

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS & ANSWERS TO THE LIST
OF ISSUES TO BE TAKEN UP INTO CONSIDERATION
OF THE SECOND PERIODIC REPORT OF
CHINA (CRC/C/83/ADD.9, PART II) * ****

(PART III)

MACAO SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

PART I

A. Data and statistics, if available

I.A.1. Please provide disaggregated statistical data (by gender, age groups, ethnic groups, urban and rural areas) covering the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 on the number and percentage of children under 18 living in mainland China and the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macao respectively.

* CRC/C/Q/CHN/2, 15 June 2005.

** CRC/C/RESP/89(III), received on 30 August 2005 (unedited version).

In the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR), there is no available data on ethnic groups. Moreover, there are no rural areas; therefore, that aspect is not applicable.

The resident population of the MSAR was estimated at 465,333 as at 31 December 2004. The available requested disaggregated data on the number and percentage of children under 18 living in the MSAR is as follows.

Age group	2002					
	No.			% of total population		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
0-4	18,556	9,575	8,981	4.2	2.2	2.0
5-9	30,036	15,712	14,315	6.8	3.6	3.2
10-14	39,765	20,490	19,275	9.0	4.6	4.4
15-17	25,234	12,861	12,373	5.7	2.9	2.8
Total	113,591	58,647	54,944	25.7	13.3	12.4

Source: MSAR Statistics and Census Department

Age group	2003					
	No.			% of total population		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
0-4	17,407	9,005	8,402	3.9	2.0	1.9
5-9	28,002	14,662	13,340	6.2	3.3	3.0
10-14	38,196	19,731	18,465	8.5	4.4	4.1
15-17	25,927	13,250	12,677	5.8	3.0	2.8
Total	109,532	56,648	52,884	24.4	12.6	11.8

Source: MSAR Statistics and Census Department

Age group	2004					
	No.			% of total population		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
0-4	16,745	8,713	8,032	3.6	1.9	1.7
5-9	26,131	13,627	12,504	5.6	2.9	2.7
10-14	36,805	19,081	17,724	7.9	4.1	3.8
15-17	26,799	13,768	13,031	5.8	3.0	2.8
Total	106,480	55,189	51,291	22.9	11.9	11.0

Source: MSAR Statistics and Census Department

I.A.2. In the light of Article 4 of the Convention, please provide disaggregated data on budget allocations and trends (in absolute figures and percentages of the national budget) for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 regarding the implementation of the Convention evaluating also the priorities for budgetary expenditures given to the following:

I.A.2.(a) education (different types of education, i.e. pre-primary, primary and secondary education, and vocational training);

The MSAR currency is the *Macau Pataca* (MOP), the full convertibility of which is assured by the MSAR foreign currency reserve. The *Pataca* is indirectly indexed to the United States Dollar at an exchange rate of about USD 1: MOP 8. Amount values hereunder are indicated in MOP.

In the MSAR, public education budget and actual expenditure are divided into non-tertiary education and tertiary education categories. The non-tertiary education category covers regular and special pre-school education and preparatory year for primary education, primary education, secondary education, and vocational-technical secondary education. Tertiary education refers to higher education.

There is no available data for 2004/2005. In 2002 and 2003, the non-tertiary public education expenditure was 9.8% and 8.9% of the total public expenditure. The non-tertiary public education expenditure accounted for 1.9% and 1.7% of the MSAR Gross Domestic Product respectively.

Public expenditure in education		
Indicators	Amount in MOP	
	2002	2003
Total public expenditure of the MSAR Government	10,318,400,000	12,115,000,000
Gross Domestic Product	54,294,700,000	63,365,400,000
Government public education expenditure	1,683,600,000	1,839,000,000
Non-tertiary education	1,007,000,000	1,083,000,000

Source: MSAR Education and Youth Affairs Department

N.B. — The accounting system adopted is the national government finance statistical calculation established by the International Monetary Fund

Public expenditure in education		
Indicators	% of the MSAR budget	
	2002	2003
Public education expenditure among total public expenditure	16.3	15.2
Non-tertiary public education expenditure among total public expenditure	9.8	8.9
Public education expenditure among gross domestic product	3.1	2.9
Non-tertiary public education expenditure among gross domestic product	1.9	1.7

Source: MSAR Education and Youth Affairs Department

I.A.2.(b) health care (different types of health services, i.e. primary health care, vaccination programmes, adolescent health care, HIV/AIDS and other health-care services for children, including social insurance);

There is no available disaggregated data by different types of health services, i.e. primary health care, vaccination programmes, adolescent health care, HIV/AIDS and other health-care services for children, including social insurance. The only available data regards the global public health expenditure, which was of MOP\$ 1,238,990,000 in 2002 and MOP\$ 1,384,065,000 in 2003, representing 12% and 11.4% of the MSAR budget respectively.

I.A.2.(c) programmes and services for children with disabilities;

There is no available disaggregated data on programmes and

services specifically for children with disabilities. The available data refers to support programmes for families, including families with disabled individuals, as described in the following response.

I.A.2.(d) support programmes for families;

Concerning support programmes for families, the MSAR Social Welfare Institute (SWI), from 2002 to 2004, provided financial support to families with minors and the total monetary amounts granted were of MOP\$ 40,173,179, MOP\$ 46,755,886 and MOP\$ 94,251,075 (these amounts include regular and special financial aid, and exclude special allowances), a clear increase.

Regular financial aid (by beneficiaries)			
Beneficiaries	2002	2003	2004
Number of families	2,611	2,540	4,651
Number of minors (under 18 years old)	4,961	4,635	8,618

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

Regular financial aid (by amount in MOP)			
	2002	2003	2004
Financial aid to families with minors	38,869,129	43,023,663	88,988,915
Financial aid (Social Security Fund)	7,984,050	6,707,100	15,331,463
Total	46,853,179	49,730,763	104,320,378

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

The SWI also provides special to children. This support is granted through special financial aid to children's families, specifically to single-parent families, families with chronically ill and disabled individuals, which are in a state of poverty.

Special financial aid (by beneficiaries)			
Beneficiaries	2002	2003	2004
Number of families	1,227	1,587	2,141
Number of minors (under 18 years old)	2,159	2,621	3,565

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

Special financial aid (by amount in MOP)			
	2002	2003	2004
Total amounts of special support	1,304,050	3,732,223	5,262,160

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

In addition to the mentioned financial aid, another special allowance is also granted twice a year, as follows.

Special allowance (by beneficiaries)			
Beneficiaries	2002	2003	2004
Number of families	-*	2,288	2,889
Number of minors (under 18 years old)	-	4,204	5,071

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

*N.B. — * This special allowance started in 2003*

Special allowance (by amount in MOP)			
	2002	2003	2004
Total amounts of special allowance	-	6,364,000	7,554,100

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

Furthermore, the SWI also provides support to children, through regular subventions to children and youth services. Occasional subventions to non-governmental entities are also granted, as follows.

