

**COMMITTEE ON THE
RIGHTS OF THE CHILD**

WRITTEN REPLIES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA CONCERNING THE LIST OF ISSUES (CRC/C/Q/NGA/2) RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD RELATING TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE SECOND PERIODIC REPORT OF NIGERIA (CRC/C/70/Add.24).

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CRC/C/RESP/72

Federal Republic of Nigeria

Responses To Issues on the First Periodic Report to be Taken Up in Connection with the
Consideration of the Second Periodic Country Report

On the Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

PART I

A. DATA AND STATISTICS, IF AVAILABLE

- 1 Please provide disaggregated data (by gender, age groups, ethnic groups, administrative states, urban and rural areas) for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 on the number and proportion of children (under 18) living in Nigeria.

Projected Population of Children By Age Group and Sex 2001-2003

Table 1.1

Age Group	2001		
	Male	Female	Total
0 - 5	12,535,367	12,116,333	24,651,700
6 - 11	9,958,071	9,608,987	19,567,058
12 - 17	7,947,811	7,910,719	15,858,530
All Under 18	30,441,249	29,636,039	60,077,288

Table 1.2

Age Group	2002		
	Male	Female	Total
0 - 5	12,889,812	12,483,751	25,373,563
6 - 11	10,302,054	9,895,082	20,197,136
12 - 17	8,239,687	8,198,159	16,437,846
All Under 18	31,431,553	30,576,992	62,008,545

Table 1.3

Age Group	2003		
	Male	Female	Total
0 - 5	13,225,250	12,810,996	26,036,246
6 - 11	10,645,900	10,203,537	20,849,437
12 - 17	8,537,306	8,466,589	17,003,895
All Under 18	32,408,456	31,481,122	63,889,578

Table 1.4

Age Group	2001		
	Rural	Urban	Total
0 - 5	15,703,133	8,948,567	24,651,700
6 - 11	12,464,216	7,102,842	19,567,058
12 - 17	10,101,884	5,756,646	15,858,530
All Under 18	38,269,232	21,808,056	60,077,288

Projected Population of Children By Age Group and Location

Table 1.5

Age Group	2002		
	Rural	Urban	Total
0 - 5	16,162,960	9,210,603	25,373,563
6 - 11	12,865,576	7,331,560	20,197,136
12 - 17	10,470,908	5,966,938	16,437,846
All Under 18	39,499,443	22,509,102	62,008,545

Table 1.6

Age Group	2003		
	Rural	Urban	Total
0 - 5	16,585,089	9,451,157	26,036,246
6 - 11	13,281,091	7,568,346	20,849,437
12 - 17	10,831,481	6,172,414	17,003,895
All Under 18	40,697,661	23,191,917	63,889,578

Source: NPopC, National Population Projection 2002

The population of children under 18 constitutes more than half (50.6%) of the total population of Nigeria. The population is almost equally distributed between both sexes, with a slightly higher percentage (51.1%) being male children, across the three age groups of 0-5, 6-11 and 12 – 17 years.

The distribution of children in the three age groups shows the following proportions:

0 – 5	41%
6 – 11	33%
12 – 17	26%

The pattern of the children populations is the same for the three years in focus: - 2001, 2002 and 2003.

2 In light of Article 4 of the Convention, please provide additional disaggregated data for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004, on budget allocations and trends (in absolute figures and percentages of the national and regional budgets or GDP) allocated to the implementation of the Convention for the following areas:

- a) **education (different types of education, i.e. pre-primary, primary and secondary education);**
- b) **health care (different types of health services, i.e. primary health care, vaccination programmes, adolescent health care and other health care services for children);**

Table 1:2.1 Federal Government Budgetary Allocation in the areas of Child Development, Education and Health Sectors, 2002-2005

A. Recurrent Expenditure

	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
Federal Ministry of Women Affairs					
Care for the Minor National Model Child Development Centre	5,376,800	3,226,080	52,500,000		61,102,880
					0

A. Recurrent Expenditure

	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
Establishment of Crèche (Work-Place-Nursery) II					0
Implementation of Beijing Declaration on the Girl Child					0
Child Department with UNICEF Development of Children's Library in Abuja					0
Federal Ministry of Education					0
Unity Schools and F.S.T Colleges	5,020,248,150	61,149,960,030	8,798,843,615		74,969,051,795
Unity Schools and F.S.T Colleges Meal Subsidy	1,211,624,000	1,217,624,000	2,600,000,000	2,997,000,000	8,026,248,000
UBE	251,049,000	335,475,000	273,084,057	93,158,822	952,766,879
Primary Education and JSS Instructional Materials	1,000,000,000	1,100,000,000			2,100,000,000
Primary and Secondary Education department					0
Special Education for the Handicapped studies in Secondary Schools					0
Federal Ministry of Health					0
National Programme on Immunization (NPI)	1,645,037,699	1,015,037,699	662,524,125	198,795,906	3,521,395,429
Institute for Child Health	1,272,000	763,200	572,400	806,104	3,413,704
Paediatrics Department in the State House Clinic, Abuja					0
Baby Friendly Initiative					0
Special/Critical Care Centres					0
MFCT					0
Establishment of 2 No. Baby Friendly Crèches					0
Establishment of Rehabilitation Centre for the Minors					0
Agencies/Parastatals in Presidency					0
National Poverty Eradication Programmes (NAPEP)	1,488,080,000	1,412,848,000	1,298,953,540	1,048,940,125	5,248,821,665
	10,622,687,649	66,234,934,009	13,686,477,737	4,338,700,957	94,882,800,352

B. Capital Expenditure

	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
Federal Ministry of Women Affairs					0
Care for the Minor National Model Child Development Centre	23,200,000				23,200,000
Establishment of Crèche (Work-Place-Nursery) II	8,000,000	20,000,000			28,000,000
Implementation of Beijing Declaration on the Girl Child		6,000,000			6,000,000
Child Department with UNICEF			5,700,000		5,700,000

B. Capital Expenditure

	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
Development of Children's Library in Abuja		30,000,000			30,000,000
Federal Ministry of Education					0
Unity Schools and F.S.T Colleges	4,245,997	1,160,448,879	3,994,246,509		5,158,941,385
Unity Schools and F.S.T Colleges Meal Subsidy					0
UBE	3,510,046,000	1,000,000,000	343,766,001		4,853,812,001
Primary Education and JSS Instructional Materials					0
Primary and Secondary Education department		10,080,000			10,080,000
Special Education for the Handicapped studies in Secondary Schools	3,000,000				3,000,000
Federal Ministry of Health					0
National Programme on Immunization (NPI)	1,846,950,000	4,000,000,000	6,000,000,000	4,500,000,000	16,346,950,000
Institute for Child Health					0
Paediatrics Department in the State House Clinic, Abuja		6,000,000			6,000,000
Baby Friendly Initiative				8,000,000	8,000,000
Special/Critical Care Centres	1,630,000,000	989,680,000			2,619,680,000
MFCT					0
Establishment of 2 No. Baby Friendly Crèches	10,000,000				10,000,000
Establishment of Rehabilitation Centre for the Minors	5,000,000				5,000,000
)Agencies/Parastatals in Presidency					0
National Poverty Eradication Programmes (NAPEP)				2,975,000,000	2,975,000,000
	7,040,441,997	7,222,208,879	10,343,712,510	7,483,000,000	32,089,363,386

Source: National Assembly, Abuja: Yearly Appropriation Act (2002 -2004)

2c) Programmes and services for children with disabilities;

No specific budget trend information is available at the time of this report in respect of programmes and services for children with disabilities;

2d) Support programmes for families;

At the time of this report specific information is only available in respect of provisions for NAPEP;

2e) support for children living below the poverty line;

Nigeria has a very large population of the poor with 70% living below 1US\$ a day and 90% living below 2 US\$ a day (children inclusive). The budgetary allocation to NAPEP

which seeks to support programmes for families necessarily addresses the issues of support for the children of such families. However, the data for the specific proportion of the allocation used for supporting children as distinct from adult is not presently available;

2f) the protection of children who are in need of alternative care including the support of care institutions

The relevant information here has been provided in **Table 1.2.1. (i)**; above

2g) programmes and activities for the prevention of and protection from child abuse and child sexual exploitation and child labour;

The Budget allocation for programmes and activities for the prevention of and protection from child abuse and child sexual exploitation and child labour have been captured under Table 1.2.1 referred to as Care-for-the Minor. In addition, are the budgetary allocation to the Police, NAPTIP, Immigration, Social Welfare and Juvenile Courts. Out of these allocations, the specific amount used for children cannot be ascertained. There is also donor financial support, the quantum of which is not readily available.

2h) programmes and services for street children and abandoned children;

Same as in 2g above;

2i) juvenile justice and the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders

The proportions of the allocation meant for the Police, Judiciary, Ministry of Justice, Child Development Department, Social Welfare, Prisons and the National Human Rights Commission, are utilized for juvenile justice administration is not readily available. Furthermore, there is considerable financial and technical support from the donor communities such as UNICEF, EU, and USAID.

Please also indicate the expenses of the private sector, in particular for health and education.

Even though, Government has not collated the statistics on the quantum of private sector investment in education, particularly on the nature of schools, personnel, structures and equipments; it is apparent that the level of investment is significant and growing.

In relation to health, the numerous private clinics, hospitals, pharmacies and patent medicine stores attest to substantial level of investment in health by the private sector.

3 With reference to children deprived of a family environment and separated from parents, please provide disaggregated data (by gender, age groups, ethnic groups, administrative states, urban and rural areas) for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 on

the number of children:

- a) **separated from their parents;**
- b) **placed in institutions;**
- c) **placed with foster families; and**
- d) **adopted domestically or through inter-country adoptions.**

3a. Separated from their parents

The available data on the phenomenon of children separated from parents in the country are in different categories. These are street children, children involved in hazardous labor who are separated from parents and children living in institutions.

There also exists within the country two broad categories of street children:

- i) Children **on the street**
- ii) Children **of the street**

There are also two sub categories of children **of the street**:

- i) Children who live with their parent/s on the street and children
- ii) Children without parents on the street

While there is no immediate disaggregated data on the broad categories captioned under the street children phenomenon, there is currently a **NATIONAL BASELINE SURVEY** being conducted by the **UNICEF CRC Chair** at the University of Lagos and the **UNDS** in Nigeria, which commenced in **2004**, and will be concluded in **2006**.

The study is on the protection and participation issues as they affect children separated from parents with particular focus on street children, trafficked children, child domestic workers, child labour as in construction industry and agriculture, and on other thematic areas like: sexual exploitation of children and child prostitution; child/youth violence, youth crime and consumption of drugs, alcohol and other substances.

(3b) placed in institutions

A recent survey on **Assessment of Institutional Child Care Centres in Nigeria** by State Ministries of Women Affairs in collaboration with UNICEF in year 2003 are indicated thus:

Samples of 199 Institutional Child Care Centres in Nigeria were selected for an in-depth study from all the 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory. A purposive sampling approach was used that ensured, a good representation of what exists in each States/zones in the whole country, in terms of the number of the institutional childcare centres, the ownership and rationale for setting it up, the number of inmates, sources of funding, budget and expenditure, the institutional policies and types of facilities existing including the geographical spread between the rural and urban areas.

