



**REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL**

One People – One Goal – One Faith

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

**2011-2017 REPORT**  
**OF SENEGAL**

**April 2018**

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ACRWC</b>	: African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
<b>AECID</b>	: Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
<b>AEMO</b>	: Non-institutional Educational Outreach Services
<b>AJS</b>	: Association of Senegalese Jurists
<b>ANCTP</b>	: National Agency of the Early Childhood Reception Centers
<b>ANSFES</b>	: National Association of Midwives of Senegal
<b>AOMF</b>	: Association of Francophone Ombudsmen and Mediators
<b>ASC</b>	: Cultural and Sports Association
<b>CADHP</b>	: African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
<b>CAPE</b>	: Child Protection Support Unit
<b>CAS</b>	: Center for Social Adaptation
<b>CBO</b>	: Community Based Organization
<b>CCNDH</b>	: National Advisory Council on Human Rights
<b>CEDAW</b>	: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
<b>CEGID</b>	: Infant and Family Guidance Center of Dakar
<b>CMU</b>	: Universal health care coverage
<b>CNEC</b>	: National Center of Civil Registry
<b>CONAFE</b>	: National Coalition of Associations and NGOs in Favor of the Child
<b>CP</b>	: Multipurpose Center
<b>CPA</b>	: Initial Reception Center
<b>CRC</b>	: United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
<b>CS</b>	: Rescue Center
<b>CSDH</b>	: Senegalese Committee on Human Rights
<b>DDH</b>	: Human Rights Directorate
<b>DDPEGV</b>	: Directorate of Rights, Protection of the Child and Vulnerable Groups
<b>DESPS</b>	: Directorate of Correctional Education and Social Protection
<b>DF</b>	: Directorate of the Family
<b>DGAS</b>	: General Directorate of Social Action
<b>EDEN</b>	: Education and Child Development
<b>EDF</b>	: European Development Fund

**GER** : Gross Enrollment Rate  
**ILO** : International Labor Office  
**MEN** : Ministry of Education  
**MSAS** : Ministry of Health and Social Action  
**NGO** : Non-Governmental Organization  
**ONPN** : National Office of the Wards of the Nation  
**PAMEC** : Project for the Modernization of the Civil Registry  
**PAMOD** : Project for the Modernization of the Daaras  
**PAP** : Priority Action Plan  
**PAQUET** : Program for the Improvement of the Quality, Equity and Transparency  
**PARRER** : Partnership for the Withdrawal and Reintegration of Street Children  
**PNBSF** : National Family Safety Scholarship Program  
**PNE** : National Children's Parliament  
**PSE** : Emerging Senegal Plan  
**RADDHO** : African Engagement for the Defense of Human Rights  
**RPJM** : Project for the Strengthening of Legal Protection of Minors  
**RH** : Reproductive Health  
**TAMA** : Average Annual Completion Rate  
**TBA** : Gross Completion Rate  
**TBPS** : Gross Pre-School Rate  
**UNICEF** : United Nations Children's Fund  
**UNODC** : United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Government of the Republic of Senegal extends its thanks to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (CAEDBE) and submits to the Committee its Periodic Report on the Implementation of the African Charter on Human Rights and Child Welfare (ACRWC), pursuant to article 43 and the concluding observations of the Committee, following the consideration of the initial report at its 18<sup>th</sup> session, held in Algiers, Algeria, from 27<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011<sup>1</sup>.

The preparation of this report<sup>2</sup> takes place in a context particularly marked by the commitment of the authorities from the presidential elections of March 2012, just after the consideration of the initial report of Senegal, to further ensure the promotion and protection of human rights in general, and of children's rights in particular.

According to the results of the general census of the population and housing, agriculture and livestock carried out in December 2013, the population of Senegal is estimated at 13,508,715 inhabitants of which 49.9% are men and 50,1% are women. The fertility rate averages 5.1 children per woman. This population is characterized by its youth. As a matter of fact, more than half of the population is under the age of 20, accounting for 52.7%, with children under 15 making up 42.1% of the overall population.

Nevertheless, the child protection sector is still marked by the persistence of the phenomenon street children, the non-registration of many children in the civil register, the persistence of violence against children, including child marriages and the practice of excision.

It is in this context, and upon the instructions of the President of the Republic, that the government adopted on December 27, 2013, the National Strategy for Child Protection (SNPE), which is today the political document of reference in promoting and protecting the rights of the child.

The first 2013-2015 action plan of SNPE has been implemented and the second which covers the period 2016-2018 is currently being implemented with convincing results.

In parallel with this momentum, the Government of the Republic of Senegal strives to fully fulfill its obligations to report to the international community on its efforts to fulfil the rights of the child.

In this framework, the initial reports on the implementation of the optional protocols to the International Convention on the Rights of the Child relating, one to the involvement of children in armed conflict, and the other, to the sale, child prostitution and pornography

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<sup>1</sup> The report covered the period 1998-2009

<sup>2</sup> This report covers the period 2011-2017

were transmitted to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2014. The review of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> periodic reports on the implementation of the International Convention of the Rights of the Child (consolidated in one document) sent since 2012, took place in Geneva in January 2016.

Also, the preparation and transmission of this report on the implementation of the ACRWC marks the closing of the lag gap in the monitoring of the rights of the child.

This report, prepared in accordance with the Committee's guidelines on the subject, is structured in two parts.

The first relates to the responses to the various questions and recommendations of the Committee following the review of the initial report.

The second presents the progress noted in the implementation of the other articles of the Charter in Senegal.

## PART ONE

### RESPONSES TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

Following the review of the initial report in 2011, the Committee's concluding observations addressed issues of concern and made substantial recommendations. The Government of the Republic of Senegal provides, below, the elements of response.

#### Article 1: OBLIGATION OF STATE PARTIES

*The Committee commends the Government of Senegal for the Constitutional and Legislative efforts to translate the rights and freedoms of the child into the domestic law of the country and to ensure child protection at all levels.*

*Indeed, many texts promote the rights of the child and the Charter, notably Articles 16 and 20 to 23 of the Constitution.*

*However, the institutional arrangements in place would not favor the rationality of the interventions, let alone the effectiveness of the actions. The reasons for this include: problems of coordination of actions, lack of adequate structures and qualified personnel for the care of vulnerable children, inconsistency between certain provisions of the Charter and national legislation (example: marriages of children, exploitation of children by begging, persistence of certain harmful traditional practices, plurality of definitions of the child, etc.).*

***The Committee recommends that the Government of Senegal takes the necessary measures to ensure that these problems which hinder the enforcement of the laws in favor of the rights and welfare of children are solved.***

In 2012, as part of a concerted scientific approach, the Government carried out a study on the mapping and analysis of protection systems in Senegal.

