



# Convention on the Rights of the Child

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

### Summary record of the 2858th meeting\*

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Monday, 20 January 2025, at 3 p.m.

*Chair:* Ms. Skelton

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Consideration of reports of States parties (*continued*)

*Combined sixth and seventh periodic reports of Peru*

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\* No summary record was issued for the 2857th meeting.

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*The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.*

**Consideration of reports of States parties** (*continued*)

*Combined sixth and seventh periodic reports of Peru* ([CRC/C/PER/6-7](#); [CRC/C/PER/QPR/6-7](#))

1. *At the invitation of the Chair, the delegation of Peru joined the meeting.*
2. **A representative of Peru**, introducing her country's combined sixth and seventh periodic reports ([CRC/C/PER/6-7](#)), said that legislative achievements related to the protection and promotion of the rights of children and adolescents during the reporting period had included the adoption of laws to safeguard children in digital environments, ensure that the best interests of the child were a primary consideration in all public processes, protect children without parental care and prohibit marriage under the age of 18. Additionally, the Government had adopted the Code of Criminal Responsibility for Adolescents, which took a rehabilitative approach to juvenile justice.
3. To ensure that children had been able to keep up with school during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Government had launched the "I Learn at Home" strategy, as part of which learning material was made available on television, radio and the Internet. Economic assistance was being provided to more than 103,000 children orphaned during the pandemic. Essential services for child victims of violence had been prioritized.
4. In 2021, the Government had adopted the 2030 National Multisectoral Policy for Children and Adolescents, which focused on promoting healthy living conditions, strengthening autonomy and decision-making, reducing risks of vulnerability, encouraging active participation in public affairs and improving governance. By 2023, the implementation of the Policy had resulted in increased prenatal care, vaccination against all common childhood diseases for children under the age of 1, widespread enrolment in early education and improved secondary school completion rates. Making the best interests of the child a primary consideration in all actions concerning children was central to the Government's public policies across the areas of migration, equality, health, governance, disability, social inclusion and public safety. Budget allocations for children's welfare had increased from US\$ 8.69 billion in 2016 to US\$ 13.99 billion in 2023, an increase of 38 per cent.
5. The Government was committed to combating sexual violence against girls through initiatives such as the national survey on social relations, the results of which showed a decrease in reported cases of sexual violence between 2013 and 2019. The National Programme for the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women and Family Members (Aurora Programme) had been strengthened, and preventive measures, such as the "Prevent to Protect" programme launched in 2024, aimed to reduce tolerance of violence against children and ensure a safer environment. In the future, improved coordination of and collaboration in efforts to reduce the prevalence of sexual violence and promote the comprehensive well-being of children and adolescents would be pursued by various sectors and institutions and regional and local governments.
6. Peru had women's emergency centres, special protection units that intervened in cases of family neglect, municipal ombudsmen for children and adolescents, residential care centres for children and adolescents deprived or at risk of being deprived of parental care and education, and day-care services providing comprehensive care for children aged 1 to 3. An intersectoral action plan, focusing on health, education, protection, participation and intergovernmental coordination, had been developed to lower the prevalence of sexual violence, including against children, in Condorcanqui Province.
7. **Mr. Pedernera Reyna** (Coordinator, Country Task Force) said that he wished to know what measures had been taken to mitigate the impact on children of the recent political crisis in Peru. He wondered why the Government had not attempted to incorporate a children's rights-based approach into several bills currently making their way through Congress that appeared to be incompatible with the Convention. He would welcome further information on the 2030 National Multisectoral Policy for Children and Adolescents; in particular, it would be helpful to learn which body led the implementation of the Policy, how it addressed the fragmentation of child services, what mechanisms existed to monitor and

evaluate the application of the Policy and how it was funded. In view of the proposed merger of the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups and the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion, he also wondered what would be done to ensure that children's issues remained a priority.

8. It would be useful to learn whether the Government planned to increase funding for special child protection measures and how spending on children's issues was monitored, particularly in remote and isolated regions. He wondered whether the Government was planning to remedy the lack of information disaggregated by ethnicity and language in the areas of children's health, education and protection. Moreover, he would welcome an explanation of how the State party planned to manage privacy concerns that might arise in relation to data pertaining to children in the context of its project to establish a unified database of children's information. In the light of the reported politicization of the Office of the Ombudsman, he would welcome an update on the appointment of the Ombudsman, as well as on the resources allocated to and the work of the Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Children and Adolescents.

