



Global Initiative to
End All Corporal Punishment
of Children

Ending Corporal Punishment of Children: Africa E-Newsletter

FRENCH VERSION ALSO AVAILABLE

Issue 9: October 2012

In this issue

Globally, the list of countries prohibiting corporal punishment carries on growing. In Africa, states which have achieved prohibition in all settings continue to strengthen their laws, draft laws which would prohibit are under consideration in others, and the number of states where children may be sentenced to corporal punishment by the courts is set to fall. Read on for further details plus news of new resources from the Global Initiative and coverage of corporal punishment in the work of human rights treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review....

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1 Who we are

The Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children is a non governmental organisation (NGO) which aims to act as a catalyst to encourage more action and progress towards ending all corporal punishment in all continents. We support national campaigns with relevant information and assistance (www.endcorporalpunishment.org). The Africa project of the Global Initiative aims specifically to increase the number of states in Africa committed to and actively pursuing the prohibition and elimination of all corporal punishment of children, in the family, schools and all other settings. For more information, please contact Sonia Vohito at: vohito@endcorporalpunishment.org.

Through this newsletter we aim to keep civil society organisations and other stakeholders informed and encourage networking around the issue of corporal punishment of children. We encourage readers to forward the newsletter to whoever might be interested and we encourage organisations **to sign up to the aims of the Global Initiative** at: www.endcorporalpunishment.org.

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2 Recent developments in Africa

In summary: In Africa, five states prohibit corporal punishment in the home (33 globally), 23 prohibit it in all their schools (117 globally), 46 as a sentence for crime (157 globally), 24 in penal institutions (121 globally) and six in all forms of alternative care (40 globally) (information at October 2012). The most recent addition to the list of states prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings, including the home, is Albania – see the [Global Initiative website](#) for details.

Positive moves

Swaziland: The Children’s Protection and Welfare Act (2012) prohibits corporal punishment as a sentence of the courts. The Act has been passed and will come into force after being published in the Official Gazette.

Zimbabwe: The [draft new Constitution](#) has been adopted. It protects the rights of all persons to respect for and protection of their human dignity and physical integrity, including the rights “to freedom from all forms of violence from public or private sources”, and not to be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. It also states that no law may limit these rights. Significantly, the provision in the current Constitution which explicitly allows corporal punishment of children by parents and as a sentence of the courts is not reiterated in the draft new Constitution. The draft will now be discussed at a Second All Stakeholder’s Conference and debated in Parliament before being submitted to a public referendum.

Kenya: Corporal punishment is unlawful in all settings under the Constitution. The prohibition is confirmed in the Basic Education Bill (2012) currently being debated, which states in article 35 (Prohibition against physical punishment and mental harassment to the child): “(1) No pupil shall be subjected to torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in any manner whether physical or psychological; (2) A person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand shillings or to imprisonment not exceeding six months or both.” The Bill applies to schools, school correctional facilities and borstal institutions (article 2).

South Sudan: Corporal punishment is prohibited in all settings under the Constitution and the Child Act. The General Education Bill (2012) under consideration confirms prohibition in schools.

But ...

Namibia: The defence counsel for four Gymnasium teachers from Windhoek in court for inflicting corporal punishment on a student reportedly asked the court to dismiss the charges, arguing that the prohibition of corporal punishment in the Education Act does not apply to private schools and that the law allows “chastisement” of a child by persons with parental authority (*New Era*, 4 October 2012). In fact, article 56 of the Education Act (2001) explicitly prohibits corporal punishment in private schools: the Child Care and Protection Bill currently being discussed confirms prohibition in schools but it does not repeal the “reasonable chastisement” defence.

Somalia: A new [draft Constitution](#) has been endorsed and is to be the subject of a national referendum when security in the country improves. The draft protects human dignity and physical integrity and in article 15 states that the right to personal security “shall be safeguarded through the prohibition of ... all forms of violence, including any form of violence against women, torture, or inhumane treatment”; article 29 provides for every child’s right “to be protected from mistreatment, neglect, abuse, or degradation”. But it does not explicitly protect children’s right to freedom from all forms of corporal punishment, and under articles 2 and 4 Islamic Shari’ah law takes precedence over legislation, including the Constitution.

