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Marshall Islands

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies, special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and other relevant official United Nations documents. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), other than those contained in public reports issued by OHCHR. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review. In the absence of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have been taken into consideration, unless they are outdated. Since this report only compiles information contained in official United Nations documents, lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to non-ratification of a treaty and/or to a low level of interaction or cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

I. Background and framework

A. Scope of international obligations¹

<i>Universal human rights treaties²</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>	<i>Declarations/reservations</i>	<i>Recognition of specific competences of treaty bodies</i>
CEDAW	2 March 2006	None	–
CRC	4 October 1993	Non	–

Core treaties to which Marshall Islands is not a party: ICERD, ICESCR, OP-ICESCR,³ ICCPR, ICCPR-OP 1, ICCPR-OP 2, OP-CEDAW, CAT, OP-CAT, OP-CRC-AC, OP-CRC-SC, ICRMW, CRPD, CRPD-OP and CED.

<i>Other main relevant international instruments</i>	<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	No
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	Yes
Palermo Protocol ⁴	No
Refugees and stateless persons ⁵	No
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols thereto ⁶	Yes, except Additional Protocols I, II and III.
ILO fundamental conventions ⁷	No
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	No

1. In 2007, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) noted that Marshall Islands was party to two of the nine core international human rights treaties. Although the Parliament seemed to have approved the ratification of ICCPR, ICESCR, ICERD and CAT, CRC was concerned at the information that the instruments of ratification for these four treaties had not been submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.⁸ It recommended that the Marshall Islands promptly submit the ratification instruments for these treaties to the Secretary-General.⁹ It also recommended that Marshall Islands consider ratifying other core international human rights treaties.¹⁰

2. In 2010, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) recommended that Marshall Islands accede to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, as well as to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.¹¹

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

3. In 2007, CRC noted the measures undertaken by Marshall Islands to review its legislation with a view to ensuring its conformity with the Convention. However, it was concerned that not all principles and provisions of the Convention were covered by Marshall Islands' legislation.¹² It recommended that Marshall Islands take effective measures to harmonize its domestic legislation, which includes customary law, with the provisions and principles of the Convention.¹³

4. In a 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report, it was stated that the Constitution of Marshall Islands guaranteed freedom from discrimination on the grounds of sex, but it did not extend anti-discrimination protection to include indirect discrimination, nor did it protect women on the basis of disability, HIV and marital status. Furthermore, although the Constitution guaranteed men and women the equal protection of the law, it did not guarantee equal benefits or outcomes.¹⁴

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

5. As of 30 June 2010, Marshall Islands did not have a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC).¹⁵

6. In 2007, CRC reiterated its recommendation that Marshall Islands establish a national human rights institution, including the nomination of an ombudsperson for children, provided with adequate human and financial resources to promote and strengthen accessibility for children and to enable children to submit complaints.¹⁶

D. Policy measures

7. In 2007, CRC recommended that Marshall Islands develop a comprehensive, rights-based national plan of action, covering all areas of the Convention. In this exercise, it urged Marshall Islands to allocate sufficient human and economic resources for the implementation of the national plan and to use a participatory approach, involving children and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).¹⁷

II. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

1. Cooperation with treaty bodies

<i>Treaty body¹⁸</i>	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CEDAW	–	–	–	Initial report overdue since 2007.
CRC	2005	February 2007	–	Consolidated third and fourth report due in 2010.

2. Cooperation with special procedures

<i>Standing invitation issued</i>	No
<i>Latest visits or mission reports</i>	–
<i>Visits agreed upon in principle</i>	–
<i>Visits requested and not yet agreed upon</i>	Special Rapporteur on toxic waste in April 2010.
<i>Facilitation/cooperation during missions</i>	–
<i>Follow-up to visits</i>	–
<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	–
<i>Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues</i>	Marshall Islands did not respond to any of the 23 questionnaires sent by special procedures mandate holders, ¹⁹ within the deadlines.