The centres fall within three categories namely **orphanages/motherless babies’ homes, disabled/rehabilitation centres and destitute/remand homes.**

Table 1.3 Distribution of states by official geo-political zones and survey zones used for the assessment

Name of zone	Geo-political zones	Unicef zonal field States for the assessment
South West	Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun Oyo	A- Zone Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, Imo, Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross-River Rivers, Benue
South East	Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, Imo	B- Zone Delta, Edo, Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun Oyo
South South	Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross-River Delta, Edo, Rivers	C- Zone Sokoto, Kebbi, , Kaduna, Niger, Kogi, the FCT Katsina, Zamfara, Kwara
North Central	Benue, FCT, Kogi, Kwara, Nassarawa, Niger, Plateau	D- Zone Kano, Jigawa, Yobe, Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Plateau, Gombe, Taraba, Nasarawa
North East	Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Yobe Gombe, Taraba,	--
North West	Sokoto, Kebbi, Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, Zamfara, Jigawa	--

Figure 1.3.1 Survey States by Zones

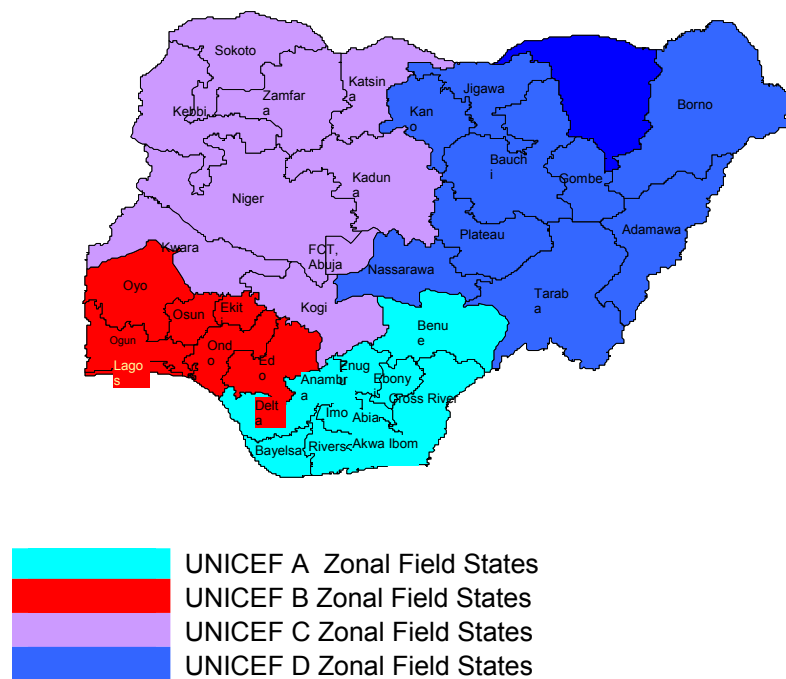


Table 1.3.1 Types of Centres

Zones	Types of Institutional Child Care Centres			
	Orphanages	Rehabilitation Centres	Remand Homes	Total
A	30	22	8	60
B	21	7	9	37
C	19	7	8	34
D	17	32	19	68
Total	87	68	44	199

Table 1.3.2 Ownership of Centres

Zones	Ownership of centres		
	State Governments	Private Sector	Total
A	36	24	60
B	19	18	37
C	20	14	34
D	60	8	68
Total	135	64	199

Number of Children in institutional child care centres

The findings indicate that in the 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory, the profile of the institutional child care centres shows that 44 per cent are orphanages, 34 percent are rehabilitation centres, with only 22 percent being remand homes. A total of 68 percent belongs to various States and Local Governments spread across the country, with 38 per cent situated in the urban areas, 26 per cent in the semi urban areas and the remaining 36 per cent situated in the rural areas.

There are a total of 8,614 residents in the centres studied, with 61 per cent being boys, and 39 per cent girls. The centres in the 'D' zonal field States top the list with the greatest number of centres and those in the 'A' zonal field States took the lead in terms of residents. The least of centres were reported from the 'C' zonal field states while the 'B' zonal Field states is at the bottom ladder of residents .

Table 1.3.3 Number of Children in institutional child care centres

Zones	Number of children in institutional care centres		
	Male	Female	Total
A	1882	1496	3378
B	981	689	1670
C	1099	601	1700
D	1202	517	1866
Total	5243	3371	8614

Table 1.3.4 Geographical Spread of centres

Zones	Rural / Urban spread of the centres			
	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Total
A	20	16	24	60
B	-	5	32	37
C	6	13	15	34
D	46	18	4	68
Total	72	52	75	199

Orphanages

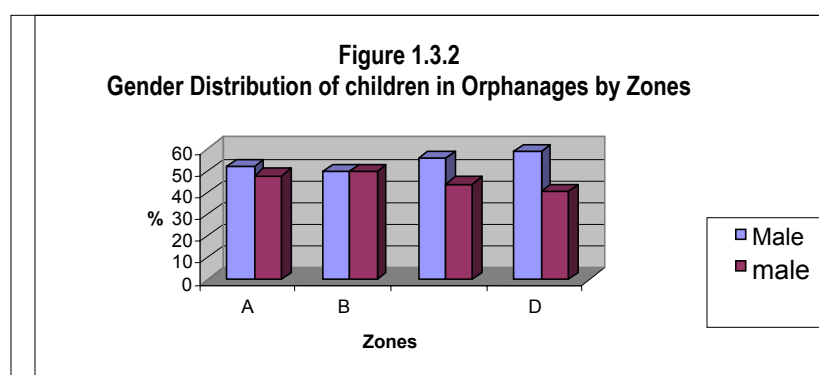


Table 1.3.5 Zonal distribution and ownership of Orphanages

Zones	Centres	Ownership	
		Private	State
A	30	22	8
B	21	16	5
C	19	16	3
D	17	9	8
Total	87	63	24

Eighty seven (87) orphanages were studied in the country, with 34 per cent in the ‘A’ field zonal states followed by ‘C’ field Zonal states, with the least number of 19 per cent being from the ‘D’ field zone. Seventy two ((72) per cent of the orphanages are owned or run by private individuals, NGOs and Faith Based Organisations, compared to 28 per cent belonging to the State governments.

There are **1,805** residents—47 per cent girls and 53 per cent boys, with the age range from one week to 18 years.

Rehabilitation Centres

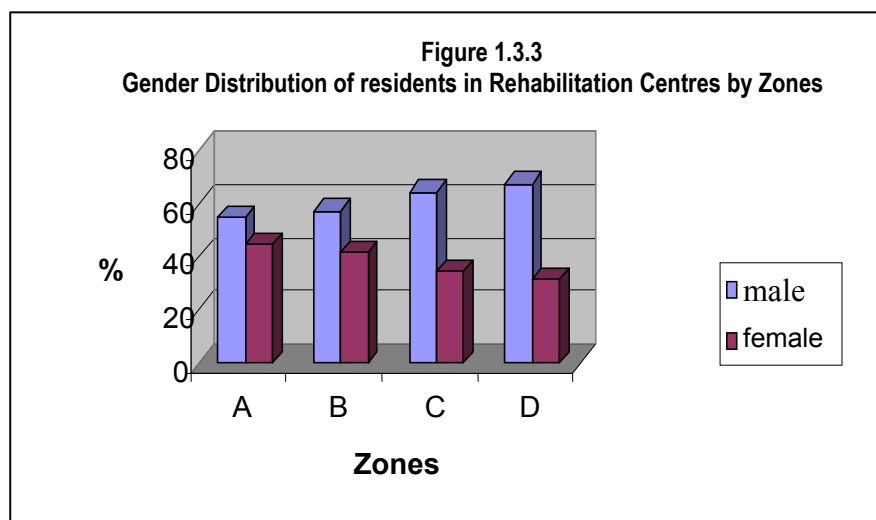
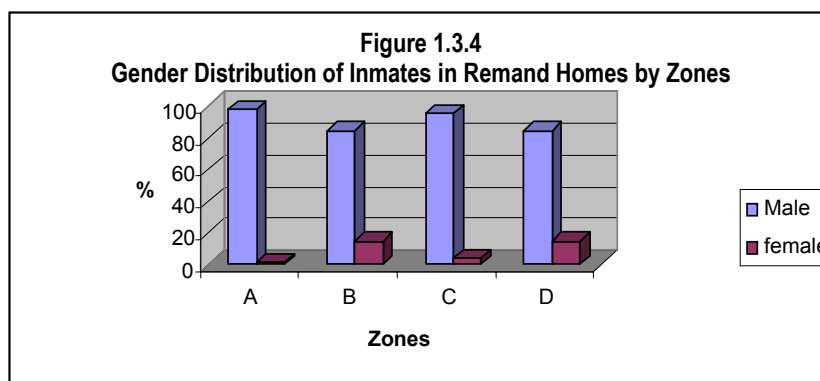


Table 1.3.6 Zonal distribution and ownership of Rehabilitation Centres

Zones	Centres	Ownership	
		Private	State
A	22	14	8
B	7	5	2
C	7	2	5
D	32	9	23
Total	68	30	38

The rehabilitation centres provide care and emotional stability for these sets of children namely; those physically challenged/handicapped, mentally retarded, blind, deaf, deaf and dumb, and others in difficult circumstances. There is no desegregation according to types or nature of disabilities in the centres covered in the survey, as a more detailed national data is captured under children with disabilities in **Tables 1.4.1—1.4.3** below.

Remand homes



The Borstal Institutions and Remand Centres Act Cap 38, LFN,1990 mandates the setting up of remand homes and correctional centres, which put the ambit of ownership on the States as shown in **Table 1.3.7**. There is no private institution running a remand home, as the 44 centres surveyed in the country, are all state owned.