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3 Campaigns and other moves towards prohibition

The **UN Secretary-General’s Global Initiative on Education, [Education First](#)**, was launched on 26 September. It aims to ensure education is at the heart of the social, political and development agendas. One of its three priorities is to “Foster Global Citizenship”, under which it identifies the current problem of an “inadequate focus on values”: “The values of peace, human rights, respect, cultural diversity and justice are often not embodied in the ethos of schools. Instead of empowering students to learn and thrive, schools often replicate social inequalities and reinforce social pathologies by tolerating bullying and gender-based violence and subjecting children to physical and psychological punishment. Young people learn much from schools, but what they learn is not only in their lessons. Teachers and administrators must learn to model the skills we want students to develop, such as good environmental practices, participatory decision-making, and the control and prevention of violence through reporting policies and clear codes of conduct.”

National campaigns and calls for prohibition

Ghana: The [Centre for Human Development and Social Change](#) called on the Government to prohibit corporal punishment in basic and secondary schools. The call was made at Mensakrom during a one day human rights education programme. (*modernghana.com*, 10 September 2012)

Zanzibar: Since the technical workshop on law reform in March 2012 (see issue no. 7), Save the Children reports a number of actions taken through the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, including the development of a child safeguarding/protection policy which must be signed by teachers and other professionals who come into contact with children; the establishment of a National Committee, including ministers, to ensure the elimination of corporal punishment nationally; training of students, teachers, and other professionals in 20 pilot schools on positive discipline; awareness raising on TV and radio about positive discipline and the impact of corporal punishment; cooperation

between religious leaders and the Ministry of Education, and consultation meetings and sensitisation events.

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4 Human rights monitoring

Key decisions and recommendations, etc

The **Committee on the Rights of the Child** published its concluding observations on states examined at the [60th session](#) (29 May – 15 June) and the [61st session](#) (17 September – 5 October). The following recommendations were made to African states:

Algeria: “The Committee urges the State party: a) to prohibit corporal punishment unequivocally in all settings; b) to ensure that laws prohibiting corporal punishment are effectively implemented and that legal proceedings are systematically initiated against those responsible of mistreating children; c) to introduce sustained public education, awareness-raising and social mobilization programmes, involving children, families, communities and religious leaders, on both the physical and the psychological harmful effects of corporal punishment with a view to changing the general attitude towards this practice and promoting positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline as an alternative to corporal punishment; d) to ensure the involvement and participation of the whole society, including children, in the design and implementation of preventive strategies against corporal punishment of children; and e) to take into account its general comment No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment.” (See the Global Initiative’s individual country report for [Algeria](#).)

Liberia: “... the Committee urges the State party to explicitly prohibit by law corporal punishment in all settings, including in the family, schools and other institutions and childcare settings. Furthermore, it urges the State party to intensify its efforts in carrying out awareness raising programmes through the Ministry of Gender and Development, together with civil society and community leaders, aiming at fostering a culture of non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and alternative forms of discipline to corporal punishment. In this endeavour the State party should introduce public education on the harmful effects of corporal punishment on children and establish a confidential reporting system in schools and child care settings for children who are victims of corporal punishment.” (See the report for [Liberia](#).)

Namibia: “The Committee strongly calls upon the State party to: a) pass as a matter of priority, the Child Care and Protection Bill with the view to prohibiting corporal punishment under civil and customary law and in all settings, including in the home, school, and alternative care settings; b) ensure that laws prohibiting corporal punishment are effectively implemented and that legal proceedings are systematically initiated against those responsible for corporal punishment; c) immediately repeal all provisions authorising corporal punishment; d) introduce sustained public education, awareness-raising and social mobilization programmes, involving children, families, communities and religious leaders, on the harmful effects, both physical and psychological, of corporal punishment, with a view to changing the general attitude towards this practice, and to promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline as an alternative to corporal punishment; and e) ensure that all school teachers and personnel complete mandatory trainings on the rights of child, on the harmful effects, both physical and psychological, of corporal punishment and encourage positive behavioral support and alternative forms of discipline.” (See the report for [Namibia](#).)

In September, Gabon became the first African state to ratify the **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure**. It has also been ratified by Thailand. It has been signed by 34 other states, including Cape Verde, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco and Senegal.

