

Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children

# GLOBAL INITIATIVE NEWSLETTER 15 (JANUARY 2011)

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2011. The end of last year was a busy time for the Global Initiative, with the publication of a number of new resources to support the promotion of law reform to prohibit corporal punishment. There has also been progress towards law reform at regional and national levels, in terms of active campaigns and draft laws under discussion, as well as the usual media coverage of the issue. Read on for more ....

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- <u>5. Media watch</u> selected media reports from <u>Canada</u>, <u>China</u>, <u>Fiji</u>, <u>France</u>, <u>Ghana</u>, <u>India</u>, <u>Jamaica</u>, <u>Nigeria</u>, <u>Pakistan</u>, <u>Papua New Guinea</u>, <u>Philippines</u>, <u>Republic of Korea</u>, <u>Taiwan</u> and <u>UAE</u>
- <u>6. Can you help?</u> requests for all sorts of things photographs, research, translation, information please help if you can!

# **1 GLOBAL PROGRESS**

#### \*NEW RESOURCE: GLOBAL REPORT 2010\*

The new global progress report for 2010, published jointly by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children and Save the Children Sweden, was released in December. <u>Ending legalised</u> <u>violence against children: Global report 2010</u> reviews progress towards prohibition of corporal punishment of children throughout the world in the context of follow up to the UN Secretary General's Study on Violence against Children. It includes a major section on what it means to achieve law reform, and how to do it, as well as detailed information on law reform opportunities and active campaigns on the issue in all regions. For hard copies and further information, contact info@endcorporalpunishment.org.

#### **Progress at regional level**

- *East Asia and the Pacific:* In November 2010, the Chinese government hosted a high level regional meeting on children's rights, attended by government representatives from 28 Asia Pacific states. The resulting <u>Beijing Declaration on South-South Cooperation for Child Rights in the Asia and Pacific Region</u> notes that corporal punishment is one of the serious challenges facing children in the region (para. 11) and recognises that child protection "should be based on laws and policies that focus on safeguarding children from potential harm, and banning all forms of violence against children [as] the foundation of a national child protection system" (para. 13).
- *South Asia:* The South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC) held its first board meeting in November. The Initiative has developed a five year work plan to support the implementation of international and regional human rights obligations, including through law reform to prohibit corporal punishment.

#### Positive moves at state level

- *Bangladesh:* In our previous newsletter (No. 14) we reported the attention to corporal punishment in schools being given by the High Court following a writ petition filed by the NGOs BLAST and ASK. We have yet to obtain a copy of the full final judgment issued on 13 January 2011, but the Court has now reportedly ruled that corporal punishment in schools violates children's constitutional rights to life and liberty and freedom from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. The Court has directed the Government to issue guidelines on the prohibition of corporal punishment, to ensure that breaching the prohibition is counted as "misconduct", and to ensure appropriate inspection and monitoring. (www.askbd.org, 13 January 2011) We look forward to the ruling being confirmed through reform of written legislation.
- *Belize:* When the Education and Training Act 2010 was passed last year the provisions which would prohibit corporal punishment in schools were put on hold pending the work of a task force established to look at alternative forms of discipline. This month Minister of Education Patrick Faber announced that the Government has received the report and its recommendations and has agreed on a way forward to remove corporal punishment from schools. The prohibition is expected to come into force in September 2011. (*7 News Belize*, 14 January 2011; *Guardian.bz*, 20 January 2011)
- *Canada:* Senate Bill S-204, which would repeal section 43 in the Criminal Code allowing the use of force for correcting children, continues to be debated. For further information see <a href="http://www.repeal43.org">www.repeal43.org</a>.

