

Elections 2024

Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Human Rights Committee (HR Cttee)

Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

Questionnaire for candidates

Four UN Treaty Bodies, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Human Rights Committee (HRCttee), and Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), will have elections organised in 2024.

In order to strengthen the treaty bodies, the International Disability Alliance, Child Rights Connect and IWRAW Asia-Pacific – as part of <u>TB-Net</u>, the NGO network on the UN Treaty Bodies – seek to promote quality, independence and diversity of treaty body membership through transparent and participators nomination and elections processes.

This questionnaire, which is sent to all nominated candidates and is based on the criteria set forth in the relevant treaties and in the General Assembly Resolution 68/268, will enable all States and other stakeholders to better understand the skills, experiences and motivation of running candidates to CRPD, CEDAW, HRCttee, CRC and CESCR in advance of the elections.

The written responses to the questionnaires will be made available on the website www.untbelections.org, while the video responses will be shared on a dedicated YouTube page.

This initiative does not imply that we support or oppose any individual candidates.



Questions for all treaty bodies candidates

- 1. Name: DIAKITE Diénèba épouse TRAORE
- 2. Nationality: Malian
- 3. Current position: Technical Advisor to the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.
- 4. Are you currently holding, or have you previously held any position on behalf of, or for, your Government (Executive branch) that may compromise your actual or perceived independence and impartiality? If so, please give details:

NO

5. Please indicate any current or potential conflict of interest that may prevent you from exercising independence and impartiality in your work as a member of a UN treaty body:

NONE

6. Was the nomination process for your candidacy a transparent and participatory process? Was civil society or other relevant stakeholders involved?

The process was participatory in the sense that correspondence was sent to all ministerial departments involved in child protection to present a candidate. However, the Department of Justice was the only one that expressed interest in the position, which resulted in me being a candidate nominated by Mali. Currently, my candidacy benefits from the support of civil society organizations which campaign for respect for children's rights.

7. During your possible mandate as a Committee member, what other positions or professional activities do you intend to engage in?

During my mandate, I will continue to lead the reform policy in the child justice sector until its completion. This will involve changing positions for me and the position I am considering in this regard is that of National Director of Children's Justice.

8. The commitments as a Committee member are very time-consuming during and outside session time. How will you ensure to have the capacity to dedicate the necessary time to the work of the Committee, both in person and online?



Once elected, I will be relieved of all other responsibilities not directly linked to child protection. Furthermore, a National Director in my country is always supported by a deputy who automatically replaces him. This mechanism for managing public services in my country will allow me to grant the time necessary to accomplish the missions assigned to the members of the Committee.

- 9. What are the current and main challenges that you see for the treaty body system and what are your ideas for improvement?
 - challenge of full cooperation of States Parties with the Committee: the level of cooperation of States Parties is not up to expectations. This has an impact on the implementation of commitments, among other things on compliance with the periodicity of reports by States parties, the implementation of observations/recommendations and decisions taken by the Committee.
 - the Committee must set a limit to the consolidated reporting system; thus, under no circumstances should a State Party be authorized to combine more than two reports for the same convention.
 - > challenge linked to good cooperation between States Parties:
 - encourage the establishment of cooperation mechanisms between States Parties with a view to standardizing practices and ensuring harmonious implementation of conventional provisions. This will help ensure the universal nature of recognized rights.
 - > budgetary challenge: the mobilization of funds is often dependent on the economic and financial situation of donors.
 - the Committee must further consider the establishment of other financing mechanisms in addition to the mechanism endorsed for donations and legacies.

10. Given the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide and the disruption of in person meetings of treaty bodies, will you be willing to adapt to undertake online work during your mandate, as an increasing way of functioning of the Committees?

I will adapt to the format of online meetings to strengthen the Committees.

Link to your full resume:



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Questions for candidates to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

Please provide responses that are as precise as possible and in no more than **200 words per question**.

Your motivation, experience and qualifications to become a member

1. What motivates you to be a member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child? (video option)

My personal aspirations and my interest in the field of child protection proved incompressible since university level and led me to the choice of end-of-cycle research themes such as "judicial research of paternity" at university level of the second cycle and "the ban on child labor in Mali" for the third cycle.

My training skills, refined by twenty years in the judiciary of my country and in the design superstructure, at the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, allowed me to capitalize on skills appreciable skills, proven expertise, the acquisition of a certain predisposition and intrinsic qualities to sit on the Committee.

For eight years, as technical advisor to the Minister of Justice and Human Rights, I have been dealing with children's rights issues, in a context marked by the security crisis and its corollary of denial of rights. On a daily basis I am involved in issues dealing in particular with the right to birth registration, to nationality in times of crisis, to education in emergency situations, to protection against recruitment, indoctrination, forced displacement, economic exploitation, child trafficking and child marriage.

2. Taking into account the current composition and expertise of the Committee, what would be your added value? (video option)

Once elected, it will be for me to assert my expertise in protecting the rights of children in emergency situations and children in situations of danger. Given the challenges linked to the security context on a global scale, the Committee needs to be strengthened in order to ensure effective implementation of the provisions dealing with protection in crisis situations.

- 3. What do you think are the emerging issues and challenges in the implementation of the CRC and its Optional Protocols on a global scale as well as in your country/region?
- terrorism, the indoctrination of children and the disparity between the mechanisms for dealing with the issue which vary from one country to another;
- the economic crisis which will certainly have an impact on policies for the protection and promotion of human rights in general and those of children in particular; also, this crisis will be felt on the functioning of the Committee like other international organizations;
- -problem of protection in a context marked by climate change.
- 4. What do you think are the areas where the Committee needs to strengthen international child rights standards?



- The Committee must encourage cooperation between States parties with a view to standardizing practices regarding the rights of the child;
- The Committee must strengthen standards to grant more protection to children against recruitment, ensure their disengagement in the event of recruitment and their rehabilitation;
- The Committee must strengthen standards for better protection of children against climate change and extreme poverty.
- 5. How do you envision the work of the Committee in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals?

The CRC has the advantage of being the convention with the largest number of state parties. Also, it is the most comprehensive legal instrument for the protection of children's rights. The effective implementation of the provisions of the CRC will undoubtedly be actions falling within the framework of the SDGs.

The work of the Committee responsible for monitoring the implementation of this convention is, in my opinion, an essential contribution to the achievement of the objectives of sustainable development.

6. How do you think the Committee could advance the standards and practices on child participation, and particularly children's right to participate in political life and child human rights defenders?

The Committee must organize general debates to collect the opinions and contributions of States Parties with a view to establishing mechanisms based on inclusion and taking into account the cultural diversity of States Parties.

7. What can the Committee do to further strengthen its engagement with civil society?

Establish technical support mechanisms for civil society organizations that advocate for the protection and promotion of children's rights.