

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

Alliance for Women's Rights & Sustainable Development

Parallel Report

This report covers article 5 of ICERD

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Chapter5. Measures to safeguard various rights

1. Acquisition of nationality or right of residence in the protection measures of various rights (Article 5 of ICERD, No. 147 of the report). This statement states that "24 children were identified as stateless, and 18 of them have been naturalized and obtained as permanent resident"

Suggestion

For the statistics of stateless children born in Taiwan, the statistical period should be indicated. Among them, 18 have already naturalized and obtained Taiwanese citizenship, while the handling process for the remaining 6 should be elaborated upon.

2. Measures to safeguard various rights in obtaining nationality or residency (Article 5 of ICERD, No. 148 of the report). Regarding non-national children born in Taiwan, they can contact the local government's education bureau to attend national elementary and junior high schools.

Suggestion

Should the above-mentioned children, after attending elementary and junior high schools, be appropriately placed during their adolescence, from the age of 15 until they reach adulthood? How can they smoothly transition into high school to ensure their right to education and health are safeguarded?

3. Measures to safeguard various rights in obtaining nationality or residency, concerning the placement of stateless individuals (Article 5 of ICERD, No. 147 of the report). Currently, Taiwan has around 50,000 runaway migrant workers, posing numerous challenges, including cases where migrant workers become pregnant and give birth, resulting in children with darker skin color. Many of these children face ambiguous and uncertain circumstances and are labeled as "Black Babies" or "Invisible Babies". For example, an Indonesian runaway female migrant worker abandoned her newborn baby, and a Vietnamese factory worker gave birth to a baby girl in a cardboard box at a construction site in Zhonghe. Instances of abandoned infants occur throughout Taiwan, with some being sheltered by the NPO. Social workers estimate that there are approximately 2,000 " Invisible Babies " nationwide, but currently, only around 130 are accommodated by the NPO, and the government provides placement for around 40, while the rest live in hiding

with their birth mothers. (Peng Xingzhu, 2019)

Suggestion

Gender and statistical data on the number and status of " Invisible Babies " should be collected and understood for runaway migrant workers. The issue of " Invisible Babies " lies between humanitarian and legal considerations, and the government should address the problem by discussing basic placement measures and required funding.

4. Assistance for New Residents in obtaining subsidies for certification fees or temporary work allowances, vocational training subsidies, transportation subsidies, and diverse occupational training programs (Article 5 of ICERD, No. 167, 168, 169 of the report)

Suggestion

Many new residents, especially those in rural areas, are not well-informed about available support. Information should be widely disseminated through townships and neighborhoods to ensure widespread awareness. When conducting household visits, relevant employment information should be accurately conveyed in different languages, avoiding translation errors that may lead to misunderstanding by new residents.

5. The main challenges faced by new residents are "workplace discrimination" and "employers unwilling to hire based on lack of ID"; foreign spouses face difficulties primarily due to language communication and literacy skills when seeking employment (Article 5 of ICERD, No. 170 of the report). Most new residents from various countries, including Mainland China and Southeast Asia, express strong concerns about encountering discrimination in Taiwanese workplaces, affecting hiring, promotions, salaries, supervisor attitudes, and treatment by colleagues.

Suggestion

- (1). **Promote "equality education" extensively across various levels and regions of workplaces and enterprises in Taiwan, emphasizing the importance of treating others without discrimination.**
- (2). **Clearly establish relevant penalties to prohibit discriminatory behaviors and treatment in the workplace.**
- (3). **Collect data on factories and businesses that can employ migrant workers, strengthen education and training, and emphasize concepts of citizenship, equality, and respect for human rights.**



Quotation

Peng Xingzhu, S. Y. (2019, Jun). *Global Views Monthly*. Retrieved from GLOBAL VIEWS
COMMONWEALTH PUBLISHING CO., LTD: [https://event.gvm.com.tw/201906_migrant-
worker/05.html](https://event.gvm.com.tw/201906_migrant-worker/05.html)