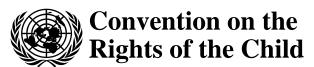
United Nations CRC/c/sr.1951



Distr.: General 27 January 2015

Original: English

Committee on the Rights of the Child Sixty-eighth session

Summary record (partial)* of the 1951st (Chamber A) meeting**
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Monday, 19 January 2015, at 3 p.m.

Chairperson: Ms. Sandberg

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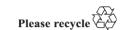
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^{*} No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.

^{**} No summary records were issued for the 1947th to 1950th meetings.

The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

Consideration of reports of States parties (continued)

Combined third and fourth periodic reports of Jamaica (CRC/C/JAM/3-4; CRC/C/JAM/Q/3-4 and Add.1)

- 1. At the invitation of the Chairperson, the delegation of Jamaica took places at the Committee table.
- 2. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica), introducing her country's combined third and fourth periodic reports (CRC/C/JAM/3-4), said that children in Jamaica were raised in a culture of excellence and provided with opportunities to hone their skills in sport, culture and academia. Nevertheless, domestic abuse, peer pressure and parental neglect still prevented many children from realizing their full potential. In response to those challenges, the Government had intensified its efforts to improve access to education and protection against violence, giving due consideration to the Convention and the views of children in State care, schools and juvenile detention facilities.
- 3. In 2004, the Government had adopted the Child Care and Protection Act, which defined a child as any person under the age of 18 and set universal standards for the care and treatment of children. In order to address a number of topical issues, the Act had been comprehensively reviewed and recommendations for amendments had been put forward in a policy paper that was to be presented to the Cabinet. One such issue was corporal punishment, which was prohibited in all children's homes, early childhood institutions and prisons.
- 4. The Government had approved a proposal to eliminate the "uncontrollable behaviour" label ascribed to children who displayed extreme behavioural or mental health problems. Under the change, judges would no longer have the option to commit such children to juvenile detention centres. Therapeutic facilities were being built as an alternative to imprisonment and it was hoped that the first one would be completed by the end of 2015. The number of children in custodial care had fallen since 2014.
- 5. With regard to reducing the impact of violence, she said that children defined by Jamaican law as being "in need of care and protection" were placed in children's homes and all possible steps were taken to enforce provisions requiring that children in conflict with the law should be brought before a judge within 48 hours. Five police stations were being retrofitted with child-only holding areas as part of an initiative that could eventually be expanded to all of the country's 14 parishes.
- 6. Additional resources had been allocated to the unit tasked with ensuring the speedy and safe recovery of missing children. In 2014, just under 2,000 children had been reported missing, a 10 per cent decrease on the previous year. Approximately 90 per cent of those children had since returned home, thanks in part to the introduction of government measures.
- 7. A campaign entitled "Unite for Change" had been launched to encourage a coordinated approach to the prevention of violence, drawing the participation of more than 30 communities. Moreover, the Government had introduced an anti-bullying initiative, expanded the Safe School Programme and adopted the National Child Diversion Policy to keep child offenders out of the formal criminal justice system. Given that violence against children affected many areas of national life, government activities to combat the offence had been consolidated under the National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence 2012–2017, which served as a comprehensive instrument for the protection of children as victims, perpetrators and witnesses of violence in all forms.

