

AFRICAN UNION

African Committee of Experts on the
Rights and Welfare of the Child

اتحاد افريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

Comité Africain d'Experts sur les Droits et
le Bien-être de l'Enfant

*"An Africa Fit for
Children"*

P. O. Box 3243 Roosevelt Street (Old Airport Area), W21K19, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: (+251 1) 551 3522 Fax: (+251 1) 553 5716 Website : www.acerwc.org

**CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AFRICAN
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD TO
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA ON ITS
COMBINED SECOND, THIRD, AND FOURTH PERIODIC REPORT ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN CHARTER ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE
OF THE CHILD**

July 2017

I. Introduction

1. The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC/the Committee) extends its compliments to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for submitting its consolidated second, third and fourth periodic report on the status of the implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (the African Children's Charter/the Charter).
2. During its 29th Ordinary Session which was held 02 - 09 May 2017, the Committee considered the periodic report of Tanzania which was submitted in compliance with State Parties obligation under Article 43 of the Charter.
3. The Committee congratulates and appreciates the United Republic of Tanzania for sending its Delegation which was led by Hon. Dr Hamisi Kigwangalla who had a productive discussion with the Members of the ACERWC. The discussion indeed helped the Committee to better understand the measures that the State Party has undertaken towards the implementation of the Charter as well as the challenges it is facing. After careful consideration of the facts in the report and the information provided during the constructive dialogue, the Committee has developed and adopted the following concluding observations and recommendations which, in the Committee's view, provide guidance to better enhance the implementation of the Charter.

II. PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARTER

4. From the onset, the Committee would like to recognize and appreciate the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for taking a number measures to realize the implementation of the provisions of the African Children's Charter. In particular, the Committee recognises the following measures as they meaningfully contribute in the Country's journey towards the full implementation of the African Children's Charter:
 - a. Inclusion of bill of rights including children's rights in the draft proposed constitution and the adoption of the Law of Children's Act in the Mainland and the Children's Act in Zanzibar;
 - b. The tangible results attained in the reduction of under-five mortality rate;
 - c. Taking measures towards the legislative and administrative reform in relation to juvenile justice system which takes the particular interest of the child into consideration;
 - d. Establishment of Junior Council's in most districts in the Country;
 - e. The decentralization of birth registration and the provision of free birth registration and certification; and
 - f. The recent removal of school fee for early secondary education.

III. AREAS OF CONCERN AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. General measures of implementation

5. The Committee, while welcoming the Draft Constitution, encourages the Government to expedite the process of the adoption of the Constitution to give effect to the new hope it holds for children.
6. As it is indicated in the State Party report, the Committee notes that children's rights issues are not considered to be Union matters. The Committee is of the view that the current position of the Government which does not consider children's rights issues as a union matter may result in contradictory standards be employed in Mainland and Zanzibar. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the State Party takes measures to create coordination mechanisms for the Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar with respect to children's rights matters and also ensure that child rights standards adhere to regional and global obligations of the State Party in both states.
7. The Committee notes with appreciation the efforts of the State Party in harmonizing its laws such as the amendment of the Education Act to ban child marriage of girls who are still attending schools. The Committee further encourages the Government of Tanzania to amend other laws such as the Law of Marriage Act which constitute provisions that are not entirely in line with the provisions of the African Children's Charter and the Draft Constitution. Some of the contradictory provisions of these laws are mentioned below as part of the recommendations under the various clusters of rights. The Committee also welcomes the initiative taken by the State Party to revise the Child Development Policy to include in it early childhood development matters; however, the Committee notes that the revision is not finalized yet. In this regard, the Committee recommends that the State Party to fast-track the revision process of the Policy.
8. The Committee commends the Government of Tanzania for improving the budget allocation for the various sectors and Government organs which are dealing with children's rights issues. Nevertheless, the Committee's sources indicate that substantial part of the budget comes from donor funding, which, in the Committee's view affects sustainability of funding. In this regard, the Committee recommends that the Government takes concrete steps to fund child rights issues from its own budget. Further, the Committee observed that there is no mechanism to specify the allocated amount of budget and verify the expenditure against results. Hence, the Committee recommends for the State Party to devise an expenditure verification mechanisms with a view to assess whether the allocated amount has been spent to and reached the target beneficiaries; i.e., children of Tanzania. Moreover, taking into account the rapid population growth in the State Party, the Committee stresses that the budget allocation for all sectors ought to be cognizant of such population growth and the increasing needs of children in the Country. Finally, in order to make informed decision on budget allocation, the Committee recommends that the State Party collects disaggregated data on the number and status of children in Tanzania.