It is on the basis of the results and recommendations of this study that Senegal has engaged in a participatory and inclusive process to adopt, on December 27, 2013 in an interdepartmental council chaired by the Prime Minister, a National Child Protection Strategy (SNPE), implemented through an integrated institutional mechanism and operational action plans.

With the adoption of the SNPE, the institutional mechanism for coordinating and monitoring interventions for the benefit of the child has been strengthened and improved by the creation of the National Intersectoral Committee for Child Protection (CINPE), through the Prime Minister's decree No. 01333 of January 24, 2014 amended by the No. 06788 of April 29, 2016.

The strategic orientations defined by the Committee are implemented by a National Executive Secretariat for Child Protection (SENPE) which relies on four (04) Technical Commissions. At the decentralized level, actions in favor of children are carried out through the Child Protection Committees.

Of the forty-five (45) departments in Senegal, thirty-eight (38) have a Departmental Committee for Child Protection. In addition, at least seventy-two (72) Child Protection Monitoring Committees (CSPEs) have been set up at the district level, as well as eighty-four (84) Communal Child Protection Committees (CCPE) and a thousand one hundred and ninety-eight (1198) Village or Community Protection Committees (CVPE / CQPE).

Today, the coordination mechanism of the SNPE is reinforced by the establishment, in September 2017, of a new ministerial department dedicated to Child Protection, as well as the creation of new State structures responsible for ensuring a better care for children in vulnerable situations.

For example, three (03) new Initial Reception Centers (CPAs), four (04) Social Rehabilitation Centers (CRS), two (02) Day Drop-in Centers and ten (10) Centers for the Promotion and Social Reintegration (CPRS) were created between 2012 and 2017.

The setting up of these structures is accompanied by the recruitment of a qualified personnel made up of specialized educators and social workers.

Furthermore, civil society organizations contribute to the care of vulnerable children by opening and running reception centers as part of the integrated child protection system.

In addition, the Government has developed, in collaboration with partners involved in the field of child protection, tools for the collection and management of data in protection, thus taking an important step in the establishment of a national child protection information management system.

## Article 2: AGE OF THE CHILD

***The Committee recommends that the Government of Senegal take all appropriate legislative measures to ensure the protection of the girl and to comply with Article 2 of the Charter.***

Senegal has embarked on a process of reform aimed at harmonizing its national legal framework with international legal instruments (African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, Convention on the Rights of the Child).

In 2013, Senegal adopted a policy aimed at providing, through an integrated protection system, a political and legal environment that protects children, their families and communities against all forms of violence. This helps to provide a holistic response to child marriage phenomena. As part of the African Union campaign against child marriage, a national plan of action must be developed.

Thus, in order to strengthen the legal and institutional framework of the rights of the child in Senegal, the bill on the children's code was updated in 2014.

The Children's Code aims to correct any imperfections that prevent children from fully enjoying their rights and to combat practices that affect their well-being such as child marriage. Thus, the children's code has planned to raise the age of marriage of the girl to 18 years.

Indeed, Article 50 of the draft Code provides: *"Child marriage and the pledging of girls and boys in marriage are forbidden. The minimum age for marriage is 18 for both girls and boys. The State ensures the compulsory legal registration of all marriages"*.

### Fight against gender-based violence (GBV):

The State has initiated, as part of the Priority Solidarity Fund (FSP), a project "to support the fight against gender violence in schools" for a multisectoral, interdepartmental and (multi-level) approach in schools and in the community. This project aims to improve access to and retention of girls at school by:



- The establishment of safe and gender-sensitive learning environments and the reduction of gender inequalities in access to and retention in school, especially for girls;
- Improving the knowledge of the impact of GBV on school enrollment and its quality among ministerial officials, educational staff, communities, women and men included.

The issue of violence is also one of the priorities of the Program for Improving Quality, Equity and Transparency (PAQUET), aimed at curbing one of the obstacles to promoting the education of children and especially girls.

In addition to Child Protection Committees, School medical checkups, Gender Offices, Secondary Education Inspectors (School Life Option), Awareness and Training Tools and a Gender and Human Rights Booklet currently in the course of finalization are made available to the actors.

In 2015, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were disseminated to stakeholders and regional action plans developed in the 14 regions for specific GBV management at community level.

Law No. 99-05 of 29<sup>th</sup> January 1999 on FGM has been translated into national languages and disseminated nation-wide.

Senegal has developed its first national action plan for the eradication of GBV and the promotion of human rights (PAN / VBG / DH). This joint multisectoral document (2017-2021) has been implemented and has generated the regional action plans as primary results. The PAN / VBG / DH covers all aspects of the fight against violations of women's rights and intra-family violence. Legal assistance for rape victims is guaranteed and children raped benefit from psycho-social assistance free of charge.

### **Article 3 : NON DISCRIMINATION**

***The Committee invites the Government to provide flexible means of acquiring nationality that would allow conferring Senegalese nationality to any child of a Senegalese parent, in order to avoid discrimination and injustices that will hinder the survival and development of the child.***

This recommendation was fully implemented with the adoption of Law No. 2013-05 of 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013, amending Law No. 61-10 of 07<sup>th</sup> March 1961 determining Senegalese nationality.

Thus, Articles 5, 7, 7A, 9, 10, 12, 15, 20 and 21 of this law have been amended to fully conform Senegalese legislation to international standards.

For instance, article 5 of the law no. 2013-05 of July 08, 2013 stipulates that: "Is Senegalese, any child born of an ascendant in the first degree who is Senegalese".

Article 9 specifies that: *"the child who is the subject of a full adoption acquires Senegalese nationality if the adopter, or, in the case of joint adoption, one of the adopters is Senegalese"*.

In addition, Article 10 of Law No. 2013-05 of 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013 facilitates the guarantees of acquisition of nationality in favor of the child, stating that: *"Becomes legally Senegalese, provided that its filiation is established in accordance with Chapter I of Book III of the Family Code, any minor child whose one parent acquires the Senegalese nationality "*.

The Nationality Code thus facilitates the acquisition of the nationality by a child.

#### Article 4: BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD

***The Committee recommends that the Government of Senegal develop a legislative framework relating to the best interests of the Senegalese child; a framework that tries to reconcile positive customary values with modern scientific evidence and serves as a common reference for all legal and civil advocates of the rights and welfare of children in Senegal.***

At the legal level, several provisions of internal positive law ensure that the best interests of the child are taken into account.

