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paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Human Rights Council
resolution 5/1**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

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of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have been taken into consideration, unless they are outdated.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>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>
ICERD	9 Nov. 1981	None	Individual complaints (art. 14): No
ICESCR	9 Nov. 1981	None	–
ICCPR	9 Nov. 1981	None	Inter-State complaints (art. 41): No
ICCPR-OP 1	9 Nov. 1981	None	–
CEDAW	4 Aug. 1981	None	–
CAT	1 Aug. 2001	None	Inter-State complaints (art. 21): No Individual complaints (art. 22): No Inquiry procedure (art. 20): Yes
CRC	26 Oct. 1993	None	–
OP-CRC-SC	15 Sept. 2005	None	–
ICRMW	29 Oct. 2010	None	
CRPD	29 Oct. 2010	None	
OP-CRPD	29 Oct. 2010	None	Inquiry procedure (arts. 6 and 7): Yes

Treaties to which Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is not a party: OP-ICESCR³, ICCPR-OP 2, OP-CEDAW, OP-CAT, OP-CRC-AC, and CED (signature only 2010).

<i>Other main relevant international instruments</i>	<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	Yes
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	Yes
Palermo Protocol ⁴	Yes
Refugees and stateless persons ⁵	Yes, except the 1961 Convention
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols thereto ⁶	Yes, except Additional Protocol III
ILO fundamental conventions ⁷	Yes
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	Yes

1. In 2002, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) encouraged Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention.⁸
2. In 2003, the Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) noted that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had not made the optional declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention and recommended that it consider doing so.⁹

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

3. In 2003, CERD welcomed the fact that under section 16 of the Constitution, any individual alleging that his/her rights, as enshrined in the Constitution, have been violated can apply to the High Court for redress. However CERD was concerned that the Constitution does not contain reference to economic, social and cultural rights.¹⁰
4. In 2008, the Human Rights Committee (HR Committee) welcomed the reforms of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' legislation implementing parts of the Covenant, including removal of discrimination based on gender relating to remuneration for work, protection from arbitrary search and detention, and the prohibition of slavery.¹¹
5. In 2010, UNICEF expressed its concerns that the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child were not expressly enshrined in domestic legislation. It stated that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had begun a slow harmonizing process but had not carried out any general and significant review of its legislation directly relevant to children since its ratification of CRC.¹²

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

6. As of 5 January 2011, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did 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).¹³
7. In 2002, CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines establish an independent structure to receive complaints of violations of children's rights.¹⁴
8. In 2010, UNICEF stated that the implementation of the CRC was addressed by the National Child Rights Committee.¹⁵

D. Policy measures

9. In 2010, UNICEF reported that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had developed a National Youth Policy in 1996, reviewed its Education Act in 2006 and elaborated a programme of action in cooperation with UNICEF for the period 2003–2008 and 2008–2011¹⁶. However, UNICEF stated that the development of policies was hindered by the lack of information and analysis, statistical capacity being a prerequisite for elaborating appropriate evidence-based policies and evaluating their efficiency.¹⁷

II. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

1. Cooperation with treaty bodies

<i>Treaty body¹⁸</i>	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CERD	2002	Aug. 2003	–	Eleventh to thirteenth reports overdue since 2006.
CESCR	–	Nov. 1997 (Review of Implementation in the absence of a report)	–	Initial report overdue since 1990.
HR Committee	1989	March 2006 (Review of implementation in the absence of a report)	–	Second report overdue since 1991.
CEDAW	1991	Jan. 1997	–	Fourth report overdue since 2001.
CAT	–	–	–	Initial report overdue since 2002.
CRC	2000	June 2002	–	Second and third reports overdue since 2005.
OP-CRC-SC	–	–	–	Initial report overdue since 2007.
CMW				Initial report due in 2011
CRPD				Initial report due in 2012

10. In 2003, CERD welcomed the submission by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines of a report after a lapse of almost 20 years.¹⁹ It regretted, however, that the report did not comply with the Committee's reporting guidelines, as it did not contain information on articles 3 to 7 of the Convention, nor on the practical effects of the Convention, and did not respond to the concerns expressed by the Committee in previous concluding observations.²⁰

11. In 2008, the HR Committee regretted that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had not submitted a report to the Committee since it submitted its second periodic report in 1990 and considered that this represented serious disregard for article 40 of the Covenant.²¹ In the absence of a periodic report, the HR Committee considered the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.²²

