



United Nations Human Rights Council
27th Session
19th September 2014
Item 6, Consideration of UPR reports

Examination of the UPR Nicaragua

Mr. President,

Thank you for giving us the floor.

Save the Children speaks on behalf of the Coalition of NGOs Working with Children from Nicaragua (CODENI) and warmly welcomes the report of the UPR Working Group, particularly on the recommendations relating to children's rights.

We welcome the efforts of the Nicaraguan Government to protect children's rights and the acceptance of the UPR recommendations related to the rights to education, health, protection and violence against children. The implementation of these recommendations through sufficient budget allocation, materials and trained human resources will have a significant impact on the lives of children in Nicaragua.

Nevertheless, CODENI would like to highlight two issues related to violence against women and children and the ratification of the 3rd Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure.

I. Violence against women and children

114.42 Review the legislation on violence against women, aiming to strengthen the rights of the victims and to fight impunity of the perpetrators (Luxemburg).

CODENI welcomes the acceptance of the Nicaraguan State to recommendation 114.42. Violence against children and women continues to be a serious problem in Nicaragua. The National Police records show that 90% of complaints on sexual violence relates to women and adolescents. Many girls and adolescents have to go through pregnancies as a result of sexual violence, jeopardizing their lives. The statistics for femicide show that 4 out of 10 murdered women are girls and adolescents. We urge the government: a) to provide special protection for women and girls, ensuring the access of victims to justice and the full exercise of their rights; b) to guarantee the effective application of Law 779 and to revoke its recent regulation, which is against the spirit of the law; c) to reform the Penal Code to

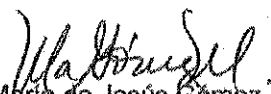
guarantee the right of girls and adolescents victims of rape to receive protection, legal and medical attention, including access to therapeutic abortion in a safe and legal manner.

II. Ratification of the 3rd Optional Protocol to the Committee of the Rights of the Child related to a Communication Procedure

116.6, 116.11. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child related to a communication procedure (Slovakia, Honduras).

CODENI is concerned that the State of Nicaragua did not take a clear position regarding recommendations 116.6 and 116.11. CODENI considers the signing and ratification of the 3rd Protocol to be a priority for Nicaragua, so children can have a reporting alternative at the international level. Similarly, the State of Nicaragua can make use of this instrument in cases of human rights violations of Nicaraguan children living in other countries.

Thank you


María de Jesús Gómez
executive secretary CODENI

