

**COMMITTEE ON THE  
RIGHTS OF THE CHILD**

WRITTEN REPLIES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN CONCERNING THE LIST OF ISSUES (CRC/C/Q/IRN/2) RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD RELATING TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE SECOND PERIODIC REPORT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN (CRC/C/104/Add.3)

**[Received on 16 November 2004]**

CRC/C/RESP/71

## Part I

### A. Data and statistics, if available

- 1. Please provide demographic data of the under 18 population for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003, disaggregated by gender, ethnic, national and religious background.**

Statistical details have been requested from the relevant departments. No response has been received yet.

- 2. Please provide specific disaggregated data on national budgetary allocation and spending for social needs, as percentages of total state expenditures for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004. In particular, how much was spent on:**
  - a) education (including allocations for primary and secondary education, salaries, preservation of school buildings, etc);**
  - b) health (including allocations for primary health care, vaccinations, adolescent health care and other health care services for children);**
  - c) child protection (for example institutional or foster care);**
  - d) juvenile crime prevention and rehabilitation; and**
  - e) other social services.**

The budget allocated to the education at various levels of education during the years 2003 and 2004 (1381 and 1382 on the Solar Calendar) has been displayed at the following tables:

Table 1: Appropriation (credit allocation) for primary and guidance (junior) education and other activities conducted by the Ministry of Education in the years 2002 and 2003. (Million rials)

Title	The year 2002; (performance)	Percentage of the total	2003 (predicted)	Percentage of the total
Primary Education	9,509,976	28.1	10,155,600	27.3
Guidance (junior) Education	6,763,521	20.0	7,365,600	19.8
Other Activities*	17,527,928	51.9	19,678,800	52.9
Total	33,801,425	100.0	37,200,000	100.0

\*The headings of all programs / activities have been cited in the two tables appended.

Table 2: Performance of credits of the Ministry of Education in the year 2002, disaggregated by programs.  
(million rials)

The number of classification of the program	The heading of the program	The year 2002
10907	Informatics	2,200
30102	primary education	9,509,976
30103	Literacy promotion	395,139
30104	Guidance ( junior or intermediate) education	6,763,521
30105	Secondary education	5,472,620
30106	Exceptional children education	421,599
30107	Training and educational affairs	333,340
30108	Instructional aid operations	1,263,299
30109	Pre-university education	579,126
30110	Materials, educational technology and instructional aids	5,946
30111	Teacher training	172,866
30112	The logistics of educational activities	4,260,957
30113	Education of the gifted	55,050
30202	Expansion of culture and arts	2,800
30208	The cultivation of artistic talents,....	21,000
30222	Sponsorship of students' unions and agencies	18,000
30235	Expansion of Islamic theology	7,800
30305	Nutrition improvement	69,000
30403	Social security insurance of the staff	2,200,000
30404	Welfare services	129,565
30505	Sports of students	95,430
30508	Sports education and research	1,700
31104	Informal training of State staff	123,149
31105	Knowledge-occupation education	688,003
31107	Vocational secondary education	901,419
31108	Associate in vocational education	236,463
31202	Education of science department	28,700
31302	Cultural and educational research	42,757
total		33,801,425

Table 3: Credit allocations of the Ministry of Education in the year 2003, disaggregated by programs. (million rials)

The number of classification of the program	The heading of the program	The year 2003
10313	Administrative modification	5,653
30101	Pre-schooling	133,542
30102	Primary education	9,166,632
30103	Literacy promotion	432,372
30104	Guidance (junior or intermediate) education	6,666,153
30105	Secondary education	5,469,222
30106	Exceptional children education	450,059
30107	Training and educational affairs	367,133
30108	Instructional aid operations	752,845
30109	Pre-university education	569,181
30110	Materials, educational technology and instructional aids	6,000
30111	Teacher training	155,283
30112	The logistics of educational activities	3,304,510
30114	Education of the gifted	60,202
30116	Supply of import needs	372,200
30130	Credit and technical contributions	135,000
30202	Expansion of culture and arts	5,000
30208	The cultivation of cultural and artistic talents of children and adolescents	20,000
30228	Social and cultural participation of women	55,252
30232	Sponsorship of students' unions and agencies	25,000
30235	Expansion of Islamic theology	8,000
30305	Nutrition improvement	95,250
30344	School Health and young people	3,205
30403	Social security insurance of the staff	2,500,000
30404	Welfare services	118,242
30505	Sports of students	147,775
30508	Sports education and research	2,501
30907	Ecosystem and Green Management	48,682
31104	Informal training of State staff	145,191
31105	Knowledge-occupation secondary education	827,526
31107	Vocational secondary education	968,131
31108	Associate in vocational education	291,032
31130	Credit and technical contributions	20,000
31202	Education of science department	37,500
31302	Cultural and educational research	67,084
31303	University research	3,000

31325	Development and application of information technology and communications	204,453
Total		33,638,810

Table 4: The share of current and development budget of the Ministry of Education from the state general budget during the years 2001-2003 (Million rials)

Heading	The year 2001 performance	The year 2002 performance	The year 2003 performance	The year 2004 ( approved)
State current general budget	104,538,000	165,907,367	285,749,929	315,710,660
State development or project general budget	36,617,000	86,526,598	85,206,269	99,841,341
Current expenditure of the function of the Ministry of Education	19,539,120	25,163,926	29,334,155	33,182,517
Development expenditure of the function of the Ministry of Education	1,372,293	2,136,804	_____	_____
Percentage of Current expenditure of the function of the Ministry of Education from current expenditure of the state general budget	18.7	15.2	10.3	10.5
Percentage of development expenditure of the function of the Ministry of Education from development expenditure of the state general budget	3.7	2.5	_____	_____

In connection with the budget allocated for healthcare, it is noteworthy to mention that under the credit line of 129000 ( the Ministry of Health, Care, and Medical Education) a special budget is allocated for the provision of care for children and adolescents at schools' Health Program and its credit has risen from 4 billion rials in 2003 to 14 billion rials in 2004. Such a program has been taken into account in the general budget bill of the country from the year 2003 onward and its most significant activities include:

\_ Implementing a non-contagious care system among students through proper nutrition, appropriate physical activity, prevention of smoking and so forth;

\_ Investigating the prevalence of risk-taking behaviors among students population and designing an instructional intervening program to prevent such risk-taking behaviors;

\_ Developing a strategic plan for youngsters as regards their health from diverse aspects in collaboration with the Office of Hygienic Education;

\_ Devising an intervening plan to prevent the incidents;

\_ Setting up the website of School Health;

\_ Issuing electronically produced health ID cards for students;

\_ Placing the population of primary and junior (guidance) education under the coverage of health care system; and

\_ Evaluating the students' health care system as regards the system of network development and so on.

In addition, the Health Deputy of the Ministry of Health, Care, and Medical Education has taken into account the allotment of credits to ill and healthy children and during the years 2001-2002, 1,700, 1,500, and 1,690 million rials respectively have been spent (assigned to universities). The sum of the budget allocated by the World Health Organizations and the UNICEF makes up close to 1,000 million rials. To complement information on health, the cost of nutrition and vaccination programs must be added to the above- cited expenses.

As for the allocation of the national budget to and its expenditure on social needs, it deserves to be mentioned that the Office of Children and Adolescents' Affairs spent in 2001, 350 999 655 000 rials, in 2002, 443 238 950 000 rials, and in 2003, 773 814 000 000 rials.

The disaggregated data on budgetary allocations for taking care of 'children deprived of a family environment' and protecting 'street children' is as follows:

### **Care for children deprived of a family environment**

With this regard, a total of 6500 children reside at the centers which demand a credit of Rls 20,000,000 per capita for the annual care of such children. On the basis of this ( $6500 * 20,000,000 = 130,000,000,000$ ) a total of 130,000,000,000 rials has been expended. Likewise, the number of children placed in foster care is 5500 with a credit of 5,000,000 rials for each child annually ( $5500 * \text{Rls } 5,000,000 = \text{Rls } 27,500,000,000$ ), a total of Rls 27,500,000,000 has been expended. On the basis of this, an aggregate of about Rls 157,500,000,000 of the annual budget of the country is being spent on this. It is noteworthy that half of the above- cited resources has been supplied by the non-government sector and donors and the remainder by the government.

### **The amount of national budget allocated to nationwide "street children":**

The aggregated data in this regard is as follows:

The year 2001: 4,000,000,000 (four billion rials);

The year 2002: 5,830,000,000 (five billion eight hundred and thirty million rials);

The year 2003: 6,000,000,000 (six billion rials);

The year 2004: 11,500,000,000 (eleven billion and five hundred million rials);

### **3. For children deprived of a family environment and separated from parents, please provide information for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003, disaggregated by sex, and age, on the number of:**

a) children separated from their parents;

b) foundlings; and

c) children placed with relatives and in welfare institutions.

