

**ROC's Initial Report under the International Convention
on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**
Taipei Twins Association

Parallel Report

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Preface

At present, due to the national security problem of the declining number of newborns, which is declining every year. The government actively conceives various welfare programs to encourage and subsidize production, but it has not noticed that the birth rate of twins has not decreased but increased. Twin families should have support programs for their specific needs. The Convention focuses on the health of indigenous and new immigrant women, but it lacks on pregnant women and families with twins and multiple births.

Chapter 2. Concerning the Convention-Specific Document

The right to public health, medical care, social security and social services (paras 209 of the report).....

Current situations:

1. For families with twins and multiple birth who give birth to two or more babies at a time, there should be a support plan for their special needs. And information about pregnancy and childbirth, parenting, family unity and getting along with each other. Twins and multiples mothers and families face many difficulties in childbearing, parenting and education from pregnancy to child growth, such as the physical, psychological, financial, and discipline loads on twins and multiples parents, which lead to family disharmony, divorce, and child abuse etc. Mental health knowledge and social support are urgently needed.
2. In addition, twins and multiples are a high-risk group in childbearing. The government has not included twins and multiples with disabilities as high-risk or vulnerable families.

Various families with twins and multiples, including indigenous families and new immigrant families have not seen any concern from government policies.

3. The government conducts many surveys, such as "New Immigrants' Living Needs Survey", "New Residents' Care Service Measures", "15-64 Women's Living Conditions Survey", or Early Rehabilitation for premature babies and Children Survey, etc., but there is no such basic information as twins. Note that it is impossible to know the needs at all, and it is impossible to provide specific assistance programs for new immigrants and indigenous twin mothers and families.

Suggestions:

1. Various government surveys, or various programs related to pregnant women or infants and young children, require the information of twins and multiple births in the basic data.
2. The current "Health Handbook for Pregnant Women", "Health Education Handbook for Pregnant Women" and "Children's Health Handbook" need to include the cultural characteristics of new immigrants and indigenous people.
3. Compile the [Twins and Multiple Pregnancy Maternal Health Book] and provide information about twins in the health education handbooks, including general families, new immigrants, and indigenous families.
4. Take the initiative to care for pregnant women with twins and multiple births as high-risk families.