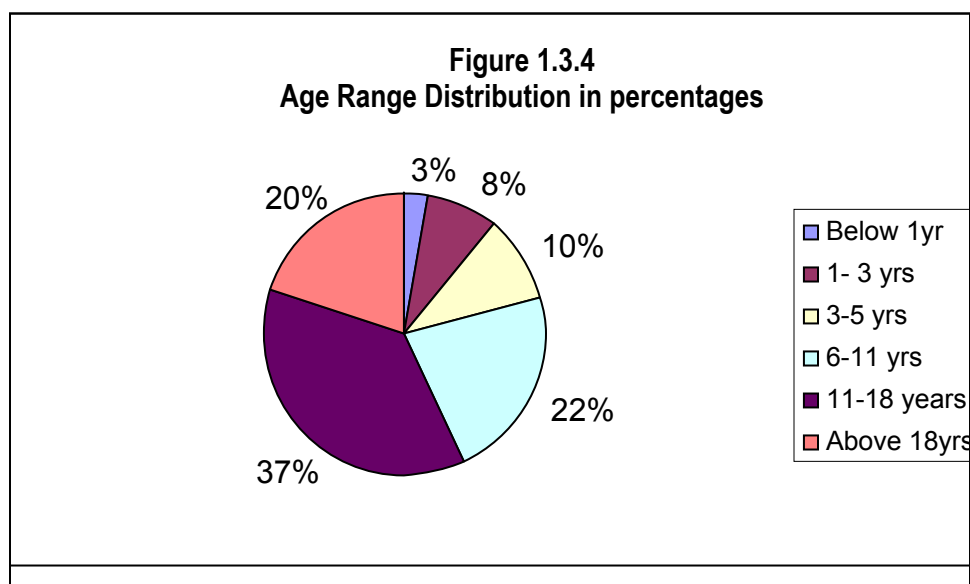
Table 1.3.7 Zonal distribution and ownership of Remand Homes

Zones	Centres	Ownership	
		Private	State
A	8	-	8
B	9	-	9
C	8	-	8
D	19	-	19
Total	44	-	44

Comparatively, only 11 per cent of children resident in the orphanages particularly are between 2 weeks old and 3 years; with the largest numbers recorded from the ‘A’ and ‘D’ zonal field States. 10 per cent are in the 3-5 years age bracket, while 22 per cent are in the 6-11 age range. The highest prevailing rate came from children aged 11-18 years with 37 per cent, forming the core number of children in our institutional child care centres, and these resides mostly in the rehabilitation centres. The remand homes also act as places of protection for destitute, mentally retarded, lost and found children plus those beyond parental control and those in conflict with the law, whose age range varies from 3 to 18 years and above 18.

Some of the centres especially those in the ‘D’ zonal field States still accommodate adults in the institutional child care centres. Twenty per cent of residents in the centres are above 18 years old. There is a considerable evidence to suggest that the rehabilitation centres provide care and protection for a greater percentage of this class of adults residing in centres meant for children. This is because they are constrained to remain in the centres due to the physical disabilities, which have left most of them incapable of reintegrating into the larger society, and also because some of them were abandoned in the homes and were not taken up for fostering or adoption.

The survey indicates an admixture of children with varying age’s resident both in the orphanages, rehabilitation centres and the remand homes.



3c) placed with foster families; and

As at the time of this report, current data available on children placed with foster families have not been collated, due to reasons explained in 3(d) hereunder.

3d) adopted domestically or through inter-country adoptions.

There have been movements of responsibilities for children matters between States' Social Welfare Departments to Child Development Departments. This slow process of transition has resulted in the department's concentrating on substantive issues of attending to the needs and welfare of children, to the detriment of data collection and collation. Measures are being put in place to enable the new Child Development Departments develop appropriate mechanisms for data gathering, collation and analysis on children adopted domestically

Nigeria as a country does not support inter-country adoptions, and there is no mechanism in place to monitor the status of children adopted and taken out of the country. Until there is a Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on inter- country adoptions, which will ensure appropriate monitoring of adopted children outside the jurisdiction of their home countries, Nigeria does not intend to participate in inter-country adoptions.

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

4a) Living with their families;

As at the time of this report there is no available data on children with disabilities desegregated according to the number living with families.

4b) Living in institutions;

Table 1.3.6 and Figure 1.3.3 above indicate zonal distribution and ownership of rehabilitation centres, and gender distribution of residents in the rehabilitation centres, respectively.

4c) Attending regular schools; (d) attending special schools; and (e) not attending schools

Table 1.4.1 below shows the distribution of population of children with disability by literacy status. The rate of literacy of children varied with age and sex. About half of children with disability were not literate. Female children with disability were less literate than male children.

Table 1.4.1: Disability by Age, Literacy Status and Educational Attainment

Age	Total Disability	%	Literate	%	Not Literate	%
6-9	161,631	100	91,942	56.9	69,689	43.1
10-11	47,510	100	23,526	49.5	23,984	50.5
12-17	50,302	100	32,686	65	17,617	35
Male						
6-9	76,292	100	47,564	62.3	28,728	37.7
10-11	24,446	100	12,517	51.2	11,929	48.8
12-17	27,605	100	18,890	68.4	8,715	31.6
Female						
6-9	85,339	100	44,379	52	40,961	48
10-11	23,064	100	11,000	47.7	12,055	52.3
12-17	22,698	100	13,795	60.8	8,902	39.2

Source: Nigeria 1991 Population Census-Post Enumeration Survey (PES) by NPopC/UNFPA 2002

Table 1.4.2: Number and Percentage Distribution of Persons 6-17 with Disability by Educational Attainment

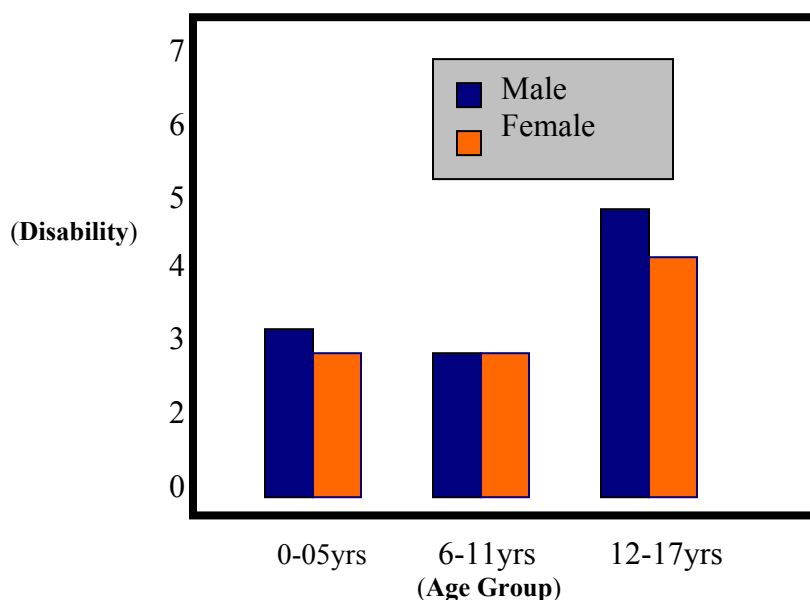
Total Population 6-24 with Disability	Number	Percentage
Literacy Status		
Pop. 6-24 with disability	2947	100
Illiteracy	1381	46.9
Literacy	1566	53.1
Educational Attainment		
Primary	689	44
JSS/Modern	212	13.5
SSS/Tech	211	13.5
Poly/University	33	2.1

Total Population 6-24 with Disability	Number	Percentage
Other	409	26.1
NR	12	0.8
Total	1566	100

Source: Nigeria 1991 Population Census-Post Enumeration Survey (PES) by NPopC/UNFPA 2002

The rate of disability of children per 1000 is 3.1 and 3.0 for ages 0-5 and 6-11, and in these age groups disability does not vary greatly by sex. For ages 12-17 the rate of disability increases from that in childhood, to 4.2 disabled persons per 1000. The rate is higher among male than female.

Figure 1.4.1—Chart Illustrating Disability Rates



Source: Nigeria 1991 Population Census-Post Enumeration Survey (PES) by NPopC/UNFPA 2002

Table 1.4.3: Level of Disability among Population 0-17 by Age and Sex

Age Group	Population			Disability			Disability Rate /1000			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Ratio
0-5	8,911,055	8,524,344	17,435,399	28,6222	25,017	53,639	3.2	2.9	3.1	110
6-11	8,356,153	7,937,909	16,294,062	24,966	23,495	48,461	3	3	3	100
12-17	6,125,750	5,869,711	11,995,461	27,814	22,842	50,655	4.5	3.9	4.2	115

Source: Nigeria 1991 Population Census-Post Enumeration Survey (PES) by NPopC/UNFPA 2002

- With reference to child abuse, please provide disaggregated data (by age, gender, ethnic groups and types of violations reported) for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 on the:

- a) number of reports received per year; and
- b) number and percentage of reports per year which have resulted in either a court decision or other types of follow-up.

No data is currently available on child abuse, but there is an on-going National Baseline Survey by the UNICEF CRC Chair, at the University of Lagos that will generate base data by 2006.

6. Please provide disaggregated data (by gender, age groups, ethnic groups, administrative states, urban and rural areas) for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 on:
- a) the enrolment, attendance and completion rates in percentages of the relevant group in pre-primary schools, in primary schools and in secondary schools;
 - b) number and percentage of drop-outs and repetitions; and
 - c) ratio of teachers to students.

- 6.1 Responses to item 6 (a) – (c) are available in the Second Country Periodic Report under **Cluster 7, item 7.1; Figures 7.1—7.4; and Tables 7.1—7.9** respectively. Additional disaggregated data are provided below in respect of primary school environment by gender and six geo-political zones of Nigeria (**Tables 1.6.1—1.6.7**) disaggregated data by sex.

Table 1.6.1: Primary School Environment by Gender and Geo-political Zones

Zone	Male	Female	Total
North-East	3,099,825	2,107,512	5,207,337
North Central	2,346,076	1,905,120	4,251,196
North West	3,772,502	2,167,554	5,940,056
South East	878,502	872,573	1,751,075
South West	1,647,147	1,667,092	3,314,239
South South	2,145,376	2,159,218	4,304,594
Total	13,889,428	10,879,069	24,768,497

Source: FME/UBE, 2003 National School Census

Table 1.6.2: Primary Schools 2001

No. of Schools	49,306
No. of pupils	19,385,177
No. of Males	10,932,315
No. of Females	8,452,862
Pre-Primary Schools	
No. of Schools	8,845
No. of pupils	938,717

No. of Males	492,618
No. of Females	446,099

Table 1.6. 3: Primary Schools 2002

No. of Schools	50,618
No. of pupils	19,342,659
No. of Males	10,772,914
No. of Females	8,569,745

Table 1.6.4: Primary Schools 2003

No. of Schools	56,010
No. of pupils	24,766,928
No. of Males	13,888,282
No. of Females	10,878,746
Pre Primary Enrolment	
Total No. of Schools	56,783
Total No. of Pupils	1,402,260
Male	732,546
Female	669,714

Table 1.6.5: Secondary Schools: -2001

No. of Schools	6,292
No. of pupils	4,601,082
No. of Males	2,546,983
No. of Females	2,054,099

Table 1.6.6: Secondary Schools: -2002

No. of Schools	6,844
No. of pupils	4,866,420
No. of Males	2,707,197
No. of Females	2,159,223

Table 1.6.7: Secondary Schools: -2003

No. of Schools	9,107
No. of pupils	6,316,537
No. of Males	3,558,762
No. of Females	2,757,775

Sources: 1 FME/UNESCO, Abuja (April 2003) A Handbook of Information on Basic education in Nigeria
 2. FME/UBE, Abuja 2003 National School Census: - Pre-Primary and Primary Education Statistics

(Enrolment and Teachers Information: States and LGAs Information only).