Table 5: The information pertaining to the years 2001- 2003 regarding the children deprived of a family environment and those separated from their parents is as follows:

Index / Year	Children separated from their parents	Foundlings	Children placed with relatives	Children in welfare institutions
2001	6487	650	2320	4167
2002	8530	461	2500	6030
2003	11947	668	5385	6562

- 4. Please specify the enrolment and completion rates for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003, disaggregated by sex, age, and according to type of school (i.e., public and private) in percentages in:**
- a) kindergarten;**
  - b) elementary;**
  - c) intermediate;**
  - d) secondary;**
  - e) vocational; and**
  - f) religious schools.**

According to the data presented by the State Welfare Organization, the enrollment and completion rates for the years 2001,2002,2003 in kindergartens are as follows:

Table 6

Year	The number of kindergartens	The number of children in kindergartens
2003	7600	350,000
2002	7115	300,000
2001	5000	260,000

Other information in connection with the above-mentioned question are presented in the follow-up tables.

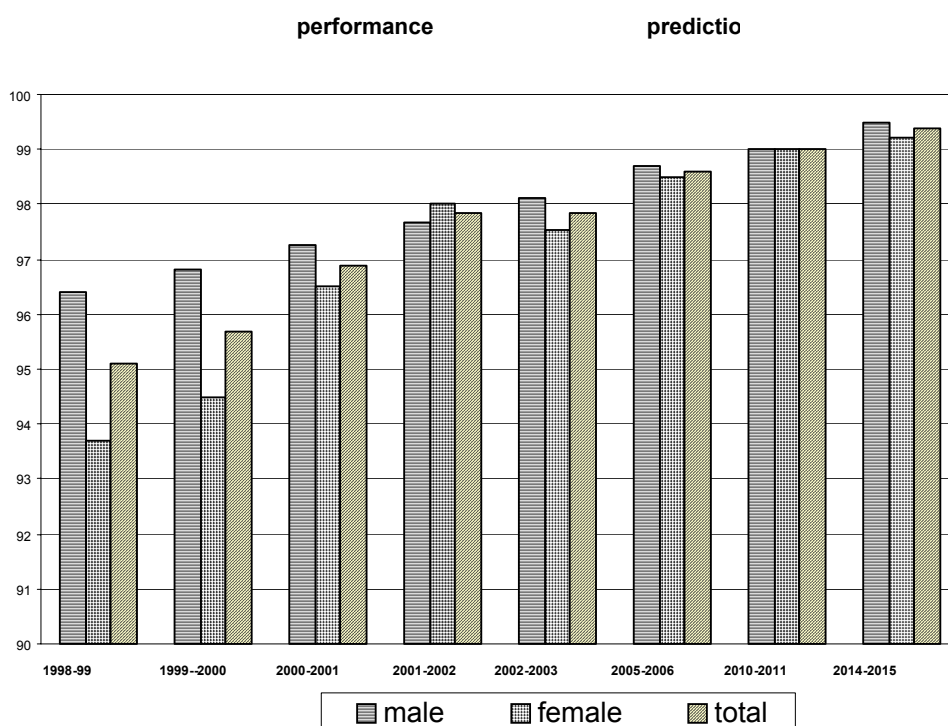
Table 7: The quantitative changes of accessibility: the net rate of six-year-olds in grade one of primary school during the academic years 1998-1999 to 2002-2003.

**Sector: governmental and non-governmental, Area: Urban and rural, Program: EFA**

Gender						Average of the Period			
	98-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03		2005-06	2010-011	2014-015
<b>Boys</b>	96.40	96.80	97.27	97.67	98.12		98.7	99	99.5

	Annual growth rate		0.41	0.49	0.41	0.46	0.59	0.1	0.1	0.1
Girls		93.70	94.50	96.50	98.03	97.54		98.5	99	99.2
	Annual growth rate		0.85	2.12	1.59	-0.50	1.35	0.2	0.1	0.0
Both		95.10	95.70	96.90	97.85	97.83		98.6	99.0	99.4
	Annual growth rate		0.63	1.25	0.98	-0.02	0.95	0.2	0.1	0.1

**Figure 1:** The quantitative changes of accessibility: the net rate of six-year-olds in grade one of primary school during the academic years 1998-1999 to 2002-2003.



**Table 8:** The quantitative changes of internal efficiency index; the rate of students who complete primary school during the academic years 1998-99 to 2001-2002.

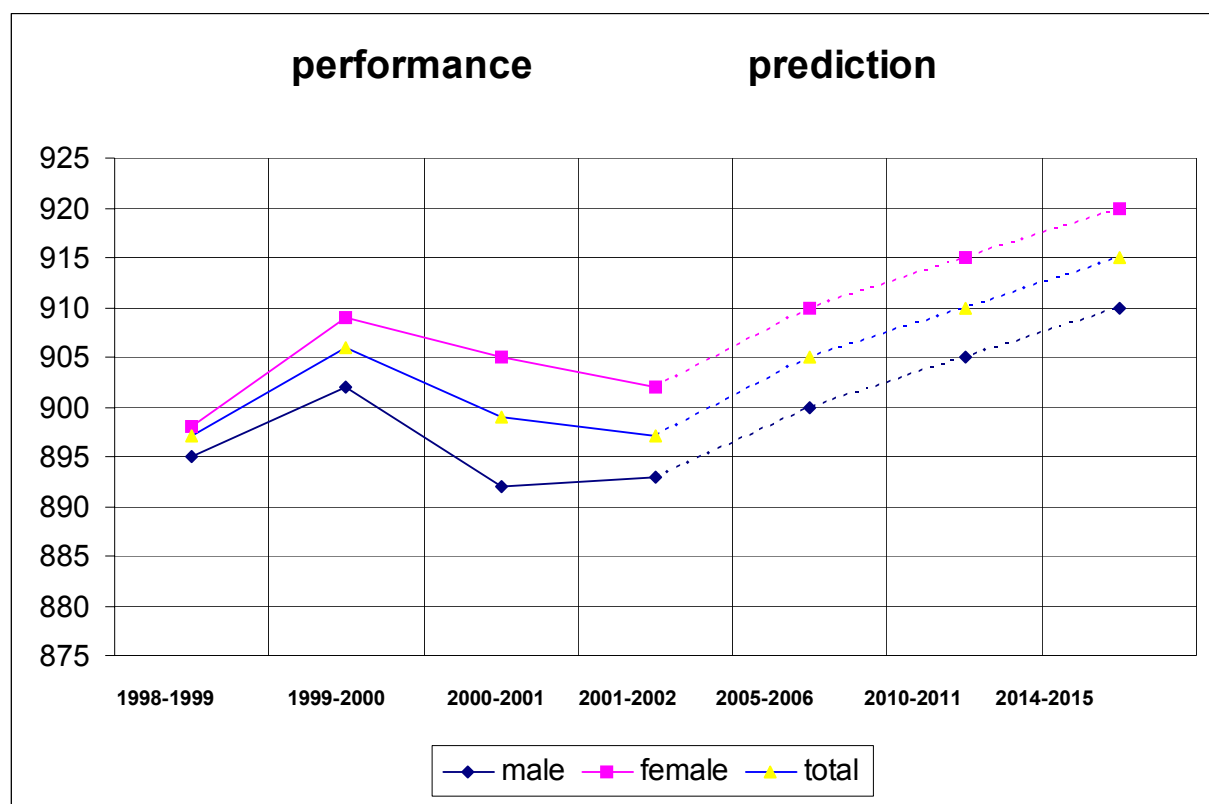
**Sector:** governmental and non-governmental, **Area:** Urban and rural, **Program:** EFA

Academic Year		Performance				Average	Prediction		
		98-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02		2005-06	2010-011	2014-015
Boys	rate	895	902	892	893	896	900	905	910
	Annual growth rate		0.87	-1.14	0.10	-0.06	0.30	0.10	0.10
Girls	rate	898	909	905	902	910	910	915	920

	Annual growth rate		1.18	-0.40	-0.38	0.14	0.20	0.10	0.10
Both	rate	897	906	899	897	900	905	910	915
	Annual growth rate		0.97	-0.75	-0.18	0.1	0.20	0.10	0.10

**Figure 2: The quantitative changes of internal efficiency index; the rate of students who complete primary school during the academic years 1998-99 to 2001-2002.**

**Sector: governmental and non-governmental, Area: Urban and rural, Program: EFA**

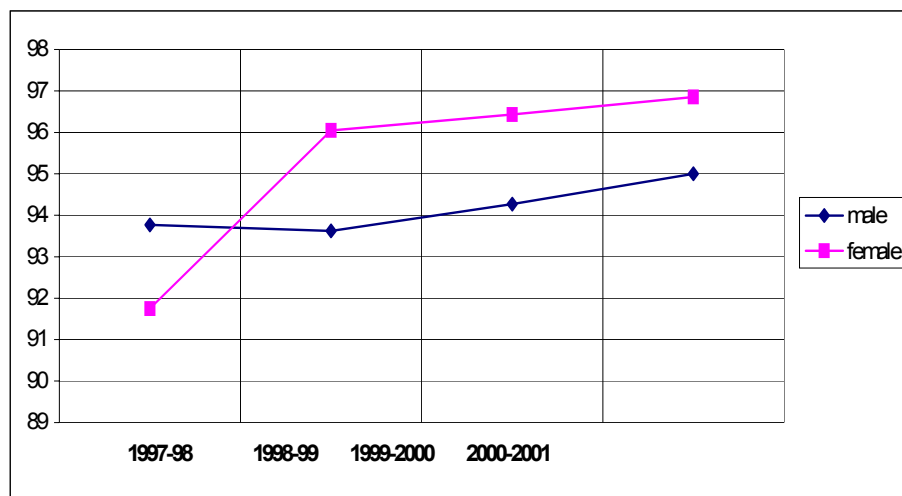


**Table 9: The trend of changes of percentage of primary school students who passed the exams from the academic years 1997-1998 to 2000-2001**

