



Country fact sheet for the CRC

COUNTRY: Tanzania

(Reviewed by a contact)

REPORT N°	N° 3-5 periodic reports for the CRC
PRE-SESSION/SESSION	Pre-session: 68 th (16 -20 June 2014) – Session: 68 th (12-30 January 2015)
LAW	Tanzania has not signed or ratified THC-93
(THC-1993, GUIDELINES, DOMESTIC LAWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, 1990 ■ Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, 1977 ■ Law of the Child Act, 2009 (Tanzania Mainland) ■ The Children Act, 2011 (The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar)
GENERAL SITUATION OF CHILDREN DEPRIVED OF THEIR FAMILY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The 2012 national Census showed that children between 0 and 17 years old represented 50% of the Tanzanian population (around 22,500,000) and, based on UNICEF information, the number of orphaned and vulnerable children is very high with estimated 3,000,000 children (13% of all children). ■ While significant steps have been taken to improve the legal framework for the protection of the rights of children in Tanzania, notably with the Law of the Child Act of 2009 and the Children Act of 2011, many children are still vulnerable to violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse. Commonly, the very institutions and individuals that are supposed to protect children – teachers, police, and relatives – are cited as the perpetrators of the violence or abuse. ■ Based on the 2009 survey on Violence against children in Tanzania (Section 12 - Child vulnerability: Orphan status and Childhood Experiences of Violence), children deprived of their family are more likely to suffer violence. ■ Based on the statistics given by UNICEF, there are only 8% of children under 5 years old with birth certificate. This national rate has not improved in the last five years, and remains one of the lowest rates of birth certification in Africa.
Sources :	<p>National Bureau of Statistics, Tanzania: http://www.nbs.go.tz/ ; UNICEF Tanzania: http://www.unicef.org/tanzania/6908.html ; Violence against children in Tanzania: Findings from a National Survey 2009, August 2011, UNICEF Tanzania: http://www.unicef.org/tanzania/VAC_Tanzania_Report.pdf ; Childinfo, UNICEF: http://www.childinfo.org/hiv_aids_orphanestimates.php ; A snap shot of alternative care arrangements in Tanzania, Based on SOS Children's Villages' assessment of a state's implementation of the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, SOS Children's Villages Intl, 2013: http://www.sos-chiltdrensvillages.org/getmedia/1f28ddfd2-9eff-49f7-8975-22e63e07dfc4/TANZANIA-FINAL-to-upload.pdf</p>

<p>Several alternative care options are provided in the <i>Law of the Child Act</i> (See the Law Part III – Care and Protection, IV – Foster Care, VI – Fosterage and Adoption and XI – institutionalised care) including: Foster care, residential homes or institutions and adoption.</p> <p>However, as presented in the SOS Children's Villages assessment report: "in the context of high levels of poverty and the effects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the country, (...) effective alternative care for children does not yet adequately address the needs of the most vulnerable".</p> <p>In 2012, based on the SOS Children's Villages assessment report, there were 11,565 children in 294 residential homes, but the vast majority of children were informally cared by their extended family.</p> <p>The problem is that the residential homes are mostly managed by community-based organisations, NGOs or faith-based organisations and only 30% of them are registered. The government lacks monitoring, coordinating and supporting these organisations.</p> <p>The informal foster care system is well established but without any monitoring of the state, and the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS makes it harder for the communities to take care of their children. Also, under these circumstances, the children are not registered with social services and cannot benefit from any kind of support. Moreover they are at higher risk of trafficking, exploitation and abuse.</p> <p>Obs.: There is no national statistics available on children deprived of their family who benefited from residential care, foster families or informal care measures.</p> <p>Sources : UNICEF Tanzania, fast facts: http://www.unicef.org/tanzania/fast_facts_on_tanzania.pdf ; Law of the Child Act, 2009: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---protrav/---ilo_aids/documents/legaldocument/wcms_151287.pdf ; <i>A snap shot of alternative care arrangements in Tanzania</i>, Based on SOS Children's Villages' assessment of a state's implementation of the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, SOS Children's Villages Int, 2013: http://www.sos-childrens.org/retmedia/1f28dd12-9eff-49f7-8975-22e63e07dfc4/TANZANIA-FINAL-to-upload.pdf; <i>Children and Women in Tanzania</i>, UNICEF Tanzania, 2010: http://www.unicef.org/tanzania/SITAN_Mainland_report.pdf</p>	ADoption
<p>Several alternative care options are provided in the <i>Law of the Child Act</i> (See the Law Part III – Care and Protection, IV – Foster Care, VI – Fosterage and Adoption and XI – institutionalised care) including: Foster care, residential homes or institutions and adoption.</p> <p>However, as presented in the SOS Children's Villages assessment report: "in the context of high levels of poverty and the effects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the country, (...) effective alternative care for children does not yet adequately address the needs of the most vulnerable".</p> <p>In 2012, based on the SOS Children's Villages assessment report, there were 11,565 children in 294 residential homes, but the vast majority of children were informally cared by their extended family.</p> <p>The problem is that the residential homes are mostly managed by community-based organisations, NGOs or faith-based organisations and only 30% of them are registered. The government lacks monitoring, coordinating and supporting these organisations.</p> <p>The informal foster care system is well established but without any monitoring of the state, and the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS makes it harder for the communities to take care of their children. Also, under these circumstances, the children are not registered with social services and cannot benefit from any kind of support. Moreover they are at higher risk of trafficking, exploitation and abuse.</p> <p>Obs.: There is no national statistics available on children deprived of their family who benefited from residential care, foster families or informal care measures.</p> <p>Sources : UNICEF Tanzania, fast facts: http://www.unicef.org/tanzania/fast_facts_on_tanzania.pdf ; Law of the Child Act, 2009: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---protrav/---ilo_aids/documents/legaldocument/wcms_151287.pdf ; <i>A snap shot of alternative care arrangements in Tanzania</i>, Based on SOS Children's Villages' assessment of a state's implementation of the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, SOS Children's Villages Int, 2013: http://www.sos-childrens.org/retmedia/1f28dd12-9eff-49f7-8975-22e63e07dfc4/TANZANIA-FINAL-to-upload.pdf; <i>Children and Women in Tanzania</i>, UNICEF Tanzania, 2010: http://www.unicef.org/tanzania/SITAN_Mainland_report.pdf</p>	ALternative CARE OPTIONS

