



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Several stylized gears of various sizes are scattered across the page, rendered in a light yellow color with a hatched texture. They are positioned around the central text, with some overlapping the text area.

ACTION PLAN FOR CHILDREN

of Bosnia and Herzegovina

2015 – 2018

June 2015



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Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina

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At its 9th session on 2 June 2015, the Council of Ministers
rendered the Decision Adopting the Action Plan for Children
Bosnia and Herzegovina 2015 – 2018

Contents

INTRODUCTION	5
II METHODOLOGY	7
III ASSESSMENT OF THE REALIZATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR CHILDREN IN BIH 2011 – 2014	8
IV ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION IN THE AREA OF PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF CHILDREN IN BIH	9
V GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTION PLAN	10
VI OBJECTIVES AND MEASURES	11
A. General measures of the implementation	11
B. General principles	27
C. Civil rights and freedoms	34
D. Violence against children	36
E. Family environment and alternative care	41
F. Disability, basic health and welfare	49
G. Education, leisure and cultural activities.	57
H. Special protection measures	62
Anex 1.	73



INTRODUCTION

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is a part of the Annex I of the Dayton Peace Accords and, as all other conventions ratified by BiH, it has priority in enforcement over the national legislation¹, because it has the power of a constitutional norm.

In addition, Bosnia and Herzegovina has also become signatory to the following two optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2000, namely: Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict and Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the country has also signed the Millennium Declaration.

In 2012, Bosnia and Herzegovina concluded the procedure of accession to the following Conventions:

1. Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse;
2. Council of Europe Convention on Contact concerning Children;
3. Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance (The Hague Convention).

The BiH Presidency held its 24th regular session on 25 June 2012 and rendered the decision on ratification of three aforementioned Conventions (Official Gazette of BiH/International treaties No. 11/12).

The first two aforementioned Conventions entered into force in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 1 March 2013, and the third one entered in force on 2 February 2013.

In the forthcoming period, Bosnia and Herzegovina should access the process of signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure.

The initial report on the implementation of the Convention on the rights of the Child was presented to the Committee for the Rights of the Child in May 2005, and the Committee thereafter issued the Recommendations. With a view of implementing the Recommendations, the Council for Children started numerous activities.

A consolidated second to fourth periodic report of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child was submitted to the relevant Committee in February 2010 (Presentation of the report before the Committee was held on 19 September 2012, and thereafter, the Committee sent the Recommendations to BiH.) The BiH Council of Ministers sent (2013) the Committee's Recommendations to the Entity, District and Cantonal Governments for their respective actions.

Reports of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the implementation of two Optional Protocols, as follows: the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and the initial report on grounds of Article 8(1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Children regarding the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts were sent to the Committee in July 2008 and presented on 16 September 2010. The Committee's Recommendations were sent to Bosnia and Herzegovina and they were incorporated to the Action Plan for Children in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2011 – 2014).

Bosnia and Herzegovina has the duty to submit the reports on the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of the Child, to Optional Protocols to the Convention and realization of the Recommendations on a five-year basis.

In line with the ratified Council of Europe Convention, the report on the implementation of the Convention was developed in the first half of 2014 based on the questionnaire prepared by the Committee (adopted at the 95th session of the Council of Ministers held on 20 May 2014) and submitted

¹ BiH is among monist states that can directly apply the Convention (CRC) in practice.

to Lanzarote Committee.

In order to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child (BiH took it over by succession in 1993) and to meet the UN Millennium Development Goals, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina approved (in July 2002) the Action Plan for Children of BiH 2002 – 2010 with a view to strengthening the position of children in BiH.

With a view of realizing the goals of the Action Plan for Children 2002-2010, the focus was placed on several areas which are particularly significant to the position of children in BiH, as well as on priorities for the protection of children: economic growth, judiciary and law revision, children in contact with the law, health, education, social welfare, protection of children against landmines and other forms of child protection.

The report on the implementation of the Action Plan was developed which was adopted by the Council of Ministers of BiH at its 154th session held on 29 June 2011.

As continuation of the undertaken activities, the BiH Council of Ministers (at 155th session held on 13 July 2011) adopted the Action Plan for Children of BiH 2011 – 2014 (hereinafter referred to as: the Action Plan).

The goal of the Action Plan was to define priority goals and measures that need to be taken between 2011 and 2014 in order to create the most favorable living conditions for children and families, their healthy mental and physical development, social inclusion and participation in decision-making processes, all in the best interest of children.

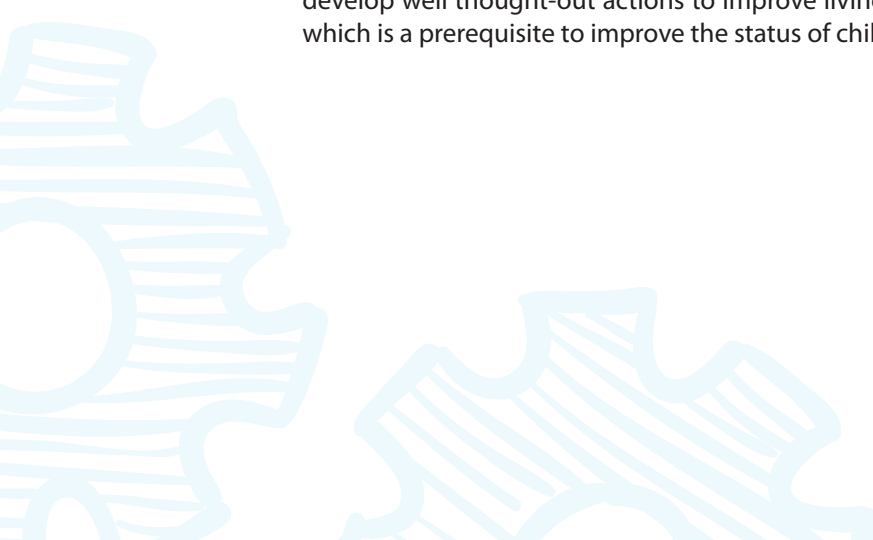
The report on the Action Plan implementation was developed for the period of July 2011 to May 2013 (adopted at 62nd session of BiH Council of Ministers held on 3 September 2013). In line with their powers, members of the Council for Children of BiH sent the necessary information relative to the implementation of objectives and measures set out in the Action Plan for the period from May 2013 to September 2014.

Based on the initial report and information obtained in further implementation of the Action Plan, an extensive report relative to the implementation of the Action Plan 2011 – 2014 was developed along with an assessment of the scope in which each specific measure was implemented.

The analytical report on the implementation of the Action Plan 2011 – 2014, as developed on the basis of the scope to which the measures were realized, was adopted at 117th session of the BiH Council of Ministers held on 12 January 2015.

The basis for the development of this third Action Plan for Children of BiH 2015 – 2018 (hereinafter referred to as: the Action Plan) is found in specifically determined recommendations of the Committee for the Rights of the Child, as well as in the activities with the poorest results achieved during the implementation of the previous Action Plan measures. In addition to the aforementioned, relevant UN and European international bodies' documents relative to the protection of children rights and their families were taken into consideration.

Considering the highly fragmented administrative system in BiH, this Action Plan, as the previous one, advocates a multidisciplinary approach and engagement of all the capacities within the society to develop well thought-out actions to improve living conditions in the interest of child development, which is a prerequisite to improve the status of children in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



II METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the Action Plan is task oriented in order to exercise the rights of children in BIH in accordance with assumed international obligations, primarily the Convention on the Rights of the Child and specifically determined recommendations of the Committee for the Rights of the Child. In addition to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, other relevant UN and European international bodies' documents relative to the protection of children rights and their families were taken into consideration.

The methodology of the Action Plan is based on the analysis of the situation and identification of the problems identified in the concluding observations and recommendations of the Committee of the Rights of the Child on the consolidated second to fourth periodic reports of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as recommendations of other relevant UN and European international bodies relative to the protection of children rights and their families.

Pursuant to the conclusion reached at 117th session of the BIH Council of Ministers held on 12 January 2015, special attention was paid to the circumstances that led to the failure to implement the measures set out in the previous Action Plan, which pertained to financing – creating conditions for the realization of the plan, collection of data and other indicators and planning, training and creation of local resources so that those measures be proposed again or incorporated into other measures for the given areas of this Action Plan.

The development of the Action Plan was led by the Council for Children of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a cross-sectoral expert advisory and coordinating body of the BIH Council of Ministers within the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BIH, tasked with, among other things, to develop a draft of the new Action Plan in order to continue the activities after 2014.

After the Action Plan was drafted, a public debate was conducted with relevant institutions and non-governmental sector in charge of promotion and protection of children rights in BIH for the purpose of additional consultations for the final draft of this document.

Promotion and protection of children rights, initiating and active participation in the development and monitoring of strategic, planning and action documents in the area of children rights in BIH, establishment of cooperation and coordination between all Action Plan implementation agencies falls under the jurisdiction, scope of work and responsibility of the Council for Children of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The methodology of defining the goals and objectives of the Action Plan encompasses the evaluation of the previous Action plan realization (2011 – 2014) and evaluation of situation in the area of protection of human rights of children in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

III ASSESSMENT OF THE REALIZATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR CHILDREN IN BIH 2011 – 2014

The goal of the Action Plan was to define priority goals and measures that need to be taken between 2011 and 2014 in order to create the most favorable living conditions for children and families, their healthy mental and physical development, social inclusion and participation in decision-making processes, all in the best interest of children.⁹⁷ measures were proposed with a view of implementing the defined priority goals.

The analytical report on the implementation of the Action Plan for Children in BIH in 2011 – 2014, reads that 23 measures were fully implemented, 23 other measures were implemented in a major part, and 40 measures were implemented in part while 11 measures were not at all implemented.

A percentage of success achieved in the implementation of measures set forth in the Action Plan (the measures implemented in their entirety and in major part) is the following:

- 68,18% in the implementation of the measures in the area of health care
- 66,66% in the implementation of the measures pertaining to reporting and coordination
- 60% in the implementation of the objectives of the Action plan
- 47,05% in the implementation of the measures in the area of education
- 46,66% in the implementation of the measures in the area of social welfare
- 42,10% in the implementation of the measures in the area of other forms of protection – special protection of children
- 33,33% in the implementation of the measures in the area of vulnerable groups.



IV ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION IN THE AREA OF PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF CHILDREN IN BIH

Having reviewed the conducted activities within the Action Plan 2011 – 2014, and pursuant to the indicators of the scope in which set goals and measures were realized, the need is identified to continue further activities aimed at enhancement of human rights of children in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

With respect to the need for a continuous accession to new international conventions and protocols, and bearing in mind the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Bosnia and Herzegovina has to continue with the harmonization of laws, in particular in the area of criminal legislation.

In the area of healthcare for children, further implementation of measures is necessary in order to enhance the quality and availability of health services for children, pregnant women and childbearing women, and measures to enhance nurturing of the mother and child, more extensive health care with impaired children, better protection of children from infectious diseases, implementation of special health measures to Roma children.

In the area of education, the improvement is still needed in the implementation of framework laws on primary and secondary education, measures for the prevention of discrimination, and particularly measures for the inclusion of Roma children at all education levels.

In the area of children social protection, it is necessary to continue the implementation of measures to enhance the availability and quality of social and children protection especially in non-institutional care for children and better protection for socially excluded children, particularly Roma children, to provide better support to impaired children, and establish a model for different types of care and non-institutional care for children, to put in place a mechanism to increase financial support to children (child allowance and other benefits for children, or families with children) and determine the social minimum sufficient to satisfy the basic needs of families with children.

With regard to special forms of child protection, measures should be continued more intensively with a view of protecting children from narcotic drugs, tobacco and alcohol abuse, as well as measures for prevention of violence against children, juvenile offences and improvement of alternative measures, continue the activities regarding the sale of children, child prostitution and pornography and educational and promotional activities aimed at raising awareness about the problems of vulnerable groups (Roma, refugees, asylum seekers, foreign citizens, children without escort, etc.)

Implementation of the activities with the poorest results achieved during the implementation of the previous Action Plan measures is a high priority, which pertained to financing – creating conditions for the realization of the plan, collection of data and other indicators, planning, education and creation of local resources.

V GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTION PLAN

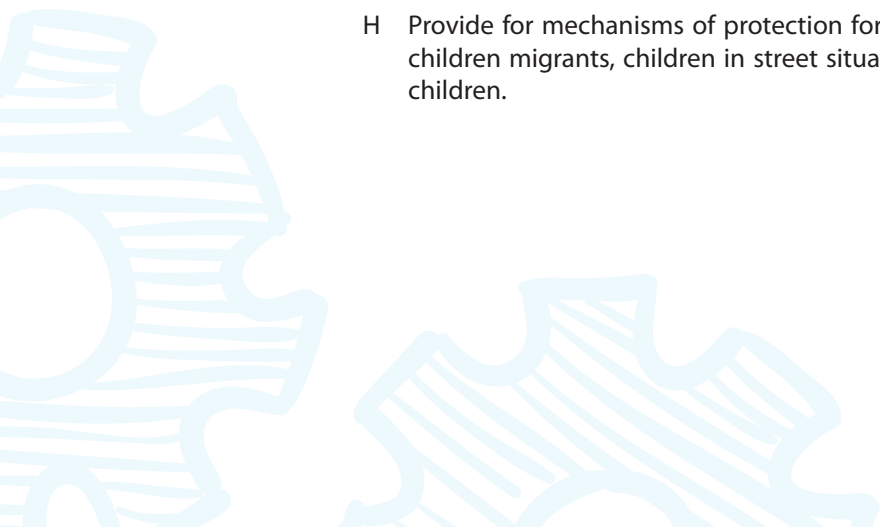
Based on the presented assessment of the situation and the recommendations of the Committee for the Rights of the Child and recommendations of other international bodies, the Action Plan 2015–2018 proposed one Goal and eight Objectives.

GOAL

The realization of objectives and measures in the period from 2015 to 2018 in order to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, abiding by the recommendations of the Committee for the Rights of the Child and other international, UN, Council of Europe and other instruments for the protection of children rights, and the realization of the measures from the previous Action Plan that have not been implemented.

The goal contains **eight objectives** which pertain to the following:

- A Enhance the laws in BIH, policies, strategies, coordination and reporting with a view of strengthening the implementation of general measures entailing from the Convention of the Rights of the Child.
- B Improve the atmosphere for the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of the Child general principles related to non-discrimination, the best interest of child and respect of child's opinion.
- C Provide for the conditions for a full exercise of civil rights and freedom of children and set up specific mechanisms of rights and freedom protection.
- D Improve mechanisms of child protection and raise awareness in order to prevent and stop violence against children.
- E Strengthen capacities of family and society for social and health protection, education for the purpose of exercising the rights of children who are deprived of a family environment.
- F Provide for the mechanisms to improve the protection of rights of children with impairments and the overall protection of children and living standard.
- G Education and upbringing system will be made fair and available for the development of child/student potentials through high-quality, child-friendly and comprehensive services.
- H Provide for mechanisms of protection for vulnerable groups, especially children refugees, children migrants, children in street situations, children in conflict with the law and other children.



VI OBJECTIVES AND MEASURES

A) OBJECTIVE: Enhance the laws in BIH, policies, strategies, coordination and reporting with a view of enhancing the implementation of general measures entailing from the Convention of the Rights of the Child

a) General measures of the implementation
(Articles 4, 42 and 44 Paragraph 6 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child)

A 1. Enhancing the legal framework

In general, it can be noted that majority of laws in BIH is harmonized with the Convention. However, there is a lack of nation-level comprehensive legislation relative to the rights of the child which would provide for a full and direct influence of the Convention on the national legislation.

Considering a complex political and administrative organization of BIH (2 Entities, 10 Cantons and the District), the lack of such legislation results in the inconsistent exercising of children rights throughout the territory of BIH, and children's rights vary in similar situations depending on the area of their residence.

In addition to harmonization of laws with the BIH Anti-Discrimination, the following activities should be conducted: enhancing the criminal legislation, harmonizing laws relative to domestic violence, social protection and health of families with children, harmonizing laws relative to legal aid and also harmonizing the bylaws relative to the definition of a child.

With a view of enhancing the legal framework of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 11 measures are hereby proposed.

Measure 1	Draft the Initiative to enact a comprehensive Law on the Rights of the Child at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina which would fully integrate the principles and provisions of the Convention and its Optional Protocols and give clear guidelines for its consistent implementation in the entire territory of BIH
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights and BIH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Governments of the Entities and Brčko District</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative submitted</i> - <i>Status of the Initiative in line with the submitted opinions of the Governments</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Harmonization of laws in BIH with the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination of 2009 is inadequate and it resulted in a limited application in practice as observed in several registered civil actions on grounds of discrimination and a low public awareness of legal remedies available in cases of discrimination.

There were no other measures taken to systematically harmonize the legislation with the requirements of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination.

Measure 2	Develop the Initiative to start the activities of systematic harmonization of legislation with the requirements of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights and BIH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Governments of the Entities and Brčko District</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative submitted</i> - <i>Status of the Initiative in line with the submitted opinions of the Governments</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder</i>

A.1.1. Enhance the criminal legislation:

The existing criminal codes of the Entities and Brčko District should be harmonized with new international standards set forth within the Lanzarote Convention and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols. This explanation contains parts of recommendations and pertinent standards which should be used as a basis for harmonization of the existing criminal codes in BIH

Measure 3 Harmonization of legislation with Lanzarote Convention:

The existing BIH legal system on protection of children from sexual abuse and exploitation is not at the satisfactory level, especially in the domain of criminal law, and that is why it is necessary to start its harmonization with international standards, and its harmonization within the state itself.

Amendments to the criminal laws should go along the following lines:

Amendments to the Criminal Code of FBiH:

- The definition of child should be harmonized with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Convention on Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, and read that the child shall mean any person under the age of 18 years.
- Raise the age limit for a child's consent to sexual intercourse, to reach 16 years of age.
- No statute of limitations for criminal prosecution of offenses against sexual freedom and integrity committed to the detriment of a child.
- Tighten the sanction policy for criminal offenses against sexual freedom and morale, primarily when it comes to the minimum sentences.
- Introduce additional security measures that can be imposed on perpetrators of criminal offences (especially those that pertain to violence against children): mandatory treatment, psycho-social treatment of perpetrators, restraining order for certain person, removal from joint household, ban on carrying out the duty, office or function related to children.
- Revoke all limitations currently imposed by the law for certain vocations in terms of criminal responsibility for failure to report a criminal offense against sexual freedom and morale committed to the detriment of a child.
- Eliminate the possibility of amnesty and pardon in relation to perpetrators who are convicted under a final and binding verdict of the criminal offense of sexual violence against children.
- Determine the obligation to keep single records of perpetrators of sexual violence against children and enable the institutions and other legal entities whose business operations are

directly related to children to obtain/check the database against the candidates who apply for positions therein.

- Define the criminal offense of human trafficking in accordance with Palermo Protocol.

Amendments to the Criminal Code of RS:

- The definition of child should be harmonized with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Convention on Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, and read that a child shall mean any person under the age of 18 years.
- Raise the age limit for a child’s consent to sexual intercourse, to reach 16 years of age.
- Tighten the sanction policy for criminal offenses against sexual freedom and morale, primarily when it comes to the minimum sentences.
- Introduce additional security measures that can be imposed on perpetrators of criminal offences (especially those that pertain to violence against children) ban on carrying out the duty, office or function related to children.
- Revoke all limitations currently imposed by the law for certain vocations in terms of criminal responsibility for failure to report a criminal offense against sexual freedom and morale committed to the detriment of a child.
- Eliminate the possibility of amnesty and pardon in relation to perpetrators who are convicted under a final and binding verdict of the criminal offense of sexual violence against children.
- Determine the obligation to keep single records of perpetrators of sexual violence against children and enable the institutions and other legal entities whose business operations are directly related to children to obtain/check the database against the candidates who apply for positions therein.

<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministries of Justice of the Entities</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Amendments to the Criminal Codes of the Entities made</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 4 Harmonization of criminal legislation with the recommendations of the Committee for the Rights of the Child:

- Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing criminal codes with a view of prohibiting the disclosure of personal details of children by the media and/or journalists and ensuring commensurate penalties for such conduct,
- Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing criminal codes with in order to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including the domestic context, throughout its territory,
- Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing criminal codes with a view of ensuring the effective pursuit of perpetrators of sexual abuse and exploitation of children, as well as assistance for and protection of victims and witnesses,
- Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing criminal codes with a view of explicitly criminalizing the violations of Optional Protocol on Recruitment and Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts,

- Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing laws (statutory measures) to subject persons exploiting children through forced begging to criminal sanctions,
- Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing criminal codes with a view of ensuring commensurate sanctions for perpetrators of trafficking-related cases, particularly those involving child victims,
- Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing laws with a view of ensuring that the age of a victim never constitutes the sole grounds for invalidating his/her testimony,
- Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing Criminal Code of the Federation of BiH in order to criminalize the acts of human trafficking in accordance with Palermo Protocol.

<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministries of Justice of the Entities</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The amendments to the Criminal Codes of the Entities introduced</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of action-holder and donor funds</i>

A 1.2. Harmonization of laws relative to the domestic violence and the area of social welfare and protection of families with children

Measure 5	Submit the initiative to harmonization the legislation on domestic violence throughout the territory of BiH
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Agency for Gender Equality</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Gender Centers in the Entities</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 6	Submit the initiative to enact the legislation to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including the domestic context
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>Council for Children BiH</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BiH Ministry of Justice and Entities Ministries of Justice and Judicial Commission of Brčko District</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 7	Development of the Initiative for amendments to Entities and Cantonal laws in the area of social protection and protection of families with children: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In FBiH – children who are victims of any form of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, and children exposed to the risk of such violence, should be recognized as beneficiaries of the rights in the area of social protection, ➤ Submit the initiative for amendments to the existing Law on Social Protection of Republika Srpska in accordance with Palermo Protocol ➤ In HNK, Herzeg-Bosnia Canton and Posavina Canton - enact the laws on protection of families with children, ➤ In the RS Law on Social Protection - harmonize the definition of a child – victim of trafficking, as a social protection beneficiary with Palermo Protocol.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights, BIH Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministries of Social Policy/Protection in the Entities</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Considering that BIH needs to harmonize the minimum framework for social protection of families with children and also bearing in mind that this area is regulated at the level of Entities, Cantons and Brčko District, the existing regulations should be analyzed and their harmonization proposed.

Measure 8	To develop the Initiative for harmonization of regulations on proper financing and social benefits for children and their families (so that the social support and assistance are founded on the needs of children) throughout the territory of BIH in accordance with accepted international standards
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry for Human Rights and BIH Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and relevant Department of Brčko</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

A 1.3. Harmonization of the legislation on legal aid

Law on Exercising the Right to Free Legal Aid was enacted in Republika Srpska, Brčko District and 8 Cantons in the Federation of BiH (Tuzla, Posavina, Zenica-Doboj, West Herzegovina, Una-Sana, Bosnia Podrinje, Herzegovina-Neretva and Sarajevo Canton).

Measure 9	Development of the Initiative for an urgent adoption of the Law on Exercising the Right to Free Legal Aid in the remaining two Cantons in the Federation that still do not have it (Central Bosnia Canton and Canton 10 –Livno)
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Federation of BIH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder</i>

Measure 10	Development of the Initiative for the enactment of the Law on International Legal Aid in Civil Actions which would precisely regulate the procedure before the national bodies in line with the Convention on International Recovery of Child Support
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of action-holder and donor funds</i>

A 1.4. Harmonization of legal enactments regulating the definition of a child

Measure 11	To adopt clear provisions in the legal enactments and public policies relative to the definition of a child in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Justice and BiH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' Ministries of Justice, Judicial Commission of Brčko District</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The provisions adopted</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

A.2. Comprehensive policy and strategy

With a view to having continuous activities of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols, the Action Plan for Children 2015 – 2018 is enacted. In order to prevent and stop abuse of narcotic drugs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Strategy on Supervision over Narcotic Drugs in BIH has been adopted along with action plans.

