

## Concluding Observations Committee on the Rights of the Child CRC/C/IRN/CO/3-4 para 22

### Full recommendation:

*In light of its general comment No. 2 (2002) on the role of independent national human rights institutions, the Committee recommends that the State party take measures to expeditiously establish, in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles), an independent mechanism for monitoring human rights, including a specific mechanism for monitoring children's rights that is able to receive, investigate and address complaints by children in a child-sensitive manner, ensure the privacy and protection of victims, and undertake monitoring, follow-up and verification activities for victims.*

### Assessment using Impact Iran human rights indicators

As of February 2020, Iran has not established an independent and impartial National Human Rights Institution (NHRI). The High Council of Human Rights is often mentioned by Iran as being the country's NHRI, yet the fact that this body is a part of the Judiciary of Iran contradicts the standards introduced by the Paris Principles.

On 16 April 2012, the President's cabinet established the National Body on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (NBCRC).<sup>1</sup> The NBCRC is generally charged with promotion of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.<sup>2</sup> The establishment of a national body to monitor implementation of the Convention is a positive step. However, the NBCRC is not an independent body and is overseen by the Ministry of Justice.<sup>3</sup> Its duties include evaluating respect for rights of children at a national level, reviewing draft legislation and regulations, reviewing government reports on child rights, monitoring reported violations of the rights of the child, and conducting public outreach related to child rights. However, the powers of the NBCRC, as described in interviews by its leadership, are primarily advisory and geared towards coordination between government agencies.<sup>4</sup> It is not clear what influence the body could have on the government to change laws and policies that are incompatible with Iran's obligations under the Convention, nor the amount of funding it receives and the activities it undertakes on a yearly basis. UNICEF sources<sup>5</sup> demonstrate that the NBCRC has been cooperative in advancing children's rights in Iran, yet there is a relative lack of other relevant sources that illustrate this body's wider scope of work.

<sup>1</sup> [Bylaw for the National Body on the Convention on the Rights of the Child \(10 January 2012\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., art. 2

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., arts. 1 and 4.

<sup>4</sup> Iranian Labor New Agency ("ILNA"), Interview with the Secretary of National Body on the Rights of the Child (30 July 2014)

<sup>5</sup> [UNICEF Iran](#)

As of February 2021, there is no independent mechanism able to receive, investigate and address complaints by children in a child-sensitive manner in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Recommendation Status:

This recommendation has **NOT** been implemented.