

PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENDER, LABOUR & SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT ON A MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT
URGING GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND TO THE PLIGHT OF KARAMOJONG
CHILDREN ENSLAVED IN STREET BEGGING AND CHILD LABOUR**

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Office of the Clerk to Parliament,
Parliament Building,
Kampala, Uganda

July, 2022

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1 INTRODUCTION

Right honourable Speaker and Honourable members,

This is the Report of the Committee on Gender, Labour and Social Development on a motion for a Resolution of Parliament urging Government to respond to the plight of Karamojong Children enslaved in Street Begging and Child Labour. The motion was passed by the House on 09th November, 2021 and referred to the Committee. The Committee has, in accordance with Rule 199 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, considered the motion and hereby reports.

2 BACKGROUND

On 09th November, 2021, the House passed a motion by for a Resolution of Parliament urging Government to respond to the plight of Karamojong Children enslaved in Street Begging and Child Labour. The motion is hetero attached marked '**Annex A**'. The motion was moved by Hon Nakut Faith Loru, District Woman Representative for Napak District. She prayed that:

- 1) Government strengthens collaboration with local authorities in Karamoja region and urban centres to ensure that there are coordinated efforts in rescuing children following proper procedures
- 2) Government addresses push factors as many of the children are victims of trafficking and other forms of violence.
- 3) Government revises the Street Children Strategy to ensure that it also focuses on supporting child victims of trafficking that end up on the streets or in other exploitative conditions
- 4) Government prosecutes all perpetrators involved in aiding, abetting and procurement of children for purposes of trafficking, forced labour and slavery
- 5) The Ministry of Internal Affairs effectively trains law enforcement officers in implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2009

The phenomenon of street children or persons living on the street is not unique to Uganda. As the world's population increases, so does urbanisation. The World Bank estimates that every year, the world's population increases by about 60 million, and that by about 2050, 7 in 10 people will live in cities and towns, and that most urban growth is taking place in Asia and Africa.¹

¹UNICEF, the State of the of the World's Children, 2012: Children in an Urban World. Available at <https://www.unicef.org/media/84881/file/SOWC-2012-executive-summary.pdf>

According to the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development, the phenomenon of street children surfaced in Uganda in the 1970s and continued to increase in the late 1980s as a result of the insurgency in the Luwero Triangle and civil strife in the Northern and parts of Eastern and Western Uganda.² Starting from 2007/08, the country experienced an influx of Karamojong in the streets of Kampala and other towns, especially in Eastern Uganda.

As the population in Uganda increases, so does the phenomenon of street children. According the Uganda Bureau of Statistics, Uganda's population is approximately 42.9 million³55%. 54% of the population is below 18 years..⁴

The mix of a young population and rapid urbanization presents numerous challenges for Governments the world over. In Uganda, many urban centres are unprepared for the sudden rise in population and the presence of people –both adults and children– living and working on the street. On 25th February, 2019, one of the local television stations, NBS, showed an investigative documentary, *Life for Sale*, which showed Karamojong girls aged 13-18 being sold in a market in Arapai, Soroti district for as little as UGX 50,000 per child. The documentary was a sad reminder of the realities in which multitudes of children and young adults find themselves. At present, there is hardly any town in Uganda that does not have people living on the street.

3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

In considering the motion, the Committee set out to:

1. Establish the extent of trafficking of children in Uganda
2. Establish the reasons that account for the presence of street children in Uganda
3. Assess the adequacy of government interventions to address the challenge of street children in Uganda
4. Examine the adequacy of the legal framework for trafficking in persons in Uganda

²² Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development, Implementation of the Street Children Action Plan, 2019, pg 1.

³ Uganda National Bureau of Statistics, 2021 Statistical Abstract, pg 14.

⁴ Uganda National Household Survey, 2019/20

5. Recommend to Parliament sustainable ways of addressing the phenomenon of street children in Uganda

4 METHODOLOGY

The Committee:

a) held meetings with:

- i. The Ministers for Karamoja Affairs; Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development; and Youth and Children;
- ii. Members of Parliament from Karamoja
- iii. Civil Servants from Karamoja
- iv. The Uganda Parliamentary Forum on Children;
- v. The Uganda Child Rights NGO Network;
- vi. The Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- vii. Kampala Capital City Authority;
- viii. The Uganda Human Rights Commission
- ix. The National Children Authority
- x. The Equal Opportunities Commission;

b) Reviewed documents submitted by stakeholders as well as relevant laws and policies; and

c) Visited the districts of Napak, Amudat, and Moroto and met with political, cultural and religious leaders from all the districts in the Karamoja sub region.

5 FINDINGS, OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 TOR 1: Establish the extent of trafficking of children in Uganda

The Committee found that, generally, there is a dearth of data relating to children in Uganda, including those on the street. This fact is acknowledged by the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development and Human Rights Watch.⁵ While the Uganda National Policy on Street Children contends that there are 10,000 street children in Uganda, this figure is not verifiable as it has no factual basis. According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, between the months of April to August, 2021, 65 trafficked children were intercepted in Kisenyi, Kampala alone, while 35 were intercepted from Nairobi. Kampala

⁵ Ministry of Gender, labour & Social Development, Orphans and other Vulnerable Children Statistical Report, 2017/2018, p 9; Human Rights Watch, Where do you want us to Go? Abuses against Street Children in Uganda, pg 4.

Capital City Authority on their part informed the Committee that there are about 700 children from Karamoja living in Katwe and Kisenyi settlements. According to KCCA, most of these children are from Napak district and are from the sub counties of Lopei, Lokopo, and Lorengecora. The Catholic Diocese of Moroto has also documented the movement of children from Napak district.

A report submitted by Uganda to the United Nations⁶ paints a picture of the number of street children that have been withdrawn over the years.

Table 1: Number of Street Children withdrawn from the streets over the years

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| FY 2015/16 | 3,445 |
| FY 2016/17 | 3,456 |
| FY 2017/18 | 2,223 |
| FY 2018/19 | 796 |
| FY 2019/20 | 1,000 |
| Total Number | 10,920 |

Source: Uganda's Progress Report to the Committee of Experts on the Rights of the Child on the Implementation of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child and the Two Optional Protocols, 2020.

However, while the figures give an indication of the children rescued, they neither reveal the actual number of children on the street nor state their districts of origin or whether these children have been re-trafficked.

The Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development and an NGO, Retrack, carried out a study to establish the number of children working on the streets in the towns of Iganga, Jinja, Kampala, and Mbale.⁷ The study established that the number of street children in those towns stands at 15,000 with at least 4,071 of them in Kampala. The same study found that in all the districts, the largest population of the children on the streets are from the indigenous communities, but in all the towns, Karamojong children are the second highest. Overall, less than 10% of the children who live on the street were girls, while almost 30% of those working on the street were girls. Astonishingly, in Kampala, 96% of the Karamojong children working on the street were girls, while 73% of those working on the street were girls.

While the study was limited to just four towns, it is the most recent and most accurate reflection of the number of children on the street in Uganda.

⁶ Uganda's Progress Report to the Committee of Experts on the Rights of the Child on the Implementation of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child and the Two Protocols, 2020.

⁷ Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development & Retrack, Enumeration of Children on the Streets in Uganda across Four Locations: Iganga, Jinja and Kampala, 2018.

The Committee also established that most of the children from Karamoja hail from Napak district. According to the Women and Equal Opportunities Desk of the Diocese of Moroto and In Need Home, there were 739 children trafficked from Napak district in 2021 alone, out of whom 500 were girls and 239 boys.⁸

Through the meetings held and literature reviewed, there are street children along the towns from Karamoja in Eastern Uganda, as well as towns in other parts of the country, even though the efforts seem to be chiefly devoted to children from Karamoja. A study by Advocates sans Frontier notes that while the majority of street children in Kampala come from Karamoja, the overall composition is representative of all the parts of Uganda, and that boys mostly came from Kabale.⁹

The Committee established that children from Karamoja are trafficked by criminals who take them to several towns in the country, but most of them end up in Kampala, and are housed in the slums of Katwe, Kisenyi and Namuwongo. The children are either lured by traffickers or taken with the consent of their parents and caregivers with promises of better life in urban centres and some are even accompanied by their own parents to the street.

