/ITA/CO/1, 2006). However, the Committee regrets that many of its concerns and recommendations have not been addressed or have been insufficiently addressed.

7. The Committee urges the State party to take all necessary measures to address the recommendations that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented, including those related to coordination, allocation of resources, systematic training on the Convention, non-discrimination, the best interests of the child, the right to an identity, adoption, juvenile justice, refugee and asylum-seeking children, and to provide adequate follow-up to the recommendations contained in the present concluding observations.

Coordination

8. The Committee is concerned that the devolution of powers from central to regional and other sub-national levels of government has contributed to an inequitable implementation of the Convention on the local level. In this context, it is of concern to the Committee that there exist different coordination mechanisms, including the National Observatory on Children and Adolescents, which may not have the appropriate mandate to effectively coordinate the policies and programs of the many entities relevant to implement the rights of the child. The Committee is further concerned that the State-Regions Conference lacks a working group to coordinate the planning and implementation of policies relevant to the rights of children.

9. Recalling that the central Government is responsible for ensuring coordination of the Convention and providing leadership and the necessary support to the regional governments in this regard, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Review and clarify the role of the National Observatory on Childhood and Adolescence to coordinate implementation of child rights policies and programmes amongst all the relevant Ministries and institutions and at all levels. In doing so, the State party is urged to ensure that it is strengthened and provided with the necessary human, technical and financial resources to implement child rights policies which are comprehensive, coherent and consistent at national, regional and municipal levels;

(b) Develop effective mechanisms to ensure a consistent application of the Convention in all regions through strengthening the coordination between national and regional levels and adopt national standards such as the essential levels for provision of social services (*Livelli Essenziali delle Prestazioni Sociali - LIVEAS*).

National Plan of Action

10. While noting the adoption of the National Plan of Action and intervention for the protection of rights and development of subjects in developmental age, 2010-2011, the Committee is concerned that this Plan is not implemented, that no budget has been allocated and that the process of allocating funds for the Plan at the regional level could further delay its implementation. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned that the Plan of Action lacks a specific monitoring and evaluation system.

11. The Committee recommends that the State party allocate funds for the implementation of the Plan of Action at the national level without delay, and encourage to the greatest extent possible the regions to allocate required funds for activities at the regional level. The Committee also recommends that the State party revise the National Plan of Action to include a specific monitoring and evaluation system. The Committee further recommends that the State party ensure that the current (and subsequent) National Plan of Action integrates follow-up of the present concluding observations.

Independent monitoring

12. The Committee is pleased to note that a National Ombudsperson for Childhood and Adolescence was established by law in July 2011. While welcoming the establishment of Children's Ombudspersons in several regions, the Committee is concerned that such institutions differ considerably in terms of mandate, composition, structure, resources and appointment and that not all regional Ombudspersons are mandated to receive and consider individual complaints. The Committee regrets that the establishment of an independent national human rights institution has taken considerable time.

13. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure that the new office of the national Ombudsperson for Childhood and Adolescence is promptly established and be provided with sufficient human, technical and financial resources to guarantee its independence and efficacy, in accordance with the Committee's general comment No. 2 (2002) on the role of independent human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child. It further recommends that the State party ensure uniform and efficient protection and promotion of child rights in all regions, which includes assistance to and coordination of existing regional children's Ombudspersons by the National Ombudsperson for Childhood and Adolescence. The Committee urges the State party to swiftly advance the process of establishing and operationalizing an independent national human rights mechanism, in full accordance with the Paris Principles, to ensure comprehensive and systematic monitoring of human rights, including children's rights.

Allocation of resources

14. The Committee regrets the lack of information in the State party's report regarding implementation of its earlier recommendation on a child-specific analysis of all sectoral budgets across the State party and the regions (CRC/C/15/add.198, para. 9). The Committee is particularly concerned over recent cuts in budgets for education, the non-financing of the 2010 Extraordinary plan for development of social and educational services and of reduction in funds for the Family Policy, the National Fund for Social Policies and the National Fund for Childhood and Adolescence. The Committee also expresses its concern at regional disparities in the allocation for and spending on children, including in the area of early childhood, education and health. The Committee is further concerned at the recent deterioration of the State party's international ranking in corruption and the effects this may have on children's rights. In light of the current financial situation confronting Italy, the Committee is concerned that services for children may not be protected and sustained.

15. The Committee reiterates its recommendation (CRC/C/15/add.198, para. 9) to undertake a comprehensive analysis of resource allocation for children at national and regional levels. On the basis of the findings of such analysis, the State party should ensure equitable budget allocation for children throughout the twenty regions, with a focus on early childhood, social services, education and integration programmes for children of migrant and other foreign communities. The Committee recommends that the State party effectively address the issue of corruption and ensure that all services for children are protected from cuts in the current financial situation.

Data collection

16. The Committee takes note of the creation of a national information system on care and protection of children and their families, to be concluded in 2012. Nevertheless, the Committee remains concerned at the limited data available on the enjoyment of children's rights, notably statistics on child victims of violence, children deprived of their family environment (including children in foster care), child victims of economic exploitation,

children with disabilities, adopted children, and refugee and asylum-seeking children. The Committee expresses concern at the significant discrepancies in capacity and effectiveness of regional data collection mechanisms.

17. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that the national information system on the care and protection of children and their families become fully operational and has the necessary human, technical and financial resources to be effective in gathering pertinent information throughout the country to strengthen the State party's ability to promote and protect children's rights. In particular, the Committee recommends that the State party ensure a fully consistent approach across all regions to effectively measure and address regional disparities.

