



**PARLIAMENT**  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

COMMITTEES

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**12 March 2013**

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child country report was formally referred to the Portfolio Committee on Women, Children and People with Disabilities as per the ATC, 26 February 2013. It was tabled as follows:

**National Assembly**

**1. The Minister of Women, Children and People with Disabilities**

(a) South Africa's Second, Third and Fourth Periodic State Party Report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child for the period 1998 to September 2012. Referred to the Portfolio Committee on **Women, Children and People with Disabilities** for consideration and report by 18 March 2013 and to the **Portfolio Committee on Justice and Constitutional Development, Portfolio Committee on Social Development, Portfolio Committee on Health, Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs, Portfolio Committee on Basic Education and Portfolio Committee on Labour.**

The Portfolio Committee for Women, Children and People with Disabilities in fulfilling its mandate is responsible for ensuring compliance with international and regional treaties that has a bearing on women, children and persons with disabilities. In addition, the Committee is also tasked with the responsibility to create opportunities for public participation with civil society on key matters pertaining to the Committee's target groups.

**Structure of report**

- References to correct appendices within text do not correlate.
- Certain sections within the report appear to be repeated or information provided which is not substantiated with evidence in the form of for example disaggregated data.

**Content**

- The country report makes reference to the National Plan of Action for Children 2012-2017 as a finalised policy of the Department of Women, Children and People with Disabilities. However, in November 2012 the Department presented a draft incomplete plan to the Committee with no costing for its implementation. Therefore it is unclear as to what the status of the plan is or how it relates to the Department's overall Strategic Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy of the Department.

**Statistics**

- Reflection of statistics not uniform in terms of reporting period. Certain sections within report provide outline of entire reporting period hence trends are reflected. However, in most instances statistics for a particular year is only given.
- Reference made to tables that often do not contain data. This gives skewed indication that information is available to substantiate an argument.
- Overall disaggregated by sex and disability is lacking.

**Budget**

- The country report provides a skewed representation of the budget for a Department e.g. Health, Justice and Constitutional Development as this allocation is not ring-fenced for children's programmes or services per say.