A. General measures of implementation (arts. 42 and 44, para. 6, of the Convention)

The Committee’s previous recommendations

6. The Committee, while welcoming the State party’s efforts to implement the Committee’s concluding observations of 2006 on the State party’s second report (CRC/C/UZB/CO/2), notes with regret that many of the recommendations contained therein have not been fully addressed.

7. The Committee urges the State party to take all necessary measures to address those recommendations from the concluding observations (CRC/C/UZB/CO/2) that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented, and in particular recommends that the State party:

...  

(f) Increase its efforts to adopt a proactive and comprehensive strategy to eliminate discrimination on any grounds, including by considering targeted programmes for addressing discrimination against girls and children in vulnerable situations such as refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced children, children with disabilities, abandoned children, children from ethnic minorities and those living in institutions and in regions with socio-economic development problems; undertake measures to ensure that the existing compulsory residence registration system (propiska) does not limit the rights and freedoms of children; and, provide specific information in its next periodic report on the measures and programmes relevant to the Convention on the Rights of the Child undertaken by the State party to follow up on the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, taking into account the Committee’s
(g) Conduct effective public-awareness campaigns and adopt measures to provide information and guidance to parents and counselling with a view to, inter alia, preventing violence against children; conduct systematic training and awareness campaigns at the national and local level addressed to all professionals working with and/or for children, as well as the Mahallas, on the prevention of ill-treatment and neglect of children within the family, in schools and in institutions; establish an effective system for the reporting of child abuse and neglect and provide training for professionals working with and/or children on how to receive, monitor and investigate complaints in a child-sensitive manner, and how to bring the perpetrators to justice; provide systemic awareness raising and support services for parents and children to prevent family-based violence and complaint mechanism for children to seek help if needed; and, ensure access to counselling for all victims of violence as well as assistance for their recovery and social reintegration; and

(h) Establish a comprehensive national policy and guidelines governing adoption in order to ensure that domestic and inter-country adoption is performed in full compliance with the best interests of the child and the appropriate legal guarantees in accordance with the Convention; ensure that adopted children at the appropriate age have the right to access information on the identity of their biological parents and to be prepared for this; and, strengthen its monitoring of inter-country adoptions, in particular by ratifying and implementing the 1993 Hague Convention No. 33 on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Inter-country Adoption.

Allocation of resources

12. The Committee notes as positive the high proportion of budgetary allocations for the social sector. However, the Committee is concerned that:

   (b) The reduction in financing of the social protection programmes for low-income families with
children has resulted in a substantial decline in the number of households receiving support and a resulting increase in the number of children being placed in out-of-home care;

13. The Committee recommends that the State party undertake concrete measures to improve the effectiveness of its allocation of resources for the implementation of the Convention, including by:

(a) Considering decentralizing decisions on resource allocations to enhance responsiveness to specific needs at local level;

(b) Increasing the resources allocated to social protection measures, particularly for low-income families;

(c) Ensuring that adequate resources are allocated for utilities, maintenance and consumables, particularly in relation to health and education facilities; and,

(d) Developing a monitoring and evaluation system with a children’s rights perspective, including both coverage and quality indicators for assessing and tracking the impact of resource allocations on children’s rights.

D. Violence against children (articles 19, 37 (a) and 39 of the Convention)

Torture and other cruel or degrading treatment or punishment

38. While welcoming the implementation of a national programme of action for the application of the Convention against Torture, the Committee regrets that the definition of torture in Article 235 of the State party Penal Code does not fully comply with the definition stipulated in the Convention against Torture as stated by the Committee against Torture in its latest concluding observations on the State party (CAT/C/UZB/CO/3, para. 5). Furthermore, the Committee remains gravely concerned about continued reports of torture and ill-treatment being routinely used in investigations, including of persons under the age of 18 years. The Committee is also deeply concerned about the use of solitary cells ("kartcers") as punishment in juvenile prisons. Furthermore, the Committee is seriously concerned about the frequent use of forced labour as a form of punishment for children in government institutions such as schools and
39. With reference to the Committee’s general comment No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment as well as general comment No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence, the Committee urges the State party to:

(b) Ensure that the conditions and treatment of children in juvenile prisons are in full compliance with the Convention and the United Nations Rules on the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (A/RES/45/113), including by ceasing the use of solitary cells (“kartcers”); and,

(c) Prohibit, by law, the use of forced labour as a form of punishment for children in government institutions such as schools and orphanages.

