



**Ministry for :
Women, Children and People with Disabilities**

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROGRAMME

2008/2009 REPORT

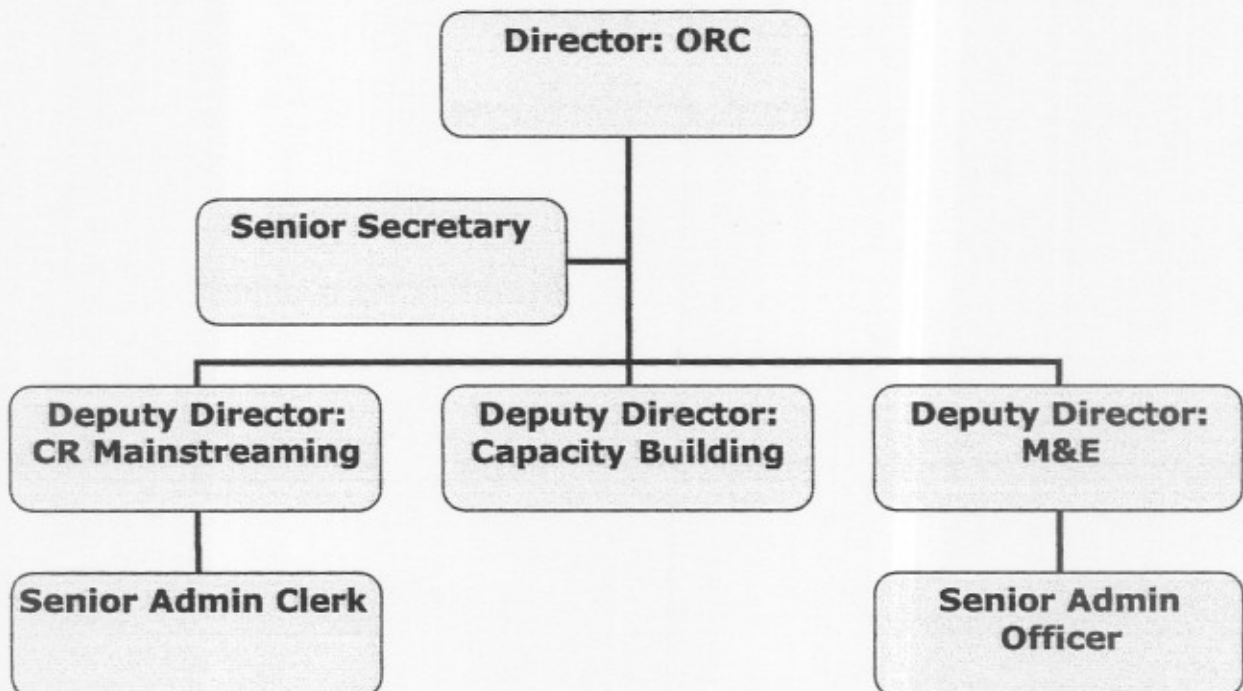
1

1. BACKGROUND

South Africa's National Strategic Objective is to create a united, democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous society. To this effect the transformation agenda of government is based on the central theme of accelerating change to improve the quality of life of all people with special focus to delivery on the rights of vulnerable groups which are children, women and people with disabilities. In order to achieve the objective on children, government established the Office on the Rights of the Child. The mandate of the Office on the Rights of the Child is to mainstream a child centered approach in government and to oversee delivery on children's rights issues.

Children's rights are encapsulated in Section 28 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act 108 Of 1996, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. These instruments contain critical children's rights obligations which must be accelerated by government. Government is also expected to report periodically to the African Union and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child around progress made on the promotion and the protection of children's rights.

2. ORGANOGRAM OF THE OFFICE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



3. CORE FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

- Mainstreaming of a child centred approach in development, governance and service delivery processes.
- Ensure that policies are children's rights sensitive
- Capacity building on mainstreaming children's rights in Government
- Advocacy for children's rights delivery in government
- Coordination, Monitoring, evaluation and reporting on the children's rights.

4. FIVE YEAR PLAN 2004 -2009

The objectives were as follows:

- To enhance integrated policy implementation for accelerated children's rights delivery
- To strengthen strategic children's rights management and leadership capabilities at all spheres of Government to achieve Sectoral and organizational cohesion
- To facilitate, coordinate, monitor, evaluate, communicate and report on the children's rights policies and programmes
- To foster desired citizenship principles among children and thereby give impetus to the people's contract

5. ACHIEVEMENTS ON 2009/10 OPERATIONAL PLAN

5.1 Mainstreaming of a Child Centered Governance Approach

- Increased participation of Municipalities in National Children's Right processes
- Involvement of more civil society organizations in the National Children's Rights processes
- Agreed partnership with the National Children's Rights Committee to coordinate, capacitate and monitor children's rights delivery in civil society
- Consolidated database of Children's rights contact persons in 188 municipalities (46 district and 142 local municipalities)

5.2 Policy Work

- Developed Policy Framework for the advancement and Coordination of Children's Rights Delivery in South Africa – final draft ready

- Developed Children's Rights Delivery Guide for Municipalities

5.3 Capacity Building

- Developed training modules for ORCs and Children's Rights Focal Points at the three spheres of Government.
- Conducted training on: Mainstreaming, Policy Analysis, Coordination, M & E, Child participation and Children's rights and responsibilities

5.4 Advocacy

- Celebrated the Day of the African Child in Partnership with Joint Monitoring Committee on the Improvement of Quality of Life and Status of Children, Youth and Disabled Persons. Children from Mozambique, Rwanda and Kenya represented children from other African States.
- Celebrated National Children's Day in Kimberly, Northern Cape
- Participated in the resolution process of xenophobic attacks in Alexander

5.5 Child Participation processes

Facilitated participation of children in the following processes:

- Second Situation Analysis of children in South Africa
- IDP process in Musina Municipality in partnership with National Children's Rights Committee and Save the Children UK
- Junior G8 Summit that was held in Japan
- Girls from rural areas and Correctional Centres participated in the 33rd World Conference on Girl Guides

5.6 Coordination of Child

- Convened two Children's Right Advisory Councils. This is a forum where government and civil society meet and discuss progress on children's rights issues.

5.7 Monitoring & Evaluation

- Organized the Annual Sectoral Performance Evaluation and Planning Meetings with ORCs, Children's Rights Focal Points at all spheres of Government and civil society organizations

- Quarterly performance tracking meetings with the Provincial Offices on the Rights of the Child meeting were held
- Second Situation Analysis of Children in South Africa was conducted in partnership with UNICEF
- Study on Child Killings was conducted in Correctional Centers. This was done in partnership with Department of Correctional Services and Statistics South Africa.
- 3rd Country report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child final (draft is ready)
- Conducted 2nd Situation Analysis for Children in South Africa with the assistance of UNICEF
- Report on Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents was compiled and presented to the World Congress III Against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in Brazil

6. CHALLENGES

- Differential understanding of mainstreaming approach in government
- Slow progress in the appointment of dedicated focal points in departments and municipalities
- Insufficient budgets to deliver on the children's rights constitutional mandate
- Insufficient of Personnel

7. RESOURCE ALLOCATION

■	2005/06 - R3, 524m
■	2006/07 - R3, 706m
■	2007/08 - R3, 891m
■	2008/09 - R2,432m
TOTAL –	R 13 553m