

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN

Paix – Travail – Patrie



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

Peace – Work – Fatherland

**PERIODIC REPORT
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE AFRICAN CHARTER
ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE
OF THE CHILD**

2011-2014

December 2014

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFD	French Development Agency
IGAs	Income-Generating Activities
ALDEPA	Local Action for Auto-managed Participatory Development
AME	Association of Mothers of Children
ARV	Anti-Retroviral Drugs
BIAAG	Because I Am A Girl
WB	World Bank
BUCREP	Central Bureau for Population Census and Studies
BUNEC	National Civil Status Bureau
C2D	Debt Relief and Development Contract
ACRWC	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
ACHPR	African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
CAED	Welcome Centre for Children in Need
CAM LEAD	Cameroonian League for Development
CARMMA	Campaign for Accelerated Reduction in Maternal Mortality in Africa
CCC	Communication for Behaviour Change
CCEJ-VAC	National Advisory Council for Children and Youths
CRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
CED	Centre for Environment and Development
CEMAC	Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa
CFM	Centre for Training in Trades
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
CIDIMUC	Council of Imams and Muslim Dignitaries of Cameroon
CIPCRE	International Centre for the Promotion of Creation
CISPAV	Inter-sector Committee for the Follow-up of Projects and Programmes for Vulnerable Indigenous Peoples
CMPJ	Multi-functional Centre for Youth Empowerment
NCHRF	National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms
CNEH	National Association of Teachers with Disabilities
UNCHRD	United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy
COCADE	Cameroonian Coalition of OSC for the Rights of the Child
CPFF	Women and Family Empowerment Centre
CRPH-CPEL	Cardinal Paul Emile Leger National Rehabilitation Centre for Persons with Disabilities
CRTV	Cameroon Radio and Television
RLA	Regional and Local Authorities
DBI	Determination of Best Interest
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
CNSPM	Children Needing Special Protection Measures
ECAM	Cameroon Household Survey
ST	Street Children
EDS-MICS	Demographic and Health Survey / Multiple Indicators Clusters Survey
EIP	School Instrument of Peace
GTTC	Government Teacher Training College
GTTTC	Government Technical Teacher Training College
UPR	Universal Periodic Report
CLEF	Cameroon Living Earth Foundation
FENASSCO	National School Sports Federation
OF	Obstetrical Fistulas
AMTSL	Active Management of Third Phase of Labour
GAVI	Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
IDAY	International Day of the African Child and Youths
SRN	State Registered Nurse
IEC	Information, Education and Communication

NHRIs	National Human Rights Institutions
NIS	National Institute of Statistics
INTS	National Institute of Social Work
IPEC	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
ISESCO	Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
LIDs	Local Immunisation Days
NIDs	National Immunisation Days
LUTRENA	Fight against Child Labour in Cocoa and Commercial Agriculture
LWF	Learn Without Fear
MBOSCUA	Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association of Cameroon
FGM	Female Genital Mutilations
LLINS	Long-lasting Insecticide Treated Mosquito Bed Nets
MINAS	Ministry of Social Affairs
MINATD	Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation
MINCOMMERCE	Ministry of Trade
MINEDUB	Ministry of Basic Education
MINEFOP	Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training
MINESEC	Ministry of Secondary Education
MINJEC	Ministry of Youth and Civic Education
MINPROFF	Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family
MINSANTE	Ministry of Public Health
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
ILO	International Labour Organisation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
WHO	World Health Organisation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OPD	Organisations of Persons with Disabilities
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
OSIWA	Open Society Initiative for West Africa
PADES	Auto-production and Social Development Programme
PAJER-U	Rural and Urban Youth Support Programme
PANETEC	National Action Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Cameroon
PCA	Complementary Package of Activities
PMA	Minimum Package of Activities
IMCD	Integrated Management of Childhood Diseases
HCPs	Harmful Cultural Practices
PDPP	Pygmy People Development Programme
PEC	Management/Support / Sustenance
PECADOM	Home Management of Simple Malaria
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunisation
FP	Family Planning
PIAASI	Integrated Support Programme for Stakeholders of the Informal Sector
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
PNDP	National Community Development Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
CMYP	Comprehensive Multi-year Plan
HIPC	Heavily Indebted Poor Countries
TFP	Technical and Financial Partners
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV
PLWHA	People Living with HIV and AIDS
CBR	Community-Based Rehabilitation
REJAE	Network of Journalists Friends of Children
GPHC	General Population and Housing Census
SHS	Strengthening of the Health System

SAR/SM	Rural Craft Sections / Domestic Science
SASNIM	Health Action and Infant and Maternal Nutrition Weeks
SASPAN	Social Action Services for Vulnerable Indigenous Peoples
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
SOCAPED	Cameroon Society of Paediatricians
NEC	Neonatal Emergency Care
OEC	Obstetric Emergency Care
ARH	Adolescent Reproductive Health
ICTs	Information and Communication Technologies
TPI	Intermittent Preventive Treatment
EU	European Union
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UPEC	Management/Support Unit
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
HIV	Human Immune-deficiency Virus
WACAP	West African Cocoa and Agricultural Project
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
PEZ	Priority Education Zone

INTRODUCTION

This Periodic Report is submitted pursuant to Article 43 paragraph 4 (d) of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC). It follows the presentation, on 28 November 2011, of the State of Cameroon's initial report at the 18th session of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, held in Algiers from 27 November to 1 December 2011.

This report which covers the period 2011-2014, reports on the measures already taken to implement the recommendations made by the Committee in 2011.

The report was prepared following a participatory approach involving representatives of government services, the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms (NCHRF), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Technical and Financial Partners (TFP). In this light, an ad-hoc inter-ministerial committee was set up on 5 September 2013 by the Minister of Women's Empowerment and the Family (MINPROFF) (cf. Annex 1). During several workshops, this Committee prepared a draft report, that contained contributions from CSO, which was adopted on 23 December 2014, during an enlarged workshop of all stakeholders.

The report was structured around two areas: dwelling generally on the progress made since the submission of the initial report on the country's situation in general, on the one hand, and on the other hand, the implementation of the provisions of the Charter relating to the:

- general implementation measures;
- definition of the child;
- general principles;
- civil rights and freedoms;
- economic, social and cultural rights;
- family environment and alternative care;
- rights and protection of vulnerable children;
- harmful practices and exploitation;
- administration of juvenile justice; and
- child responsibility.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION ON CAMEROON

The general information on Cameroon, contained in the initial report on the implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, remains valid for this periodic report.

Politically, the major change that took place concerns the Cameroon Parliament which effectively became bicameral, following the legislative and senatorial elections organised in April 2013. The Legislative Power is henceforth exercised by the National Assembly, made up of 180 members and the Senate with 100 Senators.

Economically, the fight against poverty and child malnutrition remains one of the major concerns of the Government.

To ensure food self-sufficiency, the Government opted for an “agricultural revolution” known as “second generation agriculture”, with the prerequisite being the use of modern methods of production.

Underemployment remains one of the major concerns. A strategy for sustainable growth and a strong economy and the creation of thousands of decent jobs was thus adopted.

To this end, in recent years, programmes to fight against youth unemployment were implemented. Thus, 25 000 youths were recruited into the Public Service in 2011, nearly 150 000 jobs were created in various sectors between 2013 and 2014. Besides, as part of the major development projects, a plan to promote national employment and technology transfer was drawn up in partnership with company managers.

II. GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES (Art.1 (1))

The general implementation measures cover the following five areas of intervention: legislation, institutional framework, budget allocation for the implementation of the Charter, cooperation with non-state stakeholders and dissemination.

a) Regulatory Framework

This encompasses international legal instruments, regional instruments ratified by Cameroon and national laws.

Amongst the international and regional instruments could be cited the:

- Optional Protocol to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflicts, ratified on 30 May 2012;
- Optional Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the rights of women ratified on 13 September 2012;
- Resolution No. A/C3/67/21/Rev of the United Nations General Assembly on intensifying the fight against female genital mutilations adopted in 2013;
- African Youth Charter, ratified on 11 January 2011.

Nationally, the Civil Code being drafted integrates, in a harmonized manner, the essential elements of the draft Child Protection Code and the Code on Persons and the Family.

Other instruments which take into account some specific concerns to protect certain rights of specific categories of children were equally adopted, such as the:

- Law No. 2011/024 of 14 December 2011 r on the fight against trafficking and trading in persons, abrogating Law No. 2005/015 of 29 December 2005, which broadens the scope of the fight against trafficking in all categories of victims;
- Decree No. 268/2012 of 11 June 2012 to organise the Ministry of Basic Education (MINEDUB) which has a provision on the supervision and follow-up of activities of Governments and Children's Parliament;
- Decree No. 2013/031 of 13 February 2013 on the organisation and functioning of the National Civil Status Bureau (BUNEC);
- Order No. 012/CAB/PM of 31 January 2013 on the set-up, organisation and functioning of the Committee for the coordination and follow-up of strategies to fight against trafficking in human organs and ritual crimes;
- Order No. 087/PM of 27 August 2014 to set up the Inter-sector Committee for the fight against child labour.

Generally, it should be noted that Cameroon has taken some significant actions in support of child protection. These include mainly the expansion of the chain of Government stakeholders in this area.

However, implementing recommendations in the field of legislation in favour of the child still faces the following challenges:

- lukewarm application of many laws governing children's rights in Cameroon;
- lack of understanding on the need for a specific legal instrument for the child and/or family.

The ongoing drafting of training modules in Police, Gendarmerie and Magistracy schools, as well as the training sessions usually organized for the judiciary staff members on the Rights of the Child, will all help to facilitate better application of instruments on child protection.

b) Institutional Framework

The Ministries of: Basic Education, Secondary Education, Employment and Vocational Training, Public Health, Justice, Youth and Civic Education, Sports and Physical Education, Labour and Social Security, Social Affairs and Women Empowerment and the Family are the main government structures that handle children's issues. They work closely with the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms (NCHRF), CSOs that deal with children's issues, United Nations System and other Technical and Financial Partners.

In order to effectively coordinate the different actions in support of children, an inter-ministerial committee was thus formed, in 2011, to follow up the implementation of the recommendations/decisions of treaties monitoring bodies and this Committee is housed in the Prime Minister's Office.

In addition, the Cameroonian Government promulgated some instruments on decentralization, among others, which grant local authorities powers, human and financial resources to protect and support vulnerable children.

It should also be noted that each administration dealing with children's issues receives and examines complaints from them and / or their representatives.

Thus, considerable efforts have been made in order to comply with the recommendations that were made through the establishment of coordination mechanisms between the different stakeholders who deal with child protection.

Furthermore, an assessment of the decentralization process, made by the Permanent Secretariat for Decentralization, reveals that key stakeholders have not taken a firm grip of the mechanism. . In order to overcome this, the Government organises regularly, with the support of development partners, sessions for strengthening the capacities of council executives.

c) Budget Allocation for Implementing the Charter

Resources earmarked for the implementation of actions for the promotion and protection of children are included in the overall budget packages of the various ministries concerned. Such allocations increased significantly between 2011 and 2014, for the Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS), Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family (MINPROFF), Ministry of Basic Education (MINEDUB), Ministry of Secondary Education (MINESEC) and Ministry of Public Health (MINSANTE).

MINAS, for its part, received respectively from 2011 to 2015 budget allocations as follows: 4,329 billion CFAF (2011); 4,705 billion CFAF (2012); 5,624 billion CFAF (2013); 5,966 billion CFAF (2014) and 6,210 billion CFAF (2015).

For its part, MINPROFF's budget experienced a relative increase from 2012 to 2015 as follows: 3,686 billion CFAF (2012); 4,453 billion CFAF (2013); 4,573 billion CFAF (2014) and 5,008 billion CFAF (2015).

As for budgets allocated to the social ministries of education, in this case MINEDUB and MINESEC, for the specified period, there was an increase in these budgets, with a strong emphasis on the construction and maintenance of infrastructure, notably classrooms, water points, hand washing points, separate latrines for girls and boys, sports facilities, etc. From 2011 to 2014, the MINEDUB investment budget increased from 12.2 in 2011 to 20.6 billion CFAF in 2014. This over 75% increase enabled the equipment of schools with health infrastructure, with particular attention paid to the country's northern regions, where the lack of health facilities contributed to the low enrolment of the girl child, the proliferation of water-borne diseases and non-observance of hygiene rules. The overall budget for 2015 is 188,583 billion CFAF, representing a slight increase of over 14 billion CFAF compared to 2014.

