



# Convention on the Rights of the Child

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## Committee on the Rights of the Child Ninety-third session

### Summary record (partial)\* of the 2728th meeting\*\*

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 26 May 2023, at 3 p.m.

*Chair:* Ms. Skelton

## Contents

Closure of the session

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- \* No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.
  - \*\* No summary records were issued for the 2718th to 2727th meetings.

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*The discussion covered in the summary record began at 5.10 p.m.*

### **Closure of the session**

1. **The Chair** said that, on 26 May 2023, the date of the closure of the Committee's ninety-third session, there were 196 States parties to the Convention, 173 to the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict and 178 to the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. There were 50 States parties to the Optional Protocol on a communications procedure.
2. All the Committee members had been able to attend the ninety-third session in person. The Committee had considered the periodic reports of Finland, France, Jordan, Sao Tome and Principe, Türkiye and the United Kingdom during the session. It had also considered the initial report of Finland under the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. If there were no further comments, she would take it that the concluding observations for those six State parties could be adopted.
3. *It was so decided.*
4. The Committee had adopted decisions on 10 individual communications. In three of those individual communications, concerning Czechia, Denmark and Peru, it had found violations of children's rights. It had found no violation in a case concerning Luxembourg and had declared two cases, against Chile and Spain, inadmissible. In addition, it had discontinued two cases against Switzerland and one case each against Denmark and Ireland. The Committee had also discussed cases under the inquiry procedure set out in article 13 of the Optional Protocol on a communications procedure.
5. The pre-sessional working group for the ninety-fifth session, which had met before the Committee's ninety-third session, had held meetings with children from several States parties. The working group had found their insights very useful in identifying issues of concern.
6. The Committee had adopted its general comment on children's rights and the environment with a special focus on climate change. It had received an overwhelming number of responses to its call for comments on the draft from States parties and civil society organizations, and more than 16,000 children from around the world had been consulted. The general comment confirmed that all children were entitled to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and clarified the obligations of States and the role of the business sector. The final version of the general comment, which would be published in July 2023, would be officially launched at the Committee's ninety-fourth session, to be held from 4 to 22 September 2023.
7. **Mr. Chopel** (Rapporteur) said that, during the intersessional period, many Committee members, including the Chair, Ms. Aho, Ms. Ayoubi Idrissi, Mr. Gudbrandsson, Mr. Jaffé, Ms. Moulaye, Ms. Otani, Mr. Pedernera Reyna, Ms. Todorova, Mr. Van Keirsbilck, Ms. Zara and he himself, had taken part in a number of conferences, seminars and meetings relevant to the mandate of the Committee.
8. The working group on working methods, coordinated by Mr. Pedernera Reyna, was considering a new structure for the Committee's deliberations as well as a document aimed at aligning the procedures for defining themes for days of general discussion and general comments. The working group on child participation, coordinated by Mr. Gudbrandsson, had held a meeting on 16 March 2023 on support for children's participation in the reporting process and on training for country staff of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). It had made Ms. Zara its new coordinator. He himself had been elected coordinator of the working group on emergencies, which had decided to step up its efforts to comply with its terms of reference. The working group on Samoa follow-up, whose focal point was Ms. Otani, had continued to discuss follow-up to the extraordinary session that the Committee had held in 2020 in Samoa.
9. The Committee's Twitter account, which was managed by its media focal points, Mr. Jaffé and Mr. Van Keirsbilck, had more than 5,000 followers. The focal point for the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Ms. Kiladze, had continued to exchange information with leading members of the Union. The working group on UNICEF and the Sustainable Development

Goals, coordinated by Mr. Mezmur, had discussed progress towards implementing its joint plan with UNICEF. It had elected Ms. Ayoubi Idrissi as its new coordinator.

10. **The Chair** said she took it that the Committee wished to adopt the report on its ninety-third session.

11. *It was so decided.*

12. After the customary exchange of courtesies, she declared the Committee's ninety-third session closed.

*The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.*