Training

18. Despite information on some training provided for law enforcement officers and Carabinieri, the Committee regrets that the State party is yet to implement the earlier recommendation (CRC/C/15/Add.198, paras. 19 (d) and 31) on systematic training on children's rights and the Convention for all professional groups working for or with children, including for law enforcement officers, Carabinieri, prosecutors, judges, lawyers, legal guardians for children (curatori), civil servants, social workers and health professionals, local government officials, teachers and health personnel.

19. The Committee reiterates its recommendation to ensure systematic, mandatory and ongoing training on child rights for all professionals working with and for children, in particular law enforcement officers, Carabinieri, judges and penitentiary staff.

Child rights and the business sector

20. The Committee welcomes that the Constitution sets the general obligation for business to respect the principles set forth in the Constitution and notes that corporate social responsibility is promoted, regulated and implemented under voluntary business initiatives. It also notes that further legislation on corporate social responsibility, including tax exemptions for companies fulfilling certain parameters, is under discussion in the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies (Act No. 386 and Act No. 59, respectively). The Committee is nevertheless concerned that children's rights have not been sufficiently considered in such legislation. Additionally, the Committee is concerned at allegations regarding the use of forced child labour in the harvest of cotton imported by European countries, including Italy, who by doing so could facilitate the exploitation of child labour in exporting countries. The Committee notes that this is a subject under investigation by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and that the European Parliament is discussing a draft resolution calling, *inter alia*, the Council and the Commission to set an investigation Committee with temporary withdrawal of the generalised system of preferences in the cotton sector until the ILO is able to report on its mission.

21. Whereas the primary responsibility to ensure protection and respect for children's rights by State and non-State actors lies with the State, the Committee recommends specific inclusion of child rights concerns in the legislation under consideration by the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies to enact corporate human rights responsibility parameters, with a specific reference to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Moreover, it would be important that the law provide for the supervising bodies to be able to refer to the judicial authority in cases of abuses of children and human rights, including regarding activities of companies domiciled in Italy, and of their business partners, overseas. Additionally, the Committee recommends that the State party engage its responsibility within the EU to make sure that cotton originated from child labour (produced in Europe or elsewhere) does not

enter into the European market, using its leverage to ensure that children's rights are respected within EU trade agreements. Additionally, the State party could provide for a clear framework under proposed legislation for effective monitoring to ensure that companies domiciled in Italy do not contribute to the use of child labour by their supply chains or business partners abroad.

International cooperation

22. The Committee notes that the State party devoted approximately 0.20 per cent of its gross national income (GNI) to international assistance in 2006, and that it has committed to reaching the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of GNP by 2015. However, the Committee notes with concern that the levels of official development assistance, including its contribution to UNICEF, have been decreasing consistently after a peak in 2006, reaching less than half that amount in 2010.

23. **Bearing in mind the financial constraints facing many countries, the Committee encourages the State Party to strive to redress the fall in ODA and recover its growth path in order to meet the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of GNP by 2015. The Committee further encourages the State party to ensure that the realization of child rights becomes a top priority of the international cooperation agreements established with developing countries and to strive to increase its support to international organizations dealing with children's rights, especially UNICEF. In doing so, the Committee suggests that the State party take into account the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child for the recipient country in question.**

B. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12 of the Convention)

Non-discrimination

24. The Committee is seriously concerned at policies, laws and practices that discriminate against children in vulnerable situation in the State party. In particular, the Committee is concerned at the following:

(a) Discrimination against Roma, Sinti and Camminanti children (hereinafter termed Roma children) with respect to the fulfilment of their rights to health, education, adequate standard of living, social security, and other;

(b) Amendments to the Criminal Code which reduces sentences for propaganda advocating racial or ethnic superiority, in contravention of the Committee's earlier recommendation;

(c) Remaining disparities in the treatment between legitimate, legitimized, biological children and children born out of wedlock. In this regard, the Committee regrets that the State party has not ratified the Convention on the Legal Status of Children Born out of Wedlock of the Council of Europe. The Committee takes note of and welcomes the information provided during the dialogue on proposed legislation in this regard.

25. **In light of article 2 of the Convention, the Committee urges the State party to ensure that all children in the State party enjoy equal rights under the Convention without discrimination on any ground, and to this end:**

(a) **Expediently take all measures necessary to ensure the effective elimination of any form of discrimination of children of Roma origin in particular in the education system and the provision of essential services, in line with recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/C/ITA/CO/15, para 20);**

(b) Effectively adopt a comprehensive national action plan on the prevention of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, taking into full account all the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action, with particular emphasis on Article 2 of the Convention on the Rights of Child;

(c) Strengthen the mandate of the National Office of Racial Discrimination, in particular in the systematic collection of data on racist and xenophobic acts against children;

(d) Incorporate the aggravating circumstances of hate motivation into article 61 of the Criminal Code;

(e) Take appropriate legislative measures to eliminate any remaining discrimination between children born in marriage and children born outside marriage;

(f) Expedite the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on the Legal Status of Children Born out of Wedlock.

Respect for the views of the child

26. The Committee welcomes the declaration by the Constitutional Court on article 12 of the Convention as directly applicable in the domestic legal system and that the child be considered an interested party in proceedings. It further notes as positive Law No. 54/2006 which provides for the hearing of the child in parental separation, divorce and custody cases, legal provisions on obligation to appoint a child counsel in adoption procedures and in the determination of parental rights, as well as Legislative Decree No. 25 of 28 January 2008 recognizing the right of unaccompanied children to be heard. The Committee, however, remains concerned at:

(a) the absence of an explicit right of the child to be heard in all civil, criminal and administrative proceedings;

(b) the absence of guidelines for the implementation of Law No. 149/2001 relating to the appointment of defence counsels/*curatori speciali* for the child in adoption cases;

(c) the lack of systematic consultation of children in the process of making laws and policies affecting them at the national, regional or local level as well as the absence of more specific guidelines on children's participation in the development of future plan of actions concerning children.