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non-discrimination

8. In the 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report, it was stated that Marshall Islands had not incorporated affirmative action provisions into its Constitution or any legislation for the advancement of women.²⁰

9. In 2007, CRC noted that the Constitution of Marshall Islands prohibits discrimination. However, it remained concerned that the principle of non-discrimination was not fully implemented for children living in the outer islands and in disadvantaged urban communities, especially with regard to their access to adequate health and educational facilities.²¹

2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

10. The 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report indicated that Marshall Islands was yet to incorporate domestic violence offences into its criminal laws.²²

11. In 2007, while noting that corporal punishment was prohibited in schools and that it was unlawful as a disciplinary measure, CRC was concerned that it remained lawful in the family and that it was not formally prohibited in alternative care settings.²³ It urged Marshall Islands to, inter alia, explicitly prohibit all forms of corporal punishment in the family and in institutional settings and alternative care systems, sensitize and educate parents, guardians and professionals working with and for children about the harmful impact of corporal punishment, promote positive, non-violent forms of discipline as an alternative to corporal punishment, and provide children with child-sensitive mechanisms to lodge complaints in case they were victims of violence, including corporal punishment.²⁴

12. CRC was also concerned at the increase in incidents of child abuse and neglect, especially in urban areas, the absence of a legal system adapted to the needs of young victims of these incidents,²⁵ the lack of data, appropriate measures, mechanisms and resources for the prevention of and fight against domestic violence, including child sexual abuse, and the absence of public debate and awareness-raising on this issue.²⁶ It recommended that Marshall Islands take the necessary measures to prevent child abuse and neglect, including by, inter alia, adopting a plan of action to combat any form of violence against children, and taking measures to bring perpetrators to justice.²⁷ It also recommended that Marshall Islands take all necessary measures to implement the overarching and setting-

specific recommendations contained in the report of the independent expert of the United Nations Study on violence against children, while taking into account the outcome and recommendations of the Subregional Consultations for the Pacific, held in Fiji from 26 to 28 September 2005.²⁸

3. Administration of justice and the rule of law

13. In 2007, CRC regretted that Marshall Islands had not implemented its previous recommendations on the administration of juvenile justice.²⁹ It urged Marshall Islands to, *inter alia*, ensure the full implementation of juvenile justice standards and adopt legislation setting a minimum age (at least 12 years) for criminal responsibility, ensure that persons under 18, who are detained as a measure of last resort, are placed in a setting in which the conditions of deprivation of liberty are in full compliance with international standards, take measures to establish a Juvenile Court and ensure that judges and other professionals working with children in conflict with the law are adequately trained.³⁰

4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

14. In 2007, while noting with appreciation the efforts undertaken by Marshall Islands to improve the registration system, CRC shared Marshall Islands' concern that children were still being discharged from hospitals or health centres without a proper name and might remain without a formal name for several months.³¹ It recommended that Marshall Islands, *inter alia*, establish an efficient and accessible birth registration system covering its entire territory, and take appropriate measures to register all those who had not been registered at birth.³²

15. The 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report underscored that although registration of marriages is required, as is the equal consent of both parents in the marriage of minors, bigamy is not prohibited, and customary marriages are exempt from the legislative requirements.³³

16. In 2007, CRC recommended that Marshall Islands strengthen the services of the Ministry of Social Welfare at the local level, by increasing the number of trained professionals working with families in order to assist them in addressing and preventing difficulties that they might encounter, and by ensuring that sufficient financial resources are allocated to these services. It also recommended that Marshall Islands provide support to families to prevent the breakdown of family structures.³⁴

17. Regarding parental responsibilities, CRC remained concerned at the number of children in urban areas who are left unattended at home, and noted that, owing to recent and rapid urbanization, assistance from extended family support networks is not always available. It also remained concerned that single and teenage parenthood was common in the country. It recommended, *inter alia*, that Marshall Islands consider developing comprehensive measures to encourage responsible parenthood and assist families in need with their child-rearing responsibilities.³⁵

18. In 2007, CRC noted with satisfaction the enactment of the Adoption Act 2002, which regulates intercountry adoptions, and the establishment of the Central Adoption Authority (CAA). However, it remained concerned at the continued practice of "customary adoptions" by family members, as well as the lack of accompanying measures to prevent illegal intercountry adoptions.³⁶ It recommended that Marshall Islands disseminate information on the Adoption Act 2002, take measures to criminalize illegal adoption, and implement the provisions of the Act.³⁷

5. Freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

19. In 2007, while appreciating the fact that the number of NGOs was increasing in the country, and taking note of the recently established Marshall Islands Council of Non-Governmental Organizations, CRC was of the opinion that the roles of civil society and, in particular, NGOs should be further strengthened in the promotion and implementation of the Convention. It was also concerned at the lack of awareness on rights-based approaches to development among many civil society actors.³⁸ It recommended that Marshall Islands encourage the active and systematic involvement of civil society and NGOs in the promotion of children's rights, and encourage service-based NGOs, as well as those working in the area of development, to adopt a rights-based approach to their work.³⁹