The **African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child** welcomed and endorsed the [Guidelines on Action for Children in the Justice System in Africa](#), developed at the Global Conference on Child Justice in Kampala, Uganda, in November 2011 (see issue no. 7). The Guidelines state that corporal punishment should not be used and are intended to guide law reform, to achieve full implementation of international juvenile justice standards and to coordinate action in formal and informal justice systems in Africa.

The [Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the protection of human rights of juveniles deprived of their liberty](#) (13 August 2012, A/HRC/21/26) sets out the human rights obligation to prohibit corporal punishment, notes that it continues to be lawful and inflicted on children in detention in some states, and calls on states to ensure that children are not subjected to corporal punishment.

A **high level panel discussion on prevention of and responses to violence against children in the juvenile justice system** was co-organised by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the SRSG on Violence against Children with the support of the Governments of Austria and Thailand. The event saw the launch of the [Joint Report of OHCHR, UNODC and SRSG on Violence against Children on prevention of and responses to violence against children within the juvenile justice system](#) (27 June 2012, A/HRC/21/25), which notes that corporal punishment has been abolished as a disciplinary measure in penal institutions in most countries but remains lawful in more than 70. It also notes that corporal punishment may lawfully be ordered as a sentence of the courts in many countries, in some for children from the age of puberty. It recommends that states “prohibit all forms of inhuman sentencing against children, including the death penalty, life imprisonment without the possibility of parole, and the use of corporal punishment, such as stoning, flogging, whipping or caning” (para. 78) and, in relation to conditions of detention, “provide for a lawful disciplinary system, in compliance with the principles of positive discipline and restorative justice approaches, which prohibits the use of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including the use of isolation or solitary confinement, and the use of restraints or force, except in specified exceptional circumstances” (para. 81).

Submissions for the **OHCHR Study on the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health** are available [online](#). Corporal punishment violates children’s right to the highest attainable standard of health both through the direct physical harm it causes and through its damaging short- and long-term effects on children’s physical and mental health. The [submission from the Global Initiative](#) draws attention to the strong links between the rights to health and to freedom from all forms of violence and emphasises that realising children’s right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is not possible when the law allows them to be hit and hurt in the guise of “discipline”.

The 2013 annual report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences, is to be devoted to a **Study on State responsibility for eliminating violence against women**. The Global Initiative has submitted a briefing on the links between corporal punishment and other forms of interpersonal violence against women and girls (for further information email elinor@endcorporalpunishment.org).

The **International NGO Council of Violence against Children** (formerly the NGO Advisory Council for follow-up to the UN Secretary General’s Study on Violence against Children), set up in 2006 to work with NGOs and other partners implementing the recommendations of the UN Study, issued its report [Violating Children’s Rights: Harmful practices based on tradition, culture, religion or superstition](#). As

confirmed in [General Comment No. 13](#) adopted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2011, corporal punishment sits alongside female genital mutilation, forced marriage, accusations of witchcraft and other specific forms of violence against children as a “harmful practice” (CRC/C/GC/13, para. 29). This new report on the issue, published in October, includes information on corporal punishment and concludes with recommendations aimed at prohibiting and eliminating all such harmful practices.

Briefing the human rights bodies

The Global Initiative regularly briefs human rights treaty monitoring bodies prior to examination of state parties, and encourages national NGOs and human rights institutions to do likewise. We are particularly trying to identify “key” NGOs and human rights institutions in each state with whom we can work more closely in briefing the treaty bodies: if you/your organisation is interested, please contact info@endcorporalpunishment.org.

Opportunities for briefing treaty bodies arise in relation to the Lists of Issues adopted for each state in advance of examination as well as in submitting information immediately prior to the examination of states by the Committees. The deadlines for submitting briefings relevant to upcoming sessions are set out below. The Global Initiative is always willing to advise NGOs and human rights institutions on the practical details of how to submit briefings (email info@endcorporalpunishment.org).