Regular subventions to children and youth services (amount in MOP)			
Service Sectors	2002	2003	2004
Nursery	23,109,506	24,078,568	23,204,988
Residential service for children and the youth	12,798,691	13,250,494	14,686,353
Other children and youth services	983,500	2,002,375	2,193,125
Community Centre	7,029,838	8,413,368	9,482,829
Family Service Centre	730,274	766,020	1,327,606
Total amount	44,651,809	48,510,825	50,894,901

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

Occasional subventions to non-governmental entities			
	2002	2003	2004
No. of non-governmental entities	35	41	36
No. of activities / programmes	135	189	168
Total amount (in MOP)	868,690	3,539,988	2,841,066

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

The SWI provides meals in certain places run by the SWI itself (canteens) and in schools. This type of aid is provided to all people in need, including children. At the moment, it is not possible to disaggregate the data regarding children. In 2002, 2003 and 2004, the total amounts spent on this service were of MOP\$ 12,304,629, MOP\$ 9,796,516 and MOP\$ 6,615,043 respectively.

Summarizing:

Total financial support by SWI (by amount in MOP)			
Types of support	2002	2003	2004
Regular financial aid to families with minors	46,853,179	49,730,763	104,320,378
Special financial aid to families with minors	1,304,050	3,732,223	5,262,160
Special allowances	-	6,364,000	7,554,100
Regular subventions to children and youth services	44,651,809	48,510,825	50,894,901
Occasional subventions to non-governmental entities	868,690	3,539,988	2,841,066
Meal allowances	12,304,629	9,796,516	6,615,043
Total	105,982,357	121,674,315	177,487,648

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

I.A.2.(e) support for children living below the poverty line;

Regarding general financial aid to families with children, please refer to the previous response.

As stated, the SWI provides special financial aid to children's families, i.e., single-parent families, families with chronically ill and disabled individuals, which are in a state of poverty.

During the past 3 years, 1,380, 1,518 and 2,315 children from 800,

960 and 1,417 single-parent families respectively were beneficiaries of financial aid for learning activities.

There were also 561, 756 and 888 minors respectively from families with members that are chronically ill who received financial aid. During that same period, there were 218, 347 and 362 minors respectively from families with disabled individuals who received financial aid.

The total amounts of those aids were of MOP\$ 1,304,050, MOP\$ 3,732,223 and MOP\$ 5,262,160 respectively.

I.A.2.(f) protection of children who are in need of alternative care including the support of care institutions;

The SWI provides support to children who are in need by granting financial aid to private care institutions running residential service for children and the youth. The total amount of this financial aid was of MOP\$ 12,789,691 in 2002, MOP\$ 13,250,494 in 2003 and MOP\$ 14,686,353 in 2004.

Children with disabilities placed in institutions running residential service									
Age group	2002			2003			2004		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
0-4	1	1	-	2	1	1	1	-	1
5-9	4	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	2
10-14	9	6	3	7	5	2	6	5	1
15-17	9	6	3	8	5	3	11	8	3
Total	23	15	8	21	13	8	22	15	7

Source: MS-AR Social Welfare Institute

I.A.2.(g) programmes and activities for the prevention of and protection from child abuse, child sexual exploitation and child labour;

The SWI organizes several activities directed to the protection of

the rights of the child in a broad perspective, focusing on the prevention of violations of those rights. The following table highlights a few of those activities and the respective budget allocations.

SWI programmes / services			
Types of programmes / services	Amount in MOP		
	2002	2003	2004
The International Children's Day Festival	25,078	73,000	100,948
Programme series on children protection and prevention of abuse	37,575	35,000	192,935
Productions of pamphlets related to the rights of the child	5,000	18,220	20,900

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

There is a division in the MSAR Justice Affairs Department (JAD) solely for the divulgation of law. One of the main concerns of the MSAR Government in this regard is the divulgation of fundamental rights, including those of the child. Every year, several activities are organized in a simple and direct manner in order to make the law easily understood to everyone. The actual expenses of the referred JAD division, specifically on the divulgation of the rights of the child, were of MOP\$ 35,000 in 2002, MOP\$ 40,000 in 2003, and MOP\$ 50,000 in 2004.

I.A.2.(h) programmes and services for children belonging to minority groups and refugees;

There have been very few cases of refugees in the MSAR. In fact, during the last three years, there was only one case involving minors.

It is the responsibility of the SWI to provide social support to refugees, including their children and refugee children. In 2003, the SWI provided social to a family with minors seeking the status of refugees. This family initially had 2 children, and in June 2004, a third child was born. The financial support to this family in 2003 and 2004 was of MOP\$ 8,840 and MOP\$ 56,940 respectively.

I.A.2.(i) programmes and services for abandoned children, including street children;

In the MSAR, there are no street children. Regarding abandoned children, please refer to the previous to I.A.2.(f).

I.A.2.(j) juvenile justice and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders.

The budget regarding the implementation of programmes and activities for juvenile justice and the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders (not including the expenses of administration and daily operation) was of MOP\$ 488,000 in 2002, MOP\$ 492,000 in 2003, and MOP\$ 617,000 in 2004; and the actual expenses were of MOP\$ 221,050 in 2002, MOP\$ 275,628 in 2003, and MOP\$ 362,343 in 2004.

I.A.2. [last sentence] Please also indicate the estimated expenses of the private sector, in particular for health and education.

Health

According to the MSAR Health Department, the estimated expenses of the private health sector were of MOP\$ 65,869,200 in 2002, MOP\$ 81,601,365 in 2003, and MOP\$ 78,390,576 in 2004 (excluding private hospital *Kiang Wu*, for which there is no available data).

Education

According to the results of the MSAR Statistics and Census Department's Education Surveys of 2002/2003 and 2003/2004, the estimated expenses of the private sector for regular education (pre-primary,

primary, secondary and vocational-technical secondary education) are as follows:

— in the academic year 2002/2003, the average revenue and expenditure for private schools were MOP\$ 9.44 million and MOP\$ 8.21 million respectively; and the total government subsidies granted to private schools were of MOP\$ 460 million, corresponding to 45.1% of the total revenue of these schools;

— in the academic year 2003/2004, the average revenue and expenditure for private schools were MOP\$ 9.72 million and MOP\$ 8.50 million respectively; and the total government subsidies granted to private schools were of MOP\$ 490 million, corresponding to 45.3% of the total revenue of these schools.

According to the MSAR Education and Youth Affairs Department (EYAD), the estimated global expenses of the MSAR private sector for education, in the period 2002-2004, were around MOP\$ 1,000,000,000 per year. The MSAR Government subsidised around 60% of those expenses.

