



Convention on the Rights of the Child

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Summary record of the 2883rd meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Thursday, 15 May 2025, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Ms. Kiladze

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The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Consideration of reports of States parties *(continued)*

Combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Indonesia (continued) (CRC/C/IDN/5-6; CRC/C/IDN/Q/5-6; CRC/C/IDN/RQ/5-6)

1. *At the invitation of the Chair, the delegation of Indonesia joined the meeting.*
2. **A representative of Indonesia** said that medical rehabilitation for child victims or witnesses of crime was defined in the annex to article 91 of Law No. 11/2012 on the Criminal Justice System for Children as an integrated set of therapies and activities designed to restore the child to full physical health. Social rehabilitation was defined as an integrated set of physical, mental and social activities that enabled child victims or witnesses to resume their participation in community life, while social reintegration was defined as the process of preparing child victims or witnesses to return to their families and communities.
3. The reintegration of child victims of violence or exploitation took place in several stages, starting with the identification of the child's needs and concluding with monitoring activities to assess the success of the reintegration process. Reintegration was usually coordinated by authorities at the central and regional levels. The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection coordinated with other relevant ministries and institutions to return children to their place of origin where necessary.
4. **A representative of Indonesia** said that significant steps had been taken to account for the rights of persons with disabilities in national development plans. The implementation of Law No. 8/2016 on Persons with Disabilities, which was reinforced by regulations on planning, budgeting and evaluation, played an essential role in ensuring the rights of those persons. Government action in the area of disability focused on seven strategic objectives: inclusive data and planning; barrier-free environments; the protection of legal and political rights; empowerment and independence; inclusive economic opportunities; inclusive education; and equitable access to healthcare services. Those objectives were being implemented through a wide range of initiatives, from planning forums to vocational training and the establishment of inclusive health centres.
5. The rights of persons with disabilities had been mainstreamed into the 2025–2029 National Medium-term Development Plan, under which priority was given to strengthening human capital and promoting gender equality and empowerment, including for persons with disabilities. A dedicated programme for enhancing the rights of persons with disabilities was focused on ensuring their access to basic services, protecting them from violence and strengthening the disability-inclusive approach in development plans. One of the Government's priorities in the area of disability was to enhance access to formal employment for persons with disabilities.
6. **A representative of Indonesia** said that, according to a socioeconomic survey conducted in 2023, approximately 2 per cent of children aged between 5 and 17 years had a disability of some kind. The Government continued to face challenges in gathering data on children with disabilities. Many existing data sources were insufficiently disaggregated. Problems caused by the fragmentation of data were compounded by the lack of a standardized methodology and the lack of consistent definitions of disabilities across sectors. Each ministry and government agency currently collected disability-related data according to its own mandates and policy requirements, resulting in overlapping or incomparable data sets.
7. The unique geographical characteristics of Indonesia posed additional challenges to consistent and comprehensive data collection. Logistical barriers in remote areas – from restrictions on transportation to uneven digital infrastructure – gave rise to gaps in national data coverage. Human resource capacities in data collection, including at the local level, remained uneven. Field staff often lacked adequate training in the use of disability-sensitive tools, which compromised the accuracy and completeness of the data collected. In response to those challenges, Statistics Indonesia was taking steps to strengthen the availability of data on persons with disabilities by developing thematic reports, including a detailed report on the situation of persons with disabilities based on the results of the 2021 population census. The

report included a breakdown of trends in disability and examined the links between disability and areas such as education and employment.

8. The President had issued Presidential Instruction No. 4/2025, concerning the establishment of a national, single socioeconomic dataset to support more measurable and sustainable development planning. Statistics Indonesia cross-checked the consolidated data against that held in the population information system of the Ministry of Home Affairs to ensure a high degree of accuracy. Those efforts complemented the broader goal of establishing a unified, standardized and open data ecosystem to support transparent and accountable policymaking. Cross-sectoral collaboration was being enhanced to harmonize definitions and indicators. Capacity-building initiatives were being implemented to equip census enumerators at the local level with the skills to collect and analyse disability-sensitive data.

9. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the shackling of persons with mental disabilities was prohibited and punishable by law. Reports issued by the Ministry of Health indicated that, in 2024, there had been 1,794 cases of shackling, including 23 cases involving the shackling of children. Steps were being taken to strengthen mental health services, including at the local level, to reduce the use of shackling. The proportion of public health centres staffed by trained mental health professionals and supplied with appropriate medications had increased from 38 per cent in 2023 to 44 per cent in 2024. Awareness-raising campaigns were the main means used to eliminate shackling, since its use often resulted from inadequate understanding of mental and intellectual disabilities, including among family members and within communities.

10. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the Government had made substantial progress in lowering the prevalence of stunting and wasting. According to data published by the Ministry of Health, the rate of stunting among children under 5 years of age had fallen from 30.8 per cent in 2018 to 21.5 per cent in 2023, while the prevalence of wasting had fallen from 10.2 to 8.5 per cent over the same period, reflecting the improvements made in the management and prevention of acute undernutrition.

11. Over 32 per cent of pregnant women benefited from supplementary feeding programmes and over 92 per cent received iron and folic acid tablets. Almost 90 per cent of births took place in health facilities, ensuring better maternal and newborn care. Over 94 per cent of newborns were breastfed within the first hour of birth. Over 55 per cent of children were weighed at least eight times per year and 85 per cent had their head measured at least twice per year. Despite the progress made, challenges remained. In particular, greater efforts were needed to improve the uptake of dietary supplements among pregnant women, expand the reach of nutritional programmes and strengthen the promotion of best dietary practices at the community level.

12. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the purpose of the Free Nutritious Meals Programme was to provide daily nutritious meals to school-aged children, particularly those at the preschool, primary and junior secondary levels, in order to combat child malnutrition, which remained prevalent in several regions, especially among low-income and rural communities. The Programme was also intended to promote student learning and cognitive development, as improved diets helped to enhance students' concentration, attendance and academic performance. The third goal of the Programme was to promote local food security and agricultural productivity by sourcing meals from locally produced ingredients, in alignment with national goals on food sovereignty.

13. The initial phase of the Programme was intended to reach up to 80 per cent of students in early childhood and basic education institutions, with priority being given to areas with high rates of stunting and undernutrition. The number of beneficiaries of the Programme had expanded rapidly, reaching over 3.2 million in April 2025. To support the implementation of the Programme, around 1,100 nutrition fulfilment service units had been established. The units functioned as local hubs for the production and distribution of meals, incorporating nutritional expertise and food safety protocols and fostering community participation.

14. There had been criticism regarding the quantity and variety of the meals provided, which the Government took seriously. It was important to note that every meal served under the Programme was carefully formulated by certified nutritionists in accordance with

nutritional guidelines. Provincial and district-level education and health officers were given the flexibility to adopt menus based on regional taste preferences and cultural practices, provided that nutritional standards were met. In order to raise students' awareness of the importance of balanced meals, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education had launched information-sharing sessions on nutrition in schools.

15. In early 2025, during the initial phase of the Programme, a number of students had been affected by food poisoning in various regions. Those cases had primarily been caused by undercooked or mishandled food. The investigations conducted by the authorities had established that some service units had been overwhelmed by the speed and scale of the roll-out of the Programme, resulting in breaches of food safety protocols. The Government had responded to those incidents by deploying health inspectors, conducting daily evaluations of affected areas and temporarily halting the distribution of meals from high-risk service units until they received a safety clearance. In order to mitigate the impact on affected students, it had coordinated with local authorities to provide medical care and financial compensation to victims and their families.

16. A number of measures had been taken to prevent similar incidents from recurring. Firstly, the staff at underperforming service units had received on-site training in food hygiene, meal preparation standards and emergency protocols. Secondly, the National Nutrition Agency had issued an updated version of the meal production manual used by the service units that set out stricter standards for food procurement, kitchen hygiene, meal delivery times and staff qualifications. Thirdly, the Ministry of Communication and Digital Affairs was developing a centralized digital platform capable of tracking incidents, monitoring compliance with standards and generating automated alerts in the event of anomalies in production procedures. School and parent associations participated in monitoring processes to ensure community oversight and accountability. Complaints and feedback mechanisms were being established.

17. With regard to breastfeeding and nutrition, the Government acknowledged the existence of ongoing problems such as anaemia in pregnant women, low birth weights, stunting and wasting in children and low take-up rates for appropriate child nutrition practices, including exclusive breastfeeding. Law No. 36/2009 on Health provided that infants must be exclusively breastfed for the first six months of their lives and that mothers should be encouraged to continue breastfeeding for up to two years, combining breastfeeding with other sources of nutrition. The Law required families, the Government and communities to provide mothers with time and adequate facilities to breastfeed their children.