- *Finland:* Finland achieved full prohibition of corporal punishment in 1984 and continues to work on enforcement of the law. In November the new national strategy against corporal punishment was finalised, with close cooperaton between the Ombudsman for Children Office and the Ministry for Social and Health Affairs. It aims to halve the incidence of corporal punishment of children in all population groups by 2012. A consultation with children was carried out, the results of which were used by the committee on corporal punishment, which submitted its report to the Minister of Health and Social Services Paula Risikko. The children felt that the best way to reduce corporal punishment is to support parents. For further information see the <u>Ombudsman website</u>, the <u>Ministry's press release</u> and the <u>Ombudsman's press release</u>. The <u>questionnaire for children and adolescents</u> used in the survey is available as a resource for others to use in consulting children.
- *Jamaica:* Education Minister Andrew Holness has resolved to include proposals for law reform to prohibit corporal punishment in schools and to provide for the introduction of alternative disciplinary measures in a green paper on the Safe School Policy to be debated in parliament in February. (*Associated Press*, 20 January 2011; *Jamaica Observer*, 20 January 2011; *Go-Jamaica*, 19 January 2011)
- *Philippines:* Advocates of the anti-corporal punishment bill have urged President Aquino to include it in the list of legislative priorities to be taken up by the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council in January. House Bill 1082 prohibits all forms of corporal punishment of children. (*Manila Bulletin*, 12-1-11)
- *Republic of Korea:* The Ministry of Health and Welfare is to draft laws prohibiting physical punishment and emotional abuse in day care centres, following the disclosure of several cases of child abuse in the centres, including cases leading to the child's death. (*Korea Joongang Daily*, 21 December 2010)
- *Sudan:* The Ministry of Education in Khartoum state has issued a ministerial decision against the use of corporal punishment in primary schools (Decision No. 10, 2010). The Child Rights Institute in Sudan has worked extensively with the Ministry, in collaboration with Save the Children Sweden-Sudan, and more than 800 teachers have been trained in non-violent disciplinary methods. As yet, there is no instruction concerning corporal punishment in secondary schools and it is allowed in all schools in other states. The federal Child Act prohibits "cruel penalties" but does not explicitly prohibit all corporal punishment in schools.

#### **But** ...

- Republic of Korea: There is confusion over the legal status of corporal punishment in schools. It is prohibited in the Student Human Rights Ordinance, introduced by a number of school superintendents in different regions. However, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) has published guidelines which allow for corporal punishment such as push-ups, standing for certain periods, running laps around the playground, etc. Media coverage indicates there will be further law reform to clarify the situation and that only certain forms of corporal punishment will be prohibited. (*The Hankyoreh*, 18 January 2011; *Korea Joongang Daily*, 19 January 2011; *Korea Joongang Daily*. 18 January 2011; *Korea Times*, 14 november 2010).
- *US:* Bill HR 5628, the Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Bill, would have prohibited at federal level corporal punishment in all US schools but it lapsed in December 2010.

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# **2 CAMPAIGNS AND CALLS FOR PROHIBITION**

#### \*NEW RESOURCE: CAMPAIGNS MANUAL\*

A comprehensive new guide published jointly by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children and Save the Children Sweden aims to support child rights advocates in challenging the legality and practice of corporal punishment of children in all settings – in the home, in schools, and in justice and care settings. The <u>Campaigns Manual: Ending corporal punishment and other cruel and</u> <u>degrading punishment of children through law reform and social change</u> is organised into six main sections:

- (1) Understanding the problem of corporal punishment
- (2) Analysing the situation and campaigning for reform
- (3) Ending the legality of corporal punishment
- (4) Ending the practice of corporal punishment
- (5) Assessing the effectiveness of the campaign
- (6) Resources

For hard copies email Mali Nilsson, Save the Children Sweden, at Mali.Nilsson@rb.se.

#### **Regional news**

- *All Africa:* The African Child Policy Forum and the Global Initiative in collaboration with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, are holding a strategic consultation on the prohibition of corporal punishment of children in Africa, 28 February to 1 March 2011, in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The meeting will review the status of corporal punishment across Africa and progress towards its prohibition and elimination, identify immediate and forthcoming opportunities for progress, and discuss how to make effective use of them. The event is expected to bring together representatives of CSOs, INGOs, AU treaty bodies and UN agencies.
- *Southern Africa:* The Southern African Network to End Corporal and Humiliating Punishment of Children is holding its annual meeting in Cape Town, 22-23 February. The Network has been meeting annually since 2006 and involves organisations from Mozambique, Swaziland, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia and South Africa. For further information, see <u>www.rapcan.org.za/sanchpc/default.asp</u>.

### **National news**

Australia: Writing in the magazine Choice Health Reader and referring to research on the links between corporal punishment in childrearing and aggression in children, child psychologist Bob Montgomery has called for a public health campaign to end smacking. (The Sunday Mail (Qld), 23 January 2011) The study referred to – published by Catherine Taylor et al in 2010 – found that even minor forms of corporal punishment increased the risk of aggressive behaviour in young children.