9. He wondered what measures were being taken to ensure that mining and industrial operations complied with children's rights standards, including those set out in the Committee's general comment No. 26 (2023) and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and to implement the findings of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the case *The Inhabitants of La Oroya v. Peru*. He also wished to know what steps the Government took to ensure that development projects receiving international investment, such as the construction of the port of Chancay, were accompanied by social development plans to protect children in the surrounding areas and ensure their continued access to basic services.

10. It would be useful to learn what specific measures were being taken to combat discrimination against Indigenous children, children with disabilities, migrant children and LGBTQI+ minors. He would welcome information on steps taken to investigate the deaths of several children, reportedly resulting from the use of force by the police, during the social unrest that had followed the appointment of the new President, prosecute those thought to be responsible and make the victims whole. It would be interesting to learn how COVID-19 had affected the Government's work on identity registration and what data existed to measure the results of that work. In that regard, he wished to know how the absence of registry offices in remote areas was being addressed and what the Government planned to do to ensure that migrant children had access to identity documents and basic services. In addition, he wondered what mechanisms were in place to ensure that helping families remain together was a policy priority.

11. **Mr. Jaffé** (Country Task Force), noting that the information provided by Peru focused heavily on legislation but did not provide evidence of tangible action taken to address violence against children, said that he wondered what the State party was doing to create a safe environment for children, given the alarming levels of reported violence in homes, schools and other settings. He would welcome updated data in that regard, including on the percentage of girls who had experienced sexual abuse and the identity of the perpetrators of that abuse.

12. He would be grateful for information on the State party's actions to enforce Act No. 30403, under which corporal punishment was prohibited, and its implementing regulations, to address the lack of public awareness campaigns designed to end tolerance of physical punishment, to increase the effectiveness of the Amber Alert system and to locate missing children. It would also be useful to learn what steps were being taken to prevent the sexual abuse of children in remote regions, including Condorcanqui Province, and to address systemic barriers, including refusals by the police to accept complaints, that prevented families in those regions from filing complaints.

13. He would appreciate updates on measures to improve training for police, prosecutors, judges and social workers in handling cases of sexual violence against children, as well as on investigations into accusations of child sexual abuse by clergy members; in particular, he wondered how many convictions related to such cases there had been. An update on progress

towards the implementation of Act No. 31945, pursuant to which child marriage had been prohibited, would also be welcome.

14. He would welcome information on any efforts made to increase human resources and step up training in the area of child protection. Given the urgency of the situation, he wondered whether the Government might consider bringing forward its plans to adopt a national strategy to prevent sexual violence against children.

15. He would also welcome an update on the action that had been taken in follow-up to the Committee's concluding observations on the State party's report under the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (CRC/C/OPSC/PER/CO/1), in particular the status of the adoption of a comprehensive strategy encompassing all areas covered by the Optional Protocol and any legislative efforts to make the sale of children a separate offence in the State party's criminal law.

*The meeting was suspended at 3.45 p.m. and resumed at 4.05 p.m.*

16. **A representative of Peru** said that birth registration services had continued to operate during the pandemic. Between 2021 and 2024, 113,000 birth certificates had been issued electronically thanks to a new digital system. In addition, 168 civil registry offices had been set up in hospitals to enable parents to register their newborns free of charge and without delay. It was also now possible for newborns to be issued with a national identity card at the same time as a birth certificate. The cards now contained a chip with the fingerprints of the parent who registered the child; the aim was to combat trafficking in children.

17. The National Identity and Civil Status Registry had introduced mobile registration units to serve persons living in poverty or extreme poverty and communities in rural, isolated and border areas. The units also visited children's residential care centres and hospital intensive care wards. In the previous four years, the units had completed more than 75,000 missions, and in 2024 they had issued more than 18,000 birth certificates.