Index	gender	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	Changes
Rate of passing	Male	93.77	93.62	94.27	95	1.23
	Female	91.75	96.05	96.43	96.85	5.10
	Both	86.83	94.77	95.2	95.88	9.05
Efficiency coefficient	Male	0.91	0.89	0.92		-0.91
	Female	0.92	0.91	0.94		-0.92
	Both	0.91	0.90	0.93		-0.91
Ratio of	Male	1.1	1.12	1.08		-1.1

loss	Female	1.1	1.09	1.06		-1.1
	Both	1.1	1.11	1.07		-1.1
Average of study period	Male	5.29	5.3	5.32		-5.29
	Female	5.17	5.17	5.16		-5.17
	Both	5.23	5.24	5.22		-5.23
Total of graduate : on a scale of 1000	Male	931	910	976		-931
	Female	918	904	954		-918
	Both	925	907	961		-925

**Figure 3: The trend of changes of percentage of primary school students who passed the exams from the academic years 1997-1998 to 2000-2001**



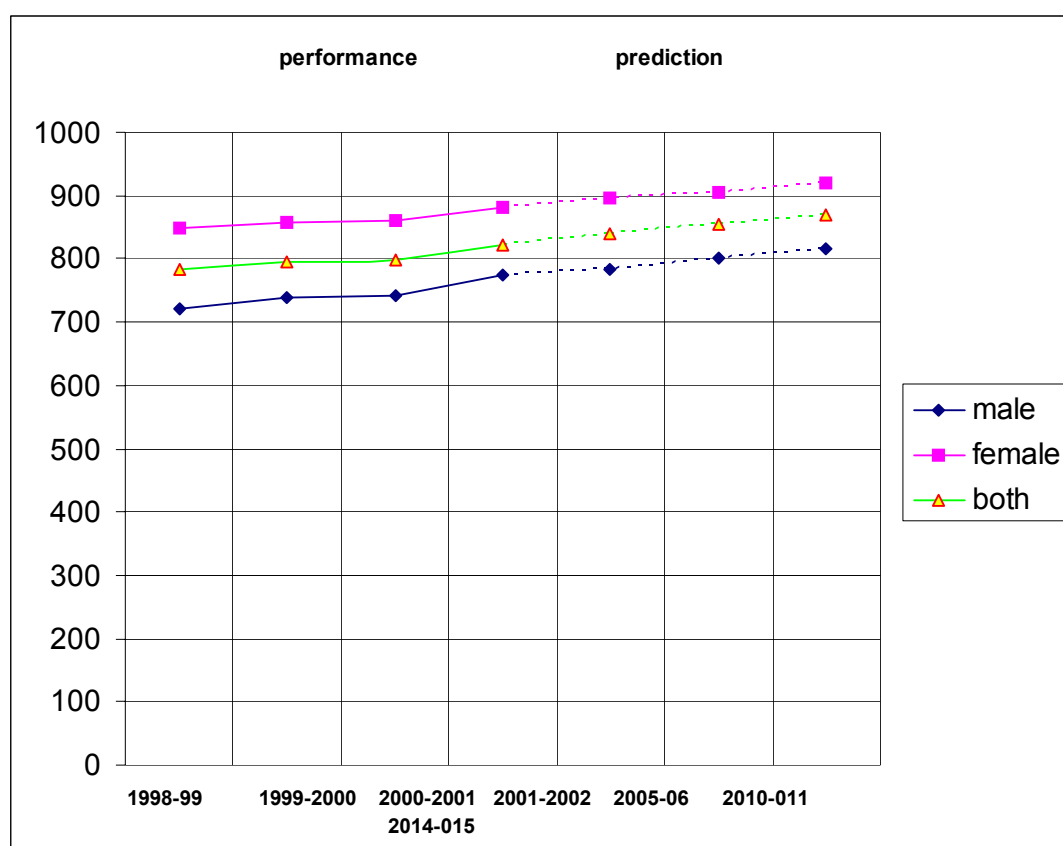
**Table 10: The quantitative changes of internal efficiency index: the rate of students who continue their studies up to the end of guidance school during the academic years from 1998-99 to 2001-02.**

**Sector: governmental and non-governmental, Area: Urban and rural, Program: EFA**

Gender	Academic Year	Performance				Average	prediction		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02		2005-2006	2010-011	2014-015
Boys	Rate	722	739	742	773	744	784	800	815
	Annual growth rate		2.37	0.37	4.20	2.32	0.30	0.40	0.37
Girls	Rate	848	857	861	882	862	895	905	920
	Annual growth rate		1.03	0.42	2.51	1.32	0.29	0.22	0.33
Girls & Boys	Rate	782	795	797	823	799	840	855	870
	Annual growth rate		1.60	0.31	3.29	1.73	0.41	0.35	0.35

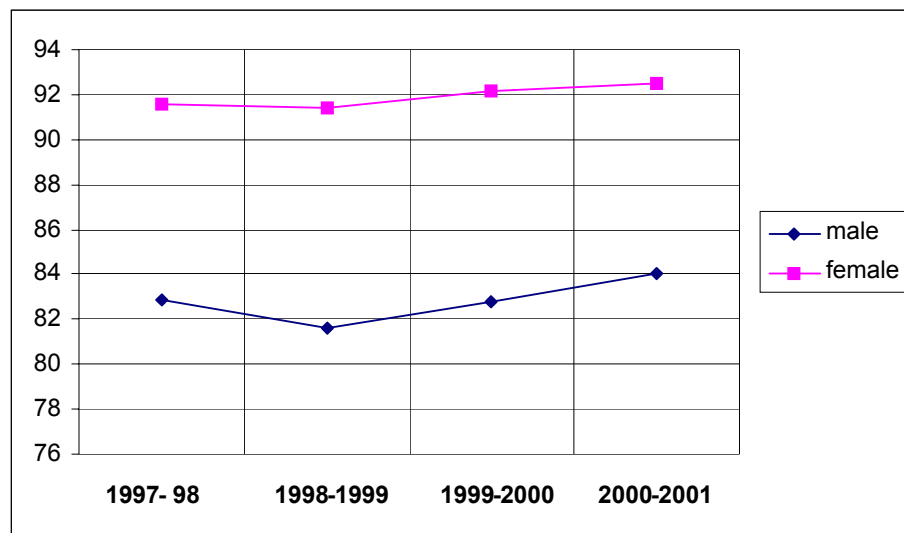
Table 11: the trend of changes of the guidance school students who passed the exams from the academic years 1997-1998 to 2000-2001

Index	Gender	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	changes
Rate of passing	Male	82.83	81.61	82.81	84	1.17
	Female	91.57	91.38	92.17	92.52	0.95
	Both	86.83	86.08	87.07	87.9	1.07
Efficiency coefficient	Male	0.84	0.82	0.84		- 0.84
	Female	0.91	0.9	0.9		- 0.91
	Both	0.88	0.86	0.87		- 0.88
	Male	1.19	1.22	1.2		- 1.19



	Female	1.1	1.11	1.11		- 1.1
	Both	1.14	1.17	1.15		- 1.14
Average of study period	Male	3.37	3.39	3.37		- 3.37
	Female	3.17	3.17	3.15		- 3.17
	Both	3.28	3.29	3.27		- 3.28
Total of graduate : on a scale of 1000	Male	777	752	775		- 777
	Female	872	852	861		- 872
	both	822	799	816		- 822

**Figure 5: the trend of changes of the percentage of guidance school students who passed the exams from the academic years 1997-1998 to 2000-2001**



**Table 12: The trend of changes of ratio of female students to all students, disaggregated by the academic year and levels of study, from 1997-98 through 2001-2002.**

No.	Ratio of female students to total students	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	changes
1	Kindergarten	49	49.7	50	50.3	51.1	2.1
2	Primary school	47.2	47.4	47.5	47.6	47.8	0.6
3	Guidance school	45.5	45.4	45.3	45.3	45.5	0.0
4	Secondary school and pre-university	49.7	50.1	50.5	50.9	52.1	2.4
5	Vocational education	25.79	29	30	31.8	32.0	6.2
6	All courses and levels	47.7	47.9	48.1	48.2	47.9	0.2

**Figure 6: The trend of changes of ratio of female students to all students, disaggregated by the academic year and levels of study, from 1997-98 through 2001-2002.**