At the various meetings the Committee held in the Karamoja sub-region, it was found that, especially in Napak, most of the Local Council leaders knew children that were sent to the streets by their parents or caregivers, but never reported these cases. In some cases, some of the Local Council leaders had their children on the street and found it acceptable. Given that many of the children on the street get there with the consent of their parents, there is generally low levels of reporting of these cases, and this makes it harder to establish the exact number of children on the street.

The Committee found that street children are also susceptible to trafficking out of the country, and that many were trafficked to Kenya, the Middle East, and South Africa. In 2019 alone, 29 girls were rescued from Nairobi, Kenya and resettled at Kobulin Youth Skills Training Centre.

In the slums to which these children are trafficked, the houses are rented by criminals in return for food and a chance to work. The chance to work is only an illusion because the traffickers send these children to the street to beg and remit a daily target. They are overseen by supervisors to whom they hand all the money collected. Other children are hired to engage in various forms of labour including collecting plastic bottles, sorting grains

⁸ Women and Equal Opportunities Desk –Moroto & In Need Home, Insights on the Karimojong Children Crisis in Napak District, 2021.

⁹ Avocats Sans Frontiers, Baseline Survey Report: Child Trafficking in Soroti, Katakwi and Kampala Districts in Uganda, 2010.

in markets, washing dishes in restaurants and eateries and domestic work while some engage in forced prostitution at the instruction of their traffickers. The Uganda National Household Survey 2019/20 indicates that the incidence of child labour increased from 21% before Covid-19 to 36% during Covid-19.¹⁰ It is puzzling that there are fewer arrests and even fewer prosecutions of traffickers, even when they conduct their activities in the open.

Observations

The Committee notes with grave concern that there is no comprehensive, reliable data on street children in Uganda. Ministries including that of Internal Affairs; gender, Labour & Social Development; Kampala Capital City Authority and Karamoja Affairs each appear to work independent of the other regarding data collection and collation and have no central data base.

The Committee is further concerned at the shockingly high numbers of girls from Karamoja that find themselves on the street in comparison to the other places in the country, which points to a much greater problem.

The Committee observes that the absence of reliable data affects proper planning, resource allocation, programming, and the designing of appropriate interventions difficult, leaving these children in a limbo, practically. The dearth of statistics is made worse partly due to the laborious process of obtaining a birth certificate. The lack of reliable statistics is also an indictment against the government for failure to notice some of its most vulnerable human beings. While these children and adults on the street live in situations where their rights are constantly violated, the fact that they are not captured by official records means the violation of their rights continues unabated. More still, many of these children can be lured into criminality, insurgency, terrorism, and ethnic militia. They can also be a threat to national security, which entails the ability of a nation to advance her interests and objectives to contain instability, control and eliminate bad practices and improve the welfare and quality of every citizen in order to cause cohesion and peace. Street children are vulnerable and can be used as political thugs, foot soldiers or terror elements. This is a serious concern that needs urgent intention, given the history of using children in insurgencies in various countries in Africa.

The agencies responsible for dealing with collecting and collating data relating to children have, from the available evidence, paid little attention

¹⁰ The Uganda National Household Survey, 2019/2020.

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to compiling the information. This makes policy and legal formulation difficult at best and haphazard at worst. Put differently, the government of Uganda is fighting in the dark as regards street children.

Recommendation

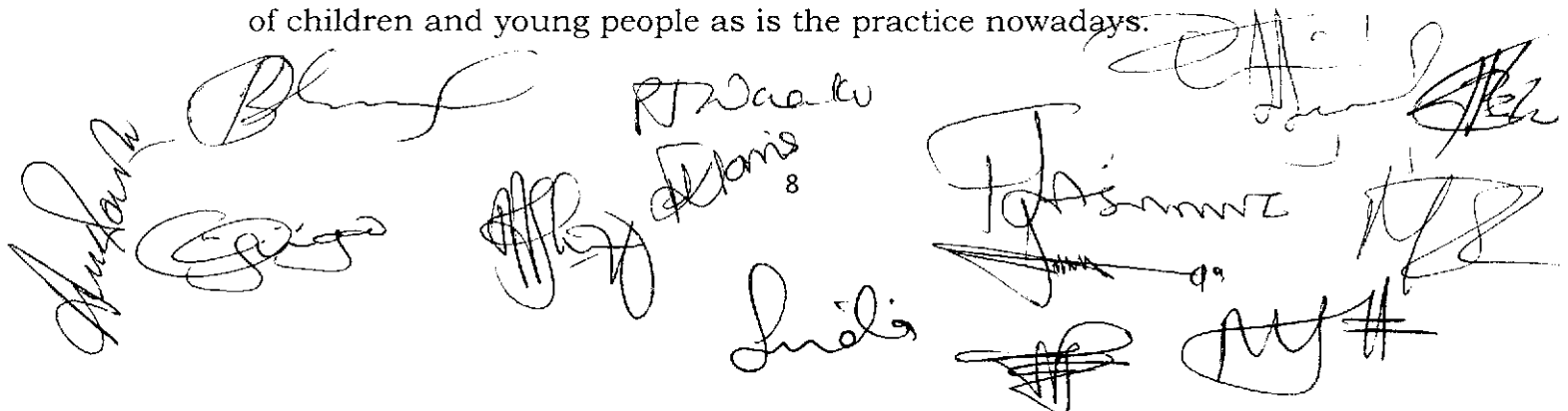
The Committee recommends that:

- a) **The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development and the Uganda National Bureau of Statistics should carry out an audit of all street children in the country periodically starting from within 12 months from the date of adoption of this report;**
- b) **The Ministry of Internal Affairs, through the Police, should investigate, arrest and prosecute child traffickers;**
- c) **The Ministry of Internal Affairs and the National Identification and Registration Authority should put in place measures to ease the process of acquiring birth certificates.**

5.2 TOR 2: Establish the factors responsible for the presence of children on the street

Children find themselves on the street owing to a variety of reasons, some within the communities in which the children live (push factors) and others outside (pull factors) and are often intertwined. These include: limited social services; alcohol/substance abuse, Gender Based Violence; connivance by parents and/or caregivers; hunger/famine; poverty; insecurity; and poor climate. As earlier noted, while the phenomenon of street children is common throughout all the urban centres in Uganda and whereas these children come from all over the country, the vast majority of them come from Karamoja, especially Napak District.

It is worthy of note that the phenomenon of migration from Karamoja is not entirely new. Over the years, Karamojong have moved to other parts of the country in search for opportunities, especially when harvests were poor. Many went to work on big plantations in Kakira, Lugazi and Masindi, and on small family plantations in other parts of the country, particularly those near Karamoja, especially Teso and Lango. These were mostly men and this particular kind of migration was dignified and not forced, and people went back home after regular periods, much different from the mass movement of children and young people as is the practice nowadays.



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5.2.1 Push Factors

5.2.1.1 *Limited Social Services*

The absence of social services, especially education, is a factor in forcing children onto the street. Social services such as health and education are critical for any society. Quality education provides a basis for empowerment and social transformation and is an avenue to *ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all* as stated by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4. In communities such as Karamoja which are difficult to reach, the need for quality education cannot be overemphasised. is even more critical.

While meeting with Members of Parliament from Karamoja, the Committee was informed that the scarcity of schools is a key factor in fueling trafficking in children. Schools provide safe spaces for learners and keep them busy. At the same time, they provide an opportunity to have learners in one place where they can receive messages from government such as those against trafficking. Schools shape perceptions of learners and provide them with hope and aspiration. Learners and their parents can have hope that, through education, their circumstances and fortunes can change for the better. The absence of schools creates a gap that can be exploited by traffickers who present life on the streets as glamorous.

There are not enough schools in Karamoja to provide an avenue for learners to dream of a future better than that of their parents. According to statistics from the Ministry of Education and Sports, there are 288 primary schools in Karamoja, out of which 207 are government owned and 81 privately owned; 27 secondary schools, out of which 19 are government owned and 8 are private. A total of 21 schools operate Universal Secondary Education.¹¹ These statistics are the lowest in Uganda. The limited presence of schools in Karamoja has resulted in particularly unflattering statistics regarding education. According to the Uganda National Household Survey, 2019/20, Karamoja has the lowest Primary School Net Enrollment Ratio (NER) at 42%; second lowest Secondary School Net Enrollment Ratio (NER) at 19%; lowest adult literacy rate at 25%; and highest proportion of people with no formal schooling at 66%.¹²

The absence of secondary schools is critical because learners eligible to be in secondary school are capable of traveling on their own and are thus easy prey for the traffickers. In addition, there are few vocational and technical schools in the districts in Karamoja, and yet these can be of great help in providing practical skills, which would be ideal especially for

¹¹ Ministry of Education and Sports, Education Abstract, 2017.