Regarding MINESEC, its investment budget increased from 15.6 in 2011 to 20.7 billion CFAF in 2014, representing an increase of nearly 5 billion CFAF and an investment budget increase of 33.3% since 2011. The total amount allocated for MINESEC for 2015 stands at 251,478 billion CFAF, representing an increase of 29 billion CFAF compared to 2014, including 24,500 billion CFAF earmarked for investment.

The budget allocated for MINSANTE between 2011 and 2014 increased from 74.6 billion CFAF to 91.4 billion CFAF for the recurrent budget. On the contrary, the investment budget decreased slightly, over the same period, from 77.1 billion CFAF to 74.5 billion CFAF. The 2015 budget witnessed a significant increase, of 207,066 billion CFAF.

Amongst the several difficulties, could be noted the absence of a mechanism for following up child protection activities and lack of a special support fund for the promotion of children's rights. To solve these difficulties, two main actions were implemented. This, on the one hand, was the coming into force in 2013 of a new financial regime of the State, adopted through Finance Law No. 2007/006 of 26 December 2007 which established the Programme Budget, whose execution allowed for a better mastery of the cost of conducting actions for children, and on the other hand, the revitalization of a coordination platform mechanisms for budgetary follow-up and control.

d) Cooperation with Non-state Stakeholders

Collaboration with the civil society is reflected in its involvement in the various activities organised by the government and the NCHRF in the areas of education, training, awareness-raising and advocacy. The civil society was associated with the preparation of implementation reports on legal instruments to protect the rights of the child. In the same vein, the State provided financial and technical support to CSOs for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child.

Furthermore, MINATD popularized legislative and regulatory instruments to make CSOs sensitive in order to be granted the status of NGOs. However, MINATD has been encouraged to keep on convening the commissions to grant this status.

In general, there is a marked improvement in the area of collaboration between government departments and civil society organizations for the promotion and protection of the rights the child. The CSOs are likely to be strengthened when they gradually implement the collaboration platform of all stakeholders in this area.

e) Dissemination

The Government, development partners, the NCHRF and the Civil Society have some efforts towards popularizing the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC). Thus, the following actions were taken:

- organizing in 2013 and 2014, as part of the celebration of the Day of the African Child, two symposia on the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, involving community leaders, religious authorities, parents' representatives, children parliamentarians and leaders of the civil society;
- broadcasting radio and television programmes on the rights of children;
- organizing awareness-raising campaigns through the media with commercials on the fight against child labour;
- holding educative talks on the rights of children for parents, educators and children;
- building the capacity of officials of central and external services of MINPROFF on international legal instruments on the rights of the child;

- training of municipal councillors on planning and budgeting focused on the rights of the child;
- dissemination of the ACRWC in a simplified version for children to read in communities;
- training, in April 2012, of journalists from the national and international press on the rights of the child, focusing on the CRC, in view of disseminating awareness-raising messages on this legal instrument, crowned with the establishment of a “Réseau des Journalistes Amis des Enfants, REJAE,” (Network of Journalists Friends of Children), which has 150 members representing 50 media organs.

In addition, in continuation of the implementation of the national education programme on Human Rights introduced in Cameroon since 2008, elements on the rights of the child have been included in the training modules and learners’ manuals for primary and secondary education.

The main difficulty is the lack of technical and financial resources to popularize the ACRWC, particularly, its translation into the main local languages of Cameroon.

In prospect, for better popularization, the raising of funds is envisaged for the translation of the ACRWC into local languages.

III. DEFINITION OF A CHILD (Art. 2)

Following the recommendation made on Article 2 on the definition of the Child, the drafts Child Protection Code and Code of Persons and the Family, both merged into a draft Civil Code, harmonized the legal age for marriage, according to the ACRWC requirements, to be 18 years for both sexes.

While pending the adoption of the prepared drafts, awareness-raising and advocacy actions have been intensified in families and communities, in order to rekindle a more effective awareness on the need to protect the child against harmful socio-cultural practices, such as early and/or forced marriages, female genital mutilation, etc.

IV. GENERAL PRINCIPLES (Art. 3, 4, 5 and 26)

The general principles entail three areas:

- non-discrimination;
- the best interest of the child;
- survival and development.

a) Non-discrimination (Art. 3 and 26)

Pursuant to the recommendations of Article 3, the following actions were undertaken by the Government and its partners:

- the introduction of free treatment of simple malaria and severe malaria for children of 0-5 years;
- information and education of men and women on the inheritance rights of girls and women;
- strengthening support and extension of the Associations of Mothers of Students (AME) for the promotion of access to and retention of girls in school, especially in the Priority

Education Zones (PEZs) in the North and East Regions, where the girls' enrolment rate is still below 50%;

- the development of inclusive education programmes encompassing all categories of vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

Other measures were taken in favour of certain categories of children, especially children with disabilities and those from vulnerable groups. These measures have been outlined in the section of the report dealing with such children.

On analysis, great progress has been made in the management, promotion and protection of social rights of children in general, particularly, those of the girl child and vulnerable children.

However, some social and cultural constraints hinder the effective implementation of these measures, especially, continuous corruption in some schools and hospitals that are struggling to comply with the principles of free primary education and treatment of simple malaria for children of 0-5 years and the insufficient resources allocated for government departments in charge of child promotion and protection of the child.

In order to remedy the above-mentioned difficulties, the Government plans to strengthen strategies such as:

- improving on the capacities of various stakeholders in order to eliminate discriminatory and dehumanizing practices against girls;
- intensifying the fight against corruption within schools and hospitals;
- educating, informing and raising awareness amongst families, educators and communities, on the need to respect children's rights;
- allocating additional resources for the ministries in charge of child promotion and protection;
- organising paid holiday jobs for children of school-going age, especially girls;
- awarding scholarships to girls who have performed well in official examinations;
- intensifying advocacy and raising awareness on Education For All (EFA).

b) Best Interest of the Child(Art.4)

As recommended in Article 4, Cameroon has taken significant administrative and judicial measures to protect the best interests of the child, particularly:

- setting up social action services in police stations, courts, health services, prisons and indigenous communities; and there are nearly 125 throughout the country;
- taking into account the views of the assessors during hearings involving minors facing the law;
- giving free legal assistance to minors facing the law.

Some effort is still being made by Cameroon for the protection of the best interests of the child, through the strengthening of institutional capacities to promote and protect the rights of the child.

Conversely, the disparity between the tasks assigned to the promotion and protection structures for the above-mentioned rights of the child, and the human, financial and material resources, hinders the attainment of desired objectives.

Failure by psychologists to assist minor children facing the law, non-systematic consideration of the best interests of the child in some court decisions concerning children facing the law, insufficient resources allocated for fees of legal counsels and compensation of assessors in courts do not allow for maximum protection of minors facing the law. Cameroon therefore envisages:

- systematic psychological assistance for minors facing the law;
- development of programmes on capacity-building for justice system stakeholders;
- adoption as soon as possible of the Civil Code, taking into account the concerns relating to the protection of the rights of the child.

c) Survival and Development (Art.5)

The rights to life, health, education, food, maintenance and development are the fundamental rights of the child that are guaranteed and protected by our Constitution and other laws on the promotion and protection of human rights.

In addition, the Government of Cameroon is taking concrete measures to ensure the full and harmonious development of the child in key areas such as education and health.

Specifically, in response to the recommendation of Article 5, taking care of minors in custody fits into the overall framework of the prison health that has been pegged to the national health system. Infirmaries within large detention centres were transformed into independent medical centres. It is in this light that the last recruitment competitive entrance examination into the prison administration was opened to the medical staff. In June 2013, there were 201 medical staff within the prison administration, and distributed as follows: 18 medical doctors, 36 State Registered Nurses (SRNs), 113 auxiliary nurses, 34 health and laboratory technicians. Five medical doctors are about to end training and will soon be absorbed into the corps.

Moreover, in the last competitive entrance examination of May 2014, 10 candidacies were reserved for SRNs and 15 for auxiliary nurses, thereby increasing the medical staff to 226. To this staff should be added three positions for prisons administrator, psycho pathologists in the same competitive examination.

Regarding children in specialized training and rehabilitation institutions , the infirmaries found within such institutions take care of them.

d) Participation (Art.4)

With to the best interests of the child, his participation is effectively seen in the judicial or administrative proceedings affecting him. This is reflected especially through:

- the presence, during court proceedings involving children, of assessors charged with ensuring the protection of children's views;
- the presence, in court administrative services, of social work services in courts (all the courts in regional headquarters do harbour a social work service; and in the divisions, MINAS Sub-divisional Delegates do play this role, given the shortage in personnel).

V. CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS (Art. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 16)

In response to the recommendations of Articles 6, 7, and 10, which concern specifically the name and nationality, freedom of expression and the protection of privacy, the Government, with the support of its development partners and CSOs conducted several actions.

a) Name and Nationality (Art.6)

As for name and nationality, note should be taken of the:

- setting up of the National Civil Status Bureau (BUNEC) by Decree No. 2013/031 of 13 February 2013 of the Head of State and the re-organisation of Civil Status Centres;
- increasing of mobile hearings and speeding up the establishment of birth certificates in remote and/or isolated areas;
- identifying children without birth certificates so as to establish them, with technical and financial support from partners, especially UNICEF and Plan Cameroon;
- transferring of some powers to regional and local authorities helps to open up areas and therefore facilitates the registration of births in the opened up areas;
- raising the awareness of the community on the need for birth registration; and
- collective wedding celebrations promote the establishment of civil status certificates.

The actions taken have contributed to increasing the birth registration rate. Definitely, the re-organisation of Civil Status Registration Centres, with the primary aim of facilitating access for all to the civil status services helped to bring the civil status centres closer to the citizens. As it stands, there are four hundred and nineteen (419) main civil status registration centres, forty-five (45) in the diplomatic missions, fourteen (14) within city councils and three hundred and sixty (360) within regional and local councils. Today, the number of secondary civil status registration centres, attached to the main centres, is two thousand three hundred (2300). For the year 2014, 42 such secondary civil status registration centres were set up.

It should, however, be noted that some effort is still needed considering the high demand on the field. Besides, the isolation of some areas, insufficient resources and some socio-cultural drawbacks hamper the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations.

In perspective, the Government is considering measures such as popularising Law No. 2011-011 of 6 May 2011 amending and supplementing certain provisions of Ordinance No. 81/02 of 29 June 1981 to organise civil status in Cameroon, which extends the deadlines and re-organises the institutional framework for the issuance of civil status certificates; **making the National Civil Status Bureau (BUNEC) go operational** for the effective registration of birth throughout the national territory, and continuing the transfer of resources to the local authorities.

b) Freedom of Expression (Art.7)

In this light, families, educators, communities and Civil Society Organisations are educated regularly by officials in charge of the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, respect of the views of children.

Besides, the three sessions of the Children's Parliament from 2012 to 2014 enabled 560 junior members of parliament from all social classes to express their views, through discussions with Members of Government in the form of oral questions on concerns related to the promotion and protection of the rights of the child in all areas.

As a prelude to instituting the Children's Parliament, a study was conducted by the Government, with technical and financial support from UNICEF, to assess the achievements of this Parliament, with a view to improving on it.

In addition, children are increasingly being assisted legally through defence lawyers, and adequate support from social workers.

Mention could also be made of:

- drafting a Guide for trainers and two Handbooks for members of Children's Governments for a better comprehension of children's rights;
- building the capacities of trainers and members of Children's Government;
- the signing of Decree No. 2012/268 of 11 June 2012 to re-organise the Ministry of Basic Education, which attributed to this Ministry the organisation and follow-up of activities of the Children's Parliament and Children's Governments.

Finally, as regards means of expression for children, children's municipal councils were created by the Government with the technical and financial support from UNICEF. Such bodies are still in the experimentation phase. The same is also true with the pilot experience of children's fora, established in 2008 in some localities in the Centre Region, with support from the CSO, "Plan Cameroon".

It is equally noteworthy mentioning television and radio as well as magazines for children, such as "Jeunesse parlons-en", "Carton Rouge", "Planète enfants", "100% jeunes" ("Youthfulness, let's talk about it", "Red Card", "Kids' Planet", "100% Young People").