20. The 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report indicated that Marshall Islands had achieved universal suffrage and equal legal rights for women to political representation. However, until then, only one woman had served as a member of Parliament.⁴⁰

6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

21. The 2007 UNDP/UNIFEM report noted that while discussions with ILO were continuing to encourage the introduction of a comprehensive employment code, Marshall Islands had not yet created legislative mechanisms to protect the employment and labour rights of workers. There were no anti-discrimination provisions, no maternity leave provisions, no protection for dismissal because of pregnancy, no sexual harassment protection, and no breaks for mothers to enable them to nurse young children during work hours. Conversely, women's employment choices were not restricted, leaving women free to lawfully undertake night work, manual work and work in mines.⁴¹

22. In 2007, CRC recommended that Marshall Islands develop appropriate regulation of working hours, nature of work and working conditions for children who have not reached the age of 18, in the light of relevant international norms and standards, in particular ILO Conventions No. 138 (1973) concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, and No. 182 (1999) concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.⁴²

7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

23. In 2007, while taking note of the Strategic Development Plan Framework (2003–2018), Vision 2018, and welcoming the reduction in child mortality, CRC was concerned at, inter alia, the lack of basic health services, and the insufficient resources allocated to health, in particular in the outer islands.⁴³ It recommended that Marshall Islands strengthen its efforts towards improving the health situation of children, including through reviewing existing policies and practices, allocating adequate financial and human resources and ensuring that health care was provided free of charge and without discrimination to all children of families which cannot afford the fees.⁴⁴ It also recommended that Marshall Islands pay close attention to adolescent health in particular, and formulate a rights-based plan of action for the protection of all children, and particularly adolescents, from the dangers of drugs and harmful substances, and involve children in its formulation and implementation.⁴⁵

24. CRC further recommended that Marshall Islands, inter alia, strengthen its efforts to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS, including through awareness-raising campaigns targeting vulnerable groups in particular, increase the availability of confidential, voluntary testing, allocate adequate financial and human resources to the prevention of HIV/AIDS and of other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and adopt measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV and other STDs.⁴⁶

25. While noting the considerable level of foreign aid available in Marshall Islands, CRC was concerned at the low standard of living of children and adolescents, in particular in the outer islands. It was also concerned at the poor provision of basic services, especially safe drinking water and electricity, as well as at overcrowding and low-quality housing, particularly in Majuro and Ebeye. In addition, it was concerned at the absence of policies and programmes to address the increasing level of poverty in Marshall Islands and its impact on children and adolescents. It also took account of the numbers of job-seeking adolescents, and was concerned at the difficulties encountered in the transition from school to the labour market, as experienced, in particular, by children who had dropped out before graduating.⁴⁷

26. In this context, CRC recommended that Marshall Islands ensure that a financial support system is provided to families living under restricted economic conditions, including the provision of school lunches and educational allowances. It further recommended that families, particularly, disadvantaged families, receive adequate assistance with regard to child care and education, adequate and affordable housing, and access to drinking water and sanitation, and that youth unemployment is prevented by assisting adolescents who seek an occupation that is in compliance with the rights enshrined in the Convention.⁴⁸

8. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community

27. A 2009 United Nations Statistical Division source indicated that the total net enrolment ratio in primary education was 66.5 in 2007.⁴⁹

28. In 2007, while acknowledging the efforts undertaken by Marshall Islands in the field of education, in particular the development of an Education Strategy Development Plan with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) since 2000, CRC recommended, *inter alia*, that Marshall Islands increase budgetary allocation to ensure access to free primary and quality education in all regions and to improve the physical infrastructure of educational facilities, strengthen efforts to bridge the gaps in the provision of education throughout the country, including availability of school materials, drinking water, sanitation and transportation, promote female enrolment and ensure the reduction of the dropout rate for both male and female students; provide assistance to children from disadvantaged families, strengthen vocational programmes for children, including those who did not attend regular school, facilitate access to early childhood education by promoting Head Start Programmes throughout the country, ensure access for children to leisure and cultural activities, improve the training and recruitment of teachers, as well as the monitoring and evaluation of their progress towards achieving national education benchmarks, implement new technology, including e-learning, introduce human rights education in the school curricula.⁵⁰