Measure 1	Allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources in order to implement this Action Plan in a comprehensive and consistent manner throughout the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children, BIH Council of Ministers, Governments of the Entities and District</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Local community</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis, in line with the deadlines set for each measure in the Action Plan</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Reports on the implementation of the Action Plan, yearly and final</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Earmarked budget per activities on an annual basis of the action-holder and implementing agencies</i>
Measure 2	Adoption and implementation of the activities determined in the Strategy of Supervision over Narcotic Drugs in BIH (2015 – 2020) and action plans
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Adopted Strategy and reports on the implementation</i>

A 3. Coordination and reporting

With a view of executing the obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina relative to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two Optional Protocols, the BIH Council for Children was established as an expert, intersectoral, counselling and coordinating body of BIH Council of Ministers. The Decision establishing the BIH Council for Children was adopted at the 30th session of BIH Council of Ministers held on 04 December 2012 while the decision appointing members of the Council for Children was adopted at the 67th session held on 6 November 2013.

RS Council for Children has been established and is operational in Republika Srpska. The establishment of such a body in the Federation of BIH would significantly enhance the coordination and reporting in the Federation of BIH particularly bearing in mind its complex structure.

Measure 1	Allocate financial and technical resources for the work of BIH Council for Children so that the Council can perform its role in an efficient manner
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council of Ministers and</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Allocated necessary financial means on an annual basis for the work of the Council for Children</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The budget of the Ministry of Human Rights earmarked BAM 50,000.00 for the implementation of measures pertaining to the Council for Children, but the budget will also include donor funds</i>

Measure 2	To submit the initiative for amendments to the systematization of working posts in the Ministry of Human Rights of BIH in view of the establishment of the Section for the Rights of the Child within the Sector for Human Rights², in order to strengthen the role and leadership of the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees in advocacy for child rights, policy formulation, monitoring of implementation of programs and mobilization of resources for children
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights and</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BIH Council of Ministers</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder</i>

2 The Committee recommends that the member state immediately undertake measures in order to activate the Council for Children of BIH and to establish the Sector for Human Rights of Children within the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees. It further recommends that the member state considers a possibility of giving a task to the Council for Children or a new Sector of Human Rights of Children or some other adequate body to coordinate and make an assessment of the implementation of the Convention and two Optional Protocols and to provide personnel, technical and financial means and powers within the Government for the purpose of efficient exercise of the mandate.

Measure 3	Develop an annual report on the implementation of the Action Plan for Children of BIH 2015-2018 which will be submitted to the BIH Council of Ministers for adoption
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>All institutions in charge of the measures implementation</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>Every year-in January for the preceding year</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Developed report and adopted by the BIH Council of Ministers</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 4	To submit the initiative for the establishment of the Council for Children in the Federation of BIH
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>Council for Children of BIH</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Government of the Federation of BIH</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of action-holder</i>

A 4. Allocation of resources

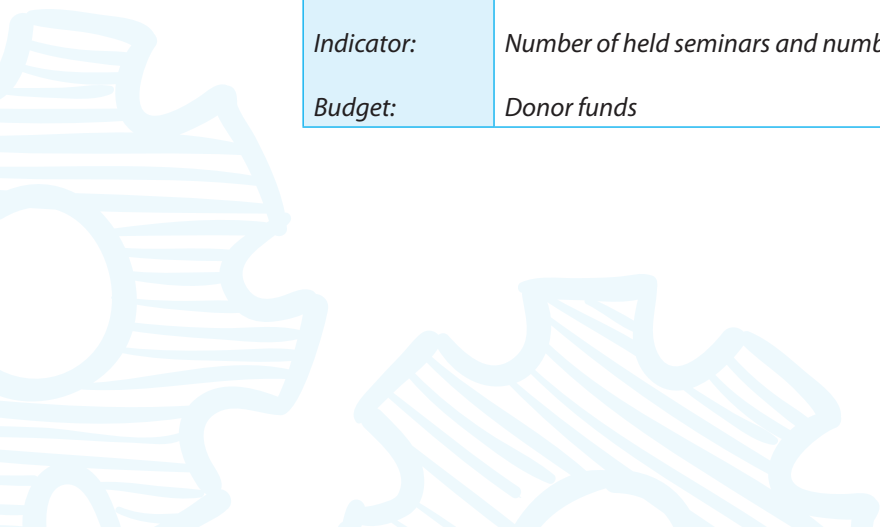
Generally, a conclusion can be reached that there are gaps between the legislation and the implementation thereof, as well as insufficient budgets allocated for children.

Majority of these expenditures of the Entities' budgets are for war-related beneficiaries, resulting in insufficient funds for other persons in situations of vulnerability with similar or higher levels of need, including children and their families. There are significant substantial discrepancies in the availability of social assistance in the different territories of the State.

There are discrepancies in the area of social protection for children and their families in FBiH, with different levels of benefits in different cantons. The Law on Social Protection in FBiH prescribes that the Cantons shall further regulate and finance the rights and allowances for families with children. In view of discrepancies in the financial situation, some allowances are still not available to the beneficiaries, for example: child allowances are foreseen in five out of ten cantons, and the amount of the child allowance differs from one Canton to another (the lowest BAM 9.70, and the highest BAM 50).

Furthermore, the level of child allowance provided in the Republika Srpska was reduced.

Measure 1	Submit the Initiative for establishing of a budgeting process which adequately takes into account children's needs at all levels (Entities, District, cantonal, municipal), with clear allocations to children in the relevant sectors and agencies, as well as specific indicators and a tracking system.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Council for Children and BiH Council of Ministers</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs, Governments of the Entities and the District, Entities' Ministries of Finance and the relevant Department in Brčko District Government</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder</i>
Measure 2	To submit the initiative for establishing the mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the adequacy, efficacy and equitability of the distribution of resources allocated to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Governments of the Entities, Cantons and District Governments of the Entities, Cantons and District</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016/2017</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder</i>
Measure 3	To enhance skills of employees in the Entities', Cantonal and local institutions for budget planning and managing for the needs of children and families (seminars and the like)
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>NGO resources – Snažniji glas za djecu (Stronger Voice for Children)</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016/2017</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Number of held seminars and number of employees who attended the seminars</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Donor funds</i>



A 5. Data collection

There is a clear lack of statistical data relating to the implementation of the Convention and clear division of responsibilities for collection, consolidation and analysis of data among different government bodies.

The DevInfo database does not incorporate any quality assurance process for verifying the reliability of its data.

With regard to the area of child protection at the level of BIH and Entities, there is still a lack of single system for collection of all necessary indicators for adequate monitoring of child rights, especially indicators of execution of international obligations assumed by BIH in different areas for the protection of child rights in BIH.

Measure 1	Submit the initiative to develop a coordinated system for a comprehensive collection, storage and analysis of data that should cover all children under the age of 18 and be disaggregated by those groups of children who are in need of special protection. The data should be disaggregated according to age, sex, ethnicity, disability, socioeconomic status and geographic location.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of Civil Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>relevant Entities' authorities</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder</i>

A 6. Independent monitoring

The Department for the Protection of Child Rights under the Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ombudsman for Children in the Republika Srpska started working in mid-2009. The recommendations of these child rights mechanisms have not been implemented by the relevant authorities at the State, entity, district or cantonal levels, including the recommendations of the UN Committee for the Rights of the Child.

Measure 1	Take appropriate measures to ensure that the Department for the Protection of Child Rights of Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ombudsman for Children in Republika Srpska are provided with adequate human, technical and financial resources as well as the immunities required for them to function effectively, including with regard to dealing with complaints from children in a child-sensitive and expeditious manner, and for ensuring adequate follow-up to recommendations issued by the Council for Children. Adequate human resources refer to a multi-disciplinary team (legal officers, psychologists, social workers, pedagogues, etc.)
<i>Action-holder:</i>	Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	BiH Council of Ministers, RS Government
<i>Deadline:</i>	2015/2016
<i>Indicator:</i>	Appropriate human, technical and financial resources allocated
<i>Budget:</i>	The action-holder should plan the budget in accordance with the planned resources
Measure 2	To incite the work of NGO in monitoring the protection of rights of the child in BIH
<i>Action-holder:</i>	BiH Council for Children
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	Network „Snažniji glas za djecu“
<i>Deadline:</i>	On a continuous basis
<i>Indicator:</i>	Reports and analyses on the protection of rights of the child in BiH
<i>Budget:</i>	Donor funds



A 7. Awareness-raising

Based on the research conducted by NGOs, there is a limited awareness and working knowledge of the Convention among children. This is why the increased engagement of the State and its media in raising awareness about children’s rights and the Convention is necessary in a child-friendly manner, in particular through greater use of the press, radio, television, the Internet and other media, and the active involvement of children in public outreach activities.

Measure 1	Increase engagement of the media in raising awareness about the Convention in a child-friendly manner, especially through workshops in schools
<i>Action-holder:</i>	Office of Ombudsman for Human Rights of Bosnia and Herzegovina
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Department for the Protection of Child Rights under the Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ombudsman for Children in the Republika Srpska, BiH Council for Children – representatives of NGOs and academia</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Number of shows broadcast at various media to the topic of this measures, the number of workshops in schools</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>
Measure 2	To implement promotional-educational campaigns about the rights of the child and promote the differences targeting different groups (children, parents, professional community, wider community)
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina Ombudsman for Children in Republika Srpska and network “Snažnji glas za djecu”</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Number of campaigns</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Donor funds</i>

A 8. Trainings

Some training and education activities on the Convention have been conducted by the State for its judiciary, law enforcement professionals and civil service, but the majority of the training provided are primarily delivered by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) supported by international donors. However, primary responsibility is questionable relative to providing adequate and systematic training and/or sensitization on children's rights for professional groups working with and for children, in particular law enforcement officials, as well as parliamentarians, judges, lawyers, health personnel, teachers, school administrators and others as required.

Measure 1.	To provide adequate and systematic training about the rights of the child for all professionals who work with children and for children (law enforcement officials, parliamentarians, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, health personnel, teachers, educators, school administration etc.) and establish certification of the training programs
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BiH Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Security, NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Number of trainings</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 2	To initiate the development of Policies for protection of children and Codes of Ethics for employees in all institutions that directly work with children (with the proposal for mandatory trainings)
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BiH Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Security, NGO,</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>Late 2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of action-holder and donor funds</i>



A 9. Cooperation with civil society

Improving co-operation with civil society, that is, statutory regulation of registration and operation of non-governmental organizations is provided for under the Law on Associations and Foundations of BIH and Entities and the laws regulating the financial sector. With regard to this area there is one novelty: the Council of Ministers of BIH concluded a general protocol on co-operation with non-governmental organizations. It is still necessary to continue developing a standardized approach in the improvement of co-operation and partnership with non-governmental organizations and promotion of statutory regulation for partnership with non-governmental organizations especially organizations that contributed a lot to promoting and advocating for better protection of children in BIH.

NGOs have a major role in the provision of child protection services in the State; they are dependent on foreign donors and remain subject to the same tax liabilities as private, profit-oriented entities, exacerbating the resource constraints they face.

Measure 1	Submit the initiative to provide for a more conducive context for the work of civil society and non-governmental organizations through funding and lower tax rates and provision of the budget at all levels to finance NGO programs in the domain of promotion and protection of the rights of the child
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Council of Ministers, Governments of the Entities, Brčko District and Cantons</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>The existing budget of the action-holder</i>

A 10. Child rights and business sector

International human rights, environmental and other standards are not adequately monitored, protected and fulfilled to ensure that persons, including children, families and communities are not negatively affected by the private sector. That issues relating to the environmental and health impact of business activities are not addressed in a transparent manner that allows for informed public scrutiny and participation. UN Committee for the Rights of the Child issued a General Commentary No. 16 in 2013 about the state obligations regarding the influence of business sector on the rights of the child. The proposed measures should be observed in light of Resolution 8/7 and 17/4 of the Council for Human Rights which reads that the rights of the child should be taken into consideration when exploring the relation between business and human rights)

Measure 1	Translate the General Commentary No. 16 on obligations of the state regarding the influence of business sector on the rights of the child, promote the commentary and make it available to the business sector in BIH.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children, Ministry of Justice, ministries in charge of environmental protection, trade, economic relations, NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>- Translated General Commentary, published at web sites of relevant ministries</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i>

Measure 2	To submit the initiative to examine and adapt the legislative framework (civil, criminal and administrative) to ensure the legal accountability of companies and their subsidiaries, operating in or managed from the State territory, regarding abuses of human rights, especially child rights.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children in partnership with NGO</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministry of Justice, ministries in charge of environmental protection, trade, economic relations, NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015.</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>- Initiative developed - Status of the initiative in accordance with the submitted opinions of authorities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of action-holder</i>



B) OBJECTIVE: Improve the environment for the implementation of general principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child related to non-discrimination, the best interests of the child and recognition of the child's opinion

B General principles (Articles 2, 3, 6 and 12 of the Convention)

B 1. Non-discrimination

With a view of preventing racial discrimination, the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination (2009) and Revised Action Plan of BiH on the Educational Needs of Roma (2010) were adopted.