3. (3) FME/UBE, Abuja: - 2003 National School Census: - Secondary Education Census
(Enrolment and Teachers Information: States and LGAs Information only)

7. **Please provide disaggregated statistical data (by gender, age groups, ethnic groups, administrative states, urban and rural areas) on infant and child mortality, malnutrition, early pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), suicide, drug, alcohol, tobacco and other substance abuse for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003. Also, please provide numbers of health professionals working in the health care services for children.**

7.1 Data on infant and child mortality, and malnutrition have been captured in the Second Periodic Report. As at the time of this report the numbers of health professionals working in the health care services for children and early pregnancy is not readily available, while use of drugs, tobacco, use of alcohol and other substances are part of the thematic areas to be surveyed in the National baseline Survey being conducted by the UNICEF CRC Chair at the University of Lagos.

8. **Please provide disaggregated statistical data (by gender, age groups, ethnic groups, and administrative states, urban and rural areas) on the number of children:**

8a) infected by HIV/AIDS;

As at the time of this report there is no specific data on children infected with HIV/AIDS

8b) affected by HIV/AIDS;

Data on children affected by HIV/AIDS have been reported in the Second Periodic Report captioned under 'Estimated Number of AIDS Orphans

8c) heading households due to HIV/AIDS;

As at the time of this report there is no specific data on children heading households due to HIV/AIDS

8d) orphans of HIV/AIDS living in extended families or institutions.

As at the time of this report there is no desegregated data on child orphans of HIV/AIDS living in extended families, while desegregated data on total estimated number of orphans due to HIV/AIDS have been reported in the Second Periodic Report . There is no specific data of children living in institutions based on death of both parents by HIV/AIDS

9. **Please provide appropriate disaggregated data (including by gender, age, ethnic groups, and type of crime) for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003, in particular on the number of:**

9a) persons under 18 who have allegedly committed a crime, reported to the police

9b) persons under 18 who have been sentenced and type of punishment or sanctions related to offences including length of deprivation of liberty;

Appropriate data on 9(a) and (b) above are available under **Cluster 8 Item 8.4.7** of the Second Periodic Report

9c) persons under 18 who have been sentenced by Shari'a courts and type of punishment or sanctions related to offences

Several persons under 18 have been sentenced to the punishments of amputation and floggings related to a variety of offences under the respective State Sharia Penal Codes in Northern Nigeria. Between 2001 to date, none of the amputation sentences are known to have been carried out, as such sentences have been quashed by the appellate courts. However some of the boys have remained in detention centers for prolonged periods.

For instance, in July 2001, Abubakar Aliyu reported to be between 14 and 17 years old, was accused of stealing some money and was sentenced to amputation by an Upper Sharia Court in Kebbi State. Two co-defendants believed to be aged 16 were reportedly sentenced to fifty lashes and eighteen months in jail. Lawyers filed an appeal on behalf of Abubakar Aliyu, and Kebbi State Sharia Court of Appeal in Birnin Kebbi quashed the sentence for amputation on the grounds that he was a minor. Instead, the appellate court sentenced him to flogging of twenty strokes of the cane and sent him to a children's remand home for one year to learn vocational skills consistent with **Sections 50, 72 and 96 of the Kebbi State Sharia Penal Code (Amendment) Law 2000**.

A variety of offences are punishable by flogging under the Sharia Penal Codes; those most frequently punished in practice are consumption of alcohol, theft, and fornication. The number of strokes of the cane usually ranges from forty to one hundred, depending on the offence. Some of those flogged have been under the age of 18. In September 2000, the Sharia Court in Tsafe Local Government found Bariya Ibrahim Magazu, a 17 year old girl, guilty of fornication and sentenced her to one hundred lashes. She was eventually flogged on January 19, 2001.

It should be noted that there are problems with age documentation and accuracy of sentencing records, hence the inability to confirm the exact number of such sentences.

However, a recent Human Rights Watch Report put the figure at about twenty persons (see Human Rights Watch:- Nigeria:- Political Sharia:- Human Rights and Islamic Law in Northern Nigeria, September 2004, Vol. 16, No. 9(a)).

At present both Kebbi and Zamfara States are in the process of considering the passage of the **Child Rights Laws** to prohibit such sentences.

- 9d) detention for juvenile offenders (under 18) and their capacity;**
- 9e) persons under 18 detained in these facilities and minors detained in adult facilities;**
- 9f) persons under 18 kept in pre-trial detention and the average length of their detention;**

9g) reported cases of abuse and maltreatment of persons under 18 during their arrest and detention; and

In response to issues 9(d)–(g) above, and at the time of this report, the **Juvenile Justice Administration in Nigeria -Field Visits Report, of April 2003**, revealed the distribution of inmates and the infrastructures in the various institution visited as follows:

Table 1.9.1 Geo-political Distribution of Institutions

	North West	North East	North Central	South West	South East	South South	Total
Prisons	5	4	5	4	4	5	27
Police Cells	4	4	7	4	5	5	29
Juvenile Detention Centres (federal/state)	4	1	1	5	0*	1	12
Total	13	9	13	13	9	11	68

Table 1.9.2 Distribution of Inmates

	No. of Institutions visited	Inmates Total	Inmates Total Male	Inmates Total Female	Juvenile Inmates Total	Juvenile Inmates Total Male	Juvenile Inmates Total Female
Prisons	27	15236	10295	430	312	165	9
Police Cells	29	411	368	24	14	9	5
Juvenile Detention Centres	12	576	518	48	576	518	48
Total	68	16223	11181	502	902	692	62

Results in Detail

Tables 1.9.3 provide a detailed analysis of the types of institutions visited and the geo-political zones.

Table 1.9.3 Prisons visited

No.	Geo-political Zone	State	Name of Institution	Capacity	Total Inmates	Occupancy Quota	Total Inmates	Total Inmates	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles
1	North Central	Benue	Gboko Prisons, Gboko	807	357	44%	345	12	13	12	1
2	North Central	FCT	Kuje Prisons, Abuja	160	301	188%	n.a.	n.a.	2	2	0
3	North Central	Kaduna	Kaduna Prisons, Kaduna	547	733	134%	n.a.	n.a.	0	0	0

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No.	Geo-political Zone	State	Name of Institution	Capacity	Total Inmates	Occupancy Quota	Total Inmates	Total Inmates	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles
4	North Central	Nassarawa	Lafia Prison, Lafia	300	264	88%	254	0	10	10	0
5	North Central	Plateau	Jos Prisons, Jos	1149	697	61%	n.a.	n.a.	8	n.a.	n.a.
6	North East	Bauchi	Bauchi Prison, Bauchi	416	416	100%	413	3	0	0	0
7	North East	Borno	Maiduguri New Prison, Maiduguri	500	436	87%	433	3	10	10	0
8	North East	Taraba	Wukari Prison, Wukari	640	216	34%	216	0	0	0	0
9	North East	Yobe	Potiskum Prison, Potiskum	416	419	101%	414	5	2	2	0
10	North West	Kano	Kano Central Prison, Kano	690	1077	156%	1033	44	0	0	0
11	North West	Sokoto	Sokoto	576	528	92%	n.a.	n.a.	0	0	0
12	North West	Kebbi	Kebbi Old Prison, Birnin Kebbi	200	148	74%	n.a.	n.a.	0	0	0
13	North West	Kebbi	Kebbi New Prison, Birnin Kebbi	240	162	68%	n.a.	n.a.	0	0	0
14	North West	Zamfara	Gusau Medium Security Prison, Gusau	1664	346	21%	334	12	0	0	0
15	South East	Anambra	Onitsha Prison, Onitsha	326	727	223%	666	31	30	n.a.	n.a.
16	South East	Ebonyi	Abakaliki Prisons, Abakaliki	300	383	128%	378	5	4	3	1
17	South East	Enugu	Enugu Prisons, Enugu	638	756	118%	725	31	8	7	1
18	South East	Imo	Owerri Prison, Owerri	548	995	182%	931	32	32	n.a.	n.a.
19	South South	Akwa Ibom	Ikot Ekpene Prison, Ikot Ekpene	400	245	61%	235	10	32	30	2
20	South South	Cross	Calabar Prison,	250	451	180%	443	8	75	75	0

No.	Geo-political Zone	State	Name of Institution	Capacity	Total Inmates	Occupancy Quota	Total Inmates	Total Inmates	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles
		River	Calabar								
21	South South	Edo	Benin Prison, Benin	220	281	128%	269	12	6	6	0
22	South South	Edo	Oko Prison, Oko	608	645	106%	635	10	0	0	0
23	South South	Rivers State	Port Harcourt Prison, Port Harcourt	804	1650	205%	1621	29	10	8	2
24	South West	Lagos	Ikoyi Prison, Lagos	800	1870	234%	n.a.	n.a.	68	n.a.	n.a.
25	South West	Lagos	Female Prison, Kiri-Kiri, Lagos	105	162	154%	0	162	0	0	0
26	South West	Ogun	Abeokuta Prison, Abeokuta	510	553	108%	544	9	0	0	0
27	South West	Osun	Ilesa Prison, Ilesa	586	418	71%	406	12	2	0	2
	Total			14400	15236	117%	10295	430	312	165	9

Inmates in Prisons

The prisons face a similar problem of overcrowding in all geographical zones of the country. The worst cases are to be found in Lagos, Port Harcourt, Abuja, Kano and Calabar, where prisons are overcrowded by more than 50 percent.¹ The North is not as badly affected by this problem as the South. Overcrowding is particularly bad in large urban centres.

In the selected prisons visited, only 312 inmates were officially juveniles. The visits however revealed that there were more juveniles in custody than the official numbers indicate. In some cases, the juveniles can not give their correct age, which makes it difficult for the prison officials to correctly classify them.

Available Facilities in the Prisons

The prisons provide a range of facilities. In particular, many prisons offer vocational as well as recreational facilities. However, they are often ill equipped.

Due to overcrowding, the existing facilities are often inadequate for the inmates. It further compounds the low level of hygiene. Inmates frequently do not have enough space and health issues are not addressed adequately.

¹ Lagos Med. prison has the worst congestion rate (260%), but could not be visited by the team in Lagos: The number of inmates is much more than double the prisons capacity.

While some prisons have the privilege of well equipped hospitals and trained personnel, others lack equipment and drugs. E.g. Calabar Prison in the South South performs surgical operations.

Recreational facilities are often limited to a few games or to a football pitch, which is occupied mainly by the male inmates. In all prisons, there are no outdoor recreational facilities for female inmates. Many reports highlight the special need for recreational facilities for juveniles.

Generally, there is little or no emphasis in providing or maintaining recreational facilities in the prisons. However, the prison officials often appeal to NGO's and Civil Society Organisations to assist in the provision of such facilities. Overall, there is need to upgrade the existing facilities.

Separation of Lock Up Cells

Separation between adults and juveniles exists in few institutions. Reports indicate that they are often locked up and tried together. The big prisons have the capacity to physically separate juveniles from adults. For example, Ikoyi Prison in Lagos provides separate cells for the juveniles. As the Child's Rights Act became applicable across the Country, it is certain that this situation will change gradually.