18. Exclusive breastfeeding coverage had risen from 68.6 per cent in 2023 to 78.4 per cent in 2024. More than 4,000 trained breastfeeding counsellors assisted women in 38 provinces. Other measures taken to enhance breastfeeding rates included establishing an expert group and setting up an online counselling platform. Special provision was made to ensure that parents received assistance with feeding infants and young children during crises and emergencies.

19. At the local level, the Government provided technical assistance to regional health offices, including by developing complementary feeding guidelines, providing guidance to local caterers and carrying out awareness-raising activities at community health centres. Ministerial regulations on exclusive breastfeeding were currently being developed. In addition, a government regulation was being drafted to expand on the provisions of Law No. 4/2024 on Maternal and Child Health in the First Thousand Days of Life.

20. **A representative of Indonesia** said that, following the ratification by Indonesia of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), in 1999, the Government had undertaken to set the minimum age for employment at 15 years, with an exception for children aged 13 or 14 years who were undertaking light work. Indonesia had also ratified the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

21. Law No. 13/2003 on Employment governed when and how children could work and prohibited the worst forms of child labour, which included any forms of work that were hazardous, exploitative or detrimental to a child's physical, mental or moral development. Children were forbidden from engaging in work that involved slavery, trafficking or

pornography. Under the Law, persons who violated child labour laws were liable to between 2 and 5 years' imprisonment or a fine of between 200 and 500 million rupiah (Rp).

22. The Government had issued a decree listing types of work that were prohibited for children and a decree regulating the participation of children in talent-based work. It had also implemented Presidential Decree No. 59 of 2002 on the establishment of a national action plan for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. Between 2008 and 2020, over 143,000 children engaged in labour had been returned to formal education in schools or vocational training. The Government had been implementing a road map with a view to preventing and reducing child labour and eliminating the worst forms of child labour. Draft presidential regulations on reducing the number of out-of-school children, including children engaged in work, were under development.

23. The National Medium-term Development Plan established the goal of reducing the child labour rate to 1.61 per cent by 2029. It provided for measures to expand early childhood education, improve school facilities and distribute targeted educational assistance in order to keep children in school and out of work. Efforts were being made to raise awareness of the worst forms of child labour and to develop child-labour free zones, remove children from workplaces and support their integration into the education system.

24. The Government was committed to protecting domestic workers, including by implementing Law No. 18/2017 on the Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers and Regulation No. 2/2015 on the Protection of Domestic Workers, which prohibited the employment of domestic workers under the age of 18 years. A bill on the protection of domestic workers had been included in the national programme of legislation for the period 2025–2029. Once the appropriate national legislation had been adopted, consideration would be given to ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).

25. **A representative of Indonesia** said that, in line with the Paris Agreement, the Government prioritized children's rights within its climate action framework. By integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation measures into the National Medium-term Development Plan, the Government ensured children's participation as agents of change in addressing the impact of climate change. In order to guide stakeholders in understanding the impact of climate change on children, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, with the support of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), had conducted a study that highlighted the unique vulnerabilities of children to climate-related risks, evaluated their inclusion in climate policies and programmes and promoted their role as agents of change. Law No. 24/2007 on Disaster Management established that infants and children must be evacuated as a matter of priority in the event of a disaster and be given access to healthcare and psychosocial support.

26. During emergency response operations, the National Agency for Disaster Countermeasures used data disaggregated by sex, age and disability to support operational planning, needs assessment and the delivery of services in shelters. The Agency issued technical guidelines on the management of data on displaced persons. According to the guidelines, such data should, at a minimum, include the number of displaced persons, disaggregated by age and sex, as well as information on vulnerable groups such as pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and orphaned children.

27. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the formulation and implementation of policies on education prioritized the best interests of the child as a fundamental principle. The former Ministry of Law and Human Rights had published a manual on human rights training for teachers. Human rights education had been incorporated into the curriculum for both junior and senior school students. The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection had issued detailed guidelines on the establishment and operation of children's forums across Indonesia. In 2025, a series of capacity-building programmes had been organized with a view to raising young people's awareness of human rights issues and fostering a more inclusive and respectful school environment. Almost 1,800 students had participated in the programmes.

