

# Immediate opportunities for law reform in East and Southern Africa



GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO  
**End All Corporal  
Punishment of Children**

LAST UPDATED July 2020

Also available online at [www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org)

**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 If you believe any of the information to be incorrect or out of date, please email [info@endcorporalpunishment.org](mailto:info@endcorporalpunishment.org).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 |
|------------|--|----------------------|
| Angola     | 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); Prisons Act and Education Act under review (2018)  | [SOME]               |
| 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                   |
| Comoros    | No known opportunities   | -                    |
| Eritrea    | New Constitution being drafted (2015)  | NO                   |
| Eswatini   | Education legislation being reviewed (2012); Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill under consideration (2015)   | ?                    |
| Ethiopia   | No known opportunities   | -                    |
| Lesotho    | Domestic Violence Bill under discussion (2015); Regulations and Court Rules under Children's Protection and Welfare Act 2011 being drafted (2015); Children's Protection and Welfare Act Amendment Bill 2018 under discussion (2018) | ?                    |
| Madagascar | Criminal Code under review (2015)  | 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)                 | ?                    |
| Mauritius  | Juvenile Justice Bill and Disability Bill under discussion (2015); draft Child Protection and Care Bill under discussion (2017); Child Protection Act  | YES                  |

under review (2017); Police and Criminal Justice Bill being prepared (2018); Children's Bill under discussion (2019)

|             |   |    |
|-------------|---|----|
| Mozambique  | Penal Code to be reviewed (2016); Constitution under review (2015)  | NO |
| Namibia     | Child Justice Bill under discussion (2013); amendments to the Combating of Domestic Violence Act 2003 under discussion (2016)   | NO |
| Rwanda      | No known opportunities  | -  |
| Somalia     | Provisional Federal Constitution 2012 being reviewed (2017); Child Rights Bill, Juvenile Justice Bill and Education Bill being drafted (2019); Child Act under discussion in Somaliland (2016); Family Code being drafted for Somaliland (2011); Puntland juvenile justice law being drafted (2009) | ?  |
| Uganda      | Marriage and Divorce Bill under discussion (2015)   | NO |
| UR Tanzania | Proposed Constitution under discussion (2016); Zanzibar Education Act 1982 under review (2015)  | NO |
| Zambia      | Draft Children's Code under discussion (2016); constitutional amendments being discussed (2017); Correctional Services Bill being drafted (2017)  | ?  |
| 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)  | ?  |