18. The Registry had also increased its service provision for Indigenous Peoples. There were approximately 780 registry offices in Indigenous communities. Culturally appropriate civil registration services were available free of charge, and between 2016 and 2024 almost 495,000 birth certificates had been issued in a total of 37 of the 48 Indigenous languages used in Peru. A website listing Indigenous names and their meanings had been created to help Indigenous parents decide on a name for their newborns.

19. Child marriage was now prohibited. In 2024, no such marriages had been recorded; there had been 161 in 2023.

20. **A representative of Peru** said that, to lessen the impact of the institutional crisis her country had faced, the authorities were implementing four action plans aimed at children, in addition to the 2030 National Multisectoral Policy for Children and Adolescents that was already ensuring sustained progress in the recognition and exercise of children's rights. All levels of government, including regional and local, were responsible for the implementation of the Multisectoral Policy. The Policy was subject to continuous monitoring and evaluation by the Permanent Multisectoral Commission, which was led by the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups. Pursuant to Act No. 27666, the Council of Ministers must present to Congress an annual progress report on the impact of the national plans and programmes aimed at children.

21. In July 2024, President Dina Ercilia Boluarte Zegarra had announced plans to create an infrastructure ministry. The related proposal was still before Congress. The possibility of merging certain institutions was being examined with a view to avoiding duplication of activities.

22. Although the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics collected information on ethnicity and languages, it was not currently possible for it to extract data disaggregated by geographical setting. The population and housing census to be conducted in 2025 would provide up-to-date data on ethnicity and language. A national survey on social relationships was due to be conducted in early 2025; the results of the survey, including information on violence against children, would be available by the middle of the year.

23. Legislative Decree No. 1297, which had entered into force in 2018, set out strategies to avoid placing children in institutions; institutionalization was a temporary measure that was in place only while a better solution was sought. There were currently 749 registered foster families caring for 572 children. The Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups had signed cooperation agreements with national non-governmental organizations to strengthen the foster care system. Steps were being taken to professionalize foster care and introduce financial subsidies for foster families. The number of children in residential care institutions was falling by 5 per cent annually, and support had been given to 2,234 children to enable them to leave residential care and return to their families.

24. The Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups was leading the design of a national system intended to improve coordination of children's services.

25. Police officers received in-service training on restoring public order and dealing with vulnerable groups such as children, whether as victims or offenders. If children were deprived of their liberty, the principles of the best interests of the child, confidentiality and privacy were paramount. Human rights were a cross-cutting theme in the courses taught at police academies. In 2024, 588 in-service training courses and 60 specialist modules had been delivered. Police officers who mishandled operations involving children were immediately relieved of their duties. A training plan was being designed to ensure that the police dealt with cases of violence against women, sexual violence against children and disappearances of women or children in an effective and timely manner. The Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Children and Adolescents had issued a number of thematic reports containing recommendations that had been taken up by the executive authorities.

26. Peru was applying the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy. Children were prohibited from engaging in dangerous work pursuant to Supreme Decree No. 009-2022-MIMP. The Ministry of Labour and Job Creation and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights had published information leaflets on the importance of ensuring that State contracts were not awarded to companies that had been sanctioned for engaging in forced labour or the worst forms of child labour. A model had been introduced at the municipal level to eradicate child labour, and a practical guide had been published. As a result of the judgment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in *The Inhabitants of La Oroya v. Peru*, persons affected by heavy metals were recognized as a group entitled to special protection in the National Human Rights Policy to 2040, which set out a new strategy in the area of business and human rights.

27. The Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion had taken the lead in proposing measures to promote local development and social inclusion in the vicinity of the port of Chancay. The Deputy Minister for Local Government had also met with representatives of the regional government of Lima, the provincial governments of Barranca, Huaral and Huaura and the district authorities of Chancay and Aucallama to that end. A technical report had been produced, together with proposals for 47 public investment projects to tackle social problems in the vicinity of the port. Services for victims of violence against women had been strengthened in the area, and there were plans to build a residential centre for children.

28. Seventeen training sessions for 1,800 people had been held at the offices of the municipal ombudsmen for children and adolescents in implementation of legislation prohibiting corporal punishment. The sessions had been held between January and November 2024.