Table 1.9.4 Police Cells visited

No.	Geo-political Zone	State	Name of Institution	Total Inmates	Total Inmates Male	Total Inmates Female	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles Male	Inmates: Juveniles Female
1	North Central	Benue	Gboko Area Command - 'A' Division, Gboko	4	n.a.	n.a.	0	0	0
2	North Central	Kaduna	CID Command, Kaduna	103	101	2	1	1	0
3	North Central	Kaduna	Metro Area Command, Kaduna	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	North Central	Nassarawa	Central Police Station Lafia, Lafia	10	n.a.	n.a.	0	0	0
5	North Central	Plateau	Police Jos 'A' Division, Jos	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	North Central	Plateau	Police Jos 'C' Division, Jos	6	6	0	0	0	0
7	North Central	Plateau	Jos SIC Division Police, Jos	18	18	0	0	0	0
8	North East	Bauchi	Bauchi Divisional Police Headquarters, Bauchi	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	North East	Borno	Metro Police Station, Maiduguri	1	1	0	1	1	0
10	North East	Taraba	Wukari Divisional Police Headquarters, Wukari	5	0	5	0	0	0
11	North East	Yobe	Potiskum Divisional Police Station,	0	0	0	0	0	0

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No.	Geo-political Zone	State	Name of Institution	Total Inmates	Total Inmates Male	Total Inmates Female	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles Male	Inmates: Juveniles Female
			Potiskum						
12	North West	Kebbi	Kebbi Police, Birnin Kebbi	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
13	North West	Sokoto	Police Headquarters, Sokoto	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
14	North West	Kano	Bompai Divisional Police Station, Kano	2	n.a.	n.a.	0	0	0
15	North West	Zamfara	Gusau Central Police Station, Gusau	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	South East	Anambra	Central Police Station, Onitsha	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	South East	Ebonyi	Abakaliki State Police Command, Abakaliki	29	29	0	0	0	0
18	South East	Enugu	Enugu State Police CID	110	104	6	1	0	1
19	South East	Enugu	Uwani Police Station, Enugu	9	7	2	0	0	0
20	South East	Imo	CID Detention Center, Owerri	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	South South	Cross River	Cross Rivers Police, Calabar	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	South South	Delta	Divisional Police Office, Warri	27	25	2	2	1	1
23	South South	Edo	Benin	15	14	1	2	1	1
24	South South	Edo	Benin	7	7	0	0	0	0
25	South South	Rivers State	Elekiah Police Station, Port Harcourt	2	2	0	2	2	0
26	South West	Lagos	Adeniji Adele Police Station	2	0	2	2	0	2
27	South West	Lagos	Police Headquarters, Lagos	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	South West	Ogun	Eleweran Police, Abeokuta	33	30	3	0	0	0
29	South West	Osun	Police Headquarters, Ilesa	28	24	1	3	3	0
	Total			411	368	24	14	9	5

Police Cell Inmates

The data collected from the police cells show that in many cases, there were no inmates present. Table 1..9.4 indicates that the presence of juveniles was negligible, as only 14 were found.

Available Facilities in the Police Cells

The facilities in the police cells are grossly inadequate. Most of the cells are overcrowded and lack basic equipment, like sleeping material or toilets, while the level of hygiene is unsatisfactory, and needs to be improved.

Table 1.9.5 Juvenile Detention Centers visited

No.	Geo-political Zone	State	Name of Institution	Total Inmates	Total Inmates Male	Total Inmates Female	Inmates: Juveniles	Inmates: Juveniles Male	Inmates: Juveniles Female
1	North Central	Kaduna	Kaduna Borstal Training Institute, Kaduna	334	334	0	334	334	0
2	North East	Bauchi	Children Remand Home, Bauchi	5	5	0	5	5	0
3	North West	Sokoto	Remand Home Sokoto, Sokoto	25	24	1	25	24	1
4	North West	Kebbi	Remand Home Kebbi, Kebbi	5	5	0	5	5	0
5	North West	Kano	Juvenile Welfare Center, Sabon Gari, Kano	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
6	North West	Kano	Kano Remand Home, Kano	42	36	6	42	36	6
7	North West	Zamfara	Remand Home Gusau, Gusau	10	n.a.	n.a.	10	n.a.	n.a.
8	South South	Cross River	Remand Home Calabar, Calabar	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	South West	Lagos	Girls Remand Home, Idi Araba, Lagos	32	0	32	32	0	32
10	South West	Lagos	Approved School for Girls, Idi Araba, Lagos	9	0	9	9	0	9
11	South West	Lagos	Boys Remand Home, Oregun, Lagos	76	76	0	76	76	0
12	South West	Ogun	Abeokuta Borstal Remand Home, Abeokuta	38	38	0	38	38	0
Total				576	518	48	576	518	48

Inmates of the Juvenile Detention Centres

A look at the institutions shows that there are fewer girls than boys in custody. The North has more juvenile centres and juveniles are transferred straight from the courts to detention centres.

Juveniles are not separated according to their offences except with respect to capital offences. Offences for which juveniles are locked up include:

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Rape
- Armed robbery
- Robbery
- Burglary
- Theft and stealing
- Receiving of stolen items
- Assault
- Conspiracy
- Truancy
- Public disturbance
- Beyond parental control

It is important to note that about 50 percent of juveniles in the juvenile detention centres are kept for being Beyond Parental Control. Of the remainder, very few are children in protective custody. In the prisons, only juveniles held for committing capital offences are separated.

Facilities Available in Juvenile Detention Centres

Most juvenile detention centres have facilities suited to the needs of young persons. They have facilities for education with available teachers, but there are inadequate teaching aids and materials. A range of vocational training is offered in tailoring, carpentry, shoemaking, farming, cookery.

Recreational facilities such as games and sports are provided. Sometimes, a well-equipped health facility is provided, but the problems of drug availability compel the transfer of ill inmates to regular hospitals.

Protective Custody for Juveniles

As stated earlier, there are facilities for taken care of quite a few juveniles in protective custody in the following centres—Imo State, State C.I.D., Owerri, Metro Police Station, Maiduguri and in Adeniji Adele Police Station, Lagos.

9h) Persons under 18 tried and Sentenced as Adults

No readily available data except for the notorious decided cases of **R. V. Bangaza, R. V. Oladimeji**, and **State V. Obed Boardman**.

The ratio was that they committed offences as juveniles but by the time of trial and sentence, they had become adults and the Courts sentenced them as adults. On appeal the Supreme Court held that the material time for sentence was at the time of commission of the offence and therefore could only be sentenced as juveniles and not as adult.

10. With reference to special protection measures, please provide statistical data (including by gender, age, urban/rural areas) per year for 2001, 2002 and 2003 on the number of:

- a) refugee children and internally displaced children;
- b) children affected by sexual exploitation, including prostitution, pornography and trafficking;
- c) street children;
- d) children who received assistance in recovery and counselling;
- e) children who were found engaging in forced and/or other forms of illegal child labour;
- f) children who were involved in communal conflict or violence;
- g) children aged 14-16 who are employed, or working; and
- h) children using narcotics and drugs.

The available data on these issues have been provided in **Cluster 8** of the Second Periodic Report.

B. General Measures of Implementation

1. The Committee would appreciate receiving information on intended or planned activities related to recommendations contained in the Committee's previous concluding observations on the initial report of Nigeria (CRC/C/15/Add.61) which have not yet been fully implemented, in particular regarding: mainstreaming of customary law and regional and local legislation (para. 7), absence of adequate data collection systems (para. 9), insufficient allocation of resources for children (para. 10), lack of training and education on children's rights (para. 11), status and situation of girl children (para. 12), harmful traditional practices (para. 15), poverty (para. 17), sale, trafficking, sexual exploitation (para. 19), juvenile justice (para. 20), low age of criminal responsibility (para. 22), conditions of detention for children (para. 23), excessive use of force by law enforcement officials (para. 24) and economic exploitation (para. 25).

❖ Information on intended or planned activities relating to issues of recommendations have been addressed in **Part 1**, and **Part 11- Clusters 1 and 8** of the Second Periodic Report in.

Budgetary allocations for matters relating to children have also been addressed in **Table 1.2.1** above.

The combined effect of **Sections 211 and 247** of CRA has detailed out the manner of handling children. A Juvenile Justice-Training Manual for law enforcement officials has been developed in order to enhance their capacity in handling of juvenile offenders with a view to discouraging the use of excessive use of force against children.

The activities of **NAPTIP**, **NAPEP**, **National Directorate of Employment (NDE)** and **NGOs** in combating trafficking in persons, rehabilitation of child victims of trafficking, empowerment of the family and children in particular, are being conducted with a view to enabling children avoid being victims of economic exploitation.

In addition, public enlightenment for both parents and children are being undertaken by both **NAPTIP** and various **NGOs** to impact on trafficking of children.

Regarding mainstreaming of customary laws, at present, researches have been carried out in order to properly ascertain the various customary laws relating to women and children. Essentially, customary law is dynamic and codification will certainly stultify its character.

An earlier Federal Government project by the Federal Ministry of Justice in collaboration with all the States Ministries of Justice recognized the need for clear ascertainment of the rules and principles of customary laws. It has been decided that the best approach is to preserve the dynamic characteristic of customary laws by means of Declarations, Restatements and Judicial pronouncements.

Reforms are being effected by means of legislative prohibitions, such as can be found among others, in the provisions of the **Child's Rights Act 2003**. All customary laws are subjected to the repugnancy doctrine before application, so that any customary law that is violative of this doctrine, in the sense of its being contrary to any legislative provision, natural justice, equity and good conscience is inapplicable and therefore, null and void.

2. Please indicate whether the Convention on the Rights of the Child has been invoked directly in domestic courts, and if so, please provide examples of such cases.

2.1 Nigeria is a dualist Country in terms of application of rules of International law within our domestic jurisdiction. **Section 12 (1)** of the **Nigerian Constitution** provides that no treaty between the federation and any other Country shall have the force of law except such treaty has been enacted into law by the National Assembly.

Therefore, treaty provisions cannot be invoked directly under the Nigerian domestic law, hence the enactment into law of the **Child's Right's Act 2003** for purposes of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Nigerian courts and others settling conflicts of interest, usually base their decisions on what is best for the child. When administrative authorities intervene and in situations where regulations are made in schools, at home and in the civil society, and when programmes are designed for children, most actions taken on behalf of children safeguard their best interest.

3. Please provide information on measures taken for a comprehensive review of all legislation, including any customary, religious, regional or local law in the State, to ensure compatibility with the Convention.

3.1 Details of this have been reported in **Cluster 1, item 1.1** of the Second Periodic Report. In addition, the World Bank, UNICEF and NCWD are currently carrying out a project which aims at effecting harmonization and reform of customary/religious laws with a view to ensuring their compatibility with both the CRC and CEDAW.

4. Please provide information on the system of data collection and whether it covers all persons below 18 and all areas referred to in the Convention.

4.1 Government has established a mechanism for the collection of statistical data and monitoring indicators disaggregated by gender, rural, urban and ethnic organ as basis for designing programmes for children. Such mechanisms exist in the Federal Office of statistics, National Population Commission and National Data Bank. There are other complimentary mechanisms supported and financed by donor agencies as well as the University system such as UNICEF the CRC chair at the University of Lagos. Examples of such disaggregated data are provided in the various clusters of the Second Periodic Report.