27. In the light of article 12 of the Convention and the Committee's General Comment No. 12 (2009) on the right of the child to be heard, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) introduce a comprehensive legal provision establishing the right of the child to be heard that would be applicable to all courts, administrative bodies, institutions, schools, childcare institutions and families in matters affecting children, and take measures to allow for the direct hearing of the views of the child and, in doing so, provide adequate safeguards and mechanisms for ensuring that such participation can be carried out effectively and free of manipulation or intimidation and be supported by expert opinions by concerned services when appropriate;

(b) draw guidelines for the appointment of defence counsels/*curatori speciali* for the child in adoption cases; and

(c) take measures to ensure that children are included in the development of legislation and policies relevant to them, including the strengthening of Children's Councils, by setting up regional or national support structures.

C. Civil rights and freedoms (arts. 7, 8, 13-17, 19 and 37 (a) of the Convention)

Registration and nationality

28. The Committee is concerned at legal and practical restrictions with respect to the right of children of foreign origin to be registered. In particular, the Committee is concerned that Law No. 94/2009 on public security makes it compulsory for all non-Italians to show their residence permit in order to obtain civil records. The Committee is further concerned at the situation of de facto stateless children, including reports of a few hundred stateless Roma children.

29. The Committee, recalling the State party's acceptance of Recommendation No. 40 under the Universal Periodic Review to implement Law No. 91/1992 on Italian citizenship in a manner that preserves the rights of all children living in Italy (A/HRC/14/4/Add.1, p. 5), recommends that the State party:

(a) Ensure by law the obligation and facilitate it in practice for birth registration of all children born in and living in Italy;

(b) Undertake awareness-raising campaigns on the right of all children to be registered at birth, regardless of social and ethnic background and the resident status of parents;

(c) Facilitate access to citizenship for children who may otherwise be stateless.

Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

30. The Committee is concerned that the freedom of children to receive religious instruction or not in pre-school, primary and secondary schools may be undermined in practice by the lack of valid teaching alternatives and the absence of information as to the availability and dissemination of the requisite opt-out form for pupils deciding not to attend Catholic religious instruction.

31. The Committee calls upon the State party to intensify its efforts to ensure in practice that religious instruction is truly optional and:

(a) To ensure that all parents of pupils in public schools are fully aware of the optional nature of religious instruction, and make available information in the most common foreign languages;

(b) To study, identify and document good practices of alternatives to Catholic religious instruction and, upon findings of such research, consider making relevant teaching alternatives available in the national curricula.

Access to appropriate information

32. While noting as positive various self-regulatory codes regulating printed and broadcast media and the establishment of a Media and Minors Committee, the Committee is concerned at the lack of a comprehensive legal and educational framework conducive to the enjoyment of children's rights under article 17 of the Convention. The Committee shares the concern by the Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination

against Women about the role of Italian media and advertising in depicting women and young girls as sexual objects, as this negatively impacts on the development of children and their relations towards their peers. The Committee is particularly concerned at:

(a) The voluntary nature of the “Internet and Children Code” and that the Committee established to monitor its implementation has not been reinstated since the expiry of its mandate in 2007;

(b) The express need among children for greater protection of their right to privacy and that information on the use of the Internet is provided in a child-friendly language and format;

(c) The gender stereotypes which may affect girls’ choices in their studies and aspirations and the role of Italian media and advertising in depicting women and young girls as sexual objects;

(d) The negative portrayal of immigrants and minorities in media which impacts on their social integration and effective enjoyment of the rights of children of these communities.

(e) The content of advertisement leading to potentially harmful consumption patterns of food, drugs, toys and other elements.

33. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) **Promote and support the development of a Children and Media Code which fully incorporates the provisions and aims of article 17 of the Convention, including to encourage dissemination of socially and culturally beneficial material;**

(b) **Reinstitute the Committee monitoring the “Internet and Children Code” and ensure that violations of the Code are subject to effective administrative and legal sanctions;**

(c) **Take steps to ensure a responsible and proactive media which is capable of combatting racism and intolerance, and put in place a monitoring system which ensures its effective implementation.**

Corporal punishment

34. The Committee is concerned at the prevalence of corporal punishment in the home, in particular that many parents still find it appropriate to use slapping as a means of discipline. The Committee is also concerned that the State party has not yet passed legislation explicitly prohibiting all forms of corporal punishment in all settings, including in the home (CRC/C/15/Add.41, para. 20) despite the Supreme Court ruling on prohibition of corporal punishment.

35. The Committee recommends that the State party reform domestic legislation to ensure the explicit prohibition of all forms of corporal punishment in all settings, including in the home, taking into account the Committee’s general comment No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment and general comment No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence. The Committee further recommends that the State party raise awareness among parents and the general public on the impact of corporal punishment on the wellbeing of children and on positive alternative methods of discipline in accordance with the rights of the child.

D. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 18 (paras. 1-2), 9-11, 19-21, 25, 27 (para. 4) and 39 of the Convention)**Family environment**

36. While welcoming the progress in adopting the first National Plan for the Family and various measures, including tax deductions and child allowances for large families and low income families, respectively, to support parents and legal guardians in their child rearing responsibilities, the Committee is concerned that these are primarily of a monetary nature and do not address the needs of parents to increase their parenting capacities, through learning about the developmental needs of their children and the optimal ways of raising and disciplining them. The Committee is particularly concerned at limited public childcare opportunities and the high costs of private childcare.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party ensures that its support to large and low income families follows a holistic approach, including income support, a focus on parenting and parent education. In particular, the Committee recommends that the State party increase the access, affordability and quality of early childhood education and care programmes in accordance with the European Union Lisbon Strategy 2020 and the Communication from the European Commission on “Early Childhood Education and Care: Providing all our children with the best start for the world of tomorrow”, as well as of out of school activities.

