

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/850/Add.12
2 October 1963

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS: PROPOSALS
RELATING TO AN ARTICLE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Comments of Governments

The Secretary-General has received the following comments from the Government of Australia.

Australia

(24 September 1963)

In the view of Australia, the inclusion of a special article to ensure to children the rights recognized in the Covenant is not necessary. Article 2 already provides that each party undertakes to respect and ensure to all individuals the rights recognized in the Covenant, without distinction of any kind. Children (including those born out of wedlock) would be individuals within the meaning of the Article.

If, however, there is general support in the Third Committee for a special article, Australia would be willing to co-operate in producing the best possible text. In this connexion, the view of Australia is that the various provisions that have been proposed require careful examination. Some proposals are vague and far-reaching. Some refer to matters that are more appropriate for inclusion in the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and that, in fact, have been dealt with in that Covenant.