Following the conviction of a couple for ill-treating their 3 year old daughter, the new Commissioner for Children Aileen Ashford called on the Tasmanian state government to amend the law on physical punishment of children (*Mercury*, 21 November 2010). The law

currently gives parents the right to physically correct a child using "any force towards a child in his or her care that is reasonable in the circumstances" (Criminal Code, article 50). However, it appears that the focus of this debate is on amending the law to clarify what kind of physical punishment is acceptable in childrearing rather than abolishing it altogether.

- France: OVEO launched a new campaign on 20 November to support a revised private members bill (bill no. 2971) which would prohibit all corporal punishment of children and to mark the 21st anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The <u>French Federation of</u> <u>Psychologists and Psychoanalysts (FF2P)</u> plans to organise a conference on 19-20 October 2011 on the theme of attachment, empathy and physical punishment.
- Nigeria: The latest bulletin of the Child Rights Network (CHIRN) and National Action on Ban on Corporal Punishment & Violence Against Children (NABCORP) – <u>Discipline, Ending</u> <u>Violence & Corporal Punishment Against Children</u>, Nov-Dec 2010 – is now available at <u>www.endcorporalpunish.org</u>. For further information on the campaign, contact <u>info\_chirn@yahoo.com</u>.
- *Philippines:* As part of UNICEF's Children Against Violence campaign, Italian photographer Giacomo Pirozzi held a series of photography workshops in schools around Cebu City. The resulting photo exhibition will tour Cebu and Manila to advocate the passage of the anti-corporal punishment bill. (*philSTAR.com*, 21 December 2010)
- *UK:* The Churches' Network for Non-violence (CNNV) and partners are to hold a residential working conference in Cambridge, UK, 22-24 August 2011, entitled *Faith and Vision into Action Ending corporal punishment of children*. The conference will bring together people who are committed to prohibiting and eliminating corporal punishment of children and will provide opportunities to share ideas, insights and scholarship which will contribute to the develop of tools and resources for overcoming faith-based resistance to prohibition. For further details, contact <u>info@churchesfornon-violence.org</u>.

A new publication for young children has been published by CNNV and the Children are Unbeatable! Alliance. *Meet the Blobs – Stop Smacking!* uses activities based on children's rights and the Golden Rule (treat others as you would like to be treated) to teach children that hitting is wrong. The booklet can be downloaded at <u>www.churchesfornon-violence.org</u>; hard copies are available from <u>info@churchesfornon-violence.org</u>.

The latest edition of the <u>Children are Unbeatable! Alliance newsletter</u> (January 2011) is now available. It includes news of growing support for prohibition in government and parliament and among child protection professionals, as well as ideas for action that supporters can take to promote law reform.

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# **3 HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING**

# \*NEW RESOURCES\*

The Global Initiative has completed a review of the first nine sessions of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), focusing on the attention given to the human rights obligation on states to prohibit all corporal punishment of children. It documents recommendations made to states to prohibit corporal punishment and states' responses to them, and will shortly be available at www.endcorporalpunishment.org.

A review of child rights generally in the UPR has been published by the Child Rights Information Network. The <u>Status of Children's Rights in the UPR</u> report assesses the way children's rights were addressed in the first seven sessions of the UPR, including the issue of corporal punishment of children.

A new website covering decisions made under the African Human Rights System has been launched – <u>http://caselaw.ihrda.org/</u>.

#### Key decisions and recommendations, etc.

The **Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** published its concluding observations on states examined at its 45<sup>th</sup> session in November 2010, including a recommendation to the Netherlands that corporal punishment be prohibited in the home and schools in Aruba.

The **Committee Against Torture** issued concluding observations on states examined during its 45<sup>th</sup> session in November 2010. The Committee recommended prohibition of corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home, to Ecuador, Ethiopia, Mongolia and Turkey.

The Report of the **Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent** on its Mission to the US, presented to the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council in September/October 2010, referred to the greater vulnerability of students of African descent to corporal punishment than of white students.

#### Briefing the human rights bodies

The Global Initiative regularly briefs human rights treaty monitoring bodies prior to examination of state parties, and encourages national NGOs and human rights institutions to do likewise. Opportunities to submit advance briefings on states coming up for examination and to influence the lists of issues which are prepared for each state are listed below. We are always willing to advise NGOs and human rights institutions on the practical details of how to submit briefings (email info@endcorporalpunishment.org).