Committee on the Rights of the Child:

- (1) Session 62/63 takes place 14 January to 1 February 2013. Guinea is among the states to be examined. **Briefings must be submitted by 14 November 2012.**
- (2) Session 62 Pre-sessional Working Group will take place 4-8 February 2013, when the List of Issues will be adopted for Sao Tome and Principe. **Briefings should be submitted by 4 December 2012.**

Committee Against Torture:

Session 50 will take place 6-31 May 2013. The states to be examined include Guinea and Mauritania. Opportunities for influencing the Lists of Issues have passed. **Briefings for the examination should be submitted by 22 April 2013.**

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights:

- (1) Session 50 will take place 29 April to 17 May 2013. The states to be examined include Niger, Rwanda and Togo. Lists of Issues have already been adopted. **Briefings for the examination should be submitted by 15 March 2013.**
- (2) Session 51 Pre-sessional Working Group will take place 20-24 May 2013. Lists of Issues will be adopted for Djibouti, Egypt and Gabon. **Briefings should be submitted by 1 April 2013.**

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women:

- (1) Session 54 will take place in February 2013 (dates to be confirmed). Angola is among the states to be examined. **The deadline for briefings is still to be confirmed (usually two weeks before the start of the session).**
- (2) Session 54 Pre-sessional Working Group will take place in February 2013 (dates to be confirmed). Lists of Issues will be adopted for Benin and Seychelles. **The deadline for briefings is still to be confirmed (usually one month before the session starts).**

Human Rights Committee:

- (1) Session 107 will take place 11-28 March 2013. Angola is among the states to be examined. Opportunities for influencing the List of Issues have passed. **The deadline for submitting briefings for the examination is still to be announced.**
- (2) Session 107 Country Report Task Forces will meet during the session. Lists of Issues will be adopted for Burkina Faso and South Africa. **The deadline for submitting briefings is still to be announced.**

The Universal Periodic Review

The obligation to prohibit and eliminate corporal punishment of children continues to be raised with states in the Universal Periodic Review of their overall human rights records. The Global Initiative submits briefings on every state being reviewed, sharing advance draft briefings with relevant organisations to encourage submissions at national level. We also conduct a follow up programme, pursuing the issue with states that accept recommendations to prohibit corporal punishment by writing to key NGOs, NHRIs and Government ministers, and undertake ongoing analysis of coverage of the issue in all aspects of the UPR process (for further information email info@endcorporalpunishment.org).

The second cycle of the UPR is now well under way. The working group reports of states examined at **session 13** (May/June 2012) were formally adopted at the 21st session of the Human Rights Council in September: Algeria, Morocco and South Africa accepted recommendations to prohibit corporal punishment. **Session 14** is taking place in October/November, when Benin, Gabon, Ghana and Zambia will be reviewed.

In addition to advice and information from the Global Initiative, NGOs wishing to use the UPR process in their advocacy work can refer to materials produced by the **Child Rights International Network (CRIN)**, which monitors and promotes advocacy on all children's rights in the UPR, and **UPR-Info**, which liaises with civil society organisations to facilitate their participation in the UPR and monitors and analyses the outcomes. UPR-Info also publishes "mid-term implementation assessments" (MIAs) for each state, collating information from various sources – including the Global Initiative – on states' implementation of the recommendations they accepted.

Opportunities for submitting briefings for the 15th and 16th sessions of the UPR, to be held respectively in January/February 2013 and May/June 2013, have now passed. The deadlines for briefing the 17th session are:

4 March 2013 – Mauritius, Nigeria and Senegal

11 March 2013 – Central African Republic, Chad and Republic of Congo

Tentative deadlines for future sessions are available [here](#).

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5 Resources: Research/Reports/Publications

NEW RESOURCES FROM THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE

West Africa report A new regional report is now available, published by the Global Initiative in collaboration with Save the Children and Plan International. The 36-page report, *Prohibiting corporal punishment of children in West Africa: progress report 2012* (in [English](#) and [French](#)), includes alarming

statistics on the inadequacy of legal protection of children from corporal punishment but also documents active campaigns at national and regional levels, growing faith based support for prohibition, and significant and immediate opportunities for law reform to prohibit corporal punishment across the region.

Intended as a tool to provoke and support advocacy to prohibit and eliminate corporal punishment, the report provides information on the human rights imperative for law reform and the work of the treaty monitoring bodies in relation to West African states, details of ratification of human rights instruments and acceptance of relevant communications and complaints mechanisms in the region, a state-by-state analysis of the legality of corporal punishment in the home, schools, penal system and care settings, and individual country reports for every West African state.