I.A.3. With reference to children deprived of a family environment and separated from parents, please provide disaggregated data (by gender, age groups, if possible ethnic groups, urban and rural areas) for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 on the number of children:

I.A.3.(a) separated from their parents;

The following tables illustrate the situation of children deprived of a family environment in the MSAR during the period in reference.

Children with disabilities placed in institutions running residential service									
Age group	2002			2003			2004		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
0-4	9	4	5	10	6	4	7	3	4
5-9	1	1	-	4	3	1	3	3	-
10-14	8	6	2	6	5	1	9	4	5
15-17	2	2	-	3	2	1	9	7	2
Total	20	13	7	23	16	7	28	17	11

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

I.A.3.(b) placed in institutions;

With reference to children deprived of a family environment and separated from parents and placed in institutions, and as stated in the Part related to the MSAR of China’s report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (paragraphs 199 and *seq.*), it should be recalled that, in the MSAR, children at risk or in need, independently of having committed an act qualified as crime, misdemeanour or administrative offence, may be entrusted to an institution. These institutions, child care homes, are “open institutions”.

The following table illustrates the above-mentioned situation.

Children (not in conflict with law) placed in institutions			
Age group	2002	2003	2004
	MF	MF	MF
0-4	25	18	23
5-9	41	59	62
Children (not in conflict with law) placed in institutions			
Age group	2002	2003	2004
	MF	MF	MF
10-14	53	61	75
15-17	50	50	60
Total	169	188	220

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

I.A.3.(c) placed with foster families; and

In the MSAR, children are not placed with foster families.

I.A.3.(d) adopted domestically or through intercountry adoptions.

Adopted children (between 0 and 3 years old)									
Types of adoption	2002			2003			2004		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
Domestic adoptions	3	1	2	3	1	2	1	0	1
Intercountry adoptions	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	3	1	2	3	1	2	2	0	2

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

I.A.4. Please specify the number of children with disabilities, up to the age of 18, disaggregated by gender, age groups and, if possible, ethnic groups, urban and rural areas, covering the years 2002, 2003 and 2004.

The requested data on the number of children with disabilities in the MSAR is not available.

The only available information on the population with physical and/or mental disability was collected in the 2001 Census. Based on the information then provided, the size of the population with disabilities was 5,713, corresponding to 1.3% of the resident population. Among them, 51.1% were male and 48.9% were female. An analysis by age group showed that the disabled accounted for 0.5% of the population aged 14 and below, 1% of those aged 15-64 and 6.7% of those aged 65 and above.

In what relates to children, and according to the 2001 Census, at that time, the number of children with disabilities (and their gender) was as follows.

Children with disabilities			
Age group	2001		
	No.		
	MF	M	F
0-4	67	40	27
5-9	144	104	40
10-14	231	134	97
15-19	220	139	81

Source: Statistics and Census Department, 2001 Census, extract from table No. 54

I.A.4.(a) living with their families;

There is no available data on children with disabilities living with their families, as mentioned in the previous response. The only available data refers to children with disabilities (up to the age of 18 years old) who are living with their families and attending the day rehabilitation activity service with subvention of the SWI.

Disabled children living with their families and attending the day rehabilitation activity service					
2003			2004		
MF	M	F	MF	M	F
296	215	81	323	221	102

Source: MS.AR Social Welfare Institute

I.A.4.(b) living in institutions;

Please refer to the previous response to I.A.3.(b).

I.A.4.(c) placed with foster care;

Please refer to the previous response to I.A.3.(c).

I.A.4.(d) attending regular schools;

Please refer to the following response to I.A.4.(e).

I.A.4.(e) attending special schools;

In the academic years 2001/2002 and 2003/2004, the number of special education students attending regular schools increased from 108 to 202 while the number of special education students attending special education schools decreased from 644 to 522. The total number of special education students within the three school years also decreased from 752 to 724.

Number of special education students												
Age group	2001/2002			2002/2003			2003/2004					
	All Schools			All Schools			Special Education Schools			Regular Schools		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
<5	144	101	43	135	94	41	76	52	24	47	35	12
6-10	198	133	65	196	128	68	129	88	41	75	43	32
11-15	230	133	97	238	140	98	181	113	68	63	40	23
>16	180	119	61	175	118	57	136	92	44	17	10	7
Total	752	486	266	744	480	264	522	345	177	202	128	74

Source: MSAR Education and Youth Affairs Department

N.B. — There is no data on the attendance of special education schools versus regular schools in the academic years 2001/2002 and 2002/2003

I.A.4.(f) not attending schools.

There is no available data.

I.A.5. Please provide disaggregated statistical data (by gender, age groups, if possible ethnic groups, urban and rural areas) covering the years 2002, 2003 and 2004:

I.A.5.(a) rates of infant and child mortality;

Rates of infant mortality (% per thousand of live births)					
2002		2003		2004	
3.5		0.6*		3.4	

Source: MSAR Health Department

N.B. — According to the MSAR Health Department, the surprisingly low infant mortality rate of 0.6% in 2003 was occasional because the live birth population was small

Age group	No. of death of children								
	2002			2003			2004		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
<1	11	6	5	2	1	1	10	6	4
1-4	2	1	1	3	1	2	3	2	1
5-14	5	3	2	3	1	2	3	2	1

Source: MSAR Health Department

I.A.5.(b) rates of immunization;

Rates of immunization (%)			
Types of immunization	2002	2003	2004
B.C.G. immunization — children 12 months of age	97.4	97	96
3 rd dose DTP immunization — children 12 months of age	91.7	90.4	90
3 rd dose polio immunization — children 12 months of age	91.7	90.4	90
1 st dose measles immunization — children 12 months of age	89.1	90	90
2 nd dose measles immunization — children 24 months of age	88.4	90	81

Source: MSAR Health Department

I.A.5.(c) rates of malnutrition;

In the MSAR, malnutrition is not common. In the Service of Paediatrics & Neonatology of the public hospital (*Centro Hospitalar Conde São Januário*), there were no cases of malnutrition in 2002, 2003 and 2004. There is no available data for the private hospital (*Kiang Wu Hospital*).

I.A.5.(d) children infected with and/or affected by HIV/AIDS;

There are no reported cases of children infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS in 2002, 2003 and 2004.

I.A.5.(e) adolescent health, including early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), abortions, mental health and suicide, drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse;

The MSAR Health Department has no available disaggregated

data on adolescent health.

The available data on adolescent early pregnancy and abortions respects to cases reported to the SWI. In 2002, there was no reported case; 6 cases were reported in 2003 and 8 in 2004.

