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Federated States of Micronesia

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies, special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and other relevant official United Nations documents. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), other than those contained in public reports issued by OHCHR. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review. In the absence of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have been taken into consideration, unless they are outdated. Since this report only compiles information contained in official United Nations documents, lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to non-ratification of a treaty and/or to a low level of interaction or cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

I. Background and framework

A. Scope of international obligations¹

<i>Core universal human rights treaties²</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>	<i>Declarations /reservations</i>	<i>Recognition of specific competences of treaty bodies</i>
CEDAW	1 Sept. 2004	Reservations (arts. 2(f), 5, 16, 11, para. 1(d), 11, para. 2(b), and 29, para. 1	-
CRC	5 May 1993	None	-

Core treaties to which the Federated States of Micronesia is not a party: ICERD, ICESCR, OP-ICESCR³, ICCPR, ICCPR-OP1, ICCPR-OP2, OP-CEDAW, CAT, OP-CAT, OP-CRC-AC (signature only, 2002), OP-CRC-SC (signature only, 2002), ICRMW, CRPD, OP-CRPD, and CED.

<i>Other main relevant international instruments</i>	<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	No
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	No
Palermo Protocol ⁴	No
Refugees and stateless persons ⁵	No
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols thereto ⁶	Yes, except Additional Protocol III
ILO fundamental conventions ⁷	No
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	No

1. In 1998, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD); the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT); and the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption of 1993.⁸

2. In 2010, UNHCR recommended that the Federated States of Micronesia accede to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.⁹

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

3. In 2009, UNDP and UNAIDS noted that the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia recognizes the right of people to healthcare and education and “the obligation to take every step reasonable and necessary to provide these services.”¹⁰

4. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report indicated that through the national constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia, which is the basis for all legal authority, the power to legislate is divided between the national parliament and the state parliaments.¹¹ In 1998, CRC was concerned at the disparities between the different states (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap) in terms of legislation and practices, as well as the insufficient coordination between the central level and the four states.¹²

5. CRC was also concerned at the possible conflicts between customary and statutory law, in particular for marriage and adoption, and recommended harmonizing customary practices and law with the Convention.¹³ A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report noted that all states expressly recognize customary law in their constitutions.¹⁴

6. CRC highlighted that domestic legislation did not fully conform to the provisions and principles of the Convention. In particular, it was concerned at the absence of legislation regulating child labour providing for a minimum age for employment, the absence of a clear definition of the minimum age for criminal responsibility, the low minimum age for sexual consent, the lack of harmonization between the different ages of sexual consent among the four states, and the lack of legislation on neglect, abuse and sexual exploitation.¹⁵ CRC recommended that the Federated States of Micronesia initiate a comprehensive review of existing legislation, with a view to undertaking legislative reforms to ensure full conformity of its legislation with the Convention. Furthermore, it suggested that the country envisage the adoption of a specific code or legislation for children and adolescents, with a separate section on children who need special protection.¹⁶

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

7. As of 18 June 2010, the Federated States of Micronesia does not have a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC).¹⁷

8. The 2008-2012 Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) between UNDP and the Federated States of Micronesia noted that concerns have been increasing over alleged corruption, abuse of power and cronyism, which have contributed to instability and conflict and a failure to uphold human rights. It added that accountability institutions are often under-resourced and/or poorly functioning.¹⁸

9. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report indicated that there is a National Gender Office located in the Department of Health Education and Social Affairs. It added that the Office is not established by legislation and therefore is more easily subject to removal in times of economic or political upheaval.¹⁹ CRC expressed concerns at the lack of an operational budget for the President’s National Advisory Council for Children, its lack of human resources, and its unclear role in relation to the monitoring of all areas covered by the Convention and all groups of children.²⁰ It recommended that the Advisory Council be provided with adequate financial and human resources in order to carry out its mandate and that its composition be broadened. It also stressed the need to strengthen the capacity of the Council to ensure coordination between all levels and to monitor and assess progress achieved and difficulties encountered in the realization of the rights recognized by the Convention, and in particular to monitor regularly the impact of economic transition on children.²¹