Corporal punishment

40. While noting the statement regarding the prohibition of corporal punishment in all settings made by the State party during the interactive dialogue with it, the Committee is concerned that, in practice, corporal punishment continues to occur frequently in the domestic context and in alternative care settings.

41. With reference to the Committee’s general comment No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment, the Committee urges the State party to:

(a) Ensure that its legislation explicitly prohibits corporal punishment in all settings, including in the home and alternative care, and establish monitoring and reporting mechanisms to enforce such a prohibition;

(b) Undertake targeted awareness-raising, including campaigns, to promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline instead of corporal punishment; and,

(c) Conduct research to learn about the public opinion and attitudes of professionals, parents and children on corporal punishment in order to better target awareness-raising and training programmes, and ensure that positive parenting and non-violent communication become well-
E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 18 (paras. 1-2), 9-11, 19-21, 25, 27 (para. 4) and 39 of the Convention)

Family environment

45. The Committee appreciates the State party’s Law on the Guarantees of the Rights of the Child, which guarantees the right of a child to grow up in a family environment and maintain contact with parents in instances of divorce or detention. The Committee also notes that the State party’s Ministry of Labour and Social Protection has 12 centres providing rehabilitation and professional orientation for persons with disabilities. However, the Committee is concerned that the vast majority of the approximately 40,000 children living in institutions are children with disabilities, which strongly indicates that there are inadequate support measures for children with disabilities to live with their families. Furthermore, the Committee remains concerned that social and other family support services in general also remain inadequate.

46. The Committee urges the State party to make all necessary efforts to further improve the quality and availability of local family-support services including community-based services, particularly for families with children with disabilities and those in vulnerable situations.

Children deprived of a family environment

47. The Committee notes that the State party has legal frameworks and systems for family-based alternative care and ongoing measures seeking deinstitutionalization. However, the Committee is concerned that:

(a) Institutional care is the predominant means rather than a measure of last resort for addressing the needs of children deprived of a family environment, with the majority of children in institutional care being subject to such placement due to socio-economic hardship, divorce, abandonment, and/or lack of family support services;

(b) Decisions on placement of a child in institutional care are not based on the best interest of the child, do not take into account the child or his/her family’s views and are not subject to timely periodic review;
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<td>(c)</td>
<td>Children deprived of family care are placed in institutions and there is no system for selecting, preparing, supporting and supervising extended family care and foster care;</td>
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<td>(d)</td>
<td>The current alternative care systems have no monitoring or support mechanisms resulting in, inter alia, there being no individual care plans for children and reports of children in institutional care settings being subject to abuse and sexual violence;</td>
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<td>(e)</td>
<td>There are inadequate measures for facilitating and maintaining continuous contact with family for children who are in institutional care;</td>
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<td>(f)</td>
<td>The principle of non-separation of siblings is not being systematically applied;</td>
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<td>(g)</td>
<td>The current system only provides care for children up to the age of 16 years, resulting in children older than that being left without care and support; and</td>
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<td>(h)</td>
<td>There is inadequate support and aftercare services for children when they leave institutional care.</td>
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48. In light of the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children annexed to the United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/142, the Committee recommends that the State party:

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<td>(a)</td>
<td>Cease the placement of children in institutional care on socio-economic grounds and prioritize family-type care settings over institutional placements, by, inter alia, raising public awareness about the negative impact of institutionalization on a child’s development;</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
<td>Ensure that where placement in institutional care occurs it is undertaken on the basis of the best interests of the child, with full consideration of the views of the child and his/her family, and is subject to regular review as required under article 25 of the Convention;</td>
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<td>(c)</td>
<td>Ensure that both extended family members and foster carers providing care for children are assessed and trained properly, and provided with the necessary resources and supervision;</td>
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<td>(d)</td>
<td>Establish systematic monitoring and support mechanisms for institutional care settings, including by ensuring the consistent and Convention-compliant preparation and implementation of individual care plans for children in care and adequate and accessible complaints and investigatory mechanisms for cases of abuse and/or violence;</td>
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<td>(e)</td>
<td>Ensure that procedures and facilities are provided for children in care to maintain contact with...</td>
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<td>(f)</td>
<td>Ensure that children in institutional care are accommodated with their siblings whenever possible when this is in their best interests;</td>
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<td>(g)</td>
<td>Revise its current system, including amending legislation, to ensure that all children under the age of 18 years are provided with adequate care, including institutional care where this is in the best interests of the child; and,</td>
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<td>(h)</td>
<td>Allocate all necessary human, technical and financial resources to ensure that children are adequately prepared for leaving the care system and subsequently provided with sufficient follow-up support, primarily for reintegration with their families.</td>
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### H. Other special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 38, 39, 40, 37 (b)-(d), 32-36 of the Convention)

#### Children in situations of migration

63. The Committee is concerned that there are substantial numbers of children with one or both parents employed as migrant workers in other States, subjecting them to situations of particular vulnerability and with no special protection measures.