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 communication was sent.
<i>Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues</i>	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines responded to none the 26 questionnaires sent by special procedures mandate holders. ²³

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non-discrimination

12. In 2002, CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines clarify the ages and terms applied to children and raise the minimum legal age of marriage of girls to that of boys (16).²⁴ In 2010, UNICEF indicated that discrimination persisted in the Marriage Act regarding the minimum legal age for marriage in that it provided for a minimum of 15 years for girls and 16 years for boys, which were both considered to be too low.²⁵

13. In 2003, CERD recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines ensure, as provided in articles 5 and 6 of the Convention, the enjoyment by all of effective protection and remedies against acts of racial discrimination which violated human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights. It further recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines consider whether the lack of complaints relating to racial discrimination before the High Court was not the result of the victims' lack of awareness of their rights, the lack of confidence on the part of individuals in the judicial authorities, or the authorities' lack of attention or sensitivity to cases of racial discrimination.²⁶

14. In 2010, UNICEF highlighted the CEDAW's comments that underlined occurrences of racial discrimination affecting children, including children of some minorities, such as the Amerindians and Asians, often belonging to lower-income levels.²⁷

15. In 2002, CRC was concerned that: the Constitution of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines did not fully reflect the provisions of article 2 of the Convention and, in particular, did not specifically prohibit discrimination on the grounds of language, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status.²⁸

16. CRC was also concerned that, with reference, inter alia, to the findings of CERD, there were occurrences of racial discrimination affecting children, including children belonging to some minorities; children with disabilities are de facto discriminated against by the absence of effective policies and programmes to facilitate their integration into regular schools; and children who were known to be infected with HIV/AIDS were also discriminated against at school by some teachers.²⁹ In 2010, UNICEF expressed a similar

concern with regard to discrimination against children known to be infected with HIV/AIDS.³⁰

17. In 2003, CERD was concerned that sections 1 and 13 of the 1979 Constitution did not fully comply with article 1 of the Convention, as they did not expressly forbid discrimination based on descent and national or ethnic origin. It was also concerned that exceptions and limitations to the principle of non-discrimination, provided for in particular by subsections 4, 6, 7 and 8 of article 13 of the Constitution, appear to be incompatible with the Convention. It recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines review its domestic law so that it complied fully with the Convention.³¹

18. In 2010, UNICEF stated that discrimination on the basis of language, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status was not prohibited by the Constitution and that the Constitution (1979) prevented discrimination based on sex, race, place of origin, political opinions, colour or creed.³²

19. In 2002, CRC was concerned that: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' statistics on the numbers of children with disabilities may be incomplete and, in particular, did not take into consideration those children who hardly ever leave their homes.³³

20. In 2010, UNICEF stated that children with disabilities suffered from de facto discrimination due to the absence of specific legislation to address their needs and to provide appropriate facilities, and the absence of policies and programmes dedicated to their integration into regular schools.³⁴

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

21. In light of the continued existence of the death penalty, the HR Committee recommended that in relation to all persons accused of capital offences, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines should ensure that every requirement of article 6 is strictly complied with, and that the assistance of counsel, through legal aid as necessary, be provided immediately on arrest and throughout all subsequent proceedings to persons accused of serious crimes, in particular in cases of offences carrying the death penalty.³⁵

22. Although in December 2007, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines voted against the adoption of resolution 62/149 on a moratorium on the death penalty by the General Assembly,³⁶ in 2008 the HR Committee noted that, following a decision of the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal, confirmed by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in the case of *Hughes and Spencer v. The Queen*, the death penalty, where applicable, was no longer applied in a mandatory fashion but was subject to a separate sentencing hearing at which the judge was required to consider the circumstances of the case and of the person convicted. With this welcome development in mind, and noting that in fact there have been no executions in the past 10 years, the HR Committee invited Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to consider the final abolition of the death penalty.³⁷

23. In 2008, the HR Committee was also concerned about reported complaints against police involving unwarranted practices, such as the excessive use of force and the occurrence of a high ratio of convictions based on confessions. It recommended improving police training at all levels of the police hierarchy.³⁸

24. While acknowledging the efforts made by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to build a new State prison, the HR Committee expressed its concern over ongoing prison overcrowding and poor prison conditions as well as the high rate of incarceration in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. It noted with concern the continuing practice of imprisoning juvenile and adult offenders in the same premises. It recommended that additional resources be allocated to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' prison system, separate facilities be made

available to juvenile offenders and alternatives to imprisonment be sought as a matter of priority.³⁹