D. Policy measures

10. The 2008-2012CPAP noted that, while the Federated States of Micronesia has ratified CEDAW and has a national plan of action to promote gender equality and strategies to address gender based violence, legal and institutional mechanisms to implement them were lacking.²²

11. In 1998, CRC recommended that the Federated States of Micronesia begin to develop a comprehensive system of collecting disaggregated data in order to gather all necessary information on the situation of children in the various areas covered by the Convention, including on children belonging to the most vulnerable groups.²³ CRC also encouraged it to pay particular attention to the full implementation of article 4 of the Convention concerning budgetary allocations, and to ensure appropriate distribution of resources at all levels. It highlighted that budget allocations should be ensured to the maximum extent of available resources and where needed within the framework of international cooperation, as well as in the light of the principles of non-discrimination and of the best interests of the child.²⁴

12. In 1998, CRC was concerned that the school curriculum did not include education on the rights of the child.²⁵ In 2005, the Federated States of Micronesia adopted the United Nations Plan of Action (2005-2009) for the World Programme for Human Rights Education focusing on the national school system.²⁶

13. In 2010, UNHCR encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to develop a rights-based disaster management and mitigation plan, within the regional and United Nations mechanisms, which emphasizes the process and adaptation of mitigation strategies, as well addressing the potential internal and/or international displacement.²⁷

II. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

1. Cooperation with treaty bodies

<i>Treaty body²⁸</i>	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CEDAW				Initial report overdue since 2005
CRC	1996	January 1998		Second report overdue since 2000

2. Cooperation with special procedures

<i>Standing invitation issued</i>	No
<i>Latest visits or mission reports</i>	-
<i>Visits agreed upon in principle</i>	-
<i>Visits requested and not yet agreed upon</i>	-

<i>Facilitation/cooperation during missions</i>	-
<i>Follow-up to visits</i>	-
<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	During the period under review, no communications were sent.
<i>Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues</i>	The Federated States of Micronesia did not respond to any of the 23 questionnaires sent by special procedures mandate holders. ²⁹

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non-discrimination

14. According to a 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report, the constitutional status given to customary law throughout the Federated States of Micronesia, coupled with the absence of a provision that guarantees the precedence of equality law over custom law, leaves women with uncertain legal recourse against discriminatory customary practices.³⁰ The report noted that, although there is no legislative barrier, discrimination continued to hinder women from obtaining credit and loans to purchase property or businesses, interfering with their autonomy and ability to earn a livelihood.³¹

15. CRC was particularly concerned about the insufficient measures adopted to ensure the full enjoyment by girl children of the rights recognized in the Convention. It was also concerned at the difference between boys and girls with regard to the minimum age of marriage, and the existence of a caste system, especially in Yap State, and its incompatibility with the Convention.³² In 2009, UNESCAP indicated that in some parts of the Federated States of Micronesia, where more emphasis is placed on inherited chiefly status, a female born into a chiefly family may be considered of higher social standing than a male. Generally, however, gender inequalities still exist within society.³³ CRC emphasized that the principle of non-discrimination, as provided under article 2 of the Convention, must be fully implemented, including with regard to the girl child and disparities between states and social status.³⁴

2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

16. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report noted that none of the states had incorporated domestic violence offences into their criminal laws.³⁵ In addition, UNESCAP indicated in 2009 that the Federated States of Micronesia provides only minimal protection for women and girls procured into sex work against their will and highlighted that there were no offences for trafficking or sex tourism.³⁶

