

Concluding Observation Committee on the Rights of the Child CRC/C/IRN/CO/3-4 para 68(a)

Full recommendation

Collect data on children with disabilities and develop an efficient system for diagnosing disability, which is necessary for putting in place appropriate policies and programmes for children with disabilities.

Assessment using Impact Iran human rights indicators¹

A. Collect data on children with disabilities

Article 29 of the Comprehensive Law for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities obliges the National Statistics Center to prepare classified statistics on persons with disabilities.² There is no readily available information that might suggest that such report has been or will be made readily available.

The annual performance report, made readily available, of the Ministry of Health does not contain statistics and information on persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities.³

The Welfare Organization publishes its annual statistics, which include the number of persons with disabilities who benefit from its services. These statistics are also categorized by type of disability.⁴

The Ministry of Health does not provide such categorized statistics (at least via publicly accessible data). There is no readily available information that indicates that disaggregated data on children with disabilities is collected for the Welfare Organization's annual statistics.

None of these available statistics contain comprehensive data on children with disabilities.

B. Develop an efficient system for diagnosing disability, which is necessary for putting in place appropriate policies and programmes for children with disabilities

¹ CRC.25.S.1; CRC.25.S.2; CRC.28.1.S.1; CRC.28.4.S.1; CRC.25.P.1; CRC.25.P.3; ESCR.13.2.P.2; CRC.25.O.3; ESCR.13.1.O.3

² <https://rc.majlis.ir/fa/law/show/1054682>

³ Behdasht.gov, <https://bit.ly/2ZCX8yx>

⁴ <https://www.behzisti.ir/news/11295/>

The Ministry of Health is responsible for developing measures to prevent the occurrence of physical and mental disabilities, providing the necessary services to persons with disabilities, and providing supportive measures (specialized rehabilitation services, insurance support, etc.) for children of preschool age, the elderly and families in need.⁵ The Ministry of Health works with the Welfare Organization, one of the main state institutions providing support and services to persons with disabilities, to implement its measures and activities.⁶ Insufficient information is available to assess the efficiency of potential plans, strategies and actions taken by the Ministry of Health to implement its responsibilities.

The Welfare Organization issues a "disability card" for persons with disabilities. The process to obtain a "disability card" is done online.⁷ However, there is no readily available information as to the efficiency of such system nor disaggregated data on individuals being granted such document.

The system in place for diagnosing disability has been reportedly inefficient in Iran. For example, in February 2017, the deputy director of the Welfare Organization for Rehabilitation stated that "The identification system in the Ministry of Health is disrupted, so that problems have been created in this area for the Welfare Organization in terms of identifying disabilities. For example, we know that 50% of spinal cord injuries occur due to car accidents, or we know that many [cases of deafness] are congenital and have genetic causes; we have this information, but there is no coherent information about the causes and prevalence of disabilities, because access to this information requires close cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Welfare, which unfortunately does not currently have the necessary cooperation."⁸

In light of the above, the process to diagnose disability in Iran is not efficient.

Recommendation Status:

This recommendation has been **PARTIALLY** implemented.

⁵ Behdash.gov, <https://bit.ly/3exMTnu>

⁶ <http://en.behzisti.ir/>

⁷ <https://www.tabnak.ir/fa/news/888167/>

⁸ <https://www.isna.ir/news/95113021296/>