The Family Code, which guarantees the rights of the child, particularly with regard to filiation, support by his parents, as in the context of divorce, legal separation or succession proceedings, requires magistrates to consider in all these procedures the greatest benefit of the child. Article 278 of the Family Code provides, in this sense, that *"in the event of divorce or separation from bed and board, the judge entrusts the custody of the child to one or the other parent, or, where appropriate, to a third party, taking into account the child's greatest benefit "*.

The decision is subject to change, but always, under the exclusive criterion of the best interests of the child.

At the institutional level, the forthcoming creation of an independent institution called the Children's Advocate aims, inter alia, to reinforce the principle of the best interests by taking into account and fulfilling their right to protection.

In addition, administrative and judicial procedures have been developed to ensure better consideration of the best interests of the child, particularly in bills currently being finalized.

These include the development of waiting and hearing areas for minors in the courts, provided for in the reform of the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure and the formalization of the construction of ramps to facilitate access of disabled children to school infrastructure which has become a requirement in the specifications for the building of school infrastructure.

#### Article 6: NAME AND NATIONALITY

***The Committee recommends the continuation of the training of civil registrars at Community level to facilitate the registration of children at birth.***

The government is pursuing efforts in the area of capacity building for civil registrars through the organization of various training sessions, in close collaboration with local authorities, the civil society and development partners.

In the last two years, 357 civil registrars and hundreds of community actors (district leaders, imams, traditional communicators) have been trained on the rules and procedures of civil status and their role in achieving universal registration. Also, at least 15,418 people were directly sensitized on the importance of birth registration.

These efforts raised the civil registration rate for children aged 0-5 from 72.7% in 2014 to 80% in 2016.

The Government is resolutely pursuing its efforts for the universal civil registration of all births, in accordance with its objectives.

Since 2012, the State has made an exceptional effort to increase the number of civil status centers, improve their functioning and provide birth certificates to already-born children. The number of civil status centers has been increased with the advent of the Phase 3 of the Decentralization which allowed the former Rural Communities to become full-function communes, thus having their own civil status centers. Today, Senegal has 587 civil status centers distributed in 552 municipalities.

Another equally important path has also been engaged by the State of Senegal. It mainly concerns the computerization of civil status centers and the digitization of civil status records. To date, 15,710,882 civil status records have been digitized out of a total of 23,021,098 and more than 66 civil status centers have been computerized and connected to HERA as part of the Program for the Modernization of Civil Registry (PAMEC) funded by the European Union and UNICEF.

The computerization of the civil status system is a priority for the government, illustrated by the acquisition and validation of HERA data management and processing software and its experimentation at pilot centers. Several local authorities have computerized their civil status service, with the assistance of the National Center for Civil Status.

The partnership between UNICEF and the State of Senegal has developed for three years a collaboration between the health sector and the civil status centers to increase the registration rate of children in the civil registry. This collaboration resulted in the establishment of 207 Vital Statistics / Health Corners in health posts and health centers in the Kolda, Sedhiou, Ziguinchor and Tambacounda regions.

The interoperability between health and civil status has also resulted in the training of Framework regional teams (ECRs), Framework District Teams (ECDs), liaison people and service providers on child registration procedures in the civil registry in order to allow the systematic guidance and support of women during pre- and post-natal visits.

In addition, 76 health districts in the 14 regions have benefited from 672,470 revised maternal and child health records containing information on birth registration procedures.

At the material level, 14,100 birth registers, 89,000 printed birth extracts and certificates forms, and 18,000 district notebooks for pre-registration by district delegates and village chiefs, were distributed to the ten civil status centers of partner local authorities at the level of the suburbs of Dakar and in rural areas in the departments of Thiès, Fatick, Diourbel and Louga.

#### Article 7: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

***The Committee invites the Government to reconsider the educational objectives of the Children's Parliament, the pedagogical and financial realism of the decisions relating to it, the degree of adhesion of the educational actors to this approach, etc. In any case, the Government must ensure that the Children's Parliament does not lose its essential educational character. It should contribute to the improvement of educational relationships at home, at school and in society. It must also have a positive impact on individual and collective academic outcomes.***

To encourage children's freedom of expression and enhance their participation in public life, the Government initiated a project in 2013 to revitalize the National Children's Parliament with the institutionalization and revision of the participation model as major axes.

To this end, a working group made up of representatives of the Ministries of Women, Family and Children, Justice, Education, Youth, the National Assembly, the office of the President of the Republic and Partners has been instituted.

The work of the group was sanctioned by the drafting of a decree establishing the National Children's Parliament (PNE). Article 1 of the draft decree thus provides, with regard to institutionalization, that *"it is established in Senegal an institution called the National Children's Parliament"*.

Besides the institutionalization, all the concerns raised are taken into account by the draft decree. Articles 2 and 8 of the Decree specify, among other things, that members of the Parliament are children between the ages of 7 and 18, schooled, out-of-school, disabled, apprentices from modern Koranic schools, etc., elected by their peers for a three-year term renewable once.

The draft decree also provides for public support to the National Children's Parliament. Article 8 on the budget states that "it is entered annually in the budget law, in the budget of the Ministry for Children, budget lines relating to the care and operation of the National Children's Parliament.

Regarding the revision of the participation model, a more inclusive and representative voting system was shared and adopted to facilitate the renewal of the National Children's Parliament.

All children must be represented in the PNE, without any discrimination of race, religion, sex, social status or disability. The structuring of the National Children's Parliament must respect the parity girls and boys. It also takes into account the new policy of decentralization marked by the transformation of departments, until then, administrative districts into local authorities. Thus, the Parliament will have three levels of representativeness: (i) the Electoral College at the municipal level, (ii) the Departmental Parliament and (iii) the National Parliament.

In the field of education, the establishment of School Governments (GS) makes it possible to encourage the participation of children in the management of their schools. With school governments, students have the opportunity to share their views and opinions on the smooth running of schools, on the education sector in general.

#### Article 11 : EDUCATION

***The Committee suggests fencing the schools, establishing water points, building separate toilet blocks, improving working conditions, continuing the policy of building and rehabilitating classrooms, ending the exclusion of pregnant girls from school and allowing their reintegration after childbirth.***

The physical environment of schools is composed of ancillary works such as latrines, administrative blocks, fence walls, water points, etc. The objective of expanding the

reception capacity that was started during the implementation of the PDEF continued with the PAQUET.

Thus, at the level of preschool education, the coverage in terms of fencing represents 76.6% in total. It is 31.76% for the Public, 55.53% for the Private and 12.73% for the Schools of the Third type (Community and Associative).