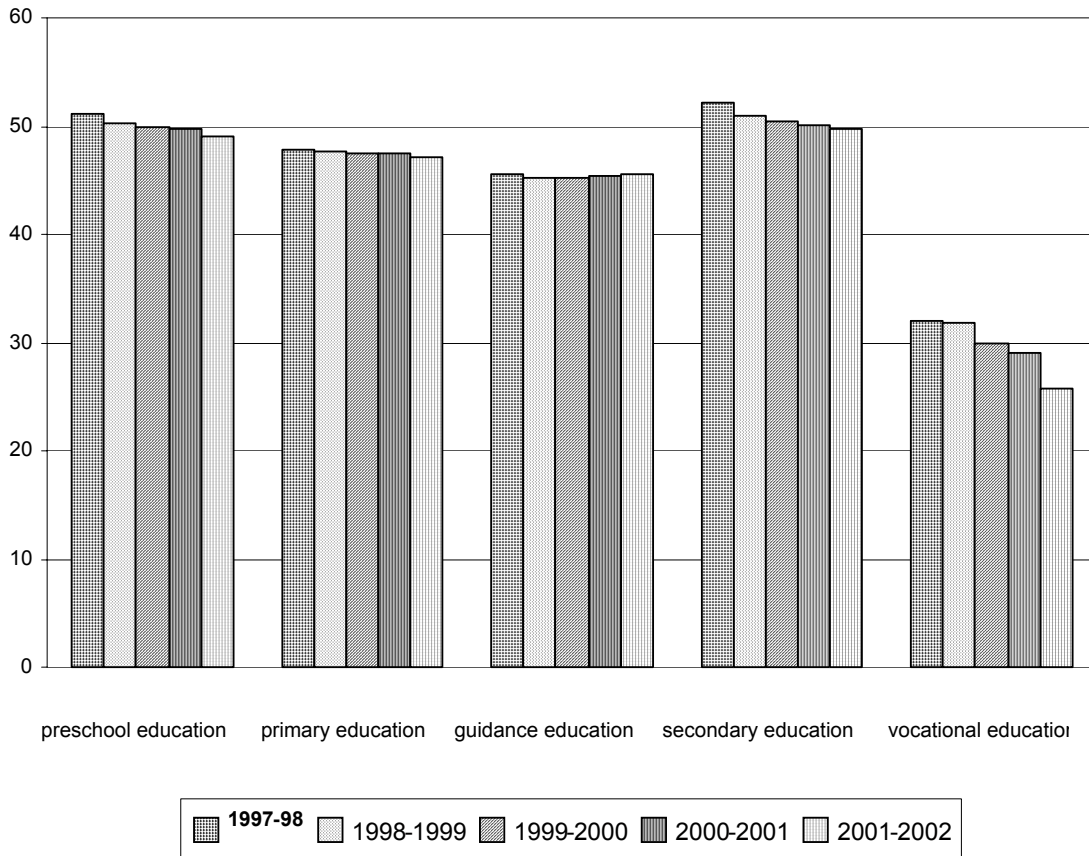


Table 13: The following table displays the educational indices of levels of study during 2001- 2003

Heading	Academic coverage			Ratio of female students to all students			Ratio of private school students to all students		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Pre-schooling %	29	38.2	41	51.1	51.5	51.6	8.2	7.6	7.9
Primary education %	112	119.8	118.8	47.6	47.7	47.9	3.8	4.2	4.7
Guidance education %	97.9	105	108.6	45.3	45.5	46.2	5.3	5.5	5.9
Secondary education* %	67.4	67.8	68.5	49.5	49.7	49.5	6.5	7.9	7.6

\*It includes pre-university, vocational, and knowledge- occupation education.

**5. Please specify the number of children with disabilities for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003, disaggregated by gender and age:**

- g) living with their families**
- h) in institutions;**
- i) attending regular schools**
- j) attending special schools; and**
- k) not attending school.**

The statistics of disabled children and other necessary pertinent information in disaggregation are displayed in the following tables.

Table 14

No	Status of disabled children	2001	2002	2003
1	living with their families	884000	1016600	1169090
2	Under the coverage and living with their families	98000	101000	109999
3	In non-governmental boarding institutions	10000	10000	11000
4	In non-governmental day institutions	18000	20000	22000
5	In state boarding institutions	16000	14000	12000
6	Credit allocations for allowances (1000 Rls)	101.920.000	157.560.000	214.498.050
7	Credit allocations for grants (1000 Rls)	29.058.240	36.322.800	43.587.360
8	Credit allocations for subsidy to non-governmental institutions (1000 Rls)	120.000.000	129.000.000	140.000.000

**Table 15**

Status of disabled students under the coverage of the Welfare Organization				
No	Physically disabled		Mentally disabled	
Gender	female	male	female	male
Number	7041	9541	4778	6489

**6. Please specify the number of children, for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003 (disaggregated by gender, age, type of crime, type of sanction):**

- l) who allegedly committed a crime which was reported to the police;**
- m) who were sentenced by courts to sanction, and the nature of the sanctions imposed (e.g., fines, imprisonment, community service, other);**
- n) number of suspended sentences**
- o) where the sanction is deprivation of liberty, please further specify the period of imprisonment; and**
- p) percentage of recidivism cases.**

No response has been received yet.

**7. Please specify the number of employers for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003:**

- (a) Charged with employing children below the age of 15;**
- (b) Convicted of employing children below the age of 15; and**
- (c) The penalties imposed against the employers so convicted.**

**Please provide an estimation of the number of children under 15 working, including as domestic workers, for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003.**

Section 79-84 of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Labor Code, approved in October 1990, deals with working conditions of young persons and in particular the issue of prohibition of child labor and its pertinent regulations. To ensure the proper execution of rules and regulations pertaining to child labor and the observance of the minimum working age, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, through the General Labor Inspection Department has emphatically instructed all the provincial General offices of Labor and social Affairs the issue of pursuing the effective and rigorous enforcement of the rules. It is noteworthy that Section 172 of Labor Code concerns the offences and penalties of offenders.

Similarly, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has joined the International Labor Organization 1999 Convention (No,182) concerning the elimination of the worst forms of child labor and with regard to section D of the Article 3 of the convention concerned, a list of the types of hazardous jobs for children and its executive guidelines have been approved by the Council of Ministers on 29 May 2004; In addition, the subject of the executive guidelines is on the agenda of general labor inspectors . Nevertheless, owing to the fact that a short time has elapsed since it was approved, neither presentable data on the conviction of employers charged with section 172 of the Labor Code nor any data on the number of working children below the age of 15 exist.

Under of the Article 2 of the executive guidelines of the Council of Minister's Statute, any person who employs children for the harmful jobs is held guilty of a charge and the authorities must nullify the work license of the offender or offenders. After their guilt is

established by competent courts, the offenders shall be subject to three- month term of imprisonment for the first time, and for the second, to a six- month term, and in the event of recurrence, to a term of one year. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Industries and Mines are responsible for executing the above- cited convention. Moreover, the regulation of the Islamic Republic of Iran in respect of the minimum working age and minimum age of occupying hard and harmful jobs are in conformity with the regulations of the Covenant No. 138 as regards the minimum working age approved by the International Labor Organization (ILO). For the information of all those interested, in the follow- up, the executive regulations of hard and harmful jobs, approved by the Council of Ministers and Articles 79- 84 and Article 172 of Labor Code are presented:

The executive regulations of Notes 1 and 2 of the enactment of ratification of Convention on the prohibition of and immediate action for the elimination of worst forms of child labor and the supplementary recommendations:

Article 1: the list of jobs prejudicial to persons below the age of 18 is as follows:

1. Mining occupations, including below or above the ground; occupations in tunnels, corridors and bars of mines;
2. Occupations in covered repositories;
3. Occupations in tanneries; Occupations in connection with removing the gut or entrails;
4. Occupations in sewage canals; occupations in collecting, transporting, and burying the garbage of the cities;
5. Occupations concerning spraying farms, trees, gardens with pesticides; places, barns, poultry houses with insecticides;
6. Scuba- diving;
7. Occupations involving working at a height of more than 5 meters above the ground, on poles, masses, mobile cabins, scaffolds, and skeletons;
8. Occupations incorporating working in tremendously noisy places (above the threshold level);
9. Occupations involved in working on lines and transferring post with a voltage of electricity 63 KV and above;
10. Occupations involved in sandblasting, preparing tarmac by hand and tarmacking, bituminizing;
11. Occupations involving tools with vibrations more than the permissible;
12. Occupations in excavating wells, sewage canals, and underground tunnels;
13. Occupations causing diseases due to persistent exposure to radioactive radiation such as working with radio active substances and ionizing radiations;
14. Construction occupations;
15. Occupations in connection with driving and working with motor- vehicles, heavy or light; agriculture and road- building machines;
16. Occupations involved in metal casting, glass blowing or foundry; transporting molten materials from blazing furnaces; working close to pottery and porcelain furnaces;