25. The HR Committee was concerned at the high incidence of violence against women and recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines take steps to monitor this situation, facilitate investigations, and implement a plan of action. It also recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines take legal and educational measures to combat domestic violence.⁴⁰

26. In 2002, CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: undertake a study to examine the sexual exploitation of children, gathering accurate data on its incidence; develop an effective and comprehensive policy addressing the sexual exploitation of children, including the factors that place children at risk of such exploitation and implement appropriate policies and programmes for prevention and for the recovery and reintegration of child victims.⁴¹

27. In 2010, UNICEF was concerned that there were no laws specifically prohibiting child pornography.⁴²

28. In 2010, the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations recalled that section 3(1) of the Public Order Ordinance involving penalties of imprisonment with an obligation to perform labour for expressing political views was not in conformity with Convention No. 105 and expressed its hope that measures would be taken to formally repeal it in order to bring legislation into conformity with the Convention.⁴³

29. In 2002 CRC was concerned at the child labour situation and expressed concern that existing legislation with regard to working children was outdated and provided insufficient protection to children.⁴⁴

30. In 2002, CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: undertake a study on the scope and nature of child abuse and neglect; address the abuse, including sexual abuse, and neglect of children, giving particular attention to their occurrence within the family, strengthen its efforts to prosecute persons responsible for perpetrating abuse and provide child victims of abuse with appropriate medical and psychological support.⁴⁵

31. CRC was deeply concerned that corporal punishment was widely practised in schools, in the administration of justice, in other institutions and within the family and that it was regulated by law and used against children from an early age. It recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines urgently: prohibit through legislative and administrative provisions the use of corporal punishment in all contexts, including in schools, in the administration of justice, in other institutions and within the family and make use of information and education campaigns to sensitize parents, professionals working with children and the public in general to the harm caused by corporal punishment and to the importance of alternative, non-violent, forms of discipline.⁴⁶

32. In 2008, HR Committee was concerned that the Corporal Punishment of Juveniles Act still permitted caning, in violation of the prohibition of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment contained in article 7.⁴⁷

33. In 2002, CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: undertake a study on the scope and causes of the phenomenon of street children and create a legislative framework and continue and strengthen its ongoing efforts to assist street children, including with regard to their reintegration into their families.⁴⁸

3. Administration of justice

34. In 2008, the HR Committee welcomed the initiatives taken by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to improve its judicial administration to deal with the backlog of criminal cases. In that connection it also noted the establishment of a Serious Offences Court to hold preliminary hearings in cases to be tried by jury.⁴⁹

35. The HR Committee was also concerned that the Debtors Act, Cap. 86, section 4, permits imprisonment for debt in some civil cases and recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines review the legislation permitting imprisonment for default in civil matters, so as to comply with the Covenant.⁵⁰

36. In 2002 CRC remained concerned that: the age of criminal responsibility, fixed at 8 years of age, was too low as also noted by UNICEF in 2010, and that juvenile justice protection was not afforded to all persons under the age of 18, with only very limited exceptions.⁵¹

37. In 2010, UNICEF noted that, under the Juvenile Act, a person over 16 years of age was treated as an adult, that juveniles were tried by the Juvenile Court, an entity of the Family Court, that deprivation of liberty was not generally used as a “last resort” for sentencing young persons (under 16) and that there were no juvenile detention facilities since the “Approved Schools” provided for in the Juvenile Act were not in place. Thus, convicted children over 16 years of age were sent to adult prisons.⁵²

38. UNICEF was concerned that the Family Court was based in Saint Vincent and only occasionally went to the other islands, therefore, juvenile offenders, depending on the area in which they lived, did not benefit from the same access to justice.⁵³

39. UNICEF further stated that the Child Abuse Protocol, elaborated in 2006 by the local Child Rights Committee, provided procedures for reporting and responding to reports of child abuse cases. It set up a framework to ensure the respect for child-friendly procedures, the protection from perpetrators and the prevention from re-victimization. The need for separated detention facilities and respect for the best interest of the child in police stations, prisons and approved schools was also pointed out in the Child Abuse Protocol. However, the Protocol had not been implemented yet and was still being finalized. At present, the Family Services Division of the Social Development Ministry referred all reports of child abuse to the police for action and provided assistance in cases where children applied for protection orders with the Family Court.⁵⁴