¹² Uganda National Bureau of Statistics, Uganda National Household Survey, 2019/20.

children that have been resettled from the street and may not be comfortable joining primary or secondary schools. These should be involved in choosing to learn a trade of their choice in vocational schools. It is further worth noting that because the schools are generally fewer, learners have to, in most cases, move long distances to access these schools. This is a disincentive, especially for learners in primary school.

It is also worth noting that although there is universal primary education in Uganda, it is not entirely free, and there is need for parents and caregivers to provide some funds for school requirements. The Committee was informed by district leaders from Karamoja that the failure to provide school requirements is one of the reasons responsible for low enrollment and school dropouts and that some of the children that do not attend school are sent onto the street by their parents. The district leaders further informed the Committee that the absence of meals at school also discourages many learners and their parents from enrolling and attending school. On the other hand, when there is food donated to schools from the development partners, especially at the start of the term, school attendance is high. Oftentimes, parents and caregivers also show up at meal time.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that government, through the Ministry of Education and Sports:

- a) should construct more primary and secondary schools and technical vocational schools in Karamoja in line with the government policy of having a primary school in every parish and a secondary school in every sub-county, and subsidise them in order to attract more learners;**
- b) ensure compulsory, free boarding education for all schools in Karamoja, at least up to senior four;**
- c) provide meals for all learners in all schools in Karamoja;**
- d) construct more vocational and technical schools in Karamoja.**

5.2.1.2 Insecurity

Insecurity is one of the factors that account for the trafficking of a number of children generally and Karamojong children in particular on the streets of major towns in Uganda. The origin of insecurity in Karamoja has been

attributed to the overthrow of Idi Amin in 1979 when the army was forced to abandon the barracks in Moroto, which was raided and ammunition seized by the local population.¹³

In subsequent years, the Government has undertaken efforts to address the proliferation of arms in Karamoja, but these have had modest success, partly because they did not provide alternative livelihoods. The insecurity is created as a result of raids from within Karamoja, and outside, especially from the Pokot of Kenya. Constant raids lead to loss of animals, make life precarious and lead to loss of lives. As a result, many children end up being orphans. These become easy prey for traffickers, or are encouraged by their parents to go to the street. Insecurity also makes it difficult for people to settle and undertake meaningful economic activities, or anything that makes life worthwhile.

At. While there have been bilateral efforts to end the cross-border tensions, including the signing, in 2019, of the Sustainable Peace and Development Agreement among the Turkana and Pokot communities in Kenya and Uganda respectively, cross-border conflicts have not stopped. Insecurity compounds all the other factors and makes people, especially children, susceptible to all forms of exploitation, not least trafficking. Where insecurity prevails, many people feel lucky that their children can leave and go to other places. Many of these children end up on the street.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that government should scale up efforts to address insecurity and prioritise Karamoja in the medium and long term planning and expenditure framework.

5.2.1.3 Famine/Hunger

Numerous children find themselves on the streets because of hunger and/or famine.

The climate in most parts of Karamoja is not suitable for agriculture. Most of Karamoja receives little and intermittent rainfall, and the flat nature of the land in most areas makes it susceptible to flooding, making it harder to practice meaningful agriculture even for those that may wish to. Cattle rearing is therefore practiced as the dominant economic activity in most of the areas and cattle to provide both food and milk.

However, climate change and insecurity have made the existing situation worse, with changing weather patterns making cattle rearing harder and,

¹³ Ian Legget, Uganda: An Oxfam profile, 2001, Fountain Publishers, Kampala, 2001, p. 45. td/
Fountain House.

thus compounding the hunger problem. Moreover, due to the high rates of unemployment, there is barely any income for most families to purchase the food they require. Insecurity is also a disincentive for the few that may wish to till the land. Pushed to the brink, children in such situations are left vulnerable to traffickers, and many women see the option of having children on the streets of any town in Uganda as a meaningful one because it provides a chance for family survival through remittances from street begging. During meetings with local council leaders in Napak, remittances from children in towns was frequently cited as a common and acceptable occurrence. The seriousness of the hunger problem is manifested through the acute malnutrition suffered by especially children whose parents can barely afford to feed them leading to numerous deaths.¹⁴

It ought to be noted that the problem of hunger and/or famine is not new in Karamoja. The region has been receiving food aid since the 1960s, but never before has the kind of mass migration of young children that is being witnessed today occurred.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that:

- a) the Ministry of Karamoja Affairs, should prioritise Karamoja in all development projects and encourage participation of the local population;**
- b) the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries should implement projects in Karamoja that employ technologies such as irrigation schemes to increase food production;**
- c) the Office of the Prime Minister should urgently put in place measures to provide regular and adequate supply of food relief for Karamoja.**

5.2.1.4 Poverty, Alcoholism/Drug Abuse, and Gender Based Violence

Poverty is a contributing factor to the wave of migration of children from Karamoja. According to the Uganda National Household Survey 2019/20, the prevalence of poverty in Karamoja is at 65.7%, second only to Acholi whose prevalence stands at 67.7%. The prevalence is up from 60% in

¹⁴ <https://www.aljazeera.com/gallery/2022/6/15/photos-hunger-killing-children-in-forgotten-corner-of-uganda>

2016/17, which was the highest at the time. The high figures are partly due to unemployment and low levels of education in the region.

The way of life of a sizeable number of people in Karamoja has been disrupted as a result of big investors taking large chunks of land resulting in reduced land for pastoralism and settlement. Moreover, few local people are gainfully employed in these establishments and as a result these have not helped much in providing employment. While the region is rich with mineral resources, the benefits therefrom to the local population are minimal. The factories where these resources are processed are located far away from Karamoja, further reducing the chances for employment even for menial jobs.

A study carried out by the IRACT Project notes that many people in Karamoja found child trafficking as an acceptable strategy for economic survival, and that the dire situation in Karamoja forces many children into re-trafficking ie being trafficked after being resettled because the circumstances that forced them into trafficking are still prevalent.¹⁵ When people find themselves in dire straits, there is little limitation to what they can do in an attempt to improve their circumstances. Sadly, in many situations it is the most vulnerable in society, in this case children, that suffer more than the rest.

Drug addiction, especially alcoholism, has also been partly responsible for the breakdown of families forcing many children, especially girls, to leave in droves and end up on streets of urban centres. The alcohol addiction is partly due to unemployment and the frustration therefrom. Drug dependence in Karamoja is incredibly high. According to the Uganda National Household Survey, 2019/20, national average alcohol consumption in Uganda is 12%, while that of Karamoja is an astonishing 48%.¹⁶ The type of alcohol sold and consumed in much of Karamoja is, to make matters worse, not the traditional *ekwete* or *ebutia* –a mixture of sorghum and other cereals –whose alcohol content is low and has been brewed in the region for many years without adverse effects; rather, it is the local spirit *waragi* whose alcohol content is in the region of 40%.

The situation is not helped by the fact that the spirits are sold in small sachets of UGX 500, making them much more accessible and in the end eating away much of whatever monetary possession families have. The alcohol addiction has aggravated the already dire economic situation for many families and reports of families selling their cattle to purchase

¹⁵ IRACT Project: Child Trafficking in Kampala, Iganga and Moroto Districts IRACT Project Final Evaluation Report, 2016, pg viii

¹⁶ Uganda Bureau of Statistics, the Uganda National Household Survey, 2019/20, pg 58.

alcohol are not uncommon. Alcohol addiction also puts a huge dent on the health of the people in the long run.

The pressures on families in the form of unemployment and alcohol addiction have resulted into gross gender based violence and domestic violence. It is little wonder that the Karamoja sub region tops the country in terms of incidents of gender based violence according to the Annual Crime Report, 2020. The effects of the heightened incidents of GBV are not only restricted to family breakups or adverse effects to the health of individuals, but also affect the quality of life of children in homes. Children from families that have broken up have little parental guidance as a result of gender based violence, and will need little persuasion from those promising them any semblance of a meaningful life, including traffickers.