9. The Committee notes with appreciation the efforts of the Government in promoting children's rights and dissemination of the African Children's Charter. It is notable that the Government celebrated the Day of African Child (DAC) with the participation of children and that the State Party report was circulated among various actors. In addition to these commendable undertaking, the Committee encourages the State Party to prepare child friendly versions of the most important laws and policies to educate children about their rights and responsibilities.

B. Definition of a child

10. The Committee commends the State Party for providing definition of the Child in line with the Charter in its child laws as well as in the Draft Constitution. However, the Committee regrets that the Law of Marriage Act of 1971 provides a different definition in relation to marrying of a girl child. The Act unfortunately allows marriage at the age of 14 with a court approval and at the age of 15 with a parental consent. The Committee would like to draw the attention of the State Party that such exceptions are in clear contradiction with article 21 of the African Children's Charter which provides an absolute prohibition of marriage for all children. Hence, the Committee strongly recommends for the State Party to take urgent steps to revise the Law of Marriage Act of 1971 and set the minimum age of marriage at 18 years for both girls and boys with no exceptions at all.

C. General principles

i. Non-discrimination

11. The Committee notes with appreciation that there are legislative measures in place which ensure inclusive education, and allows pregnant girls to reenter school. However, the Committee would like to emphasize on the fact that implementation of these laws needs further action from the Government to avert all kinds of discrimination posed against children who are in vulnerable situation including children with disabilities, including children with albinism, and pregnant girls. The Committee, therefore, recommends the State Party to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination as enshrined in the Charter is realized in all sectors including education, health and other services. Additionally, the Committee recommends that the Government of Tanzania sensitizes law enforcement officials, service providers, traditional and religious leaders as well as the community at large about the equality of all children. The Committee also encourages the State Party to take measures against those who conduct discriminatory acts against children in all scetors.

ii. Best interest of the child

12. The Committee notes with satisfaction that the Government has included the consideration of the best interest of the Child in its laws and policies in various matters such as education, justice, custody and adoption. The Committee further

encourages the State Party takes actions to ensure that the best interest of the child is respected in all procedures as well as decisions of all Government machineries. The Committee particularly recommends that the State Party sensitizes the judicial and law enforcement organs of the Government on the application of the best interest of the child principle in all matters concerning children's rights issues.

iii. **The right to life, survival and development**

13. The Committee commends the State Party for the significant decline of child and infant mortality rates, as well as increased rate of vaccination for children. However, the Committee notes that child malnutrition, stunting, anemia, and child underweight are still alarming challenges affecting the survival and development of children. The insufficiency of health care workers leading to unattended birth and maternal death is also flagged as a challenge in the State Party report. Moreover, the Committee notes that children with albinism do not receive the necessary health care support from the government and that their right to life, survival and development is at risk. This is further exacerbated by the fact that there is a widespread practice of ritual killings of and attacks against children with albinism. To address these concerns, the Committee recommends that the State Party:
- a. reinforces the implementation of the National Nutrition Strategy and align such strategies with other sectors such as agriculture, education and health;
 - b. promotes improved nutrition for pregnant mothers and infants along with the promotion of exclusive breast feeding for the first six month after birth and continued breast feeding up to 2 years;
 - c. enhances food production, equitable distribution and also increases the purchasing power of parents;
 - d. provides nutritional support for economically disadvantaged families;
 - e. involves in early identification of malnutrition and stunting to provide the necessary rehabilitation services;
 - f. trains more midwives to ensure that all birth in the Country are attended by skilled personnel to prevent maternal and infant mortality;
 - g. provides health care support such as sunscreen and sight support for children with albinism; and
 - h. Protects children with albinism from ritual killings and physical attacks; and take an immediate action in establishing accountability against the perpetrators
14. Concerning safe drinking water coverage, the Committee notes that there is a slight improvement during the reporting period. However, the Committee is not fully satisfied as the rate of coverage for safe drinking water, especially in rural areas, remains to be low. Therefore, the Committee, reiterating its previous recommendation, suggests that the Government of Tanzania takes solid steps to significantly increase the coverage of safe drinking water in all parts of the Country.

iv. Participation of the child

15. The Committee welcomes the adoption of the Guidelines for Establishing Junior Councils, the Child Participation Toolkit, and the National Plan of Action for Child Participation. It is also commendable that the State Party has successfully established child councils in most districts. In further strengthening meaningful child participation, the Committee recommends for the State Party to increase budget allocation for child councils and ensure that the views of the child are considered in decision makings. Additionally, parents and communities should be sensitized about the importance of participation of the child with a view to creating conducive environment for child participation. The Committee also encourages the Government to invest in children themselves so that they are empowered to contribute in discussions and decision makings at higher levels.