Based on the information given by the US State Department, in order to adopt a child from Tanzania, prospective adoptive parent(s):

- must be residents of Tanzania for at least three consecutive years;
- need to continuously have the prospective adoptive child in their care for at least three consecutive months immediately preceding the date of the submission of application;
- must have attained the age of 25 years and must be at least 21 years older than the child to be adopted. If the prospective adoptive parent is a relative of the child, he or she must be at least 25 years of age.

Obs.: Based on the statistics given by UNICEF Tanzania, there are very few intercountry adoptions every year. This can be explained by the above mentioned conditions in order for a foreigner to be able to adopt.

Sources :
US State Department: http://adoption.state.gov/country_information/country_specific_info.php?country=select=tanzania ; *A snap shot of alternative care arrangements in Tanzania*, Based on SOS

<p>Children's Villages' assessment of a state's implementation of the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, SOS Children Villages Int'l, 2013: http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/getmedia/1f28dddf2-9eff-49f7-8975-22e63e07dfc4/TANZANIA-FINAL-to-upload.pdf; <i>Children and Women in Tanzania</i>, UNICEF Tanzania, 2010: Mainland-report.pdf">http://www.unicef.org/tanzania/SITAN/Mainland-report.pdf</p>	<p>STATISTICS</p> <p>Statistics for domestic and intercountry adoptions 2006-2008 given by UNICEF:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Adoption</td> <td>Intercountry Adoption</td> <td>TOTAL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2006</td> <td>21</td> <td>6</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2007</td> <td>19</td> <td>7</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2008</td> <td>22</td> <td>1</td> <td>23</td> </tr> </table> <p>Statistics for intercountry adoptions 2009-2013 shown by AICAN:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Receiving Country</td> <td>2013</td> <td>2012</td> <td>2011</td> <td>2010</td> <td>2009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Italy</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Canada</td> <td>7</td> <td>2</td> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>USA</td> <td>9</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>16</td> <td>3</td> <td>9</td> <td>3</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table> <p>Sources : <i>Children and Women in Tanzania</i>, UNICEF Tanzania, 2010: http://www.unicef.org/tanzania/SITAN/Mainland-report.pdf; Australian Intercountry Adoption Network: http://www.aican.org/statistics.php?region=0&type=birth</p>		Adoption	Intercountry Adoption	TOTAL	2006	21	6	27	2007	19	7	26	2008	22	1	23	Receiving Country	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	Italy				1	1	Canada	7	2	7			USA	9	1	2	2	4	Total	16	3	9	3	6	<p>POTENTIAL QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What kind of national programs are planned or are developed and implemented in order to tackle the issues of severe poverty and high prevalence of HIV/AIDS and, thus, prevent the separation of children from their family? What efforts are made to control, monitor and periodically review the situation of children deprived of their family? What information is collected about the situation of children deprived of family, including those benefitting from alternative care measures (residential care, formal and informal foster care, national adoption)? Are there disaggregated statistics as well as any form of monitoring of the placements in residential care, formal or informal foster care, as well as domestic and intercountry adoptions? Does Tanzania foresee to undertake an evaluation of all stakeholders involved in the care of children deprived of their family and reinforce the registration system, monitoring and support of all institutions in order to develop coordinated efforts? Regarding informal care of children deprived of their family will/is Tanzania providing any kind of support for the families and/or monitoring the situation of these children? Does Tanzania plan to put in place processes and mechanisms that would enable it to ratify the THC-93?
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<p>RISKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tanzania does not have the safeguards to comply with international standards regarding intercountry adoptions and THC-93 (eg: ensuring free and informed consent, defining adoptable children, matching, control of fees etc). This makes the country vulnerable to risks involved in private adoptions. Inadequate control and monitoring of the residential homes increases the risks of children's rights violations. No control or monitoring of formal foster care increases the risks of children's rights violations. Lack of family support and safeguards for children concerned by informal foster care/adoptions No control or monitoring of domestic and intercountry adoptions increases the risks of trafficking, abuse and sale of children. 	<p>POTENTIAL QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What kind of national programs are planned or are developed and implemented in order to tackle the issues of severe poverty and high prevalence of HIV/AIDS and, thus, prevent the separation of children from their family? What efforts are made to control, monitor and periodically review the situation of children deprived of their family? What information is collected about the situation of children deprived of family, including those benefitting from alternative care measures (residential care, formal and informal foster care, national adoption)? Are there disaggregated statistics as well as any form of monitoring of the placements in residential care, formal or informal foster care, as well as domestic and intercountry adoptions? Does Tanzania foresee to undertake an evaluation of all stakeholders involved in the care of children deprived of their family and reinforce the registration system, monitoring and support of all institutions in order to develop coordinated efforts? Regarding informal care of children deprived of their family will/is Tanzania providing any kind of support for the families and/or monitoring the situation of these children? Does Tanzania plan to put in place processes and mechanisms that would enable it to ratify the THC-93? 	<p>POTENTIAL QUESTIONS</p>																																														