17. In 1998, concern was expressed by CRC about the lack of measures to protect children from harmful effects of the print, electronic and audiovisual media, in particular violence and pornography.³⁷ It was also concerned at the insufficient awareness of and the lack of information on ill-treatment and abuse, including sexual abuse, both within and outside the family, at the absence of specific laws in all the states and of appropriate resources, both financial and human, as well as at the lack of adequately trained personnel to prevent and combat such abuse.³⁸ It recommended that the Federated States of Micronesia take all appropriate measures, including revision of legislation, to prevent and combat ill-treatment within, inter alia, the family and institutions, and sexual abuse of children. It suggested that the authorities initiate a comprehensive study on abuse, ill-treatment and domestic violence, to improve the understanding of the nature and the scope of the problem and strengthen social programmes to prevent all types of child abuses as well as to rehabilitate the child victims.³⁹

3. Administration of justice and the rule of law

18. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report indicated none of the states had mandatory prosecution or minimum sentences for sexual assault offences. Bail, which should not be granted if there is any risk to a sexual assault victim, was available in all states as a matter of entitlement unless the charge was murder.⁴⁰

19. In 1998, CRC expressed concerns about the limited access to justice and highlighted that adequate procedures and mechanisms to deal complaints of child ill-treatment should be developed.⁴¹

20. CRC was also concerned at the absence of a clear definition for minimum age of criminal responsibility, as well as the apparent absence of special legal procedures for juvenile offenders.⁴² It recommended that legal reform in the field of administration of juvenile justice fully take into account the Convention, in particular articles 37, 39 and 40, as well as other relevant standards such as the Beijing Rules, the Riyadh Guidelines and the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty.⁴³

4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

21. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report indicated that the Federated States of Micronesia and the State of Yap have not legislated in the area of marriage.⁴⁴ According to UNESCAP, the States of Kosrae, Chuuk and Pohnpei have specified 18 years as the age of marriage for males, but 16 years for females, which is not in compliance with CEDAW. If the female is under 18 years of age, the consent of either parent is required in all three states. This does not constitute full compliance with CEDAW, which would require the consent of both parents to ensure that the father does not assume the role of authority in such matters. UNESCAP added that in Chuuk and Pohnpei, customary marriages are valid and may therefore be conducted without adherence to these minimum ages for marriage. Further, bigamy was prohibited only in Pohnpei.⁴⁵

22. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report noted that at the national and state levels divorce is permitted either on fault based criteria (including adultery, desertion and cruelty) or on the basis that there has been a two year separation. It added that fault based divorces, which required proof of a matrimonial offence disadvantage women who were more likely to be in vulnerable situations and had difficulties establishing cruelty or adultery. In the Federated States of Micronesia and all its states, forgiveness, which can include restoration of marital rights, would prevent a divorce from proceeding, failing to account for possible power imbalances between the spouses. Furthermore, in Yap and Pohnpei, customary marriages were exempt from the divorce provisions.⁴⁶

23. The report also highlighted that de facto relationships, including same-sex relationships, were not recognized in the Federated States of Micronesia, leaving women without any support and right to an equal division of property after the breakdown of a relationship.⁴⁷

24. Concerns were expressed by CRC at the lack of conformity of the birth registration system with the Convention, as well as at the unreliability of the death registration system.⁴⁸ It also noted with concern that both customary and statutory adoption, including intercountry adoption, did not conform fully with the Convention.⁴⁹

5. Freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

25. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report indicated that universal suffrage and equal legal rights to political representation for women has been achieved. However, no women have yet achieved political representation in the national parliament or any of the four state

parliaments.⁵⁰ The report also indicated that traditional leaders can be given formal and functional roles at any level of Government and while there are no formal barriers to women becoming traditional leaders they rarely do.⁵¹ The 2008-2012 CPAP noted that although decentralization and participatory decision making are being discussed, mechanisms to ensure full and real participation by women and minority groups are largely lacking.⁵²

26. In 1998, CRC strongly encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations, in implementing the Convention.⁵³ CRC also encouraged it to further develop a systematic approach to increasing public awareness of the participatory rights of children.⁵⁴