The collected statistical data on death by age group and causes of death for the period in references is based on the groups established by the International Classification of Diseases of the World Health Organization; therefore, it is not possible, at the moment, to disaggregate adolescent mental health and suicide. Nevertheless, and solely in respect to suicide, based on police reports, the estimation is as follows. In 2002, there were 4 cases of attempted suicide, 2 of which fell into the age group of 12 to 14 (both girls) and 2 into the age group of 15 to 17 (1 boy and 1 girl). In 2003, there 17 reported cases, 1 of which fell into the age group of 9 to 11 (1 boy), 6 into the age group of 12 to 14 (all girls) and 10 into the age group of 15 to 17 (2 boys and 8 girls). In 2004, there were 5 cases, 1 of which fell into the age group of 9 to 11 (1 girl), 3 into the age group of 12 to 14 (all girls) and 1 into the group of 15 to 17 (1 girl).

In respect to adolescent drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse, the available data results from specific researches made by the SWI (*“Youth and Drug”* researches). According to the three researches made until now, in the period between 2001 and 2003, among 6,902 young people (which included 3,187 high school students, 3,599 college students and 116 other young people), 283 young people had experimented drugs (approximately 4.1% of those interviewed). The following table summarises the results of those researches.

Youth using drugs, alcohol and tobacco (2001-2003)			
Types of substances	High school students (above 12 years old and below 18 years old)	College students (above 18 years old and below 25 years old)	Other young people (12 years old to 24 years old)
Pills	3.1%	3.5%	11.2% (Ketamine) 7.8% (Ecstasy)
Cannabis		2.8%	8.6%
Heroin	0.8%	1.5%	1.7%
Total percentage of drug abuse	3.4% (108)	4.3% (154)	18.1% (21)
Cigarettes	23%	25.1%	66.6%
Alcohol*	69.1%	84.9%	78%

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

N.B. — * Regarding the high alcohol proportion, most of the young people interviewed declared that they drank beer and/or other alcoholic drinks during leisure activities only

I.A.5.(f) percentage of health professionals working in the health-care services for children.

Health professionals working in the health-care services for children									
	2002			2003			2004		
	NP	ND	%	NP	ND	%	NP	ND	%
MSAR hospitals	34	388	8.8	31	440	7	30	464	6.5
Primary care sector	8	511	1.6	9	546	1.6	13	524	2.5
General Practitioners*	-	351	-	-	382	-	-	381	-

Source: MSAR Health Department

N.B. — (1) NP (number of Paediatricians); ND (total number of doctors); % of the total number of doctors; (2) The General Practitioners (GP) also provide medical services to children in primary care sector

I.A.6 With reference to child abuse, please provide disaggregated data (by age, gender, if possible ethnic groups, and types of violations reported) covering the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 on the:

I.A.6.(a) number of child abuse cases reported;

Cases reported to the Public Hospital										
Types of ill-treatment	Age group	Number of children								
		2002			2003			2004		
		MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
Nutritional neglect	< 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Psychological abuse	< 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5-10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Physical abuse	< 1 year	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	1-4	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-
	5-10	2	2	-	1	1	-	4	2	2
Sexual abuse	< 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1-4	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
	5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		3	3	1	4	2	1	6	3	3

Source: MS-AR Health Department

Cases reported to the SWI										
Types of ill-treatment	Age group	Number of children								
		2002			2003			2004		
		MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
Neglect	0-4	2	-	2	1	1	-	1	1	-
	5-9	1	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	-
	10-14	5	4	1	3	3	-	-	-	-
	15-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cases reported to the SWI										
Types of ill-treatment	Age group	Number of children								
		2002			2003			2004		
		MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
Psychological abuse	0-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10-14	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	15-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Physical abuse	0-4	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
	5-9	3	3	-	2	1	1	1	1	-
	10-14	6	2	4	2	1	1	3	2	1
	15-17	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sexual abuse	0-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	15-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		21	9	12	11	7	4	5	4	1

Source: MS-AR Social Welfare Institute

Child physical abuse cases reported to the Police (family violence)								
2002			2003			2004		
MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
25	11	14	26	13	13	31	13	18

Source: MS.AR Office for Security Coordination

N.B. — There is no disaggregated data by age

Child sexual abuse cases reported to the Police									
Age group	Number of children								
	2002			2003			2004		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
5-10	2	-	2	4	-	4	-	-	-
11-14	5	-	5	11	-	11	5	-	5
15-17	2	-	2	1	-	1	5	-	5
Total	9	0	9	16	0	16	10	0	10

Source: MS.AR Office for Security Coordination

I.A.6.(b) number and percentage of reports which have resulted in either a court decision or other types of follow-up; and

According to the SWI, of the reported child abuse cases it received (see above table), from the 21 cases in 2002, 4 resulted in a court decision and all of them resulted in other types of follow-up; from the 11 cases in 2003, 5 resulted in a court decision and all of them resulted in other types of follow-up; and from the 5 cases in 2004, none of them resulted in a court decision but all of them resulted in other types of follow-up.

I.A.6.(c) number and proportion of victims that have received counselling and assistance in recovery.

All the children to whom the reported cases refer received assistance. In certain cases, if the family of the child cannot provide him/her with proper care, the child will be entrusted to special institutions under the supervision of the SWI. In other cases, a social-worker will be

assigned to follow-up the case for a certain period of time. The SWI also provides assistance and information to the children's families.

I.A.7. With reference to the right to education, please provide disaggregated statistical data (by gender, age groups, urban and rural areas, ethnic minorities and immigrant children) covering the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 in percentage of the relevant age group on the:

I.A.7.(a) rates of literacy, below and over 18 years;

Compulsory education covers all children aged from 5 to 15. According to the 2001 Census, the rate of literacy of the population aged 15-year-old or above was 91.3%. As the next Census will be conducted only in 2006, there is no information of the rate of literacy of 2002, 2003 and 2004.

I.A.7.(b) rate of enrolment in pre-primary schools, primary and in secondary schools;

The rate of enrolment in pre-primary schools increased from 91.2% in the academic year 2001/2002 to 97.3% in the academic year 2003/2004. The rate of enrolment in primary schools decreased from 105.8% to 104.6% while the rate of enrolment in secondary schools increased from 84.5% to 92.7%.

I.A.7.(c) percentage of children completing primary and secondary education;

The rate of school completion of children in pre-primary increased from 93.5% in the academic year 2001/2002 to 94.5% in the academic year 2003/2004. The rate of school completion of primary children increased from 82.7% to 83.1% while the rate of school completion of secondary children increased from 62.5% to 68.5%.

I.A.7.(d) number and percentage of dropouts, repetition and retention;

The repetition rate of children in pre-primary decreased from 1.6% to 1.4% from the academic year 2001/2002 to 2003/2004. The repetition rate of primary children decreased from 7% to 5.7% while the repetition rate of secondary children decreased from 13.5% to 11.1%.

