



OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
(OHCHR)
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att. James Boit

Your ref:

Our ref:
16/01013-21

Case handler:
Elin Saga Kjørholt

Date:
August 9, 2017

Response from The Ombudsman for children in Norway regarding the consideration of the 5-6 periodic report of Norway

The Ombudsman for Children in Norway would like to thank the Secretariat for information regarding the consideration of the 5-6th report of Norway to the CRC committee.

The Ombudsman has a specific mandate as a national, independent supervisory body with a statutory mandate to monitor and promote Children's Rights in Norway. The reporting process to the CRC Committee is important in our work, and participation in all steps of the process has high priority in our office.

The Supplementary report submitted in June

The Supplementary report from the Ombudsman was sent to the Committee in June, both on paper, submitted through the website and as attachment to an e-mail. As we have confirmation from CRC Connect, we trust that the report has already been received by the Secretariat.

Participation in the Pre-sessional meeting

The Ombudsman will send a delegation to the Pre-sessional meeting in October. Participants in this delegation (tbc):

Anne Lindboe, Ombudsman for Children
Elin Saga Kjørholt, Advisor
Anders Cameron, Advisor
Tone Foss Aspevoll, Head of Communications

We please ask you for urgent information on the specific date of the pre-sessional meeting of Norway. There is urgent need for us at this time to book flights and hotel rooms.

Participation during the Committee's dialog with Norwegian Authorities

The Ombudsman will send a delegation to the session on Norway in May 2018. Participants in this delegation are not clear. We will come back on that at a later stage.

Question on the division of time for presentation during pre-session

The Ombudsman for Children in Norway would like to ask for clarification on the division of time to present the situation of Children's Rights in Norway during the pre-sessional meeting.

The Ombudsman for Children in Norway is the primary body for monitoring of Children's Rights in Norway. The Ombudsman has a statutory mandate as an independent monitoring body for Children's Rights. However, The Ombudsman has no formal status in the UN system as an NHRI. The Norwegian National Institution for Human Rights recently received a-status in the UN system as Norway's NHRI. This institution has a broad Human Rights mandate, and less focus on children's rights.

During the Pre-sessional meeting in 2009 the time to present information on Children's Rights in Norway was divided between the NHRI and the NGOs. As the NHRI had little focus on Children's Rights and had submitted a short report compared to The Ombudsman, the NHRI gave up time for the Ombudsman's presentation.

Considering mandates, and the Supplementary reports submitted, there is no doubt that The Ombudsman for Children in Norway has valuable information to present to the Committee.

The Ombudsman trusts that The CRC Committee will take this into account when considering division of time to present issues during the pre-sessional meeting. We would highly appreciate the CRC Committee's feedback on this matter as soon as possible.

Representative from the Ombudsman's Office are looking forward to presenting the situation on Children's Rights in Norway during the Pre-sessional meeting in October.

Best regards

Anne Lindboe
Ombudsman for Children

Elin Saga Kjørholt
Adviser

This letter has electronic approval and is therefore not signed.