

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women: Concluding observations on the combined eighth and ninth periodic reports of Canada ^[1]

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AVAILABILITY

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Overview

The United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women—a body of 23 independent experts—has recommended to the Canadian federal government it take action to make child care more affordable and accessible. The UN Committee is charged with reviewing whether or not countries are meeting their international commitments under the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which Canada ratified in 1981.

The Committee said that Canada should adopt “a rights-based national childcare framework in order to provide sufficient and adequate childcare facilities.”

The UN CEDAW Committee noted that Canada’s federal government has an obligation to “take necessary legislative measures to give full effect to the Convention on discrimination against women,” and to “provide leadership to the provincial and territorial governments in that context.” Further, in its report, the Committee “recommends that the [Canadian government] consistently starts using conditional and targeted federal funding in order to make sure that transfer payments to provinces and territories take into due account compliance with the provisions of the Convention, as is already the case for some of Canada’s development assistance programmes.”

See section C. Principal areas of concern and recommendations, points 9 and 10 as well as committee recommendations under point 39 for further details.

Region: Canada ^[3]

Tags: access ^[4]

equality ^[5]

Women ^[6]

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