Difficulties encountered in fully implementing the above-mentioned recommendations relate to: delays in the institutionalization of the Children's Parliament and Municipal Councils of children, shortage of the resources required for effective set up of children's Governments and Municipal Councils; the virtual absence of platforms for dialogue between generations (parents-children).

In order to remedy this, the following have been planned in the years to come:

- institutionalisation of children's parliament and municipal councils through the enactment of a law;
- allocation of resources necessary for the effective establishment of children's Governments and municipal councils;
- establishment of platforms for dialogue between generations (parents-children) and children's fora in communities; and
- conducting an impact assessment study on the set up of the Children's Parliament and Governments.

c) Freedom of Association (Art.8)

Thanks to Law No. 90/53 of 19 December 1990 on freedom of association a new trend of youth associations were formed. This is the same with the establishment in 2009 of the

Cameroon National Youth Council, which is an excellent forum for expression, dialogue, consultation, coordination and action by youth organizations of Cameroon. This Council, with branches at the regional, divisional and council levels, has as one of its objectives to encourage the thought process, bringing together in view of homogenization of youths from the ten regions.

d) Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion (Art.9)

Freedom of thought, conscience and religion is guaranteed by the Constitution of Cameroon, for both adults and children. However, children's religious education is generally by parents.

e) Protection of Privacy (Art.10)

Concerning the protection of the child's privacy, the Government of Cameroon does not think that the provisions of the Penal Code are contrary to the Constitution of Cameroon that protects the child and family. With the child being under his parents' responsibility, it is therefore in the parents' interest to ensure his protection.

f) Protection Against Child Abuse and Inhuman Treatment (Art.16)

Concerning the protection of the child against abuse and maltreatment, prevention and the fight against sexual violence, corporal punishment, abuse and trafficking of children for sexual exploitation, actions have focused on:

- educating students in schools and their parents on sexual abuse;
- carrying out the national campaign to combat the trafficking and sexual exploitation of children by MINAS with support from the association, EIP-Cameroun (School Instrument of Peace), and UNICEF;
- the concerted action by MINPROFF with MINEDUB, MINESEC and MINESUP on the fight against various forms of violence perpetrated on girls within schools and universities.
- the holding in February 2014 of a colloquium on sexual harassment in school and university milieu;
- the implementation since 2011 of a project for the prevention of sexual violence known as "Creation of a protective environment for the prevention of sexual abuses and the trafficking of children for sexual exploitation and sexual discrimination of children in Cameroon", by Kinderrechte Afrika, in partnership with the NGO "Cameroon Creation Promotion International Circle" (CIPCRE) and "Action locale pour un développement participatif et autogéré", ALDEPA, [local action for community and self-reliant development];
- capacity-building for journalists and radio presenters on the promotion of the rights of the child;
- the organisation of media campaigns;
- the broadcast, with support from Plan Cameroon, of a radio programme "Les cop's d'abord" on the FM 94 station on 24 February 2014 and another programme "Jeunesse parlons-en" on 8 February 2014 on the CRTV Television on the theme "Brimade en milieu scolaire: responsabilité partagée" [harassment in schools: shared responsibilities];

- the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the NCHRF and Plan Cameroon as part of the implementation of the WAROVAC Project, aimed at fighting against violence on children.

VI. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (Art. 11, 12 and 14)

a) Education (Art.11)

This section analyzes, on the basis of recommendations made by the Committee of Experts, the progress made between 2011 and 2014, in raising the level of children's education, reducing disparities between sexes, rural and urban areas and between regions, improving on access for disabled children to schools or vocational training structures, reducing the dropout rate, the number of children per class, violence and sexual abuse in school.

Information on the budgets allocated to MINEDUB and MINESEC are those contained in the section of the report on general implementation measures, more specifically the point relating to the allocation of resources.

In terms of raising both the level and quality of education, teaching methods and assessment systems are constantly revised. Pedagogic seminars for teachers are held quarterly in all educational areas.

Since the 2009-2010 school year, combined actions have led to a significant increase in school enrolment indicators in the primary cycle. Thus, the overall enrolment rate increased from 116%, during the 2011-2012 school year, to 118%, during the 2013-2014 school year. In figures, this means enrolment in the pre-nursery and nursery section increased from 388 585 pupils in 2011-2012 to 467 237 pupils in 2013-2014, on the one hand, and in the primary section, it increased from 3 848 611 pupils in 2011-2012 to 4 136 912 pupils in 2013-2014, on the other.

Concerning the teaching staff, the identified members helped to point out that there was an increase, both in the pre-nursery and nursery as well as primary education. As such, it may be noted that the primary cycle staff increased from 56 026 teachers during the year 2011-2012 to 60 357 teachers during the year 2013-2014.

With regard to the provision of education and training, Cameroon took the following actions:

- creating a greater number of primary and secondary schools;
- training, recruiting and posting teachers even to the most remote areas of the country through the special recruitment exercise of "25 000 Graduates" and the project of putting on contracts 37 200 primary and nursery school teachers, thanks to the national budget, funds from C2D/AFD (Debt Relief and Development Contract / French Development Agency) and the catalytic funds of the World Bank;
- ongoing state recruitment of 9 000 PTA teachers;
- administering, since 2010, the first optional ICTs question papers in all primary school official examinations, for both the French-speaking and English-speaking sections.
- increasing basic education funding through the systematic and annual provision of the minimum package for the functioning of nursery and primary schools;

- conducting since 2010, through its Anti-corruption Unit, a fierce MINEDUB crusade against head teachers who condition access to schooling to the payment of school uniform fees, money for photocopies, ID cards, catch-up classes or the so-called Parents-Teachers Associations' fees. During the 2014-2015 school year re-opening, the above-mentioned Unit went down to the field and its coverage was 31.1%, representing 1 861 schools out of the 5 982 targeted public primary schools, where no cases of deviance were identified.
- suppressing obligatory contributions for public primary schools in Cameroon which led to a considerable increase in attendance;
- increasing the number of GTTC and GTTTC (there are 61 GTTC and 6 GTTTC for over 60 000 graduates) and revision of curricula in order to ensure the quality training of teachers;
- increasing the number of CPF that provide free-choice or short-term I vocational training to girls who have dropped out of school;
- setting up professional high schools and revitalizing Rural Handicrafts and Domestic Science Centres (SAR/SM) (;
- signing in 2013 of a Partnership Agreement for training and professional integration of youths between the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training and the Inter-professional Council of Sanitation Companies within the CEMAC Zone;
- devolving certain powers to the RLA which ensure the implementation of free education policy, particularly, the construction, equipment and maintenance of schools, acquisition of school equipment and supplies, recruiting and supporting auxiliary staff;
- negotiating a funding agreement for Cameroon within the framework of the Global Partnership for Education;
- organising a multi-sector national forum on "Quality Education: free, compulsory and adapted to all children in Africa" with support from IDAY Cameroon and CEFAN in June 2014;
- preparing and validating in 2013 of the Handbook on civic education and national integration;
- organising in 2012 of an international symposium on the report assessing the achievements of various ministries in civic education and national integration;
- reviewing and validating the national education sector strategy in 2012;
- validating the national policy on school textbooks and other teaching materials in December 2012;
- setting up Training Centres in Trades (CFM), offering non-agricultural training to youths in rural areas, thanks to funding by C2D.

As regards the education of vulnerable children, the Government, with support from technical and financial partners, including: UNICEF, UNESCO, ISESCO, WFP, Plan Cameroon, COUNTERPART, Chantal BIYA Foundation, amongst others, are assisting the Government through various forms of support and specific programmes in this targeted approach, with support from the media.

- educating families on the importance of registering the births of their children;
- experimenting the teaching of national languages which started in the 2013-2014 school year in some selected 35 pilot schools in the Centre, Littoral, Far North and West Regions;
- the holding in the course of 2014 of a capacity-building seminar for 105 officials from the central and external services. Similarly, 30 teachers for the preparatory classes

from some pilot schools were trained on the teaching of national languages. An Ewondo language lexicon and a handbook on reading in the same language have already been produced and are thus available. This work is continuing with other national languages;

- fighting against malnutrition and encouraging the education of the girl child, with help from the NGO, COUNTERPART, in 150 schools in the North Region. This entails mainly school canteens, with the distribution of dry rations to girl students of classes CE2, CM1 and CM2. In addition, 146 schools received agricultural inputs as well as the training necessary for the setting up of school gardens, ranging in size between 1 and 2 hectares;
- implementing the project “Ecole Amie des Enfants, Amie des Filles” [School Friend of Children, Friend of Girls] which, under the collective promotion system, is being carried out in priority education zones to reduce class repetition and dropout cases for boys and girls. The strategy is to make the school environment attractive, by building water points and beautifying the surroundings;
- constructing, in 2014, 10 blocks of two apartments for teachers, including seven in the remote areas of Lake Chad and Bakassi and three in islands and access-difficult areas of Mouanko, Manoka and Vélé;
- acquiring five engine-driven canoes for the remote areas and islands of Bamusso, Kombo-Abedimo, Idabato, Mouanko and Manoka;
- assisting in the registration and giving financial support through holiday days and awarding prizes to girls who have performed well in schools;
- supporting Plan France in the establishment of Savings and Loan Village Associations, which enable parents to save and thereafter get micro-loans to finance the education of their children, and women to be trained on some income-generating activities in order to ensure better schooling for their children;
- implementing, since 2012, a multilingual intercultural education pilot project within the framework of the project known as “Droits et Dignité des Bakas” [Rights and Dignity of the Baka People] which consists of improving on the schooling of Baka Pygmy children, while maintaining them rooted in their culture. It stemmed from experimenting teaching in the Baka language in eight pilot schools in the East Region, with an enrolment of 734 children, from the start of the 2013-2014 school year. In this regard, the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) produced 421 handbooks composed of spelling-books and mathematics textbooks including Baka cultural values; 421 arm-boards with the Baka alphabet on the back; eight readings charts; 321 kits distributed to 321 class-one pupils; each kit encompassed an arm-board, a bag, a spelling-book, a mathematics textbook, two double-lined exercise books, a dozen pencils and a pencil sharpener;
- Concerning Mbororo communities, 256 classrooms have today been constructed; 58 classrooms rehabilitated; 30 water points constructed; 55 latrine blocks constructed; 1 290 scholarships granted to students admitted in form one; 2 350 Parent-Teacher Associations’ members trained; nursery schools constructed and equipped in the area of Sambo, Batouri, East Region.
- In the same vein, and in terms of support to the establishment of birth certificates, some already taken actions are intended to negotiate for a lower cost relating to supplementary rulings. In this connection, it may be noted, for instance, the establishment of birth certificates by some NGOs, PLAN CAMEROON and VSO;

- implementing the education project for minors kept under custody by IDAY and “Association Grain de Sable” [Grain of Sand Association].

As for the prevention of and fight against sexual violence, corporal punishment, abuse and trafficking of children for sexual exploitation, some actions taken were:

- carrying out the national campaign on the fight against child trafficking and sexual exploitation by MINAS, with support from EIP-Cameroun and UNICEF;
- continuing with the implementation, since 2011, of a sexual violence prevention project called “Création d’un environnement protecteur pour la prévention des abus sexuels et de la traite des enfants à des fins d’exploitation sexuelle et des discriminations sexistes des enfants au Cameroun” [Creating a protective environment for the prevention of sexual abuse and trafficking of children for sexual exploitation and gender discrimination of children in Cameroon] by Kinderrechte Afrika, in partnership with some associations, “CIPCRE Cameroun” and ALDEPA;
- building the capacities of journalists and radio presenters during programmes for the promotion of the rights of the child;
- organising media campaigns;
- celebrating all the days dedicated to the child, laying emphasis on his education;
- raising the awareness of students in schools and students’ parents on sexual abuse;
- carrying out the national campaign against child trafficking and sexual exploitation by MINAS, with support from EIP (Ecole Instrument de Paix)-Cameroun [School, Instrument of Peace] and UNICEF;
- holding in February 2014 of a symposium on harassment within school and university milieu.