The scarcity of opportunities for livelihoods as a result of the effects on closure of the economy during the Covid-19 imposed lockdown has increased the pressure on parents to provide for their families resulting into altercations and domestic violence.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that:

- a) the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development should:**
 - i. prioritise Karamoja regarding all efforts to combat gender based violence including the construction of gender based violence shelters;**
 - ii. implement affirmative action with regard to all poverty alleviation programmes in Karamoja;**
 - iii. create awareness and sensitisation about the dangers of alcoholism and involve the local communities in all the activities carried out.**
- b) the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development should increase the availability of micro finance for income generating activities for all districts in Karamoja.**

5.2.1.4 Connivance by Parents and/or Caregivers and Peer Pressure

The Committee found that parents and caregivers were heavily involved in the trafficking of children from Karamoja to different towns in the country. The Committee interacted with some of the youth at Kobulin Youth Skills Training Centre who had been rescued from various towns. A number of them said they were given transport fare to travel to Kampala by their

parents or caregivers. Many of the Local Council Executive leaders from Napak told the Committee that they knew parents who had encouraged or facilitated their children to move to towns.

NGO leaders working in the area also informed the Committee that numerous children are encouraged by their parents and even facilitated to travel out of their homes. Other parents are given money by traffickers in exchange for sending their children, especially girls, to Kampala or other towns. Some of the girls are encouraged to move to towns in order to send remittances to their parents. Sadly, these cases are not investigated and the culprits not punished.

Peer pressure was frequently cited as a factor in forcing numerous children, especially girls, from leaving Karamoja for the towns. The Committee was informed by lower local government leaders in Napak that girls that move to towns send remittances back home and return with presents back to their parents during Christmas holidays. As a result, some parents encourage their children to move to towns and remit money and bring presents for their parents on return. The girls, too, on seeing that their peers have some money on them, wish to go to the towns as well.

Sometimes the peer pressure is on the parents. When people see their neighbours seemingly well off because of the exploits of their children begging on the street, they feel compelled to send their children to towns.

The Committee was concerned that during interactions with the Local Council 1 executive members from Napak, men seemed unconcerned about child trafficking, indicating that it was the women responsible for all matters relating to children. At the meetings the Committee held in Napak, it was revealed that the women take care of the home including meeting all needs and engage in business, while the men look after the animals, and take little interest in the affairs of children.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that:

- a) the Ministry of Internal Affairs, through the Uganda Police, should investigate all cases of traffickers and prosecute all parents and/or caregivers that connive to traffic children;**
- b) the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development should create awareness among local governments about their responsibilities regarding the welfare of children.**

5.2.2 Pull Factors

5.2.2.1 Porous Borders and Traffickers

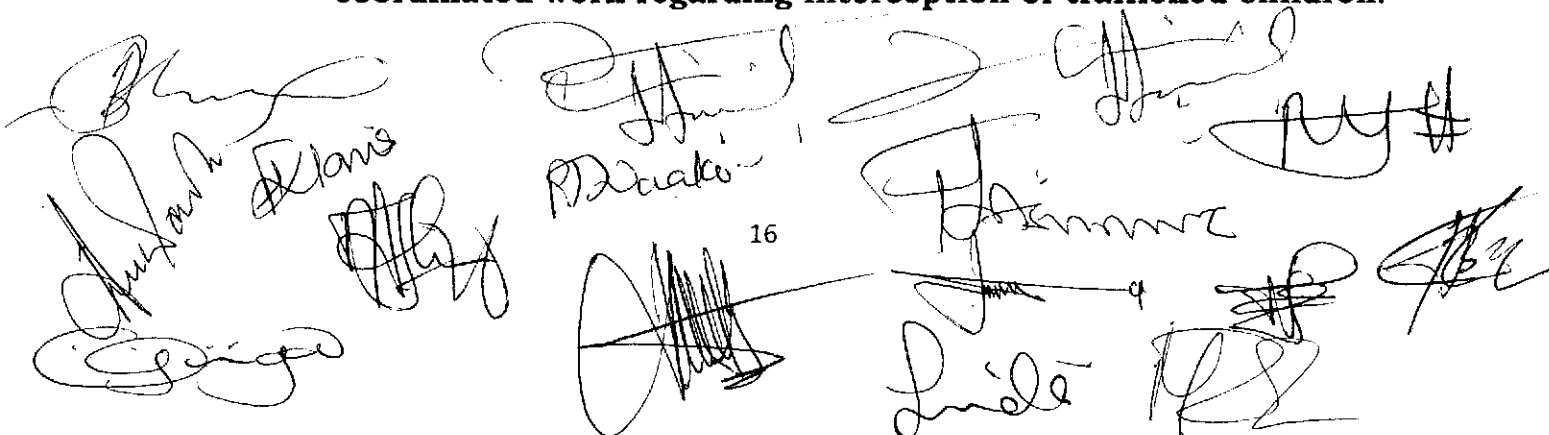
Through interaction with various stakeholders, the porous borders of Napak district were frequently cited as a factor responsible for the presence of children on the street. The Committee was informed by officials from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the district leadership of Napak that numerous children have been intercepted while crossing the border, but there are many that are not intercepted. According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, patrolling the long and porous borders of Napak is made more difficult by the limitations in terms of financial and human resources, and the borders are taken advantage of by children that wish to move away from home, as well as traffickers.

Traffickers play a key role in moving children from their homes to towns in order to exploit them. While meeting with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the Committee was informed that traffickers have networks linked to the communities where the children come from, and that they send transport fares to enable the children travel. In some instances the traffickers work with parents and caregivers of children to coordinate the movement of the children from their homes to various towns. It is the same traffickers that rent houses for these children and then send them out to the street, into prostitution, forced labour, and criminality.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that:

- a) the Ministry of Internal Affairs through the police, should increase deployment in Karamoja, and investigate, arrest and prosecute all persons involved in trafficking children;**
- b) Parliament should increase the budget for the Ministry of Internal Affairs to cater for recruitment of more personnel to effectively patrol borders of districts with high incidents of child trafficking;**
- c) the Ministry of Internal Affairs should have closer working with districts with high incidences of child trafficking to ensure coordinated work regarding interception of trafficked children.**



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5.3 TOR 3: Interventions to address the phenomenon of street children

Government has made a number of interventions to address the phenomenon of street children. These have been through both policy documents as well as the establishment of institutions.

5.3.1 The Orphans and Vulnerable Children Policy, 2004 and Alternative Care Framework

Government developed the Orphans and Vulnerable Children Policy, 2004. The policy emphasised the causes of children on the street and prioritised care and support, child protection, health, food security and nutrition, psychosocial support, socio-economic security, conflict resolution and peace building. The Alternative Care Framework was put in place to supplement the Policy and focuses on strengthening families and communities in order to address the reasons that force children to live on streets.

5.3.2 Withdrawal and Prevention of Street Children Strategy, 2008

In 2008, government introduced a strategy of withdrawal and prevention of street children. This was meant to provide strategic direction to the interventions of government and non-state actors to address the plight of street children. The strategy was intended to withdraw street children and their families from the street, reintegrate and or/resettle them in their areas of origin, empower families with livelihood skills for self-sustenance, and strengthen child protection mechanisms.

5.3.3 Street Children Action Plan, 2018

In 2018, Cabinet approved the MGLSD Street Children Action Plan pursuant to which Parliament approved a supplementary budget of UGX 3.4bn (FY 2018/19). This was meant for interventions for the withdrawal, rehabilitation and resettlement of 1,500 street children. However, only UGX 1bn was released as a result of which 585 street children were removed from the street and taken to the Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre in Kampiringisa for screening. Children from Karamoja were then transported to Kobulin Youth Skills Training Centre for rehabilitation, skilling and resettlement. Children from other parts of the country were rehabilitated and then resettled in their communities.

Below is a table showing the number of children received annually at Kampiringisa National Rehabilitation Centre.