D. Civil rights and freedoms

i. Name, nationality, and registration at birth

16. The Committee commends the State Party for taking measures to decentralize birth registration services, increase birth registration coverage and remove birth certificate fees. However, as it is indicated in the State Party report, the birth registration law is outdated and needs a reform. Hence, the Committee recommends the State Party to accelerate the process of reforming birth registration laws and ensure that the reform encompasses birth registration of all children in the territory of Tanzania without any discrimination on any ground, including registration of children in vulnerable situation. To this end, the State Party is encouraged to further decentralize birth registration facilities, increase mobile birth registration services, assign the necessary budgetary and human resource allocation for the sector, and sensitize the community on the importance of birth registration. In this regard, the Committee would like to suggest for the State Party to refer to the explanations and principles provided in its General Comment Number 2 on Article 6 of the African Children's Charter for further guidance and strengthened measures.

ii. Freedom of expression, conscience, thought, religion, assembly, and protection of privacy

17. The Committee notes that fundamental freedoms are included in the child laws of Tanzania. The Committee appreciates that the Government has taken some steps to give effect to children's rights to fundamental freedoms. The Committee encourages the State Party to allocate sufficient budget to create space for children where they can express their views among officials, the community and their peers. In terms of freedom of religion, the Committee suggests that the State Party sensitizes parents as to their roles in guiding their children, but with a consideration of their evolving capacities.

18. The Committee notes that legislation has given due regard to the privacy of children in many aspects especially in the justice system. The Committee, while commending the legislative measures undertaken by the Government, recommends that the State Party creates accountability among law enforcement and others who come in contact with child issues to ascertain that such personnel respect and protect the right to privacy of children.

iii. Protection against abuse and torture

19. The State Party has taken initiatives in the form of policies and guidelines to promote positive disciplining of children in schools that does not involve corporal punishment. However, the Committee notes that the Education Act allows corporal punishment and in fact the Government has adopted a National Corporal Punishment Regulations of 1979. The Committee therefore encourages the State Party to revise the Education Act and proscribe the prohibition of corporal punishment in school setting. The Committee also recommends that corporal punishment is banned at home as well as in foster care centers and detention centers. Moreover, the Committee recommends for the State Party to intensify sensitization campaigns that create awareness among teachers, parents, and the police about the negative effects of corporal punishment on the wellbeing of the child. The State Party also needs to promote positive parenting and disciplining mechanisms that are in line with the customs of the community.

20. With regards to degrading and inhumane treatment, the Committee is strongly concerned about the ongoing attacks posed against children with albinism. There are ritual and cultural beliefs that subject children with albinism to inhumane treatment. The Committee in its report on the investigative mission on the situation of children with albinism in Tanzania noted that children with albinism are being attacked and killed for their body parts. The Committee recalls its recommendations from the mission and draws the attention of the State Party to take concrete and tangible measures to prosecute the perpetrators of such acts. The State Party should also provide psychological and physical support for victims of such inhumane and degrading attacks.

E. Family environment and foster parentage

21. While the Committee appreciates that the Child Development Policies of the State Party enumerate parental responsibilities towards their children, the Committee would like to recommend the Government to take additional measures to support parents to discharge their duties. Such measures include training, health care support, and increasing their income through financial support, job creation and so forth. The Committee encourages the State Party to strive to protect the family and prevent separation of the family.

22. The Committee notes that in cases of separation, the Government has provided legislative measures on the establishment of residential homes and committees to monitor the living conditions of the residential facilities. However, reports indicate

that most alternative cares are provided in the informal setting by relatives and friends making it difficult for the Government to be able to apply its regulations and standards. In addition, these support systems lack incapacity due to poverty and suffer from ostracisation due to stigma in cases of HIV/AIDS. Reports also indicate that there is lack of monitoring and evaluation in formal residential centers despite the legal requirement to do so. The Committee recommends that the State Party develops strategies in which informal care givers receive support and are monitored. The Committee recommends that the State Party allocates sufficient budgetary and human resources for the purpose of monitoring and following up formal placement of children in foster care and residential centers.

