



## 人权理事会

### 第二十五届会议

#### 议程项目 3

增进和保护所有人权——公民权利、政治权利、  
经济、社会和文化权利，包括发展权

## 由苏格兰人权委员会提交的材料\*

### 秘书处的说明

人权理事会秘书处根据理事会第 5/1 号决议附件中的议事规则第 7(b)条，在此转发苏格兰人权委员会提交的来文\*\*。根据该条规定，国家人权机构的参与必须根据人权委员会议定的安排和做法，包括 2005 年 4 月 20 日的第 2005/74 号决议。

\* 国家人权机构具有增进和保护人权国家机构国际协调委员会颁发的“A”地位证书。

\*\* 转载于附件，不译，原文照发。



## Annex

*[English only]*

### **Information presented by the Scottish Human Rights Commission on the Annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child (HRC res. 22/32)**

Mr. President,

Distinguished delegates,

The Scottish Human Rights Commission welcomes this discussion. Following our four year research project into the human rights situation in Scotland, we identified enhancing respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights to achieve justice and safety for all as one of our key priorities.

Scotland has a unique system for addressing the needs of children who commit offences through its welfare based children's hearing system, placing the best interest of the child at the centre of decision making and also giving life to the right to respect for the views of the child. However, we also have one of the lowest ages of criminal responsibility in the world at just eight years. Early intervention to prevent offending should be increased, as should alternatives to detention for children.

Children still face barriers in terms of accessing legal advice, including costs and choice of representation. The impact of austerity measures, in particular welfare reform and legal aid cuts are disproportionately affecting children.

More must be done to protect children in Scotland from violence, including repealing the defence of "justifiable assault", enhancing parenting support and improving child protection measures.

We hope that Scotland will address these issues through Scotland's first National Action Plan for Human Rights which was launched on 10 December 2013. We look forward to assessing how much progress has been made at the UK's UPR mid-term report later this year.

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