- 17.Occupations in harbors, power plants, refineries, petrochemical plants, other oil and gas plants;
- 18.Occupations in rug and carpet, fell and mat weaving workshops; spinning and knitting workshops;
- 19.Occupations in factories producing asbestos, cement and concrete products;
- 20.Occupations in jungles, forestation, and logging and transporting trees;
- 21.Occupation in industrialized stock breeding farms and industrialized slaughter houses;
- 22.Occupations involving explosives and flammable materials;
- 23.Occupations in tarmack factories, stone-cutting factories, and building roads;
- 24.Occupations in connection with purification of water tanks;
- 25.Occupations in ablution places of the deceased; in burying the deceased;
- 26.Occupations in connection with seafaring; working in ship's power plant or in shipbuilding factories
- 27.Occupations involved in plating industries;
- 28.Occupations involved in the operations of hazardous carpentry machines or any hydraulic injection presses and the like;
- 29.Occupations involved in the manufacture of brick (in kilns);
- 30.Occupations involved in the operations of glass wool and related products; transportation and storage of such materials;
- 31.Occupations involved in the operations of insulation, manufacture of bitumen, and bituminizing the roofs and floors;
- 32.Occupations involved in forging, welding, planning and painting;
- 33.Occupations involved in, dismantling, cutting metals and stonemasonry;
- 34.Occupations in hospitals, clinics, asylums for the elderly, radiology centers, and laboratories;
- 35.Occupations in bakeries;
- 36.Occupations in workshops or factories which produces, packages, or stores chemicals and poisons;

Note: If the jobs incorporated in sections 18 and 20 of this Article are occupied so as to help the parents within the child's ability and in traditional and family workshops they are not subject to this Article.

Article 2: Any person who employs children for occupations included in Article 1 of the guidelines shall be to the penalties cited in Article 172 of Labor Code ratified by the Expediency Council in 1990, the offender or offenders, as the offence may be, after their guilt is established in competent courts, shall be referred by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs to the Ministry of Industries and Mines, the Ministry of Agriculture and Construction (Jihad), the Ministry of Health, Care and Medical Education, the Council of Guild Affairs in accordance with guild bylaws and other authorities issuing utilization (exploitation) certificate and business license and the said authorities are bound to cancel the offender's or offenders' license or certificate, considering the terms specified hereunder:

1. In the event of the first offence for a three- month duration ;

2. In the event of the second offence for a six- month duration; and
3. In the event of occurrence, for a one year duration;

## **Labor Code**

### **Division V. Working conditions of young persons**

Sec. 79. It shall be prohibited to employ any person under 15 years of age.

Sec. 80. A worker between 15 and 18 years of age, hereinafter referred to as a "young worker", shall undergo a medical examination by the Social Security Organization prior to commencing employment.

Sec. 81. The medical examination of a young worker shall be repeated at least once a year, and the relevant documents shall be recorded in his service file. The physician shall express an opinion on the suitability of the type of work performed by a young worker according to his abilities. Should he consider the work to be unsuitable, the employer shall, to the greatest possible extent, reassign the worker to another position.

Sec. 82. Daily working time for young workers shall be one half an hour shorter than ordinary hours of work. Arrangements for this purpose shall be made by agreement between the worker and the employer.

Sec. 83. It shall be prohibited to assign overtime work, shift work, or arduous, harmful or dangerous work to young workers or to require them to carry loads heavier than the authorized maximum weight without using mechanical means.

Sec. 84. In occupations and jobs which, on account of their nature or of the conditions in which they are performed, may be prejudicial to the health or morals of trainees or young workers, the minimum working age shall be 18 years. Such cases shall be determined at the discretion of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.

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## **CHAPTER XI. OFFENCES AND PENALTIES**

Sec. 172. In accordance with section 6 of this Code, all forms of forced labor shall be prohibited. Any person who commits an offence on that account shall, with due regard to his situation and means and to the degree of the offence, be subject to a term of imprisonment ranging from 91 days to one year and to a fine of between 50 and 200 times the minimum daily wage, in addition to the payment of fair remuneration for work completed and compensation for damages. Where several persons, jointly or on behalf of an organization, cause a person to perform forced labor, each offender shall be subject to the penalties prescribed above and shall be jointly subject to payment of fair remuneration, unless the person who caused the offence to be committed is superior to an overseer, in which case such person shall be held personally responsible.

**Note.** Where several persons are collectively made to perform forced labor, the offender shall, with due regard to his situation and means and to the degree of the offence, be subject to the maximum penalty provided for in this section in addition to payment of fair remuneration.

**8. Please provide the number of street children in Iran, for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003, including:**

- (d) the ages of the these children;**
- (e) their occupations on the streets; and**
- (f) the number of children who return home in the evenings.**

In respect of this, the age of street Children ranges between 6 and 18 and an average of 12. Their jobs involve various types of vending or peddling (selling chewing gums, cigarettes and flowers), running errands, polishing shoes, begging, cleaning cars' windshields, and sometimes illicit or unlawful jobs (such as drug trafficking and prostitution). It is noteworthy that according to the existing statistics, 90% of such children return home in the evenings.

**9. Please provide the number of refugee children in Iran including:**

- (g) their country of origin; and**
- (h) the number who have access to and avail of education and health care services.**

The subsequent tables incorporate the necessary information on Iraqi and Afghan refugees children who constitute the majority of refugee children in Iran and display the status of their accessibility to education.

The number of Iraqi students in the academic year 2002-03 at different levels of education, disaggregated by sex:

Sex \ Grade	Primary education	Guidance education	Secondary education	Total
Male	6806	3287	1065	11158
Female	5323	2533	1139	8995
Total	12129	5820	2204	20153

The total number of Iraqi refugee students is 20153 and makes up 12.15 percent of all alien students in Iran.

The number of Afghan students at various levels of education in the academic year 2002-2003:

Grade \ Sex	Primary education	Guidance education	Secondary education	Total
Male	49023	20350	5118	74491
Female	47516	17271	6325	71112
Total	96539	37621	11443	145603

## **B. General Measures of Implementation**

1. **The committee would appreciate receiving detailed information on concrete and time bound activities related to recommendations contained in the committee's previous concluding observations (CRC/ C/ 15/Add. 123 of 2 June 2000), which have not been implemented, in particular those related to the definition of the child (part, 20), the right to life (parts, 28 and 30), the right to freedom from discrimination on the grounds of sex (part, 24), and the juvenile justice system (part, 54). Please explain the obstacle to implementation and how the State party envisages overcoming them. Further, the Committee would like to receive comprehensive information on follow-up measures undertaken by the State party to implement previous recommendations made in paragraphs 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 of its previous concluding observations (CRC/ C/ 15/ Add. 123 of 2 June 2000).**
2. **In light of the information provided during the consideration of the last report on a Governmental working group set up to study the compatibility of existing laws with the Convention, please provide information on the outcome of this study and describe what measures, if any, have or are being considered to review the general nature of the reservation, with a view to withdrawing it, as recommended by the Committee in its last concluding observation (CRC/ C/ 15/ Add. 123, part, 7).**

As regards the revision of the general nature of the reservation exercised in ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the Islamic Republic of Iran, with a view to withdrawing it, no decision has been adopted yet.

3. **Please confirm whether the Convention has been invoked by the courts since the Consideration of the previous report, if so, please provided the cases in which it was invoked, the articles invoked and the outcomes of any such cases.**

In accordance with Iran's domestic law, after ratifying or acceding to international conventions, the provisions and premises of the international conventions are binding in the scope of the domestic regulations and laws. Nevertheless, based on the inquiries made into juvenile courts, no cases in which the terms of the convention have been invoked have been viewed.

- 4. Please provide updated information on the status of the revision of the “Comprehensive Child Delinquency law” (part, 202 of the report), which was to be forwarded as a bill for the approval of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. Please provide a copy of this bill/ law. Please also provide a copy of the law which established the juvenile court system. Please provide information on the outcome of the discussions to increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility, referred to in paragraph 202 of the report.**

According to the data obtained from the Judiciary respecting the establishment of the juvenile courts, in October 2003, the pertinent bill was submitted to the President by the Head of the Judiciary and has presently being discussed in the expert meetings of the Council of Ministers.