The percentage of dropouts within compulsory education (children between 5 and 15 years old) increased from 0.7% in 2001/2002 to 0.8% in 2003/2004.

I.A.7.(e) number of children in private schools;

In the academic years 2001/2002 and 2003/2004, the number of children attending private schools decreased from 93,691 to 92,858.

Number of students (by type of school)			
School Type	Academic years		
	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004
Government schools	6,299	6,382	5,397
Private schools	93,691	92,801	92,858
Total	99,990	99,183	98,255

Source: MSAR Education and Youth Affairs Department

Number of students (by gender and age)									
Age group	Academic years								
	2001/2002			2002/2003			2003/2004		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
< 5	12,789	6,693	6,096	11,836	6,141	5,695	11,202	5,771	5,431
6-10	30,655	15,856	14,799	29,246	15,167	14,079	27,765	14,483	13,282
11-15	37,316	19,116	18,200	36,803	18,869	17,934	35,957	18,445	17,512
16-20	17,093	8,662	8,431	19,119	9,696	9,423	21,103	10,830	10,273
> 21	2,137	1,223	914	2,179	1,232	947	2,228	1,265	963
Total	99,990	51,550	48,440	99,183	51,105	48,078	98,255	50,794	47,461

Source: MSAR Education and Youth Affairs Department

I.A.7.(f) ratio teacher per children and number of children per class.

The teacher/student ratio in pre-primary improved from 1:28.9 in 2001/2002 to 1:26.0 in 2003/2004. The teacher/student ratio in primary improved from 1:28.2 in 2001/2002 to 1:25.2 in 2003/2004. The teacher/student ratio in secondary improved from 1:23.5 in 2001/2002 to 1:22.9 in 2003/2004.

The average class size of pre-primary schools decreased from 35.0 in 2001/2002 to 32.3 in 2003/2004. The average class size of primary schools decreased from 41.8 in 2001/2002 to 37.3 in 2003/2004 while the average class size of secondary schools decreased from 43.4 in 2001/2002 to 43.0 in 2003/2004.

Summarizing the data requested in points A.7.(b), A.7.(c), A.7.(d), and A.7.(f)

Education Indicators				
Education Indicators	Levels of Education	Academic years		
		2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004
Rate of enrolment	Pre-primary	91.2%	93.0%	97.3%
	Primary	105.8%	104.7%	104.6%
	Secondary	84.5%	88.3%	92.7%
Rate of school completion	Pre-primary	93.5%	94.2%	94.5%
	Primary	82.7%	83.2%	83.1%
	Secondary	62.5%	65.0%	68.5%
Rate of repetition	Pre-primary	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%
	Primary	7.0%	5.9%	5.7%
	Secondary	13.5%	12.5%	11.1%
Drop-outs percentage	Compulsory education	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%
Average class size (No. of children per class)	Pre-primary	35.0	33.2	32.3
	Primary	41.8	39.5	37.3
	Secondary	43.4	43.2	43.0
Ratio teacher per children	Pre-primary	1:28.9	1:27.1	1:26.0
	Primary	1:28.2	1:26.5	1:25.2
	Secondary	1:23.5	1:23.8	1:22.9

Source: MSAR Education and Youth Affairs Department

** Data in terms of gender, age groups, and immigrant children is not available*

I.A.8. Please provide disaggregated statistical data (including by gender, age and type of crime) covering the years 2002, 2003 and 2004, in particular on the number of:

I.A.8.(a) persons below 18, who have allegedly committed a crime, reported to the police;

In respect to children who have allegedly committed a crime, and as stated in the Part related to the MSAR of China's report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (paragraphs 417 and *seq.*), it should be recalled that, in the MSAR, children below 16 years old are not criminally responsible.

Children below 12 years old are subject to the social protection regime, measures of which are under the supervision of the SWI.

The educational regime is applicable to children aged 12 and below 16, the Social Rehabilitation Division (SRD) of the JAD being the competent authority to supervise the measures of this regime.

Nevertheless, the educational regime may also be applicable to minors who have already completed 16 years of age if the act that they have committed qualified as crime, misdemeanour or administrative offence is punishable with a fine or imprisonment up to 2 years.

Even though a police complaint may be lodged in regard to acts carried out by children below 12 years old, as they are not criminally responsible, police data may not coincide with SWI data.

The following table respects solely to cases reported to the police.

Cases reported to the police										
Types of offences	Age group	No.								
		2002			2003			2004		
		MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
Crimes against persons/life (physical integrity/bodily harm)	6-8	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
	9-11	2	1	1	4	3	1	6	5	1
	12-15	67	53	14	63	50	13	81	57	24
	16-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	90	77	13	86	71	15
Crimes against persons/personal freedom (threat)	6-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9-11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	12-15	6	6	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
	16-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	6	-	4	4	-
Crimes against persons/sexual freedom and sexual self determination (rape, sexual coercion, sexual abuse)	6-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9-11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	12-15	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
	16-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	5	-	1	1	-
Crimes against property (larceny, theft, robbery, extortion, destruction of public property)	6-8	4	4	-	4	4	-	4	3	1
	9-11	8	8	-	23	20	3	18	9	9
	12-15	96	85	11	91	81	10	112	92	20
	16-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	125	114	11	122	106	16
Crimes against society/forgery and crimes of common danger/ public order and tranquillity (forgery of documents or currency, organized crime)	6-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9-11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	12-15	9	7	2	2	1	1	1	-	1
	16-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	24	9	15	40	13	27
Crimes against the MSAR/against public authority/justice (disobedience, perjury, false information)	6-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9-11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	12-15	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	16-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	22	4	18	20	4	16
Crime related to drug abuse and trafficking (including aiding and abetting)	6-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	9-11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	12-15	3	2	1	3	1	2	3	2	1
	16-18	N/A	N/A	N/A	13	7	6	22	16	6
Total		198	168	30	478	385	93	520	383	137

Source: MSAR Office for Security Coordination

N.B. — (1) There were no cases regarding children below 6 years old; (2) In 2002, there is no available data for children between 16 and 18 years old

The following table illustrates the cases of children below 12, who have alleged committed an act qualified as crime, misdemeanour or administrative offence, being transferred from the court (Procurator) to the SWI supervision under the social protection regime (as referred, they are not criminally charged and the measures that may be applied to them are not institutional measures).