28. The education system had been reformed to prioritize student-centred learning, in accordance with the capacity of each educational institution. The reform had focused on human resource development to enable teachers to serve as mentors within their educational

communities. The Government had expanded access to pre-service and in-service training programmes to strengthen teachers' skills, subject matter expertise and cultural sensitivity in diverse learning environments. In order to strengthen knowledge of human rights among all staff working in the education system, the Ministry of Human Rights would collaborate with higher education institutions to build new human rights study centres and renovate existing ones throughout the country. In December 2024, the Ministry had worked with the Leimena Institute to organize an international webinar marking Human Rights Day.

29. **A representative of Indonesia** said that, while Indonesia was not a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the Government recognized the inherent vulnerability of refugee children and was committed to upholding their human rights in line with its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In that connection, it had implemented a number of measures that went beyond its formal obligations. One such measure was the adoption of Presidential Regulation No. 125/2016 on the Handling of Overseas Refugees, which provided a framework for managing influxes of refugees, particularly in emergency situations. The Regulation established guidelines for multi-agency cooperation in operations to rescue and protect refugees.

30. According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as of December 2024, there had been 3,620 refugee and asylum-seeking children aged 17 years or under in Indonesia. While the majority of the children had been registered together with a parent or guardian, 186 had been identified as unaccompanied and 152 had been categorized as separated, meaning that they lived apart from their parents but were under the care of another adult guardian. Updated figures showed that, by the end of March 2025, the number of child refugees registered with UNHCR had fallen slightly to 3,508. Of those children, 3,264 remained under the care of a parent or guardian, 156 were unaccompanied and 88 were separated but living with an adult guardian.

31. The Government prioritized the protection of refugee children against all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence. As a matter of policy, it avoided detaining refugees, especially children, reflecting its commitment to ensuring the best interests of the child. Refugee children and their families were not placed in immigration detention centres but were accommodated in community shelters managed by international organizations such as UNHCR or the International Organization for Migration (IOM), or by local authorities.

32. Efforts were made to provide refugee children with access to essential healthcare services, including primary healthcare, child health services and mental health support to help them cope with trauma and displacement. In accordance with guidelines issued by the National Agency for Disaster Countermeasures, immunization services would be made available to refugee children and their nutritional status would be monitored during emergencies.

33. The Government was committed to ensuring that refugee children had access to education as a fundamental right. In that connection, it had issued letters regulating access to education for school-aged refugee children in 2019 and 2022. Steps had been taken to include refugee children in the national education system, to the extent possible, and provide them with access to quality education. The Government also supported non-formal education and alternative learning opportunities for refugee children, particularly those who might have missed out on schooling because of conflict or displacement. According to UNHCR, over 800 refugee children had been registered with accredited public schools as of September 2023.

34. While the Government acknowledged the importance of the 1951 Convention, it was important to note that the decision to ratify an international convention was a complex one that required careful consideration of various factors, including the existence of a national consensus, social policy considerations and capacity and resources. The Government currently had no plans to ratify the Convention but it was committed to providing temporary protection to persons in need, in accordance with national law. The Government had consistently provided humanitarian assistance to refugees and would continue to do so. It would continue to monitor developments in the region and the world and would remain open to further engagement and dialogue on the issue of refugees.

35. **A representative of Indonesia** said that granting children unlimited access to contraception would place them at greater risk of being sexually exploited or abused. Legal restrictions on the availability of contraception therefore played a key role in the protection of children. Contraceptive devices could be issued only by healthcare workers and other trained staff. The Government continued to enhance the supply and distribution of contraceptive devices, medications and services to reproductive health facilities and to improve healthcare infrastructure to ensure unhindered access to healthcare in remote areas. In accordance with the Child-Friendly School Policy, formal and non-formal alternatives to mainstream education were offered to pregnant students, including victims of sexual violence.

36. Under the Criminal Code, abortion was permitted when a woman's pregnancy resulted from rape or when a medical emergency posed a risk to her life or health. In such cases, abortion was permitted up to the fourteenth week of pregnancy, provided that all the relevant procedures were conducted in accordance with legal and medical protocols. Abortions could be performed only by qualified medical personnel in designated health facilities with the informed consent of the women concerned. If a woman's pregnancy resulted from sexual violence, the consent of her spouse was not required for an abortion to be performed. The Ministry of Health had developed and disseminated guidelines on abortion to assist healthcare workers in providing safe and legal services. Efforts were being made to designate a network of healthcare facilities that could perform abortions and to train the staff of those facilities.