29. The "Ponte en #ModoNiñez" ("Activate #childhoodmode") strategy was being implemented to improve public spaces, including streets, parks, shopping centres, bus stations, markets, beaches and cinemas, and ensure that they were safe for children. The strategy brought together the different levels of government and private companies to take immediate action to avoid situations of risk for children and to take account of children's voices in the design of relevant tools and processes. The strategy set out a range of one-time and annual indicators that would be monitored by the Directorate for Local Systems and Ombudsman's Offices within the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups. Standard

criteria had been developed to identify whether a public space met the objectives of the strategy – for example, the introduction of a protection protocol and the training of cleaning, security and customer service staff in identifying and preventing situations of risk for children. Each year, the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups recognized the public and private entities that had met the relevant criteria.

30. The “Ponte en #ModoNiñez” strategy was divided into sections focusing on normative measures, capacity-building, local coordination, awareness-raising, child participation and dissemination of information. The strategy was currently being implemented by 435 bodies.

31. **Mr. Pedernera Reyna** said that he would be interested to know whether, following a reported tightening of immigration policy, migrants were still able to obtain the documents they needed for access to education and employment. He would like to know, too, whether the deaths of children during the protests of 2022 and 2023 had been investigated and whether the persons responsible for those deaths had been identified and held accountable. The delegation might also comment on the tensions surrounding the proposal of bills incompatible with the Convention.

32. In the light of the Committee’s Views in the case *Camila v. Peru* (CRC/C/93/D/136/2021), in which it had found that the State party had failed to provide the author with access to information on sexual and reproductive health, he wished to know what steps were being taken to ensure children’s access to age-appropriate information. He wondered whether the safeguards designed to protect children online, which had reportedly prompted pushback, had been put in place and what was being done to promote and enhance children’s rights in the digital environment.

33. Emergency Decree No. 001-2020 provided that the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups was competent to apply protection measures for children deprived of parental care provided that they had not broken the law. He wished to know why children in conflict with the law should be excluded from rights protection mechanisms.

34. The high incidence of sexual violence in Condorcanqui Province and reports that State institutions had responded with indifference or hostility to the community leaders who had complained about the violence were of particular concern. He would be grateful for further information on the State party’s efforts to investigate the complaints and to support the girls who had been subjected to sexual abuse in schools.

35. Lastly, noting that the Catholic Church had in recent years imposed measures on Sodalitium Christianae Vitae, an organization of lay people and members of the clergy, following reports of sexual abuse committed by its members, he wished to know what support the State party had provided for victims and survivors of the abuse and what steps it was taking to prevent clerical abuse in general.

36. **Mr. Jaffé** said that he would be grateful for further information on all accusations of abuse levelled against clergy, together with information on the measures taken by the judiciary in each case. In the light of recent reports that children were subjected to violence by the staff of residential care centres, he wished to know what guidelines were in place to ensure that the centres employed suitable individuals and what supervisory mechanisms were in place to prevent sexual violence against children in care. He wished to know, too, what efforts were being made to rapidly reduce the number – currently around 1,000 a year – of pregnancies among girls aged between 11 and 14.

37. The recent adoption of a law prohibiting child marriage was a welcome development; however, he would appreciate clarification of whether the prohibition applied to children under the age of 18 in all cases or whether exceptions were allowed. It would also be useful to know whether the national or local authorities were able to detect and report cases in which arrangements were made between men and the families of underage girls, particularly in Indigenous areas.

38. **Ms. Ayoubi Idrissi** said that she would be interested to know what had been done in response to allegations of police violence. In that regard, she wished to know whether mechanisms were available to provide child victims with access to justice and, if so, how many cases had come before the courts, how many judgments had been handed down and what measures of reparation had been granted. She wished to know, too, to what extent the

measures taken by the State party to improve the safety of public spaces for children and adolescents had been successful.

39. **A representative of Peru** said that Congress had recently adopted a law providing for the automatic and immediate dismissal of any teacher found to have committed acts of sexual violence. The State was responding to the situation in Condorcanqui Province as a matter of priority. Following the initial reports of sexual violence against children from the Awajún community, which had emerged in 2012, the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups had set up a women's emergency centre in the Province, which had subsequently handled more than 490 cases of sexual violence. According to the centre's records, 70 per cent of the cases had occurred in the family or the community and only 15 per cent in educational settings.