Cases reported to the SWI										
Types of offences	Age group	No.								
		2002			2003			2004		
		MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
Crimes against persons/life (physical integrity/bodily harm, etc.)	6-8	-	-	-	2	2	-	2	2	-
	9-11	5	4	1	5	4	1	4	4	-
Crimes against property (larceny, theft, robbery, destruction of public property, etc.)	6-8	-	-	-	4	4	-	4	3	1
	9-11	7	7	-	16	14	2	16	12	4
Misdemeanour	6-8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	9-11	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		13	12	1	27	24	3	27	22	5

Source: MSAR Social Welfare Institute

N.B. — There were no cases regarding children below 6 years old

I.A.8.(b) persons below 18 who have been charged with a crime and of them those who are sentenced, and the type of punishment or sanctions related to offences including length of deprivation of liberty;

The following table illustrates the situation of children under the educational regime who committed an act qualified as crime, misdemeanour or administrative offence and who have been sent to the SRD of the JAD for a first evaluation before a judicial decision.

Admitted cases of children between 12 and 16 years old who committed a crime and were sent to the SRD for a first evaluation										
Types of offences	Age group	No.								
		2002			2003			2004		
		MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
Crimes against persons/life (physical integrity/bodily harm)	12-14	38	30	8	60	38	22	81	49	32
	15-17	52	38	14	59	47	12	45	36	9
	18-19	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Crimes against persons/private life (acts against decency)	12-14	1	1	-	4	4	-	1	1	-
	15-17	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	18-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crimes against property (larceny, theft, robbery, extortion destruction of public property)	12-14	39	31	8	40	32	8	33	27	6
	15-17	30	25	5	30	28	2	18	12	6
	18-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crimes against society/forgery and crimes of common danger/public order and tranquillity (forgery of documents, currency, organized crime)	12-14	1	1	-	6	6	-	2	2	-
	15-17	5	4	1	3	3	-	2	2	-
	18-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crime related to drug abuse and trafficking (including aiding and abetting)	12-14	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
	15-17	6	6	-	2	2	-	2	2	-
	18-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Misdemeanour	12-14	6	4	2	6	1	5	7	5	2
	15-17	3	2	1	6	4	2	2	2	-
	18-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		183	144	39	218	166	52	193	138	55

Source: MSAR Justice Affairs Department

N.B. — Those between 18-19 years old are those who committed the crime when they were below 16 years old and are awaiting judicial decision

The following table respects to the global number of children under the educational regime who committed an act qualified as crime, misdemeanour or administrative offence and who have been subject by judicial decision to the educational measure of semi-commitment or commitment in the Minors Institute (the other types of educational measures, such as admonition, imposition of specific conducts or duties, educational monitoring, which may apply, are not included in the table because, although they are considered as a sort of “punishment”, in fact, they are not institutional measures and do not involve deprivation of liberty/confinement in any sense).

The length of institutional measures of semi-commitment and of commitment in the Minors Institute depends on the behaviour and progress of the minors, disregarding the type of crime they committed; therefore, it is not possible to classify the length of those measures according to the types of crime. According to the statistic of the Minors Institute, the average length of institutional measures is of 24 months.

Children between 12 and 16 years old who committed a crime and subject to semi-commitment or commitment from 2002 to 2004		
Types of offences	No. of children	
	Who committed a crime	Subject to semi-commitment or commitment
Crimes against persons/life (physical integrity, bodily harm)	336	15
Crimes against persons/private life (acts against decency)	8	1
Crimes against property (larceny, theft, robbery, extortion destruction of public property)	190	37
Crimes against society/forgery and crimes of common danger/public order and tranquillity (forgery of documents, currency, organized crime, arson)	19	6
Crimes against the MSAR/against public authority justice (disobedience, perjury, false information)	-	29
Crime related to drug abuse and trafficking (including aiding and abetting)	11	3
Misdemeanour	30	1
Total	594	92

Source: MSAR Justice Affairs Department

There is no disaggregated data on persons charged with a crime and sentenced when they were between 17 and 18 years old (at the time of the commission of the crime).

I.A.8.(c) detention facilities for persons below 18 in conflict with law and their capacity;

As referred, child care homes are “open institutions” for children at risk below 12 years old (independently of having committed a criminal offence) and thus they cannot be considered as detention facilities.

The same could be said about the Minors Institute, which, although it is not an “open institution”, is not a detention facility in the proper sense, but an educational establishment for children (as a rule, between 12 and 16 years old) who are in conflict with law. The capacity of the Minors Institute is 127 persons (99 males and 28 females).

I.A.8.(d) persons below 18 detained in these facilities and persons below 18 detained in adult facilities, and

Children in the Minors Institute									
Age groups	2002			2003			2004		
12-14	18	13	5	16	14	2	10	9	1
15-17	31	27	4	45	36	9	53	43	10
Total	49	40	9	61	50	11	63	52	11

Source: MSAR Justice Affairs Department

The MSAR Prison Establishment is an adult custodial facility. Its capacity is 1,050 persons. According to the law, persons aged 16 or above are criminally responsible, and therefore, as a rule (please see the first part of the response to I.A.8.(a)), if convicted of a crime, they will serve

their sentence in the Prison Establishment, which does not have separate areas for prisoners under 18 years old.

Persons aged 16 to 17 detained in adult facilities			
Types of offences	Number of offenders		
	2002	2003	2004
Crimes against persons/life (physical integrity, bodily harm)	3	4	4
Crimes against property (larceny, theft, robbery, extortion destruction of public property)	8	12	6
Crimes against society/forgery and crimes of common danger/public order and tranquillity (forgery of/and or exchange of forged documents, currency, organized crime, arson)	6	5	2
Crime related to drug abuse and trafficking (including aiding and abetting)	7	6	5
Total	24	27	17

Source: MS/AR Office for Security Coordination

I.A.8.(e) persons below 18 kept in pre-trial detention and the average length of their detention;

In respect to persons below 18 kept in pre-trial detention and the average length of their detention, a difference has to be established in terms of the legal regime to which the persons is subject.

According to the law in force, when children under the educational regime commit an act qualified as crime, misdemeanour or administrative offence, the judge may order that they would be kept in an educational establishment for a period of up to 7 days if there is a serious reason to believe that they will carry out acts of a similar nature and if it may be presumed that such acts may imply a decision of semi-commitment or commitment. The alternative and the most common situation is for the judge to decide to apply immediate observation measure on the minors.

In all cases, children are always first observed by psychologists of the Minors Institute. In the observation period, individual and family

situation will be assessed and the respective report will be sent to the court with suggestions upon their conditions and needs for residential services.

Although the referred observation measure cannot be considered as detention or pre-trial detention in the proper sense, as most of the children under observation are not totally free to come and go, it is the closest measure to pre-trial detention. The length of the observation measure is the same for all admitted minors. It does not vary according to the type of crime. According to the statistic of the Minors Institute, the average length of observation for the minors is 3 months.