37. Steps were being taken to enhance the capacity of healthcare providers to screen pregnant women for HIV, manage confirmed positive cases, ensure lifelong access to antiretroviral therapy and provide treatment to infants exposed to HIV. The percentage of pregnant women tested for HIV had risen from 51 per cent in 2021 to 71 per cent in 2024. During that period, 0.2 per cent of the women tested had been found to be HIV positive. The proportion of HIV-positive pregnant women who received antiretroviral therapy had risen from 34 per cent in 2021 to 74 per cent in 2024. A total of 533,625 pregnant women had been tested for HIV in the first two months of 2025. Of those who had tested positive, 63 per cent had begun antiretroviral treatment. Despite the progress made, ensuring access to the appropriate services for all pregnant women, especially those living in remote areas, remained a challenge.

38. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the School Operational Assistance Fund had been established to promote access to education for children living in remote areas. The transparency, accessibility and accountability of the Fund were continuously improving thanks to online reporting and the establishment of a mechanism for transferring funding directly from the Ministry of Finance to schools. Between 2021 and 2025, the number of students enrolled in an educational institution had risen from 39.4 million to 52.5 million, reflecting improved retention rates after primary education. The Smart Indonesia Programme likewise played a vital role in expanding educational opportunities and reducing economic barriers to education. The financial assistance provided to 75.7 million students had helped to enhance school participation and retention rates, particularly among children from low-income families, children in rural areas and children at risk of dropping out of school.

39. **Mr. Chophel** (Coordinator, Country Task Force) said that he would welcome clarification of the age of criminal responsibility. He wished to know whether abortion was permitted in cases where a woman's pregnancy resulted from incest or where the fetus had been found to have an impairment. He wondered whether the Government might consider lifting some of the restrictions placed on adolescents' access to contraception, particularly given that Indonesia had the highest early pregnancy rate in Southeast Asia. With regard to environmental policy, it would be interesting to know whether the Government took account of the Committee's general comment No. 26 (2023) on children's rights and the environment, with a special focus on climate change.

40. **Ms. Al Barwani** (Country Task Force), noting that one of the two types of madrasa in Indonesia taught only Islamic studies and the Arabic language, said that she had been concerned to learn that a large proportion of the students at such madrasas were girls from poor families, who found it difficult to obtain well-paid work on leaving school because they had not studied the mainstream curriculum. She wondered whether any measures were being

taken to ensure equal opportunities for such girls and whether madrasas that taught only Islamic studies and the Arabic language were recognized, registered and overseen by the Government.

41. **Ms. Aho** (Country Task Force) said that the Committee had previously received reports of minors being held with adults in prisons in Jakarta. She wished to know if that remained the case and also whether any measures were being taken to protect children incarcerated with their mothers. She wondered whether the State Party would step up its efforts to eradicate female genital mutilation and child prostitution.

42. **Mr. Jaffé** (Country Task Force) said that he would appreciate a response to his question as to whether the State Party intended to accede to the Optional Protocol on a communications procedure or whether it had definitively decided against doing so. He wished to know whether the mandate of the Indonesian Child Protection Commission included receiving and investigating complaints lodged by children; what the difference was, if any, between the Child Protection Index and the Indonesian Child Profile; and whether there were plans to make the Children's Social Service Telephone helpline more accessible in remote areas. The delegation might comment on reports that adolescent boys had access to contraceptives whereas girls had to go through a complicated process to obtain them and on information according to which 73 regulations on the hijab had remained in force as of August 2023.

43. **Ms. Ayoubi Idrissi** said that she would welcome information on any midterm assessment that had been conducted of the impact of the National Action Plan on Human Rights and on next steps after the National Action Plan expired later in 2025. She wondered why the State Party appeared to be reluctant to accede to the Optional Protocol on a communications procedure and similar procedures under other treaties to which it was a party, considering that, if all the necessary guarantees were in place at the national level, then accepting international remedies could only strengthen the justiciability of rights. She also wondered, given that no law had been enacted to incorporate the Convention into national legislation, to what extent the Convention was known to members of the legal profession and was invoked before the courts. Lastly, she wished to know whether there had been any judicial decisions punishing individuals who practised female genital mutilation.