Children deprived of a family environment

38. The Committee welcomes progress made towards the deinstitutionalization of care for children deprived of a family environment in accordance with Law No. 149/2001. The Committee, nevertheless, is concerned at the lack of minimum standards of services and care provided by alternative family-type communities or institutions and at the weak implementation of Law No. 149/2001 concerning the independent monitoring and registration of such communities. The Committee is in particular concerned at the lack of assessment of the quality of the services provided and lack of accountability of public funding received for hosting children. Furthermore, it notes with concern regional disparities in the use of foster care, and failure to adopt and adhere to common guidelines and legislation concerning foster care.

39. As regards the right of foreign children to reunite with their families living in Italy, the Committee is concerned at lengthy procedures and that legislation transposing EC Directive 2003/86/EC into domestic law excludes nuclear families living in the State party.

40. The Committee recommends that the State party, within its competencies, ensure effective and equal implementation of Law No. 149/2001 across all regions and:

(a) Adopt nationally agreed minimum criteria and standards for services and care for all alternative care institutions for children deprived of a family environment, including “residential structures” such as family-type communities;

(b) Ensure independent monitoring by relevant institutions of the placement of all children deprived of a family environment and establish an accountability mechanism for persons receiving public grants for hosting such children;

(c) Undertake a comprehensive survey on all children deprived of a family environment and create a national register of all such children;

(d) Amend the Consolidated Law on Immigration with a view to explicitly specifying the right to family reunification and its application to all foreigners with this right, including families formed in Italy;

(e) **Ensure the proper selection, training and supervision of foster families and provide them with adequate financial support and status;**

(f) **Take into account the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children annexed to the United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/142 of 20 December 2009.**

Adoption

41. The Committee welcomes mandatory provisions on the need to listen to the views and opinions of the child in domestic and inter-country adoptions. However, the Committee, noting the practice since 2003 of “open adoption”, expresses concern at the lack of a firm and coherent legal basis for such adoptions and the risks of indeterminate placement in foster families. Furthermore, the Committee reiterates its concern that inter-country adoptions are continuing with non-States parties to the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption in spite of the absence of bilateral agreements. While noting the measures taken by the the Commission on Intercountry Adoption, the Committee remains concerned with the large number of private adoption agencies, the inadequate monitoring system and the reports of financial gains of some parties in the adoption process.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) **Introduce the principle of the best interests of the child as a paramount consideration in legislation, including Law No. 184/1983 and Law No. 149/2001, and procedures governing adoption;**

(b) **Conclude bilateral agreements with all sending countries which have not yet ratified the 1993 Hague Convention;**

(c) **In compliance with the Hague Convention and Article 21(d) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, ensure effective and systematic monitoring of all private adoption agencies, consider options to manage or limit the large number of private adoption agencies and ensure that adoption processes does not provide financial gains to any party;**

(d) **Ensure systematic follow-up on the well-being of children adopted during the previous years and on the causes and consequences of break-down of adoption.**

Violence against children, including abuse and neglect of children

43. The Committee is seriously concerned at the absence of a nation-wide common system and framework for the protection and prevention of children from all forms of physical and mental violence and a corresponding monitoring and coordinating body for implementation. In this regard, it notes with serious concern results from a survey indicating that the majority of children aged 14-17 years, mostly in northern and central Italy, have experienced or witnessed child ill-treatment. In particular, while encouraged by positive experiences in some regions with respect to data collection (Piemonte and Veneto) and prevention (Emilia Romagna), the Committee is concerned at:

(a) The lack of a comprehensive national data collection system and register on all forms of violence against children;

(b) Regional disparities in terms of existence and implementation of guidelines on violence against children as well as with respect to prevention, treatment and eradication of violence;

(c) The abandonment of children by mothers in difficult situations.

44. The Committee reiterates its previous concerns and concluding observations (CRC/C/15/Add.198, paras. 37 and 38) and recommends that the State party, drawing its attention to General Comment No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence:

(a) Prioritize elimination of all forms of violence against children, including by ensuring implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children (A/61/299), taking account the outcome and recommendations of the Regional Consultations for Europe and Central Asia (held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, 5-7 July 2005), and paying particular attention to gender;

(b) Provide information concerning the implementation by the State party of the recommendations of the above-mentioned study in its next periodic report, particularly those highlighted by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children, in particular:

(i) The development in each State of a national comprehensive strategy to prevent and address all forms of violence and ill-treatment against children;

(ii) The introduction of an explicit national legal ban on all forms of violence against children in all settings; and

(iii) The consolidation of a national system of data collection, analysis and dissemination, and a research agenda on violence and ill-treatment against children.

E. Disability, basic health and welfare (arts. 6, 18 (para. 3), 23, 24, 26, 27 (paras. 1-3) and 33 of the Convention)

Children with disabilities

45. The Committee regrets the limited information in the State party's report on children with disabilities. While welcoming efforts to integrate children with disability in the school system, the Committee is concerned that disability is still conceptualized as a "handicap" rather than approached with the aim of ensuring social inclusion of children with disabilities, and that there are regional disparities in the provision of specialist teachers in school. The Committee is further concerned at inadequacies and delays with respect to ensuring special care for children with disabilities in early childhood and the lack of statistical data for children with disability in the age group 0-6 years.