23. Furthermore, the Committee would like to remind the State Party that institutional care of children should only be used as temporary solution until an alternative family environment is found for children who are deprived of their family environment. In this regard, the Committee recommends that the Government works towards deinstitutionalization of children through resorting to foster care and adoption procedures. The Committee encourages the State Party to raise awareness in the community to promote domestic adoption as a primary recourse. With regards to inter-country adoption, the Committee commends the State Party for taking into consideration its initial recommendation on the ratification of the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Inter-country adoption and initiating the process in this respect. The Committee encourages the Government to expedite the ratification process from its side. Moreover, it calls upon the State Party to fortify its efforts in undertaking monitoring and follow-up of adoptions which are done both at domestic and international level.
24. The Committee is aware that children with albinism who have been neglected or abused by their family are provided with shelter in government centers. The Committee during its investigative mission in Tanzania however observed that the centers do not offer a proper education and health care for children with albinism. The Committee urges the State Party to vigorously improve the living conditions of the centers for children with albinism by allocating additional budget; and works towards reuniting children with albinism in the Temporary Holding Shelters back to their families, relatives or care givers.

F. Basic health and welfare

25. The Committee appreciates the effort employed by the Government towards the implementation of the National Health Policy of 2007. Although some progress is made in increasing the number of health care facilities, the Committee observed that there are still challenges of accessing health care services in rural areas. The lack of trained health care personnel and quality of service delivered in health centers accompanied by population growth, in the Committee's view, is making it difficult for the Government to achieve its health goals. The Committee also notes that the budget allocation for the health sector is not in line with the demand and in fact, the Committee notes that the Government has cut down budgets for the health sector

within the last two years. Hence, the Committee recommends the State Party to increase the resource allocated for health and to endeavor to meet the 15% standard set by the Abuja Declaration in budgeting for health.

26. In addition, the Committee recommends that the Government devises strategies in which it can address the urban-rural disparity that exists in the accessibility and quality of healthcare centers. The Committee advises that more families are enrolled in the health insurance scheme in rural areas. With a view of addressing the shortage of health staff, the Committee recommends that the State Party trains more health care workers both at a short term and long term programmes to fill the gap in primary health care centers.
27. Concerning children with disabilities, the Committee recommends that the State Party embarks on early identification of disabilities and provision of continuous health care support to such children. The Government needs to ensure that health centers are physically accessible to children with disabilities and that health centers have qualified personnel to provide service to children with special needs. Moreover, the Committee recommends that the needs of children with albinism are integrated in the health policies and strategies to address their special needs of skin, sight and other cares.

G. Education, leisure and cultural activities

28. The Committee welcomes the Education and Training Policy of 2014 which aims to increase access to primary and secondary education and elevate the quality of education in Tanzania. The Committee commends the State Party for providing primary and early secondary education free of charge. The Committee also applauds that the Government has incorporated Early Childhood Development plans in child development policies and in the education sector through the provision of free pre-primary education. While noting the significant progress and improvement achieved by the Government in education, the Committee notes the very low enrollment and completion rate of secondary education, discrimination against pregnant girls in schools, lack of infrastructure to accommodate children with disabilities, lack of teaching materials, very poor water and hygiene supplies, and poor quality of education. Reports indicate that the recent removal of early secondary school fees has contributed towards lack of facilities and teaching materials. Considering these challenges, the Committee recommends for the State Party to;
 - a. increase the budgetary allocation for the education sector to at least substitute the revenue that was collected in the form of fees;
 - b. build more secondary schools to make them accessible in rural areas where poor families do not have the means to pay for transportation to send their children to further located secondary schools;

- c. renovate primary and secondary schools to make them fit for children with disabilities by building ramps and so forth and ensure that the education system is inclusive;
- d. revise school policies that allow schools to expel pregnant and married girls and in fact prosecute the perpetrators of such discriminatory acts;
- e. take educational measures to curb the increasing number of pregnancy during school by incorporating life skill sessions in the education curriculum and also by taking measures against those who impregnate and marry girls;
- f. elevate the quality to primary education throughout the country to increase the number of students who pass the primary school leaving exam; and allow students to retake the exam for at least one more time;
- g. continue training more teachers to build their capacities;
- h. provide water supply and appropriate latrines in all schools and provide sanitary materials to girls from poor families during their menstruation cycle; and
- i. formulate school feeding and other support mechanism in poor communities to ensure that children attend school instead of involving in child labour to support their families. Other supports include the provision of uniforms and stationary for free.