- 5. Please provide information on the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Convention. Further, please provide additional information on NGOs working with and for children and on their programs and activities and the extent to which the state party collaborates with them.**

As it was already mentioned, in accordance with Iran’s national law, after ratifying or acceding to international conventions, the provisions and articles of the international conventions are binding within the limits of the domestic regulations and laws. By virtue of this, the various commissions of the Islamic Consultative Assembly according to the domain of their obligations and duties take into account the status of the performance of the administrative or executive agencies in order that, in the case of necessity, adopt available instruments including admonition to, question, interpellation of administrative authorities, inquisition or drawing up the essential laws to direct the process of development of the rights of the public including children. Regarding this, the judicial bills are presented by the Judiciary and this Power is in organizational relationship with the government and the parliament through the Minister of Justice. The Islamic Commission on Human Rights as an independent national institution consistently in the course of the progress of human rights takes into consideration the performance of different organs of the government and its domestic monitoring of the observance of human rights incorporates all the organizations and agencies. In line with this, the rights of the child has persistently been one of the agenda of supervising and monitoring the performance of the Powers. In this regard, it deserves to be mentioned that during the year 2003, and from the early 2004, regularly through monthly monitoring reports pertinent to international and domestic monitoring, the pertinent changes have been separately reflected and in various cases, objection to the negative measures of official agencies and institutions and acknowledgement of their positive measures have been expressed. With regard to this, to investigate the cases and instances of the breach of the human rights, the experts of the Office of Legal Affairs and Investigation of the Public Complaints, have investigated cases and instances that continually involve the rights of the child and pertinent issues and have taken proper measures concerned them. It is necessary to mention that the said office receives the cases of violation by various means including the

notification of the victims, the reports of the human rights advocates and / or the reports of domestic supervision offices and then prosecutes them.

However, to setup a mechanism to coordinate the different divisions or organs of the triple Powers, or to shrink the size or to eliminate or to merge some of administrative, executive and judicial existing structures concerning the rights of the child are necessities of the country. Presently, owing to the lack of an organization or institution peculiar to children, practically the coordination and integration of objectives, strategies and executive policies in the framework of annual and intermediate development plans are conducted by the National Management and Planning Organization and in the process of preparing and developing the plan, it is accomplished, examined and evaluated. Regarding this, it is worthy to mention that in order to coordinate and evaluate, the National Management and Planning Organization receives reports from different organizations, and in proportion with their duties, credits are allocated; the respective credits are then taken into consideration in government bills which are presented to the Islamic Consultative Assembly or in the framework of the ratifications of the Council of Ministers in cases where there is no need for the law are executed. The aforementioned organization, in order to supervise the activities and predicted operations through the application of the supervision obligations and preparing reports on the evaluation of performance recognizes the deviation cases from the predicted operations. After investigating and examining the factors which cause the above- mentioned deviation, the appropriate measure is taken in collaboration with the executive agency concerned to eradicate the causes of deviation. It is worthy to mention that the Management and Planning Organization predicts the necessary expedients to raise awareness and enforce the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in order that the national and provincial executive agencies whose duties or operations somehow concern the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in the framework of the above- cited system of monitoring, evaluation and controlling cooperate with the said organization in conducting essential supervision.

Within the domain of the Judiciary, according to the current judicial and Juridical laws and rules, all judicial and law courts are bound to observe the pertinent rules and laws.

In respect of active non- government organizations in the field of children, it deserves to be mentioned that numerous organizations, agencies, charity institutes and associations and societies have been registered which some of them deal exclusively with the issue of street children and some others are indirectly active and involved in planning and taking steps to organize and attend street children. Among activities conducted by these social agencies, the following are worthy to mention:

- Setting up Hot- Line;
- Providing shelter;
- Supplying financial aid;
- Conducting studies and research;
- Taking preventive measures;
- Establishing information bank;
- Creating sensitivity among the public and the authorities through holding seminars, conferences, panels, screening movies, feature films, serials and publishing articles and news in press;

- Offering counseling services to children and their families;
- Taking in international aid;
- Offering domestic aid and training the life skills to the target group and .....

It is noteworthy to mention that about 30 active non-governmental organizations in this field have been identified thus far.

The names of some of the active non- governmental organizations in the field of children are as follows:

- the Institute of Cultural Development of Children
- The Children's Institute of Khorshid Hegmatatna
- The society of the Protection of the Rights of the Child
- The Institute of Prevention of Child and Adolescent Sexual Abuse
- The Research Institution of Children of the World
- The Council of the Child's Book
- The Community of Defense of Labor and Street Children
- The National Society of the Rights of the Child
- The Institute of Today's Mothers (Madaran Emrooz)
- The Pooya Society
- The Society of Private Kindergarten's Executives
- The Tavan Yab Society of Protection of the Child
- The Cultural, Research and Educational Institute of Roshdia
- The Institute of Training Children
- The Association of Education and Promotion of Family Hygiene
- The Society of Authors for Children and Adolescents
- The Society of Hamyaran Ghada

In addition, part of the activities performed by the following societies pertains to children:

- The Center for Family Planning
- Zainaba Kobra Association
- The Charity Society of Rahmatol Lah Lelalamin
- The Touhid Association

**6. Please provide information on the establishment of a national institution on the rights of the child, including the status of a draft law on the establishment of such an institution, apparently drafted as part of a project by the UNESCO Chair for Human Rights Peace & Democracy. Please provide any other information at the disposal of the State party on the setting up of a permanent & independent mechanism with the mandate to monitor and evaluate the progress of the implementation of the Convention.**

In view of the vastness and diversity of the subjects relating to children, which has naturally encompassed many local bodies and organizations, as well as in respect of the final observations of “the Committee on the Rights of the Child” (CRC/ C/15/ Add.123), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the UNICEF Office in Tehran concluded that establishing coordination among active organizations in the field of the rights of the child and pursuing the goals for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its supervision at a national level requires setting up a centralized mechanism. In line with this and with the aim of pursuing the Convention of the Rights of the Child, The UNICEF Office in Tehran in the year 2002 with the approval of the General Department of International Jurisdiction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, initiated a project entitled ‘The Evaluation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.’ On the basis of formulated program, one of the major goals of the above-mentioned project is to protect the establishment of “National Committee on the Rights of the Child” in Iran. Considering the necessity of essential coordination with regard to discussing about and investigating the setting up “The National Authority of the Rights of the Child” a working group composed of specialist and individuals acquainted with the subject was formed. From another standpoint, given the specified goals and the requirement of exploiting the international experiences, with the collaboration of the UNICEF on this occasion, a visit to a developed country as well as a developing country was taken into consideration. The first phase of this program was the visit paid to South Africa in 2002 by “the Working Group of the National Authority of the Rights of the Child”. The second phase of the said program was the visit of the working group to the structure of the rights of the child in Norway which occurred in June, 2004. During these trips, various meetings were held as well as visits to centers concerned in order to reap the most benefits of the opportunity in the least time.

As another point of view, according to the opinions of the said working group and the agreements concluded between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of UNICEF in Tehran, conducting a research project on the subject was taken into account and The UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy was selected to carry out the project in order to not only make use of the findings of the research project and the experiences obtained from the examining the structure of the rights of the child in the two said states but also the essential strategy on this occasion is conceived.

The UNESCO Chair of Human Rights, Peace and Democracy admitted to the fact that to materialize the provisions of the Convention of the Rights of the Child requires the establishment of the national institution of the protection of the rights of the child; furthermore, the necessity of a specialized institution to design strategic plans and to coordinate the necessary activities for the protection of the rights of the child from different perspectives including participating in developing bills and proposals for the purpose of preparing lawful rudiments of the protection of the rights of the child and to compensate for the lawful inadequacies and void from the current laws and their effective supervision was accentuated. Taking into account the above- cited circumstances and due to the lack of a national institution of the protection of the rights of the child in the country, the followings as research question were formulated:

Pivotal questions:

1. Is it essential to establish a national institution on the protection of the right of the child in Iran?
2. If the response to the above question is affirmative, what are the characteristics of such an institution?

Subordinate questions:

1. How should legally the document of this institution be drawn up (that is, laws, statutes, guideline, .....?)
2. Should the institution be founded independently from other Powers or under the supervision of a Power or more?
3. What composition should the institution take?
4. How can the sovereignty of such an institution be guaranteed?
5. What should the major duties and authorities of the institution be?
6. What should be the nature and status of the decisions and measures of the institution in order to achieve the objectives of its establishment? (binding, consultative or recommendatory)?
7. Can the institution fulfill any role in the judicial prosecutions in status quo? If there is a need, what guidelines and mechanisms can be suggested for it?
8. What relationships should the institution establish with other pertinent agencies or organs? (Whether domestic or international; governmental or non- governmental)?
9. How should the financial sources of the institution be supplied?

Considering the two pivotal questions mentioned above and other subsidiary questions the project was designed in two segments: ‘the necessity of the establishment of the institution of the protection of the rights of the child and ‘its Characteristics’. The responses to these fundamental questions served as the pivot of conducting theoretical, international, collateral and domestic research and in conclusion the development of executive strategies in the frame work of “a draft law on the establishment of the institution of the protection of the rights of the child”. The draft can be forwarded to the Islamic Consultative Assembly as a bill afterwards it will have been examined by respective ministries and organizations. For the information of all those interested, the aforementioned draft written in English is appended.

**7. Please explain the measures taken and their effectiveness with respect to the State party’s public awareness campaigns of the Convention, particularly for professionals working for and with Children (e.g., of Government officials, community- based organizations, religious leaders, the mass media), and the public- at-large, including Children themselves.**

In this regard, the Center for Studies of Human Rights of the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences affiliated to the University of Tehran has performed the following activities:

1. The instruction of the Convention of the Rights of the Child in the course of world mechanisms of the protection of the human rights at master of arts level in human rights (graduate level in Human Rights);
2. Attention to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the lesson entitled 'the Instruction of the human rights' at graduate level in Human Rights;
3. The examination of Iran's membership in the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the lesson named "Iran and International organizations" at graduate level in international relations course.

