

by the Committee was further expressed over: the situation of children who are excluded from schools because of sanctions imposed by teachers and the adverse effect generated which may sometimes have an impact on drop-out rates and school attendance; and, the low age for criminal responsibility, and the treatment of children deprived of their liberty.

The Committee recommended that the government, *inter alia*:

- ♦ take all appropriate measures to accelerate the implementation of the recommendations of the Constitutional Review Group for the inclusion of all the principles and provisions of the Convention and the implementation of the Child Care Act of 1997; take further steps to ensure that the Convention is fully incorporated as part of domestic law;
- ♦ consider ratifying the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention Against Torture and the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption of 1993;
- ♦ take immediate steps to improve the situation of child poverty, and make all possible efforts to ensure that all families have adequate resources and facilities;
- ♦ use the principles and provisions of the Convention as a framework for its programmes of international development assistance;
- ♦ adopt a comprehensive National Strategy for Children, incorporating the principles and provisions of the Convention, in a systematic manner, in the designing of all its policies and programmes;
- ♦ positively reconsider the establishment of an independent monitoring body, such as an Ombudsperson or a child rights commissioner, to address children's rights violations adequately;
- ♦ strengthen coordination among different government bodies dealing with children's rights; concentrate in a single body the mandate to coordinate and make the appropriate decisions to protect the rights of the child;
- ♦ adjust the system of data collection and development of indicators to include all children up to the age of 18, and ensure that the system includes all children, with specific emphasis on vulnerable children and children in especially difficult circumstances;
- ♦ continue and strengthen its efforts to develop a closer relationship with NGOs;
- ♦ promote human rights education in the country and create a wider awareness and understanding of the principles and provisions of the Convention; incorporate children's rights in the curricula of all educational and pedagogical institutions; conduct comprehensive training programmes on the Convention for professional groups working with and for children;

- ♦ take appropriate measures for establishing, as much as possible, procedures for the inclusion of the name of the father in the birth certificates of children born from unmarried parents;
- ♦ develop programmes to facilitate active participation of children with disabilities in the community; pursue further efforts to ensure the implementation of integrated mental health programmes and approaches and make available the necessary resources and assistance for these activities;
- ♦ take all appropriate measures, including of a legislative nature, to prohibit and eliminate the use of corporal punishment within the family environment; conduct awareness-raising campaigns to ensure that alternative forms of discipline are administered in a manner consistent with the child's dignity and in conformity with the Convention;
- ♦ ensure proper investigation of cases of abuse and ill treatment of children, including sexual abuse within the family, the application of sanctions against perpetrators and that publicity is given to decisions taken, with due regard to the principle of respect for the child's privacy; and
- ♦ take all available measures to ensure the prompt enactment of the Children Bill of 1996, especially in relation to the administration of the juvenile justice system.



ITALY

Date of admission to UN: 14 December 1955.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Italy has not submitted a core document for use by the treaty bodies.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 18 January 1967; ratified: 15 September 1978. Italy's third periodic report (E/1994/104/Add.19) has been submitted and is pending for consideration at the Committee's April 2000 session; the fourth periodic report is due 30 June 2001.

Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 18 January 1967; ratified: 15 September 1978. Italy's fourth periodic report (CCPR/C/103/Add.4) was considered at the Committee's July 1998 session; the fifth periodic report is due 1 November 2000.

Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 5 of article 9; paragraph 4 of article 12; paragraphs 3 and 5 of article 14; paragraph 1 of article 15; paragraph 3 of article 19; declaration under article 41.