29. Regarding children with disabilities, CRC recommended that Marshall Islands, *inter alia*, further encourage the inclusion of children with disabilities into the regular educational system and into society, facilitate their access to specialized educational programmes when required, in particular in the outer islands, including programmes outside the school environment, create partnerships between home, school and the community to address the long-term needs of these children.⁵¹

9. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

30. In 2010, UNHCR recommended that Marshall Islands consider participating in the Intergovernmental Asia Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC), which provides a forum for active dialogue, information exchange and practical activities relating to population movements.⁵²

10. Internally displaced persons

31. In 2010, UNHCR encouraged Marshall Islands to develop a rights-based disaster management and mitigation plan within the regional and United Nations mechanisms, in order to, inter alia, address potential internal and/or international displacement.⁵³

III. Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints

32. In 2007, UNDP indicated that, despite progress in some areas (education, maternal health, etc.), Marshall Islands was struggling to maintain development gains and had not made sufficient progress to be able to fully achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Areas needing significant improvement included improving primary school completion rates, reducing infant mortality, addressing the low representation of women in political decision-making, tackling vulnerability to HIV and improving sustainable access to improved water sources and sanitation.⁵⁴

33. In 2008, UNDP pointed out that Marshall Islands was characterized by very small and widely dispersed resource-poor atolls, similar to other Pacific island countries, which faced common challenges due to their small size, geographic isolation and natural disaster vulnerability.⁵⁵ UNICEF stated that, because populations were dispersed over multiple islands in the Pacific, efficient delivery of health care, education and other social services was difficult. Airfare was expensive and not always available to the most remote corners of the region; even boat service might be infrequent.⁵⁶

34. In 2010, UNHCR underlined the challenges posed by climate change for many Pacific island countries, including the Marshall Islands. The worst case scenario, involving complete submersion under rising sea levels, may cause widespread “external displacement” and a de facto or de jure loss of the sovereign State itself. UNHCR and OHCHR co-lead the recently established Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Pacific Humanitarian Protection Cluster (PHPC) to support States and the United Nations Country Team in other types of displacement and, in consultation with UNOCHA and the Resident Coordinator, have deployed a protection officer to map and analyse key protection concerns and needs in disaster preparedness and response in the region. The PHPC has also established a standby Pacific Emergency Team (PET).⁵⁷

IV. Key national priorities, initiatives and commitments

N/A

V. Capacity-building and technical assistance

35. In 2007, CRC recommended that Marshall Islands seek technical assistance, inter alia, from UNICEF with regard to children with disabilities, as well as violence against children and the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Study on Violence against Children.⁵⁸ It also recommended that assistance be sought from UNICEF and UNFPA with regard to birth registration,⁵⁹ UNICEF and WHO with regard to adolescent health,⁶⁰ UNAIDS, UNFPA UNICEF and WHO, among others, with regard to HIV/AIDS,⁶¹ and the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice (IPJJ), which includes the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), OHCHR, UNICEF and NGOs, with regard to juvenile justice.⁶²

36. In 2010, UNHCR reiterated its readiness to provide, inter alia, technical support in drafting national refugee legislation and in creating an institutional capacity for the development of a national refugee status determination procedure.⁶³

Notes

¹ Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found in *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2006* (ST/LEG/SER.E.25), supplemented by the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, <http://treaties.un.org/>

² The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR;
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR;
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW;
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT;
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child;
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
CEDI	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

³ Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/117 of 10 December 2008. Article 17, paragraph 1, of OP- ICESCR states that “The present Protocol is open for signature by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Covenant”.

⁴ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

⁵ 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

⁶ Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.

⁷ International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour, Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organize and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No.