46. The Committee recommends that the State party review existing policies and programmes to ensure a rights based approach in relation to children with disabilities and consider information and training initiatives to ensure that relevant Government officials and community at large are sensitized in this respect. The Committee also recommends that the State party provide sufficient numbers of specialist teachers to all schools so that all children with disabilities can enjoy access to high quality inclusive education. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that the State party gather specific and disaggregated data on children with disabilities, including the age group of 0-6 years, to adapt policies and programs according to such needs. The Committee encourages the State Party to take into account the Committee's general comment No. 9 (2006) on the rights of children with disabilities in this respect.

Health and health services

47. The Committee notes with concern the absence of defined essential levels of health care (*Livelli Essenziali di Assistenza* - LEA) in combination with the devolution of health

care powers to the regional level, which has resulted in discrepancies in the quality and efficiency of the health care system between southern and northern regions of the State party, affecting the right of children to the highest attainable standard of health. The high, and growing, rate of child obesity as well as the significant number of children suffering from allergic and/or respiratory diseases, are also a matter of concern to the Committee. The Committee is further concerned at the higher rates of stillbirths and perinatal mortality among foreign mothers, as well as at frequent treatment in emergency departments or hospitals than their Italian counterparts due, in part, to the fact that undocumented foreign mothers do not undergo the necessary obstetric treatment and tests prior and during pregnancy as a result of the criminalization of undocumented foreigners.

48. The Committee recommends that the State party take immediate steps to promote common standards in health care services for all children in all regions and:

(a) **Undertake an analysis of the implementation of the 2006-2008 National Health Plan with respect to children's right to health and on this basis allocate adequate health care expenditure for children;**

(b) **Define the essential levels of health care (*Livelli Essenziali di Assistenza - LEA*) without delay;**

(c) **Improve training programmes for all health professionals in conformity with the rights of the child;**

(d) **Undertake advocacy and awareness-raising programs targeting schools and families, emphasising the importance of physical exercise, healthy eating practises and lifestyles, including effective implementation of the National Prevention Plan 2010-2012 and increase the hours and improve the quality of physical education in the curricula of primary and secondary schools;**

(e) **Develop and implement an information and awareness raising campaign on the right to health care of all children, including those of foreign origin, targeting in particular health care facilities which are accessed by foreign communities. This should include addressing the higher rates of still-births and perinatal mortality among foreign mothers.**

Breastfeeding

49. The Committee is concerned at the low rate of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months and the practice of providing complementary foods to infants from the age of four months. The Committee is further concerned at the unregulated marketing of food for infants, young children and adolescents and inadequacies in the monitoring of the marketing of breast milk substitutes.

50. The Committee recommends that the State party take action to improve the practise of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months, through awareness raising measures including campaigns, information and training for relevant Government officials, particularly staff working in maternity units, and parents. The Committee further recommends that the State party strengthen the monitoring of existing marketing regulations relating to food for children and regulations related to the marketing of breast milk substitutes, including bottles and teats, and ensure such regulations are monitored on a regular basis and action is taken against those who violate the code.

Mental health

51. The Committee is concerned at the absence of a comprehensive national strategy or system to assess and monitor the situation of mental health among children, in particular

adolescents. It regrets in this regard that the National Guidelines for Mental Health of 2008 are yet to be implemented. The Committee is further concerned that inadequate resources have prevented local health authorities and the Child and Adolescent Neuropsychiatric Services to put in place multidisciplinary teams to address mental health problems among children from a socio-psychological approach. It is also of concern to the Committee that some psychopharmaceuticals used by children have the side effect of increased suicidal tendencies. The Committee is also concerned over the prevalence of depression which may lead to suicides among children.

52. The Committee, referring to its general comment No. 4 on adolescent health and development, recommends that the State party strengthen available and quality services and programmes for mental health and in particular:

(a) Implement and monitor the National Guidelines on Mental Health without delay;

(b) Develop a comprehensive national mental health policy with a clear focus on the mental health of adolescents and ensure its effective implementation by allocating adequate public funding and resources and developing and implementing a monitoring system;

(c) Implement a multidisciplinary approach to the treatment of psychological and psycho-social ill-health and disorders among children by establishing an integrated system of child mental health care which involves the parents, family and school as relevant.

Drug and substance abuse

53. The Committee is deeply concerned at the increase in use of illicit drugs, in particular amphetamines, among adolescents in the State party. The Committee notes with concern that such drugs are often used to improve school performance and to fight depression. Further, the Committee is concerned at the high levels of alcohol consumption and tobacco use among children, and the negative influence of advertisement, whether directly or through the mass media in general.

54. The Committee, referring to its general comment No. 4 on adolescent health and development, recommends that the State party take relevant measures to eliminate the use of illicit drugs by children, through communication programs and campaigns, providing life-skills education to adolescents and through the training of teachers, social workers and other relevant officials. This must include programs on promoting healthy lifestyles among adolescents to prevent the use of alcohol and tobacco and enforcement of regulations on the advertising of such products to children. The Committee encourages the State party to present information on such efforts and data on the use of illicit drugs by children in its next periodic report to the Committee.

Children of incarcerated parents

55. While the Committee welcomes the adoption of Act No 62/2011 on protection of the relationship between mothers in prison and their minor children, the Committee is further concerned at the high number of children separated from one or both parents who are imprisoned and at babies who are living in prisons with their mothers, and who risk separation from them unless they meet the requirement for house arrest.

56. The Committee recommends that the State party undertake a study on the situation regarding the rights of children with parents in prison to a family

environment with a view of ensuring personal relations, adequate services and appropriate support in line with article 9 of the Convention.

