

HUMAN AND CHILD RIGHTS IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

UPR Info Pre-sessions

Situation on Child Mortality

- ❑ Implementation of previous recommendations made by Spain: Reduction of infant mortality.
- ❑ New developments:
 - ❑ Development of protection protocols and safety guidelines in the field of health.
 - ❑ Improvements in limited hospitals and medical personnel do not receive sufficient training for prevention and protection.
- ❑ New needs:
 - ❑ Infant mortality rate (before 1 year): from 23.6 per thousand live births in 2015 it rises to 25 per 1,000 live births in 2017 (public health, 2015 and UNICEF 2016).
 - ❑ Between 25% and 30% of births are adolescents (Public health-ONE-UNFPA, 2016).

Recommendations

- Designation of funds for the adaptation of EACH hospital and maternity hospitals according to the UNICEF Baby Friendly Hospital methodology and friendly spaces for health care for pregnant teenagers.
- To allocate funds for the training and sensitization of the doctors in the methodology of the Baby Friendly Hospital of UNICEF, Friendly Spaces for Pregnant Adolescents and Child Rights.
- Designation of funds and resources in general for a constant and timely monitoring of hospital implementation by hospital.
- Ensure accountability and visibility of resource allocation and properly use of those funds.

Situation on violence, abuse against children and education

- Implementation of previous recommendations made by: Spain, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Korea, Nicaragua, Uruguay, Colombia, Paraguay, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Belgium, France, Italy, Germany: Provide resources and implement the Violence Prevention Plan. Cuba, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Colombia, Belgium, Spain, France, Colombia and Chile: Prevention of teenage pregnancy. Nicaragua: establish legislation for the prevention of violence.
- New developments: Min. of Women: actions in favor of the reduction of violence and attention to the victims, Plan of prevention of pregnancy is insufficient, Actions in the limited schools. Insufficient funds. Advances for the promotion of legislation, but slow and unsupported processes.
- New needs:
 - 67.4% of households use physical or psychological punishment to discipline their children (National Bureau of Statistics, 2014).
 - 42% of adolescents report having received psychological and emotional abuse in the school environment and 46% of physical aggressions. (Parada, Ibarra, & Burgos, 2017)
 - One in every 5 adolescents (23.4%) between 15 and 19 years old is currently married or united with a man 10 years older..

Recommendations

- Implement a training and awareness program for all officials on violence against children and responsibilities in their area of action as a public servant.
- To allocate sufficient budget in each Ministry that attends children directly or indirectly.
- Legislative approval of: responsible paternity law, modification of the civil code (elimination of exceptions to marriage with minors under 18 years of age), Law on Positive parenting and Discipline without physical or humiliating punishment, and Law on Early Childhood.

Situation of child rights in emergency context

- ❑ Implementation of recommendations: This is the first time that a report has been submitted to the UPR on the human rights of children in emergency situations.
- ❑ Situation:
 - ❑ Promotion of the modification of the Risk Management Law for the protection of children by FGdR-Oxfam, 2013.
 - ❑ Development of the National Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction.
 - ❑ The Gender, Protection and Age Advisory Team was established.
 - ❑ New needs:
 - ❑ 0.1% is the investment for the resilience of the 2018 budget. 0.02% of GDP.
 - ❑ There is no official data of impact on children.

Recommendations

- Review and adaptation of Law 147-02 to include investment aspects for the protection of children and transparency in the use of resources for disaster prevention and mitigation.
- Increase investment in disaster risk reduction. Specific designation in each Ministry to the prevention and protection of children in emergency: adequate infrastructures and training.
- Adapt official shelters according to international child protection standards.
- Food insecurity: ensure that the school dining rooms remain open in the months of July and August that is within the hurricane season (June-November).