# The UNICEF General Measures of Implementation Project

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# Introduction: Child Rights Advocacy in UNICEF

The UNICEF structure:

- Country Offices and National Committees

- Role of National Committees: advocacy and fundraising

- The Child Rights Advocacy and Education Section in UNICEF PFP

## Article 4 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

*"States Parties shall undertake **all appropriate legislative, administrative, and other measures** for the implementation of the rights recognized in the present Convention. With regard to economic, social and cultural rights, States Parties shall undertake such measures to the maximum extent of their available resources and, where needed, within the framework of international co-operation."*

The Committee on the Rights of the Child groups article 4 with:

Article 42: the obligation to make the content of the Convention widely known to children and adults;

and

Article 44, paragraph 6: the obligation to make reports widely available within the State;

# The General Comment on Article 4 of the CRC

The term "general measures of implementation" refers to measures that do not concern a specific right, but rather form the foundation for efforts to protect *all* the rights and principles set forth in the Convention.

In 2003, the Committee on the Rights of the Child adopted **General Comment No. 5** on General Measures of Implementation.

It gives guidance regarding the content of article 4 but does not clearly list the general measures of implementation.

# The measures selected for the CRC GMI project

1. National plans and strategies for implementation of the CRC

2. National mechanisms for coordinating implementation

3. Law reform and judicial enforcement of the rights of children

4. Awareness-raising, training and education

5. Resource allocation and "making children visible in budgets"

6. Monitoring and data-collection

7. Statutory children's rights institutions

8. Participation of civil society in implementation of the CRC

9. International cooperation

10. The ratification and application of other relevant international standards

- A decision was made to focus on the General Measures of Implementation since they affect the realisation of *all* the rights recognised by the Convention.

- CRC GMI form the foundation for efforts to protect the rights and principles stipulated in the CRC and therefore deserve special attention.

**Overall goal**:

Live external online database on government adherence to the CRC GMIs to support child rights advocacy in industrialized countries.

This database will be fed into, and used by, a community of children's rights experts from both within and outside UNICEF.

# The CRC GMI project: the three phases

1. <u>Research phase</u> (2009): 35 country profiles, EU profile, Summary Analysis Report

2. <u>Pilot phase</u> (2010, Jun-Dec): update of data by national experts in six countries

3. <u>Roll-out</u> of the pilot to the remaining National Committee countries (2011, Jan. onwards)

# The CRC GMI project: piloting the second phase

To develop an effective system for maintaining and disseminating the information in the CRC GMI database:

- In each country, establish an "<u>editorial board</u>" responsible for regularly updating their CRC GMI country profile
- Move the database to an <u>external online platform</u> => data can be edited by editorial board and viewed by the wider child rights community
- Additional on-line space to post examples of <u>good practice</u> and to facilitate exchange of ideas and experiences

# The CRC GMI project: piloting the second phase

Pilot phase:

1. Establishment of editorial boards in 6 countries (Canada, Finland, Italy, Poland, Netherlands and the UK)

2. Update of database by editorial boards

3. Review of updates by lead researcher and UNICEF

4. Webinars and conference calls with national experts forming the editorial boards and UNICEF

thank you

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