- The *Committee on the Rights of the Child* pre-sessional working group will be meeting at its 57<sup>th</sup> session in June 2011 to consider the issues to raise in its forthcoming examinations of Greece, Italy, Madagascar, Panama and Seychelles. **Briefings on these countries should be submitted before 30 April 2011.**
- The *Committee Against Torture* pre-sessional working group will be meeting at its 46<sup>th</sup> session in May 2011 to consider the issues to raise in its future examinations of Bulgaria, Germany, Morocco, Sri Lanka and Tunisia. **Briefings on these countries should be submitted before 9 February 2011.**
- The *Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* pre-sessional working group will be meeting at its 46<sup>th</sup> session in May 2011 to consider the issues to raise in its forthcoming examinations of Argentina, New Zealand, Peru, Slovakia and Spain. **Briefings on these countries should be submitted before 9 May 2011.**
- The *Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women* pre-sessional working group will be meeting at its 49<sup>th</sup> session in July 2011 to consider the issues to raise with in its future examinations of Algeria, Brazil, Comoros, Grenada, Jordan, Norway, Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe. **Briefings should be submitted by 11 June 2011.**
- The country report task forces of the *Human Rights Committee* meet during each session to consider the issues to raise in future state examinations. Briefings must be submitted three months and the relevant information is not yet available. **Please check the** <u>Committee's website</u>.

- The 12<sup>th</sup> session of the *Universal Periodic Review* will take place in October 2011. The deadlines for making submissions on the countries involved are:
  - 14 March 2011 for Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe
  - **21 March 2011** for Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Lithuania, Moldova, Timor Leste, and Trinidad and Tobago.

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# **4 RESEARCH AND REPORTS**

Two new articles have been published by leading researchers who advocate for prohibition of all corporal punishment. Elizabeth Gershoff, in <u>More Harm Than Good: A summary of scientific research</u> on the intended and unintended effects of corporal punishment on children, summarises what is known about the intended and unintended consequences of corporal punishment and offers some comments on the place of research in advocating for prohibition. Murray Straus, in <u>Prevalence, Societal Causes</u>, and <u>Trends in Corporal Punishment by Parents in World Perspective</u>, provides a useful overview of prevalence research around the world and some ideas about the importance of law reform to prohibit it being educative and supportive rather than primarily punitive. The articles appear in a special issue of the academic journal Law and Contemporary Problems alongside other articles potentially useful for advocates of prohibition but also, unfortunately, articles written by people who believe in hitting children. For a summary of the contents, see the Foreword.

# **Other new research and reports:**

- *Indonesia:* A new report documents the legality and practice of corporal punishment (caning) as a punishment under Sharia law in Aceh. *Policing Morality: Abuses in the Application of Sharia in Aceh, Indonesia* is published by Human Rights Watch.
- Malaysia: In a new report, Amnesty International called for the Malaysian Government to end the practice of judicial caning. <u>A Blow to Humanity: Torture by judicial caning in Malaysia</u>, published in December 2010, documents all the elements involved in carrying out a sentence of caning, from waiting for it to be administered to the immediate and long term aftermath, based on interviews with people who have been caned. Laws authorising caning as a sentence of the courts apply to persons under 18 as well as to adults.
- *United Arab Emirates:* Research by the Dubai School of Government found that nearly half (45%) of all boys surveyed at public high schools in the Northern Emirates, reported being beaten by a teacher; 25% of girls said they had been hit, though most said this had occurred at primary school. Corporal punishment is prohibited in state schools but it is not explicitly prohibited in private schools, though they are expected not to use it. (Reported in *The National*, 9 January 2011)

#### \*NEW RESOURCES TO SUPPORT LAW REFORM\*

#### New All Africa report on corporal punishment of children

This new report – <u>Ending legalised violence against children: All Africa report 2010</u> is published jointly by The African Child Policy Forum, the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children and Save the Children Sweden. It documents the progress that is being made across Africa in

enacting laws which prohibit corporal punishment and promoting positive, non-violent ways of parenting and educating children. It also highlights the amount of work that is still to be done on the issue, providing a state by state analysis of corporal punishment of children in all settings – the home, schools, penal systems and alternative care settings – and an overview of current opportunities for achieving legal reform. A limited number of hard copies is also available (email Sonia Vohito at vohito@africanchildforum.org).

