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Item 13 of the provisional agenda

RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The present report is submitted in accordance with paragraph 40 (b) of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/44.
2. As at 6 December 2005, the Convention on the Rights of the Child had received 140 signatures that were followed by ratification. In addition, 46 States had acceded to the Convention and 6 had succeeded to it, bringing the total number of ratifications and accessions to 192. An updated list of States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention and the dates of their signature, ratification or accession can be obtained at www.ohchr.org or www.untreaty.un.org.
3. As at 6 December 2005, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflict, which entered into force on 12 February 2002, had been signed by 121 States and ratified by 104 States. As at the same date, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, which entered into force on 18 January 2002, had been signed by 114 States and ratified by 101 States. An updated list of States that have signed or ratified the two Optional Protocols to the Convention and the dates of their signature or ratification can also be obtained at www.ohchr.org or www.untreaty.un.org.

4. The Committee on the Rights of the Child held its thirty-eighth session from 10 to 28 January 2005 at the United Nations Office at Geneva. At that session the Committee considered reports submitted by 10 States parties to the Convention as well as one report submitted by a State party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflict. The Committee adopted a report on its thirty-eighth session (CRC/C/146).

5. The Committee held its thirty-ninth session from 16 May to 3 June 2005 at the United Nations Office at Geneva. During that session, the Committee considered reports submitted by 10 States parties to the Convention and 1 State party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. The Committee also adopted general comment No. 6 on the treatment of unaccompanied and separated children outside their country of origin (CRC/C/GC/6). The Committee adopted a report on the session (CRC/C/151).

6. The Committee held its fortieth session from 12 to 30 September 2005 at the United Nations Office at Geneva. At that session, the Committee considered the reports submitted by seven States parties to the Convention, two States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflict and one State party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. The Committee held a day of discussion on "Children without parental care" on 16 September 2005 and adopted a set of recommendations. The Committee adopted general comment No. 7 on the implementation of the rights of the child in early childhood (CRC/C/GC/7). The Committee adopted a report on the session (CRC/C/153).

7. Three meetings of the pre-sessional working group of the Committee were also held in Geneva, from 31 January to 4 February, 6 to 10 June and 3 to 7 October 2005, respectively.

8. The forty-first session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child will be held from 9 to 27 January 2006 at the United Nations Office at Geneva. During that session, and the two sessions that follow, the Committee will meet in two chambers for the consideration of State party reports, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/261.
