



# Convention on the Rights of the Child

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## Committee on the Rights of the Child

Sixty-sixth session

26 May-16 June 2014

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Consideration of reports of States parties

### List of issues in relation to the initial report of the United Kingdom submitted under the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

**The State party is requested to submit in writing additional, updated information (15 pages maximum), if possible before 1 March 2014.**

*The Committee may take up all aspects of children's rights contained in the Optional Protocol during the dialogue with the State Party.*

1. Please provide statistical data, including in the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies, disaggregated by sex, age, socio-economic background, ethnic group and urban and rural residence for 2011, 2012 and 2013 on:

(a) Reports of sale of children (disaggregated by the purpose of the sale) child prostitution and child pornography, together with information on the action taken in response to these reports and penalties imposed;

(b) The number of child victims provided with recovery assistance and having received compensation in accordance with article 9, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Optional Protocol.

2. Please indicate whether the State party has established mechanisms and procedures for collecting, analysing and evaluating disaggregated data on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland as well as in the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies.

3. Please provide information on the human, financial and technical resources allocated for the implementation of the Optional Protocol in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, including for the Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre.

4. In view of the fact that the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) has been incorporated as one of the four operational commands of the National Crime Agency (NCA), an agency focused on dealing with organised crime, please provide detailed information on the operation of the CEOP in Northern Ireland, particularly in relation to the recent concerns regarding the NCA's ability to operate fully in Northern Ireland.

5. Please indicate the progress made by the State party in implementing the recommendations in the 'Accelerated Report' of the Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups (CSEGG) Inquiry by the Office of the Children's Commissioner. Please also provide further details on preventive measures which have been taken to protect children in vulnerable situations, such as children in contact with or linked to gang members or groups (particularly in England), children in street situations, migrant children, irregular migrant children and children living in institutions, from offences under the Optional Protocol.
6. Please clarify the measures taken to prevent children from being sent abroad or to religious communities within the State party for the purpose of forced underage marriage, such as the polygamous communities, which amounts to the sale of children.
7. With reference to paragraphs 28 - 40 of the State party's report, please clarify if all forms of sale of children, including engagement of children in forced labour and improperly inducing consent, as an intermediary, for the adoption of a child, covered in article 2 (a) and article 3, paragraph 1 (a) (i) (b. and c.), of the Optional Protocol, as well as child prostitution and child pornography have explicitly been defined and criminalized in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Please also specify if all acts of child pornography referred to in article 3 of the Protocol, including selling or possessing child pornography, are defined and criminalised.
8. Please inform the Committee about the measures undertaken by the State party, such as technical assistance, legislative reforms and training to authorities in the Overseas Territories, in an effort to protect children from the offences covered by the Optional Protocol, particularly in Turks and Caicos, Anguilla and Montserrat.
9. With reference to recent concerns about the way some child victims have been treated in court, please elaborate on the measures taken to protect the rights and interests of child victims and witnesses of crimes under the Optional Protocol at all stages of criminal proceedings. Please also indicate the measures taken to ensure that child victims of offences under the Optional Protocol are treated exclusively as victims in need of recovery and reintegration and not as offenders or charged in connection with other crimes related to their status, as recommended by the Committee in 2008 (CRC/C/GBR/CO/4, para 74).
10. Please provide information on the measures to develop holistic and victim-centered methods to identify children, such as unaccompanied children entering the State party, who are, or who are at risk of becoming, victims of child trafficking, sale, prostitution and pornography.
11. Please indicate the measures taken to ensure that child victims of offences under the Optional Protocol, including victims of trafficking, are provided with appropriate assistance for their full social reintegration, physical, psychological and psychosocial recovery, as well as compensation. Please indicate how the State party ensures that child victims are properly informed about the existence of such services.