6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

27. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report noted that while discussions with ILO were continuing to encourage the introduction of a comprehensive employment code, the Federated States of Micronesia and its four states had yet to put into place legislation, and mechanisms to protect the employment and labour rights of workers other than in the Public Service and the judiciary. The report added, inter alia, that there were no maternity leave provisions, except in the Chuuk judiciary where female employees may take three months of accumulated sick leave and unpaid leave, no sexual harassment protection, no guarantee of child care, and no equal pay provisions except in Pohnpei.⁵⁵

28. CRC recommended that further measures be taken to implement the provisions of article 32 of the Convention, including in relation to the minimum age for employment; and that efforts should be undertaken to prevent and combat economic exploitation or any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or social development. It emphasized that particular attention should be paid to the conditions of children working with their families, in order to protect them.⁵⁶

7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

29. UNDP noted that the extent of poverty and hardship within the Federated States of Micronesia rose between 1998 and 2005, and that while the cost of living was high the opportunities for income generation were low, especially in the rural parts of the country.⁵⁷ The 2008-2012 CPAP indicated that due to lack of employment opportunities, increasing hardship and social instability, inequality has a disproportionate impact on vulnerable groups, such as rural poor, women and girls, who remain disadvantaged to varying degrees in education, access to labour markets and political representation as well as young people aged 15-24, who comprise almost half of the population.⁵⁸

30. FAO highlighted that the Federated States of Micronesia is exceptionally vulnerable to natural disasters and its remoteness from major trading markets greatly impede its ability to economically compete in the global market.⁵⁹ It stressed that key issues required to address poverty are the need to (a) strengthen the institutional and regulatory basis for renewed domestic economic growth and stability; (b) advance sustainable development in the rural areas and outer-islands (which is crucial not only to improve quality of life in rural communities, but also to relieve social and economic pressures in the urban centres); and (c) improve technical and vocational training opportunities in order to meet the skill needs of the private sector and of those seeking to succeed in the rural economy.⁶⁰

31. A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report indicated that there was no comprehensive social security system in the Federated States of Micronesia.⁶¹ In 2007, UNDP indicated that rapid rural to urban migration was putting pressure on the provision of social services in the urban centres. It added that maternal mortality stood at 40 and neonatal child mortality at 12 per 1,000 live births, which is attributed to poor health services; inadequate nutritional

intake; and the absence of family planning facilities, especially for pregnant women. According to UNDP, improving health infrastructure and training of health professional was urgently required to address maternal and child mortality for the achievement of MDGs.⁶² UNFPA indicated that the Federated States of Micronesia has made the development of its health workforce a priority and that a significant proportion of the health budget was spent on secondary level care and on off-island referrals for tertiary care.⁶³

32. In 1998, CRC was concerned at the prevalence of malnutrition and vitamin A deficiency, as well as at the limited access to safe water and adequate sanitation.⁶⁴ UNICEF indicated that the proportion of children under five moderately or severely underweight was 15 per cent from 2003 to 2008, and that 94 per cent of the population was using improved drinking water sources in 2006.⁶⁵

33. CRC was concerned at problems of adolescent health, in particular the high and increasing rate of early pregnancies, the lack of access by teenagers to reproductive health education and services and the insufficient preventive measures on HIV/AIDS. It highlighted the high rate of suicides among teenagers, the incidence of drug and alcohol abuse among youth, and the insufficient social and medical programmes or services to tackle those issues.⁶⁶ It suggested that the Federated States of Micronesia promote adolescent health policies by strengthening reproductive health education and services, and undertake a comprehensive and multidisciplinary study to understand the scope of the phenomenon of adolescent health problems such as early pregnancies and suicide. It also recommended undertaking further efforts for the prevention and care of adolescents' health problems and for the rehabilitation of victims, and strengthening efforts to prevent and combat drug and substance abuse among children, while taking all appropriate measures including public information campaigns in the schools and elsewhere.⁶⁷

34. In 2009, UNDP and UNAIDS stated that Pohnpei has legislated to require a national HIV education campaign, which aimed at promoting public awareness about the causes, modes of transmission, consequences and means of prevention of HIV.⁶⁸ The 2008-2012 CPAP noted that available evidence on HIV infection rates, especially among people aged 15-49, indicate the possibility of a rapidly escalating HIV epidemic and that multi-sectoral approaches to prevention, care and treatment are imperative.⁶⁹