4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

40. In 2010, UNICEF indicated that, according to the law of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the minimum age of consensual sex was 15 years of age and that the law prohibited statutory rape, with special provisions for children under 13 years.⁵⁵

41. In 2002 CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines further facilitate and support the activities (including paternity procedures) which will contribute to the full implementation of the rights of children to know their parents.⁵⁶

42. Acknowledging Saint Vincent and the Grenadines’ efforts to establish an adequate foster care service, CRC was concerned that there was no legislative basis for foster care procedures, that the alternative care services for children who had been abandoned by, or who were otherwise separated from, their parents were not sufficient and that in some instances of “adoption” (especially international adoption), children were handed over for money or with promises of financial assistance to those giving up the child.⁵⁷

43. In 2002, noting the assistance provided to families, inter alia, by the Public Assistance Board under the Ministry of Social Development and through the Ministries of

Education and Health, CRC remained concerned that: a large proportion of Vincentian families were living in poverty; the difficult domestic employment situation had obliged many parents, and sometimes both parents, to migrate, leaving children in the care of grandparents or under the responsibility of an older child; almost half of all families were headed by women single parents and their related poverty placed children in these families at particular risk of violations of their rights; mothers were only able to claim child maintenance for a child aged over five and there were disparities between the child maintenance awards made to the children of unmarried mothers and married mothers.⁵⁸

44. In 2008, the HR Committee was concerned that consensual homosexual acts between adults in private were still criminalized under section 146 of the Criminal Code. It recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines consider the abolition of this law.⁵⁹

5. Freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly

45. In 2003, CERD remained concerned about the reported weakness of civil society organizations in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. It encouraged Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to facilitate the activities of non-governmental organizations, in particular in the areas of better enjoyment of human rights and of combating racial discrimination.⁶⁰

46. In 2008, HR Committee noted with concern the absence of a law regulating the interception of communications. It recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines immediately draft and enact a law regulating the interception of communications taking due account of articles 17 and 19 of the Covenant.⁶¹

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

47. In 2009, the ILO Committee of Experts recalled its previous request that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines take measures to include in the legislation provisions which provided protection against acts of anti-union discrimination and interference by the employer or employers' organizations in workers' organizations (and vice versa) and which encouraged collective bargaining in the private and public sectors with the sole possible exception of public servants engaged in the administration of the State.⁶²

48. In 2010, the ILO Committee of Experts emphasized that there were no legal provisions specifically prohibiting discrimination in employment and occupation and stated that the national legislation should cover, as a minimum, discrimination on all the grounds listed in article 1(1)(a) of Convention No. 111.⁶³

49. The ILO Committee of Experts stated that there were no legislative, regulatory or other provisions designed to prohibit and eliminate sexual harassment in the workplace.⁶⁴

50. The ILO Committee of Experts noted that, under article 13(4)(b) of the Constitution, the general prohibition of discrimination was not applicable to non-citizens and requested Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to take the necessary measures to ensure the protection of all workers, regardless of their nationality, against discrimination in employment and occupation in both law and practice, with respect to all the grounds set out in Convention No. 111.⁶⁵

51. The ILO Committee of Experts highlighted that the statistics, disaggregated by sex, concerning the training and promotion of certain public servants, provided by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines showed that there was persistent gender segregation according to profession, with women being far more numerous in colleges training nurses and teachers.⁶⁶

52. The ILO Committee of Experts noted that the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act did not contain a general prohibition on the employment of children below 18 years in hazardous work and stated that the minimum age for admission to any type of employment or work which by its nature or circumstances in which it was

carried out was likely to harm the health, safety or morals of young persons shall not be less than 18 years.⁶⁷

53. In 2010, UNICEF stated that the existing legislation on child labour was outdated and did not efficiently protect children from harmful work and that the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act defined a child as a person under 14 years of age and a young person as a person between 14 and 18 years of age. UNICEF also observed that the minimum age for employment was fixed at 14 years of age,⁶⁸ and that there were no legal provisions regarding the hours of employment for a young person, except for specific situations such as industrial night work which was prohibited for person under 16 years of age.⁶⁹