The presence of latrines in preschools is relatively satisfactory with 76.2% coverage at the national level. This rate is unequally distributed according to status. The private represents 54.64% followed by the Public with 32.75% and the third type 12.61%.

In 2016, 79.5% of preschool facilities have water distributed as follows: 33.70% for the Public, 47.53% for the Private and 18.77% for the Community and Associative schools.

At the national level, the percentage of public schools with latrines in urban areas is 85.1%.

The percentage of fenced public elementary schools is 38.50%, of which 74.5% in urban areas and 30.5% in rural areas.

Water availability in elementary schools at the national level reached a percentage of 67% distributed between urban (83.9%) and rural (63.3%) areas.

Temporary shelters decreased nationally from 9.92% in 2015 to 9.1% in 2016, a decrease of 0.82 percentage points. School building programs to replace shelters in elementary schools have all contributed to slowing the progression rate of temporary shelters in the system.

In the general intermediate education, in 2016, 86% of public secondary schools had access to water. Compared with (83%) in 2015, there is a slight increase of 3 percentage points.

With regard to the presence of fencing, in 2016, 65% of middle-level secondary schools have one, a sharp increase of 07 percentage points compared to the 2015 rate (58%).

With regard to the presence of latrines, 82% of middle-level secondary schools have been provided with latrines in 2016, a slight increase of one percentage point compared to the 2015 rate (81%).

In secondary education, the issue of the improvement of the school environment is not overlooked due to efforts of enrolment of children, particularly in terms of providing a minimum package of services.

Thus, in 2016, 95% of public secondary schools have access to water compared with (94%) in 2015; a slight increase of 1 percentage point is noted.

With regard to the presence of fences, in 2016, 85% of secondary schools have been fenced, a sharp increase of 06 percentage points over the 2015 rate (79%).

Regarding the presence of latrines, 91% of secondary schools had latrines in 2016, a slight decrease of 3 percentage points compared to the rate of 2015 (94%).

Still with the objective of improving the physical environment of schools, the Ministry of National Education has launched a National Program for the total elimination of temporary shelters or Zero temporary shelter Program that will be completed in December 2019. This Program will target 4,189 temporary shelters in the Elementary Schools, 1,589 in the Middle Schools and 591 at the Secondary, making a total of 6,369 temporary shelters to be replaced. Still in this program, 247 secondary schools and 118 high schools will be fenced and 2,264 toilet blocks will be built at Elementary School, 206 at the Middle School and 28 at the Secondary School. All these constructions include the Gender and Disability Approach.

Another project entitled Strengthening the Support for the Protection of Children in Education in Senegal (RAP) 2017 - 2021 covers the regions of Matam, Kaolack, Kaffrine, Kedougou, Kolda, Sedhiou, Tambacounda and Ziguinchor. In this framework, it is planned:

- the construction of 30 wells, 55 separate boys / girls toilet blocks, with ramps and handwashing devices, 25 fence walls, 25 multipurpose "Child-friendly Spaces", 385 masonry benches for "Child Friendly Space" in education and learning facilities;
- the rehabilitation of 30 wells, 33 separate boys / girls toilet blocks, with ramps and handwashing devices, 35 water supply systems for education and learning facilities.

At the regulatory level, there is a system for the management of student pregnancies with the circular No. 004379 / ME / SG / DEMSG / DAJLD of 11/10/2007. It now gives pregnant girls the opportunity to return to school after giving birth. This is a progress on the girls' rights to education, for, before the existence of this circular, girls who found themselves in a situation of pregnancy were definitely excluded from school.

The promotion of inclusive education is ensured through the experimentation of inclusive classes in the localities of Pikine, Guédiawaye and Rufisque thanks to the support of the social inclusion project implemented by MEN and MSAS.

Also, the MEN has four specialized institutions that provide education for children with disabilities: The National Institute for Education and Training of Blind Youth (INEFJA) of Thies, the Verbo-tonal Center of Dakar for deaf and dumb children, the Talibou Dabo Center in Dakar for children with motor disabilities, the Center for Education and Training of Intellectual Disabilities (CEFDI) in Dakar for children with intellectual disabilities.

Moreover, inclusive education is the subject of particular attention in the strategies of adaptation of the educational offer. Thus, we can note:

- ✓ the adoption of the social orientation Law No. 2010-15 of July 6, 2010, regulated by the 2012-1038 implementing order of October 2, 2012 relating to the departmental technical commissions in charge of the applications for the cards of equal opportunities and promotion of special education;

- ✓ development of a guidance document for elementary education;
- ✓ the mainstreaming of inclusive education in the technical specifications of school buildings;
- ✓ The inclusion of inclusive education in the criteria for budget allocation to schools;
- ✓ the stabilization of local inclusion mechanisms by types of sensitive disabilities.

***It also recommends that the Government ensure that measures of encouragement exclusively for girls do not take on the appearance of educational disadvantage and engender frustration, discouragement, or lack of motivation in boys and a development of gender-focused negative behaviors of both girls and boys.***

In response to this recommendation, the Ministry of Education has set up an Observatory for the Fight against Vulnerability and School Wastage which aims to identify and support children in vulnerable situations who risk dropping out of school.

#### **Article 14: HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES**

*The Committee encourages:*

- ***the training policy in numbers of competent doctors, senior technicians in anaesthesia, assistant operators, instrumentalists, and midwives;***

As part of the implementation of the National Health Policy of Senegal, the government has recruited 500 health workers between 2012 and 2013. Better still, the President of the Republic authorized, during a Cabinet Meeting in late 2013, the exceptional recruitment, starting in 2014, of 1,000 health workers, including 500 midwives, to further materialize his policy of improving maternal and child health. This recruitment, which significantly strengthens the workforce, includes 90 medical doctors, 90 nurses and 500 midwives for the development of local care in remote areas of the country.

The government urges the local authorities, the private sector and technical and financial partners to support the development of human resources to facilitate the recruitment of graduates who leave health training schools each year.

In the field of in-service training, considerable efforts are being made to strengthen the skills of the medical staff. By way of example, mention may be made of:

- The training of District Medical Officers at the Institute of Health and Development (ISED);



- The training of competent SOU teams (competent doctors, senior technicians in anesthesia, assistant operators, instrumentalists)
- ***sustained information of families and communities on the promotion of exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months;***

Breastfeeding is a universal practice in Senegal. However, only 33% of children benefit from exclusive breastfeeding. As a result, in December 2015, the Ministry of Health and Social Action started an awareness campaign on exclusive breastfeeding for up to 6 months, identified as a strategy to reduce infant and child mortality and promote family planning, especially through the MAMA method based on breastfeeding and amenorrhea (absence of periods).

