

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Fourth session

Monday, 19 March 2007

Special event: "Violence Against Children"

Mr. President,

The ^{My} delegation from Malaysia would like to congratulate ^{Mr.} Mr. Paulo Sergio Pinheiro on the in-depth study on violence against children.

The study has proposed a ^{immense} set of overarching recommendations that are addressed primarily to States to prevent and eliminate violence against children.

^{while} Most states have enacted legislation to address issues relating to violence agst children,

Malaysia has enacted the Child Act 2001 and the provisions of the Act are based on the four core principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, that is, non-discriminatory, best interest of the child, the right to life, survival and development and respect for the views of the child. As reported by Malaysia to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on 25 January 2007, the Government of Malaysia is amending the Child Act 2001 to ensure fullest protection of the identity of children involved in ill-treatment, abuse, neglect or beyond parental control and to abolish punishment of whipping [section 91(g) and 92]. This is in line with the recommendations in the study to tackle violence in ^{the} care and justice system. In addition, the Government will continue to provide education and in-service training

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to persons working with children who come into contact with the justice systems.

At the community level, Child Protection Teams have been established to co-ordinate support services for children in need of care and protection. As of 2006, 131 Child Protection Teams have been established throughout Malaysia. The teams implement preventive and rehabilitative programmes such as the establishment of Child Activity Centres (140 in 2006) and Crisis Intervention Centres for children and families in high risk areas.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, the Government of Malaysia is committed in its efforts to eliminate violence against children, and concurs with

Thank you.

*the core message of the study
that no violence against
children is justifiable.*