8. Right to education

35. According to UNESCO, the Federated States of Micronesia spends more than 6 per cent of its GDP on education.⁷⁰ A 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report noted that it guarantees free elementary education for all and established student loans for all young men and women to undertake higher education. Furthermore, all states introduced compulsory schooling at both primary and secondary levels and Pohnpei established a fund specifically for women's vocational training. However, the report highlighted that girls and women continue to access education in lower numbers than boys and men. It added that the Federated States of Micronesia did not prohibit expulsion from school because of pregnancy, in non-compliance with CEDAW.⁷¹

36. In 2008, UNDP noted that few students proceeded beyond the early years of secondary school and that many of those that do enter tertiary education fail to complete their training.⁷² It further noted that the poorest children frequently missed school due to ill-health or because school fees had not been paid, or families simply could not afford the costs of uniforms, books and other related costs.⁷³ UNICEF indicated that the net enrolment ratio in primary education was 92 per cent from 2003-2008.⁷⁴

9. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

37. In 2009, UNHCR considered that in view of the small numbers of individual cases and more pressing domestic issues; asylum-seekers, refugees, stateless persons and internally displaced persons were not prominent concerns in the Federated States of Micronesia.⁷⁵ Notwithstanding this situation, accession to the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol and the establishment of a national legal framework would provide a clearer basis for the Government to provide refugees with international protection and a mechanism that enables the appropriate engagements with relevant international organizations.⁷⁶

III. Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints

38. In 2010, UNHCR indicated that climate change poses a unique set of challenges for the Federated States of Micronesia, due to rising sea levels, salination, the incidence of storms of increasing frequency and severity, and increasing climate variability.⁷⁷

39. UNHCR emphasized that although people displaced by climatic (natural) factors were not ‘refugees’ under the 1951 Refugee Convention, there are nonetheless clear links between environmental degradation or climate change on the one hand, and social tensions and conflict on the other. Displacement can result in competition with a host community and lead to conflict, often over land or the use of limited resources. In a worst case scenario of complete submersion under rising sea levels, populations may face ‘external displacement’ and a de facto or de jure loss of the sovereign State itself.⁷⁸

IV. Capacity-building and technical assistance

40. The sub-regional 2008-2012 United Nations Development Assistance Framework indicated four priority or outcome areas: equitable economic growth and poverty reduction, good governance and human rights, equitable social and protection services, and sustainable environmental management, with gender equality as a cross-cutting theme.⁷⁹

41. In 1998 CRC recommended that the Federated States of Micronesia seek technical assistance from relevant United Nations entities regarding economic exploitation, including child labour,⁸⁰ and legal reform in the field of juvenile justice.⁸¹ It also encouraged it to seek technical assistance/cooperation regarding child victims of drug and substance abuse;⁸² data collection;⁸³ and training of professional groups working with and for children.⁸⁴

42. In 2010, UNHCR reiterated its availability to provide awareness/education programmes on asylum-seekers and refugees, technical support in drafting national refugee legislation and capacity-building for Government officials, as well as to assist in contributing to the creation of the institutional capacity for the development of a national refugee status determination procedure.⁸⁵

Notes

¹ Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found in *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2006* (ST/LEG/SER.E.25), supplemented by the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, <http://treaties.un.org/>.