The State has not introduced a code of conduct regarding discrimination to prohibit stereotyped and stigmatizing portrayals of minority and/or ethnic groups in the media and to take measures to follow up on the Declaration and Program of Action adopted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

No follow-up measures were undertaken to raise the level of public awareness on the legal remedies available in cases of discrimination, including the development of information as to how to file a complaint to the Human Rights Ombudsman in Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially in educational and health institutions where children are frequently faced with discrimination.

Discrimination is still present in education, including the presence of the so-called "two schools under one roof" and mono-ethnic school policy in BiH where classes are divided on grounds of ethnic background.

Discrimination in the context of education continues to be prevalent, including with regard to the continued "two-schools-under-one-roof" and mono-ethnic schools policy in BiH, where classes are separated on the basis of ethnicity.

The Action Plan on the Educational Needs of Roma is not effectively implemented as a consequence of budget allocation limitations and that Roma children continue to have unequal access to education.

The annual report on the instances of discrimination in 2013 prepared by the Ombudsman for Human Rights in BiH, page 19 reads: "Bearing in mind the fact that there were violations of children's rights in the process of primary education, that a large number of children did not start attending classes in Konjević Polje by the end of first two semesters in the school year 2013/2014, that the positions of different sides are not yet changed, and that any attempt to mediate and find a solution in a dialogue did not yield any results, Ombudsman reached the decision to develop a special report on children's right to education in Bosnia and Herzegovina", but this report has not been developed.

<p>Measure 1</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Start campaigns in order to raise public awareness on the legal remedies available in cases of discrimination, including by making available information on how to make complaints to the Institution of the Human Rights Ombudsman in Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p><i>Institution of the Human Rights Ombudsman in Bosnia and Herzegovina</i></p> <p><i>The Department for the Protection of Child Rights under the Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ombudsman for Children in the Republika Srpska</i></p> <p><i>2015 and on a continuous basis</i></p> <p><i>Number of campaigns, drafted information on how to file a complaint with the Institution of Ombudsman</i></p> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i></p>
<p>Measure 2</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Start the initiative for developing the Special report on the right of the child to education in BIH</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children</i></p> <p><i>BIH Ombudsman for Human Rights</i> <i>The Department for the Protection of Child Rights under the Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ombudsman for Children in the Republika Srpska</i></p> <p><i>2015</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of action-holder and donor funds</i></p>
<p>Measure 3</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Start the initiative to ensure adequate support measures and properly trained education personnel to facilitate ethnic diversity and integration in schools in order to discontinue segregation of children in schools on ethnic grounds (“two-schools-under-one-roof” policy and mono-ethnic schools)</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs, Conference of education ministers in BIH</i></p> <p><i>Ministries of Education of the Entities, Cantons and District</i></p> <p><i>2015</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Report of Conference of education ministers on adequate support measures</i> <p><i>Existing budget of action-holder</i></p>

<p>Measure 4</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>To start the initiative to To take active measures to ensure the implementation of its Revised Action Plan on the Educational Needs of Roma, including by allocating adequate human, technical and financial resources for its implementation and monitoring</p> <p><i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i></p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs, Ministry of Education of the Entities, Cantons and the District</i></p> <p>2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Information on undertaken active measures and allocated financial, human and technical resources</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i></p>
<p>Measure 5</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>To start the initiative to improve a code of conduct with a view to eliminating the stereotyping and stigmatization of minority and/or ethnic groups in the media and provide for its full implementation</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children</i></p> <p><i>Regulatory Agency for Communications and media representatives</i></p> <p>2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i></p>
<p>Measure 6</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>To develop the programs relevant to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to follow up on the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children</i></p> <p><i>Academia and NGO Snažniji glas za djecu</i></p> <p>2016/2017</p> <p><i>The programs developed and reports on the implementation</i></p> <p><i>Donor funds</i></p>

On 30 October 2012, the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BIH asked the Governments of the Entities and District to send their opinions as to how justified it is to conclude the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention for the Rights of the Child which pertains to the procedure upon complaints.

On 11 March 2013, the Government of the Federation of BIH gave its approval for conclusion of this international treaty and Brčko District gave its approval on 18 February 2014.

The Government of Republika Srpska did not submit its opinion even after the reiterated request of the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees.

Also, on the occasion of 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the network "Snažnji glas za djecu" started advocating for signature and ratification of the said Protocol.

Measure 7	To continue the activities aimed at ratifying the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights and Republika Srpska Government</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BIH Presidency</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016/2017</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Ratified the Third Optional Protocol</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of action-holder</i>

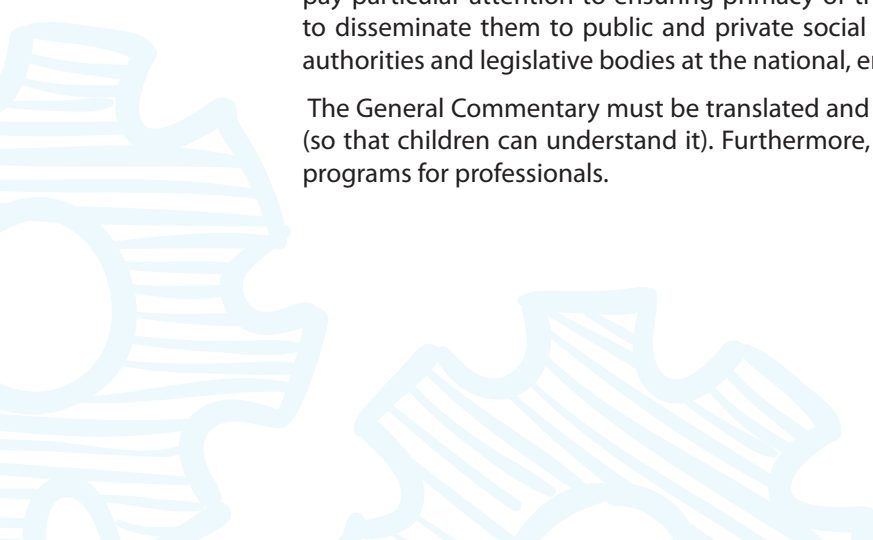
B 2. Best interest of the child

The principle of the best interest of the child is not adequately applied in situations concerning children deprived of a family environment. In particular, the best interests of the child are not the primary consideration when regulating and implementing the placement of children deprived of a family environment into different forms of alternative care, including institutions.

The principle of the best interests of the child is widely known and should be appropriately integrated and consistently applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and all policies, programs and projects relevant to and with an impact on children, particularly those deprived of a family environment.

In 2013, the UN Committee for the Rights of the Child enacted the General Commentary 14 to pay particular attention to ensuring primacy of the principle of the best interests of the child, and to disseminate them to public and private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities and legislative bodies at the national, entities' and local levels.

The General Commentary must be translated and also provided in a child-friendly language version (so that children can understand it). Furthermore, it should be integrated into education plans and programs for professionals.



Measure 1	Translate the General Commentary No. 14 on the rights of the child so to ensure primacy to the principle of the best interest of the child
Action-holder:	BIH Ministry of Human Rights
Implementing agencies:	BIH Council for Children, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Civil Affairs BiH
Deadline:	2015
Indicator:	- General Commentary translated, published at the web site of competent ministries
Budget:	Existing budget of action-holder

Measure 2	To develop the criteria to provide guidance for determining the best interests of the child in every area and to disseminate them to public and private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities and legislative bodies
Action-holder:	BIH Council for Children
Implementing agencies:	Academia, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy/Protection, Education, Health, Justice
Deadline:	2015/2016
Indicator:	Guidance provided
Budget:	Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds

Measure 3	Start the activities in view of recognizing the child's best interest and supporting the process of de-institutionalization of Centers for accommodation of children without parental care, to provide family based care to children deprived of family environment which shall not end when the child becomes of full age and shall last until the completion of the child's/young person's education
Action-holder:	Ministry of Civil Affairs (BIH Council for Children)
Implementing agencies:	BIH Council of Ministers, Governments of the Entities, District, Canton Non-governmental sector
Deadline:	2017/2018
Indicator:	At least 10% more children without parental care are accommodated in parental form of care on an annual basis, starting as of 2017
Budget:	Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds

Measure 4	Develop a code of conduct on humanitarian work with children and their families along with clearly defined guidelines of allowed and prohibited activities in humanitarian work
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Academia and non-governmental sector</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The code of conduct developed</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 5	Conduct a research about the children and youth early concluding marriage in BIH
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Academia and non-governmental sector</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The research conducted and results published</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Donor funds</i>

B 3. Respect for the views of the child

The legislation, including family laws and other relevant legislation, recognizes the right of children to express their views in relevant legal proceedings. The State initiated the Enhancing the Social Protection and Inclusion System for Children program in 2009 to support the introduction and improvement of children's participation at the community level. However, actual implementation of legislation recognizing the rights of children to express their views in decisions affecting them, including relevant legal proceedings, is rarely undertaken and is not systematically monitored by social workers and courts.



<p>Measure 1</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Take measures to ensure the effective implementation of legislation recognizing the right of children to express their views in relevant legal proceedings, including by considering establishing systems and/or procedures for social workers and courts to monitor compliance with the principle</p> <p><i>BIH Ministry of Justice</i></p> <p><i>Entities Ministries of Justice and Judicial Department of Brčko District</i></p> <p><i>On a continuous basis</i></p> <p><i>The Report on the measures taken for the effective implementation of legislation</i></p> <p><i>Existing budget of action-holder</i></p>
<p>Measure 2</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Develop the guidelines with programmes and awareness-raising activities to promote the meaningful and empowered participation of all children within the family, community and schools, including within student council bodies, and with particular attention to children in vulnerable situations</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children</i></p> <p><i>In partnership with NGO and academia</i></p> <p><i>2016/2017</i></p> <p><i>The guidelines developed</i></p> <p><i>Existing budget of action-holder and donor funds</i></p>
<p>Measure 3</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To start the initiative for participation of children in the development and enactment of public policies and decisions which regulate the rights of children or influence the quality of child's life and for training of professionals who work with/for children to respect the child's opinion</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children</i></p> <p><i>In partnership with NGO and academia</i></p> <p><i>2015/2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i></p>

C) OBJECTIVE: To provide for the requirements for full exercise of civil rights and freedom of children and put in place specific mechanisms for protection of rights and freedoms

C. Civil rights and freedoms

(Articles 7, 8, 13-17, 19 and 37 (a) of the Convention)

C1. Birth registration

Although the Law on Birth Registration is adopted in Republika Srpska in October 2009 and in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in July 2011, the State has not yet established a free and universal birth registration system, which results in difficulties in birth registration for children born outside of hospitals, children living in remote areas, refugees and children belonging to minority groups. More specifically:

- Inadequate accessibility of registration offices in rural and outlying areas;
- Birth registration not being free of charge for births occurring outside hospitals;
- Difficulties encountered by families belonging to ethnic minorities, particularly those of Roma ethnicity, due to the lack of translation and interpretation services;
- Birth registration being subject to the immigration status of the child's parents, resulting in particular disadvantage to the Roma community, which has markedly lower rates of parents possessing the necessary documentation; and
- The lack of public awareness of the importance of birth registration, particularly among the Roma population.