5. Please provide a copy in English, of the Child Rights Act in May 2003, and information on the status of adoption of the Child Rights Act according to administrative states.

5.1 Besides the Federal Legislation, which is the **CRA**, four states have already enacted their own **Child's Rights Law (CRL)**, while the Bills for the enactment of the CRL are before 20 other State Houses of Assembly.

6. Please provide information on the institution in charge of the coordination of the implementation of the Convention, and update the Committee of any new initiatives or mechanisms that have been established to coordinate policies for children and to implement the Convention at federal, state and local levels.

6.1 Detailed information of the structure and mandate of the national mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the CRC/CRA at the national, state and local government levels have been reported under **Cluster 1 item 1.1.1(ii) and 1.2.2** in the Second Periodic Report. Additionally, the structure and mandate of these national mechanisms have been provided for in the following sections of the CRA :

- **Sections 260 – 263: National Child Rights Implementation Committee (NCRIC)**
- **Sections 264 – 267: State Child Rights Implementation Committee (SCRIC)**
- **Sections 268 – 271: Local Government Child Rights Implementation Committee(LGRIC).**

7. Please provide detailed information on the National Child Rights Implementation Committee (NCRIC) including its mandate, composition and the allocated human and financial resources, and indicate how the work of NCRIC impacts on children's daily life.

7.1 The National Child Rights Implementation Committee was established as a body for the implementation and monitoring of the CRC. The Committee is also charged with the writing of the Country's Periodic Reports.

Composition of NCRIC

- Permanent secretary of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs (Chairman)
- One Person each from the ministries of Women Affairs and Youth Development, Education, Health, Information and National Orientation, Justice, Labor and Productivity, Foreign Affairs, National Planning Commission, Nigerian Law Reform Commission, Nigeria Prisons Service, Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Broadcasting Commission, News Agency of Nigeria
- Two persons from an NGO on the rights and welfare of the child.
- Three persons representing a wide spectrum of the relevant discipline from the academic institutions
- Three child care experts from various disciplinary backgrounds
- One person representing the NUJ
- One representative from the UN Agencies-Unicef, UNESCO, ILO, and WHO

Functions

- Initiate actions that will ensure the observation and promotion of the rights and welfare of the Nigerian child as provided for in the ACT, Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international treaties
- Continuously keep under review, the state of implementation of the rights of the child.
- Develop and recommend to the Federal Government, States and Local Governments committees, through their respective State and Local Government Committees specific programmes and projects that shall enhance the implementation of the rights of the child.
- Collect and document information on all matters relating to the rights and welfare of the child.
- Commission inter- disciplinary assessments of the problems relating to the rights and welfare of the child
- Encourage and coordinate the activities of International, Federal, states and local government institutions and bodies concerned with the right and welfare of the child.
- Organize meetings, conferences, symposia and other enlightenment campaigns for advocacy on the rights of the child and,
- Co-ordinate the activities of and collaborate with State NCRIC Committees.
- Prepare and submit periodic reports on the state of implementation of the rights of the child for submission to the Federal government, the OAU and United Nations.
- Perform such other functions relating to the rights of the child as may be assigned to it

Proceedings/Secretariat

- The National Committee shall determine its own quorum and regulate proceedings at any of the meetings.
- The secretariat shall be the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs

Since the inception of NCRIC in 1994 and with the support of the Child Development Department as the secretariat and Federal Ministry of Women affairs as the parent Ministry, the NCRIC has initiated such programmes as the drafting of the Children’s Bill, which resulted in the enactment of the CRA and public awareness programmes in partnership with the Ministry of information, the media, schools and such donor agencies as UNICEF.

It has also initiated and catalyzed projects in various areas of survival and development in collaboration with Ministries of Health, Information, Sports and Culture, the Media and Academia. Further, it has initiated projects in areas of child protection and participation in collaboration with other development partners and UN Agencies like, UNICEF, ILO, UNODC, WHO.

As a result of the above-mentioned collaboration, it has impacted on children’s life in the area of immunization, nutritional supplements protection against sexual and other forms of economic exploitation including trafficking and child labour. It has also impacted upon the lives of children in the area of awareness creation on child rights.

8. Please provide disaggregated statistical data (by gender, age groups, ethnic groups, administrative states, urban and rural areas) on the number of children:

8a) infected by HIV/AIDS;

As at the time of this report there is no specific data on children infected with HIV/AIDS

8b) affected by HIV/AIDS;

Data on children affected by HIV/AIDS have been reported in the **Cluster 6 item 6.3.5 (ii)** in the Second Periodic Report captioned under **AIDS Orphans**.

8c) heading households due to HIV/AIDS;

As at the time of this report there is no specific data on children heading households due to HIV/AIDS

8d) orphans of HIV/AIDS living in extended families or institutions.

As at the time of this report there is no disaggregated data on child orphans of HIV/AIDS living in extended families, while disaggregated data on total estimated number of orphans due to HIV/AIDS have been reported in the Second Periodic Report. There is no specific data of children living in institutions based on death of both parents by HIV/AIDS.

9. Please provide information on the Children’s Parliament including its mandate, composition and the allocated human and financial resources, and indicate how the work of the Parliament impacts on children’s daily life.

9.0 All information in relation to the Children’s Parliament were written directly by the representatives of the Children’s Parliament.

9.1 Inauguration of Children’s parliament

A two day special session was held for children on the 14 - 15 December, 2000 at the National Theatre, Iganmu Lagos. The programme was planned and coordinated by the Child Rights Information Bureau (*CRIB*) of the Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation in collaboration with *UNICEF* and African Children Broadcasting Network (*ACBN*).

The wide objectives for the special session were to provide an opportunity for the children to get together and review the situation of children in Nigeria based on the child rights as stipulated in the Convention. It was to provide a forum for the children to participate in affairs affecting them and to provide agenda setting platform for policy makers. It is to institutionalize for the first time in the history of Nigeria a regular media dialogue with the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and to establish a Children’s Parliament.

9.2 Methodology

The first day of the special session held in Lagos featured the gathering together of children within the age range of 8-17 years, from a wide variety of backgrounds ranging from the private and public/government/vocational schools, those physically challenged, privileged and less privileged. The children though resident in Lagos and Ogun States were chosen from the six geo-political zones of the federation.

They were gathered for the purpose of rehearsing for the special session/dialogue with high government functionaries slated for the second day of the programme and for electing key officers into the children’s parliament.

Volunteers from a pool of about 500 children contested for the posts of President, Chief Whip, Clerk of the house and the Mace Bearer in three different groups. Contestants were asked to make speeches indicating why he/she should be appointed to any of the posts being contested for, and to demonstrate an in depth knowledge of the situation of the Nigerian child and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Their appearance, comportment, eloquence and style of presentation formed the criteria of choice. After the presentations the children voted by a show of hands and elected the following as the key officers of the Children’s parliament:

- Senate President
- Chief Whip

- Clerk of the house
- Mace Bearer

9.3 Mandate

- To represent the voices, minds and aspirations of the Nigerian children
- To come up with high quality supplementary advocacy for the survival, protection, development and participation rights of children.
- To deliberate and pass child evolving bills and present to the National Assembly for adoption
- To deliberate and adopt child friendly recommendations and pass to relevant authorities for consideration
- Receive reports from peers and deliver same to the relevant Authorities through the Child Development Department
- Monitor Issues involving Child Survival, Development, Protection and Participation

9.4 Composition of the Nigerian Children’s Parliament at the National Level

There are 36 states in the Federal Republic of Nigeria with the Federal Capital Territory
At the national level, each state has two representatives in the Senate and two representatives in the House of Representatives giving a total of 148 members at the national level.

9.5 Officers

Senate President	
Speaker	
Deputy Senate President	
Deputy Speaker	
Senate Majority and Minority Leaders	House of Representatives Majority and Minority Leaders
Chief Whip of the Senate	Chief Whip of the House
Clerk of the Senate	Clerk of the House
Chairpersons of the Five Relevant Committees of the Senate and House Namely Committees on: Survival Development Protection Participation and Information, media and publicity	
Deputy Chairpersons of the Relevant Committees in the Senate and House	Deputy Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate and House
Senators of the Upper House	
Representatives of the Lower House	
Sergeant At Arms of the Senate	Sergeant At Arms of the House
Special Advisers	
Staff: Special Assistant Project Officers Secretaries	

9.6 Achievements of the Nigerian Children's Parliament

S/No	Activity, Place and Scope	Methodology	Objectives	Partnership Involved	Date and Status
1	3 Day Advocacy Workshop for Children and Young Persons Abuja, Nigeria (State)	Lecture Workshop Interactive Session	Aimed at enhancing the development of children and young persons	Ministry of the Federal Capital Territory Children and Young Persons Development Centre YAGECHRI INC	October 2004 Participants were trained on children and human rights and responsibilities The formation of child rights club leaders forum The event have been edited, serialized and is being aired on NTA Plus in Abuja every Thursday
2	International Day of Peace Lagos, Nigeria (Global)	Workshop Seminars Peaceful Rally and IDP Vigil	To connect and inspire young leaders in the country for positive and constructive actions for peace	National Human Rights Commission (YAGECHRI) INC Children and Young Persons Development Centre	September 2003 and 2004 Establishment of the young peace ambassador network Development of 2 peace projects
3	National Children's Day Celebration Abuja, Nigeria (National)	Joint Parliamentary Sitting and Deliberations	To boost the effort of the Government in the final Phase of the Kick Out Polio Campaign	Federal Ministry of Women Affairs National Programme on Immunization UNICEF	27 May, 2004 Passed a Bill on the Compulsory Routine Immunization of Children Under 11 Months
4	National Children's Day Celebration Abuja, Nigeria	Separate Parliamentary Sitting by both houses Deliberations Syndicate Group Discussion	A day set aside each year to honour the Nigerian children in line with the Standards of the United Nations	Federal Ministry of Women Affairs UNICEF Federal Ministry of	27 May, 2004 Reconstituted the membership and executives of the Nigerian Children's Parliament

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S/No	Activity, Place and Scope	Methodology	Objectives	Partnership Involved	Date and Status
	(National)	Election for new members		Information and National Orientation The Presidency	The Formal Inauguration of the Nigerian Children's Parliament by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria The Reconstituted Nigerian Children's Parliament had a separate sitting before the President of the federation, his cabinet, members of the Nigerian National Assembly as well as members of the international community and civil society
5	Africa Malaria Day Celebration Abuja, Nigeria (Regional)	Joint Parliamentary Sitting and Studies Deliberations Joined the Roll Back Malaria Campaign	To support the National Malaria Control Programme in the efforts to reduce the cases of malaria by 50% in 2005	Federal Ministry of Health. World Health Organization. UNICEF.	26 th April 2004 Passed Bill on the Mandatory Use of Insecticide Treated Nets in All Boarding Schools Paid Visits to the Relevant Authorities
6	National Conference on Orphans and Vulnerable Children Abuja, Nigeria (National)	Seminars Workshop Debates Interactive Session	Projecting the hopes and aspirations of the Nigerian children in the national response to the scourge of orphans and vulnerable children in the face of HIV/AIDS	Federal Ministry of Women Affairs UNICEF Save the Children UK UNAIDS USAID	12 February, 2004 Adopted a Nigerian Orphans and Vulnerable Children Manifesto Orphans and Vulnerable Children participated in the National Event
7	National Advocacy Group on the passage of the Child Rights Act Abuja, Nigeria (National)	Courtesy visits to the policy makers Public hearing Stakeholders forum	Charged with the task the passage of the Child's Rights Act 2003	National Human Rights Commission Federal Ministry of Women Affairs National Child Rights Implementation	Fast track Passage of the Child's Rights Act 2003