# Global Pathways to Abolishing Physical Punishment: Realizing Children's Rights

This <u>new book</u>, edited by Joan Durrant and Anne Smith and published by Routledge, describes in detail efforts to prohibit corporal punishment of children in countries across the world, covering states which have achieved law reform and those that continue to resist it. Following a Foreword by Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro and introductory chapters by Peter Newell and the editors, there are individual chapters on Africa, Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, the UK, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yemen. There is also a chapter on comparative research in Europe. The book is available at <a href="http://www.psypress.com/global-pathways-to-abolishing-physical-punishment-9780415879200">http://www.psypress.com/global-pathways-to-abolishing-physical-punishment-9780415879200</a> and other booksellers.

#### Inhuman sentencing reports

As part of its <u>campaign against inhuman sentencing of child offenders</u> (see Newsletter No. 14, November 2010), the Child Rights Information Network has begun publishing individual state reports on countries where children may lawfully be sentenced by the courts to capital punishment, corporal punishment and/or life imprisonment. Available so far are reports for Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, India, Iran, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Sudan, Swaziland, United Arab Emirates, United States, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

# And ...

The <u>third African newsletter</u> of the Global Initiative and The African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) was published in December 2010. It features information on progress towards prohibiting corporal punishment across Africa, campaigns in the region, new research on the issue and details of upcoming examinations of African states by UN treaty monitoring bodies. To subscribe email <u>vohito@africanchildforum.org</u>.

The Global Initiative has added a new section to the website on research in countries which have achieved prohibition, accessible via <u>www.endcorporalpunishment.org</u>. If you know of relevant research in these states, either before or since the achievement of prohibition, please let us know (email <u>info@endcorporalpunishment.org</u>).

In the US, Parents and Teachers Against Violence in Education (PTAVE) has published the 2011 edition of *Plain Talk About Spanking*, a 9-page booklet which summarises the negative effects of corporal punishment and includes quotes from experts and short questions and answers.

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# **5 MEDIA WATCH**

#### A selection of media reports:

- *Canada:* A Christian couple were sentenced to 10 days in jail and fined \$500 for physically punishing their 14 year old daughter using a belt. (*OneNewsNow.com*, 22 December 2010) In 2004, the Supreme Court ruled that corporal punishment of children under 2 and over 12, and the use of implements, is unlawful; legislation does not prohibit all corporal punishment in childrearing.
- *China:* A kindergarten teacher in Jiangsu province allegedly used a hot iron to punish seven children for disrupting the class, burning the children's faces. (*China Daily*, 22 December 2010)
- *Fiji:* A Northern chief in Bua announced the use of spanking by village elders for villagers found guilty of any crime. Last August, Viscop Village in Namuka in Macuata reportedly introduced a village law to punish youths committing drug-related offences with spanking. (*The Fiji Times*, 2 December 2010)
- *France:* A court in northern France gave a woman a 6 month suspended sentence and ordered her to receive psychological counseling after finding her guilty of willful violence towards a minor for slapping her 9 year old daughter. The woman had reportedly been drinking (*Digital Journal*, 20 Januay 2011). Corporal punishment by parents is lawful in France, though a bill which would prohibit it is under discussion (see above).
- *Ghana:* A Ministry of Women and Children Affairs official warned teachers and parents in the Brong Ahafo Region against caning children, even though it is lawful, citing research which linked corporal punishment at school to school dropout and truancy. (*Ghana News Agency*, 24 January 2011)
- *India:* A seven year old boy in Hyderabad was allegedly thrashed by his teacher with a cane, causing a hand injury. (*Express News Service*, 23 January 2011)

In Karnataka, a 14 year old boy collapsed and died after allegedly being forced by his private school headmaster to jog round the playground for turning up late. The Karnataka Government is investigating the incident. (*India Today*, 11 January 2011)

On 19 November 2010, Calcutta High Court reportedly rebuked education secretary Bikram Sen for failing to carry out the Court's order issued on 6 August to conduct media campaigns raising awareness about corporal punishment in schools. (*The Telegraph*, 20 November 2010) The report filed by the Education Department documented other measures it had taken to inform teachers of the ban on corporal punishment. (*indianexpress.com*, 22 January 2011; *The Times of India*, 22 January 2011)

- *Jamaica:* A child who was blinded in one eye by a belt buckle at the end of the strap used by his teacher to strike him in December 2009 continues to need medical attention and possibly surgery, while the teacher who inflicted the injury is still teaching, having received only a warning letter from the school. (*Jamaica Observer*, 16 January 2011) The case is being highlighted in the media alongside reports of the Government's intention to abolish corporal punishment in schools (see above).
- *Nigeria:* Seven teenagers, aged 12-15, were convicted in January of hawking and sentenced to be flogged eight strokes of the cane by a mobile court set up by the Abuja Environment Protection Board. (*Daily Trust*, 11 January 2011). In November, 11 child hawkers were ordered to be flogged seen strokes of the cane by an Abuja mobile court (*Daily Trust*, 11 November 2010)
- *Pakistan:* A consultative workshop was organised in Mardan District by the Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (Sparc) to promote the use of non-violent discipline in schools.

