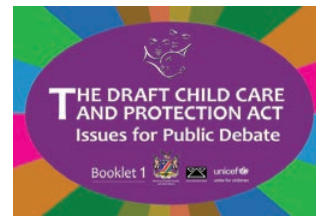


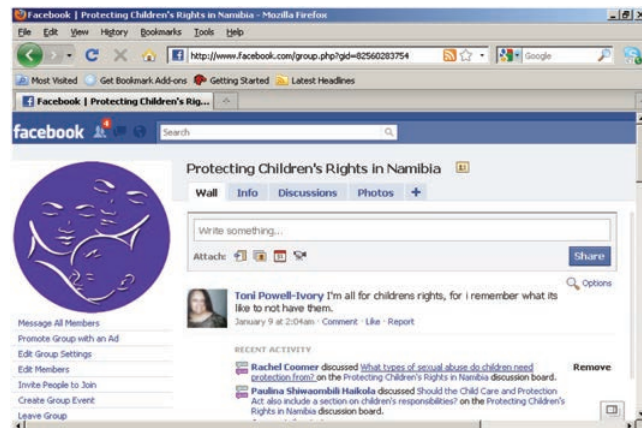


# PREPARING THE ACT: WHO WAS CONSULTED?

**T**he process of developing the Child Care and Protection Act involved the largest national law reform consultation held to date in Namibia. It was a multi-media, multi-language campaign that involved all sectors of society.

- ⑨ **Twenty-one factsheets** were produced about different aspects of the draft bill in a total of five languages.
- ⑨ Approximately **40% of the Namibian population** was exposed to information about the draft bill in **factsheets circulated as newspaper inserts** in three languages.
- ⑨ **Regional consultations** involved participants from all regions in Namibia, including regional councillors, traditional leaders, social workers, community activists and civil society.
- ⑨ **National consultations** involved international experts from three continents.
- ⑨ **Children and youth represent 30% of all people consulted.**
- ⑨ **Thirty-nine workshops, conferences, consultations, focus group discussions or other meetings** were held to discuss the revision of the draft bill, with 16 of these targeting children or youth.
- ⑨ At least **38 radio slots** and **9 television broadcasts**, and possibly more, featured the draft bill during the consultation period.





- ⑨ A total of **25 articles, opinion pieces, letters or text messages** on the draft bill appeared in **Namibian newspapers** during the consultation period, along with **8 articles** in **Namibian magazines**.
- ⑨ Seven specific topics in the draft bill were discussed on **Facebook** in a group which had almost **300 members** at its peak.
- ⑨ Information about the revision process was circulated in **five electronic-newsletters**, both national and international, during the consultation period.
- ⑨ Several Namibian organisations which work with children and individual experts on children's issues provided **detailed written input** on the draft bill.
- ⑨ All **key government ministries that play a role in implementing child protection measures** were consulted. Detailed discussions on implementation issues took place between the Ministry responsible for child welfare, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Finance.
- ⑨ The Ministry responsible for child welfare discussed the draft bill with the **Council of Traditional Leaders**.
- ⑨ **Members of the Hague Convention** provided ongoing support and information regarding Namibia's signing of the four Hague conventions covered by the draft bill.

*"Congratulations on all the work that has gone into the bill. It is particularly welcome to see the four Hague Conventions scheduled to the bill. This is real leadership by Namibia and a positive signal to other States in the Region."*

– **William Duncan**, Deputy Secretary General, Hague Conference on Private International Law, 2009