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

54. In 2002, while noting the progress made in the area of child health care, including in the numbers of health centres established and their staffing levels, CRC remained concerned at the lack of basic medicines to meet the needs of sick children; infant mortality rates; levels of under nutrition; the gradual rise in obesity and at the lack of an adequate number of dentists available to children.⁷⁰

55. In 2002, CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: increase its efforts to promote adolescent health, including mental health, policies, particularly with respect to reproductive health and substance abuse and health education in schools, ensuring the full participation of adolescents; consider means of reducing teenage pregnancy, including strengthening reproductive health education for adolescents, and ensure the provision of full health and counselling support for pregnant girls and that these girls are able to continue their formal education.⁷¹

56. CRC was concerned that: the illicit use of drugs and substances by children was increasing, including the use of crack cocaine and marijuana, as well as other substances, and that some of the children abusing drugs and using substances were placed, for this reason, in mental health institutions; and that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines lacks adequate data and treatment programmes in this regard.⁷²

57. In 2007, UNICEF stated that the poverty level of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was 38 per cent, that income inequality was significant and that poverty was manifested in low incomes, more limited access to education and other basic services, inadequate housing, unsafe environments, social discrimination and exclusion, and more limited participation. It also stated that nine out of every 20 in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines live in households facing food insecurity.⁷³

58. In 2010, UNICEF stated that its survey from 2006 had revealed that over half of the children in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines were at risk of food insecurity followed by chronicle illness of a parent.⁷⁴

59. In 2010, UNICEF stated that HIV/AIDS was a major health concern which brought into play various factors and mainly affected young people and that about half of all new infections occurred in people under the age of 25.⁷⁵

8. Right to education

60. In 2002, CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: adopt legislation regulating pre-schools, including with regard to the standards of buildings and other facilities and the training of staff, and continue its current efforts in this regard; continue the progress made so far in providing training for primary school teachers; review the system of secondary school entrance examinations and take action to address problems identified, with a view, inter alia, to raising significantly the numbers of children graduating

from primary to secondary school; continue its ongoing efforts to increase the computerization of schools, and ensure that all children have access to appropriate books and other reading materials.⁷⁶

61. In 2010, UNICEF stated that the Education Act was reviewed in 2006, that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines offered universal access to primary and secondary education and made primary education compulsory. Though secondary school enrolment rates improved, a high number of young persons leave school without qualifications adapted to the labour market.⁷⁷

62. In 2010, the ILO Committee of Experts observed that the minimum age for admission to employment (14 years) was less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling (16 years) and requested Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to raise to 16 the minimum age for employment or work in order to link it with the age of completion of compulsory schooling in conformity with article 2(3) of Convention No. 138 so as to prevent school dropouts and child labour.⁷⁸

63. In 2006, UNICEF stated that children were drawn into crime and the trade in and use of drugs due to a combination of poor quality of education and lack of career prospects.⁷⁹

64. UNICEF also reported that, according to its 2005 survey, there appeared to be an extraordinary level of concern among parents about the quality of education in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. This was true of both primary and secondary levels.⁸⁰

65. In 2010, UNICEF noted that public assistance benefits discriminated against large households, which were typically female headed, that benefits did not adequately defray the out-of-pocket costs of education and that as a result, poor parents could not always afford to send their children to school.⁸¹

III. Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints

66. In 2002, CRC noted the difficult geographic and demographic conditions of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines⁸².

67. In 2003, CERD took note of the difficulties presently faced by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, in particular its economic vulnerability within the context of globalization and the massive infrastructural damage caused by natural disasters, and of the fact that its limited resources were devoted to reconstruction rather than development.⁸³

IV. Key national priorities, initiatives and commitments

N/A

V. Capacity-building and technical assistance

68. CRC recommended that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines seek technical assistance on harmonization of legislation⁸⁴.

69. CERD strongly urged the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to avail itself of the technical assistance with the aim of drawing up and submitting its next periodic report in accordance with the Committee's reporting guidelines⁸⁵.