Children under observation in the Minors Institute from 2002 to 2004									
Types of offences	No.								
	2002			2003			2004		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
Crimes against persons/life (physical integrity, bodily harm)	6	4	2	3	1	2	6	1	5
Crimes against persons/private life (acts against decency)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Crimes against property (larceny, theft, robbery, extortion destruction of public property)	14	14	0	9	9	0	10	7	3
Crimes against society/forgery and crimes of common danger/public order and tranquillity (forgery of documents, currency, organized crime, arson)	4	4	0	4	3	1	2	2	0
Crime related to drug abuse and trafficking (including aiding and abetting)	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Others (e.g. fail to abide court order)	12	9	3	8	6	2	10	5	5
Total	37	32	5	25	19	6	30	17	13

Source: MSAR Justice Affairs Department

In respect to those below 18 years of age that are not any more subject to the educational regime, as stated, in 2002, there were 24 persons kept in pre-trial detention in the Macao Prison Establishment and the average length of their pre-trial detention was of 9.5 months. In 2003, there were 27 persons and the average length of pre-trial detention was of 9.4 months and, in 2004, there were 17 persons and the average length was of 8.9 months.

I.A.8.(f) reported cases of abuse and maltreatment of persons below 18 occurred during their arrest and detention;

There are no reported cases of mistreatment of persons below 18 years old occurred during their “detention” and/or arrest.

I.A.8.(g) percentage of recidivism cases.

It is required by the MSAR law that the type of crime cannot be specified in the criminal records for those below 16 years of age; therefore, statistical data regarding the type of crime is not available.

The following table refers to the recidivism cases of persons below 18 years old in the MSAR.

Recidivism cases of persons below 18 years old												
Age group	2002				2003				2004			
	TC	Recidivism			TC	Recidivism			TC	Recidivism		
		M	F	%		M	F	%		M	F	%
9-11	3	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
12-14	51	2	-	3.9%	54	1	-	1.9%	67	-	-	-
15-17	100	3	-	3%	128	2	2	3.1%	82	1	-	1.2%
Total	154	5	-	3.2%	182	3	2	2.7%	149	1	-	0.67%

Source: MSAR Identification Department

N.B. — (1) TC — total number of cases; (2) In this table, a case is counted in the respective year when it is found that the same child has committed an act qualified as crime before, in the same year or in the previous years

I.A.9. With reference to special protection measures, please provide statistical data (including by gender, age, if possible ethnic group, urban and rural areas) for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 on the number of children:

I.A.9.(a) involved in sexual exploitation, including prostitution, pornography and trafficking and the number of children provided with access to recovery and other assistance;

Cases of girls involved in sexual exploitation (prostitution) reported to the Police			
Age group	No.		
	2002	2003	2004
< 16	2	2	4
16-17	96	81	170
Total	98	83	174

Source: MSAR Office for Security Coordination

I.A.9.(b) involved in substance abuse and the number of children who received treatment and recovery assistance;

Cases of children involved in substance abuse reported to the Police									
Age group	No. of children								
	2002			2003			2004		
	MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF	M	F
0-11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12-14	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-
15-17	5	3	2	3	1	2	1	1	-
Total	5	3	2	4	1	3	2	2	-

Source: MSAR Office for Security Coordination

Within the MSAR Government, treatment and recovery assistance to children involved in substance abuse is provided by the SWI, which has a specific division for that purpose, the Treatment and Rehabilitation Service, and runs two rehabilitation centres. Apart from that, there are eight more private rehabilitation centres which are subsidised by the

Government, through the SWI.

In the MSAR, from 2002 to 2004, there were no reported cases of child drug abusers below 12 years old seeking for help. Regarding children between 12 and 14 years old, there was 1 case in 2002 and another one in 2004. In respect of those between 15 and 19 years old, there were 4 cases in 2002, 8 cases in 2003, and 12 in 2004.

I.A.9.(c) involved in child labour; and

There are no reported cases of child labour.

I.A.9.(d) unaccompanied asylum-seeking, refugee and displaced children.

Please refer to the previous response to I.A.2.(h).

B. General measures of implementation

I.B.1. The Committee would appreciate to receive detailed information on activities meant to implement recommendations contained in the Committee's previous concluding observations (CRC/C/15/Add.56 of 7 June 1996 on mainland China, and CRC/C15/Add.63 of 30 October 1996 with respect to Hong Kong) on the initial reports of China (CRC/C/11/Add.7) and Hong Kong (CRC/C/11/Add.9), which have not yet been fully implemented.

Not applicable to the MSAR.

With regard to mainland China, the Committee would like information related to the implementation of its concluding

observations regarding the establishment of a national human rights institution (para. 26), the strengthening of data collection mechanisms (para. 28), the elimination of rural and urban disparities through budgetary allocations (para. 31), and ensuring Tibetan children are guaranteed full opportunities to develop knowledge about their own language and culture (para. 40). Please explain the obstacles to implementation and how the State party envisages overcoming them.

Not applicable to the MSAR.

With regard to the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong, the Committee would like to inquire whether the State party has changed, or foresees a change in its position with regard to the non-implementation of the Committee's concluding observations on the development of a comprehensive child policy (para. 20), the establishment of an independent monitoring mechanism (para. 20) and the coordination of policies on child abuse (para. 22).

Not applicable to the MSAR.

I.B.2. Please provide information on cases, if any, where the Convention has been directly invoked in domestic courts in mainland China or the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macao, and if so, please provide examples of such cases.

There is no available data.

I.B.3. Please provide updated information on the current

status of implementation of the National Children's Development Programme (2001-2010) for mainland China.

Not applicable to the MSAR.

I.B.4. Please provide updated information on efforts to develop a National Plan of Action or similar child policy in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macao.

In the MSAR, there is no specific plan of action regarding children.

I.B.5. Please explain whether there are any plans to establish a national human rights institution with a specific mandate on children's rights in conformity with the Committee's general comment No. 2 in mainland China or either of the Special Administrative Regions. With regard to the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong, please provide additional information on the specific mandate of the Ombudsman and the Equal Opportunities Commission as related to children and the extent to which children may file a complaint with these bodies.

Regarding the eventual establishment of a regional human rights institution with a specific mandate on children's rights in the MSAR, the MSAR Government has ordered a study to analyse in detail the viability, advantages and disadvantages of establishing such an institution, taking into consideration of existing law, the specificity of the MSAR social reality, and, in particular, its legal compatibility with the MSAR Basic Law.

I.B.6. Please provide updated information on the dissemination of the Convention and the State party report and on efforts made to provide training, awareness on the Convention and on human rights in general, to children, parents, teachers, social workers and other professionals working with and for children in all parts of the State party.

The MSAR Government is committed to the dissemination of fundamental rights, including those of the child. The divulgation is done through all means, in particular, through the media, such as television, radio, websites, newspaper, publication of brochures, organization of specific recreational activities and training.

Between 2002 and June 2005, the divulgation of the rights of the child was done through the publication of articles on newspapers and the electronic media frequently.