Measure 1	<p>To start the initiative for the activities that would provide for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing the number of birth registration offices in rural and outlying areas; - Issue birth certificates free of charge; - Provide free legal aid and, if required, support to facilitate birth registration for illiterate persons or persons without documentation; - Issue birth certificates for all children born in its territory, regardless of the immigration status of the child or his/her parents; - Raise awareness, especially among the Roma population, of the importance of birth registration
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Municipal and local community registration offices</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the Initiative</i> - <i>Reports on initiated activities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the implementing agencies</i>

C2. Right to privacy

There have been cases of frequent instances of unethical and unprofessional conduct by journalists publishing personal details of children and youth who are victims or perpetrators of offences. There is no national legislation prohibiting the disclosure of personal details of children by the media and/or journalists and ensuring commensurate penalties for such conduct. There are no child-specific and child-friendly mechanisms for children to complain against breaches of their privacy, and to increase the protection of children involved in penal proceedings. Also, there is a need to increase the protection of children who are involved in criminal proceedings. Furthermore, there is also a lack of organized campaigns to raise awareness of the Convention and the right of the child to privacy among journalists and other media professionals.

Measure 1	To start the initiative for the establishment of child-specific and child-friendly mechanisms for children to complain against breaches of their privacy and to increase the protection of children involved in penal proceedings.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Institution of Ombudsman of BIH and Ombudsman for Children of Republika Srpska</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i>

D) OBJECTIVE: To enhance mechanisms of child protection and enhancing awareness to prevent and stop the violence against children

D. Violence against children

(Articles 19, 37 (a) and 39 of the Convention)

D 1. Corporal punishment

Corporal punishment is unlawful in schools and as a sentence for crime and disciplinary measure in penal institutions throughout the State but corporal punishment in the home remains widespread in the State.

Considering that the explicit prohibition of corporal punishment in all settings, including the domestic context, throughout its territory is not in place, objective A contains this measure singled out as a specific measure.

However, there is a wide acceptance of a certain degree of violence in “disciplining” children and therefore it is necessary to strengthen and expand awareness-raising and education programs, including campaigns, in order to promote positive and alternative forms of discipline and respect for children’s rights with the involvement of children, while raising awareness about the adverse consequences of corporal punishment.

Measure 1	To launch campaigns and education programs in order to strengthen and raise awareness in order to promote positive and alternative forms of disciplining and respecting children rights with children participating therein, at the same time raising awareness on detrimental consequences of corporal punishments.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and NGO</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>All relevant ministries of education, academia, NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The number of campaigns and education programs</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 2	Start the initiative for developing the culture of responsible parenthood by way of strengthening capacities of parents for raising children without violence.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and academia</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection, family counselling offices, NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative, textbooks on responsible parenthood available to parents</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Donor funds</i>

D 2. Abuse and neglect

There is a lack of harmonized legislation on domestic violence across the State which constitutes a significant obstacle in ensuring the prevention and punishment of all forms of violence against children. Besides that, that the lack of a national database on domestic violence against children also prevents a comprehensive assessment of the extent, causes and nature of this phenomenon. The measures to disseminate information about the impact of domestic violence on children and measures to encourage reporting of instances of child abuse remain inadequate.

Measure 1	Establish a database on all cases of domestic violence against children in order to make a comprehensive assessment of the extent, causes and nature of this phenomenon
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Gender Equality Agency</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' Gender Centers</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The Database put in place</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>
Measure 2	To strengthen the education programs and awareness raising programs including campaigns involving children in order to prevent and stop abuse of children and to analyze the effect of violence on individuals and community at local and national levels
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and academia</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Education and Ministries of Labor and Social Policy, NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The number of education programs and campaigns, and analysis</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Donor funds</i>
Measure 3	To strengthen the measures to encourage reporting of child abuse and prosecute the perpetrators of those offenses
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>HJPC</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities, Cantonal and District Prosecutor's Offices and Courts</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Reports of prosecutor's office and courts on the number of reported and processed cases</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i>

Measure 4	To develop a multidisciplinary model of actions for prevention and protection of children from all forms of violence – crosssectoral protocols at local levels
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Competent institutions at the Entities and Cantonal levels and local community</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Number of crosssectoral protocols at local levels</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of action-holder and donor funds</i>
Measure 5	To submit the initiative for developing an efficient and operative network of different services for children – victims of violence, including shelters for children and mothers victims of domestic violence.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights and</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Relevant institutions of the Entities, Cantons and local community</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Reports on initiated activities (the number of shelters for children and mothers victims of domestic violence)</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>
Measure 6	Start the initiative to consider children victims of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect as social protection beneficiaries in Federation of BIH
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Federation Ministry of Labor and Social Policy</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Reports on the initiated activities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i>

Measure 7	To start the initiative to develop the syllabus which includes the issue of violence against and among children for graduate and postgraduate studies at some universities
Action-holder:	BiH Council for Children
Implementing agencies:	Academia
Deadline:	2015/2016
Indicator:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Initiative developed - Status of the initiative - Reports on the initiated activities
Budget:	Existing budget of action-holder

Measure 8	Start the initiative for primary and secondary schools curriculum to introduce education on all forms of child violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, by way of reporting and protection
Action-holder:	BiH Council for Children
Implementing agencies:	All competent ministries of education in BiH
Deadline:	2015/2016
Indicator:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Initiative developed - Status of the initiative - Reports on the initiated activities
Budget:	Existing budget of the action-holder

Measure 9	To start the initiative to enhance the protection of children from abuse and neglect in institutions
Action-holder:	BiH Council for Children
Implementing agencies:	All competent ministries of labor and social policy/protection in BiH
Deadline:	2015/2016
Indicator:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Initiative developed - Status of the initiative - Reports on the initiated activities
Budget:	Existing budget of the action-holder

D 3. Sexual exploitation and abuse

The finances are insufficient for the implementation of the Action Plan for improving the system of protection against child pornography and other forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children through information and communication technologies in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Furthermore, there is the lack of a framework for cross-border cooperation for the prosecution of perpetrators, as well as assistance for and protection of victims and witnesses. Also, the type and length of sentences for sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in the Criminal Codes at both the State and entity/District levels are frequently not commensurate.

Measure 1	Ensure the provision of adequate human, technical and financial resources for the implementation of the Action Plan for improving the system of protection against child pornography and other forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children through information and communication technologies in Bosnia and Herzegovina up to 2015.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>In accordance with the Action Plan</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Report on the implementation of the Action Plan</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 2	Implementation of the Strategy combating the violence against children 2012 – 2015
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>In accordance with the Strategy</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Report on the implementation of the Strategy</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i>



E) OBJECTIVE: capacity building of families and entire society to attend to social and health protection, education for the implementation of the rights of the child deprived of family environment

E. Family environment and alternative care
(Articles 5, 18 (Paragraphs 1-2), 9-11, 19-21, 25, 27 (Paragraph 4) and 39 of the Convention)

E 1. Family environment

2008 Program for Enhancing the Social Protection and Inclusion System for Children (SPIS) is basically positive step forward, but the limited financial and human resources have been made available to Social Work Centers. This has resulted in the centers being unable to prevent the dissolution of families in cases where an alternative situation could have been adopted, and address the needs of children deprived of parental care. The Centers do not have clear terms of reference focused on the provision of social support, and therefore frequently focus mostly on administrative work relating to the registration of beneficiaries and the evaluation of formal legal criteria for the realization of the right to social assistance rather than on the provision of support to families.

Social Work Centers have not so far sufficiently used new and efficient methods of social inclusion of marginalized children that were developed by non-governmental organizations.

Given the said circumstances, the Centers need to co-operate with civil society organizations so that they can jointly enhance the conditions for the development of healthy potentials of children.

Measure 1	To start the initiative to provide the Social Work Centers with appropriate human, technical and financial resources and to ensure systematic education of employees and take all necessary measures to guarantee the quality, efficiency and transparency of all activities of the Social Work Centers
<i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/ Protection and the Department of Social Work of the District and NGO with developed mentoring programs</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Reports on the initiated activities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds.</i>

<p>Measure 2</p> <p><i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To start the initiative that the Social Work Centers give priority to training and capacity-building on the prevention of family dissolution and that a clearer mandate, focused on the provision of support services is given in Social Work Centers, family counselling offices, and the existing services that might be led by NGOs</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the Department of Social Work of the District</i></p> <p>2015/2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Reports on the initiated activities</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</i></p>
<p>Measure 3</p> <p><i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To start the initiative for a comprehensive reform of social work centers, in order to restructure the work process (move from prevalent to the sectoral work), enhance the quality of work and apply the modern work methodologies including the possibility of rendering specialized services by NGO</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the Department of Social Work of the District</i></p> <p>2015/2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Reports on initiated activities</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</i></p>
<p>Measure 4</p> <p><i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To start the initiative for opening and support the work of family counseling offices within social work centers</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the Department of Social Work of the District</i></p> <p>2015/2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Reports on initiated activities</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</i></p>

Measure 5	To start the initiative for media promotion of the responsible parenthood
<i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and Academia</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Reports on initiated activities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 6	To start the initiative for establishing and extending the network of programs intended for strengthening of parental competencies
<i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and Academia and NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Reports on the initiated activities</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

E 2. Children deprived of family environment

The Policy for the Protection of Children without Parental Care and Families at Risk of Separation in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2006-2016) was adopted.

However, children are being placed in institutions on the sole basis of family economic hardship and the following:

- The inadequacy of alternative family- and community-based options for children deprived of a family environment or children with special protection needs, with the majority of children being placed in institutions; and insufficient efforts being made to reunite such children with their biological families, resulting in many of those children remaining in institutions until the age of 18;
- Children placed in institutions located outside of the territory of their registered residence and therefore unable to access health care due to administrative obstacles relating to their relocation;
- Understaffing in centers for social work, resulting in children in institutions having insufficient attention paid to their development;
- The absence of a comprehensive system of foster care, and the low and irregular funds for covering the costs of children's placement in foster families, frequently resulting in low standards of care in such situations;
- Inadequate preparation and support for children and youth leaving the public care system; and
- The current system of alternative care discouraging the reunification of children with their biological families even where this may be a viable option.

Measure 1	Start the initiative for To facilitate and support family-based care for children wherever possible, especially children from 0 to 3 years of age, and in doing so ensure that children are not placed in out-of-family care on the sole basis of socioeconomic hardship
<i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Welfare and the District Department of Social Work</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i>



<p>Measure 2</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>Thoroughly and periodically review placements of children in institutions and, in doing so, pay particular attention to signs of maltreatment of children; and, where in the best interests of the child, facilitate contact between the child and her/his biological family to encourage and support reunification wherever possible</p> <p><i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights via the Commission for Monitoring of Residential Institutions</i></p> <p><i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the District Department of Social Work</i></p> <p><i>On a continuous basis</i></p> <p><i>Annual reports of the action-holder on the execution of the measure</i></p> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i></p>
<p>Measure 3</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing Agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>Ensure equal access to health care and education for children in care</p> <p><i>Institutions for children without parental care</i></p> <p><i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the District Department of Social Work</i></p> <p><i>On a continuous basis</i></p> <p><i>Annual reports of the action-holder on the execution of the measure</i></p> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i></p>
<p>Measure 4</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>To start the initiative to increase the number of social workers to ensure that the individual needs of each child can be effectively addressed, and develop criteria for the selection, training, support and evaluation of childcare workers</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Welfare and the District Department of Social Work</i></p> <p><i>And NGO with developed mentoring programs</i></p> <p><i>2015/2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i></p>

<p>Measure 5</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Establish a comprehensive and coherent national system of foster care and ensure the provision of adequate and timely funds and support for foster families to complement other forms of alternative care</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Welfare and the District Department of Social Work</i></p> <p><i>2015/2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies</i></p>
<p>Measure 6</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Facilitate the reunification of children with their biological families whenever viable</p> <p><i>Institutions for children without parental care</i></p> <p><i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the District Department of Social Work</i></p> <p><i>On a continuous basis</i></p> <p><i>Annual reports of the action-holder on the execution of the measure</i></p> <p><i>Existing budgets of the implementing agencies</i></p>
<p>Measure 7</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Start the initiative to provide all the human, technical and financial resources required for improving the situation of children in alternative care placements.</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the District Department of Social Work</i></p> <p><i>And NGO with developed mentoring programs</i></p> <p><i>2015/2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative (necessary human, technical and financial resources ensured)</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the implementing agencies</i></p>



E 3. Adoption

There are discrepancies in the legislation among the entities and territories in the State, resulting in legislative ambiguity and protection gaps, especially because of the following;

- Low adoption rates due to complex and time-consuming procedures for adoption; the lack of coordination among social protection institutions; and the absence of a database on children eligible for adoption and corresponding applications from prospective adopters;
- The upper age limit of five years for children in the Republika Srpska, resulting in most children there not being eligible for adoption; and
- lack of the data disaggregated according to, inter alia, age, gender, socioeconomic status, on children involved in domestic and intercountry adoption.