“Progress and delay in Africa” leaflet A new leaflet summarising progress and delay towards prohibiting corporal punishment in Africa was launched in July. *Prohibiting all corporal punishment of children in Africa: progress and delay* – available in [English](#) and in [French](#) – graphically presents facts and figures relevant to the issue, including a map of Africa showing where corporal punishment is prohibited and where law reform is yet to be achieved. It calls for tougher action, including legal advocacy, to be taken when governments resist reform. Hard copies are available from info@endcorporalpunishment.org. A [global version](#) of the leaflet is also available, updated October 2012.

Briefings on violence against women and girls and on children with disabilities The right to protection from corporal punishment is an integral aspect of many fundamental rights and freedoms and the effects of violations of it are felt at all levels of society. The Global Initiative has produced two leaflets to raise awareness of the links between corporal punishment and other issues within the human rights framework – one on the importance of including corporal punishment of children in working on violence against women ([Prohibiting and eliminating corporal punishment of girls – a key element in the global challenge to all violence against women and girls](#)), the other aimed at all those working for the rights of persons with disabilities ([Prohibiting and eliminating all corporal punishment of children with disabilities](#)). A limited number of hard copies is available from info@endcorporalpunishment.org.

Resources for schools A new [list of resources](#) for eliminating corporal punishment in schools has been compiled, to be used as part of implementing prohibition of corporal punishment in schools. Many are freely available and are aimed at a variety of audiences, including children, teachers, teacher educators, children’s rights advocates, governments and school administrations, and are in a variety of languages.

Other resources and research

The **African Child Policy Forum** and **Defence for Children International** published a joint report *Achieving Friendly Justice in Africa* (in [English](#) and [French](#)). The report notes the legality of corporal punishment as a sentence in Botswana and Zimbabwe, and cites national high level court rulings against corporal punishment in South Africa, Zambia and in Namibia. It concludes that outlawing corporal punishment as a sentence is a “basic concept” of child friendly justice and is required under international human rights law. It notes the prohibition of judicial corporal punishment in Lesotho, Kenya, Uganda, Tunisia, Angola, Chad, Mozambique and South Sudan.

A 2012 meta-analysis of 17 studies, funded by the World **Health Organisation Department of Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability**, looked at data from over 18,000 children and found that children with disabilities were 3.6 times more likely to be victims of physical violence, including “spanking”, than children without disabilities. (Jones, L. et al (2012), [“Prevalence and risk of violence against children with disabilities: a systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies”](#), *The Lancet*, 380(9845), 899-907)

Penal Reform International published a report on provisions for children in police and pre-trial detention, including the legality and practice of corporal punishment in this context. [A review of law and policy to prevent and remedy violence against children in police and pre-trial detention in eight countries](#) includes country reports on Tanzania and Uganda.

In **Uganda**, a survey involving 3,200 children in eight districts in northern Uganda, 79% said they felt unsafe or scared due to beatings at school, 90% due to beatings at home. (WarChild UK, 2012, [Child Safety Report Card: 2012 Regional Report](#))

Studies linking corporal punishment and poor health: An analysis of data from the National Survey of Midlife Development in the US found that frequent abuse – including corporal punishment – by a parent can increase the child’s risk of cancer in adulthood (Morton, P. M. et al (2012), [“Does Childhood Misfortune Increase Cancer Risk in Adulthood?”](#), *Journal of Aging and Health*, 24(6), 948-984). A US study which found that people who had experienced physical punishment, but not more severe forms of violence, as children were more likely to experience mental health problems including major depression, mania, anxiety disorders, alcohol and drug abuse and personality disorders (Afifi, T. O. et al (2012), [“Physical Punishment and Mental Disorders: Results From a Nationally Representative US Sample”](#), *Pediatrics*, 2 July 2012). A study of 9-12-year olds found that high levels of corporal punishment together with high levels of supportive communication between parents and children were associated with the highest levels of depressive symptoms: all physical punishment increases the risk of depression, but that inflicted in the context of otherwise positive parent-child communication carries a higher risk of poor mental health for the child than when inflicted in the context of parenting characterised by poor communication (Wimsatt, A. R. et al (2012), [“Positive communication moderates the relationship between corporal punishment and child depressive symptoms”](#), *Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, 3 September 2012).

