



# Convention on the Rights of the Child

Distr.: General  
16 September 2015

Original: English

---

## Committee on the Rights of the Child Seventieth session

### Summary record (partial)\* of the 2025th meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Monday, 14 September 2015, at 10 a.m.

*Chairperson:* Mr. Mezmur

## Contents

Opening of the session

Statement by the representative of the Secretary-General

Adoption of the agenda

Submission of reports by States parties

Organization of work

---

\* No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.


This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent *within one week of the date of the present document* to the English Translation Section, room E.6040, Palais des Nations, Geneva (trad\_sec\_eng@unog.ch).

Any corrections to the records of the public meetings of the Committee at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

GE.15-15595 (E) 150915 160915



Please recycle 



*The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.*

### **Opening of the session**

1. **The Chairperson** declared open the seventieth session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

### **Statement by the representative of the Secretary-General**

2. **Mr. Heenan** (Human Rights Treaties Division, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)), highlighting recent developments of relevance to the Committee's work, noted that the migration crisis in the Mediterranean area had prompted the Committee, on 11 September 2015, to issue a press release urging the European Union to adopt a child rights-based approach when planning, discussing and implementing measures designed to strengthen the European response. He emphasized that all States members of the European Union had ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which applied to all children who came under their jurisdiction, regardless of their legal status. A panel discussion on the migration crisis, organized the previous week by the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, had generated an unprecedented level of interest.

3. The plight of child migrants in other parts of the world was also of concern. Referring to the situation in Central America, for instance, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights had stressed that people did not put their own lives, and those of their children, at risk in seeking to flee when they enjoyed basic rights and freedoms in their home countries.

4. The draft outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda (A/69/L.85), which had recently been endorsed by Member States, recognized children as a vulnerable group who must be empowered. Ending all forms of violence against children was to be a key target of the sustainable development goals, and the agenda called for greater use to be made of disaggregated data as part of the global indicator framework. The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, would oversee international follow-up and review of progress towards the goals. Specific proposals were being formulated to ensure that the Forum drew on the knowledge and experience of human rights mechanisms, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child. A preliminary list of progress indicators would be released in November 2015.

5. One of the outcomes of the twenty-seventh meeting of the chairs of the human rights treaty bodies, held in San José, Costa Rica, had been the development of the Guidelines against Intimidation or Reprisals, which reiterated the principle that all persons had the right to communicate freely with the human rights treaty bodies. The San José meeting had also provided a unique opportunity for treaty bodies to engage with human rights actors in Latin America and the Caribbean. In an address to the chairs, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica had called on academic institutions to study ways of strengthening the human rights treaty body system. OHCHR welcomed that call and trusted that it would lead to innovative proposals.

### **Adoption of the agenda (CRC/C/70/1)**

6. *The agenda was adopted.*

**Submission of reports by States parties**

7. **Ms. Franchetti** (Secretariat) said that four reports had been received since the Committee's previous session, bringing the number of reports awaiting consideration to 63. Serbia, Cameroon and Romania had submitted reports on the implementation of the Convention, and Gabon had submitted its initial report on implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. The initial reports of Nauru and Tonga were still overdue.

8. The number of States that had ratified the Convention remained unchanged, as did the number that had ratified the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict. Chile had ratified the Optional Protocol on a communications procedure, bringing the total number of ratifications to 18.

**Organization of work**

9. **The Chairperson**, reviewing the items on the agenda, said that 12 reports, from nine States parties, would be considered by the Committee during the session. He welcomed the many partners who contributed to the Committee's work. Discussions would continue on treaty body strengthening and on the Optional Protocol on a communications procedure and any communications received under that Optional Protocol would be considered. The Committee would also begin preparations for its next day of general discussion, resume work on three general comments and discuss any other matters relating to its work.

*The discussion covered in the summary record ended at 10.30 a.m.*