- 8. In 2012, the Government had approved the National Parenting Support Policy to strengthen parental practices and enhance national support services. It had also adopted a policy to ensure that girls were not denied opportunities for empowerment and self-sufficiency, thus minimizing the risk of their falling victim to trafficking, prostitution or sexual abuse, and work was well under way to increase the capacity of facilities for girls who had turned 18 and left the child protection system.
- 9. In addition to the numerous agencies, commissions and registries operating within the institutional framework to support children in Jamaica, an interministerial committee had been established in 2012 to harmonize national policies and decision-making with the provisions of the Convention. Children affected by violence were treated through an extensive network of primary and secondary health-care facilities, including hospitals, where a system had been put in place to gather data on violence-related injuries. Once their urgent physical needs had been attended to, some children were placed under the Child Guidance Clinic system, which had been established in 1996 to provide mental health services.
- 10. To ensure equal treatment for persons with disabilities, the Government had recently passed the Disability Act and proposed amendments to the Child Care and Protection Act that would lead, inter alia, to the alteration of child protection facilities to enhance wheelchair accessibility and the provision of training and support to foster parents, residential care workers and actors in the security and justice sectors responsible for helping children with disabilities, including those affected by HIV/AIDS.
- 11. Several programmes were being implemented to keep children in school. One of the Government's objectives was to guarantee that students received at least five years of secondary-level education. To that end, it was working to create more places through the construction of new schools and the expansion of existing ones. Since 2011, there had been a tenfold increase in the number of children in the child protection sector who had qualified for university entry.
- 12. In keeping with the country's tradition of promoting child participation, a children's advisory panel had been set up and child ambassadors had been appointed to raise awareness of the reporting and prevention of child abuse. In June 2012, the Child Protection Database had been created to facilitate the standardization of data indicators.
- 13. The Government had made a focused and conscious effort to implement the Convention and, while acknowledging that there was much still to do, remained committed to the promotion and protection of the human rights of all citizens under the Constitution.
- 14. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff** (Country Rapporteur) asked whether the State party could ensure that the revised Child Care and Protection Act included specific provisions for children with special needs, particularly children with disabilities and those affected by HIV/AIDS. Noting that there were discrepancies between the ages of majority, consent and criminal responsibility, she called on the Government to raise the marriageable age to 18 years.
- 15. She enquired about the status of the National Framework of Action for Children and the National Development Plan entitled "Vision 2030 Jamaica". She wished to know the objectives of the proposed national policies on compulsory education and special education and asked when they would be adopted. The delegation should indicate whether difficulties in implementing legislation were due to a lack of resources and outline the achievements of the Joint Select Committee mentioned in paragraph 1 of the replies to the list of issues (CRC/C/JAM/Q/3-4/Add.1).
- 16. She invited the delegation to comment on the fact that there was still no identifiable government body to coordinate the implementation of the Convention and asked whether a

review of the National Policy on Children of 1997 was under way. She also wished to know whether there were plans to establish a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles and whether the work and success of the Office of the Children's Advocate had been evaluated since its inception.

- 17. The delegation should indicate the size of the budget allocated to children and describe the aims of the Social Investment for Children Initiative. She asked how the Initiative worked and whether it had been evaluated, whether the global economic downturn had forced more children into poverty and what steps were being taken to improve the implementation of social policies to combat the problem. She invited the delegation to comment on the lack of government data on children with disabilities.
- 18. Noting that child labour had not yet been eradicated in the State party, she asked whether the Occupational Health and Safety Bill had been adopted and invited the delegation to respond to concerns regarding the scarce resources available to the Ministry of Labour's Child Labour Unit and the low level of arrests and prosecutions for child labour offences.
- 19. She wished to know how the best interests of the child were taken into account in the juvenile justice system and adult criminal cases, particularly where parents were facing capital punishment. She also asked what measures had been taken to ensure that parents, guardians and caregivers attached due importance to child participation, and whether the Government had addressed gaps in the birth registration process.
- 20. She invited the delegation to comment on reports of a recent increase in violent crime against children and asked how the Government was tackling the issue of child murder. Information on arrests and convictions for the offence and on the support given to victims' families would be appreciated. She wished to know why children went missing in the State party and enquired about the scope of the Children Support Task Force. The delegation should indicate whether the Task Force had been assessed since its establishment.
- 21. **Ms. Aldoseri** (Country Rapporteur) asked whether the Convention was disseminated systematically and widely, particularly among judges, social workers and law enforcement officers. The delegation should describe efforts to combat violence and implement the Criminal Justice (Administration) Act and the National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence 2012–2017. It would be useful to know whether the Government had coordinated with families and schools in that regard.
- 22. She asked whether the objectives of the Plan included the elimination of corporal punishment in all settings and, noting that the practice was reportedly still lawful in schools and homes, asked what steps had been taken to raise awareness of its damaging consequences. She also enquired about the effectiveness of the Safe School Programme.
- 23. Lastly, she wished to know whether the National Plan of Action on Child Labour had helped reduce or eradicate child labour, whether the practice had been criminalized and whether statistics were available on relevant cases and legal action against perpetrators.
- 24. **The Chairperson** asked what was being done to end gender-based discrimination and discrimination against children with disabilities and those affected by HIV/AIDS.