64. In light of its recommendations from the 2012 day of general discussion on the rights of all children in the context of international migration, the Committee recommends that the State policy ensure that its policies, programmes and measures on the protection of children from poverty and social exclusion include children affected by migration including those left behind. In doing so, the Committee recommends that the State party undertake targeted measures for strengthening the capacity of its national social protection systems to prevent and address situations of vulnerability occurring due to migration with specific provisions to support, including through community-based social services, families and caregivers in migration situations in order to facilitate their child-rearing responsibilities. These should also include special services for children in alternative care and focus on mitigating the psychosocial
impacts of migration on children.

**Children in street situations**

67. The Committee is deeply concerned about the increase in numbers of children living and working on the streets and about the lack of data on this issue and insufficient measures for addressing the situation of children in street situations, who are subjected to the worst forms of exploitation, including begging in the street, extreme marginalization, homelessness and are at risk of becoming victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation.

68. **The Committee recommends that the State party, in cooperation with national and international non-governmental organizations and children themselves:**

   (a) Develop measures for the protection, assistance and recovery of children living in street situations and to ensure their access to education and health services, with due regard for the views of these children;

   (b) Improve support and assistance available to families, both as a preventive measure and a measure conducive to the return of children to their families, as appropriate; and,

   (c) Establish programmes and reporting mechanisms providing children in street situations with relevant information in order to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking and economic and sexual exploitation and to assist and advise them.

**Country Report**

CRC/C/UZB/3-4

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/AdvanceVersions/CRC-C-UZB-3-4.pdf
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<th>Care-Related Concluding Observations</th>
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| CRC/C/OPSC/UZB/CO/1 | 23 Dec 2008 | 8 July 2013  
http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/crcs63.htm |

**VI. Prohibition of the sale of children, child pornography and child prostitution and related matters (arts. 3; 4, paras. 2 and 3; 5; 6 and 7)**

**Existing criminal or penal laws and regulations**

24. The Committee notes as positive the State party’s act on countering trafficking in persons. However, the Committee remains concerned that the State party’s legislation does not criminalize all offences under the Optional Protocol. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned that the State party’s definition of forced labour as “work under threat” under article 7 of its Labour Code is not in compliance with international standards, including International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour.

25. The Committee recommends that the State party revise its Criminal Code in order to criminalize:

(a) The sale of children by offering, delivering or accepting a child for the purpose of sexual exploitation, transfer of organs of the child for profit, or engagement of the child in forced labour; or by improperly inducing consent, as an intermediary, for the adoption of a child in violation of the applicable legal instrument on adoption

...  

(d) An attempt to commit any of these acts and complicity or participation in any of these acts;

(e) The production and dissemination of material advertising any of these acts; and

(f) The exaction of any work or service from any child under the menace of a penalty.
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<th>OPAC to CRC</th>
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| CRC/C/OPAC/UZB/CO/1 | 23 Dec 2008 | 8 July 2013  
Concluding observations on the initial report of Uzbekistan submitted under article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflict, adopted by the Committee at its sixty-third session (27 May-14 June 2013)  
[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/crcs63.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/crcs63.htm) |
| ICCPR | 28 Sept 1995 | Care-Related Concluding Observations |
| ICESCR | 28 Sept 1995 | Care-Related Concluding Observations |
| CEDAW | 19 July 1995 | Care-Related Concluding Observations |
| CRPD | N/A (signed 27 Feb 2009) | Care-Related Concluding Observations |
### Acronyms and Abbreviations:

- **CEDAW**: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- **CRC**: Convention on the Rights of the Child/Committee on the Rights of the Child
- **CRPD**: Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- **ICCRP**: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- **ICESCR**: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- **OPAC to CRC**: Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
- **UN**: United Nations
- **UPR**: Universal Periodic Review