In general, considerable efforts have been made to improve on education and number of teachers in the primary, secondary and higher levels. The increase in the number of schools, training centres, professional high schools and handicraft and domestic science training centres (SAR/SM) helped to absorb a significant number of children and, particularly, girl children and young mothers who are school dropouts. The inclusion in the curricula of modules on the rights of the child, the fight against all forms of violence against children in school and life skills have enabled children to better acquire self-protection reflexes against some of these scourges. In addition, the number of projects realized on drinking water supply and sanitation in schools has raised children's awareness on behavioural patterns to be encouraged in order to eradicate some diseases such as cholera, malaria and other water-borne diseases.

However, the actions still face some difficulties such as: insufficient budgets allocated to meet the needs of social ministries, especially Health, Employment and Vocational Training, Social Affairs, Women’s Empowerment and the Family, as well as Youth Affairs and Civic Education; the still high cost of textbooks; limited availability of training materials on national integration; the student-teacher ratio still remains high; lack of coordination and visibility of numerous projects carried out on the field by partners so as to promote access to education; absence of some teachers posted to remote areas; bottlenecks in the process of providing the minimum package that makes it difficult for schools to function smoothly; limited awareness-raising activities in certain schools and regions; non-provision to all children trainers of teaching aid on the rights of the child.

In response, several actions have thus been envisaged, viz.:

- pursuing the qualitative and quantitative training of teachers;
- increasing the budgets allocated to education sector, as well as advocacy for partners to increase their support for government actions;
- better coordinating projects carried out on the field in order to facilitate access to education;
- organizing awareness-raising activities for education community members on the importance of quality education and their extension to the whole country, especially in-service teacher training, strengthening the pedagogical supervision chain, improving on the teacher's living conditions;
- improving on the procedure for providing the minimum package to its beneficiaries;
- increasing the number of and equipping training centres for children who are school dropouts.

b) Leisure, Recreation and Cultural Activities (Art. 12)

As part of the promotion of leisure, recreational and cultural activities for children, the following actions were taken:

- organizing camping and holiday camps (activity revamped in 2013 in the South and Adamawa Regions for 50 children and then continued in 2014 in the following Regions: Centre (223 children), South (110 children) and North West (100 children));
- organizing school games by the National Federation of School Sports (FENASSCO), taking into account the handicap approach;
- organizing entertaining and educative radio and TV programmes for children;
- organizing cultural activities for children, particularly, holiday workshops (training on national languages, plastic arts, music, drama/comedy, traditional games, transmission of cultural values , makeshift activities, etc.) ;
- promoting access to books and reading culture;
- setting up services and organizing pre- and post-school activities within schools (establishing students associations and school clubs, children's government in primary schools);
- organizing annual campaigns to promote sports and recreation, known as "INJS sports-loisirs-vacances" [INJS leisure-holidays-sports] when school children are on holiday, particularly for children of all ages.

c) Health and Health Services (Art. 14)

Health sector goals, that were aligned in 2009 with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), are defined in the Health Sector Strategy as follows: By 2015,

- reduce by two-thirds, the under-five mortality rate;
- reduce by two-fifths, maternal mortality;
- reduce by one-third, the burden of diseases among the poor and the most vulnerable populations;
- enable 80% of existing health districts to reach at least the consolidation phase;
- enable 100% of health facilities at the strategic and intermediary levels to play their role of providing technical and strategic assistance and guidance.

To respond to the provisions of the ACRWC and the recommendations of the initial report, Cameroon has laid emphasis on improving the health situation of the mother and the child.

➤ **Health of the Child**

In accordance with the recommendations made by the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), the health situation of the child improved significantly, following the implementation of measures such as:

- enlarging the health map by setting up new health centres (as at 2015, there are 1 801 public integrated health centres, 898 private health facilities, 181 district hospitals, 12 regional hospitals, 189 health districts);
- developing a multi-sector strategy to combat malnutrition;
- carrying out malnutrition screening campaigns during Action Weeks for Infant and Maternal Health and Nutrition (SASNIM) twice a year;
- setting up centres for caring malnourished children;
- administering Vitamin A twice a year, in households, to all children from 0 to 5 years and to all women who have just given birth (0-8 weeks);
- implementing the WASH project (improving hygiene conditions);
- increasing resources to combat malnutrition;
- reviewing the PPAC 2015–2019;
- controlling poliomyelitis (preventive and fight-back campaigns): National Immunisation Days (NIDs) and Local Immunisation Days (LIDs);
- controlling vaccine-preventable diseases (Poliomyelitis, Measles, Yellow Fever, Neonatal tetanus, etc.); ;
- support by the HSS/GAVI guided by the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI);
- Strengthening of the Health System (SHS);
- popularising the implementation of the Minimum Package of Activities (MPA) and the Complementary Package of Activities (CPA) in health districts;
- developing an operational referral system;
- enhancing partnerships in the health sector.

To these actions can be added those relating to the immunisation of children against diseases such as Measles (70.66%), Polio 3 (69.8%), DTCOQ3 (68.4%) and BCG (87.1%) (see table in Annex); the introduction of new vaccines in the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) (Pneumo 13: vaccine against pneumonia, Rotarix: vaccine against rotavirus diarrhoeas); the attainment by Cameroon of the neonatal tetanus elimination status, which is a de-worming campaign to eradicate intestinal worms in 7 528 000 children of school-going age and in households, to prevent them from helminthiases and schistosomiases.

As regards malaria control, actions focused on the Home Management of simple Malaria (PECADOM); free care of simple and complicated malaria in children from 0 to 5 years; the free chemoprevention of malaria in children aged below five in targeted areas; the free distribution of LLINs (to 80% of households and routinely among pregnant women) and intensifying Intermittent Preventive Treatment (IPT) of malaria. Thanks to these measures the following results were achieved:

- 80% of children aged below 5 sleep under long-lasting insecticide nets;

- 80% of community relays implement the “community-based management of malaria” package in at least four-fifths of health areas in each district;
- 60% of health facilities apply malaria management standards and norms in at least four-fifths of health districts in each Region.

Other measures relate to the evolution of the budget allocated to the Ministry of Public Health between 2011 and 2014. During the period under consideration, the operating budget recorded a net increase, from 74.6 billion CFA Francs to 91.4 billion CFA Francs. Conversely, the investment budget recorded a slight drop over the same period, decreasing from 77.1 billion CFA Francs to 74.5 billion CFA Francs (Cf. Table in Annex)

Between 2011 and 2013, the proportion of national budget allocated to the Ministry of Public Health dropped from 5.9% to 4.41%. In the absence of data on the health budget of healthcare and related sectors, it is difficult to determine exactly how much resources are allocated by the State to the health sector. However, it is worth stating that Cameroon is still very far from implementing the Abuja Declaration that recommends that 15% of the national budget be allocated to the health sector.

➤ **Health of the mother**

Regarding mothers' health, actions focused on:

- intensifying the CARMMA by integrating the community-gear component and introducing the National Programme to Control Maternal, Neonatal and Infant Mortality;
- the implementation of the strategy to pre-position obstetrical kits;
- the free surgical repair of obstetric fistulas from 2010 to 2013 (300 women benefited from this measure);
- providing psycho-social support and ensuring the socio-economic integration of women with obstetric fistulas or who have had their repaired;
- training MINPROFF staff and community relays in the psycho-social management and social reintegration of women with obstetric fistulas and producing a management guide for obstetric fistulas;
- training care providers in EMONC/PMTCT/FP, a measure that helped to increase the number of qualified reproductive health care providers. ;
- training care providers in the Active Management of the Third Stage of Labour (AMTSL).

All these measures contributed in increasing the rate of attendance at birth by trained health care providers by 63.6%.

In the field of training, it is worth mentioning:

- the introduction, since 2012, of the ICATT courseware within the framework of the implementation of the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI); the training of care providers in clinical IMCI and community health workers in community-based IMCI;
- the re-opening, in 2011, of 8 midwifery training schools (200 midwives currently completing training); increasing the number of trained gynaecologists and paediatricians;
- Introducing the IMCI module in the training of doctors.

Health Promotion, on its part, is done through three (3) intervention categories:

- comprehensive communication on health programmes;
- health, nutrition and the environment;
- primary prevention of malnutrition and non-communicable diseases.

Despite all efforts deployed to improve the health situation of children, there are still some obstacles, including:

- the low number of children actually sleeping under ITNs (28.2%), making malaria the main cause of death and morbidity in children under five;
- the resurgence of epidemics (measles and poliomyelitis) related to the fact that 4.5% of children aged between 11 and 23 months do not receive any vaccines;
- activities to combat malnutrition are mainly carried out by specific programmes of the Ministry of Health (MINSANTE) and there are not enough trained professionals in the domain;
- the still high rate of birth-related deaths (782 women out of 100 00 live births as against 669 out of 100 000 live births in 2004) as well as home deliveries (37.3%);
- insufficient financial resources;
- the inadequacy of the health system including the lack of qualified staff;
- the poor appropriation by the communities of the importance of immunisation and the low immunisation coverage of very remote areas.

To remedy the situation, the Government plans to:

- introduce in 2015, a vaccine against meningitis A, enhancing the routine EPI, reinforcing lobbying before opinion leaders, pursuing mass awareness-raising campaigns;
- enhancing LLIN distribution campaigns in 2015;
- completing the process to develop the National Programme to Control Maternal, Neonatal and Infant Mortality;
- drawing up a new strategy to curb maternal and neonatal mortality (2013–2020);
- carrying out, with the support of technical and financial partners, investments in the field of health, paying particular attention to youths and women as well as to the guidance and care of vulnerable social groups.

➤ **Breastfeeding**

Implementing the provisions of the ACRWC led to actions such as promoting breastfeeding through national awareness campaigns for families; the celebration in Cameroon of the World Breastfeeding Day; including breastfeeding in the budget allocations of MINSANTE; organizing awareness campaigns targeting leaders, traditional rulers and families; disseminating and effectively implementing the National Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes (IDAY and Plan Cameroon are the two NGOs assisting the Ministry of Public Health in the Breastfeeding Programme).

Despite these measures, notably the adoption of a National Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and the various actions conducted, exclusive breastfeeding rates

remain low (21.2%). The main difficulties faced include the poor appropriation by the community of the actions undertaken to promote exclusive breastfeeding, poor breastfeeding knowledge and limited access to the national code on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes (probably due to the fact that it has not been translated into the appropriate languages).

Recommended measures include translating the National Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes into the appropriate local languages and intensifying communication on exclusive breastfeeding.

➤ **Adolescent Health**

Several strategies are being used across the national territory to improve adolescent health based on the general development policy guidelines. Such is the case with the drawing up of the National Strategic Plan on the Health of Adolescents and Youths which outlines the major strategic aspects, objectives as well as priority actions to be carried out in order to guarantee the wellbeing of adolescents and youths, and equip them with the necessary skills to face adulthood.

In the areas of family planning, measures concern:

- intensifying the national family planning policy by organizing campaigns to disseminate family planning methods and to raise awareness on the dangers of early pregnancies, through educative talks
- reducing contraceptive prices;
- organizing free distribution campaigns for contraceptives;
- training healthcare workers in Adolescent Reproductive Health and in Family Planning.

Concerning the reproductive health of adolescents, it is worth noting:

- the implementation of youth and adolescent-friendly social and health services (two experimental centres already went operational in Yaounde and Douala);
- the implementation of projects in several domains relating to this issue through the involvement of traditional and religious rulers:
- training peer educators and volunteers for community-based services;
- raising awareness among children both within and outside schools;
- awareness-raising actions against early marriages and pregnancies targeting the above-mentioned groups;
- signing of a partnership agreement in 2013 between MINESEC and the Cameroon League for Development (CAM LEAD-NGO), in view of eradicating early marriages and pregnancies within schools.

Concerning family life education, actions involved pursuing the implementation, in all training and teaching programmes at the primary, secondary and university levels, of curricula on family life education, specifically as concerns the population and HIV/AIDS.

The ongoing experimentation of the school book entitled “Vivre ensemble” (Living Together), intended for Class One pupils through Upper Sixth students, which includes an aspect on IEC/CBC/ARH; the implementation of the premarital, matrimonial and family education programme; collaboration with the Civil Society (Cameroon Paediatric Society)

for the setting up of counselling centres for adolescents, are among the list of initiatives aiming at providing teenagers with social assistance services and to help them in the process of re-adaptation and integration.