Measure 1	Start the initiative to facilitate adoptions, including by simplifying and streamlining procedures for adoption while ensuring safeguards required by the Convention, and establish a universal integrated database for its social protection institutions with information on potential adoptees and adopters nationwide
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Welfare and the District Department of Social Work Social Work Centers</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2016/2017</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Database set up</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i>

Measure 2	To start the initiative for increasing the upper age limit for adoption in the Republika Srpska
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Republika Srpska</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i>

Measure 3	Collect disaggregated data on children involved in domestic and intercountry adoption
<i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the District Department of Social Work</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Data categorized on children who are included in national and international adoption</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</i>



F) OBJECTIVE: Provide for mechanisms of protection of the rights of children with disabilities and overall protection of children and living standard

F. Disability, basic health and welfare

(Articles 6, 18 (sub-paragraph 3), 23, 24, 26, 27 (Paragraphs 1-3) of the Convention)

F 1. Children with disabilities

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was ratified in 2010. However, no concrete steps have been taken to establish a clear legislative definition of disability and ensure the alignment of national, entity and cantonal legislation with the provisions of that Convention.

Inclusive education remains severely limited, with the teachers lacking competence to work with children with disabilities and rarely any teaching assistants for individual work with children, resulting with the majority of children with disabilities staying at home or being segregated in special institutions/schools, and stigmatization and compromised access to employment opportunities and social services.

Insufficient and inadequate care and support, with service providers, in particular centers for social work and health-care centers, not being adequately equipped and prepared to provide services and support necessary for addressing the needs of children with disabilities while allowing them to continue living with their families. The application of legal provisions on construction is inadequate resulting in the persistence of architectural and physical barriers in public areas, including schools. The disparity between the protections afforded to persons with war-related disabilities and persons with disabilities resulting from an accident, illness or existing since birth, in particular children, results in unequal and lesser protection being provided to the latter.

Measure 1	Start the initiative to ensure that children with disabilities enjoy their right to education, and provide for their inclusion in the mainstream education system to the greatest extent possible, including by developing a disability education action plan to specifically identify current inadequacies in resources, and to establish clear objectives with concrete timelines for the implementation of measures to address the educational needs of children with disabilities
	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Agency for pre-school, primary and secondary education in BiH, competent Entities, Cantonal Ministries of Education and Brčko District Department of Education</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

<p>Measure 2</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i> Ministry of Civil Affairs and <i>Implementing agencies:</i> Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and the District Department of Social Work, NGO</p> <p><i>Deadline:</i> 2015/2016</p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Initiative developed - Status of the initiative <p><i>Budget:</i> Existing budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</p>	<p>To start the initiative to strengthen support measures for parents to care for their children with disabilities, and, where placement in care is necessary, ensure that it is done with full regard for the principle of the best interests of the child and in care centres that are provided with adequate human, technical and financial resources to provide the services and support necessary for children with disabilities and their families</p>
<p>Measure 3</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i> BIH Ministry of Human Rights</p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i> Local communities</p> <p><i>Deadline:</i> 2015.</p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Initiative developed - Status of the initiative <p><i>Budget:</i> Existing budget of the action-holder, budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</p>	<p>To start the initiative to ensure that legal provisions on construction and their implementation address environmental barriers that hinder the full and effective participation of children with disabilities in society on an equal basis</p>
<p>Measure 4</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i> Ministry of Civil Affairs and <i>Implementing agencies:</i> Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Welfare and the District Department of Social Work</p> <p><i>Deadline:</i> 2015</p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Initiative developed - Status of the initiative <p><i>Budget:</i> Existing budget of the action-holder</p>	<p>To start the initiative to address the disparity between the protection afforded to persons with war-related disabilities and children with disabilities resulting from an accident, illness or existing since birth in order to ensure that equal protection and support is provided to the latter</p>

F.2. Health and health services

The complex political structure and lack of unified laws and policies make equal access to health care for all children difficult.

Despite the 2010 Law on Health Care of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is aimed at regulating the health protection of national minorities, a large proportion of the Roma population remains deprived of health insurance. Immunization rates in the period 2005–2011 declined and coverage is significantly lower for vulnerable groups, with only 40 per cent of Roma children being fully immunized. The rates of iron-deficiency anemia remain high among children and pregnant and lactating women. Baby-friendly practices in hospitals are inadequate, with low rates of early initiation of breastfeeding, and less than 20 per cent of all children under the age of 6 months being exclusively breastfed. The International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes is not enforced at the State level and there is no systematic monitoring mechanism in place, which results in widespread violation of the Code.

Measure 1	To start the initiative for urgent and specific measures to ensure that the 2010 Law on Health Care of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is implemented in a manner that ensures the health insurance coverage of all Roma persons
<i>Action-coordinator:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>FBIH Ministry of Health and Cantonal Ministries of Health</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i>
Measure 2	To start the initiative to allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources for strengthening its vaccination programmes with clear timelines and targets, and with special attention paid to children in vulnerable situations
<i>Action-coordinator:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and competent Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i>

<p>Measure 3.</p> <p><i>Action-coordinator:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To start the initiative to establish a national iron supplements program using iron supplements to treat iron deficiency anaemia</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i> <i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and relevant Brčko District Department agencies</i></p> <p>2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i></p>
<p>Measure 4</p> <p><i>Action-coordinator:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To start the initiative to start the breastfeeding promotion program, funding for its baby-friendly hospital initiative and enforcing the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes at the national level, with effective monitoring mechanisms and commensurate sanctions for violations of the Code</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i> <i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and relevant Brčko District Department agencies</i></p> <p>2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i></p>
<p>Measure 5</p> <p><i>Action-coordinator:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To start the initiative to launch the programs for advocating healthy life styles and habits related to nurturing of children and adolescents at home, school and in community</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i> <i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and relevant Brčko District Department agencies</i></p> <p>2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i></p>

Measure 6	Reinstate the initiative to ensure an equal access to mandatory health insurance to all children
<i>Action-coordinator:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and competent Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative (100% coverage of health insurance for children)</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i>

Measure 7	To start the initiative for adaptation of health institutions premises to the needs and age of children in the best interest of child (gynecological offices, psychiatric clinics and other wards for expert analysis of children victims of violence)
<i>Action-coordinator:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and relevant Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016.</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and budgets of the implementing agencies</i>

Measure 8	To start the initiative of determining the depleted uranium contaminated sites in BIH which have led to substantial increases in the occurrence of cancer, particularly among children who continue to live at these sites (in its concluding observations and recommendations, the Committee for the Rights of the Child emphasized that there are 15 sites contaminated with depleted uranium.)
<i>Action-coordinator:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and competent Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

F 3. Adolescent health

Alcohol, tobacco and illegal drug consumption remains widespread among adolescents in the State, yet there is no systematic data collection on the consumption of alcohol, tobacco and drugs and no measures are taken to efficiently implement the sale ban of such products to children.

Furthermore, the lack of preventive measures is observed amongst adolescents in the community which would strengthen protective factors and develop skills of adolescents for healthy life in the community.

Measure 1	Start the initiative to systematically collect information on the consumption of alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs among adolescents, and take measures necessary for the effective enforcement of the prohibition of the sale of such products to children and to consider prohibiting all forms of advertisements promoting alcohol and tobacco products on television, radio and the Internet and in publications and other media commonly accessed by children
<i>Action-coordinator:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and competent Brčko District Department, media, inspections, competent Ministries of Interior, Regulatory Agency for Communications</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative and</i> - <i>Reports of the implementing agencies on the consumption of alcohol, tobacco and rugs amongst adolescents, and undertaken measures of efficient implementation of sale ban of alcohol and tobacco to underage persons (every agency in line with its own powers)</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the implementing agencies</i>

Measure 2	Support the development of prevention programs that will enable adolescents to acquire healthy habits in the community, and promotion programs of healthy habits in local communities through creative, sports, artistic, cultural and other activities.
<i>Action-coordinator:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities' and Cantonal Ministries of Health and competent Brčko District Department, municipalities and services in charge of local action plans of youth strategies, institutions and non-governmental organizations which work directly with adolescents</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Number of the developed prevention programs</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

F 4. Social protection

There are differences in the area of social protection of children and families in FBiH where benefits levels vary from canton to canton. The Law on Social Protection in the Federation of BiH prescribes that the Cantons are in charge of further regulation and financing of the rights and benefits for families with children. The differences in public financial situation are the reason for which some benefits are still unavailable to beneficiaries, for example, the child allowance is prescribed in five out of ten cantons. The amount of child allowance differs per Cantons (the lowest being BAM 9.70, the highest BAM 50.00).

The child protection in the RS is financed at the central level and implemented through the Public Fund for Child Protection. For example, the total number of minor beneficiaries of social protection in the RS in 2007 was 87,925. The structure of beneficiaries as per main child categories shows that the most represented is the category of children at risk due to family situation (44.2%) and children in socio-protection need (41.6%). Furthermore, the beneficiaries' structure include children without specific category 6.1%, children with mental and physical impairments 4.6%, and significantly lower percentage of children with socially unacceptable behavior 3.3% and mentally ill children 0.2%.

In addition to the child allowance (BAM 35), and allowance for second and third child in family, the Public Fund also pays funds for particularly vulnerable children which in 2010 amounted to BAM 100.00.

Due to economic crisis, the RS authorities decreased the amount of child allowance paid out of the Public Fund for Child Protection. Child allowance for the second child is BAM 35.00, for the third child BAM 70.00, the fourth child BAM 35.00, and BAM 90.00 for vulnerable category of children, equipment of newborn first and second child BAM 350.00, for the third child BAM 500.00 KM and the fourth child BAM 400.00.

The new Law on Social Protection was adopted in the RS in 2012 ("Official Gazette RS" Vol. 37/12) and it foresees the increase in all monetary allowances for end beneficiaries including children. The monetary aid and allowance for aid and care of another person is provided in as much as 50% of funds are provided from the RS budget and 50% from local self-governance units' budget.

Children have a direct right to benefit from social security, including social insurance. Nevertheless, this right appears to be limited to children only up to the age of 15.

A large proportion of children in the state live under the established poverty line, resulting in housing, amenities, health and education deprivations that seriously limit the fulfilment of their rights with the exercise of their rights. The current social welfare system does not adequately address the needs of persons in situations that are most financially disadvantaged.

The activities aimed at identification of problem and monitoring the situation in the area of social protection are of special importance for children in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

and

Standard of living

Notwithstanding certain progress in terms of economic growth in the past decade, according to UNICEF data, a child poverty rate in 2010 was 26.6%, and the global economic crisis has a significant impact on the living standard. Furthermore, rural families, Roma, internally displaced persons, returnees, families with two or more children and families with children with invalids make a large part of socially vulnerable population.

<p>Measure 1</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Start the initiative to establish poverty reduction strategies and programs at the local and community levels, ensuring equitable access to basic services, such as adequate nutrition, housing, water and sanitation, as well as to social and health services and education</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children</i> <i>Entities and Cantonal Governments in cooperation with local communities</i></p> <p>2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i></p>
<p>Measure 2</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Start the initiative to adopt temporary special measures and affirmative action and take measures to improve the availability of employment for youth and children to raise the standard of living among its most needy children and families disproportionately affected by poverty</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children</i></p> <p><i>Entities, Cantonal and Brčko District Governments</i></p> <p>2015/2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i></p>
<p>Measure 3</p> <p><i>Action-holder:</i></p> <p><i>Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>Start the initiative for introducing a universal child allowance scheme to redress disparities and guarantee an adequate standard of living for all children in its territory</p> <p><i>Ministry of Civil Affairs</i></p> <p><i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy/Protection and competent Brčko District Department</i></p> <p>2015/2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i></p>

G) OBJECTIVE: To make the upbringing and education system fair and available for the development of potentials of children/pupils through high-quality, adapted and comprehensive services.