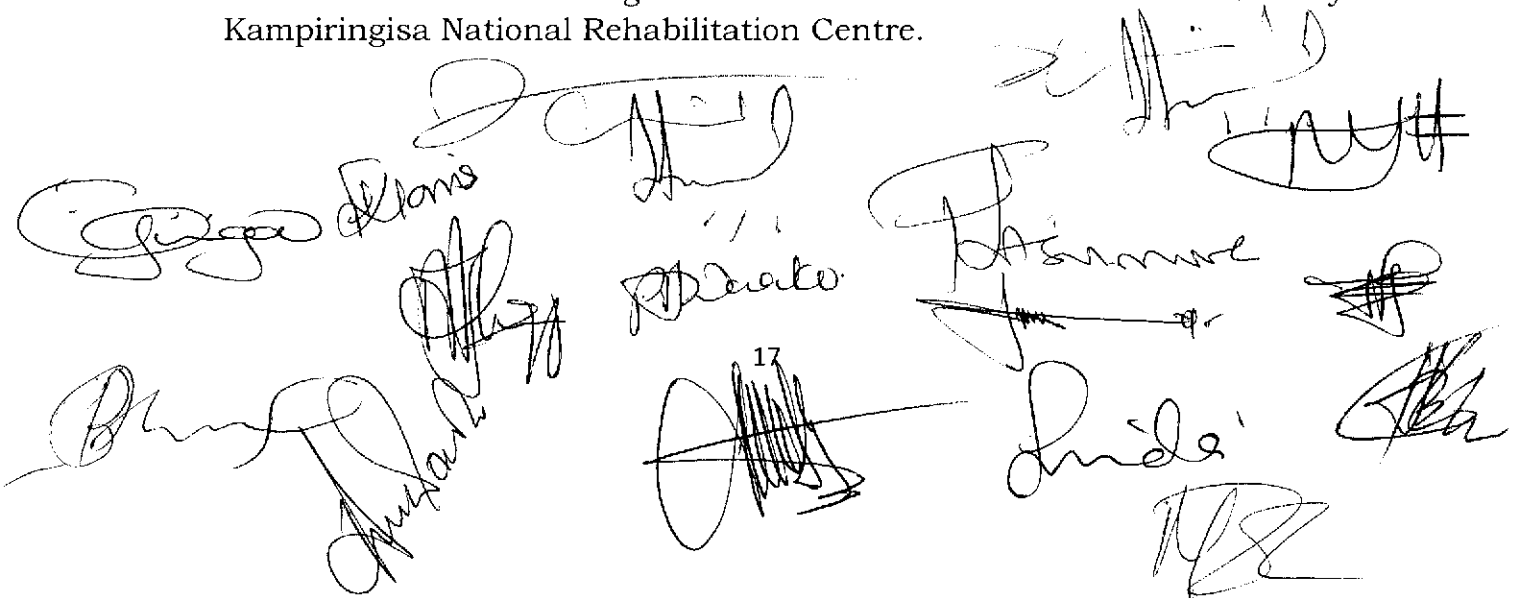


Table 2: Street children received annually at Kyampiringisa National Rehabilitation Centre

| Year | Male Children | Female Children | Male Adults | Female Adults | Total |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 2007 | 547 | 637 | 0 | 389 | 1,472 |
| 2008 | 838 | 756 | 7 | 280 | 1,881 |
| 2009 | 684 | 1,006 | 29 | 280 | 1,881 |
| 2010 | 220 | 365 | 0 | 207 | 792 |
| 2011 | 387 | 502 | 0 | 84 | 973 |
| 2012 | 305 | 183 | 0 | 0 | 488 |
| 2013 | 118 | 102 | 0 | 0 | 220 |
| Total | 3,099 | 3,553 | 36 | 1,437 | 7,927 |

Source: Uganda's Progress Report to the Committee of Experts on the Rights of the Child on the Implementation of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child and the Two Optional Protocols, 2020.

5.3.4 Setting up of Kobulin Youth Skills Training Centre

The Skills Training Centre is located in Napak district, and was opened in 2015. It provides non-formal skills to out of school youth and also provides a temporary transit facility for migrant children returning from the streets in Kampala and other places. The training offered is in the skills of building, tailoring, baking, and saloon and beautification, among others.

The Committee visited the Training Centre and noted a number of shortcomings, including:

- i. lack of a fence: The absence of a fence is critical given that many of the children there are returned from various places, and the temptation to return to where they came from is high. The absence of a fence also poses a security risk to the inhabitants.
- ii. Inadequate and Inappropriate Structures: There are insufficient structures to decently accommodate all the inhabitants, and a number of the structures are made of iron-sheets
- iii. Inadequate sanitation facilities
- iv. Lack of electricity
- v. While the institution does provide training to various youth in various areas, the youth stay at the centre for a short time. The youth and the principal of the Centre noted that this time was too short for the learners to perfect the skills being taught. The Committee was also informed that the training is hampered by the lack of start-up toolkits for the graduates, making it difficult for them to practice the skills and live sustainably. In a number of cases, many of the youth return to the streets out of frustration or get re-trafficked. Dwelling Places, one of the NGOs working with children in Napak, provides start-up toolkits for graduates and pays rent for one month for each of them. While this is welcome, it is

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inadequate and unsustainable as it depends on the availability of funds from development partners.

- vi. The absence of formal schooling. The Committee noted that while the skills training is commendable, the absence of regular schooling impedes those that may wish to continue with formal schooling. Some of the resettled youth were once in school and may prefer to return to formal education but the centre does not have that option. This is a disincentive. Moreover, some of the youth accommodated at the centre are teenage mothers, but there is no Early Child Development Centre or accommodation for the mothers. As such, mothers share the same spaces with their children as everyone else.
- vii. Inadequate Budget: The budget of the Centre is UGX 40m per year. This budget is inadequate to cater for all the requirements of the centre. Because of the inadequacy of the budget, the centre receives assistance from some development partners. However, even the help from some of these partners is either limited or inadequate.
- viii. The Centre does not have facilities for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and cannot therefore provide inclusive education.
- ix. The centre has no dispensary

Other policies that have been put in place by government with a bearing on children include: the National Child Policy, 2020 which aims to address four priority areas hinged on four cardinal rights of the child ie survival, development, protection, and participation; the National Adolescent Health Policy for Uganda, 2004; the Uganda National Culture Policy, 2019; the National Policy on Disability, 2006; the National Integrated Early Childhood Policy, 2016; and the National Parenting Guidelines whose goal is to empower parents, the family and community structures to effectively nurture children so that they can effectively realise their full potential.

5.3.5 Inter-Ministerial Taskforce on Street Children

In October 2019, Cabinet established an Inter-Ministerial Taskforce on Street Children. The taskforce is made up of the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development; Office of the Prime Minister/Ministry for Karamoja Affairs; Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs; and Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. Cabinet also directed MGLSD to support local governments to implement the National Parenting Guidelines, enactment of bye-laws and mainstreaming of vulnerable families in government programmes as a means of preventing children from going to the street.

5.3.6 Coordination Office for Trafficking in Persons, the National Taskforce against Trafficking in Persons, and the National Children Authority

In 2013, government established the Coordination Office for Trafficking in Persons under the Ministry of Internal Affairs with a National Taskforce against Trafficking in Persons. In 2016, the Children Act was amended to create the National Children Authority whose mandate includes, among others, advising government on the formulation of children policies. However, this has never been fully operationalised and its structures have not been established, which impairs its ability to execute the mandate for which it was established.

5.3.7 The National Child Policy, 2020

In 2020, government passed the National Child Policy. The objectives of the policy include to, among others: prevent, respond to, and protect children from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation; and strengthen systems for planning, programming and delivery of quality child care and protection services. The policy replaces the old policies about children and is structured around survival, development, protection, and protection. The policy reflects emerging challenges such as online sexual abuse. The policy also reflects the third National Development Plan (NDP III) as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Observations

The interventions by government are welcome and should go a long way in ensuring the rights of children, including preventing them from finding their way onto the street. However, the phenomenon has instead increased necessitating government to invest in addressing the root causes as is highlighted in the Children Policy.

The Committee observes that while the various interventions are well intentioned, they have not fetched the desired result and have placed no significant dent in the problem of street children because they have either not been implemented or have been poorly implemented.

The poor implementation has been in majorly three ways. First, there has been little involvement of the grassroots communities and local authorities from which these children come. Secondly, the interventions have been largely concentrated in Kampala and paid little attention to other towns in Uganda, and yet street children are found not only in Kampala. Thirdly, government has not devoted the requisite resources to address the root causes of the problem. For example, only UGX 1bn out of the UGX 3.4bn that was appropriated by Parliament was received by the MGLSD. Even

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then, this amount was meant to be a one-off, and not part of a planned monetary intervention to aid the strategies in place. This ad hoc planning, especially as regards financial resources, has been a critical setback.