(Dawn.com, 14 January 2011)

The Punjab Education Foundation (PEF) plans to establish School Committees to address corporal punishment in schools, as part of a project on "Redressal Mechanism of Corporal Punishment". A helpline has also been set up. (*The Nation*, 22 December 2010)

- *Papua New Guinea:* Corporal punishment is being re-introduced in Madang town in February, with plans for members of the Madang Urban Youth Council to cane children found outside their school grounds. The plans reportedly have police support and are part of a larger crackdown on undesirable behaviour among young people. (*Pacific Islands Report*, 19 November 2010)
- *Philippines:* A secondary school supported by Plan International has launched a series of anti-corporal punishment training sessions for parents, run by a teacher who once used corporal punishment on his own son but is now a passionate advocate for non-violence (*Plan International*, December 2010)
- *Republic of Korea:* A <u>TV report</u> by the Dateline current affairs programme on SBS TV in Australia highlighted corporal punishment in South Korean schools, particularly the violent incidents filmed on mobile phones.
- Taiwan: Education Minister Wu Ching-chi in December ruled out the possibility of reintroducing corporal punishment in schools as a means of dealing with bullying. Media coverage of bullying in schools had led to calls for corporal punishment to be brought back. (*Focus Taiwan*, 24 December 2010; *Tapei Times*, 25 December 2010)
- *United Arab Emirates:* A teacher at a private school has been reprimanded for physically punishing a student who then suffered a severe asthma attack. (*The National*, 23 December 2010)

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# **6 CAN YOU HELP?**

#### **Photographs and illustrations**

The Global Initiative is always looking for high quality photographs and illustrations to use in our publications. If you have any good shots of current campaigns and are willing for us to use them, please send them together with caption details and any copyright information to info@endcorporalpunishment.org.

#### **Call for research**

The International NGO Advisory Council, following up the UN Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children, is calling for research evidence on violence against children published since 2006. Please let us know of any recent new research studies that have been carried out on corporal punishment of children so that we can ensure the issue gets as much coverage as possible – email <u>info@endcorporalpunishment.org</u>.

#### **Translation**

We occasionally require translation of materials between English and other languages, including Arabic, Chinese, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. If you would like to be included in the list of volunteers we can turn to, please email us at <u>info@endcorporalpunishment.org</u>.

#### Information on laws relating to corporal punishment

We would appreciate any information on laws prohibiting or authorising corporal punishment in the following countries and settings:

Penal system (sentence of the courts) - Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Oman

Penal system (disciplinary measure in penal institutions) – Bahrain, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Guinea, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Niue, Sao Tome and Principe, Syrian Arab Republic

Alternative care settings – Guinea-Bissau, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

#### Information on opportunities to achieve reform

And finally, if draft legislation is proposed in your country which provides an opportunity to prohibit corporal punishment, or if laws are enacted which achieve this in any setting, please let us know so that we can keep our information up to date.

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We hope you find this newsletter informative and useful and welcome your comments: please email <u>info@endcorporalpunishment.org</u>. We are sending the newsletter to supporters of the aims of the Global Initiative (for the full list, click on "Supporters" on the <u>website</u>) and others who we think will be interested. If you do not want to receive future editions, please tell us at <u>info@endcorporalpunishment.org</u>. If your organisation is not listed as supporting the aims of the Initiative, please consider signing up (email <u>info@endcorporalpunishment.org</u>).

To receive the latest developments between newsletters, please sign up to the RSS news feed at <u>www.endcorporalpunishment.org</u>.

"The vision of a world in which violent punishment of children is universally condemned and prohibited in now within our grasp. We cannot let more generations of children suffer these obvious and deliberate violations of their rights. We must not keep children waiting."

> Professor Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, in *Ending legalised violence against children: Global report 2010*, Global Initiative / Save the Children Sweden, p.2