Several brochures on the rights of the child were published by the SWI in cooperation with the JAD, such as: *“Introduction to the Convention on the Rights of the Child”*, *“Social Protection System for children in the MSAR”*, *“Laws and Regulations on the Prevention of Child Abuse”*, *“The Guardianship and Custody”* and *“Domestic and Intercountry Adoptions”*.

To further the understanding of newly migrated families towards their fundamental rights, the EYAD also published a pamphlet *“Welcome to Live in Macao — The First Step of Merging into Society”* with the cooperation of other related departments. The brochure also introduces various rights and duties of children and youths. The EYAD also published the *“School Guides and Parents Handbook”* to help parents to know more about the education services in the MSAR, so that they can get the right services.

In terms of activities, the SWI organizes with 30 other government

and non-governmental entities a series of community programmes to promote to the general public the message on the rights of the child for the International Children's Festival. It also provides technical and financial support to other entities to carry out similar activities.

Similarly, with other local entities, the EYAD organizes programs, like "*Life-long Education Week*", "*Home-School Cooperation Promotion Day*", "*MSAR Government Basic Law Week*", "*Interschool Debate Competition*" and "*Youth Civic Education Common Knowledge Competition*". These activities aim at enriching the youth's knowledge of their rights and duties, promoting their understanding of the political system, social affairs, public administration structure and its operation. A brochure on "*The Convention of the Rights of the Child*" was published by the JAD and can be found in Youth Centres and Education Centres operated by the EYAD.

In the area of training, the SWI offers courses to the staff working in children and juvenile institutions and to accredited social workers to increase their awareness of child protection and knowledge on the rights of the child.

The EYAD includes a module of "The Convention on the Rights of the Child" in the professional development course for school heads and administrators to facilitate the respect of the rights provided for in the Convention in school. It helps parents and teachers to create a better growing environment for children.

As to the promotion of the Convention and the human rights as a whole, the relevant departments under the Secretary for Security, namely the Superior Academy of Security Forces, have included this subject into their curricula. At the same time, plans have been made to extend these training courses to the personnel, of different rankings, of the Police and

Macao Prison Establishment.

The Labour Affairs Bureau also works for the training, implementation of the Convention and promotion of general human rights. It organizes courses that include subjects and activities regarding those rights.

I.B.7. Please indicate the issues affecting children that the State party considers to be priorities requiring the most urgent attention with regard to the implementation of the Convention.

The following issues are currently being considered with regard to the implementation of the Convention:

- adoption of the legal framework on international mutual legal assistance in criminal matters;
- reformulation of the legal framework concerning the protection of witnesses;
- extension of the duration of free education from 10 years to 12 years as to include pre-primary education year 1 and year 2, so that children starting from age 3 can receive 12 years of free pre-primary, primary and secondary education; and granting universal subsidised senior secondary education for persons below 18 years of age to have more opportunities to receive formal education;
- improvement of rehabilitation services, in order to promote opportunity for children with disabilities to live with their families in the community by supporting community service and to provide appropriate rehabilitation training according to the needs of the children in cooperation with non-governmental entities, as to raise their independent living capacity.

PART II

Please provide the Committee with copies of the text of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in all official languages or the State party as well as in other languages or dialects, when available. If possible, please submit these texts in electronic form.

The authentic Chinese and English texts of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, accompanied by the respective translation into Portuguese, were published in the *Macao Official Gazette*, Series I, No. 37, of 14 September 1998 (page 1054 and *seq.*). Copy of that publications is annexed hereto. Their electronic form — full text — can be found on the MSAR Government Website (http://www.imprensa.macao.gov.mo/bo/i/98/37/resoluar20_cn.asp).

PART III

Under this section, the State party is to briefly (3 pages maximum) update the information provided in its report with regard to:

— new bills or enacted legislation;

There is no new enacted legislation on matters related to the rights of the child since the submission to the Committee of the Part related to the MSAR of China's report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

— new institutions;

In response to the needs of minors at risk, to help them to rebuild their families, to get back to the main stream and healthy

development, it was decided to establish (under SWI) the following new institutions/services:

- an institute for girls with emotional and behaviour problems;
- a “community service team” — within the existing youth out-reaching services — to reach out those youths at risk who are involuntary to receive institutionalized services;
- to expand the project of “*Kai Chi*” & “*Kai Kin*” “*Early Learning & Developmental Centre*”, targeting at children between 0-6 years old with intellectual development delay, learning difficulties and behavioural problem, which will provide early intervention training service physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy;
- a comprehensive service centre, “*Hong Lok*”, targeting mentally retarded persons of 16 years old or over, and their families (small scale home for mild mental handicapped persons, supported employment service, and family resource service).

— **newly implemented policies;**

In the area of education, the MSAR Government is up-lifting the quality of education by means of reducing the class size, increase the teacher/class ratio and teacher/student ratio. While free education is extended to year 1 of pre-primary education, the class size will be reduced to 25 to 35 children instead of 35 to 45 children. The practice of 25-35 children per class is planned to be fully implemented in non-tertiary education gradually to offer higher quality of education for all children.

In the domain of public education expenditure, the MSAR Government grants financial support to children from poor families to continue their schooling. According to Orders of the Secretary for Social

Affairs and Culture 50/2004 and 51/2004, in 2004, the Government is increasing the amount of stationary subsidies from MOP\$ 600-1,300 to MOP\$ 800-1,500. In 2004/2005, the amount of senior secondary education annual subsidies given to school was increased from MOP\$ 5,200 per student to MOP\$ 9,000 per student. At the same time, the Government is increasing the special education grant given to private schools outside the Free Education School Network. The amount of the annual education grant per student in pre-primary and primary education will be increased from MOP\$ 2,900 to MOP\$ 3,500. The amount of the annual education grant per student in junior secondary education will be increased from MOP\$ 4,300 to MOP\$ 5,200.

Based on the Order of the Chief Executive 229/2005, the amount of annual free education grant per class given to schools of the *Free Education School Network* will be increased from MOP\$ 274,000 to MOP\$ 295,000, while the annual free education grant per junior secondary student will be increased from MOP\$ 9,200 to MOP\$ 9,900.

— newly implemented programmes and projects and their scope.

The EYAD is launching a “*Healthy School Enhancement Scheme*” to cultivate a healthy school culture beginning from pre-primary education. It aims at taking care of the nutrition, psychological health and safety of young children in the forms of: enhancing their strength and conditioning, promoting the eye-protection exercise, increasing the finance support and resources of extra-curricular activities, promoting healthy eating habits and hygiene, extending the free milk scheme to the second year of pre-primary education in 2005/2006, giving support to student counselling

service and launching *Student Counselling Service Promotion Day*, and reinforcing healthy behaviour education to establish good interpersonal relationships in school. It is hoped that the above activities and services can create a safe and healthy school environment for children to learn and develop.