The aforementioned are the most distinctive activities of the Center for the Studies of Human Rights from the year 2000 onwards after the initial report of the Islamic Republic of Iran was examined in the Committee on the Rights of the Child; otherwise, the Center has taken into account information dissemination in respect of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It is necessary to mention that in the years 1999 and 2000, two educational workshops on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child were conducted in Iran in the framework of the project of strengthening the capacities of the human rights education and research (phase one). The reports of these workshops are published in limited quantities and in the case of need are available to researchers.

Similarly, it is worth mentioning that the Society of the Protection of the Rights of the child as an active non- governmental organization has adopted as one of its major goals, the expansion, education and effort to accomplish the articles of the Convention and in pursuit of this has held educational workshops for diverse individuals, particularly for those groups dealing with children. This committee commenced its working from the early 2001 and thus far has conducted 50 educational workshops. The addressees of these workshops were comprised of the trainers and directors of the kindergartens, teachers, counselors, and principals of the primary schools, guidance schools, high schools, the staff of the Welfare Organization, a limited number of physicians working for Iran's Radio and Television Organization (IRIB), housewives, and parents of students of several high schools, guidance schools in Tehran, Arak, Qom, Saveh, Damghan, Garmsar, Damavand, Semnan, Shahreyar, Gorgan, Share Ray, Shahrood, Bam and Qalae Hasan Khan in Karaj.

The addressees consisted of nearly 4000, 71% female and 29% male. 48.5% of them were holding a bachelor degree, 19.7%, master degree, 19.5% associate degree and university students, 10% a diploma and a few, a degree below diploma. Conducting these workshops not only were of educational respect but also brought about desirable and considerable results which were derived from examining the view points of addressees who in a manner deal with children.

The question which were directed to the addresses include:

A: How do you analyze and assess the difficulties and factors which inhibit the expansion, accomplishment and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child?

The opinions are as follows:

1. The economic problems and inadequacies of families (85%);
2. The shortfall of rules as well as not strictly enforcing existing laws;
3. The ignorance of parents, particularly perceptions and attitudes of some children's parents; this section incorporates the following items:
  - a. The unawareness of parents of child of child development phases;
  - b. The perception and attitude of some parents who view the child as an object and consider themselves as the owner;
  - c. The ignorance of parents about genetic difficulties and their giving birth to ill and disabled children;
  - d. The addiction of parents and oppressing the rights of the child;

Fortunately, to overcome the obstacles impeding the full implementation of the Convention on the Right of the Child in the society, this group proposed various solutions which indicate their positive and promising standpoints:

1. To disseminate information through Iran's Radio and Television Organization (IRIB) (62%);
2. To rigorously combat economic problems, poverty and unemployment in the society to allow of the implementation of the articles of the Convention (34%);
3. To disseminate information through newspapers (10%);
4. To incorporate the articles of the Convention in textbooks of guidance school and high school as well as instruct them the same as other materials and courses and test students on them (22%);
5. To compel the newly- married couples before conception or before marriage to attend several workshops pertaining to duties and responsibilities of parents and to familiarize them with the articles of the Convention and the fact that to what extent the knowledge of these points can be effective in helping them train healthy and successful children (21%);
6. To rigorously monitor and prosecute by the Judiciary cases of the violations of the articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in families, schools, care centers of children (healthy and /or disabled), and in the whole society and to prevent the rights of the child from being oppressed through exploiting its executive power (19%);
7. To incorporate the provisions (articles) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into domestic laws and rules of the country so that its observance holds an executive guarantee (8%);
8. To disseminate information in order to eliminate erroneous traditions and illusions as well as attitudes which debilitate the rights of the child and unfortunately from time to time again in some parts of the country are still practiced these illusions (3%);

B. What kind of treatments do you conceive of as child abuse in your workplace?

1. Corporal punishment
2. Frightening the child
3. Discrimination
4. Ridicule
5. Degradation/ contempt
6. Neglect of physical, psychological and emotional needs of the child
7. Inquisition and inspecting their schoolbags without their consent

It deserves to be mentioned that in line with the educational programs of the Islamic Commission on Human Rights in the year 2004, the education of the rights of the child for adults, parents, guardians, and organization concerned with the implementation of the rights of the child and officials involved, social workers and the directors of the rehabilitation centers has been taken into consideration; thus far, in the educational courses which have been held from the beginning of the current year, whether in Tehran or in other provinces, in a course entitled ‘review of Iran’s international commitments regarding human rights’ the aforementioned commitments stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of the child was presented. According to the determined plans, from the second half of the current year, various programs will be launched in Tehran and other provinces.

On this Occasion, the following activities have been carried out by the welfare Organization:

1. Designing and holding a conference on ‘The Rights of the Child and non-governmental Institutions’ with the cooperation of non- governmental organizations in 2002 and 2003.
2. Developing the plan to follow up on the rights of the child in the year 2001 with the goal of promoting the community’s awareness and officials involved in the children affairs about the rights of the child;

In line with this, the following measures have been taken:

- a. Holding two workshop courses in order to train instructors for the right of the child education in collaboration with the UNICEF. ‘The preliminary and supplementary course of these Courses were held in presence of experts responsible for children’s affairs of the provincial welfare organizations.
- b. Conducting a workshop on the rights of the child in 12 provinces of the country attended by 1475. The statistics of educational workshops conducted by the welfare Organization at five levels in the year 2002 are as follows:

No of courses	No of provinces	Experts	Headmasters	Trainers	Parents	Children	Total
83	22	232	1573	1573	6161	25410	34534

In this regard the UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy (Shahid Beheshti University) has also conducted the following activities:

- Holding a specific course in instructing the rights of the child for 30 graduate students of human rights and common law;
- Interviewing the state authorities and journalists about the status of the observance of the rights of the child in Iran;
- Holding “Islam, Christianity, Marriage and Death” Conference (pertaining to children) in collaboration with Birmingham University, England;
- Dispatching four students to the International Institute of the Human Rights in Strasburg and with emphasis on paying special attention to the rights of the child during the educational course;

**8. Please describe any ongoing human rights training and education activities for professionals, especially those working for and with children.**

Regarding this, it is worth mentioning that in July, 2004, the educational workshop was held for the judges for the Special Juvenile’s Courts in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the College of Juridical Sciences and Administrative Services affiliated with the Judiciary; during this three- day course, the judges were instructed in this respect. Furthermore, in November, 2000, a number of educational workshops for the judges for the Special Juvenile’s Courts in cooperation with UNICEF and for the purpose of promoting the level of the rights of the child and protecting the child at all stages of the procedures in different cities of the country (Tehran, Esfehan, Ardail) were conducted.

Moreover, in March 2000, to examine and analyze the works and new verdicts of the Special Courts for Children, a conference was held by the College of Juridical Sciences and Administrative services and in cooperation with the Prisons Organization. Likewise, regarding substitute penalties for imprisonment thus far several conferences and workshops have been conducted by the Judiciary system in collaboration with UNICEF to train judges and to guarantee the rights of the child and the least deprivation of the child of freedom. As it was already mentioned in the Delinquent Children’s Court law, it has been stipulated that the 15- 18 juveniles who committed an offence calling for legal penalties of life imprisonment or capital punishment shall be sentenced to serve 2 to 8 years in the rehabilitation and correction centers.

It deserves to be mentioned that in the academic year 2003, similarly a project entitled ‘the education of human rights at schools’ was initiated by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, aiming at incorporating the contents human rights into the school curriculum and instructing them.

In this regard, the UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy has equally conducted the following activities:

- Translation of international documents of human rights;
- Translation of collection of regional documents of human rights;
- Translation of booklets of United Nation High Commissioner for Human Rights (No. 2, 4, 10, 17, 22);

- Establishing human rights course at graduate level;
- Holding a panel called 'Investigation of Judicial Aspects of Acceding to Convention against Torture' in collaboration with Denmark Institute of Human Rights in the summer 2003;
- Holding the International and Interdisciplinary Conference on 'Identity, Cultural Diversity and Human Rights', October 2003.
- Holding the educational workshop 'Human Rights and Prisons' in cooperation with the Prisons Organization, in March 2004.
- Delivering the lecture 'the Family Rights and Human Rights in France' in May 2004;
- Holding the Seminar of Education of Human Rights, in June 2004
- Collaborating in the national workshop on the education of living morals (human rights and living morals) February 2003 and its final resolution, the agenda of the International Declaration of Human Genetic Data approved in thirty second general conference of UNESCO.