A **short history of corporal punishment** from early civilizations to modernity notes the complexity of the issue as well as trends in penal corporal punishment from intentional maiming to infliction of temporary pain and from the public to the private domain. It describes the place of corporal punishment in religious traditions (Judaism, Islam and Christianity) and the links between corporal punishment in the penal system and others settings, including the home. (Geltner, G. (2012), [“History of Corporal Punishment”](#), to be published in Weisburd, D. & Bruinsma, G. (eds) (forthcoming, 2012), *Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice* (New York: Springer-Verlag)

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6 Events in the region

Seventh CSO Forum (ACRWC), 9-11 November 2012, Nairobi, Kenya

The Civil Society Organisations Forum on the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) was formed in 2009 to ensure a united voice on behalf of Africa’s children and to strengthen the work of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC). It meets twice a year, prior to the sessions of the Committee, bringing together CSOs, child rights experts and African Union representatives from across Africa.

The theme for the seventh meeting is “Protection of Children Against Harmful Social and Cultural Practices – Towards Visible Social Change”, in line with the theme proposed by the ACERWC for the Day of the African Child for 2013. For further information see the [Forum website](#) or email sedami@csoforum.info; [online registration](#) is now open. We hope participant child rights advocates will

raise the issue of corporal punishment during the Forum and would be pleased to provide any necessary advice and information: email info@endcorporalpunishment.org.

Third Pan African Forum on Children, 19-20 November 2012, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

This major meeting, following the second forum in Cairo in 2007, will take as its theme “Accountability for Investment in Children”, focusing on how AU member states have been accountable for children’s rights and welfare as well as how they have invested in children in Africa. The objective is to review implementation of the “Call for Accelerated Action on the Implementation of the Plan of Action Towards Africa Fit for Children” in AU member states. The Forum will also promote the mainstreaming of child rights issues into other sectors at national level. The expected outputs are:

- a time-bound action plan, showing how existing commitments regarding the realisation of children’s rights will be implemented;
- shared good practices and experiences on advancing the rights and well-being of children;
- support for the efforts of the African Union and regional bodies in their advocacy and coordination to ensure that AU Member States are held accountable to the child rights instruments which they have ratified;
- strategies for the way forward in strengthening policies and programmes on children and concretely act on child protection, provision and participation beyond the MDGs.
- strengthening the capacities of child protection systems and services to be inclusive of all children, particularly those most vulnerable and to respond to their needs, as well as to introduce effective violence prevention initiatives;
- a mechanism for identifying Member States “Fit for Children” and recognising their efforts.

The concept note is available [here](#).

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7 Can you help?

CALL FOR INFORMATION

The Global Initiative is preparing its annual global progress report for 2012. If you are currently actively campaigning for law reform to prohibit corporal punishment, please let us know (email info@endcorporalpunishment.org). We are especially seeking photographs of campaigns in action and illustrations of campaign materials.

Promoting positive, non-violent discipline

We are collecting resources for the promotion of positive discipline in homes, schools and other settings in Africa for listing on the website. Contact elinor@endcorporalpunishment.org to suggest resources for inclusion. Resources which promote positive discipline as part of a campaign for law reform or which are clearly linked to prohibition that has already been achieved are especially welcome.

Research on corporal punishment of children

Evidence of the nature and prevalence of corporal punishment gathered through national studies is important to keep the issue visible and to assess the effectiveness of implementation of prohibiting laws and of measures to change attitudes and practice.

And ...

Other ways to contribute to the work of the Global Initiative include:

- sending us information on laws prohibiting or authorising corporal punishment
- letting us know about opportunities for promoting law reform (e.g. if draft legislation is being considered) and when new laws are passed which prohibit corporal punishment
- providing contact details for organisations actively working to promote the prohibition and elimination of corporal punishment of children.

If you can help with any of the above, please email vohito@endcorporalpunishment.org.

We hope you find this newsletter informative and useful and welcome your comments: please email vohito@endcorporalpunishment.org. We are sending the newsletter to supporters of the aims of the Global Initiative and others who we think will be interested. If you do not want to receive future editions, please tell us at info@endcorporalpunishment.org. If your organisation is not listed as supporting the aims of the Initiative, please consider signing up (online at www.endcorporalpunishment.org or email info@endcorporalpunishment.org).

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