Standard of living

57. The Committee is deeply concerned at the high number of children living in poverty in the State party and at the disproportional concentration of child poverty in Southern Italy. Noting that the State party has the second lowest employment rate among women in the European Union (below 50%), the Committee is concerned that child poverty is closely linked with unemployment among women. While appreciating recent policy interventions in 2008-2009 for low-income families (*Bonus Famiglia* and *Social Card*), the Committee is concerned that such programmes only marginally reduce inequalities and poverty. The Committee notes with concern that the programs of the State party seem to focus on income measures and have limited consideration of social, cultural, geographic and other such structural determinants of poverty reduction.

58. The Committee urges the State party to intensify its efforts to address and eradicate poverty and inequality, especially of children, and:

(a) **To consider systematic reform of current policies and programs to effectively address child poverty in a sustainable manner, using a multidisciplinary approach considering social, cultural, geographic determinants of poverty reduction;**

(b) **To evaluate the result of current programs on poverty alleviation and ensure that subsequent policies and plans contain relevant indicators and a monitoring framework;**

(c) **To increase participation of women in the labour market and promote flexible working arrangements for both parents, including by increasing the provision of childcare;**

(d) **To increase and sustain income support to low-income families with children and ensure that such support is extended to families of foreign origin.**

F. Education, leisure and cultural activities (arts. 28, 29 and 31 of the Convention)

Education, including vocational training and guidance

59. While recognizing efforts to implement its previous recommendations (CRC/C/15/Add.198, para. 43), the Committee reiterates some of its concerns, in particular:

(a) Continuing high school drop-out rates, especially in the south and among children from families in socio-economic difficulties,

(b) The poor conditions of school buildings and facilities, which on occasions have led to accidental deaths due to a lack of safety;

(c) The prevalence of violence and bullying in schools, dealt with primarily through disciplinary rather than psychosocial and educational measures, and the low rates of complaints reported by victims;

(d) The lack of homogeneity amongst the regions and delay in passing legislation postponing access to vocational training in view of the raising of school age to 16 years;

(e) The failure to fully integrate foreign children and children belonging to minorities into the school system⁷

(f) That children do not participate in or are consulted in any great extent with regard to decision making processes of concern to them in the education system.

60. Additionally, the Committee is concerned at the suspension of Legislative Decree No. 226 (2005) regulating the essential levels of service in education and vocational training that regions are required to guarantee and that no standardized nation-wide framework for measures of bolstering education is in place. The Committee notes with concern the significant cuts in public funding to the education sector following the 2009 school reform, including a considerable downsizing in the number of teachers, whereas funding for private schools has doubled during the past decade. The Committee also notes the diversification of funding sources for education, including from the EU and local foundations.

61. The Committee strongly recommends that the State party:

(a) **Refrain from further budget cuts in the education sector and ensure that schools are provided with adequate human, technical and financial resources to provide quality education for all children**

(b) **Introduce educational support mechanisms to children from economically disadvantaged families;**

(c) **Effectively address violence and bullying in schools through socio-educational measures such as counseling, awareness-raising of school rules and the Student Statute, forums for dialogue and access for children to report such incidents, rather than limiting action to disciplinary and punitive measures;**

(d) **Pass into law Legislative Decree No. 81/2008 on workplace safety in relation to schools;**

(e) **Take action to pass legislation on access to vocational training and increase mandatory school age to 16 years;**

(f) **Develop programs to improve integration of foreigners and minority children in schools.**

G. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 38, 39, 40, 37 (b)-(d), 32-36 of the Convention)

Children in migration situations

62. The Committee recognises the particular geographic location of the State party and the constraints inherent therein and appreciates the efforts and measures that, in a situation of emergency and without any kind of assistance, the State party has recently had to adopt and implement in order to face the unexpected and unprecedented arrival of thousands of refugees fleeing wars, political disruptions and poverty in their countries of origin. However, the Committee remains concerned that this situation is harmful to children, whether they are refugees, unaccompanied minors or migrants, in view of the rights to which they are entitled under the Convention.

Asylum-seeking and refugee children

63. The Committee welcomes the prohibition to expel or return persons under the age of 18 years and pregnant women under the immigration laws of the State party. It notes with concern however, that children of foreign origin can be expelled from the country for reasons of public order and State security and that the State party, in implementing the 2009 interception policy of migrants (“push-back” policy), has returned children, including

unaccompanied children, without individual examination of the circumstances of each child or providing each child with a possibility to request asylum. The Committee is deeply concerned that some of the migrants pushed back have been identified as requiring international protection, in violation of the State party's *non-refoulement* obligations. It is further of serious concern to the Committee that the State party has detained children with their families when forcibly returning migrants, without the possibility to seek asylum.

64. While noting Legislative Decree 25/2008, the Committee is concerned that the State party lacks a framework law on political asylum. The Committee is concerned at the limited capacity and availability, overcrowding, and very poor conditions of reception centres for children, resulting in the placement of children in reception centres not intended for persons under 18. It notes with particular concern reports of sub-standard reception and living conditions for migrants, especially children, arriving in Lampedusa and other locations during the spring and summer of 2011.

65. In light of the above, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Ensure that each child under its jurisdiction, whether at the high seas or on its territory, who seeks to enter Italy has the right to an individual examination of his/her circumstances and to be provided with prompt access to asylum procedures and other relevant national and international protection procedures ;

(b) Review domestic law and ensure that it prohibits the expulsion of persons under the age of 18, even for reasons for public order and state security, where there are substantial grounds for believing that there is a real risk of irreparable harm to the child;

(c) Put in place without delay an effective system of data collection and information storage of all children, including asylum-seeking and refugee children, with protection needs;

(d) Draw upon its general comment No. 6 (2005) on treatment of unaccompanied and separated children outside their country of origin in the implementation of the above recommendations.