44. **Ms. Scerri Ferrante** said that it would be helpful to know whether there were juvenile courts in the State Party led by judges specialized in juvenile justice, whether minors who could not afford a lawyer had access to free legal aid and how the child protection authorities were informed of the cases of children who had been harmed or were at risk of harm. She would be interested in hearing about alternative care for children who had to be removed from their families, the review of removal decisions, the duration of alternative care, measures in place for children who could not be reintegrated into their families and monitoring of those measures, including for compliance with the best interests of the child. She would also be interested in hearing about any support for children of incarcerated parents, including when they visited their parents in prison.

45. **Ms. Taleb Moussa** said that, since female genital mutilation and early marriage remained prevalent in the State Party, she was curious to know how the Government ensured that laws banning those practices were enforced and how many complaints of female genital mutilation had been filed and cases prosecuted. She would welcome information on steps taken to promote gender mainstreaming, including in primary, secondary and tertiary curricula, and on any programmes on positive masculinity being run in schools. Information would also be welcome concerning the availability of emergency contraceptives for rape victims and any compulsory HIV/AIDS screening before marriage, especially in the case of polygamous unions.

46. **Mr. Van Keirsbilck** said that he wished to know what the lowest age was for dispensations to marry below the minimum age, how many girls had been granted such dispensations and on what basis, and whether they could oppose the decision granting dispensation. In the light of the Committee's view that the living conditions of children in camps in the Syrian Arab Republic constituted ill-treatment and violated their rights, he also wished to know what steps the State Party was taking to repatriate them as a matter of urgency and to reintegrate them in Indonesia.

47. **Mr. Ekesa** asked what comprehensive strategies, plans and measures were in place, including with regard to teacher training and reporting mechanisms, to better protect children from sexual violence in educational settings, in particular when committed by teachers.

48. **Ms. Beloff** said that she understood the age of criminal responsibility had been raised to 12 years, which was welcome. However, she wished to better understand the regime that was applied to children between the ages of 12 and 18 years, as it appeared that most who were found guilty were imprisoned, even those below the age of 14, which was the minimum age to be deprived of liberty. She wondered what alternatives to imprisonment were available and whether they were applied. She would appreciate information on the separation of incarcerated minors from adult offenders; on the provision of Government Regulation No. 65/2015 allowing the police to process cases involving children between the ages of 10 and 12 years, even though they could not be held criminally responsible; and on the nature of the measure provided for in article 69 of Law No. 11/2012, known as “correction from criminal acts”.

49. **Ms. Correa** said that she was interested in hearing what action the State Party had taken in response to the 2022 report on online sexual exploitation of children issued by ECPAT, Interpol and UNICEF, in particular actions to address the lack of rehabilitation services, include the topic in the National Action Plan on Human Rights and step up prevention efforts.

The meeting was suspended at 11.40 a.m. and resumed at noon.

50. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the country already had an effective mechanism for individual complaints on issues related to the Convention in the form of its national commissions on human rights, violence against women, child protection and persons with disabilities. Furthermore, complaints could be submitted through a dedicated human rights communication service and at 33 complaints offices located in local branches and technical implementing units of the service’s parent ministry and in social or communal facilities such as churches. The human rights communication service had received over 2,800 complaints since 2020, including via an online platform. As part of follow-up on complaints, administrative and substantive assessments were conducted and coordination took place with relevant stakeholders, including the police and provincial governments. In 2024 alone, some 650 complaints, among them 15 involving children, had been submitted via the online platform; of those 15 complaints, 10 had resulted in the issuance of recommendations and 5 had been referred to the courts.

51. The country remained steadfast in its commitment to preventing and combating violence against children, including through active participation in the Pathfinding Global Alliance on Ending Violence against Children. While it had contributed to the preparation of and had attended the Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence against Children, Indonesia had not ultimately joined the Bogotá Call to Action because it was not the fruit of an inclusive negotiation process and included references to certain instruments and terminology that had yet to achieve broad international consensus. That decision should in no way be interpreted as a lack of commitment to fulfilling the country’s obligations under the Convention.

52. **A representative of Indonesia** said that there were 30 medical reasons for authorizing an abortion, 21 relating to the mother’s health and 9 to the health of the fetus. Incest was considered a form of sexual violence, since the girl could not give consent, and was therefore a situation in which abortion could be authorized.