In order to achieve this objective it is necessary to develop mechanisms of equal availability and education quality for all children and improve the conditions for care, upbringing and education of children in preschool, primary, general and specialized secondary education as well as for participation in free and cultural activities that enable and support the development of child and nurture the awareness of participation in society.

G. Education, leisure and cultural activities

(Articles 28, 29 and 31 of the Convention)

G 1. Education, including vocational training and guidance

Measure 1	Submit the initiative to competent education authorities to reexamine justifiability of closing of satellite schools in rural areas and its implication for child access to education in these areas
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and Conference of education ministers in BIH</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Education and relevant Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i>
Measure 2	In accordance with article 28, paragraph 1 (b), of the Convention, take measures to make secondary education available and accessible to every child, such as the introduction of free education and the provision of financial assistance in case of need
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and Conference of education ministers in BIH</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Education and competent Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder and implementing agencies</i>

<p>Measure 3</p> <p><i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To submit the initiative for allocation of appropriate means that will guarantee that educational institutions (preschool institutions and other institutions of preschool upbringing and education, primary and secondary school) have adequate conditions as standards that will attend to the need of equal and high-quality education of all children and guarantee that schools have adequate standards of hygiene, equipment and didactic material</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children and Conference of education ministers in BIH Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Education and relevant Brčko District Department</i></p> <p><i>2015/2016.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> <p><i>Existing budgets of the action-holder and implementing agencies</i></p>
<p>Measure 4</p> <p><i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i></p> <p><i>Deadline:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Budget:</i></p>	<p>To submit the initiative for specific measures to combat discrimination against Roma children in access to education, including through the provision of additional language lessons and support, school readiness programs and support programs to address the educational needs of Roma children and other children in a minority situation, and in doing so ensure that such additional measures are not provided in a manner that exacerbates stigmatization or segregation</p> <p><i>BIH Council for Children and Conference of education ministers in BIH Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Education and competent Brčko District Department</i></p> <p><i>2015/2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Specific measures carried out</i> <p><i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i></p>



Measure 5	To submit the initiative for additional improvement of quality and coverage of children in the upbringing and education from early childhood, including the upbringing for the largest possible number of children up to three years of age which will be set as priority in the manner to guarantee a high-quality approach to child development along with capacity building of professionals who work with children and parents.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and Agency for Preschool, Primary and Secondary Education</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Education Ministries, Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Health, Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Protection/Policy and competent Department of Brčko District</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Increased percentage of children included in early upbringing, number of trainings for professional workers</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 6	To submit the initiative to continue the work in supporting the quality development of programs and services in upbringing/education and school preparation with a focus on complete application of the program in BIH and extension of the program to last one pedagogic year, and provide children with the access to upbringing/education program in a year before starting the schools at the same time ensuring equal quality of work on preschool institutions.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and Agency for Preschool, Primary and Secondary Education</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Education Ministries and competent Brčko District Department, local authorities</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Increased number of children covered by high-quality preschool programs, increased number of mandatory hours and continuity of child programs in a year before they start school</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 7	Submit the initiative for the development of analysis of quality time and activities with children during their stay in school outside regular classes, such as extended stay, and to propose measures for the improvement thereof in terms of material and technical and program conditions
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Education Ministries and competent Brčko District Department, academia, NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Analyses carried out</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>
Measure 8	Submit the initiative to allocate human, technical and financial resources for improving the quality of education in rural areas
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Education Ministries and relevant Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015.</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>
Measure 8.	To submit the initiative to revise and strengthen its national teacher training and qualification process with a view to improving the overall quality of education
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Education Ministries and competent Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 9.	To develop anti-discrimination program and Rules for recognizing and protecting children from discrimination in preschool institutions, primary and secondary schools
Action-holder:	BIH Ministry of Human Rights
Implementing agencies:	Ministry of Civil Affairs, Entities and Cantonal Education Ministries and competent Department of Brčko District
Deadline:	2015/2016
Indicator:	Developed antidiscrimination program and Rules for recognizing and protecting children from discrimination in primary schools existing in all Education Ministries ja
Budget:	Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds

G 2. Human rights and peace education

Measure 1	Develop Guidelines to develop a national plan of action for human rights education to ensure such education throughout its territory, as recommended in the framework of the World Program for Human Rights Education in accordance with Human Rights Council UN Resolution 15/11
Action-holder:	BIH Ministry of Human Rights
Implementing agencies:	Ministry of Civil Affairs, Ministry of Justice of BIH, Ministry of Security, Ministry of Defense of BIH
Deadline:	2015
Indicator:	The Guidelines developed
Budget:	Donor funds

Measure 2	Start the initiative to take effective measures to include peace education in school curricula and to encourage a culture of peace and tolerance within schools
Action-holder:	BIH Council for Children and Conference of education ministers in BIH
Implementing agencies:	Agency for preschool, primary and secondary education, Entities and Cantonal Education Ministries and competent Brčko District Department
Deadline:	2015/2016 and on a continuous basis
Indicator:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initiative developed - Status of the initiative <p>Curricula include education on peace and prompting the culture of peace and tolerance in schools, number of trainings for teachers on an annual level to the topic of peace and tolerance</p>
Budget:	Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds

H) OBJECTIVE: To ensure mechanisms of protection for vulnerable groups with a special focus on children refugees, migrant children, children from the street, children in conflict with law and other children

H. Special protection measures

(Articles 22, 30, 38, 39, 40, 37 (b) - (d), 32-36 of the Convention)

H 1. Migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children

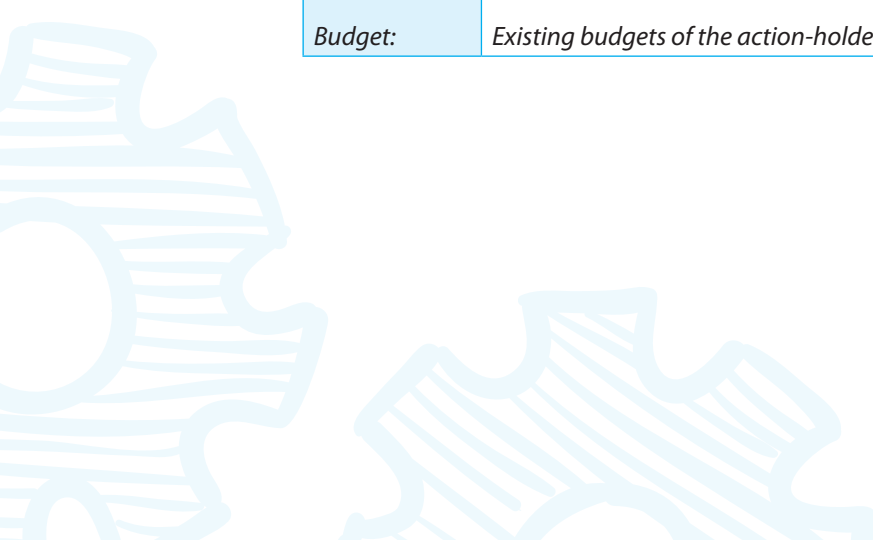
Revised Strategy for the Implementation of Annex VII of the Dayton Peace Agreement, which sets out measures for strengthening access to rights for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnee children is adopted. However, inadequacies in living conditions persist for Roma and minority returnee children and internally displaced children living in collective centers that continue to exist.

Asylum-seeking, internally displaced and returnee children are not guaranteed access to adequate health care, with entitlements only to “basic” health care, which is not defined by law and frequently insufficient; and many rural health-care facilities have been destroyed or are unequipped, resulting in rural returnees having no access to health care locally;

Minority returnees, including those of Roma ethnicity, and IDPs frequently experience difficulties in covering the costs relating to education, such as school supplies and travel costs, and

The State party does not provide legal aid for IDPs, minority returnees, refugees, asylum seekers and people at risk of statelessness.

Measure 1	Fully implement the measures set out in the Revised Strategy for the Implementation of Annex VII of the Dayton Peace Agreement and the Action Plan on Roma Housing so that internally displaced, returnee and Roma children can enjoy an adequate standard of living.
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>In accordance with the Strategy and Action Plan</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Annual reports of the action-holder on the implementation of measures</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>



Measure 2	Start the Initiative to provide financial support to facilitate access to education for minority returnee, internally displaced and Roma children, including taking measures to ensure that all children have unimpeded access to education without fear of discrimination
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children and Conference of education ministers in BIH</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Agency for preschool, primary and secondary education, Entities and Cantonal Education Ministries and competent Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

H 2. Children in armed conflicts

The recruitment and use in armed conflict of persons under the age of 18 years is not explicitly prohibited nor criminalized in State and entity-level legislation.

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee, the following measures are proposed to this end:

Measure 1	To ensure that the principles and provisions of the Optional Protocol are publicized in the general public, including children and civil servants³
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Defense, BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>NGO</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The Optional Protocol published, number of roundtables, TV and radio shows with relevant topics</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

3 1. The Committee recommends that, within the meaning of Article 6(2), the state party should ensure that the principles and provisions of the Optional Protocol are publicized in the general public, including children and civil servants.

Measure 2	In relation to the Optional Protocol, develop systematic programs of education and training in relation to the provisions of the Optional Protocol for all relevant professional groups that work with and for children, in particular for military officers involved in recruitment, judges, prosecutors, immigration officials, parliamentary army commissioners and social workers.⁴
<i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Defense, Entities Centers for Training of judges and prosecutors, BIH Ministry of security, BIH Ministry of Human Rights and nongovernmental organizations</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Education programs and plans developed and reports on the carried out education</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 3	Parliamentary army commissioners have a special mandate to ensure that the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina respect the Optional Protocol, in close cooperation with the Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina⁵
<i>Action-holder: Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>BIH Ombudsmen and Parliamentary army commissioners</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Co-operation established and report of the Ombudsmen regarding the implementation of the Optional Protocol by armed forces</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder</i>

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- 4 2. The Committee recommends that the state party should:
- (a) continue strengthening education programs and training related to the Optional Protocol for members of the armed forces, including those who are sent to an international peacekeeping force; and
 - (b) develop systematic programs of education and training in relation to the provisions of the Optional Protocol for all relevant professional groups that work with and for children, in particular for military officers involved in recruitment, judges, prosecutors, immigration officials, parliamentary army commissioners and social workers
- 5 3. The Committee recommends that the parliamentary army commissioners have a special mandate to ensure that the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina respect the Optional Protocol, in close cooperation with the Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Committee further recommends the state party to intensify efforts on consolidating the Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to secure a single approach to the protection and promotion of human rights and, in particular, of the Convention and its Optional Protocols.

Measure 4	Continue strengthening the campaign to raise awareness about landmines and mine clearance activities, in particular by strengthening mine clearance funding as carried out by the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, consider establishing special rehabilitation programs for children affected by mines and other consequences of armed conflict, and ensure that all affected children can access such programs, including increased allocation of resources to centers for social work and increased coverage of the personal disability allowance system.⁵
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BiH Ministry of Defense, BiH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Government of F BiH, Government of RS, Government of BD and local communities</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative (number of campaigns, number of rehabilitation programs in place etc.)</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

H 3. Economic exploitation and children in street situations

Begging is one of the main forms of exploitation of children. While some measures have been taken at the local level, there is no systematic approach to address this issue.

Forced child begging is not recognized as a form of trafficking in the State party's Criminal Code

There is no coordinated framework for intersectoral cooperation in addressing the issue of economic exploitation, including forced begging.

There are inadequate day-care and/or social centers for the protection, recovery and reintegration of children in street situations.