Even where these strategies have been implemented, some of the approaches employed have been questionable and have produced unwanted consequences. The withdrawal of children from the streets, for example, is constantly brutally carried out and many of the children taken to Kampiringisa end up back onto the streets in Kampala. Moreover, Kampiringisa Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre where the children are taken was never meant to host children and adults gotten from the street; rather it was meant to rehabilitate juveniles in conflict with the law. That is not to mention the sorry state of the facility, the fact that it houses far more inhabitants than it was meant to, leading to overcrowding. The very act of taking street children to Kampiringisa is an indication that Government had not planned well for street children because other than Kobulin Youth Skills Training Centre, there is no specific institution meant to rehabilitate street children.

The Committee further observes that the strategies to get children off the street have not paid much attention to male parents and/or caregivers. From the meetings the Committee held in Karamoja, most men were unconcerned about trafficking and shifted the blame to women, but there was no indication that government efforts there were including men in finding solutions to trafficking in children.

The Committee commends the special attention given to Karamoja regarding the Special Assistance Grant for Empowerment (SAGE) which provides direct cash to elderly persons aged 80 years and above. While for the rest of the districts the age of eligibility 80 years, in Karamoja it is 60 years. However, the programme is impaired by other challenges generally including inadequate funding and high cost of living.

Lastly, while several policies are elaborate about the need to include persons with disabilities (PWDs), there is nothing in the various strategies employed by the relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies to demonstrate that this is the case in practice.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that:

- a) The Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development should:**
 - i. establish regional reception centres for children that require protection and security in a phased manner starting with financial year 2023/24;**

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- ii. Increase the operational budget for and renovate, retool and expand Kobulin Youth Skills Training Centre and Kampiringisa Rehabilitation Centre;
 - iii. Prioritise Kobulin Youth Skills Training Centre in the implementation of all projects by the Ministry including the Green Jobs and Fair Labour Market Programme and provide the youth with toolkits to enable them establish enterprises after leaving the Centre;
 - iv. Construct industrial cottages in the Karamoja sub region to enable the youth get work spaces after rehabilitation;
 - v. expedite the completion of the Gender Based Rehabilitation Centre in Moroto
- b) the Ministry of Local Government should increase the budget allocation for probation and social welfare officers to enable them reach all families with vulnerable children;
- c) Parliament should allocate funds to the Ministry of Internal to facilitate the Child and Family Protection Unit of the Uganda Police to make it more effective; and the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development to fully implement all the strategies to end child trafficking and the phenomenon of street children;
- d) All Ministries, Departments and Agencies dealing with street children should:
- i. involve local communities and involve male parents/caregivers in developing and implementing strategies to combat child trafficking and address the challenge of street children;
 - ii. adopt a rights-based approach to dealing with street children;
 - iii. develop and implement strategies that include dealing with street children with disabilities;

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iv. review the withdrawal and Prevention of Street Children Strategy of 2008.

- e) The Ministries under the Inter-Ministerial Taskforce on Street Children should strengthen collaboration with local authorities in Karamoja and urban centres to ensure that there are coordinated efforts in rescuing children following proper procedures.**

5.4 TOR 4: Review the legal framework for trafficking in persons in Uganda

Uganda has a fairly stringent legal framework relevant to the prevention of trafficking in persons internally, and is a signatory to various international legal instruments.

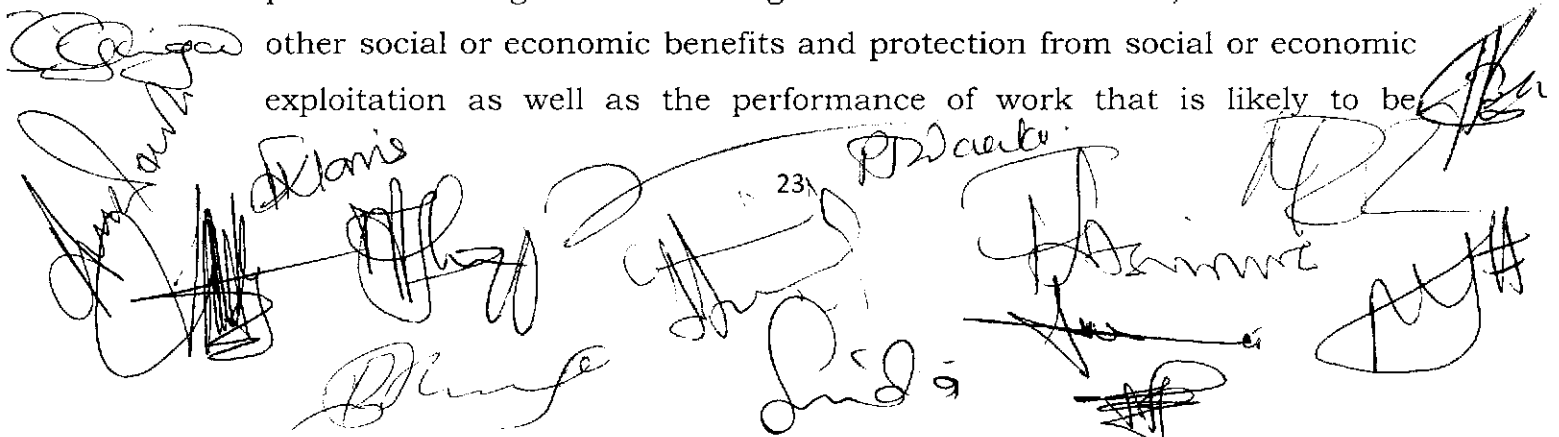
Every child has basic fundamental human rights and it is on this basis that legislation has been made to clearly spell out these rights and ensure that the various key players do enforce and implement the various pieces of legislation in that regard. These rights include: life; survival and development; protection from violence, abuse or neglect; a right to be raised by, or have a relationship with their parents and explain their opinions and be listened to, among others.

5.4.1 Domestic Legislation

5.4.1.1 *The Constitution of Uganda, 1995*

National objectives XIV, XV¹¹¹ and XIX of the Constitution enjoin the state to ensure the basics of life such as education and healthcare and emphasise the need for development efforts to be directed at ensuring the maximum social and cultural well-being of the people.

The Constitution, under Article 257, defines a child as a person under the age of 18 years, who is entitled, under Articles 31 and 34, to be cared for by his or her parents or those entitled by law to bring them up. The provisions also grant children rights to medical treatment, education and other social or economic benefits and protection from social or economic exploitation as well as the performance of work that is likely to be



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hazardous or to interfere with their education or to harm their health, physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.

The Constitution further creates an obligation under Article 34 (7) for the accordance of special protection to orphans and vulnerable children. These rights granted by the Constitution are inherent and not granted by the state. Under Article 20(1), the rights should be respected, upheld and promoted by all organs and agencies of Government and by all persons.