- 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- ⁸ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC/C/MHL/CO/2), para. 11.
- ⁹ Ibid., para. 12.
- ¹⁰ Ibid., para. 13.
- ¹¹ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Marshall Islands, p. 3.
- ¹² CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 8.
- ¹³ Ibid., para. 9.
- ¹⁴ UNDP/UNIFEM, *Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Island Countries*, Suva, Fiji, 2007, p. 235, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ¹⁵ For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC), see A/HRC/13/45, annex I.
- ¹⁶ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 19.
- ¹⁷ Ibid., para. 15.
- ¹⁸ The following abbreviations have been used for this document:
CRC Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- ¹⁹ The questionnaires referred to are those reflected in an official report by a special procedure mandate holder issued between 1 January 2006 and 30 June 2010. Responses counted for the purposes of this section are those received within the relevant deadlines, and referred to in the following documents: (a) E/CN.4/2006/62, para. 24 and E/CN.4/2006/67, para. 22; (b) A/HRC/4/23, para. 14; (c) A/HRC/4/24, para. 9; (d) A/HRC/4/29, para. 47; (e) A/HRC/4/31, para. 24; (f) A/HRC/4/35/Add.3, para. 7; (g) A/HRC/6/15, para. 7; (h) A/HRC/7/6, Annex; (i) A/HRC/7/8, para. 35; (j) A/HRC/8/10, para.120, footnote 48; (k) A/62/301, paras. 27, 32, 38, 44 and 51; (l) A/HRC/10/16, footnote 29 AND Corr.1, n° 4; (m) A/HRC/11/6, Annex; (n) A/HRC/11/8, para. 56; (o) A/HRC/11/9, para. 8, footnote 1; (p) A/HRC/12/21, para.2, footnote 1; (q) A/HRC/12/23, para. 12; (r) A/HRC/12/31, para. 1, footnote 2; (s) A/HRC/13/22/Add.4; (t) A/HRC/13/30, para. 49; (u) A/HRC/13/42, Annex I; (v) A/HRC/14/25, para. 6, footnote 1; (w) A/HRC/14/31, para. 5, footnote 2.
- ²⁰ UNDP/UNIFEM, *Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Island Countries*, Suva, Fiji, 2007, p. 237, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ²¹ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 27.
- ²² UNDP/UNIFEM, *Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Island Countries*, Suva, Fiji, 2007, p. 237, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ²³ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 41.
- ²⁴ Ibid., para. 42.
- ²⁵ Ibid., para. 44.
- ²⁶ Ibid., para. 45.
- ²⁷ Ibid., para. 47.
- ²⁸ Ibid., para. 47.
- ²⁹ Ibid., para. 70.
- ³⁰ Ibid., para. 71.
- ³¹ Ibid., para. 33.
- ³² Ibid., para. 34.
- ³³ UNDP/UNIFEM, *Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Island Countries*, Suva, Fiji, 2007, p. 240, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ³⁴ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 36.
- ³⁵ Ibid., paras. 37–38.
- ³⁶ Ibid., para. 39.

- ³⁷ Ibid., para. 40.
- ³⁸ Ibid., para. 25.
- ³⁹ Ibid., para. 26.
- ⁴⁰ UNDP/UNIFEM, *Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Island Countries*, Suva, Fiji, 2007, p. 238, available at http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/CEDAW_web.pdf.
- ⁴¹ Ibid., pp. 238–9.
- ⁴² CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 66.
- ⁴³ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 50.
- ⁴⁴ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 52.
- ⁴⁵ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 54.
- ⁴⁶ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 57.
- ⁴⁷ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 58.
- ⁴⁸ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 59.
- ⁴⁹ United Nations Statistical Division coordinated data and analyses, available at mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg.
- ⁵⁰ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, para. 64.
- ⁵¹ Ibid., para. 49.
- ⁵² UNHCR submission to the UPR on Marshall Islands, p. 3.
- ⁵³ Ibid., p. 2.
- ⁵⁴ UNDP, *Workshop Report, Sub-Regional MDG-based workshop for North Pacific Countries: Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, 26–29 June 2007*, Fiji, 2007, p. 2.
- ⁵⁵ UNDP Multi-country Programme Document: *Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (2008–2012)*, para. 2, available at <http://www.undp.org.fj/pdf/UNDP%20Multi-Country%20Programme%20Document%202008-2012.pdf?phpMyAdmin=3ostG19FSapc4CB4dqs5BA2cWt9>.
- ⁵⁶ UNICEF, *Marshall Islands Background*, available at <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/marshallislands.html>.
- ⁵⁷ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Marshall Islands, p. 2.
- ⁵⁸ CRC/C/MHL/CO/2, paras. 46, 47 and 49.
- ⁵⁹ Ibid., para. 34.
- ⁶⁰ Ibid., para. 54.
- ⁶¹ Ibid., para. 57.
- ⁶² Ibid., para. 71.
- ⁶³ UNHCR submission to the UPR on Marshall Islands, p. 3.