- ***the regular organization of the campaigns of deworming and vitamin A supplementation which made it possible to have appreciable levels of cover of the order of 98% for Vitamin A and 97% for deworming, etc.;***

In June 2016, the MSAS launched the Child Survival Days (JSE), which offers children under the age of 0-5 free access to an integrated package of interventions including vitamin A supplementation, de-worming, catch-up vaccination, active screening and management of acute malnutrition and diarrhea, promotion of registration to the Registry and promotion of key behaviors (exclusive breastfeeding, washing of hands with soap, complementary food, consumption of foods rich in micronutrients).

- ***the organization of sustained mass communication in endemic areas and provision of iodized salt to families with promotional control exercise and provision of test kits;***

Intensive and repeated communication campaigns have been conducted by the Government through the Ministry of Health and Social Action and with strong involvement of civil society organizations to sensitize communities on the benefits of using iodized salt with the provision of prevention kits. These campaigns have helped people understand the importance of using iodized salt in their diets. Thanks to its efforts, the evaluation carried out on the level of use of iodized salt in 2015 conducted by CLM was estimated at nearly 80% of households.

- ***The implementation of a policy of systematic eradication of severe malnutrition;***

The Government has stepped up actions in the fight against malnutrition. Thus, between 2002 and 2015, the budget allocated to the Malnutrition Control Unit (CLM) has almost been multiplied by 20, from 0.3 to 5.7 million US dollars.

The initiatives developed against malnutrition are geared towards two components: the organization of awareness campaigns and the implementation of a package of services.

The package of services includes the monitoring of the promotion of the growth of children from 0 to 24 months, the quarterly screening of malnutrition, the management of moderately malnourished children at the community level, through check-up sessions, weighing, distribution of nutritional products at the level of community centers, referencing and monitoring of children suffering from acute malnutrition.

Other local and community initiatives contribute to the fight against child malnutrition and food insecurity. This is true of programs of milk distribution and food vouchers.

The milk program at the school initiated four years ago by the City of Dakar has made it possible, in addition to improving the nutritional status of children, to promote the enrollment and retention of thousands of children in school.

The contribution of development partners helped to distribute 13 tons of milk in 2014, to the benefit of malnourished children, breastfeeding women and people living with HIV.

All these efforts have significantly reduced the prevalence rate of acute malnutrition to less than 5% in the Dakar region. In the other regions, the rate is 10%.

Nutrition interventions require the integration of several approaches: food availability, existence of basic social services, but also and especially the availability of information.

Therefore, all the strategies of the CLM aimed at improving the nutritional status of the population through the implementation of projects and programs are supported by a strong communication component.

For this reason, the CLM regularly implements successive campaigns with the aim of improving the nutritional status of populations living in disadvantaged urban or rural areas. These campaigns reinforce the actions of interpersonal communication carried out at the community level, through educational talks, individual interviews and social mobilization activities. In addition to these interpersonal communication activities carried out at the operational level as part of the Communication for Behavioral Change, our structure places particular importance on the use of mass media to disseminate knowledge about the desired behavior at the level of the program targets and actors.

CLM has been developing large-scale media campaigns for more than two years, designing and disseminating mass media and interpersonal communication at the community level. These nationwide campaigns are designed to promote good nutrition behaviors such as consumption and production of iodized salt, exclusive breastfeeding, food fortification, complementary feeding and nutrition and hygiene.

In order to better reach the targets and strengthen the nutritional education of the population, the CLM has signed agreements with several community radios, because of their vocation to get as close as possible to the concerns of the community to inform them, to

sensitize them through the participation in thematic programs, contests and the broadcasting of spots in local languages.

More recently, the CLM has developed a 2018-2022 Multisectoral Strategic Plan for Nutrition estimated at 206 billion FCFA.

- ***The institutionalization of a health mutual to prevent some children from falling victim to lack of care;***

The government has made social protection a priority in public policies. This option has been significantly strengthened since 2012 by adopting innovative and inclusive projects with high social added value. These include the development and implementation of Family Security Scholarship Programs (PNBSF) and Universal Health Coverage (CMU).

Universal Health Coverage consists of developing and reorganizing health mutual organizations based on an analysis of the existing, which integrates various free initiatives that have been tested (cesarean section, sesame plan, care of children aged 0-5).

The strategy behind this program is the establishment of an effective partnership between community health mutual organizations<sup>3</sup>, local authorities and the state.

The objective is to have "at least one health mutual organization per community" to increase the coverage rate of mutual health organizations.

In the same vein, the Ministry of Health has set up an Equity Fund for the medical care of indigents and vulnerable groups.

This pilot experiment enabled the enrollment and free medical care of more than 4,716 vulnerable people, mostly children, through 25 pilot health mutual organizations in the four (04) intervention areas of the project.

A second enrollment phase, which includes the Thiès region, is being developed as part of the Program of Support to the Offer and Demand for Care in Senegal (PAODES), a continuation of the Health Microinsurance Support Program (PAMAS), with the increase of new mutual organizations in the four former regions and more than 1,500 children enrolled in 2013.

Experiences to extend health risk coverage in schools were also developed in the Fatick and Kaolack regions through the "Student Health Insurance" project (AMEL), which in 2013 enabled medical care of 23, 000 students through health mutual organizations.

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<sup>3</sup>In terms of regulation, health mutual organizations have a legal framework since 2009 with the adoption of Regulation No. 07/2009 / CM / UEMOA regulating social mutuality within WAEMU by the statutory Council of Ministers of June 26.

It should be recalled that, the number of functional health mutual organizations increased from 80 in 2003 to 237 in 2011 and 675 mutual organizations established with a total enrollment of 2, 125,049 enrolled in the first quarter of 2017.

The government is firmly committed to a generalization of health mutual organizations to bring universal health coverage to 75% in 2017.

The Universal Health Coverage (CMU) 2013-2017 program, officially launched on September 20, 2013 aims to guarantee, through the mutualization, the access of the population, especially children to a minimum package of care.

Free emergency care for children under the age of five has the same encouraging results: around 7,000 children under the age of five have been checked up free of charge, more than 300,000 have been vaccinated and 600,000 hospitalized free of charge in 2014.

In total, free healthcare has helped support nearly 1.5 million children since October 2013, when the measure came into force.

The Equal Opportunities Card (CEC) is a social protection mechanism that allows people to benefit from the rights and advantages of access to health care, rehabilitation, fitting with prosthesis, financial services, education, training, employment, transportation, and any other benefit that may contribute to the promotion and protection of persons, especially children with disabilities. A total of 35,921 equal opportunities cards were distributed in August 2017.