The meeting was suspended at 3.45 p.m. and resumed at 4.15 p.m.

25. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica), referring to violent crime against children, said that the situation had greatly improved since 2011 and that recent data in fact pointed to a downward trend in such offences. The review of the Child Care and Protection Act had been completed in 2014 and a workplace policy on HIV/AIDS had been adopted. Specific provisions for children with disabilities and those affected by HIV/AIDS had been included

in the revised Act that would be submitted for approval to the Legislation Committee. National legislation on adoption had also been reviewed with the aim of facilitating the adoption of such children.

- 26. Replying to a question on the minimum marriage age, she said that there was no policy on child brides because it was not a significant problem in Jamaica. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Justice was holding public consultations on a number of laws related to children, including on whether or not to raise the age of consent to 18. While no final decision had yet been taken, it was important to bear in mind the financial impact of any policy change.
- 27. A great deal of work had been done on the issue of children held in adult correctional facilities, resulting in the placement of all juvenile offenders in separate centres. Furthermore, the abolishment of the "uncontrollable behaviour" label had taken some children out of the system altogether and had promoted family reintegration. In addition to the regular curriculum, girls in juvenile centres were taught art, music and drama. Civil society organizations also ran mentorship programmes in children's homes.
- 28. **The Chairperson** asked to what extent alternative care was regulated by law.
- 29. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that the Ministry of Justice's National Child Diversion Policy was meant to keep children out of the justice system and to improve the therapy provided to juvenile offenders. She chaired an interministerial committee that ensured policy coherence among all the relevant government bodies.
- 30. **The Chairperson** asked how that was done in practice, how regularly the committee met and whether the other members also had high level status.
- 31. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) replied that the Ministers of National Security, Justice, Health and Education as well as representatives of all children's agencies, including the Office of the Children's Advocate, sat on the committee, which met quarterly to discuss various matters covered by the Convention. She also had numerous ad hoc opportunities to meet and discuss specific issues with her Cabinet colleagues.
- 32. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff** asked whether non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were involved in the meetings and requested further information on the National Framework of Action for Children.
- 33. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that NGOs were involved in the meetings and that the Task Force on Child Abuse Prevention also gathered input from civil society. The National Framework was overarching and tackled all aspects of children's lives, including education, employment, social security and violence. It would shortly be submitted to Cabinet for approval under a separate budget, so as to ensure that it was implemented. Replying to an earlier question regarding the apparent lack of penalties for violence against children, she said that the penalties were extremely clear, particularly in the case of neglect and sexual abuse, and had been stiffened. Urging the Committee members to visit Jamaica in order to see and understand for themselves the situation of violence against children, she said the issue was that child victims tended not to report abuse or, when they did, they, or their families, were often too uncomfortable to continue with proceedings.
- 34. **The Chairperson** asked what steps were being taken to encourage victims to come forward and to dispel some of the misinformed beliefs surrounding sexual abuse.
- 35. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that the Office of the Children's Registry, the Child Development Agency, the Ministry of Justice and the Office of the Children's Advocate were active in communities and schools, ran large-scale information campaigns on radio and television, held workshops with parents to train them in identifying the signs of abuse

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and operated a helpline. Sexual abuse figures were rising because people were becoming more inclined to report cases.

