

Country session: Mongolia

Date: 75th session – 26 May 2017

Background information

[OHCHR press release](#)

[Webcast](#)

[Audio file](#)

[Summary records](#)

Reporting

Reporting methodology

Regular reporting procedure

Simplified reporting procedure

Concluding Observations with urgent measures

State report:

Common core document	
Initial submission	22 August 2005
Second submission	2 July 2013
Third submission	27 February 2015

CRC		OPAC		OPSC	
No. of report	Fifth periodic report	No. of report	Integrated report	No. of report	Integrated report
Due date	20 October 2014	Due date	-	Due date	-
Submission	3 June 2015	Submission	-	Submission	-

Written replies to LOIs	
Due date	23 February 2017
Submission	24 April 2017

Public reports from children's rights defenders:

Alternative reports/ Additional information	
NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Save the Children, Child for Child and Word Vision – Children's report ▪ Cultural survival ▪ IBFAN

State delegation

Large high-level and multisectoral delegation led by Ms. S. Mungunchimeg, the Deputy Minister for Labor and Social Protection. She was supported by delegates from the Minister of Education, Ministry of Labor and Social



Protection, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, the Family, Child and Youth Development Agency, and the Permanent Mission of Mongolia in Geneva.

List of State delegation representatives on [OHCHR site](#)

Committee's Task Force members

Name & Last Name	Country
Gehad Madi	Egypt
Kirsten Sandberg	Norway

Dialogue description:

i. Character of the dialogue

The Committee found the dialogue constructive and cordial. The delegation was open to discuss about political and technical obstacles, as well as opportunities to implement the CRC.

ii. General assessment made by the Committee

The Committee welcomed the progress achieved by Mongolia in some areas of children's rights, especially for the ratification of OPIC. Nevertheless, Committee members pointed out that the situation of children without parental care remained an issue of concern.

iii. Main issues discussed

- **Economic exploitation, including child labor and child jockeys:** The Committee was seriously concerned about children's engagement in dangerous and hazardous work, especially in agriculture, mining and horseracing. It pointed out that the law prohibiting the engagement of children below 16 in work was derogated, and children continued to be used as child jockeys exposing them to abuse and exploitation by the horses' owners. The delegation replied that child jockey is a traditional sport in Mongolian society, but governmental agencies were carrying out aggressive awareness-raising campaigns to change the population's mindset and some provinces have banned child jockeys. The delegation stated that child labor is caused by the hard-living standards of the population, but acknowledged that stronger protection measures, as well as programs to address school-dropouts for these children were needed.
- **Family environment:** Committee members pointed out the high number of children without parental care in Mongolia, which resulted in many child-headed houses. It asked for protection measures for these children, as well as preventive actions to avoid family separation and children placed in institutions and monasteries. The Committee also asked about the condition for children in alternative care facilities and monasteries, and how these institutions were monitored and regulated. The delegation replied that there is a legal framework regulating alternative and foster care in Mongolia. This framework was implemented and monitored by the Family, Child and Youth Development Agency in all the districts.
- **Business sector:** Committee members expressed their concerns about the negative impact of extractive industries on children's rights and asked the delegation about plans and measures to tackle this issue, including labor inspections. It pointed out the need for investigations, prosecutions and

adequate convictions for child rights offenders and asked about compensations and resettlement plans for the communities affected by such industries. The delegation replied that as of now there were not report of child rights violation by extractive industries, and if cases were identified the criminal code would allow prosecutions and convictions for those responsible. Delegates also replied that UNICEF was conducting a study on the impact of mining industries on the migration status of children, and once the findings were published the government would use them to address this issue.

Recommendations of the Committee

In its [Concluding Observations](#), the Committee drew attention to the need of **urgent measures** concerning the following 6 areas:

- **Allocation of resources:** The Committee reiterated its previous recommendations and urged the State to include a child rights perspective in its budgeting process, ensure specific allocation to children's rights and set up a tracking system to monitor and assess such budget allocations. The State should ensure participatory budgeting, especially with children, and allocate secure funds for children in vulnerable situations. Moreover, it should make sure that budget fluctuations do not affect the enjoyment of children's rights, and more efforts needed to be done to combat corruption by investigating, prosecuting and convicting corruption cases in an adequate manner.
- **Children's rights and the business sector:** The State should ensure that the business sector complies with international human rights law, especially in regards to child rights. It should adopt legislation to regulate the extractive industries and ensure its effective implementation. More efforts are needed to eliminate conflicts of interest of public service officers, and a national plan on business and human rights must be defined as per the UN guiding principles on this topic and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) commitment made by the State.
- **Non-discrimination:** The Committee urged the State to adopt concrete measures to comply with its national law on prohibition of discrimination, especially against children from low-income families, migrant and under registered children, children from rural areas, children with disabilities, children from minority groups, indigenous children and LGBTBI children. It should ensure a complaints mechanism for cases of discrimination, and thorough investigations, prosecutions and convictions for perpetrators. Moreover, awareness-raising campaigns and programs must be carried out with children, parents, teachers, professionals working with/for children and government's officials.
- **Family environment:** The Committee was concerned about the prevalence of children without parental care who are exposed to various risks of abuse and neglect, and are at risk of not enjoying their rights to education and health. These children are particularly children living in monasteries and dormitories, children in informal care due to the migration of their parents, and child-headed houses because their parents work on extractive mines far from their homes. The State should reinforce economical support for parents enabling them to take care of their children and ensure the protection of children at risk. Complaints mechanisms and child protection systems must be set-up, and awareness-raising on their functioning and procedures must be ensured. Moreover, the State should collect reliable data on child-headed households to design evidence-based programs to address their needs and ensure their rights to education and health.
- **Environmental health:** The Committee referred to its previous recommendations and urged the State to adopt child-specific measures to mitigate the impact of air pollution on children, especially by finding alternatives ways of heating during the winter. Access to clean water and sanitation, and children's protection from polluted air should be declared as national policy priorities, and adequate budget allocations for these matters should be ensured. Moreover, the State should provide technical knowledge at the local level to monitor and regulate air pollution and control its effects on children.

- **Economic exploitation, including child labor and child jockeys:** The State should adopt a comprehensive policy and a fully budgeted and staffed plan of action on eradicating the worst forms of child labor. Moreover, it should effectively enforce the Labor Law to ensure that no child below 15 years is involved in work, and it should fully enforce the prohibition of child participation in horse racing. Cases of serious injuries of children involved in horseracing should be investigated and those responsible brought to justice, and anticorruption measures must be reinforced to avoid conflict of interests of government officials who employ children in hazardous jobs, including horseracing.

Sustainable Development Goals

Throughout its Concluding Observations the Committee referred to the following targets:

- 16.5 on reducing corruption and bribery in all their forms
- 16.9 on providing legal identity for all, including birth registration
- 2.2 on ending all forms of malnutrition
- 13.5 on promoting mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management
- 1.3 on implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all

Next State report

CRC	
No. of report	Sixth and seven periodic reports
Due date	1 September 2022

Disclaimer: Child Rights Connect reports are all drafted in English. If the State report and/or the alternative reports were submitted in another UN language (Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian or Chinese) the report will be translated accordingly.