40. In May 2024, the Government had met with various community leaders, who had reported on the high rates of sexual violence and harassment to which minors from the Awajún, Wampis and other communities were subjected. In August 2024, the standing committee responsible for the National Multisectoral Policy for Children and Adolescents had adopted an intersectoral plan of action, with cultural relevance and a gender perspective, to facilitate State intervention in Condorcanqui Province. The plan of action, which served as a tool for monitoring the progress of measures to prevent and address violence against children and adolescents, included five main components – health, education, protection, participation and coordination – and a total of 73 actions. Steps were taken in follow-up every two months, and quantitative information was submitted by 14 institutions, including various ministries, the judiciary and the Public Prosecution Service.

41. Notable measures taken under the plan of action had included the training of eight health professionals on sexual and reproductive health; the screening of 3,277 persons for HIV and syphilis in 30 Indigenous communities; the provision of technical assistance on social and emotional development and prevention of violence; and the recruitment of six specialists to provide technical assistance to the Province's 18 residential schools. Eighteen communities had set up protection networks, supported by community managers, who could issue alerts in the event of reported cases of violence. Experts had conducted technical assistance visits to 12 residential schools. Technical assistance had also been provided to local education management units to improve their administrative and disciplinary procedures in the event of sexual violence committed by teachers, and four lawyers had been recruited to work on unresolved procedures. The judiciary had organized training for district and community authorities on dealing with violence in accordance with Act No. 30364 on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women and Family Members. In September 2024, in the framework of a joint project with the United Nations Population Fund, a Gesell chamber had been delivered; it would enable the collection of testimony in cases of sexual violence while protecting the psychological integrity of victims.

42. The Condorcanqui women's emergency centre had been strengthened by the recruitment of additional staff, its infrastructure had been improved and its opening hours extended until midnight. In addition, the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Groups had signed an agreement with the municipal authorities to ensure that the centre, which had been provided with new computers, furniture and other equipment, continued to operate. Virtual and in-person training had been provided to the professionals working at the centre in order to ensure the provision of timely and comprehensive care in cases of sexual violence. Training had also been provided for staff of the rural care services of El Cenepa and Río Santiago, who travelled to remote communities to raise awareness and identify unreported cases. In the town of Santa María de Nieva, a workshop on the rights of children and adolescents had been held with the participation of 63 persons, most of them representatives of local Indigenous communities. Furthermore, the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights had hired two public defenders, provided mobile justice services for 100 vulnerable members of Indigenous communities and offered specialized legal assistance in 93 reported cases of sexual violence against children.

43. The intersectoral plan of action had already yielded significant results. Access to health services had improved, thanks to the efficient roll-out of strategies and resources. In education, difficulties persisted owing to the lack of specialized personnel and logistical challenges, and the current measures needed to be strengthened in order to guarantee a quality

education free from discrimination and violence. In terms of protection, coordinated efforts had resulted in the creation of safe spaces and more effective responses to cases of violence, abuse and exploitation. Good progress had been made in respect of the capacity-building of local authorities and the inclusion of community actors – crucial means of empowering Indigenous communities on child rights issues. Nevertheless, geographical barriers and the acceptance of certain situations of violence and early marriage continued to pose major challenges in Condorcanqui.

44. In line with its focus on prevention, the Government had adopted the “Prevent to Protect” strategy with the goal of identifying situations in which children and adolescents were at risk of sexual violence. Under the strategy, which was being implemented through agreements with regional and local authorities, the Government would work with children and adolescents, teachers, parents, social organizations, community leaders, the media, justice officials and civil servants to generate a current of opinion to counter the belief that violence against children was acceptable or legitimate. One aspect of the strategy was to sensitize Indigenous communities and society as a whole to the prohibition of child marriage and de facto unions involving persons under the age of 18.