Despite all efforts deployed to improve the health situation of mothers and children, there are still some lingering obstacles, including:

- the still high rate of birth-related deaths (782 women out of 100 000 live births as against 669 out of 100 000 live births in 2004) as well as home deliveries (37.3%);
- insufficient funding to cater for the substantial needs resulting from the magnitude of the problem; the poor health system compounded by insufficient trained staff;
- the low number of children actually sleeping under ITNs (28.2%), making malaria the main cause of death and morbidity in children under age five;
- the resurgence of epidemics (measles and poliomyelitis) related to the fact that 4.5% of children aged between 11 and 23 months do not receive any vaccines;
- activities to control malnutrition are mainly carried out by specific programmes of the Ministry of Health (MINSANTE) and there are not enough trained professionals in the domain;
- the poor appropriation by the communities of the importance of immunisation and the low immunisation coverage of very remote areas;
- insufficient financial and human resources.

To provide solutions to these concerns, the Government plans to:

- introduce in 2015, a vaccine against meningitis A; enhance the routine EPI; reinforce lobbying before opinion leaders; pursue mass awareness-raising campaigns;
- enhance LLIN distribution campaigns in 2015;
- build the institutional capacities of the National Programme to Control Maternal, Neonatal and Infant Mortality;
- draw up a new strategy to curb maternal, neonatal and infant mortality (2013–2020);
- carry out, with the support of technical and financial partners, investments in the domain of health, paying particular attention to youths and women as well as to the guidance and care of vulnerable social groups;
- pursue the setting up of friendly centres;
- validate the National Strategy Paper on Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) and intensify the training of ARH care workers.

VII. FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF THE CHILD (Art. 18, 20 and 24)

a) Protection of the Family (Art. 18)

In accordance with the provisions of the ACRWC (Art. 18), the Government, with the support of Technical and Financial Partners and Civil Society Organisations, shall develop a programme for pre-marital, matrimonial and family education that takes into consideration the specific needs of families in the light of social concerns. As such, various forms of assistance are provided to limited-income families to send their children to school, develop income-generating activities, improve the production capacities of poor

family heads by providing them with necessary inputs. Furthermore, as concerns child education, a Handbook on Community Schools was drafted and approved in 2013.

It should be noted that efforts have been made to improve the support provided to families, through the implementation of support programmes and the putting in place of a support fund for the education of children from the least privileged families. However, human, technical and financial resources remain insufficient to effectively provide support to parents in the exercise of their responsibilities. As an example, it is worth mentioning the temporary stoppage of social workers' training, which is hindering the implementation of population guidance programmes.

To remedy the situation, there are plans to train and retrain social workers, as well as enhance lobbying activities in order to raise the financial resources of the social sector intended for family support.

b) Parental Responsibilities (Art. 20)

The Government organises information sessions for parents, especially women, on the modalities for collecting alimony for children in collaboration with technical and financial partners as well as Civil Society Organisations. In addition, legal and social assistance is provided to female heads of low-income single-parent families in the process of collecting alimony for children. In this regard, a legal assistance programme dubbed “**Legal Clinics**”, being implemented by the Civil Society in three Regions (Centre, Littoral and East) supports limited-income parents in the collection of alimony.

The mixed progress recorded in this domain testifies to the limited scope of actions undertaken, due to the difficulties faced in implementing Law No. 2009/004 of 14 April 2009 on the organization of legal assistance, and the cumbersomeness of the procedure to benefit from such assistance. Data on legal assistance from 2010 to 2012 is not stable.

To address the situation, several measures have been taken to include in the Civil Code (currently under review), concerns related to the collection of alimony for children which did not find satisfactory responses in existing instruments, especially by simplifying the procedure for benefiting from legal assistance. As such, the Government, through the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family, developed a list of families that can temporarily welcome children deprived of family care.

c) Adoption (Art. 24)

In response to the provisions of the ACRWC, adoption-related concerns have been taken into consideration in the draft Civil Code under finalization.

As concerns international adoption, Cameroon rejected the recommendation related thereto, during its passage before the Human Rights Council, as part of the 2013 Universal Periodic Review. The country, however, undertook to examine the possibility of ratifying The Hague Convention No. 33 (1993) on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in matters of International Adoption, after assessing the application process

of the current mechanism¹. The draft Civil Code that is currently under finalization, once adopted, shall be the unique instrument for adoption. The consent of the adopted child shall be sought if they are an adult or aged above 16. In 2014, the Government adopted the Procedure Manual on Child Adoption Chain in Cameroon. The document presents the procedures for the temporary placement of children.

With regard to the family care of children with trained wet nurses, the distressed children care policy revolves around two major aspects: temporary administrative family placement and institutional placement. In the first case, children are placed in foster families pending a possible adoption. In the second case, they are either placed in public institutions, namely Care Centres for Distressed Children (CAED)—four in number (Garoua in the North Region, Yaounde in the Centre, Ekondo Titi in the South West, and Ambam (a border locality in the South Region)—or placed in approved private care institutions.

The Government intends to continue setting up new CAEDs, within the limits of the budget available, in order to extend care services to reach target groups in all Regions.

There has been a net progress in the consideration of adoption-related concerns in draft laws. More concretely, the Procedure Manual on Child Adoption Chain is testimony of the Government's dynamism in terms of child adoption.

However, the non-adoption of the Civil Code currently being updated is hampering the effectiveness of measures taken in this connection. To remedy the situation, recommended measures are geared towards placing children in approved centres; bringing in legal counsels into adoption processes; carrying out a comprehensive study on the current situation of adoption in Cameroon; updating and publishing the statistical record of adopted children on a yearly basis; carrying out systematic controls of registers in orphanages and foster care centres; raising awareness among populations on adoption and child trafficking phenomena and developing measures to prevent fraudulent adoptions.

d) Separation from Parents (Art. 25)

In order to ensure optimal protection for children deprived of their family environment, the Government, through the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family, compiled a list of families that could temporarily receive children deprived of parental care.

With regard to orphans and vulnerable children, particularly, MINAS has developed a strategic plan and produced a handbook for their care. A data collection tool on OVCs is under experimentation in three priority regions (East, North and Far-North). Its final assessment will help scale-up, which is dependent on appropriation by the various stakeholders. In addition, activities to promote the health, educational and psycho-social care of these OVCs were carried out in all ten regions with the support of UNICEF. It is equally worth mentioning the organization, in 2013 and 2014, of two interregional

¹ This rejection was on grounds of limited timeframe, as the commitment had to be implemented by 2017, when the next Review is expected to hold.

workshops to build the capacities of healthcare providers on the family-centred approach intended for the OVCs.

An average 9 500 OVCs have been under care since 2011, thanks to various forms of support (academic, nutritional, health and psycho-social support) in the ten Regions of Cameroon, distributed as follows: 1 000 in the Adamawa, 1 200 in the Centre, 1 500 in the East, 600 in the Far-North, 1 000 in the Littoral, 400 in the North, 700 in the North West, 1 200 in the West, 1 000 in the South and 900 in the South West.

Measures being implemented have led to the gradual improvement of the living conditions of OVCs and children deprived of parental care. However, it is regrettable that these actions only focused on one aspect, that of taking care of OVCs. In addition, building the capacities of staff in child care institutions in the field of the rights of the child and the standardization of existing institutions did not follow suit. In the same vein, the insufficient human, technical and financial resources constitute a major impediment to the comprehensive care of children deprived of the family environment.

There are plans to proceed with a nation-wide data collection on OVCs, especially those taken care of by institutions, and to assess the said institutions. The project dubbed "Key Interventions to Develop Systems and Services for Orphans and Vulnerable Children" (KIDSS), signed on 13 June 2014 between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Catholic Relief Services (CRS), and launched on 12 November 2014, will help to provide, by 2019, multifaceted support to an additional 70 000 OVCs in seven urban and peri-urban areas in the cities of Yaounde, Douala and Bamenda. This project will equally help to build the capacities of 14 000 households, train 60 community health workers (CHWs), 20 social workers, 75 persons from CSOs, 135 frontline civil servants and 57 at the regional level, to set up an effective model of holistic care and the improvement of the health continuum to be provided to OVCs.

VIII. RIGHTS AND PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN (Art. 13, 22, 23 and 25)

a) Handicapped Children (Art. 13)

The implementation of the ACRWC led to the realization of specific actions. Regarding legislation, measures taken were related to the adoption of Law No. 2010/002 of 13 April 2010 to promote and protect handicapped persons. This law amends that of 1983 and takes into consideration the concerns of the handicapped child from a holistic perspective (education, health, leisure, etc.). Indeed, it provides for a certain number of positive discriminatory measures in favour of handicapped children, such as the contribution of the State in covering expenses for the education and initial vocational training of handicapped students, the partial or total waiver of tuition fees at the secondary and university levels and the granting of scholarships to children born to handicapped parents.

Also worth noting is the continuous implementation of the Joint Circular-Letters of MINAS/MINESEC, No. 34/06 LC/MINESEC/MINAS of 2 August 2006 and No. 283/07/LC/MINESEC/MINAS of 14 August 2007 and MINAS/MINESUP, No. 08/0006/LC/MINESUP/MINAS of 9 July 2008, relating, on the one hand, to the free admission of handicapped children and those born to handicapped parents into public

institutions of secondary education as well as their participation in official exams and, on the other hand, the improvement of conditions for receiving and taking care of handicapped students in Cameroon State universities.

Furthermore, the technical platform of the Cardinal Paul Emile Léger National Centre for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (CNRPH-CPEL) was improved on. Other actions concerned the provision of MINAS and centres specialized in the management of handicapped persons with specialized human resources, recruited as part of the drive to recruit 25 000 graduates into the Public Service, launched in 2011, the launching by the CNRPH-CPEL of the community-based action aiming at handicap prevention and the referencing of handicapped persons; the organization of “Social Action Days” in favour of handicapped persons and stakeholders of the sector.

Similarly, the setting up of the National Association for Handicapped Teachers (CNEH) is also contributing to promote inclusive education. Actions undertaken within this framework relate to the organization of educative talks with parents of handicapped children to promote their integration into the traditional educational system, facilitating school exams for handicapped children by providing facilitators, lobbying for the inclusion of handicapped persons in FENASSCO games.

The Community-based Rehabilitation Programme (CBRP), currently under experimentation in Cameroon, through networks put in place, is helping to orient persons living with a disability towards proximity centres and reference centres for specific interventions.

On the other hand, the networking of support institutions for persons with disabilities in Cameroon is promoting the pooling of resources. In this perspective, and with the support of the NGO SightSavers, Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPH) put in place in 2012, a Platform dubbed “Inclusive Society for Persons with Disabilities”, which aims to pool the efforts of OPHs and serve as an interface with the various administrations for the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (70 associations are members).

The integration of the disability approach in building school infrastructure in Cameroon and in the training curricula of teachers helps to effectively implement inclusive education. It entails, among other things, the training of specialised teachers in this domain, scrapping the age limit for certain competitive and official exams, exemption from the payment of required contributions and exam fees, as well as the construction of buildings in schools taking into consideration the concerns of students with disabilities.

The granting of subsidies to private institutions of specialized education (children with hearing, mental and visual impairment) is part of the desire to build their technical, material and financial capacities. Cameroon has several schools specialised in inclusive education and 140 private centres specialized in taking care of disabled persons, including children.

It should be pointed out that considerable efforts have been made as regards the promotion and protection of children with disabilities. Programmes that have been

developed, as well as platforms for collaboration with public and private sector stakeholders contribute to improve the well-being of this social group.

Measures are equally being taken to assist single-parent mothers in taking care of their children by funding their income-generating activities; regularly providing assistance and support to needy and very poor persons and families. In 2014, 725 persons and families received assistance as part of this process.

Concerning the guidance and raising the awareness of parents and other education stakeholders on the development needs of a child from birth to adolescence and the imperative need for mothers to be personally responsible for the upbringing of their own children during early childhood, the following actions are underway: the implementation of a far-reaching pre-marital, matrimonial and family education programme; the drafting of a handbook for community schools in view of ensuring an appropriate family care of children and the organization of educational campaigns on Essential Family Practices. In perspective, the Decree on the establishment and organization of nurseries and day-care centres (PFE), with particular focus on the early development of the child, is under review.

As concerns the prevention of situations of children who have lost their mothers, actions geared towards intensifying the African campaign on the reduction of maternal mortality are being carried out and have integrated a community dimension, especially the organization of campaigns to offer free healthcare services (prenatal consultations, family planning, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, immunization of pregnant women).