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S/No	Activity, Place and Scope	Methodology	Objectives	Partnership Involved	Date and Status
				Committee	
8	International Children's Day of Broadcasting Abuja, Nigeria (International)	Trainings for Under 18 Journalist First ever live Media Chart with decision and policy makers on child evolving issues which was aired live on the network service of the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) Through a TV programme "Lets Talk" the members interviewed members of the public also on child evolving issues	A day celebrated world wide to allow children take over media houses in order to obtain and express their views	African Children Broadcasting Network UNICEF Nigerian Television Authority Glorious Diamond Production	December 2002 Had a first ever media chat with the president of the Federation on child evolving issues Also paid advocacy visits to the Speaker and the chair person of House of Representatives Committee on Women and Children to protest attempts by the House to alter the contents of the contents of the then Child's Rights Bill. The visit was widely covered by the media. Members of the Information, Media and Publicity Committee of the Senate and House of Representative of the Nigerian Children's Parliament were trained on media
9	First Summit of Nigerian Children Abuja, Nigeria (National)	Syndicate Group Discussion General Group Discussion Interactive Session with Decision Makers Artistic and Cultural Activities	The Summit was a project of the President of the Federation organized through the Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation	Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation UNICEF	September/October 2002 Nigerian Children Resolution specially assented to by the President of the federal Republic of Nigeria
10	Junior achievement Company Programmes for Student Throughout Nigeria (International, National and Local)	Business Skills Acquisition Programms	Instilling in young people the concept of good entrepreneurship	Junior Achievement Nigeria YAGECHRI INC	Since 2002 Understanding on how to come with various income generation projects

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S/No	Activity, Place and Scope	Methodology	Objectives	Partnership Involved	Date and Status
11	4 th World Summit on Media for Children Brazil (Global)	Media Trainings Competitions Workshops Paper and technical Presentations	To safeguard the worlds media for children To review the situation of the media in the faces of children	UNICEF	March 2002 Development of projects and policies to promote child friendly media around the world
12	3 rd World Summit on Media for Children Greece (Global)	Media Trainings Competitions Workshops Paper and technical Presentations	To safeguard the world's media for children To review the situation of the media in the faces of children	UNICEF African Children Broadcasting Network	March 2001 Development of projects and policies to promote child friendly media around the world
13	Preparatory Committee session of United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children (UNGASSOC) New York, USA (Global)	Workshops Interactive Session Seminars Trainings	To involve young people in the preparation and planning processes of the UNGASSOC Promoting children friendly participation	UNICEF African Children Broadcasting Network	Participated at the Preparatory Committee Reflected the voices of the Nigerian child in the drafting of the Children's Out Come Document
14	United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children New York, USA (Global)	Inter active session Drafting the children out come document Seminars Joint Interactive session with World leaders	A session for world leaders among member states to review the progress made since the last decade	Federal Ministry of Women Affairs UNICEF African Children Broadcasting Network	Participated in the production of the World Fit For Children document
15	Young Alliance for Global	Training Of Trainers	An international network of	YAGECHRI	Established a network of young advocate

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S/No	Activity, Place and Scope	Methodology	Objectives	Partnership Involved	Date and Status
	Enforcement of Children's Human Rights (YAGECHRI) INC Partnership for visible change Lagos, Nigeria (Global)	Update Information Potentials On Wheels and other YAGECHRI initiative	young advocates mandated with the obligation to expand the capacity of young advocates for more profound and sound advocacy for the most visible changes	Secretariat- California	Identifying very technical approaches to advocacy for young leaders
16	World Water Forum Japan (Global)	Seminars Lectures Interactive Session Workshops Paper Presentation	To review and come up with policies involving water related issues Expand the views of participants on the water conservation, distribution and appreciation	UNICEF	Reviewed various water related policies Expand the views of participants on the water conservation, distribution and appreciation

***Please note that the young parliamentarians, as peer educators, delivered many of the lectures, and organized the workshops and interactive sessions.**

9.7 On Human resources: there is a desk officer for the Children’s Parliament and a general back up by the Child Development Department, while **financial resources** are made available for the activities of the Parliament through various sources including:

- Federal Ministry of Women Affairs
- Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation
- UN Agencies –UNICEF, ILO, and WHO
- Sectoral Ministries in whose programmes the children participate

10. Please provide information on the Child Rights Information Bureau (CRIB) in the Ministry of Information, including its mandate, composition and the allocated human and financial resources.

10.1 Mandate and Functions

The Child Rights Information Bureau (CRIB) was established in 1995 as a counterpart funding Unit of Government to work in collaboration with UNICEF and other United Nations Agencies in the implementation of the Information and Communication Goals of:

- ❖ The United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (CRC);
- ❖ The United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- ❖ The Organization of African Union (AU) Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the African Child

The Unit has the mandate to carry out the following among others:

- ❖ Initiation and development of Information/Communication Intervention Programmes on Child Survival, Development, Protection and Participation (CSDPP) and Gender issues.
- ❖ Production and circulation of Posters, leaflets on the commemoration of International days such as World AIDS Day, Day of African Child, International Children’s Day of Broadcasting, Children’s Day, World Breast Feeding Week, etc.
- ❖ Initiation of programmes and activities to commemorate the special days mentioned above as a way of creating awareness and sensitizing the people of the survival and development of women and children.
- ❖ Initiation and development of campaign strategies with Federal Information Centre at the grass root.
- ❖ To achieve the above roles, CRIB collaborates with UNICEF, ILO, WHO, National Planning Commission, Line Ministries, especially Women Affairs and NGOs that are involved in the development of women and children.

10.2 Composition of CRIB

The present staff strength of the unit is 19, comprising: the Deputy Director, Assistant Director, Assistant Chief Information Officers (3), Principal Information Officers (2), Information Officers II (5), Senior executive Officer, Senior Typist, Executive Officer, Senior Clerical Officer, Typist Grade II, Clerical Officer and Head Messenger.

10.3 Funding

CRIB is a UNICEF assisted counterpart funded unit. UNICEF is expected to contribute 60% of funds for every programme being executive in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation while the Ministry is expected to contribute 40%.

For programmes that are solely undertaken by the Ministry, it is expected that the Ministry will fund such programmes 100%.

Budgetary Allocation: Before year 2003, CRIB did not have a separate budget but was funded from the budgetary allocations to the Ministry of Information and National Orientation.

CRIB Budgetary Allocation

Year	Capital Expenditure	Recurrent Expenditure
2003	N10m	N8.4m
2004	N10m	N8.9m

11. Please provide information on the National Human Rights Commission in Nigeria, including its mandate, functions, human and financial resources made available to the Commission, number of cases investigated and their outcomes, and provide specific information on cases involving children (e.g. number and nature of complaints filed by, or on behalf of children). Furthermore, please indicate how this Commission is ensuring its independence, in light of the Paris Principles (General Assembly resolution 48/134, annex).

11.1 Establishment and Mandate of the Commission

The National Human Rights Commission was established by the National Human Rights Commission Act 1995. Its functions are to create an enabling environment for extra-judicial recognition, promotion, protection and enforcement of human rights, in addition to providing a forum for public enlightenment and dialogue on human rights. It is also expected to facilitate the implementation of Nigeria's various international and regional treaty obligations on human rights issues.

The functions and powers of the Commission are provided in S.5 of its enabling act and include the following:

- a. Deal with all matters relating to the protection of human rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the African Charter (CAP 10 LFN 1990), the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and other international treaties on human rights to which Nigeria is a signatory;
- b. Monitor and investigate all alleged cases of human rights violation in Nigeria and make appropriate recommendations to the Federal Government for the prosecution and such other actions as it may deem expedient in each circumstance;
- c. Assist victims of human rights violations and seek appropriate redress and remedies on their behalf;

- d. Undertake studies on all matters relating to human rights and assist the Federal Government in the formulation of appropriate policies on the guarantee of human rights;
- e. Publish regularly reports on the state of human rights protection in Nigeria;
- f. Organise local and international seminars, workshops and conferences on human rights issues for public enlightenment;
- g. Liaise and cooperate with local and international organisations on human rights for the purpose of advancing the promotion and protection of human rights;
- h. Participate in all international activities relating to the promotion and protection of human rights;
- i. Maintain a library, collect data and disseminate information and materials on human rights generally; and
- j. Carry out all such other functions as are necessary or expedient for the performance of these functions under the Act.

11.2 Composition of the Governing Council

The Council consisted of sixteen members representing a variety of interests, including its Chairman and its Executive Secretary. The tenure of each council is four years. The Executive Secretary of the Commission is the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission and is in charge of the day to day running of the Commission.

11.3 Head Office and Zonal Offices

The Commission has its headquarters in Abuja. In order to extend its services to the grass roots, the Commission has established five zonal offices in five geo-political zones of the country. The offices include

1. South-West—Lagos,
2. North-East—Maiduguri,
3. South-East—Enugu,
4. North-West—Kano
5. South-South—Port-Harcourt.

The North Central Zonal office is to be established soon in Jos. The Headquarters office in Abuja is now covering the North Central geo-political zone.

11.4 Management Structure of the Commission

The Commission has the following departments and units:

- Department of Legal and Investigation
- Department of Public Affairs and Information
- Department of Administration
- Department of Finance
- Department of Planning, Research and Statistics
- Human Rights Violation Monitoring Unit
- Audit Unit
- Council Secretariat Unit.
- Anti-Corruption Unit

11.5 Staff Strength

The expansion of the Commission through the establishment of zonal offices led to the recruitment of additional staff. The staff complement of the Commission is now three hundred and seventeen (317), comprising one hundred and sixty-six (166) senior staff and one hundred and fifty one (151) junior staff.

11.6 Complaints Treatment Mechanism

The Commission has a viable and effective complaints mechanism for treating petitions on allegations of human rights violation. The Commission's work of investigating complaints and making appropriate recommendations, as well as seeking redress and remedies on behalf of victims of human rights violations, is undoubtedly one of its most important and challenging activity, and there is no gainsaying that it is of immense benefit to the ordinary citizens of this country.

Investigating complaints and seeking redress and remedies on behalf of victims by the Commission is only a complementary function to that of the courts of law, which have the primary responsibility for the protection and enforcement of those fundamental human rights under **Chapter IV of the Nigerian Constitution**. The Commission has from inception to 15 August 2004, received **2,916** complaints of violation of human rights covering the cases of over **14,000** persons. The commission charges no fees for filing of complaints nor for any of its functions under the act.