53. Efforts to prohibit and prevent female genital mutilation were growing in effectiveness through greater coordination, including among the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Child Protection Commission, local authorities and healthcare providers. For example, in early 2025, the authorities had become aware of an announcement by a large community organization that it would perform circumcisions on boys and girls at one of its commemorative events. Following a number of meetings, they had managed to convince the organization to cancel the portion of the event reserved for female circumcision.

54. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the National Action Plan on Human Rights served as a guideline for both central and regional governments and was designed to respond to the evolving situation of human rights in Indonesian society. In addition, it helped fill policy gaps and provided a framework for intervention aligned with targets and outcomes. Since its initial launch in 1998, the National Action Plan had resulted in regulatory and policy advances on the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples; increased understanding among government officials of the importance of respecting, protecting, fulfilling, enforcing and promoting human rights; fostered the incorporation of human rights into national and local policies; and led to greater participation of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups in civil, political, economic and cultural life.

55. The current National Action Plan established targets for achieving equality before the law for four groups, namely, women, children, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples. Monitoring of implementation was conducted by the joint secretariat for the Plan on the basis of data provided by ministries, institutions and regional governments. The sixth National Action Plan, which would span the period from 2026 to 2030, was being developed.

56. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the task force established to handle the cases of Indonesian nationals abroad, including women and children, who were associated with foreign terrorist fighters had devised a three-stage process for repatriations. The aim of the first stage was to verify the identities of the individuals concerned. In the second stage, a series of evaluations was carried out, not only of the individuals, but also of the security situation on the ground, so as to ensure the safety of officials sent to retrieve them. The third stage consisted of multi-stakeholder efforts to plan and implement reintegration, rehabilitation and deradicalization measures and post-integration monitoring. Repatriation to Indonesia would be considered where feasible and in the best interests of the child. As decisions would be taken on a case-by-case basis, it was difficult to establish a timeline.

57. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the discussion about the repatriation of children of foreign terrorist fighters was ongoing because the issue of whether it was in their best interests to be repatriated or to remain with their parent or parents remained unresolved. As a rule, family reunification was paramount, but Indonesia had yet to decide whether it was prepared also to repatriate parents who were involved in extremist activities.

58. **A representative of Indonesia** said that, while the Government did not tolerate child marriage or any harmful practice that undermined the rights of girls, it was aware that child marriage remained prevalent in certain parts of the country, particularly in Sumba, where the practice reflected deep-rooted gender inequality. The Government was working intensively with the local community and community leaders to eliminate harmful practices through, inter alia, awareness-raising campaigns and the provision of higher quality education, especially in the area of reproductive health.

59. **A representative of Indonesia** said that, under the Constitution and Law No. 16/2011 on Legal Aid, children, among other vulnerable groups, were entitled to legal aid in criminal, civil and administrative proceedings. Over 775 organizations were accredited to provide legal services. However, the Government had reduced the budget allocation for legal aid in 2025 and was encouraging provincial governments to bear some of the costs. Legal professionals were also encouraged to take on pro bono cases.

60. **A representative of Indonesia** said that, while public schools were under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education and Culture, madrasas fell within the remit of the Ministry of Religious Affairs. Madrasas nevertheless followed a curriculum that was in line with national education standards, and the education they provided was equal to that available in public schools. Cases of violence by teachers were not indicative of the situation of education as a whole. However, both ministries had instructed schools to establish task forces for the prevention of and response to violence in school settings.

61. **A representative of Indonesia** said that all children had the right to be raised by their parents and should be separated from them only as a last resort, for reasons prescribed by law and where separation was in the children's best interests. When separation was unavoidable, there were three alternative care options, namely, in order of preference, placement with relatives to maintain family bonds and cultural continuity, adoption and placement in a child welfare institution. Standards had been set to safeguard the well-being of children living in

such institutions, which were being transformed into more family-oriented care settings. While living apart from their biological parents, children had the right to maintain direct contact unless contrary to their best interests.

62. Indonesia was committed to ensuring the well-being of children living with their mothers in correctional facilities by providing a range of essential services, with a focus on health, nutrition and early childhood development. They received dedicated nutritional assistance and an additional food allowance. In facilities without a healthcare unit, children could obtain services, including vaccinations, through the nearest public healthcare centre. A number of facilities had dedicated breastfeeding rooms that also provided a safe and supportive space for mother-child bonding. A programme had been launched in facilities in Sungguminasa to prevent and address stunting by supporting maternal nutrition and teaching imprisoned mothers parenting and child nutrition skills, irrespective of whether their children lived at the facility.