In perspective, emphasis shall be laid on accelerating the adoption process of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the implementation of instruments specifically relating to the protection of children with disabilities. In addition, the Government intends to train specialized professionals in sufficient numbers and make the National Institute of Social Work go operational, in order to have as many social workers as possible, likely to better handle the specific needs of this category of children. Furthermore, it remains a major preoccupation to have a study conducted on the collection of statistical data based on the specific type of disability.

b) Children in Armed Conflicts (Art. 22)

Cameroon ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, concerning the involvement of children in armed conflicts, which compels States Parties to take all necessary measures to ensure that their armed forces who are under 18 years of age do not take a direct part in hostilities, ensure that persons under 18 years are not subjected to forceful enrolment into their armed forces.

Despite the unavailability of statistical data relating to the involvement of children in armed conflicts, the interventions of the Government, in collaboration with Agencies of the United Nations System and CSOs, aim at preventing the recruitment and use of children into armed forces/groups, through awareness-raising campaigns, follow-up, reporting and assistance to families and communities, in areas where refugees are found.

Aware of the magnitude of crises on the lives of the Cameroonians in border areas, the Government organized, in October 2014, a workshop to build the technical capacities of

representatives from the Adamawa, East, North and Far North Regions, public administrations (MINEPAT, MINATD, MINAS, MINPROFF, MINJUSTICE), NGOs and Civil Society Organisations (IMC, ALDEPA, ASSEJA) regarding the protection of children in emergency humanitarian situations. Following this training, these stakeholders developed a plan of action targeting children associated with, or recruited into armed forces/groups, notably comprising of:

- identifying and registering children who quit armed forces/groups;
- organizing their temporal reception;
- holding interviews with these children;
- referring them to emergency centres;
- searching for their families;
- psycho-social and healthcare or otherwise.

This plan of intervention will enable a better coordination of actions carried out in this domain by the various stakeholders concerned. This will eventually lead to responses that are more appropriate, coherent and efficient, within the context of humanitarian emergency.

c) Refugee and Displaced Children (Art. 23)

Since 2009, due to the fight against the Islamic sect Boko Haram in Nigeria, Cameroon has recorded, particularly in the Far North and Adamawa Regions, a growing number of Nigerian refugees, mostly made up of women and children. Also, the situation of political instability currently prevailing in the Central African Republic has led to the displacement of persons towards Cameroon. About 90 000 Central African refugees were received in 2014. The continuous flow of Central African refugees in the East of Cameroon has called for the mobilisation of all development partners to address the humanitarian emergency.

Since January 2014, 122 915 new refugees were received, taking the total number up to 220 949, including 170 394 children (67% of the refugee population). 64 015 refugees live in developed sites and 156 834 live out of them, making it difficult to monitor the latter group.

Regarding asylum-seeking children and refugee children, Cameroon took necessary measures to protect these categories of children, in accordance with the ACRWC. At the legal level, mention could be made of the following instruments:

- Decree No. 2011/389 of 28 November 2011 on the organization and functioning of refugee management bodies (Refugee Status Eligibility Commission and the Refugee Appeals Commission);
- Orders No. 0013/DIPL/CAB and No. 0014/DIPL/CAB of 6 August 2012 on the composition and appointment of the members of these Commissions;
- Order No. 269 of 13 March 2014 to set up an Ad Hoc Inter-Ministerial Committee in charge of managing emergency situations involving refugees in Cameroon.

Other actions were equally carried out, including:

- the development of a strategic plan for humanitarian response in Cameroon, launched by the United Nations System in Cameroon, aiming at mobilizing 48.5 million dollars between 2014 and 2016;

- the implementation of a programme on direct assistance to refugees on the ground in the East and Adamawa Regions, in the fields of health, education, protection, water and sanitation.
- the development of a programme on emergency assistance to Central African and Nigerian refugees, with the support of Plan Cameroon, UNICEF, WHO, HCR and ICRC, in a bid to enhance the protection of refugee children and asylum seekers;
- the implementation of the assistance programme limited to vulnerable cases among urban refugees in Douala and Yaounde;
- the improvement of the on the establishment process of birth certificates for refugee children and the systematic registration of newborn babies, following Law No. 2011/011 of 6 May 2011 to amend and supplement certain provisions of Ordinance No. 81/022 of 29 June 1981 on the organization of the civil status and various provisions relating to the state of physical persons;
- the establishment, between 2011 and 2013, of 6 000 birth certificates through the process of supplementary rulings, for the benefit of refugee children in the East, Adamawa, Centre and Littoral Regions;
- building, between 2010 and 2013, of 13 blocks of two classrooms each, 158 water points and 172 latrine blocks of three cabins each.
- the setting up of mechanisms for verification and authentication of civil status certificates issued to refugees, with the support of the HCR;
- the development, by the Government, of five relocation sites, in response to the massive influx of Central African refugees, with the implementation of child protection measures;
- the setting up, in collaboration with the HCR, of the panel on the Determination of the Best Interests (DBI) of refugee children;
- building the capacities of children to avoid risky situations, report cases of abuse they are victims of;
- the identification, guidance and systematic monitoring by all stakeholders of cases of abuse of refugee children;
- the implementation of the national strategy on the fight against gender-based violence, taking into consideration the protection of refugee children;
- the drafting of a handbook on psycho-social care of children in difficult situations;
- the study conducted in 2013 on the living conditions and protection risks of refugees in urban areas;
- the ongoing development of a database on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) including refugees (pilot experience covering the Littoral, East and Far North Regions);
- the development of a joint HCR-UNICEF interface for the collection of data on the situation of refugees in order to monitor emergencies.

The legal framework specific to refugees has been improved on and enhanced. Indeed, prior to 2010, it was difficult to enforce Law No. 2005/6 of 27 July 2005 on the refugee management status in Cameroon, in the absence of implementation instruments. This problem was solved by the above-mentioned instruments. Aside from that, the various programmes developed with the support of international partners and Civil Society Organizations helped to better address the specific needs of this category of children.

That notwithstanding, a number of difficulties remain:

- the bodies set up to manage the refugee status have not gone operational
- the non-existence of regional and local branches of refugee management bodies;
- the poor appropriation by local communities of the refugee problem;
- the inadequate material, financial and humanitarian resources to address the ever-growing influx of Nigerian and Central African refugees;
- the inadequate mastery by some public stakeholders of refugee rights protection standards.

In order to overcome the above mentioned difficulties, it is recommended that the process of transferring the roles of determining the status of refugees from the HCR to the Government be completed, make the refugee management bodies go operational, set up regional and local branches of these bodies by giving them appropriate running budget allocations.

d) Children of Imprisoned Mothers (Art.)

Since Cameroon presented its report in 2011, there has not been any special law relating to palliative sentences to the imprisonment of mothers with their children. However, this issue remains a major concern for the State of Cameroon which would like to draw from the experiences of other African States on the matter. In the meantime, some Civil Society stakeholders have distinguished themselves in caring for children born to imprisoned mothers. Such is the case with the Relais Parents-Enfants Association, the NGO Mère-Enfant, Justice and Peace Commissions, that organize specific actions targeting children whose mothers are in prison, especially in preparing for the school year (school kits, various textbooks and manuals), and in organizing end-of-year festivities (Christmas Tree Ceremony with the handing over of presents to children).

Actions were equally geared towards other categories of vulnerable children, namely, street children. In this regard, the following should be noted:

- pursuing the implementation of the project to fight against the street children phenomenon;
- the setting up of two pilot regional multi-sector mobile brigades for the fight against the street children phenomenon in Yaounde and Douala;
- the annual capacity building campaigns in favour of social workers in providing care to street children;
- the organization of home-coming actions for 855 former street children; of which 585 reintegrated the classical educational system and received educational support;
- the systematic going back to school of children placed in foster institutions and the social and vocational training in view of greater empowerment;
- the strengthening of the inter-sector coordination mechanism for the fight against the street children phenomenon;
- the implementation of the pre-marital, matrimonial and family education programme that takes into consideration the prevention of the street children phenomenon;
- the validation of the handbook on community schools as a didactic tool intended for teachers on the ground;
- the institutional placement of street children in reception and rehabilitation centres for minors.

IX. HARMFUL PRACTICES AND EXPLOITATION (Art. 1(3), 15, 21, 27, 28 and 29)

a) Protection against Harmful Social and Cultural Practices (Art. 1(3) and Art. 21)

In order to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee, several actions were realized by the Government, NGOs and technical and financial partners.

As concerns the fight against FGMs, the establishment of the national plan of action on the eradication of these practices, adopted in 2010, reflected in the creation of about twenty local education and surveillance committees to prevent genital mutilation cases in households in the South West (Manyu), Centre (Briquetterie neighbourhood in Yaounde) and Far North Regions (Mayo Sava, Logone & Chari Divisions). An extension of these committees in hotbed areas is planned.

In the same vein, the following actions were carried out:

- consideration of the provisions of the draft law on the repression of gender-based violence in the Criminal Code currently under revision, especially the extension of the concept of serious injuries, with the insertion of two paragraphs on life imprisonment sentences when such serious injuries involve the mutilation of genital organs and when such mutilation has caused the death of the victim or when the author operates this practice regularly;
- the signing, on 25 June 2013, of a platform for collaboration between the State (MINPROFF) and the Council of Imams and Muslim Dignitaries of Cameroon (CIDIMUC) for the fight against FGMs, forceful or early marriages and other forms of violence, accompanied by an implementation matrix;
- the setting up of a programme to fight against harmful cultural practices, intended for traditional, religious and community leaders;
- celebrating, on February 6 every year, the “Zero Tolerance against Female Genital Mutilations” Day;
- organizing two advocacy sessions targeting Parliament (Senate and National Assembly) and religious and traditional rulers in the areas concerned;
- psycho-social and socio-economic care for adolescents who are victims of forced marriages (1151 cases received assistance in 2012);
- partnership with community radio stations for the broadcast of programmes on the rights of children in the fight against harmful cultural practices and FGMs;
- the implementation of the BIAAG (Because I Am A Girl) and LWF (Learn Without Fear) programmes to promote the enrolment of girls in schools and eradicate gender-based violence in school environments;
- a study conducted in 2014 on early marriages in Akwaya in the South West Region.

The actions undertaken resulted in raising the collective awareness of communities concerned on the dangers of FGMs and the need to eradicate such practices. The Declaration of commitment made by Imams and Muslim Dignitaries, on 5 February 2013, to fight against FGMs, as well the involvement of religious and traditional rulers of the South West Region to this effect, both constitutes a significant advancement in collective

awareness. Support for the reconversion of former excision practitioners through income-generating activities, made them to surrender their knives.

Difficulties identified mainly relate to the persistence of early and forced marriages (because 8.7% of girls aged between 15 and 19 got into their first marriage before 15 years); insufficiency of routine data collection on FGMs; the tracking of interventions in the fight against FGMs; insufficiency of financial and human resources in the fight against GBV and NCPs; the low number of programmes for the reintegration of children who are victims of FGMs and NCPs.

To remedy the situation, measures have been taken, relating to: developing the strategy for the promotion and protection of children's rights; the utilization of the findings of the anthropological study on harmful cultural practices that infringe on the rights of children for the setting up a comprehensive communication plan in view of eradicating such practices; the inclusion of negative traditional practices in major nationwide surveys such as EDS, MICS and ECAM.

b) Child Labour (Art. 15)

In the area of economic exploitation, including child labour, Cameroon drew up actions and programmes to meet the provisions of the ACRWC. These actions focused, among other things, on:

- the study on child labour and youth employment in Cameroon, conducted in 2012 by the NIS;
- the inclusion of the WACAP-LUTRENA Project into the 2012-2014 programme budget, following the evaluation of the pilot phase;
- building the capacities of about 60 children in 2013, on participation and advocacy for the fight against abuses and violence against children in situations of employment, led by the NGO International Day of the African Child and Youths (IDAY Cameroon) in association with the Association of Working Children and Youths;
- the validation, in March 2014, of the National Plan of Action for the fight against the worst forms of child labour;
- the handing over of start-up kits to some children trained in learning trades (plumbing, sewing, motor mechanics, carpentry, hairdressing, etc.); during the pilot phase of the project to combat the trade and trafficking in children in cocoa-farming and commercial agriculture in the Centre, South West and North West Regions (WACAP- LUTRENA);
- the setting up, in 2014, of a National Committee on the fight against the worst forms of child labour;
- the study for the possibility to ratify Convention 189 of the ILO on domestic workers;
- the organization, in October 2014, of a multi-sector workshop on the domestic labour of children;
- the organization of several multi-sector campaigns and workshops on issues related to child trafficking, crowned by a Government declaration on the matter, in October 2014;
- the enhancement of literacy, informal basic education and vocational training programmes in response to the specific needs of children from urban and rural areas (PAJER-U, PIAASI);

- the setting up and running of 10 informal basic education centres in the 10 Regional headquarters;
- the setting up of 430 Multipurpose Youth Promotion Centres (CMPJ) targeting the social integration, economic promotion as well as safe and educational leisure activities for youths;
- indentifying, referencing and monitoring cases of child forced labour;
- technical and financial support for the implementation of ILO Conventions ratified by Cameroon;
- the adoption of the National Policy on the Comprehensive Development of the Young Child.