In order to strengthen access to social service offers, the government has set up a Unique National Register (RNU) to facilitate the integrated enrollment of beneficiaries of the various social safety net programs implemented.

- ***the reinforcement and widening of the free delivery of the caesarean section on the whole national territory and the subsidy to the prenatal care with setting of a fixed price for the checkups and the prescriptions.***

The reduction of maternal, neonatal and infant and juvenile morbidity and mortality, due to its impact on the country's development, is the major challenge of the National Health Development Program (PNDS 2009-2018). Improving the availability and accessibility of the integrated package of quality interventions for the mother / child couple requires an increase in health coverage, particularly in rural areas.

Senegal has undertaken various initiatives to provide free deliveries and caesareans in five pilot regions considered to be the poorest and most difficult to access in the country. The initiative for free health care for mothers, newborns and children under five is part of universal health coverage.

Free caesarean section, initiated since 2006, has been extended to all regions of Senegal.

The subsidy policy for delivery and caesarean delivery kits is in place to ensure affordability for the poorest populations.

The various supervisions carried out regularly showed an increase in the rate of use of the services, and consequently a decrease of the number of stillborn and a reduction of deliveries at home.

In practice, as part of the implementation of the caesarean policy, the state supports caesarean kits. A reimbursement of CFAF 55,000 by cesarean section is granted to health facilities.

In conclusion, with a monthly average approaching the number of 1,000 cases of caesarean sections in the 20 public health facilities of the free program, there is an increase in the rate of use of services.

A total of 75,000 pregnant women have already benefited from free caesarean section in public health structures.

The universal health coverage (CMU) program has led to encouraging results by opting for the generalization of free caesarean section in all health structures.

#### Article 15: CHILD LABOUR

***The Committee urges the Government of Senegal to implement the various laws and to protect children from the worst forms of labor and economic exploitation which could disrupt the education of the child or jeopardize his health.***

Several measures are being taken to further combat economic exploitation and the worst forms of child labor.

It should first be recalled that the legal framework contains relevant provisions to combat the labor and economic exploitation of children, and largely complies with the requirements of Articles 15 of the Charter and 3 of Convention 182 of the International Labor Organization, which defines the worst forms of child labor.

Article L.145 of the Labor Code provides that "children may not be employed in any enterprise, even as apprentices, before the age of fifteen, except in the case of derogation by decree of the Minister of Labor, considering local circumstances and the tasks that may be required of them. "

Various orders regulate the work and learning of children.

At the same time, the State has embarked on a project of reforming the decrees to harmonize the system with the requirements of ILO Convention 182, which requires that the minimum age for admission to employment must in no case be less than the age of completion of compulsory education. It is a question of raising this age from 15 to 16 years, following the adoption of the law 2004-37 on compulsory schooling from 6 to 16 years.

In the context of the fight against child labor, Senegal, in accordance with the relevant provisions of ILO Conventions Nos. 138 and 182, has undertaken to develop and adopt a national policy aiming at effectively combating child labor.

The National Framework Plan to Combat Child Labor (PCN), adopted politically in November 2012 by the authorities of the Republic, is the document on which Senegal intends to rely to harmonize the interventions of the various actors in this field and to implement the Action Plan in the short, medium and long term.

The Coordinating Unit on Combating Child Labor has, in particular, undertaken a review of the legislative and regulatory framework governing the use of children in the worst forms of child labor, including begging by children in behalf of third parties. This form of exploitation of children has been prohibited since 2003 by Order No. 3749 of 6<sup>th</sup> June 2003 defining and prohibiting the worst forms of child labor. This principle of prohibition is still enshrined in the draft decree repealing and replacing Order No. 3749.

On the legal side, provisions strengthening the sanctions for offenses related to the use of children in certain activities such as begging were proposed in the host of sanctions, provided by the Labor Code.

It should be noted that all these draft amendments to the Labor Code and the regulatory texts that aim to better protect children from work and at work place have already been adopted by the National Consultative Council for Labor and Social Security, which is the last review body before introduction into the official adoption process.

***The Committee encourages the translation of all international instruments and all other texts relating to the Rights of the Child into national languages, the training of Koranic teachers (serignes daaras) and community leaders on the Rights of the Child.***

This concern is included in the second action plan (2016-2018) of the National Strategy for Child Protection. In addition, certain provisions of the Charter and the Convention have been translated into Wolof by the Association of Senegalese Jurists (AJS).

In the framework of the promotion of the Rights of the Child, many trainings have been conducted by state structures and civil society organizations for Koranic teachers and

community leaders. For example, the capacity of 8,135 actors have been built in the framework of the Government-UNICEF cooperation program.

#### Article 16: PROTECTION AGAINST ABUSE AND ILL-TREATMENT

***The Committee recommends the harmonization of domestic legislation with international child protection instruments.***

The Children's Code Bill incorporates the harmonization of domestic law with international law on all aspects of the right of the child, including the fight against abuse and ill-treatment.

In addition, the 2001 constitution affirms Senegal's adherence to international legal instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Moreover, it recognizes the superiority of ratified international texts over the national legislative framework.

Several text revision projects are being finalized, in line with international standards:

- ✓ Bill to revise the penal code and the code of criminal procedure;
- ✓ Bill to reform of civil status in the family code;
- ✓ Children's Advocate Bill;
- ✓ Children's Code Bill;
- ✓ Bill on the modernization of the daaras.

***The Committee recommends that the Government of Senegal broaden the scope of the fight against violence and sexual abuse of children by conducting a study on the deep or structural motivations of the perpetrators of rape and abuse, as well as ensure the application of its measures.***

A study published in 2012 by UN Women reveals that many cases of victims of abuse or violence treated in health facilities are not the subject of denunciation to justice, which strongly inhibits the efforts of the Government and its partners in the profiling and repression of the perpetrators. Similarly, the 2013 ECPAT Luxembourg study "Do not look away" on the sexual exploitation of children in the context of tourism and travel, demonstrated the difficulty of collecting qualitative data on the perpetrators of the abuses and rapes.

However, other initiatives are being developed to try to identify the problem, notably the Joint Program between the Government and the United Nations System to eradicate gender-based violence, but also the program for the protection of children against violence implemented by World Vision Senegal and the project to combat violence in schools, an initiative of the Ministry of National Education, in collaboration with UNICEF and Plan International Senegal, developed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) of Canada.