Unaccompanied children

66. The Committee is concerned at the lack of a holistic and common approach in the State party with respect to unaccompanied children, including the absence of comprehensive guidelines and legal framework on unaccompanied children. It is concerned that existing legal protection and procedures for appointing guardians and issuing residence permits for unaccompanied children are unevenly applied across regions of the State party. The Committee notes the efforts by the Committee for Foreign Minors to improve the conditions for minors temporarily hosted in Italy, but notes that the Committee's competence is limited to children who do not apply for asylum. It is a matter of concern also that a medical approach is increasingly used to determine the age of unaccompanied children which jeopardize in practice the application of the principle of the benefit of the doubt.

67. The Committee recommends that the State party introduce comprehensive legislation ensuring assistance and protection of unaccompanied children, drawing upon the principles set out in general comment no. 5 (2006) on treatment of unaccompanied and separated children outside their country of origin. In particular, the Committee recommends that the State party establish a specific and permanent national authority to oversee the condition of unaccompanied children, identifies their needs and addresses challenges in the current system and to develop operational guidelines on unaccompanied children, including on reception, identification, needs

assessment and protection strategy. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt a unified age assessment procedure of unaccompanied children that is multidisciplinary and fully upholds the principle of the benefit of the doubt.

Children of migrant families

68. The Committee expresses deep concern at restrictions in terms of access to health care, education and other social services for children of irregular migrants, noting that families without a residence permit have no right to social services. It is particularly concerned in this regard at the promulgation of Law No. 94/2009 on public security which criminalizes undocumented entry and stay in Italy and which has serious negative impact on the enjoyment of economic and social rights of children and families not legally resident in the State party. The Committee, noting the significant increase in the number of children of migrant families in the State party, further regrets that financing for the “Fund for the Social Inclusion of Immigrants” was cut in 2008 and 2009. The Committee also notes with serious concern reports that children of families not legally resident in the State party may be held in Identification and Expulsion Centres and that domestic law does not regulate the presence of children in such centres.

69. The Committee, reminds the State party that the rights stipulated in the Convention should not be limited to children who are citizens of a State party but must extend to all children irrespective of their immigration status and recommends that the State party:

(a) Review the Immigration Law with a view to ensure migrant children equal rights to education, health and other social services, in line with the Constitutional Court ruling of July 2010;

(b) Ensure in law and practice that the best interests of the child will always be of paramount consideration in deciding on residence permits to foreigners.

Children in armed conflict

70. The Committee is concerned that the State party has not implemented its previous recommendations to: (i) expressly criminalize in domestic legislation the recruitment and use in hostilities of persons under the age of 18 by the armed forces and armed groups; and (ii) define “direct participation” in domestic legislation, in line with articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.

71. While appreciating alignment with article 29 of the Convention, the Committee regrets that the curriculum of the four military schools operating in the State party does not specifically include teaching on human rights, the Convention and the Optional Protocol. The Committee further regrets that its previous recommendation to introduce in domestic legislation the prohibition and criminalization of the sale of small arms and light weapons to countries where children are involved in armed conflict has not been implemented by the State party. The Committee also regrets lack of information in the State party report on rehabilitation and social reintegration of child victims of the crimes in the Optional Protocol.

72. The Committee, recalling its earlier recommendations, urges the State party to intensify its efforts to implement the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict and:

(a) Amend its declaration under the Optional Protocol on the minimum age for recruitment to conform with national legislation of a minimum age of 18 years.

(b) **To amend the Criminal Code to expressly prohibit and criminalize the recruitment and use in hostilities in the armed forces and armed groups persons under the age of 18;**

(c) **To prohibit and criminalize in domestic legislation the sale of small arms and light weapons to countries where children are involved in armed conflict;**

(d) **To include the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict as a ground for refugee status in domestic legislation;**

(e) **To ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions.**

Sexual exploitation

73. The Committee welcomes the creation of the Observatory for the Fight against Pedophilia and Child Pornography, the National Centre for Combating Child Pornography on the Internet, and the Observatory on Prostitution and Related Crimes, and notes as positive the adoption of Act No.11/2009 which makes sexual acts perpetrated against children an aggravating circumstance. The Committee is concerned, however, at the lack of resources and plan to coordinate and fund their activities. In this regard, and noting the increase of street prostitution in major cities in the State party, the limited data on and activities focusing on eliminating child prostitution is of considerable concern to the Committee. While further noting as positive the strengthening of domestic legislation against sexual exploitation, child pornography and child prostitution (Law No. 38/2006), the Committee regrets that it still does not define child pornography as required under the Optional Protocol.

74. The Committee is concerned that funding for the implementation of the Optional Protocol has been reduced by half since 2000, and that the focus is primarily on trafficking. The Committee is further concerned at limited programmes aimed at prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation of particularly vulnerable groups of children and at difficulties in identification of victims of child pornography and child prostitution.