45. Approximately 9,000 and 9,500 children and adolescents had been reported missing in 2023 and 2024, respectively. In both years, over half of the missing children had been located. In 2023, new tools had been introduced under Legislative Decree No. 1603, amending Legislative Decree No. 1428, to strengthen the search for missing persons. In 2024, the Ministry of the Interior had organized 12 virtual workshops for more than 2,500 police officers throughout the country on missing persons, trafficking in persons, cybercrime and the use of information and communications technology in investigations. As part of the “Prevent to Protect” strategy, the Government had conducted a communication campaign to help children identify situations in which they might be at risk of disappearance. More than 8,000 schoolchildren had participated in the workshops, in which they had discussed the dangers of social networks, which criminal groups had used to make contact with and abduct a number of adolescents; in some cases, the groups had obtained an intimate photo or video that they had used to blackmail and control the adolescent. The victims of such practices were at risk of being trafficked or subjected to sexual violence.

46. **A representative of Peru** said that national legislation prohibited marriage under the age of 18 in all circumstances without exceptions. Upon turning 16, adolescents were issued with an official document that gave them the right to enter a trade or profession but not the right to marry.

47. Migrant children and their families could obtain assistance and official documents – whether a foreign national’s registration card or a residence permit – through the National Migration Authority. Children born in Peru to migrant parents obtained Peruvian nationality at birth and were issued a Peruvian birth certificate and identity document automatically. Children born outside the country who obtained Peruvian nationality subsequently were required to apply to the National Identity and Civil Status Registry to obtain a national identity document. Act No. 32237, a newly adopted act, had amended aspects of national civil identity and registration legislation, including the period of validity of identification documents issued to minors; new identity documents were now required when a child reached the ages of 3, 12 and 17. The new requirements would enhance security in addition to ensuring up-to-date civil registration data.

48. Work to ascertain how many Indigenous communities maintained separate civil registers was under way. Remote communities that requested the establishment of a civil register were assigned birth, death and marriage books by the National Identity and Civil Status Registry and appointed a registrar who worked under the supervision of the National Registry. All civil registrars, including those serving Indigenous communities, took part in training activities, either online or in person, at least once a year.

49. **A representative of Peru** said that all migrants in Peru and all children born in Peru had access to all health services without discrimination on any grounds. The Ministry of Health had issued regulations that prevented healthcare professionals from seeking information about a person’s migration status and using that information as a reason to deny care.



50. **Mr. Jaffé** said that, as there were discrepancies in the data on children with disabilities drawn from the national specialized survey on disability, the National Register of Persons with Disabilities and a recent report on the living conditions of persons with disabilities published by the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, he wondered which source he should consult to find definitive data. Moreover, the State party should provide all the disaggregated data requested in the list of issues prior to reporting (CRC/C/PER/QPR/6-7, para. 39).

51. More generally, he wished to hear about the strategies being pursued to ensure that there were records for all children with disabilities in the National Register of Persons with Disabilities and that they had access to the necessary services, including timely healthcare and early diagnosis and intervention programmes. He also wished to know what was being done to narrow the gaps in service provision in rural areas that exacerbated the other forms of discrimination that children with disabilities experienced. A description of the procedure to be followed to obtain the official recognition of disability that was a prerequisite for the provision of assistance would be useful.

52. An update on progress towards the application of Act No. 30797, on the promotion of inclusive education, would be helpful. The delegation's comments on the reasons for the rise in the number of children with disabilities in specialized schools and the fall of the number in mainstream schools, except at the secondary level, would also be helpful. In addition, he would like to know whether there were any policies and programmes specifically for children on the autism spectrum and whether the number of educational professionals with expertise in that area was sufficient.

53. **The Chair** (Country Task Force) said that she would like to hear about efforts to reduce iron deficiency anaemia, guarantee adequate care for children with rare diseases and ensure equal access to primary and specialized healthcare services for all children. She would like to hear, too, what concrete actions the Government had taken to ensure the availability of safe and accessible abortion services and information on sexual and reproductive health and contraception. She would particularly like to hear about the services available in the Amazon basin and in rural Indigenous communities where the incidence of teenage pregnancy was particularly high. She also wished to hear what progress had been made towards providing Camila with effective reparation, as requested by the Committee in the Views it had adopted in the case *Camila v. Peru*. As the Committee's calls for abortion to be decriminalized in all child pregnancy cases had not yet been answered and the threat of prosecution and conscientious objection to providing abortion services continued to impede access to therapeutic abortion, she would like to know what training was provided for health, educational and judicial personnel, including prosecution service officers, to encourage and enable them to apply the relevant legislation.

