

# General Comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and general measures of implementation of the Convention

In addition to monitoring of individual countries' progress in implementing the Convention, the Committee on the Rights of the Child periodically publishes its own General Comments on key issues related to the interpretation, promotion and protection of child rights. Since 2001, the Committee has issued 12 General Comments on a wide range of topics.

## General Comment No. 5: General measures of implementation:

In General Comment No. 5, the Committee on the Rights of the Child provides guidance on requisite steps that States parties must take to fulfil their obligations under the Convention. States parties, in ratifying the Convention, take on the responsibility to uphold it, but its implementation needs to engage all sectors of society, including children themselves. Key measures include:

- Developing a framework of national legislation that is fully compliant with the Convention, with rigorous and ongoing review of domestic law by government and independent bodies.
- A comprehensive national plan of action or strategy for the implementation of the Convention.
- Establishment of a permanent institution or structure within government with overall responsibility for promoting implementation and appropriate coordination between sectors and levels of government and with civil society, children and others.
- Data collection and disaggregation of data, covering the entire period of childhood up to 18.
- Child rights impact assessment and evaluation.
- Training and capacity building.
- Dissemination of information on the rights guaranteed by the Convention to children and adults alike.

## GENERAL COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

No.	Subject of the General Comment	Year of issuance
1	The aims of education	2001
2	The role of independent human rights institutions	2002
3	HIV/AIDS and the rights of the child	2003
4	Adolescent health	2003
5	General measures of implementation for the Convention on the Rights of the Child	2003
6	Treatment of unaccompanied and separated children outside their country of origin	2005
7	Implementing child rights in early childhood	2005
8	The right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment	2006
9	The rights of children with disabilities	2006
10	Children's rights in juvenile justice	2007
11	Indigenous children and their rights under the Convention	2009
12	The right of the child to be heard	2009

**Source:** General Comments are available at the website of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, <[www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/comments.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/comments.htm)>.

- Recognition that ensuring non-discrimination may require special measures to diminish factors creating disparities.
  - Meaningful consultation with children.
  - Maintaining working relationships with non-governmental organizations, religious leaders, teachers, health providers, social workers, and parliamentarians.
  - Budgeting for children at the national and international levels. The Committee on the Rights of the Child expects donor governments to identify the yearly amount and proportion of international aid earmarked for children's rights, and expects their programmes to be rights-based.
- independent child rights institutions, including children's ombudspersons or commissioners, or for the establishment of child rights focal points within national human rights commissions or ombudspersons offices. It employs the general measures of implementation as a practical guide in making specific recommendations to States parties and expects them to describe action to take in response. Recognizing that lack of resources can hamper the full realization of economic, social, and cultural rights, the Committee emphasizes the importance of progressive realization of child rights, with the onus on States parties to implement the treaty to the maximum extent of their available resources.

The Committee also strongly and continually advocates for the establishment of

*See References, pages 90–92.*