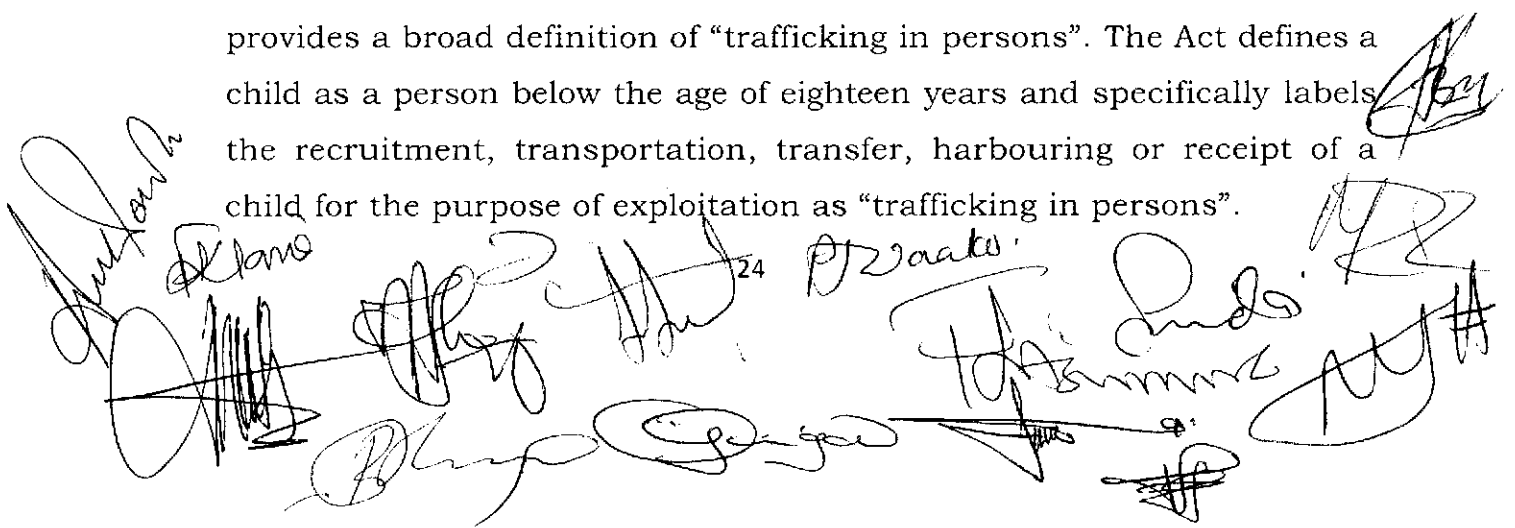
5.4.1.2 The Children Act, Cap. 59

The Act priorities the welfare of the child. Section 3 effectively gives paramount consideration to the welfare of the child whenever the state, a court, tribunal, local authority or any person determines any question in respect to the upbringing of a child, the administration of a child's property or the application of any income arising from that administration. Any delay in determining a matter relating to a child is deemed prejudicial to the child's welfare.

The Act obliges a parent, guardian or any person having custody of a child to maintain that child and, in particular, that duty gives a child the right to education and guidance, immunization, adequate diet, clothing, shelter, medical attention and protection of the child from discrimination, violence, abuse and neglect. The Act also bars the employment or engagement of a child in any activity that may be harmful to his or her health, education or mental, physical or moral development as well as the engagement of a child in any work or trade that exposes the child to activities of a sexual nature whether paid for or not.

5.4.1.3 Prevention of Trafficking In Persons Act, 2009

The Act prohibits the trafficking of persons including children and provides a broad definition of "trafficking in persons". The Act defines a child as a person below the age of eighteen years and specifically labels the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation as "trafficking in persons".



The Act provides for offences of aggravated trafficking in persons to include instances where the trafficked person is a child, as well as where a person uses a child in the commission of a crime, abandons a child outside the country, uses a child or any body part of a child in witchcraft, rituals and related practices. Such person is, on conviction, liable to suffer death.

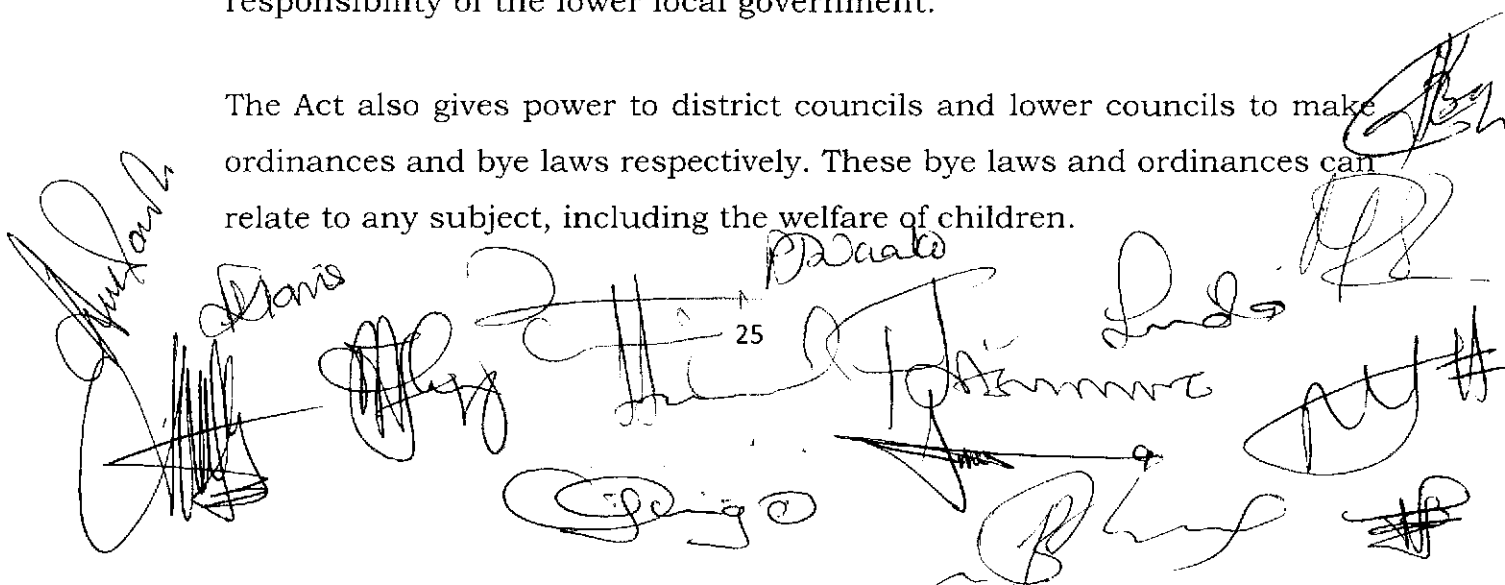
5.4.1.4 *The Employment Act, 2006*

The Employment Act prohibits the employment of children in any business or work place except for light work and where the work does not affect the child's education. The Act further prohibits the employment of children in hazardous employment which is injurious to their health. The Employment Regulations specifically require that employment of a child should be under supervision of an adult.

5.4.1.5 *The Local Governments Act, Cap. 243*

The Local Governments Act, under Section 16(4), mandates the Chairperson of the District Executive Committee to assign one of the secretaries to be responsible for health and children welfare. Chairpersons of lower local governments are also obliged to do the same under Section 24 (4). Under Section 47(2), each parish and village administrative council consists of, among others, a vice chairperson who is also secretary for children and welfare. Part 5 of the Second Schedule of the Act provides that services, including social rehabilitation; labour matters; probation and welfare; and street children and orphans are decentralised and, therefore, the responsibility of the lower local government.

The Act also gives power to district councils and lower councils to make ordinances and bye laws respectively. These bye laws and ordinances can relate to any subject, including the welfare of children.



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5.4.1.6 The Education Act, 2008

The Act provides various responsibilities for parents and guardians towards children including: registering their children of school going age; providing parental guidance and psychosocial welfare to their children; providing food, clothing, shelter, medical care and transport; promoting moral, spiritual and cultural growth of the children; participating in the promotion of discipline of their children; and participating in community support to the school.

5.4.2 International Legislation

There are different international instruments to which Uganda is a signatory that have a bearing on the protection of the rights of the child. These include: the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); the African Charter on the rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC); the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR); and The International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention (Worst Forms of Child Labour) 182, among others.

5.4.2.1 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

The provisions of this Declaration are general in nature and the implication is that it applies to children as well. The Declaration imposes an obligation upon all countries to enforce and implement the provisions therein. Under Article 2, everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms in the Declaration without distinction of any kind such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. The Declaration emphasizes the right to life, liberty and the security of person and prohibits any person from being subjected to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

5.4.2.2 The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

This is the major international legal instrument that provides for the protection of the rights of children. It addresses the fundamental human rights that every child is entitled to and enjoins states parties to execute a number of obligations with regard to children's wellbeing. The obligations

The Convention further obligates the state to protect children from economic and sexual exploitation, abuse and the performance of any hazardous work likely to interfere with a child's education, health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, or lead to abduction, sale or traffic in children. It also provides for special protection and assistance for a child temporarily or permanently deprived of his or her family environment, or one who cannot remain in the said family environment for any given reason in accordance with the national laws.

This ACRWC re-echoes the need for non-discrimination of the child irrespective of the child's or his/her parents' or legal guardian's race, ethnic group, language, national and social origin, among others. It also provides for a child's inherent right and the state's obligation to ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival, protection and development of the child.

The Convention prohibits the worst forms of child labour including, all forms of slavery or similar practices, including the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom, forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or pornographic performances; the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs, work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of the child.

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connect, the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or pornographic performances; the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs, work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of the child.

Observations

The Committee observes that Uganda has a formidable legal framework for the protection of children. While the legal framework is strong, the challenges in the implementation of the law mean that ultimately, the protection that the law aims to bring about is still elusive. The number of cases related to child protection is ridiculously low, and this is to say nothing about the numbers of convictions. This is indicative of the wider problems within the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS) generally. These problems include the poor remuneration for police officers, corruption, and understaffing of, especially the police and judiciary.