29. The Committee notes with appreciation the efforts of the Government in building recreational centers and integrating recreational activities in the education system. In further strengthening these efforts, the Committee encourages the State Party to give due consideration to children's right to play in its city plans and also sensitize local governments on the importance of allocating space for recreational activities in their respective regions. Moreover, there are reports stating that some private parties have occupied some of the recreational spaces. The Committee encourages the State Party to investigate such allegations and work towards reinstating such spaces and use them for the purpose they were intended for.

H. Special protection measures

j. Refugee and displaced Children

30. The Committee welcomes the willingness of the State Party in assisting refugee children and commends the measures taken in 2015 regarding identification and birth registration of refugee children. Despite the notable efforts, the Committee is concerned that the refugee camps are accommodating refugees more than their capacities and this is compromising the living condition of refugee camps. The Committee recommends that the State Party increases the number of refugee camps or increase the accommodation capacities of the current camps. The Committee calls upon the Government to improve the living conditions in the refugee camps by improving infrastructure and providing health care and education services to refugee children.

31. There are reported allegations about sexual violence against refugee children in camps. In this regard, the Committee urges the State Party to protect refugees from any sexual violence and take steps to prosecute the perpetrators of such violence.
32. The Committee further encourages the Government to strengthen its integration efforts and to this end enroll refugee children in the regular education system and health care schemes. Special attention should be given to refugee children who are more vulnerable such as unaccompanied minors. The Committee recommends that such children are provided with alternative care as enshrined in article 23(3) of the Charter.

ii. Children in conflict with the law and in touch with the justice system

33. The Committee notes with appreciation the adoption of the Strategies for Progressive Child Justice Reform, the Legal Aid Act, and the Community Rehabilitation Programmes. The Committee also commends the establishment of Juvenile's Court in some regions and Police Women's and Children's Desk in each district. The Committee calls upon the State Party to further strengthen measures taken in this aspect and recommends that juvenile Courts are established in all regions; additional personnel is trained in the police, law enforcement officials, judges, and social workers; juvenile delinquents are not detained with adults; and Community Rehabilitation Programmes are available in all regions to ensure the rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile delinquents. Moreover, the Committee suggests that Juvenile Courts and Women's and Children's Desk in the police are well renovated to create a child friendly environment for all children who come in contact with the justice system.

iii. Children of imprisoned caregivers

34. The Committee commends the adoption of the Child Protection Policy and Procedures for Prisons in 2015. While this is creditable, the Committee notes with concern that children are being imprisoned with their incarcerated caregivers. The Committee recommends for the State Party to comply with article 30 of the Charter and ensure that children are not imprisoned with their parents. The Committee encourages the Government to provide a separate detention condition for children incarcerated with their parents or children born in prison. Furthermore, the Committee suggests that such children receive all their basic needs of education, health care, and other services. In this regard, the Committee suggests the State Part to refer to the explanations and principles included in its General Comment Number 1 on Article 30 of the African Children's Charter for further guidance strengthened response.

iv. Sexual abuse and exploitation

35. The Committee appreciates that the State Party has conducted a National Study on Violence against Children as data is crucial for guiding the measures the State needs to undertake. However, the Committee notes that there is a high magnitude of sexual violence against girls and an increase in girls' pregnancy. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned that the penal code does not impose criminal responsibility against those who commit sexual intercourse with girls if they marry the girls. This vindicates sexual abuse against girls encourages those who commit child marriage to escape from charges of statutory rape. The Committee recommends that the State Party undertakes sensitization among girls and the community about the negative impact of sexual violence. The State Party is also encouraged to train law enforcement and fight impunity in cases of sexual abuse. Hence, the police should fortify its effort to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of sexual abuse against girls. The Committee also urges the Government to revise its Penal Code and eliminate provisions which propound violence against children.
36. Moreover, the Committee recommends that the State Party fortifies its effort to provide rehabilitation and reintegration services to children who are victims of sexual abuse.