**9. Please indicate the issues affecting Children that the State party considers to be priorities requiring the most urgent attention with regard to the implementation of the Convention.**

From the viewpoint of some organs involved, the followings are among the priorities requiring serious attention, respecting the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child:

- Offering, educational, cultural, and teaching- learning services to children and Supplying subsidy for children of families below the standard of living and subject to injury;
- Expanding quantitatively and qualitatively teaching- learning services to children;
- Sustaining the education of the contents of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at various levels nationwide;
- Extending cultural and training services to children and adolescents of vulnerable areas;
- Expanding counseling services to children and their families;
- Developing quantitatively and qualitatively the childcare in families, with relatives and /or with volunteers;
- Maintaining and promoting the service standards particularly in three domains of care as conducted under family, foster family, pseudo- family, and children and adolescents care institutes;
- Reducing the size and upgrading the standard of boarding centers (reducing the number of children in governmental and non- governmental centers to 10);
- Developing non- governmental sector involved in childcare;
- Developing quantitatively and qualitatively adoption in its lawful form and offering comprehensive counseling services relating to adoption;

- Establishing governmental centers for children at all stages, and for girls and boys in every province;
- Standardizing particularly in the area of human resources and education;
- Promoting the quality of various services of social and psychological work to children;
- Formulating the comprehensive system of reintegration and eliminating the discrimination against disabled children;
- Creating sensitivity and proper grounds in the society particularly among authorities and officials.

The priorities devised regarding street children are listed below:

- A. Attracting and gathering, identifying and appropriately substituting street children in order to prevent them from possible and /or certain damages of living on streets;
- B. Supplying the basic living facilities (shelter, food, hygiene and recreation);
- C. Discovering their talents;
- D. Providing them with facilities for education and for occupation;
- E. Protecting their families (job placement, granting loans and mortgage);

## **Part II**

**Please provide the Committee with copies of the text of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in all official languages of the State party as well as in other languages or dialects spoken, when available. If possible, please submit these texts in electronic form.**

It is worth mentioning that the Convention on the Rights of the Child has been translated by Center for Human Rights Studies affiliated to the University of Tehran and was published in a book entitled 'The Selection of the chief international documents of human rights' in 2003. The text of the convention translated into Persian (Farsi) and its floppy diskette is enclosed with the report.

## **Part III**

**Under this section, the State party is to briefly (3 pages maximum) up-date the information provided in its report with regard to new:**

- **Bills or enacted legislation;**
- **Institutions;**
- **Implemented policies; and**
- **Implemented programs and projects, and their scope.**

In response to the above question, the followings deserve to be mentioned:

**Bills or enacted legislation:**

A. The law of the protection of children and adolescents. This statute was approved by the Islamic consultative Assembly in the open sitting on Monday, 16 December 2002 and on 1 January 2003 was passed by the Guardian Council.

The articles of the aforementioned statute are as follows:

Article 1- Any person who have attained the age of 18 under solar calendar are under lawful protection of this law.

Article 2- Any kind of child or adolescent abuse which causes physical, emotional and moral damage to him or her and jeopardize his or her physical or psychological health is forbidden.

Article 3- Any kind of child sale and purchase, exploitation and abuse for the purposes of unlawful practices including drug trafficking is forbidden and the offender, as the offence may be, in addition to remedy the injury, shall be subject to a term of imprisonment ranging from six months to one year or the cash penalty ranging from Rls ten million (10,000,000) to Rls twenty million (20,000,000).

Article 4- Any form of injury, violence, physical or psychological torture against the child, intentional negligent treatment of the child's physical and psychological health and hygiene as well as deprivation of his/ her education is banned and the offender shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment ranging from three months and one day to six month and / or to the cash penalty of Rls ten million (10,000,000).

Article 5- Child abuse is one of the common offences and does not require the complaint of a private plaintiff.

Article 6- Any person involved and institutes of and centers for child care and supervision are bound to notify any cases of child abuse just as it is observed to the competent juridical authorities to prosecute the offender and adopt the proper measure. Any violation of this duty shall bring up the imprisonment up to six months or cash penalty up to Rls five million (5,000,000).

Article 7: The correction measures under Article 59 of the Islamic Penal code approved on 29 October 1991 and Article 1179 the of civil code passed on 8 April 1935 are exceptions to the law.

Article 8. If the offences specified by this law are under other articles or under other laws, other prescribed penalties or severe penalties are meted out for them, as the case may be, the prescribed penalty or harsher penalty will be imposed.

Article 9: From the date this law was approved, any rules and regulations that contradict it, will be null and void.

- B. The amendment of Article 1041 of Civil Code: The marriage of a girl who has not reached the age of 13 on solar calendar and the marriage of a boy who has not attained the age of 15 on solar calendar is dependent on the permission of her/ his father and under the provision of interest, on the permission issued by the competent court.( amended by The Expediency council on 22 June 2002)
- C. The amendment of Article 1168 of Civil Code: If the parents of the child do not live in the same house, the mother has preference over others for seven years from birth of her child for the custody of the child and after the lapse of this period custody will devolve on the father. After the lapse of seven years of age, in the case of any dispute, the court can take any decision to the best interest of the child for the custody of the child. (amended by The Expediency council on 30 November 2003)
- D. The approval of the tenth sitting of the Social Council of the Country on 8 May 2002 respecting organizing street children.
- E. The notification issued by the Social Council of the Country on June 2002 to the organs involved in enforcing the project of organizing street children.

### **New Institutions**

With regard to new institutions, it is worthy to be mentioned the issue of an order to establish the Office of the Protection of the Rights of Women and Children in the Judiciary and other offices under the supervision of the head of justice department in every province which prosecutes the cases of offending women, children and adolescents. These offices attempt to protect and investigate the cases of the aforementioned and also promote the qualitative education of the judges for the Special Courts of the Child.

## **Implemented Policies**

- Expanding the kindergartens quantitatively and qualitatively;
- Illuminating the public opinion regarding particular attention to children's needs;
- Upgrading the scientific level of the officials involved in children's affairs, including experts, directors, trainers and families;
- Pursuing the attainment of the rights of the child and conducting educational workshops at five levels in provinces of the country;
- Organizing cultural and training services to children and adolescents of vulnerable areas of megacities;
- Organizing Counseling services to children and their families in vulnerable areas;
- Developing the care under family program in lieu of under boarding centers
- Developing the standards of children houses as a temporary safe house and an environment resembling their own home and family;
- Reducing the average period of children's residing at children and adolescents houses;
- Reinforcing the resources and empowering human resources in governmental and non- governmental sectors;
- Enforcing the rules pertaining to adoption, admission to and release through the Welfare Organization;
- Strengthening the preventive policies;

## **Implemented programs and projects and their scope**

- Implementing the project of women's comprehensive Judicial and juridical system in order to examine the discriminatory rules against women and offering reformist proposals in various domains of civil (family), penal, constitutional, employment laws and rules through the Center for women's Participation Affairs;
- Carrying out a project to instruct law to girl students in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Center for women's Participation Affairs; As of October 2004, this project will be offered to adolescents at high schools as the education of law as an optional course;
- Cooperation of the Center for Women's Participation Affairs with the Ministry of Education to perform the project of attracting girls deprived of education. It is necessary to mention the budget bills in recent years has attended and focused on girls' education. In line with this, attentions have been paid to boarding schools particularly for girls;
- Carrying out an enterprise to protect victims of domestic violence and to found a national committee on the elimination of violence against women. With respect to this it is noteworthy that the Center for Women's Participation Affairs conducted some research in association with the Ministry of the Interior with regard to ensuring the psychological and emotional security of families, and maintaining the dignity of women;

- Founding aid and counseling institutes for children and adolescents released from the Welfare Organization;
- Insuring the children without guardian(s) in order to secure their future ( education, job, marriage, and, ....);
- Establishing houses for children and adolescents suffering from emotional-behavioral problems;
- Organizing the protection of disabled children without guardian
- Offering programs for caring children of prisoners;
- Reducing the size and organizing the governmental and non- governmental boarding centers to at most 20 persons;
- Setting up a telephone help line to receive comments and suggestions of children and adolescents placed with pseudo- families and boarding centers;
- Identifying and protecting orphans within families in order to strengthen the unit of family and preventing them from entering into children and adolescents houses;
- Paying subsidy to non- governmental centers to expend on the care of children without guardians and expanding these centers;

The most recent project of the Office of the Socially Abused of the Welfare Organization is the one to protect labor children with the general objective of preventing the children from entering into streets. This project was designed in October 2003 and its short- term objectives are:

- Protecting street children;
- Reducing probable injuries to labor children;
- Promoting the physical and psychological health of labor children;

In the framework of research and study activities and enterprises, the followings have been conducted by the Office of Social Affairs of the Ministry of the Interior:

A. Research and studies:

- Examining the state of street children;
- Investigating the quality/ standard of services offered in centers for caring street children;
- Proposing a research project to enumerate street children;
- Carrying out a descriptive survey of the social and economic status of street children and recognizing the influential factors in their labor;

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B. Executive projects

- Devising and developing a national project to organize street children;
- Conducting educational workshops in order to pool thoughts for labor children;
- Strengthening non- governmental organizations involved in children affairs;
- Founding the provincial headquarters to organize street children;
- Going on a research expeditions;
- Cooperating in developing the five- year plan of UNICEF;