- 36. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff** asked how the State party reconciled its statement that cases of sexual abuse were increasingly being reported with the assertion that many victims were still reluctant to come forward.
- 37. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that, although headway was being made, the necessary culture change would take time as the authorities could not compel victims or their families to report abuse. Currently, when someone made an allegation, the child was taken out of the family and placed either with relatives or in a safe home and received immediate counselling, following which some had the courage to proceed with a complaint.
- 38. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff** said she was surprised that, despite assurances of confidentiality and the availability of videoconferencing, victims were still reluctant to come forward.
- 39. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that there was still a stigma attached to that type of offence and that, until people saw abused children as victims, reporting cases would continue to be difficult for many. However, a significant support structure was in place to assist family members in overcoming their concerns. Moreover, children were taught about their rights at all levels of the education system.
- 40. **The Chairperson** asked whether there was the same reluctance to report abuse committed by a stranger.
- 41. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) replied that children tended to testify more easily when they did not know their attacker. Turning to questions regarding the effective implementation of national laws, she said that judges and social workers were specially trained in child protection laws, which were enforced through the Children's Court.
- 42. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff** enquired as to why crime rates remained so high if the law was being enforced.
- 43. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that crime rates had in fact been falling since 2011 for a number of offences, such as murder, rape and abduction. The Ministry of National Security was tackling the causes of crime and some 30 communities had joined the Unite for Change Initiative for the coordination of violence prevention programmes. Regarding the high numbers of missing children, she said that there was anecdotal evidence that some families, in response to a perceived threat from someone in the community, sent their daughters away to live with relatives and declared them missing in order to draw attention away from them. However, there were as yet no specific data on that subject.
- 44. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff** suggested that the State party should investigate reports of such practices.
- 45. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that the police were contributing to the conduct of a survey on the topic. Under the Ananda Alert System, schools were required to provide an updated photograph of each pupil every year. In addition, an integrated response team comprising officials from the Ministries of Youth and Culture, National Security, Justice and Education had been established to expedite searches for missing children.
- 46. **Ms. Khazova** asked why there was such a large number of missing children despite obvious efforts to curb the problem.
- 47. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that there had been a 10 per cent drop in missing children cases in 2013 and that 9 out of 10 missing children had been returned to their families, partly as a result of appeals to parents to report cases promptly. Many missing children were in fact runaways.

- 48. **Ms. Aldoseri** asked whether the relevant data were based on scientific research.
- 49. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) replied that they had been provided by the police.
- 50. **The Chairperson** asked what motivated children to run away and whether doing so had become something of a trend.
- 51. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that girls often ran away because of community issues, such as domestic violence, or because of disagreements with their family about house rules or boyfriends.
- 52. **Mr. Madi**, stressing the gravity of the missing children phenomenon, asked whether most of the children who returned to their families did so voluntarily or were found by the authorities. In the latter case, how did the authorities ensure that the children did not run away again? Were any awareness-raising campaigns being carried out?
- 53. **Mr. Gastaud** asked whether any family mediation mechanisms were in place. Recalling the delegation's comment that violence was a mindset, he said that it was also a matter of the ready availability of weapons. Accordingly, he asked what measures had been adopted to reduce the number of weapons in circulation.
- 54. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that runaways typically went missing for one or two days and some returned of their own volition. When a child was returned by the police, the Child Development Agency stepped in to provide counselling for the child and the family. It also ran parenting seminars. As runaways were the subject of ongoing studies, it was too early to label the issue as a phenomenon or trend. The number of field staff, especially social workers, had been increased.
- 55. **The Chairperson** asked whether counselling was also available as a preventive measure.
- 56. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that the Child Development Agency did provide such services. Parents also tended to ask the local police to sit down and talk to unruly children. Regarding the availability of weapons, the Ministry of National Security was implementing the Criminal Justice (Suppression of Criminal Organizations) Act by inter alia conducting regular spot checks, stepping up police intelligence gathering and improving port surveillance.
- 57. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff** asked how effective the Act had been and whether there had been any retaliation on the part of gangs.
- 58. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) replied that the Act had already had an impact on policing methods and the penalties applied to youths involved in gangs. Turning to a question on the 1997 national policy on children, she said that it had been subsumed under relevant legislation, in particular the Child Care and Protection Act. The Ministry of Justice was engaged in consultations regarding the establishment of a single human rights institute; however, in the meantime, the Office of the Children's Advocate and the Office of the Public Defender reported regularly to Parliament.
- 59. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff**, pointing out that discussions on an independent human rights body had been under way for some time, asked whether they were likely to bear fruit in the near future.
- 60. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that the topic had not been placed formally on the Government's agenda until July 2014, but that results were expected towards the end of 2015. The Office of the Children's Advocate was an independent arm of Parliament and was State-funded. Education spending represented 17 per cent of the national budget and, despite the constraints of a fiscal plan mandated by the International Monetary Fund, the Government had boosted social programmes and subsidies for children. The Social

