



**Convention on the
Rights of the Child**

Distr.
GENERAL

CRC/C/OPAC/POL/Q/1
20 July 2009

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD
Fifty-second session
14 September-2 October 2009

**OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ON
THE INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT**

**List of issues to be taken up in connection with
the consideration of the initial report of Poland (CRC/C/OPAC/POL/1)**

The State party is requested to submit in written form additional and updated information, if possible, before 3 August 2009.

1. Please provide information on the competent governmental departments or bodies responsible for the coordination and implementation of the Optional Protocol. Please also indicate if there is any mechanism available for monitoring and periodically evaluating its implementation.
2. Please provide information on budget allocations given to implementation of the Optional Protocol.
3. Please provide information on measures taken to disseminate information on the Optional Protocol, including, but not limited to, inclusion in school curricula as part of human rights education. Please also describe other measures taken to disseminate information on the Optional Protocol, particularly to the general public.
4. Taking into account the Declaration made by the State party upon ratification of the Optional Protocol regarding the minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the armed forces and paragraph 4 of the State party report, please provide further clarification as to the minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the armed forces or other armed groups.

5. Please provide information on whether the provisions of the Optional Protocol have been fully incorporated into domestic laws and if not, please provide information on the measures required to do so.
6. Please briefly provide information on legislation being prepared relating to recruitment into the armed forces. Please indicate the status and provide the Committee with copies of any such legislation.
7. Please provide information as to whether Poland assumes extraterritorial jurisdiction over the war crime of conscripting or enlisting children under the age of 15 into the armed forces or using them to participate actively in hostilities. Also in relation to extraterritorial jurisdiction, please indicate whether Polish courts can establish their jurisdiction in case of forced recruitment or involvement in hostilities of a person under 18 if committed outside Poland, by or against a Polish citizen. Please also clarify whether, in the case that extraterritorial jurisdiction has been assumed, there is a requirement of double criminality for such offences.
8. Please provide information on the link between military schools in Poland and the Polish armed forces, particularly on steps taken to ensure that enrolment of children in military schools does not expose them in any way to situations of armed conflict or encourage their recruitment into the armed forces before the age of 18. Please also indicate whether the Ombudsman for children has access to military schools in the context of investigating claims of violations of children's rights.
9. Please provide information on physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration programmes for asylum-seeking and refugee children who may have been involved in armed conflicts.
10. Please indicate whether the State party is engaged in any activity of regional and/or international cooperation related to implementation of the Optional Protocol.
11. Has the State party provided financial support or any other assistance through multilateral, bilateral or other programmes or activities specifically to promote the implementation of the Optional Protocol and address the needs of children involved in situations of armed conflict?