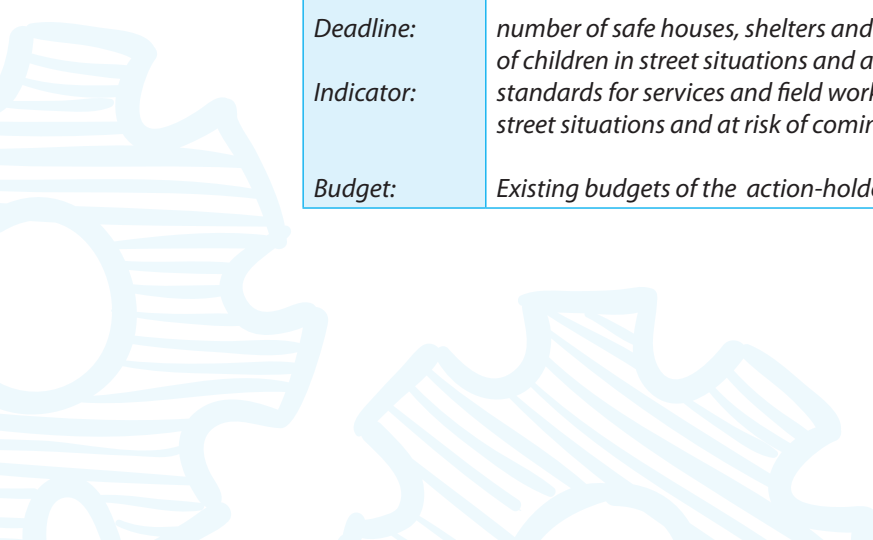
6 7. The Committee recommends that the state party should:

- (a) continue strengthening the campaign to raise awareness about mines and mine clearance activities, particularly by strengthening mine clearance funding as carried out by the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- (b) consider establishing special rehabilitation programs for children affected by mines and other consequences of armed conflict, and ensure that all affected children can access such programs, including through increased allocation of resources to centers for social work and increased coverage of the personal disability allowance system; and
- (c) establish a procedure for adequate identification and referral of all children who have been involved in armed conflict so that they can receive appropriate help, in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Optional Protocol.

Measure 1	Develop a national framework for intersectoral cooperation among its relevant government organizations and agencies to address the issue of economic exploitation, including through forced begging
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Competent organizations and agencies</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The Framework developed (Protocol)</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 2	To submit the initiative for establishing the minimum standard services for children involved in life and work in street and children at risk of coming into street situations, as well as minimum standards for field work
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Council for Children, BIH Ministry of Human Rights</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Policy</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i> - <i>Minimum standards adopted</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 3	Systematic support to programs of rehabilitation and reintegration of children included in life and work in street children at risk of coming into street situations
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>In cooperation with the associations helping children included in life and work in street and children at risk of coming into street situations</i> <i>on a continuous basis</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>number of safe houses, shelters and daycare centers for rehabilitation and reintegration of children in street situations and at risk of coming into street situations, minimum standards for services and field work, mobile teams for the work with children in in street situations and at risk of coming into street situations</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>number of safe houses, shelters and daycare centers for rehabilitation and reintegration of children in street situations and at risk of coming into street situations, minimum standards for services and field work, mobile teams for the work with children in in street situations and at risk of coming into street situations</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>



Measure 4	Raise public awareness of the rights and needs of children in street situations and combat misconceptions and prejudices
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights and</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>The number of campaigns, roundtables, and the like</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 5	Ensure that children in street situations are consulted when planning programs designed for their protection and the improvement of their development
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>In cooperation with the associations helping children included in life and work in street and children at risk of coming into street situations</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>on a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>number of consultations, locations where consultations were held</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 6	Training of professionals for the prevention, early identification and action in cases of economic exploitation
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>In cooperation with the associations helping children included in life and work in street and children at risk of coming into street situations</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>on a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>the number of trainings and participants</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

H 4. Sale, trafficking and abduction

National Action to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2008-2012) has been adopted. However, there are significant discrepancies between the number of trafficking-related incidents reported by the police and the number of investigations ordered by the prosecutors as a result thereof.

Courts at all levels have not issued commensurate sanctions for trafficking-related cases, including in those involving child victims.

There have been cases where the testimony of a child victim was deemed inadequate in the establishment of the guilt of the perpetrator.

There have been reports of girls, particularly those of Roma ethnicity, being trafficked for forced marriage and/or involuntary domestic servitude.

Measure 1	Consider the establishment of an independent third party monitor, to ensure that all cases of trafficking are subject to due and proper investigations
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Competent Entities and Cantonal institutions and services</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Monitoring in place</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i>

Measure 2	Allocate specific human, technical and financial resources for investigating trafficking for forced marriage and/or involuntary servitude
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Security</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Competent Entities and Cantonal institutions and services</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Specific human, technical and financial resources allocated, investigations conducted</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>



H 5. Administration of juvenile justice

The new Law on the Protection and Treatment of Children and Juveniles in Contact with the Law was adopted in Republika Srpska in 2010, in Brčko District in 2011 and in Federation of BiH in 2104.

The Law on the Protection and Treatment of Children and Juveniles in Contact with the Law is based on one of fundamental principles, which is that the reaction to juvenile offenses should move from more lenient to stricter sentences , primarily using out-of-court models and more lenient formal reactions of prosecutors and police and use the criminal sanctions as last measure.

The Law prescribes that the application of international standards and execution of the State obligations to apply alternative models, the so-called diversion prompts juvenile offenders to assume responsibility for what they did and understand the meaning of unacceptable behavior and so to return into society as a useful member after correction. This is now possible through a newly-introduced institute of police warning and upbringing recommendations applying the principle of opportunity.

Diversion from regular procedure prescribes the prosecutor’s obligation to apply the principles and rules prescribed by the law and by-laws in view of not approaching the formal criminal proceedings before trying to resolve the case of juvenile offense by upbringing recommendations.

A minor is entitled to the rights which shall be respected at all stages of the criminal proceedings, such as the right to be clearly informed of the charges, that s/he is considered innocent until proven otherwise.

The introduction of new and amended existing provisions, entailed new competences of the fostering body, police, prosecutor’s office, court and competent ministries in BiH.

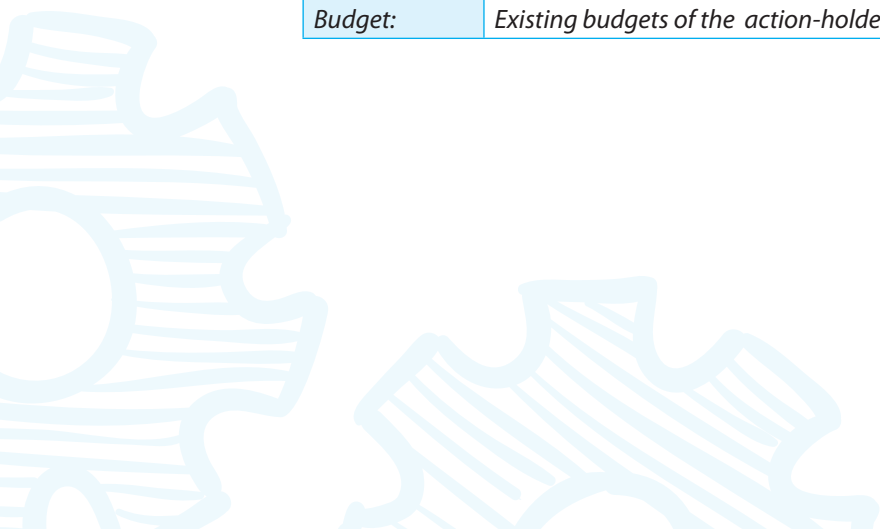
One important novelty is a special chapter in the law titled “Criminal offense to the detriment of children and minors” and extensively prescribed procedure for their interrogation.

The execution of correctional measures and juvenile prison is based on an individual approach to minor which is adapted to his/her personality and in accordance with modern achievements of science, pedagogy and penology practice.

However, despite the new legal framework regulating the administration of juvenile justice in BiH which is harmonized with international standards, there is still a concerning fact that BiH does not have comprehensive analytical and statistical data on children in conflict with law due to different criteria in the data collection systems in two Entities and Brčko District of BiH wherefore a better understanding of juvenile justice administration is impossible.

Measure 1	Allocate the necessary human, technical and financial resources to ensure adequate alternative measures to detention and forms of rehabilitation for children in conflict with the law, and ensure that children are not detained together with adults, provide for monitoring of the institutions on a quarterly basis, and introduce programs for rehabilitation and prevention of recidivistic
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>Ministry of Justice of BiH and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing Agencies:</i>	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs, Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Welfare/Policy and competent Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Reports of the action-holder about allocated human, technical and financial resources</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>

Measure 2	Submit the initiative for the introduction and promotion of preventive and rehabilitation centers who work with children with problematic behavior who are not perpetrators of criminal offense but are at risk at becoming that
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Justice Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Welfare/Policy and competent Brčko District Department, Entities, Cantonal and BD Ministries of Interior</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016.</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiative developed</i> - <i>Status of the initiative</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder, implementing agencies and donor funds</i>
Measure 3	To avoid ordering children and juveniles into pre-trial detention and ensure that, when ordered, pre-trial custody be ordered in the minimum duration
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Justice and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Justice Ministry of Civil Affairs, Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Social Welfare/Policy and competent Brčko District Department</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>Entities, Cantonal and BD Ministries of Interior</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Annual report on the action-holder relative to the implementation of the measure</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder and implementing agencies</i>
Measure 4	Assume measures to ensure access to education for persons under 18 held in detention
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	<i>and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Justice</i>
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>On a continuous basis</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Annual report on the action-holder relative to the implementation of the measure</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder and implementing agencies</i>



<p>Measure 5</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>Establish the national preventive mechanism for monitoring of juvenile prison execution, in conformity with the BIH obligation under the ratified Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture</p> <p><i>BIH Ministry of Human and Ombudsman</i></p> <p><i>2015/2016</i></p> <p><i>national preventive mechanism for monitoring of juvenile prison execution established and financed from the BIH institutions budget</i></p> <p><i>Existing budget of the action-holder and donor funds</i></p>
<p>Measure 6</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>Provide comprehensive training on child rights and juvenile justice to professionals working with or for children in conflict with the law</p> <p><i>Entities Centers for Training of Judges and Prosecutors and Civil Service Agencies of BIH and Entities</i></p> <p><i>On a continuous basis</i></p> <p><i>Number of training on an annual level on the rights of children and administration of juvenile justice, number of trained professionals who work with and for children</i></p> <p><i>Existing budgets of the action-holder and implementing agencies and donors</i></p>
<p>Measure 7</p> <p>Action-holder:</p> <p>Implementing agencies:</p> <p>Deadline:</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>Budget:</p>	<p>Raise public awareness of children in conflict with the law and enforce media and journalism codes of conduct to prevent their stigmatization by media and the general public</p> <p><i>BIH Ministry of Justice and Entities and Cantonal Ministries of Justice and relevant BD Department (or Judicial Commission?)</i></p> <p><i>On a continuous basis</i></p> <p><i>Annual number of campaign, roundtables, shows and the like</i></p> <p><i>Existing budgets of the action-holder and implementing agencies and donors</i></p>

Measure 8	Establish a comprehensive database on children in conflict with the law with a view to facilitating the analysis of their situation at the national level and using its results to improve the State party's juvenile justice system in BIH
<i>Action-holder:</i>	<i>BIH Ministry of Human Rights and BIH Ministry of Justice and Entities Ministries of Justice</i>
<i>Implementing agencies:</i>	
<i>Deadline:</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>
<i>Indicator:</i>	<i>Guidelines developed (or another document) for collection of data in the area of juvenile offences in BIH and comprehensive database on children in conflict with the law established</i>
<i>Budget:</i>	<i>Existing budgets of the action-holder and implementing agencies and donors</i>



Anex 1.

Members of the Council for Children of Bosnia and Herzegovina

- a) Saliha Đuderija, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina - President of the Council for Children,
- b) Milena Jurić, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina – member,
- c) Vesna Puratić, Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina – member,
- d) Samir Rizvo, Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina – member,
- e) Nikola Sladoje, Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina – member,
- f) Svetlana Šiljak, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina – member,
- g) Hašima Ćurak, Agency for Preschool, Primary and Secondary Education of Bosnia and Herzegovina – member,
- h) Nada Uletilović, NGO network „Snažnijiglas za djecu“ – member,
- i) Berina Hamzić, NGO network „Snažniji glas za djecu“ – member,
- j) Jasna Bakšić Muftić, PhD, University of Sarajevo – member,
- k) assistant professor, Tamara Pribišev Beleslin, University of Banja Luka – member,
- l) Slavica Pavlović, MSc, University of Mostar – member.

The Decision establishing the Council for Children of Bosnia and Herzegovina is enacted at 30th session of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina held on 4 December 2012 (“Official Gazette of BiH”, Vol. 4/13).

The Decision appointing members to the Council for Children of Bosnia and Herzegovina is enacted at 67th session of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina held on 6 November 2013 (“Official Gazette of BiH”, Vol.95/13).

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