

## African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child



The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) is charged with protecting human rights in Africa and interpreting the [African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child](#) (ACRWC).

The Committee is based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where it generally holds its biannual ordinary sessions. It is made up of 11 individuals elected by the [Assembly of the African Union](#) to serve for one term of five years.

### States Parties to the ACRWC:

Out of the [African Union](#)'s 55 Member States, 48 have ratified the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Those 48 States are: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Malawi, Mozambique, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

### The Committee's Activities:

- Issue "[general comments](#)," guidance and interpretation regarding the ACRWC
- Monitor the ACRWC's implementation
- Review reports by States and civil society organizations concerning States parties' implementation of the ACRWC and issue recommendations ("[concluding observations](#)")
- Review "[communications](#)," complaints that allege violations of the ACRWC by States parties
- Conduct fact-finding and promotional missions concerning systematic violations of child rights in States parties
- Establish standards and guidelines to guide States parties in fulfilling their obligations

### Basic Instruments:

The following is a list of core instruments relevant to the ACERWC's work, not including [other](#) continental human rights agreements, guidelines, and interpretations:

- African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child ([text](#))
- Revised Rules of Procedure ([text](#))
- Strategic Plan 2015-2019 ([text](#))

To learn more about the African Commission, visit IJRC's webpages on the [African Human Rights System](#), [Research Aids](#), and [Country Factsheets](#).