With regard to repression, the Senegalese law has several texts aimed at punishing the perpetrators of abuses and violence, including:

- Article 569 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which establishes the juvenile court in each regional court (currently the High Court);
- Articles 294 et seq. of the Penal Code which provide for sanctions against acts of injury and beatings against persons and any other violence or assault;
- Article 298 of the Penal Code, which punishes physical violence and willful neglect of a child;
- Article 298 which provides for a prison sentence of one to five years and a fine of 25,000 to 200,000 francs for acts of injury or beatings of a child under the age of fifteen years, willful deprivation of food or care to the extent of compromising the health of the child or violence or assault committed against the child.

***The Committee would like to urge the Government of Senegal to take care of and reintegrate child victims of rape and abuse and to recommend investing more in the preventive and curative fight against rape and abuse of children.***

The care for children who are victims of violence or sexual abuse is ensured first of all through the service offer and the referral system of the health structures. The offer of care is based on the architecture of the health pyramid.

At the community level, victims of rape and abuse are first cared for by health huts or health posts for first aid, then referred to health centers and then to hospitals for a more complete case management.

This mechanism largely contributes to the reception, emergency care and reporting of cases of sexual violence against children. Health professionals, subject to medical confidentiality, direct the families of the victims to the competent judicial authorities, besides the issuing of medical certificates.

Besides this medical mechanism, victims' protection offers are available from the specialized social services of the government and civil society organizations.



The promotion of toll-free phone lines or numbers in reception centers and legal aid offices greatly facilitates the reporting of cases of sexual abuse, orientation and care of victims. By way of illustration, the GINDDI Center through line 116 received 11,726 calls in 2012, of which 7,387 were related to acts of violence and abuse.

Civil society organizations make a significant contribution to the care of victims of sexual violence or abuse through the opening and running of an emergency reception, listening and care center.

The support and care of minors who are perpetrators or victims of criminal law offenses, is also receiving more and more support from the State, including the existence of a legal aid fund amounting to 400 million.

This initiative, managed by the Bar, is complemented by pilot experiments of care and support to child victims with the setting up on a trial basis of a specific fund housed in the Directorate of Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice. Other State departments such as the Child Protection Support Unit of the Presidency of the Republic, the Directorate of Rights, Child Protection and Vulnerable Groups of the Ministry of Women, Family and Children regularly support the care of child victims of sexual abuse, early pregnancy and other childhood diseases that require emergency care often costly for poor families.

Several civil society organizations are developing similar legal and judicial assistance initiatives by providing child victims and their families with counseling, psychosocial support, and means of support for emergency care, the services of a lawyer, etc.

## Article 21: PROTECTION AGAINST NEGATIVE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

### PRACTICES

***The Committee encourages the carrying out of awareness-raising campaigns, training and promotion of the Human Rights of the Child and especially the girl child; the sensitization and involvement of marabouts, priests and other religious and traditional leaders on the promotion of the rights of the child, both girls and boys, with a focus on rape and FGM, early marriages and the integration of a module on the Rights of the Child in pre-service training programs for personnel responsible for children's issues (magistrates, police officers, gendarmes, military and specialized educators or social workers) for better consideration.***

Intensive and repeated communication campaigns have been conducted by the Government and civil society organizations to sensitize communities on the harmful consequences of child marriage and FGM, mainly at the health and social levels. The 2013 SITAN report<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> UNICEF report on the situation of children in Senegal - March 2013

shows a significant mindset change with 79% of women who think that excision should be abandoned and only 17% of women who continue to think that it is a religious prescription.

Due to the correlation between public opinion and the level of education and economic well-being of the household, initiatives to strengthen the economic capacities of families and communities are developed in the most affected areas.

In addition, a partnership is being developed with the authorities and religious authorities, the press and parliamentarians to strengthen advocacy in the implementation of the UN Resolution banning FGM / C.

In the framework of the fight against child marriage, Senegal has committed to work to end this practice by launching its National Campaign “Ending Child Marriage in Senegal” in June 2016.

To date, a national plan of action to combat child marriage is being developed to federate all the initiatives developed in this direction. In addition, a communication plan for a change of behavior on the issue of marriage is planned to accompany the action plan.

Other thematic communication plans have also been developed to bring about social change on issues related to child exploitation through begging and registration of children at birth.

Furthermore, care for victims of violence is a real problem, particularly with regard to the provision of health care services and psycho-social support. Also, for an improvement of the care of the victims, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, in collaboration with the Center for Training and Research in Reproductive Health (CEFOREP) and with the support of Partners like UNICEF and UNFPA, has developed training tools for the medical management of this social scourge. These are Training Modules for the Management of Victims of Trauma from Gender Based Violence, including FGM, and an FGM Image Box.

These tools, intended for health technicians and community actors, aim to build their capacities to improve the quality of the provision of care services and enable them to play their full role in the chain of holistic care of the victims.

In addition to this, there is the establishment of a reception and support center for the socio-economic reintegration of women and girls who are victims of obstetric fistula, the promotion of a toll-free line for reporting and orientation of victims of violence, legal aid offices for assistance in judicial proceedings and the establishment of an inter-departmental committee for the revision of texts to eliminate all the discriminatory passages noted.

As part of the ongoing training of stakeholders in the sector, training modules on child protection integrated the curricula of the Judicial Training Center (CFJ), as well as the National School of Specialized Social Workers (ENTSS).

## Article 30: CHILDREN OF IMPRISONED MOTHERS

***The Committee would like to request the Government of Senegal to make the necessary arrangements for a mother not to be imprisoned with her child pursuant to the Charter.***

In the ordinary judicial procedure, the magistrate always retains the power to grant the pregnant woman interim release or place her under judicial supervision. The procedural provisions in force allow women imprisoned with their children under three years of age to benefit from a release arrangement at any time.

***The Committee encourages the construction of a special building equipped with all amenities and equipped for vocational training, with the assistance of human resources external to the prison environment as mentioned in the Report.***

To improve the living conditions of the detainees, the government is planning to erect a new prison with a capacity of 1,500 beds that respects international norms and standards.

For the care of sick inmates including children, there is upcoming pilot experiment of establishing five medico-penitentiary units in five different regions. There is the special pavilion of Aristide le Dantec Hospital, which receive sick prisoners

In addition, the regional remand and correction centers all have a juvenile section in order to allow minor detainees to have specific premises especially designed for recreational, educational and socio-professional activities.

## PART TWO

### OTHER PROGRESSES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARTER

Further significant progress is noted in the implementation of the ACRWC.