² The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

- ³ Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/117 of 10 December 2008. Article 17, paragraph 1, of OP-ICESCR states that “The present Protocol is open for signature by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Covenant”.
- ⁴ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
- ⁵ 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
- ⁶ Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.
- ⁷ International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour; Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- ⁸ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, (CRC/C/15/Add.86), para. 24.
- ⁹ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Micronesia, pp. 2-3.
- ¹⁰ UNDP/UNAIDS, Enabling Effective Responses, HIV in Pacific Island Countries, Options for Human

- Rights-Based Legislative Report, Suva, Fiji, 2009, p. 94, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/LowRes_3011.pdf.
- ¹¹ UNDP Pacific Centre and UNIFEM Pacific Centre, *Translating CEDAW into law: CEDAW legislative compliance in nine Pacific island countries*, 2007, Suva, p. 51, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ¹² CRC/C/15/Add.86, para. 10.
- ¹³ *Ibid.*, paras. 6 and 22.
- ¹⁴ UNDP Pacific Centre and UNIFEM Pacific Centre, *Translating CEDAW into law: CEDAW legislative compliance in nine Pacific island countries*, 2007, Suva, p. 54, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ¹⁵ CRC/C/15/Add.86, para. 6.
- ¹⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 22.
- ¹⁷ For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC), see [A/HRC/10/55](#), annex I.
- ¹⁸ Country programme Action Plan (CPAP) 2008-2012 between the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia and the United Nations Development Programme Fiji Multi-Country Office, p. 2, available at http://www.undp.org.fj/pdf/CPAP/FSM%20CPAP%202008-2012_SIGNED.pdf.
- ¹⁹ UNDP Pacific Centre and UNIFEM Pacific Centre, *Translating CEDAW into law: CEDAW legislative compliance in nine Pacific island countries*, 2007, Suva, pp. 52 and 63, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ²⁰ CRC/C/15/Add.86, para.9.
- ²¹ *Ibid.*, para. 26.
- ²² Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) 2008-2012 between the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia and the United Nations Development Programme Fiji Multi-Country Office, p. 2, available at http://www.undp.org.fj/pdf/CPAP/FSM%20CPAP%202008-2012_SIGNED.pdf.
- ²³ CRC/C/15/Add.86, para. 27.
- ²⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 25.
- ²⁵ *Ibid.*, paras.20 and 38.
- ²⁶ See General Assembly resolution 59/113B and Human Rights Council resolutions 6/24, 10/3 and 12/4. See also letters from the High Commissioner for Human Rights dated 9 January 2006 and 10 December 2007 at <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/training/Summary-national-initiatives2005-2009.htm>.
- ²⁷ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Micronesia, p. 2.
- ²⁸ The following abbreviations have been used for this document:
- CEDAW Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CRC Committee on the Rights of the Child
- ²⁹ The questionnaires referred to are those reflected in an official report by a special procedure mandate holder issued between 1 January 2006 and 30 June 2010. Responses counted for the purposes of this section are those received within the relevant deadlines, and referred to in the following documents: (a) E/CN.4/2006/62, para. 24, and E/CN.4/2006/67, para. 22; (b) A/HRC/4/23, para. 14; (c) A/HRC/4/24, para. 9; (d) A/HRC/4/29, para. 47; (e) A/HRC/4/31, para. 24; (f) A/HRC/4/35/Add.3, para. 7; (g) A/HRC/6/15, para. 7; (h) A/HRC/7/6, annex; (i) A/HRC/7/8, para. 35; (j) A/HRC/8/10, para.120, footnote 48; (k) A/62/301, paras. 27, 32, 38, 44 and 51; (l) A/HRC/10/16 and Corr.1, footnote 29; (m) A/HRC/11/6, annex; (n) A/HRC/11/8, para. 56; (o) A/HRC/11/9, para. 8, footnote 1; (p) A/HRC/12/21, para.2, footnote 1; (q) A/HRC/12/23, para. 12; (r) A/HRC/12/31, para. 1, footnote 2; (s) A/HRC/13/22/Add.4; (t) A/HRC/13/30, para. 49; (u) A/HRC/13/42, annex I; (v) A/HRC/14/25, para. 6, footnote 1; (w) A/HRC/14/31, para. 5, footnote 2.
- ³⁰ UNDP Pacific Centre and UNIFEM Pacific Centre, *Translating CEDAW into law: CEDAW legislative compliance in nine Pacific island countries*, 2007, Suva, p. 54, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 56.
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