The study on forced labour and economic exploitation of children enabled a better grasp of the phenomenon. Awareness raising, , reintegration and re-adaptation of children who are victims of such practices helped to provide solutions to some of the concerns of this target group.

However, the implementation of these actions is hampered by a number of obstacles, prominent among which are the poor reporting of authors, the lukewarm perception of child labour by the society, the ignorance of legal instruments related to child labour by local communities and some stakeholders involved in child protection, the insufficient budget resources to implement the National Action Plan for the Fight against the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

In order to remedy the situation, the following actions are envisaged:

- implementing the Train My Generation Programme, put in place by Heads of CEMAC member States in 2013, which will help to address the various issues related to poverty and unemployment among the youth in order to contribute to the development of productive initiatives in favour of the target population;
- enhancing education, information and awareness among families and communities on the rights of the child;
- building the institutional capacities for the caring of children;
- pursuing sanctions against perpetrators of forced labour and other forms of economic exploitation of children.

c) Sexual Exploitation (Art. 27)

To give effect to the main recommendations relating to the sexual exploitation of children, the following major actions are to be noted:

- the punishment of culprits (in Bamenda, in the North West Region, for instance, 3 perpetrators of rape were respectively sentenced to 18 years, 1 year and six months of imprisonment, a child ritual practitioner received a 5-year prison sentence and 3 perpetrators of rape are currently awaiting trial);
- the consideration, in the national strategy to combat GBV, of aspects relating to the sexual exploitation, sale and trafficking of children;
- building the capacities of stakeholders in the child protection chain (security forces, lawyers, magistrates and social workers) on the specific rights of children who are victims of trafficking and/or exploitation;

- the organization of training sessions for administrative, traditional and religious authorities as well as those of children's parliament, characterised by the dissemination of national and international legal instruments on the fight against discriminations, sexual abuses and trafficking in children;
- the realization of studies on violence and the sexual exploitation of children to better decipher the contours of the phenomenon;
- the organization by the NCHRF of public hearings on sexual abuses on minors in order to trigger exemplary repression against the perpetrators of such abuses;
- the organization of sessions of pre-marital, matrimonial and family education targeting close to 100 000 families paying particular attention to the appropriation of children's rights by the families;
- the implementation of a psycho-social support programme intended for children who are victims of sexual abuses in the North West Region, with close to 3 000 girls and boys targeted;
- the socio-professional training of the victims in Centres for the Empowerment of Women and the Girl Child and their reintegration in view of their empowerment (10 393 young girls trained from 2012 to 2014).

Actions undertaken in the area of violence against children enabled a better appropriation by the various stakeholders involved in the protection of the rights of the child. However, these measures were hampered by a number of stumbling blocks, including:

- socio-cultural constraints;
- insufficient financial and material resources;
- the silence of victims and families;
- the poor reporting of perpetrators;
- difficulties in the production of evidence.

Measures earmarked to overcome these difficulties concern:

- facilitating the setting up of vigilance committees in target councils, training members of these Committees in the identification, listening, orientation and monitoring of children who are victims;
- identifying and assessing existing structures in charge of assisting children who are victims of sexual violence;
- building the capacities of social stakeholders as regards the referencing of victims.

d) Drug Abuse (Art. 28)

As concerns drug abuse, it was recommended to the Government to take all appropriate measures to protect the child from the use of narcotics and the illicit use of psychotropic substances, and to prevent the use of children in the production and trafficking of such substances.

As part of the implementation of these measures, repression services in Cameroon carried out as many as 89 operations since 2011 to seize narcotics in urban areas, with more than six tons of cannabis, 159 Kg of cocaine seized in airports and 2 Kg of heroin in a hotel in Douala.

Actions undertaken in the area of drug abuse enabled a better appropriation by the various stakeholders involved in the children's rights protection chain. However, these

measures are hindered by a number of obstacles, like the case of Tramadol, also known as Tramol, which remains a major concern as populations in the northern part of the country and especially youths are fond of consuming it, with resulting negative consequences, especially road accidents.

Measures earmarked to overcome these difficulties include:

- the National Campaign for the Fight against Tobacco and Drug Consumption, with the slogan “Tobacco and Drug-free Holidays”, which would lead to the adoption of an anti-tobacco law;
- the involvement of the media with professionalism, perseverance, accountability and vigilance in the fight against drug abuse, in order to educate youths who are most exposed to this scourge;
- providing care to drug-addicts;
- the organization, by the Sub-Committee on International Cooperation, of the National Drug Control Committee (NDCC), of educative talks with students in Yaounde on the adverse effects of tobacco and drug consumption on health as well as related criminal sanctions.

e) Sale, Trafficking, Abduction and Begging (Art. 29)

The implementation of recommendations made on this point culminated in the following actions:

➤ At the Legal Level:

- the adoption of Law No. 2011/024 of 14 December 2011 pertaining to the fight against trafficking and smuggling in persons, to abrogate Law No. 2005/015 of 29 December 2005, that extends the scope of application of the fight against smuggling in all categories of victims;

➤ At the Institutional Level:

- the development, by the Inter-ministerial Committee on the Fight against Trafficking in Persons, set up by Order No. 136/CAB/PM of 2 November 2010 and chaired by the Secretary-General of the Prime Minister’s Office, of a Governmental action plan for the fight against trafficking in persons covering five major strategic areas:
 - stepping up efforts in order to pursue and punish perpetrators of the trafficking in persons;
 - building the capacities of law enforcement staff as well as those of social workers;
 - adopting a law on the trafficking in adults;
 - training law enforcement personnel in the use of electronic databases as a tool to fight against the phenomenon;
 - carrying out investigations on allegations of abuse in hereditary serfdom practices in the northern regions;

➤ At the Operational Level:

- training of social workers, magistrates and law enforcement forces on the fight against the trafficking in persons;

- setting up, upon completion of such training, a Task Force or a platform to coordinate the fight against the trafficking in persons, under the supervision of Regional Governors. As at now, two Task Forces have been set up in Bamenda and Buea;
- setting up operating standards for a national referencing system in the fight against the smuggling and trafficking in persons;
- organizing, in collaboration with the International Migration Organisation (IMO), of training sessions on the referencing of victims of sale, smuggling and traffic of human beings;
- the implementation of the support project to fight against the trafficking in human beings in Gulf of Guinea countries, in partnership with French Cooperation.

These measures helped to strengthen the institutional framework of the fight against the trafficking in persons, develop and disseminate standard operating procedures for the referencing of cases of smuggling and trafficking in persons.

Cases of sanctions against perpetrators of smuggling were recorded. As an illustration, we can mention cases such as:

- The People vs. BELINGA EYENDEA, MANGA ITOUNGUE Martin and EBOA NJOKE : The Court of First Instance of Nkambe in the North West Region, on 7 July 2011, found the first two accused, guilty of abduction of minors and sentenced each of them to three years of suspended sentence for three years;
- The People vs. Lucia NGWE MBUNSON (child trafficking) case: in 2013, the accused, a teacher and principal of Government High School Nkambe, was sentenced to 11 years of imprisonment, a 1.5 million CFA fine, disqualifications from Article 30 of the Penal Code (the disqualification consists in prevention from exercising any profession in relation with children).
- The Vanessa TCHATCHOU and the Prosecution vs ALABI NGBWA Jocelyne. On 18 October 2012, the High Court of Mfoundi ruled that ALABI NGBWA Jocelyne, the main accused person in the case, charged with the abduction of a minor leading to the death of the latter, was guilty and she was sentenced to 25 years in prison. Her alleged accomplices: Ndjandja Pamen Cyrano, Abialina Charles and Zoa Martin, the first accused of collaboration in the abduction of a child and the two others of complicity in abduction, the first two were each sentenced to 20 years in prison. Zoa Martin was acquitted.

Beyond these actions, mention can be made of the setting up of a vast awareness-raising programme, initiated by the Government in 2011, focusing on smuggling and sexual exploitation of children. This campaign to combat the smuggling and exploitation of children organized in partnership with the international NGO *School Instrument of Peace (EIP)*, helped to carry out awareness-raising activities in 9 Regional Headquarters and activities for the tenth Region, the Centre, are underway. These actions had a clear impact with significant outcomes such as:

- The awareness of 8 400 children was raised through educative talks (schools, organized groups, boarding schools, training centres, NGOs/Associations, Neighbourhoods and villages, etc.);

- 5 000 children participated in the official launching ceremonies of the campaigns;
- over 1 000 motorbike taxi riders were mobilized and educated;
- 142 educative talks were carried out by 60 trained outreach officers;
- 800 artistic expressions realized by children on the theme of combating the trafficking in, and sexual exploitation of children;
- over 25 000 education tools were used and distributed (Banners, Posters, T-shirts, polo shirts, face caps, ECSs Guides, special booklets, brochures);
- over 42 national and international media groups mobilized.

Commitments were made:

- by over 500 administrative, religious and traditional authorities to fight against the trafficking in, and exploitation of children, through immediate resolutions taken by some target groups;
- by some stakeholders, through testimonies that helped to denounce several cases of violation of children's rights before the judicial and administrative authorities.

Despite these breakthroughs, the phenomenon persists, due to the absence of a warning system in case of child abduction and the poor appropriation by the stakeholders of the protection chain and the legislation on the trafficking in persons.

In order to overcome these difficulties, the actions recommended by Government are geared towards intensifying actions to build the capacities of the judicial chain, reception and transit centres, Civil Society Organisations operating in the areas of smuggling and trafficking.

X. ADMINISTRATION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE (Art. 17)

In response to the recommendations made in this domain, the State of Cameroon points out that the process to adopt the Civil Code including aspects of the draft Code on Child Protection is underway.

Moreover, the current restructuring of the judicial set up grants functional specialization to Magistrates, with a special composition of court's ruling on juvenile delinquency cases. Within this framework, aside from the professional magistrate, two assessors appointed among persons with proven interests in child matters complete the composition of the court in cases involving minors.

To train this staff, courses on human rights and international humanitarian law were introduced in the curricula of the training schools and centres of the National Gendarmerie and the National School of Administration and Magistracy. Equally earmarked is the introduction of a specific module on the rights of the child. In this perspective, training kits for trainers in the rights of the child, are currently being developed, with the support of international partners (UNICEF and the UN Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa-CNUDHD). In addition, within the framework of continuous training on

human rights in prison settings, intended for the stakeholders of the judicial chain and penitentiary staff, strong emphasis is being laid on children's rights.

Regarding the effective separation of minors from adults, in 2013, 78 out of the 88 prisons in the country were operational. Although all of them are not equipped to receive minors, 36 of them had a juvenile section while 15 others had a minors' unit.

In order to improve the consideration of standards related to the construction of prisons, a position of civil engineer was advertised during the competitive entrance examination for prison administrators. As concerns police and gendarmerie stations, the architectural configuration is still not in strict compliance with this principle. However, in view of ensuring specific care of minors in conflict with the law in police stations, Decree No. 2012/540 of 19 November 2012 to organize the General Delegation for National Security, provided for social affairs units in some police stations to handle the protection of the family and vulnerable social groups.

Furthermore, to promote maximum care for children in conflict with the law, five social worker positions were opened during the recruitment into the penitentiary administration in May 2014. After their training, this staff will support social workers already working in prisons, that is, 2 in Yaounde, 1 in Douala, 1 in Bertoua and 1 in Garoua.