54. She would like to know what the purpose of a 2024 bill that apparently gave parents the right to choose how their children received comprehensive sexual education was, whether the comprehensive sexual education guidelines adopted previously were still being followed and, if so, whether any specific action – teacher training, for example – was being taken to ensure their application throughout the country. She would also like to know what steps were being taken to address the rise in cases of depression and suicide rates reported in recent years, to combat poverty and extreme poverty, to ensure that all children were adequately fed, to guarantee the accessibility of social protection programmes and financial support for families in need, including families whose mother tongue was not Spanish, and to guarantee access to clean drinking water and sanitation nationwide.

55. A progress report on the implementation of the Framework Act on Climate Change would be helpful, as would a detailed description of the measures taken to prevent or respond to climate-related disasters such as floods, mudslides, extreme low temperatures, droughts and fires. Since scientific studies attested to elevated lead levels in the blood of children in many parts of the country, she also wished to hear about progress in implementing new legislation that limited the lead content of paint and other materials, about the monitoring mechanisms in place to ensure compliance with that legislation and about efforts to clean up the contaminated areas.

56. **Ms. Marshall-Harris** (Country Task Force) said that she would like to know what measures would be put in place to close the gaps reported to be affecting access to free compulsory education, especially in poor rural areas, in Indigenous communities and among children with disabilities, and what plans had been made to put an end to the uneven and inadequate distribution of budget resources and the shortage of adequately trained bilingual teachers. She would welcome the delegation's comments on reports that indirect costs associated with access to education were a major barrier for poor children. She would also like to hear about any efforts to prevent children from dropping out of school. In particular, she wondered whether the Solidarity Routes Initiative, providing for the distribution of free bicycles, and the River Routes Initiative, two commendable attempts to address accessibility issues, had had a positive impact and could be sustained and even expanded.

57. She would like to hear what the authorities were doing to ensure that schools in rural areas had the funds to address infrastructure deficiencies, including the lack of water, electricity and Internet access. The delegation's comments on reports that students in residential secondary schools in rural areas were subjected to physical and sexual assault and that insufficient action was being taken in response would be appreciated. Additionally, greater attention should be accorded to the provision of early childhood education, and the potentially deleterious policy that allowed parents to have a say on class content and materials should be reviewed.

58. While the State party's considerable efforts to accommodate large numbers of migrant children were commendable, she was concerned that access to services could be denied if children did not have the required documentation. Since it was very hard for some children, especially Venezuelan children and children seeking asylum, to obtain documentation from their country of origin, she urged the State party to address those anomalies. She would like to know what was being done to obtain more precise data about the large numbers of children in street situations and gain a better understanding of the scale of the problem. The State party might also investigate further how it might counter the prevalence of child labour, including in hazardous extractive industries and in slavery-like conditions in domestic service. As the National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour had clearly not yet achieved its goal, a review of strategies, plans and funding was needed.

59. She wondered whether an updated version of the National Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons that had come to an end in 2021 was in the pipeline, whether special shelters were available for trafficked minors who had been rescued and whether border officials were trained to recognize cases of trafficking in persons, especially in mining areas.

60. As Indigenous persons were reportedly sprayed with insecticide and other toxic materials during land grabs, and as the business community often ignored prior consultation requirements, she would be interested to hear whether Act No. 29785, on the right of Indigenous Peoples to prior consultation, was proving effective. It would be useful to know, too, whether an updated version of the 2015–2020 National Development Plan for the Peruvian Population of African Descent was envisaged. She would also appreciate confirmation as to whether children attending military schools were considered members of the armed forces and included on the military reserve list, a situation that would be incompatible with the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict. Lastly, she asked whether the State party would be intensifying its efforts to prevent the recruitment of children into non-State armed groups and what assistance, including psychosocial and physical recovery services, was available to children who were rescued from such recruitment or fleeing armed conflict.

*The meeting rose at 6.05 p.m.*