The Committee further observes that the legal provisions, for example under the Local Government Act, are not implemented due to inadequate financing. While the Local Government Act provides that matters of welfare, probation, and street children are the responsibility of local governments, the meagre resources allocated by local government to for these services mean that there is very little that can be done.

The Committee also notes that while the Vice Chairpersons of the Parish Executive Committee are responsible for the welfare of children, the provision has not been implemented partly because the local governments are not aware of the legal provision or its implementation.

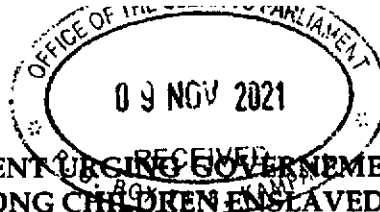
Lastly, while the Local Governments Act empowers local governments to legislate bye laws and Ordinances, this power has not been well exercised in relation to preventing the phenomenon of street children in Uganda. The Committee found that only Napak district that had enacted an Ordinance preventing the trafficking of children.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that:

- a) the **Ministries of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, and Internal Affairs** should fill the staffing gaps for prosecutors, state attorneys and judicial officers; and police personnel respectively, especially in areas with higher numbers of trafficking such as Karamoja;
- b) the **Ministries of Justice and Constitutional Affairs** should provide tailor-made training for all stakeholders including police personnel, judicial officers, prosecutors, probation and social welfare officers dealing with children and/or trafficked persons;

ANNEX A



**MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT URGING GOVERNMENT
TO RESPOND TO THE PLIGHT OF KARAMOJONG CHILDREN ENSLAVED IN
STREET BEGGING AND CHILD LABOUR**

(Moved under Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament)

WHEREAS Article 34 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995 recognises the rights of children that include protection of children from social or economic exploitation and, employment likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education or social development;

AND WHEREAS the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2019 expressly prohibits trafficking in children and, the Children's Act, 1996 and the Employment Act, 2006 prohibit employment of children below 12 years except in such light work as the Minister may prescribe and, employment of children below 14 years in hazardous labour conditions;

AWARE THAT Uganda ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child which, obliges member states to ensure that in all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration and that States should ensure, to the maximum extent possible, the survival and development of the child; Also the International Labour Organisation Convention No. 182 and 138 on Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour and Minimum Age of Employment respectively, which, aim to protect children from the worst forms of child labour;

COGNISANT OF THE FACT THAT Uganda and indeed this Parliament have committed themselves to the full implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals including ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children;

FURTHER COGNISANT of the fact that Government has made interventions to address the plight of street children including, development of a multi-sectoral Street Children Strategy with a focus on Karamoja which, emphasized the withdrawal of children and their families from the streets, their integration, empowerment with livelihood skills and, strengthening child protection mechanisms as well as, the establishment of a Coordination Office for Trafficking in Persons under the Ministry of Internal Affairs with a National Task Force against Trafficking in Persons.

CONCERNED that despite the interventions by Government and other actors, the number of Karimojong children on streets in urban centres has increased with approximately 686 out of 739 children from Napak district alone, reported at the destination point in Kampala in 2020; A Women Empowerment and Opportunity

Desk-Moroto Diocese survey indicates that, a total of 871 children left their homes in specific areas in Napak district of which, 561 were girls compared to 310 boys.

FURTHER CONCERNED that, these children are exposed to various forms of abuse and exploitation including, forced labour, slavery, street begging, street hawking, commercial sexual exploitation and physical assaults and poor living conditions for those that are lucky to find accommodation; moreover, in a bid to clean up the city, law enforcement agencies round up children on the street and wrongly charge them;


NOTING THAT these children find themselves on the streets and other exploitative conditions due to various circumstances that still persist, for example, poverty, food insecurity, lack of economic opportunities, trafficking, demand for labour, lack of family support, maltreatment, domestic violence, sexual abuse, orphan-hood and obligations on children to contribute to the family livelihood.

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved by this Parliament that -

1. Government strengthens collaboration with local authorities in Karamoja region and urban centres to ensure that there are coordinated efforts in rescuing the children following proper procedure.
2. Government addresses push factors as many of the children are victims of trafficking and other forms of violence.
3. Government revises the Street Children Strategy to ensure that, it also focuses on supporting child victims of trafficking that end up on the streets or in other exploitative conditions.
4. Government prosecutes all perpetrators involved in aiding, abetting and procurement of children for purposes of trafficking, forced labour and slavery.
5. The Ministry of Internal Affairs effectively trains law enforcement officers in implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2009


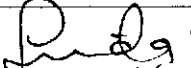
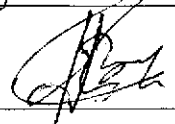
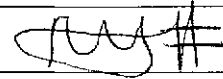
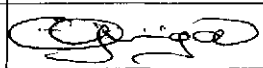
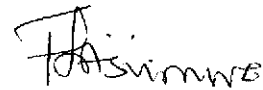
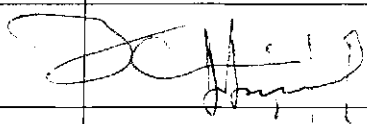
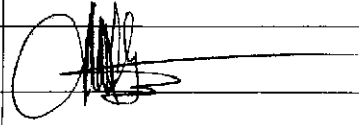
Mover: Hon. Nakut Faith Loru (WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE, NAPAK) 

Seconders: Hon Ngoya John Bosco (BOKORA CONSTITUENCY)

Hon Maacho Geoffrey (BUSIA MUNICIPALITY) 

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENDER, LABOUR & SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT ON A MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT
URGING GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND TO THE PLIGHT OF KARAMOJONG
CHILDREN ENSLAVED IN STREET BEGGING AND CHILD LABOUR**

SIGNATURE SHEET

| NO. | NAME | CONSTITUENCY | SIGNATURE |
|------------|--|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | Hon. Kabahenda Flavia Rwabuhoro C/P | DWR Kyegegwa |  |
| 2 | Hon. Sarah Najjuma D/CP | DWR Nakaseke | |
| 3 | Hon. Linda Irene | Fort Portal City |  |
| 4 | Hon. Bakkabulindi Charles | Workers Repr |  |
| 5 | Hon. Acen Dorcas | DWR Alebtong | |
| 6 | Hon. Avako Melsa Maima | DWR Yumbe |  |
| 7 | Hon. Laura Kanushu | PWD National | |
| 8 | Hon. Kaala Kevin Ojinga | DWR Pallisa |  |
| 9 | Hon. Aslimwe Florence Akiiki | DWR Masindi |  |
| 10 | Hon. Ayoo Jeniffer Nalukwago | DWR Kalaki |  |
| 11 | Hon. Lochap Peterkhen | Bokora East | |
| 12 | Hon. Isabirye Iddi | Bunya South |  |
| 13 | Hon. Kamugo Pamela Nasiyo | DWR Budaka | |
| 14 | Hon. Ayoo Tonny | Kwania County | |
| 15 | Hon. Ngompek Linos | Kibanda North | |
| 16 | Hon. Arinaitwe Rwakajara | Workers Representative | |

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| 17 | Hon. Waako Peggy Joy | Ops National | <i>Waako.</i> |
| 18 | Hon. Musinguzi Yona | Ntungamo Municipality | |
| 19 | Hon. Chemonges William | Kween County | |
| 20 | Hon. Kabuye Frank | Kassanda South | |
| 21 | Hon. Kiyaga Hillary | Mawokota North | <i>Kiyaga</i> |
| 22 | Hon. Mayanja Allan | Nakaseke Central | <i>Mayanja</i> |
| 23 | Hon. Nantongo Fortunate Rose | DWR Kyotera | |
| 24 | Hon. Businge Joab | Masindi Municipality | |
| 25 | Hon. Muhindo Harold | Bukonzo East County | |
| 26 | Hon. Mboizi Arthur Waako | Budaka | <i>Mboizi</i> |
| 27 | Hon. Byakatonda Abdulhuy | Workers | <i>Byakatonda</i> |
| 28 | Hon. Mukhaye Miriam | DWR Mbale | <i>Mukhaye</i> |
| 29 | Hon. Rwabushaija Margaret Namubiru | Workers | <i>Rwabushaija</i> |