

# Immediate opportunities for law reform in Africa



Global Initiative to  
End All Corporal Punishment  
of Children

Prepared by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children  
([www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org)) Last updated: May 2017

**Note:** The dates given in brackets indicate the most recent information held by the Global Initiative, but to our knowledge all bills, draft laws, etc referred to below are currently still “live” and still present opportunities for enacting prohibition of corporal punishment. Information in square brackets is unconfirmed. If you believe any of the information to be incorrect or out of date, please email [info@endcorporalpunishment.org](mailto:info@endcorporalpunishment.org).

State	Opportunities for enacting prohibition	Prohibition included
Algeria	Code of Criminal Procedure under review (2017)	[NO]
Angola	Draft Penal Code under discussion (2014); Family Code being revised (2010); draft Code of Criminal Procedure under discussion (2009); legislation on the prison system being drafted	?
Botswana	Adoption Act under review (2016)	?
Burkina Faso	Criminal Code and Code on the Person and the Family under review (2012); draft Child Protection Code under discussion (2014)	YES
Burundi	Draft Code on Child Protection under discussion (2014); Code on Children's Rights being drafted (2016); Code of Persons and of the Family being revised (2016)	NO
Cameroon	Draft Code of the Person and the Family under discussion (2014); Civil Code under review (2014)	[NO]
Central African Republic	Draft Family Code and draft Child Protection Code under discussion (2014); Criminal Code being revised (2013)	[YES]
Chad	Draft Child Protection Code under discussion (2014); draft Code on the Person and the Family, Bill to amend Criminal Code and draft revised Code of Criminal Procedure under discussion (2014); Bill on violence against women under discussion (2010)	[YES]
Comoros	Amendments to Criminal Code under discussion (2014)	[YES]

Cote d'Ivoire	Personal and Family Code and Criminal Code being revised (2015); draft new Family Code under discussion (2011); draft Criminal Code under discussion (2013)	?
Djibouti	Family Code under review (2013)	?
DR Congo	No known opportunities	-
Egypt	No known opportunities	-
Equatorial Guinea	Draft Family Code and draft Law on Gender Violence under discussion (2014); law on children being drafted (2011); Criminal and Civil Codes under review (2015)	?
Eritrea	New Constitution being drafted (2015)	NO
Ethiopia	No known opportunities	-
Gabon	Code of Social Action being drafted (2012); Family Code and Children's Code being drafted (2015)	NO
Gambia	Amendments to Children's Act under discussion (2015); Disability Bill under consideration (2015)	NO
Ghana	Constitution under review (2015); amendments to the Children's Act and the Juvenile Justice Act under discussion (2016)	?
Guinea	Draft revised Civil Code under consideration (2014); Bill on gender equality and Bill to revise Criminal Code under discussion (2015)	?
Guinea-Bissau	Bill to prohibit corporal punishment being drafted (2013); drafting of a comprehensive Code on Protection of Children planned (2013)	[YES]
Lesotho	Domestic Violence Bill under discussion (2015); Regulations and Court Rules under Children's Protection and Welfare Act 2011 being drafted (2015)	?
Liberia	Draft Domestic Violence Act and amendments to Constitution under discussion (2015)	[NO]
Libya	Draft Juvenile Justice Law under discussion (2014); new Constitution being drafted (2015); laws allowing flogging under review (2015)	?
Madagascar	Criminal Code under review (2015); Bill on the protection of children in conflict with the law under discussion (2012)	NO

Malawi	Child Care, Protection and Justice (Amendment) Bill, Penal Code (Amendment) Bill and Adoption of Children Bill under discussion (2015); Prevention of Domestic Violence Act 2006 and Prisons Act under review (2015)	?
Mali	No known opportunities	-
Mauritania	Law on violence against women being drafted (2015); draft Child Protection Code under discussion (2017)	[YES]
Mauritius	Children's Bill, Juvenile Justice Bill and Disability Bill under discussion (2015)	YES
Morocco	Domestic Violence Bill under discussion (2014)	?
Mozambique	Penal Code to be reviewed (2016); Constitution under review (2015)	NO
Namibia	Child Justice Bill under discussion (2013); regulations under Child Care and Protection Act being drafted (2015)	NO
Niger	Draft Children's Code under discussion (2014); Family Code being drafted (2011)	YES
Nigeria	Violence Against Persons Bill, Administration of Criminal Justice Bill, Prison Reform Bill and Domestic Violence Bill under discussion (2013); child rights laws under consideration in a number of states (2012); Children and Young Persons Law, Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and Shari'a Penal Code under review (2010); Elimination of Violence against Women in Society Bill under discussion (2012)	?
Rwanda	Penal Code 2012, Civil Code 1988 and Law No. 54 Relating to the Rights and Protection of the Child 2011 under review (2016); Family Code under review (2015)	NO
Sao Tome and Principe	Family Law being revised (2013); Civil Code under review (2010); Early Education Bill being discussed (2016); Juvenile Justice Law and other child protection laws under review (2017)	?
Senegal	Juvenile justice law under revision (2014); draft Children's Code under discussion (2013); Family Code and Penal Code under review (2013); legislation under consideration to regulate Koranic schools (2017)	?
Seychelles	Civil Code under review (2015); Domestic Violence Bill, Education (Amended) Bill and amendments to Children's Act 1970 under discussion (2015)	SOME

Sierra Leone	Constitution under review (2015)	?
Somalia	Child Act under discussion in Somaliland (2016); Family Code being drafted for Somaliland (2011); Puntland juvenile justice law being drafted (2009)	?
South Africa	Amendments to Children's Act being drafted (2015)	YES
Sudan	Rules under the Child Act 2010 being drafted (2012); state child bills under discussion in Blue Nile, North Darfur and Gezira (2010)	?
Swaziland	Education legislation being reviewed (2012); Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill under consideration (2015)	?
Uganda	Marriage and Divorce Bill under discussion (2015)	NO
UR Tanzania	Proposed Constitution under discussion (2016); Zanzibar Education Act 1982 under review (2015)	NO
Western Sahara	No known opportunities	-
Zambia	Draft Children's Code under discussion (2016)	?
Zimbabwe	Legislation authorising corporal punishment in schools under review (2011); General Amendment Bill to harmonise laws with the Constitution under discussion (2015); Children's Act and Education Act under review (2016); draft Juvenile Justice Bill (2016)	?

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