v. Sale, abduction and trafficking of children

37. The Committee welcomes the efforts exerted by the State Party in implementing the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act including the establishment of a National Committee to coordinate the implementation of the Act as well as the development of regulations for the implementation of the Act. It is also notable that the Government is undertaking various trainings and awareness raising to prevent trafficking of children. Nevertheless, the Committee notes that children are trafficked both internally and internationally for various reasons. Boys are mostly trafficked for the purpose of forced labour and girls are trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation and servitude. Reports have also shown that children with disabilities are at times trafficked for the purpose of forced begging across borders. Yet, the number of prosecutions of traffickers during the reporting period is very low compared to the magnitude of the problem. In addition, even though the Government has allocated budget for the implementation of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and the National Action Plan, there are indications that the fund is not being operationalized.
38. The Committee recommends that the State Party operationalizes the budget allocated for the implementation of the Act, takes effective actions to investigate, prosecute and appropriately sentence child traffickers, establish a rehabilitation and reintegration programmes to support victims of child trafficking, and work towards the return of children trafficked across borders. Moreover, the Committee encourages the State Party to cooperate with countries which are sources for children trafficked to Tanzania, and countries which are transit and destination for

children trafficked from Tanzania to strengthen prevention and early investigation of child trafficking.

vi. Child labour

39. The Committee notes with appreciation the National Plan of Action for the Elimination of Child Labour and the National Child Labour Survey. In spite of the prevention and protection actions the State has conducted, child labour is still prevalent. Children are also involved in illicit activities and domestic works apart from hazardous works. The Committee encourages that such activities are covered under its policies as well as its prevention and protection activities. The Committee recommends that the Government increases budgetary allocation for labour inspection, removal of child laborers and enforcement of the National Policy in general. Moreover, the Committee recommends that legislative and structural frameworks are available to investigate on child labour cases and prosecute the perpetrators.

vii. Harmful traditional practice

40. The Committee observed that child marriage and female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) are the major harmful practices posing challenge on the implementation of the African Children's Charter. The Committee welcomes the 'Child Marriage-Free Zone' campaign and also the decision of the Constitutional Court which stated that any marriage below the age of 18 is illegal. The Committee recommends that the State Party reforms its laws which give room for child marriage. Furthermore, the State Party is encouraged to undertake intense sensitization among parents and community leaders on the negative impact of child marriage. The Committee recommends that the State Party fortifies its effort to prosecute perpetrators of child betrothal and child marriage.

41. Concerning FGM/C, the Committee notes that the Government has developed action plans to eradicate FGM/C and is undertaking awareness raising efforts. However, FGM/C is quite prevalent in the Country and the rate of decline in practicing FGM/C is very minimal. The Committee recommends that the State Party embarks on developing strategies to eradicate FGM/C in cooperation with the community including traditional and religious leaders. Further sensitization and awareness raising is needed to achieve behavioral and attitude changes. The Committee encourages the Government to establish more escape houses and provide support to such houses to assist children who escape child marriage and FGM/C.

42. Finally the Committee recommends that the State Party expedites the adoption of the Witchcraft Act.

viii. Children on the street

43. While appreciating the measures taken so far, the Committee recommends that the State Party identifies causes that lead children to end up on the street. It is recommended that prevention measures are taken by Government by supporting families, orphaned children, and child headed families. The Committee further recommends that children on the street are reunified with their parents in cases where their parents are alive. For other children, the Committee recommends that a rehabilitation and reintegration service is given to them and that they are placed in alternative care mechanism.

I. Responsibility of the child

44. The Committee commends that the responsibilities of the child are incorporated in the Law of the Child Act for Mainland the Child's Act for Zanzibar as well as the Child Development Policy. In order to ensure that these provisions are implemented as intended in the Charter, the Committee recommends that children are more empowered through education and participation to deliver their responsibilities. Additionally, the State is encouraged to guide parents and other concerned bodies so that these provisions do not lead to child labour, servitude, child marriage, or any form of violation of the rights of children.

J. Conclusion

45. The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child commends the Government of Tanzania for its efforts to implement the African Children's Charter and aspires for the implementation of these recommendations. The Committee would like to indicate that it will undertake a follow up Mission to assess the implementation of these recommendations in the foreseeable future. The Committee would also like to invite the State Party to submit its periodic report in 2020 in accordance with the Committee's Guidelines of Consideration State party periodic Reports.

46. The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child takes this opportunity to renew to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania the assurances of its highest consideration.