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Investment for Children Initiative was being rolled out by the Planning Institute of Jamaica, whose findings informed government decisions on a variety of issues of relevance to children, including gaps in data collection. Duplication of government efforts was being addressed by enhancing coordination and better dividing tasks in accordance with each ministry's sphere of competence. Turning to child labour, she said that the issue affected very few children and that school attendance was monitored. Replying to a question on the children of incarcerated parents, she said that there was a strong child protection policy, under which the Child Development Agency and other government entities provided support for children whose parents were sent to prison.

- 61. **The Chairperson** recalled that the question that had been asked concerned whether the best interests of the child were taken into account in the sentencing of parents.
- 62. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that, when a parent was sentenced to imprisonment, the relevant childcare agencies were informed and provided the necessary support.
- 63. **The Chairperson** asked whether the best interests of the child were taken into account by judges when sentencing offenders.
- 64. **Ms**. **Hanna** (Jamaica) said that the penalties for all offences were clearly set out in domestic legislation.
- 65. **Mr. Madi** asked whether judges in the State party received training on children's rights and the Convention and whether a flexible approach to sentencing was adopted with regard to detainees with children.
- 66. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that judges received training on the Child Care and Protection Act and the best interests of the child, and had discretion in the matter of sentencing.
- 67. **Ms. Khazova** asked how the national authorities assessed implementation of the principle of the best interests of the child and whether a list of factors to be taken into account by judges at the sentencing stage had been drawn up.
- 68. **Ms. Hanna** said that the children of parents convicted of and imprisoned for neglect were taken into State care. In the case of minor offences, the Child Development Agency and other related bodies worked with judges to find non-custodial alternatives for parents. The Child Development Agency held parenting workshops and the Ministry of Education had put in place the National Parenting Support Commission and a related policy. With regard to serious offences, judges also received training from the Office of the Children's Advocate and a number of other agencies on the Convention and the sentencing of both parents and minors.
- 69. Work was ongoing regarding child participation in childcare settings. According to data compiled by the Registrar General's Department, the overwhelming majority of children were registered at birth.
- 70. **The Chairperson** asked whether the State party had any plans to raise the minimum age for marriage to 18 years.
- 71. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that the issue of raising the minimum age for marriage and for sexual consent to 18 years was currently under review, with the two issues being examined separately. Girls wishing to marry at the age of 16 currently had to seek parental consent
- 72. **The Chairperson** asked whether girls aged between 16 and 18 would be considered to be child brides in the State party.
- 73. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that any girl under the age of 18 who married would be considered a child bride.

- 74. **The Chairperson** asked whether the delegation would favour raising the marriage age without raising the age of sexual consent.
- 75. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that any move to raise the age of marriage without doing the same with regard to sexual consent could lead to legal confusion. An interministerial committee was currently discussing the issue with a view to addressing the existing gaps in legislation.
- 76. **The Chairperson** said that the Committee wished the minimum age of marriage to be set at 18 years.
- 77. **Mr. Madi** noted with concern the inconsistency inherent in the fact that girls under the age of 18 could marry despite being considered to be children from a legal standpoint.
- 78. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) asked whether the State party would be in breach of the Convention if it failed to raise the minimum age of marriage to 18.
- 79. **The Chairperson** said that, in the view of the Committee, marriage before the age of 18 constituted a harmful practice. There was some limited room for manoeuvre in that regard but any exceptions must be clearly set out in law and the prior approval of a judge must be sought regarding any such union.
- 80. **Ms. Hanna** (Jamaica) said that she would carry out consultations on that issue with the Office of the Attorney-General and the Ministry of Justice upon her return to the State party and would inform the Committee of the outcome.
- 81. **The Chairperson** pointed out that the Committee would, in fact, prefer that no exceptions be made to the minimum age for marriage.
- 82. **Ms. Aldoseri**, turning to the issue of children with developmental disabilities, asked whether it was planned to renew the National Strategic Plan for Early Childhood Development in Jamaica (2008–2013). She also requested information concerning the geographical coverage of the Early Stimulation Programme in rural areas and wished to know how many low-income families were registered under the programme and where they resided.
- 83. Regarding Ministry of Labour and Social Security special rehabilitation grants, she asked for information on the amounts of money involved and the number of families currently receiving such assistance. She enquired as to whether the National Persons with Disabilities Act was still at the draft stage and whether it dealt with the rights and active participation of children with disabilities in all spheres of social life and their integration into schools and wider society. She asked for information on related advocacy work and the status and content of the draft curriculum to address the needs of children with disabilities. She wished to know whether the curriculum covered training for teachers working with children with disabilities. She asked whether there were any plans to ensure that all children with disabilities were placed in mainstream schools and to upgrade older school premises in order to improve accessibility. She also wished to know whether a national plan for persons with disabilities was in place.
- 84. In the matter of health and health services, she asked why the maternal mortality rate had increased and requested information on medical and professional services relating to pregnancy and childbirth in rural and urban areas, teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections.
- 85. With regard to mental health, she referred to the high rate of suicide attempts among children aged between 13 and 15 and asked whether there were sufficient trained specialists capable of identifying children at risk in that regard in schools and providing them with counselling. She also asked whether there were any programmes in schools to address the issue of the transmission of HIV and sexually transmitted infections to teenage girls. She

