

Committee on the Rights of the Child

Simplified Reporting Procedure

Information note for stakeholders

In 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/68/268 entitled “strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system” in which it encourages the human rights treaty bodies and States parties to use a simplified reporting procedure to facilitate the preparation of States parties’ reports and the constructive dialogue on the implementation of their treaty obligations.

Under the simplified reporting procedure, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (the Committee) sends the State party a request for specific information, known as List of Issues Prior to Reporting (LOIPR) containing up to 30 questions. The LOIPR asks the State party about measures and developments relating to the implementation of the Convention, and the two Optional Protocols if an integrated report. The State party’s replies to the LOIPR constitute the State party’s report to the Committee.

The Committee cooperates with a range of non-State party stakeholders who submit written reports on the situation of children’s rights in a State party. These can be non-governmental organisations (NGOs), children’s own organisations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), UN agencies, and others such as academics and researchers. The Committee works closely with the network organisation Child Rights Connect in its interaction with NGOs and NHRIs.

The written reports can be comprehensive (maximum 10.000 words) or thematic (maximum 3.000 words). Submissions from children’s own organisations can use multiple formats and, when in writing, do not have a word limit. Comprehensive reports should follow the cluster format of the Convention on the Rights of the Child but may also be cross-cutting. The reports should identify emerging trends and highlight key issues that should be covered in the LOIPR, which may or may not be related to the previous concluding observations (COBs). The reports should propose a set of questions with contextual information on the issues raised and statistical data, where relevant and available. Reports should clearly state whether they are confidential or public. In the latter case they will be posted on the Committee’s website.

When States parties opt in for the simplified reporting procedure, they will be listed under “LIST OF ISSUES PRIOR TO REPORTING” on the Committee’s website for the pre-sessional working group.

The Committee will issue its first LOIPR (to Croatia and Hungary) during the June 2018 pre-session and,

- Stakeholders are requested to submit their reports on 1 March 2018, three months before the Committee adopts the LOIPR.
- The Committee will issue the LOIPR in June 2018 and the State party report is due on 1 June 2019.
- After the State party’s report is received in June 2019, stakeholders are invited to submit supplementary reports or comments on the State party’s report as well as questions for the constructive dialogue and proposed recommendations for the State party, before 1 September 2019. The supplementary reports can be comprehensive (maximum 20.000 words) or thematic (maximum 6.000 words).
- The Committee will invite children’s organisations and selected stakeholders to participate in the pre-sessional working group and hold an in-depth discussion of their submissions, which will take place in October 2019.
- All are invited to observe the Committee’s constructive dialogue with the State party during its 83rd session in January 2020, in Geneva or through webcasting.

The first iteration of the simplified reporting procedure will take place in the following manner:

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