## Article 27: SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

***The States Parties to this Charter commit to protect the child against any form of sexual exploitation or abuse and commit in particular to take measures to prevent: (a) incitement, coercion or encouraging a child to engage in any sexual activity; (b) the use of children for prostitution or any other sexual activity; (c) the use of children in pornographic activities and scenes or publications.***

Various forms of exploitation and sexual abuse are punishable under the Penal Code, in particular:

- rape with article 320 which provides for 5 to 10 years of imprisonment, with aggravating circumstance, punishable by the maximum penalty, if it is a minor under 13 years;
- pedophilia (article 320A) punishable by imprisonment ranging from 5 to 10 years if the crime is committed on a minor under 16 years. The maximum sentence will be pronounced if the perpetrator is an ascendant or a person having authority over the minor;
- commercial sexual exploitation, with article 320a, which punishes child pornography;
- sexual harassment (article 319a) which exposes the perpetrator to a prison sentence of 6 months to 3 years, with a fine of CFA F 50,000 to 500,000. The maximum penalty is pronounced if the victim is under the age of 16;
- indecent assault (articles 319 and 320) whose sentence is 2 to 5 years if it is committed without violence, 5 to 10 years otherwise;
- debauchery of youth for exhibitions or sexual relations (article 320) punishable by 1 to 5 years of imprisonment and a fine of FCFA 100,000 to 1,500,000. The sentence will be 3 to 7 years in prison and FCFA 200,000 to 3,000,000 of fine if the victim is under 13 years;
- the incitement to debauchery (Article 324, paragraph 2) sanctioned by imprisonment for 2 to 5 years and a fine of FCFA 300,000 to 400,000;
- prostitution, in its articles 323 to 328 which provide for 2 to 5 years of prison and a fine of FCFA 300,000 to 4,000,000. A special provision is provided in Article 327a concerning the minor victim who may be called to testify in a juvenile court and benefit from protective measures provided for by the Code of Criminal Procedure;
- the enticement of child (articles 346 and 347) punished by 5 to 10 years of forced labor, in perpetuity if the victim is under 15 years of age and has not been found before the conviction;
- sequestration (article 334) sanctioned by 10 to 20 years of forced labor for cases of alienation of liberty of a person, 1 month to 2 years and FCFA 20,000 to 115,000 if the victim is pledged. The penalty is increased to 5 years if the victim is less than 15 years old;
- Act No. 2005-06 of 29<sup>th</sup> April 2005 against Trafficking in Persons and Related Practices and the Protection of Victims

Specifically to the problem of commercial exploitation of children, various initiatives have been developed in the field of sex tourism, notably by ECPAT Luxembourg, in collaboration with national associations.

Furthermore, as part of the fight against cybercrime, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has developed a National Strategy for Child Protection online, as well as a program for the protection of children on the internet backed by a child protection action plan online.

## CONCLUSION

The effective fulfilment of the rights of the child requires, besides the legal and institutional framework in line with international norms and standards, concrete measures in terms of relevant policies, programs and resources.

The Prime Minister elaborated before the National Parliament, on November 11, 2014, on the occasion of his General Policy Statement, on the vision, the strategic orientations and the major projects of the President of the Republic, indicated in the Emerging Senegal Plan (PSE).

The evaluation of the first year of implementation, in early May 2015, confirmed the relevance of the project and the support of all stakeholders, including development partners and the private sector. As of June 30, 2015, more than 1,882 billion FCFA were mobilized for the implementation of the PSE. More than 300 billion are planned in the 2016 budget law, under the financing of PSE projects. And it is important to underline that PSE projects are funded 58% on internal resources from the 2014-2015 budget. Commitments and disbursement promises are also monitored.

Several projects, particularly those related to health, education, agriculture (right to food) and planning and living environment (right to a healthy environment) are directly related to children

It is now about consolidating this momentum for an overall and crosscutting care of children and fulfilment of the rights of the child in the Emerging Senegal Plan.

The Government is firmly committed to continue and to consolidate its efforts to fulfill the rights of the child, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter, international standards and African and national values, in the framework of a close collaboration with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, in order to build an emerging Senegal worthy of its children.

It is in this momentum of cooperation necessary for the consolidation of gains in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, that the Government of Senegal engages, through the transmission of this report, a new high-level constructive dialogue, with the African Committee of Experts for the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

## ANNEXES

### **1) Coordination mechanism of the SNPE**

Chaired by the Prime Minister, the Committee is made up of the various institutional and social actors and development partners, including the representatives of the ministerial departments, the Child Protection Support Unit, the National Parliament, the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, associations of local elected representatives, the National Children's Parliament, religious organizations, United Nations agencies, the private sector, trade unions.

The CINPE's mission is to guide public policies in the field of child protection, to ensure the proper coordination of the implementation of the SNPE, to assess the results of the implementation of the action plan Strategy and sectoral plans, including the Acceleration Plan for FGM Abandonment (2010), the National Action Plan to Combat Child Labor (2013), the National Action Plan to Combat trafficking in Persons, especially Children and Women (2014), the Child Abuse Eradication Plan (2014), the Action Plan for the Abandonment of Gender-Based Violence (2016).

The Secretariat of the Committee is provided by the Minister of Women, Family and Children through the National Executive Secretariat for Child Protection (SENPE). The Executive Secretariat is in charge of ensuring the development and monitoring of the action plans of the SNPE, to undertake budgetary advocacy for child protection, to carry out the monitoring and the evaluation of the programs, to submit periodic reports on the state of implementation of the National Child Protection Strategy, programs and sectoral action plans.

The SENPE relies on four technical commissions which aim to coordinate priority actions requiring the intervention of several structures, to stimulate and guide the work undertaken in this direction. They play a central role in the coordination mechanism of the SNPE. They are the Prevention Commission chaired by the General Directorate of Social Action (DGAS / Ministry of Health and Social Action), the Care and Support Commission chaired by the Directorate of Correctional Education and Social Protection (DESPP / Ministry of Justice), the Promotion, Partnership and Communication Commission chaired by the Directorate of Rights, Protection of the Child and Vulnerable Groups (DDPEGV / Ministry of Women, Family

and Children) and the Monitoring, Evaluation and Knowledge Management Commission chaired by the Human Rights Directorate (DDH / Ministry of Justice).

At the departmental level, coordination is provided by the Departmental Committees for Child Protection (CDPE), created by prefectural orders. The CDPE is responsible for ensuring the development of the integrated child protection scheme at the local level, fostering information sharing and capacity building for child protection actors, and monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the departmental action plan for child protection.

With regard to the community level, a process of sharing community experiences has led to the harmonization and validation of a community protection mechanism marked by the creation of local protection committees at the district level (Child Protection Monitoring Committee), commune (Communal Committee of Child Protection), Community (Community Committee of Child Protection) and village (Village Committee of Child Protection).