asked for information on reproductive health counselling in schools and financial assistance provided to poor families in order to help them to ensure that their children did not turn to prostitution. Lastly, she asked whether secondary education was free.

- 86. Ms. Hanna (Jamaica) said that secondary education was free.
- 87. **Ms. Aldoseri** asked whether there were currently enough secondary schools to meet demand and whether the lengthening of the schoolday had helped address that issue. Were there sufficient trained secondary schoolteachers and was it planned to build more schools? She requested additional information regarding the claim that all school-age mothers would be reintegrated into the formal education system.
- 88. Turning to the issue of children in street situations, she requested updated information on the number of such children, any programmes put in place to take them off the streets and projects relating to reintegration and medical and psychological care and support (particularly for children infected with HIV/AIDS). Trafficking in children from rural to urban areas for the purposes of forced labour and sexual exploitation, including sex tourism, remained a problem. She wished to know why the number of prosecutions was low in that regard and whether there were any victim rehabilitation programmes in place.
- 89. Lastly, she asked when the State party intended to submit reports on the Optional Protocols to the Convention.
- 90. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff**, turning to the issues of the family environment and alternative care, asked what support was provided in order to prevent the break-up of low-income and single-parent families and whether counselling and parenting programmes were in place. She asked whether middle- and low-income families in rural and urban areas had access to day-care facilities for children under the age of 3 and whether there were plans to review the legislation on adoption.
- 91. Referring to the issue of children in State-care facilities, she noted that many of those children remained at risk from harm or abuse. She asked why the directive covering the placement of children with a fit person or in a place of safety was often not taken into account.
- 92. She requested more information on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Keating report and on the National Child Diversion Policy and its impact on juveniles. She also asked for data on children residing in prisons with their mothers and on the so-called "barrel children" (children abandoned when their parents migrated abroad). Lastly, she asked whether the victims of the fire that had broken out in the Armdale Juvenile Correctional Centre had been compensated.
- 93. **Mr. Madi** asked whether any employers in the State party had been prosecuted for using child labour and whether the children concerned had been employed in the tourism and informal sectors.
- 94. **Ms. Khazova** asked whether any programmes, plans or measures had been put in place to address the root causes of juvenile crime.
- 95. **The Chairperson** asked what was being done in the State party to tackle and raise awareness among children of the adverse effects of climate change. Furthermore, she asked whether children required parental consent in order to obtain contraceptives. On the issue of juvenile justice, she asked whether children were still detained in police lock-ups and if so, for how long, and whether it was illegal to detain children in such facilities. Lastly, she requested additional information on the measures taken to tackle gang violence.
- 96. **Ms. Muhamad Shariff** requested additional information regarding a number of cases of suicide or attempted suicide which had taken place in detention facilities and which had involved minors.

The discussion covered in the summary record ended at 6 p.m.