With regard to human resources, thanks to training sessions organized since 2011, and intended for stakeholders of the child protection chain (magistrates, police officers, social workers, etc.) Cameroon is gradually having professionals who are better equipped to deal with child protection matters.

Concerning alternatives to detention, the Criminal Procedures Code provides for measures such as entrusting the child to custody of his/her family, placement in a specialized institution and placing him on probation, being supervised by delegates appointed by the judge.

The system of administration of juvenile justice is gradually including the relevant provisions of international instruments on the protection of, and assistance to, children in conflict with the law. The existence of statistical data on minors in prisons from 2011 to 2013² makes it possible to measure the efforts made to reduce the number of minors detained in prisons and to opt for alternatives to detention in favour of minors.

However, the low number of centres specialized in the placement and care of detained minors, cumbersomeness of procedures, the absence of a regulatory framework relating to the functions of assessors and probation delegates, inadequate financial and human resources to support alternatives to the detention of minors, constitute a hindrance to the smooth administration of juvenile justice.

To overcome the situation, efforts shall be made in view of adopting a code of conduct for penitentiary staff, redeploying probation delegates in the various Courts, effectively implementing alternatives to the detention of minors, rehabilitating and/or building institutions for the placement of minors.

XI. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHILD (Art. 31)

²there were 916 minors in 2011; 865 in 2012; and 861 in 2013.

In order to prepare children to take up their responsibilities towards his family, the society, the State or any other legally recognised community, the State focused its action on:

- educating children on their responsibilities, as part of the celebration of commemorative days dedicated to children (International Day of the African Child, International Children's Rights Day, International Day of the Girl Child, National Youth Day);
- enhancing citizenship and moral education (ECM) in the curricula of training institutions (civic education, ethics and moral education);
- training youths as part of the National Civic Service for Participation in Development (11 000 young volunteers were trained from 2013 to 2014);
- enhancing platforms for the expression of children (Children's Parliament, Children's Government in schools, Advisory Council of Children and Youths, Children's Municipal Councils);
- setting up children's forums and child protection committees in over 100 communities in the Centre, North, Far North, East and North West Regions;
- experimenting young girl clubs in primary and secondary schools (Yaounde in the Centre Region).

ANNEXES

**SPECIFIC INSTRUMENTS ADOPTED WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK OF CHILD PROTECTION FROM 2011 TO 2014**

TABLES

I- STATISTICS OF MINORS IN PRISON (2011-2013)

Table 1: Situation of Minors in Prisons as at 31 December 2011

REGIONS	ACCUSED	CONVICTED	TOTAL
ADAMAWA	37	8	45
CENTRE	274	40	314
EAST	31	0	31
FAR-NORTH	97	19	116
LITTORAL	76	9	85
NORTH	85	17	102
NORTH WEST	37	2	39
WEST	77	1	78
SOUTH	42	10	52
SOUTH WEST	45	9	54
OVERALL TOTAL	801	115	916

Source: DAPEN/MINJUSTICE

Table 2: Situation of Minors as at 31 December 2012

REGIONS	ACCUSED	CONVICTED	TOTAL
ADAMAWA	27	20	47
CENTRE	217	69	286
EAST	35	1	36
FAR-NORTH	61	9	70
LITTORAL	76	9	85
NORTH	91	14	105
NORTH WEST	24	4	25
WEST	109	9	118
SOUTH	42	7	49
SOUTH WEST	35	9	44
CAMEROON	714	125	865

Source: DAPEN/MINJUSTICE

Table 3: Number of Minors in Prison as at 31 December 2013

REGIONS	ACCUSED	CONVICTED	TOTAL
ADAMAWA	41	10	51
CENTRE	226	23	249
EAST	39	12	51
FAR-NORTH	71	37	108
LITTORAL	71	07	78
NORTH	47	12	59
NORTH WEST	30	19	49
WEST	94	15	109
SOUTH	41	09	50
SOUTH WEST	39	18	57
OVERALL TOTAL	699	162	861

Source: DAPEN/MINJUSTICE

II- HEALTH STATISTICS (2011-2013)

Table 4: Evolution of the Immunization Rate of Children Aged from 0 to 5

Antigen	Year 2011	Objectives (%)	Year 2012	Objectives (%)	Year 2013	Objectives (%)
BCG	80.31	86	81.49	88	82.14	90
Polio 3	80.29	88	84.96	90		90
Penta 3	82.19	88	85.19	90	88.59	90
Yellow Fever	75.38	83	80.07	85	82.78	87
Measles	76.01	83	81.76	85	83.17	87
Vat 2+	76.29	84	72.6	86	76.03	88

Source: PPAC(2015-2019)

Table 5: Evolution of the State budget allocated to MINSANTE (in Million CFA F)

YEARS	2011	2012	2013
STATE BUDGET	2 571	2 800	3733.65
MINSANTE BUDGET	151.81	151.42	164.747
PERCENTAGE	5.9	5.4	4.41

Source: Finance Law, 2011, 2012 and 2013 Financial Years

III- STATISTICS ON BASIC EDUCATION (2011-2013)

Table 6: Statistics on Official Examinations for the 2014 Session

Examination	2014 Session			
	Registered	Sat	Passed	% Pass
CEP	268 073	262 134	152 843	75.63
FSLC	93 699	92 998	81 281	80.90
CE	78 852	78 339	61 547	77.24
	440 624	433 471	295 671	77.92

Source: MINEDUB's work

Table 7: Evolution of Enrolment Indicators

ENROLMENT INDICATORS	ACADEMIC YEARS	
	2011-2012	2013-2014
Raw Enrolment Rate	116%	118%
Admission Rate	127%	130%
Primary School Completion Rate for Girls	69.0%	70.3%
Primary School Completion Rate	73.7%	74.2%
Completion Rate in Priority Education Zone	59.0%	63.6%
Raw Nursery Enrolment Rate	30.0%	34.4%

Source: MINEDUB's work

Table 8: Number of pupils in nursery and primary schools during the 2011-2012 and 2013-2014 academic years

SUB-SYSTEM		NUMBER OF PUPILS			
		NURSERY		PRIMARY	
		Girls	Girls and Boys	Girls	Girls and Boys
ANGLOPHONE	2011-2012	63 766	125 886	402 431	816 687
	2013-2014	80 457	159 431	447 641	904 364
FRANCOPHONE	2011-2012	131 622	262 699	1 381 737	3 031 924
	2013-2014	153 814	307 806	1 486 795	3 232 548

Source: MINEDUB's work

Table 9: Presentation of the Number of Teachers in public Nursery and Primary Schools during the 2011-2012 and 2013-2014 academic years

PUBLIC SECTOR TEACHERS		ACADEMIC YEARS	
		2011-2012	2013-2014
Nursery	Paid by the State	5 429	6 633
	Paid by parents	1 177	2 265
	TOTAL	6 606	8 898
Primary	Paid by the State	46 083	42 703
	Paid by parents	9 943	17 651
	TOTAL	56 026	60 354

Source: MINEDUB's work

Table 10: Presentation of infrastructure during the 2013-2014 academic year

		Francophone	Anglophone	Public	Private	Parent + CPC	TOTAL
NURSERY	Schools	3 623	1 848	3 439	4 530	298	8 267
	Classrooms	8 753	5 827	4 364	10 084	132	14 580
PRIMARY	Schools	10 881	3 831	11 906	5 561	668	18 135
	Classrooms	58 097	23 916	51 229	29 698	1 086	82 013

Source: MINEDUB proceedings

Table 11: Evolution of the Funding of the Basic Education Sector since 2012

YEAR	BUDGET OF THE MINISRTY IN CFA F	Increment	
		In Absolute Value	In Relative Value
2012	160 830 000 000	//	//
2013	171 818 000 000	10 988 000 000	6.39%
2014	174 580 000 000	2 762 000 000	1.58%

2015	188 583 000 000	14 003 000 000	7.42%
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Table 12: Distribution of Internal Budgetary Resources in 2014

Allocation	Amount in CFA F	Proportion in Relation to the Internal Resources of the Ministry
Payroll	132 953 000 000	79.86%
Running Budget	21 017 000 000	12.62%
Investment Budget	12 510 000 000	7.51%

Source: MINEDUB proceedings

Table 13: Summary of Allocations Granted to Councils under Infrastructure Development and Acquisition of School Needs

Year	Amount allocated for the construction, rehabilitation, maintenance equipment of schools (in CFA F)	Amount allocated for the acquisition of school needs under the Minimum Package (in CFA F)	Accrued Total for Infrastructure Development and Acquisition of School Needs	Overall Budget of the Ministry Excluding Salaries (in CFA F)	Proportion in Relation to the Overall Budget of the Ministry Excluding Salaries
2010	13 064 050 000	2 072 704 000	15 136 754 000	60 048 000 000	25.21%
2011	6 636 479 000	1 958 629 000	8 595 108 000	35 213 000 000	24.41%
2012	8 139 755 984	2 067 939 000	10 207 694 984	42 225 000 000	24.17%
2013	8 265 341 000	2 085 553 000	10 350 894 000	43 880 000 000	23.59%
2014	9 000 600 000	2 085 553 000	11 086 153 000	41 627 000 000	26.63%
TOTAL	45 106 225 984	10 270 378 000	55 376 603 984	222 993 000 000	24.83%

Source: MINEDUB proceedings

Table 14: Number of Schools and Pupils Assisted by the WFP in 2014

Regions	Number of Schools	Number of Students
NORTH	35	7 684
FAR NORTH	49	11 775
TOTAL	84	19 459

Table 15: Situation of Products Distributed by the WFP in 2014 in the Far North and North Regions

FOODSTUFFS IN TONS	REGIONS	
	NORTH	FAR NORTH
Rice	82.950	127.200
Beans	20.750	32.000
Oil	6.989	11.120
Salt	2.360	3.540
Maize	36.650	49.750
	149.699	223.610

Source: Central Coordination Unit of the WFP/MINEDUB Project

Table 16: Distribution of Functional Literacy Centres (FLCs) and Non-Formal Basic Education Centres (NFBECS)

REGIONS	NUMBER OF FLCs	NUMBER OF NFBECS
ADAMAWA	218	28
CENTRE	49	00
EAST	31	00
FAR NORTH	108	00
LITTORAL	63	00
NORTH	149	00
NORTH WEST	28	00
WEST	98	00
SOUTH	01	00
SOUTH WEST	125	00
	821	28

Source: MINEDUB proceedings

Table 17: Distribution of Pilot Schools

REGIONS	NATIONAL LANGUAGES BEING EXPERIMENTED	NUMBER OF PILOT SCHOOLS
CENTRE	Ewondo	10
FAR-NORTH	Fufuldé	11
LITTORAL	Bassa	08
WEST	Ghomala'a	06
		35

Source: MINEDUB proceedings

Table 18: Number of Indigenous Pupils in 2014

Regions	Number of Enrolled Indigenous Pupils	Total Number of Enrolled Children	Percentage
ADAMAWA	9 398	190 000	4.94%
EAST	12 782	228 087	5.6%
NORTH WEST	23 111	280 166	8.24%
SOUTH	1 884	146 766	1.25%
TOTAL	47 175	845 019	5.58%

Source: MINEDUB proceedings

Table 19: Presentation of the Results of Indigenous Pupils in the CEP Examinations of 2013 and 2014 in the East Region

No.	Indigenous Pupils	CEP 2013			CEP 2014		
		Sat	Passed	% Pass	Sat	Passed	% Pass
1.	BAKAS	15	10	66.7%	20	11	55%
2.	MBOROROS	60	39	65%	75	39	52%
TOTAL		75	49	65.3%	95	50	53.5%

Source: MINEDUB proceedings

Table 20 : Number of Certificates Printed per Session and per Examination

Sessions	Examination	Number of Certificates Printed
2007	CEP	191 978
	FSLC	97 811
	CAPIEMP	3 315
2008	CEP	192 878
	FSLC	66 553
	CAPIEMP	2 982
2009	CEP	189 526
	FSLC	62 027
	CAPIEMP	5 831
2010	CEP	211 544
	FSLC	66 639
	CAPIEMP	9 801
2011	CEP	203 324
	FSLC	74 750
	CAPIEMP	12 578
2012	CEP	219 320
	FSLC	79 057
		1 689 914

Source: MINEDUB proceedings