75. The Committee strongly recommends that the State party:

(a) **Fully harmonize national legislation with the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, in particular by introducing a definition of child pornography in its Criminal Code;**

(b) **Develop and implement a strategy for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, focusing on vulnerable groups of children including Roma children;**

(c) **Identification and protection of victims, including by providing specialist training for and enhanced resources to the Specialist Unit for the Analysis of Child Pornographic material;**

(d) **Ensure the effective functioning of the Observatory for the Fight against Pedophilia and Child Pornography, including appointing its members and operationalise the data base to monitor this crime;**

(e) **Reinstitute the Observatory on Prostitution and Related Crimes or entrust its mandate and activities to an existing body with a view to ensure monitoring of child prostitution and abuse.**

Administration of juvenile justice

76. The Committee notes as positive the emphasis on alternative measures and reintegration in the juvenile justice system of the State party. The Committee is

nevertheless concerned that the bill on the juvenile prison system aimed at further diversifying the response by the juvenile justice system has not been adopted yet and at financial cuts threatening the current system. In this regard, the Committee is concerned at reports on the excessive use of detention, at prolonged pre-trial detention of children and at inadequate access to education and training for children deprived of their liberty in Juvenile Correctional Institutions (IPM).

77. The Committee expresses deep concern over reports that foreign children have been placed in Juvenile Correction Institutions and Reception centers solely due to the lack of documents. The increase in the number of foreign and Roma children stopped by judicial authorities during the reporting period is a further matter of concern and that they benefit to a much lesser extent than Italian children from diversion and other alternative measures underlying the law.

78. The Committee recommends that the State party bring its juvenile justice system fully in line with the Convention, in particular articles 37, 39 and 40, and with other relevant standards, including the Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules), the Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines), the Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (the Havana Rules), the Vienna Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System; and the Committee's general comment No. 10 (2007) on the rights of the child in juvenile justice (CRC/C/GC/10). In particular, the Committee urges the State party to:

- (a) **Adopt the bill on the juvenile prison system without undue delay;**
- (b) **Allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources to the juvenile justice system to ensure retained focus on diversion and other alternative measures to deprivation of liberty, as recommended by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (A/HRC/10/21/Add.5, para. 122);**
- (c) **Undertake a thorough analysis on the overrepresentation of foreign and Roma children in the juvenile justice system**
- (d) **Establish an independent monitoring mechanism to undertake regular visits to places where children are deprived of their liberty.**

Children belonging to minority groups

79. The Committee is seriously concerned about the poor health of Roma children, as manifested in higher infant mortality rates, higher incidence of chronic and infective diseases, and low vaccination rates, and that limited access to health care and other social services is, to a certain extent, considered to be self-imposed. The Committee is further concerned at the very limited number of Roma children enrolled in primary and especially secondary school. Noting the deplorable economic situation and social exclusion of the Roma community, the Committee is alarmed that the State party is addressing their situation primarily through security (Security Pacts of 2006, emergency decree of 2008) rather than concerted social inclusion measures based on participation. In this respect, the Committee is deeply concerned that the living conditions of Roma have further deteriorated pursuant to measures taken under the emergency decrees, exacerbating de facto segregation through the construction of "temporary housing containers". The Committee notes with utmost concern the death of six children in the past year in "illegal" Roma camps with very poor conditions, as well as evictions, deportations, and government efforts to remove Romani children from their parents for their protection. The Committee also expresses its concern at the increase in begging, particularly among Roma children and at the nexus between child begging and organized crime. The Committee is further concerned over

reports of prevalence of early marriage amongst Roma in Italy and limited information from the State party on measures to address this.

80. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Discontinue the state of emergency in relation to settlements of nomad communities and Ordinances of 30 May 2008;

(b) Develop and adopt, with the participation of affected communities, a national plan of action for the genuine social integration of the Roma in Italian society, taking due consideration of the vulnerable situation of Roma children in particular in relation to health and education;

(c) Allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources to ensure sustainable improvement in the socio-economic conditions of Roma children

(d) Adopt measures to address harmful practices such as early marriage;

(e) Develop relevant guidelines and provide training for government officials to enhance understanding of Roma culture and prevent discriminatory and stereotypical perception of Roma children;

(f) Ratify the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages.

H. Ratification of international human rights instruments

81. The Committee recommends that the State party ratify the core United Nations human rights treaties and their Optional Protocols to which it is not yet a party, namely, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

I. Cooperation with regional and international bodies

82. The Committee recommends that the State party cooperate with the Council of Europe towards the implementation of the Convention and other human rights instruments, both in the State party and in other Council of Europe member States.

J. Follow-up and dissemination

83. The Committee recommends that the State party take all appropriate measures to ensure that the present recommendations are fully implemented by, inter alia, transmitting them to the Head of State, Parliament, relevant ministries, the Supreme Court, and to regional and local authorities for appropriate consideration and further action.

84. The Committee further recommends that the third and fourth periodic report and written replies by the State party and the related recommendations (concluding observations) be made widely available in the languages of the country, including (but not exclusively) through the Internet, to the public at large, civil society organizations, media, youth groups, professional groups and children, in order to generate debate

and awareness of the Convention and its Optional Protocols and of their implementation and monitoring.

Next report

85. The Committee invites the State party to submit its next combined fifth and sixth periodic report by 4 April 2017 and to include in it information on the implementation of the present concluding observations. The Committee draws attention to its harmonized treaty-specific reporting guidelines adopted on 1 October 2010 (CRC/C/58/Rev.2 and Corr. 1) and reminds the State party that future reports should be in compliance with the guidelines and not exceed 60 pages. The Committee urges the State party to submit its report in accordance with the reporting guidelines. In the event a report exceeding the page limitations is submitted, the State party will be asked to review and eventually resubmit the report in accordance with the abovementioned guidelines. The Committee reminds the State party that if it is not in a position to review and resubmit the report, then translation of the report for purposes of examination of the treaty body cannot be guaranteed.

86. The Committee also invites the State party to submit an updated core document in accordance with the requirements of the common core document in the harmonized guidelines on reporting, approved at by the fifth inter-committee meeting of the human rights treaty bodies in June 2006 (HRI/MC/2006/3).