63. **A representative of Indonesia** said that, while it acknowledged the concerns raised by international bodies and civil society, the Government firmly believed in balancing the rights of offenders with those of victims and their families, particularly in the context of illegal drug trafficking, which remained a growing challenge. As of 2023, an alarming 3.3 million Indonesians between the ages of 15 and 64 years, in urban and rural areas alike, had fallen victim to illegal drugs. According to the National Narcotics Agency, there were nearly 50 international and national drug networks operating in the country. Nevertheless, the death penalty was applied to drug offenders only as a last resort following due process of law and, under the new Penal Code, was no longer the primary penalty for drug offences and was often commuted. Moreover, Law No. 11/2012 prohibited its application to children, reflecting the country's commitment to rehabilitation of children in conflict with the law.

64. Drug prevention efforts were strategically focused on younger age groups and consisted of campaigns, including hundreds of activities in schools and universities, dissemination of informational materials, some of which were available on a specially created website, early identification of those at risk, counselling services and social support. Furthermore, steps were being taken to strengthen the active participation of young people in anti-drugs initiatives. The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with UNICEF, had developed guidelines on drug rehabilitation services for children and adolescents. Through a digital tool for assessing substance use, the Ministry had identified nearly a quarter of children tested in 2024 as having a substance use disorder. Drug prevention programmes for juveniles in youth correctional centres were run by the competent ministry, in collaboration with several relevant bodies.

65. Drug addicts were required under Law No. 35/2009 on Narcotics to undergo medical and social rehabilitation, with the former provided in hospital or community-based rehabilitation centres licensed by the Ministry of Health. There was also a network of some 1,500 healthcare facilities across 35 provinces equipped to provide referral services for individuals requiring medical rehabilitation related to substance use. Nearly 160 children had received such services in 2024. The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection had developed a standard for child-friendly institutions providing rehabilitation services for substance use.

66. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the Government had enacted a law on the juvenile justice system to protect the rights of children in conflict with law and ensure that judicial proceedings were carried out with due regard for the best interests of the child. In areas where the capacity of juvenile correctional centres was limited, children were placed in segregated sections of adult detention centres. Judges hearing cases involving children refrained from wearing formal robes to minimize intimidation and trauma, and cases were managed separately from cases involving adults to avoid delays and unnecessary exposure to the courts. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian during court proceedings.

67. **A representative of Indonesia** said that eight ministries had signed a memorandum of understanding to speed up birth registration and the issuance of birth certificates for children born in Indonesia and abroad. Some of the participating ministries had subsequently adopted additional regulations and other measures on the role of the different levels of government, healthcare practitioners, diplomatic and consular staff and civil status officials

in facilitating birth registration for all children, regardless of the civil status of their parents. According to Statistics Indonesia, the proportion of children who had a birth certificate had risen from some 88 per cent in 2021 to nearly 92 per cent in 2023. Many subnational governments had successfully streamlined birth registration processes, including through outreach and visits to families of newborns, thus ensuring that every newborn was automatically issued with a birth certificate, a child identity card and an updated family card and was enrolled in a health insurance scheme.

68. **Mr. Chophel** said that the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights was a welcome development and would contribute greatly to the strengthening of institutions and the implementation of the recommendations made in the Committee's concluding observations. He would, however, urge the State Party to reconsider its position on accession to the Optional Protocol on a communications procedure and to fulfil its reporting obligations under the other two Optional Protocols to the Convention, which it had not done in over 10 years.

69. **A representative of Indonesia** said that the delegation had taken careful note of the Committee's views concerning, among other matters, violence against children in all settings, participation of children, access to education, health, nutrition and special protection measures, and looked forward to receiving the concluding observations, which it hoped would balance progress made with challenges to be addressed. To ensure that the outcomes of the dialogue were translated into concrete actions, Indonesia would continue to strengthen efforts to realize the rights of all children and would collaborate with all relevant stakeholders, including national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and child representatives. The country was unwavering in its commitment to guaranteeing that children fully enjoyed their rights and reached their full potential, in line with international standards and national circumstances.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.