The subject matter of the complaints since inception of the Commission till date has not changed. These include:

- allegations of high-handedness by security agents and officials of government;
- disrespect or failure to obey court orders by government agencies/officials;
- undue delay in the dispensation of justice,
- detention without trial,
- illegal confiscation of property;
- unlawful termination of appointment;
- pleas for the grant of clemency;
- child abuse,
- communal clashes,
- environmental degradation,
- extra-judicial killings,
- domestic violence,
- torture,
- inhuman and degrading treatment,
- discriminatory practices against persons,
- harmful traditional practices.

With the advent of democracy and constitutional government, the number of complaints received yearly has more than quadrupled. This is certainly due to democratization of the polity and the public enlightenment embarked upon nationwide by the Commission. Specifically, the Commission received a total of 993 complaints in the 4 year period from

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June 1996 to June 2000 while comparatively in July 2000 to 15 August, 2004, another four year period; it received a total of 1923 complaints, which is an increase of over 200%. This has understandably stretched the Commission’s capacity in terms of human, financial and material resources.

The breakdown of complaints received and treated by the Commission is shown below.

Year	Torture/ Inhuman & Degrading Treatment by Law Enforcement Agencies	Unlawful Arrest & Detention by Law Enforcement Agencies	Extra Judicial Killings	Disobedience of Court Order	Delay in Hearing of Appeal	Domestic Violence	Child Abuse	Dismissal Termination of Appointment
1996	3	12	-	2	3	-	-	7
1997	20	30	6	3	8	-	-	18
1998	39	47	6	7	18	4	-	53
1999	24	42	8	14	2	3	1	176
2000	53	82	17	13	8	9	10	224
2001	68	71	20	15	4	11	16	195
2002	20	62	11	10	2	11	20	81
2003	25	51	6	4	7	32	3	89
2004 Jan- Aug 15	3	33	2	1	1	8	10	30
Total	255	430	76	69	53	78	60	873
%	8.7	14.8	2.6	2.4	1.8	2.7	2.1	29.9

Year	Non-Payment of benefits & Entitlement	Communal Clashes	Environmental Issues	Appeal for Prerogative of Mercy	Land & Landed Properties	International Complaints	Threat to Life	Others
1996	2	-	2	3	-	2	-	5
1997	6	-	3	9	-	-	-	11
1998	15	-	6	9	-	3	-	14
1999	24	1	-	5	14	2	-	27
2000	61	4	8	8	-	-	-	62
2001	66	6	3	8	26	-	-	48
2002	64	2	16	10	19	2	82	9
2003	56	2	5	11	27	-	48	66
2004 Jan-Aug 15	42	0	0	1	10	0	13	74
Total	336	15	43	64	96	9	143	316

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Year	Non-Payment of benefits & Entitlement	Communal Clashes	Environmental Issues	Appeal for Prerogative of Mercy	Land & Landed Properties	International Complaints	Threat to Life	Others
%	11.5	0.5	1.5	2.2	3.3	0.3	4.9	10.8

Note: 2004 Data ends on the 15th of August.

It is evident from the above table, that the specific information on cases involving children are shown as **child abuse cases**. The complaints which the Commission started handling in 1999 totaled 60 by 2004; constituting 2.1 per cent age of all cases handled by the Commission.

Total Picture

Year	Total No. of Cases Treated
1996	41
1997	114
1998	221
1999	343
2000	559
2001	557
2002	421
2003	432
2004	228
Jan-Aug 15	
Total	2916

12 Please provide detailed information on the content of the National Plan of Action on children mentioned in the periodic report, paragraph 6, and the measures taken to implement the NPA.

12.1 The National Plan of Action (NPA) was initiated in 1992 to articulate Nigeria's responses to the issues raised by the CRC. It was meant to evolve a strategy for entrenching the right of the child in all aspects of national life.

The National Planning Commission, along with the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and UNICEF is in the process of reviewing the NPA, to address the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the World fit for Children Programme.

The National Plan of Action relates to the overall development programmes of the country and its implementation, in so far as it relates to children, are contained in the programmes and activities reported upon in the eight clusters of the Second Periodic report.

The national review brings together 36 national partners from line ministries, parastatals and agencies including Health, Education, Environment, Water Resource, Justice, Federal Office of Statistics, National Population Commission, and the National Planning Commission.

The National Planning Commission, with technical and financial assistance of UNICEF, has produced a set of guidelines to enable states develop their own State Plans of Action (SPAs), emphasizing the roles and responsibilities expected of each Agency towards the attainment of the Governments goals for the National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS) and State Economic Empowerment Strategy (SEEDS) by 2015.

13. Please provide updated information on efforts to disseminate the Convention by the State party

13.1 To facilitate the promotion of a protective environment for children, the country has embarked on various advocacy efforts of the parliament, human rights organisations, top policy makers, NGOs, children and media toward the launching, production and dissemination of copies of the **Child’s Rights Act (CRA)**.

Popularisation of the CRA constitutes part of the ongoing process of popularisation of the Convention on the Rights of the child (CRC). In as much as the CRA is the medium of implementation of the CRC by domestic legislation, the CRC has been widely popularised and it’s still being popularised. The popularisation process is going. Since Nigeria ratified the Convention, about 100,000 copies have been distributed.

14. Please provide updated information on efforts made to provide training, awareness on the Convention and on human rights in general, to children, parents, teachers, social workers and other professionals working with/for children.

14.1 See **Cluster 1 items 1.1.1 (iii)** and **item 1.2.3** of the Second Periodic Report on ‘Popularization’. Also the UNICEF’s CRC Chair in the University of Lagos is based on an agreement focusing on operational researches, implementation and monitoring in Nigeria with the aim of enriching the national capacity of understanding and analysis of child protection issues

15. Please provide additional information on the cooperation between the State Party and the international community including non-governmental organizations, in the efforts to implement the Convention.

15.1 The extent of cooperation between the State Party and the international community including non-governmental organizations, in the efforts to implement the Convention have been reported in Clusters 1, item 1.2.5 and Cluster 8, item 8.5.2 (x) of the Second Country Periodic Report, issued November 2004.

15.2 The Nigerian government in 1999, signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) with ILO-IPEC on the elimination of child labour in Nigeria. Since year 2000, the ILO-IPEC has supported the Country to implement four Child Labour Elimination projects. The establishment of Two Pilot Emergency Shelter Centers for the rescue of trafficked children will foster cooperation between the Federal Government, the State Governments, the local community and the ILO-IPEC.

15.3 All the international instruments, as well as the NAPTIP Act emphasize the benefits of countries cooperating with one another in the fight against Traffic in Persons.

In line with this, UNICEF Nigeria recently facilitated a bilateral negotiation between Nigeria and Benin Republic, to exploit the existing Badagry Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries. The aim of the negotiation was the establishment of the Nigeria/Benin Joint Committee on Trafficking in Persons, which has already met in Lagos and Cotonou, respectively. The bilateral discussion has started yielding benefits, as Benin Republic only recently handed over to the Agency six victims and one trafficker. This effort will be replicated with other neighboring countries like Niger, Chad, Cameroun, Mali, Togo, and Burkina-Faso.

The Agency has taken advantage of the MOU signed between the Governments of Nigeria and Italy on human trafficking, to establish a closer cooperation with the Italian Anti-Mafia Bureau. Classified information from the Bureau reveals that over 50,000 Nigerian girls are working in the sex industry in Italy, and most of them are victims of trafficking. From the debriefing of victims recently repatriated from Italy, it is clear that these girls live in slave-like conditions and are forced to prostitute and make money for the crime barons amounting to Euro 40,000 – 50,000 before they regain their “freedom” The Agency’s collaboration with Italy has been truly rewarding.

The IOM has been of tremendous assistance to NAPTIP in various ways, culminating in the establishment of NAPTIP/IOM shelter in Benin City and Lagos for rehabilitation of trafficked victims.

The Agency has also participated actively in some bilateral and multilateral United Nations and Sub-regional conferences. Such conferences afforded the agency the opportunity for comparing notes and fine tuning national and international measures aimed at combating Trafficking in Persons, and to explore further ways of collaboration in the fight against the transnational aspect of the crime.

These conferences included:

- The International Workshop for Security Agencies in Ghana and Nigeria, 21 – 23 October 2003.
- The Second Session of the African Union Labour and Social Affairs Commission held in Cotonou, Benin Republic 19- 23 April, 2004;
- The 13th Session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna, Austria, April 2004;
- The Nigeria/America Joint Commission on Crime Prevention, held in Washington D. C. USA; and
- The Conference of Parties to the Transnational Organized Crime Prevention and its Protocol held in Vienna, Austria, July 2004.

Nigeria has taken steps to put in place proper legal institutional frameworks to meaningfully combat trafficking in persons.

16. 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.

16.1

- Enactment and implementation of CRL(Child’s Rights Law) in States
- Child Survival (including immunization, nutrition, management of childhood killer diseases, and integrated management of childhood illness
- Education (UBE, Child Friendly Schools and Girl Child Education)
- OVC including HIV/AIDS victims, victims of child trafficking and children with disability.
- Generation of data on children’s survival, development, protection and participation issues.

Part II

Please provide 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, when available. If possible, please submit these texts in electronic form.

Part III

Under this section, the State party is to briefly (3 pages maximum) update the information provided in its report with regard to:

- **new bills or enacted legislation**
- **new institutions**
- **newly implemented policies**
- **newly implemented programmes and projects and their scope.**

Updated information on new bills or enacted legislation have been provided in the Second Periodic Report under Part II; Cluster I. Furthermore, Enugu, Edo and Cross-River States have legislations prohibiting Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), while Anti - Discrimination and V.V.F Bills are presently under consideration in the National Assembly.

Part IV

The following is a preliminary list of major issues (that does not contain issues already covered in Part I) that the Committee intends to take up during the dialogue with the State party. They do not require written responses. This list is not exhaustive as other issues might be raised in the course of the dialogue.

- 1. Adoption and implementation of the Child Rights Act at the state level;**
- 2. Non-discrimination in general, in particular discrimination against girls, children born out of wedlock, children with disabilities and children belonging to minority groups;**
- 3. Birth registration, in particular, of children of foreign parents and refugee parents;**
- 4. Corporal punishment in the family, schools, other institutions and in the juvenile justice system as legal penal sentence;**
- 5. Child abuse, neglect, and domestic violence;**

- 6. Children deprived of family environment and alternative care;**
- 7. Investment in healthcare system and the prevalence of illnesses such as malaria, diarrhoea and HIV/AIDS, and the quality of water and sanitation systems;**
- 8. Lack of provisions for adolescent health;**
- 9. Harmful traditional practices, in particular female genital mutilation and early/forced marriages;**
- 10. Children with disabilities;**
- 11. Quality of education, high levels of illiteracy;**
- 12. Refugee/ internally displaced children and the lack of provisions for them;**
- 13. Children affected by communal conflicts;**
- 14. Drug and other substance abuse by children;**
- 15. Economic exploitation, including forced labour;**
- 16. Minority groups;**
- 17. Increasing phenomenon of street children;**
- 18. Sexual exploitation and trafficking;**
- 19. Administration of juvenile justice.**