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 1 April 2009* (ST/LEG/SER.E/26), 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:
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| 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 CRPD |
| 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); Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Geneva 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 Organize; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organize 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.184), para. 54.
- ⁹ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/C/63/CO/10), para. 16.
- ¹⁰ Ibid., para. 6.
- ¹¹ Concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee (CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2), para. 4.
- ¹² UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 1.
- ¹³ 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/65/640, annex I.
- ¹⁴ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 10 (c).
- ¹⁵ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 5.
- ¹⁶ Ibid., para. 6.
- ¹⁷ Ibid., para. 7.
- ¹⁸ The following abbreviations have been used for this document:
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| CERD | Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination |
| CESCR | Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights |
| HR Committee | Human Rights Committee |
| CEDAW | Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women |
| CAT | Committee against Torture |
| CRC | Committee on the Rights of the Child |
| CMW | Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families |
| CRPD | Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities |
- ¹⁹ CERD/C/63/CO/10, para. 2.
- ²⁰ Ibid., para. 3.
- ²¹ CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2, para. 2.
- ²² Ibid., para. 1.
- ²³ The questionnaires referred to are those reflected in an official report by a special procedure mandate holder issued between 1 January 2006 and 31 October 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; (x) A/HRC/14/46/Add.1; (y) A/HRC/15/31/Add.1, para. 6 – for list of responding States, see http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/water/iexpert/written_contributions.htm; (z) A/HRC/15/32, para. 5.
- ²⁴ CRC/C/15/Add.184, paras. 17–18.
- ²⁵ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 10.
- ²⁶ CERD/C/63/CO/10, para. 11.
- ²⁷ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 12.
- ²⁸ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 19.
- ²⁹ Ibid., para. 19.
- ³⁰ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 14.
- ³¹ CERD/C/63/CO/10, para. 7.
- ³² UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 9.
- ³³ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 36.
- ³⁴ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 11.
- ³⁵ CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2, para. 6.
- ³⁶ A/C.3/63/L.19/Rev.1.
- ³⁷ CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2, para. 6.

- ³⁸ Ibid., para. 10.
- ³⁹ Ibid., para. 14.
- ⁴⁰ Ibid., para. 12.
- ⁴¹ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 49.
- ⁴² UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 21.
- ⁴³ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Direct Request concerning ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105), 2010, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092010VCT105, first to sixth paragraphs.
- ⁴⁴ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 44 (b).
- ⁴⁵ Ibid., para. 39.
- ⁴⁶ Ibid., paras. 28–29.
- ⁴⁷ CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2, para. 11.
- ⁴⁸ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 47.
- ⁴⁹ CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2, para. 5.
- ⁵⁰ Ibid., para. 7.
- ⁵¹ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 52.
- ⁵² UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 18.
- ⁵³ Ibid., para. 19.
- ⁵⁴ Ibid., para. 20.
- ⁵⁵ Ibid., para. 21.
- ⁵⁶ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 27.
- ⁵⁷ Ibid., para. 32.
- ⁵⁸ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 30.
- ⁵⁹ CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2, para. 8.
- ⁶⁰ CERD/C/63/CO/10, para. 12.
- ⁶¹ CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2, para. 9.
- ⁶² ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Direct Request concerning ILO Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), 2009, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092010VCT098, first paragraph.
- ⁶³ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Direct Request concerning ILO Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), 2010, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092010VCT111, first and second paragraphs.
- ⁶⁴ Ibid., fourth paragraph.
- ⁶⁵ Ibid., fifth paragraph.
- ⁶⁶ Ibid., eighth paragraph.
- ⁶⁷ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Direct Request concerning ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), 2010, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092010VCT138, seventh paragraph.
- ⁶⁸ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 4.
- ⁶⁹ Ibid., para. 22.
- ⁷⁰ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 34.
- ⁷¹ Ibid., para. 41.
- ⁷² Ibid., para. 50.
- ⁷³ UNICEF, Situation Analysis of Children and Women in the Eastern Caribbean, Barbados, 2007, p. ix-x, available at http://www.unicef.org/barbados/cao_unicefecositan.pdf.
- ⁷⁴ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 24.
- ⁷⁵ Ibid., para. 26.
- ⁷⁶ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 43.
- ⁷⁷ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 27.
- ⁷⁸ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Direct Request concerning ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), 2010, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092010VCT138, fifth and sixth paragraphs.
- ⁷⁹ UNICEF, A Study of Child Vulnerability in Barbados, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Barbados, November 2006, p.2, available at http://www.unicef.org/barbados/cao_resources_vulnerability.pdf.
- ⁸⁰ Ibid.

- ⁸¹ UNICEF submission to the UPR on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, para. 25.
⁸² CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 6.
⁸³ CERD/C/63/CO/10, para. 4.
⁸⁴ CRC/C/15/Add.184, para. 8 (d).
⁸⁵ CERD/C/63/CO/10, para. 13.
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