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1961 EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER

12th National Report on the implementation of
the European Social Charter

submitted by

THE GOVERNMENT OF ARUBA

Articles 7, 8, 16, 17 and 19

for the period 01/01/2018 – 31/12/2021

Report registered by the Secretariat on

02 February 2023

CYCLE XXII-4 (2023)

European Social Charter

**REPORT SUBMITTED
BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ARUBA**



*Report in terms of
the accepted provisions belonging to the thematic group “Children, family
and*

migrants”: Article 7, Article 8, Article 16, Article 17, and Article 19

For the period:

1 January 2018 -31 December 2021.

Foreword

ESH Report 2018 - 2021

The Government of Aruba submits hereby its report for the period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2021 in accordance with" Article 7, Article 8, Article 16, Article 17, and Article 19 of the European Social Charter, on the measures taken to give effect to the accepted provisions of the European Social Charter.

Other than the information supplied in this report, no other changes in law or regulation has been effected during the reporting period. The Government therefore kindly refers the Committee to its past reports.

In accordance with article 23 of the European Charter, copies of this report have been communicated to:

The employer's organisations:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| ➤ Associated General Contractors of Aruba | AGCA |
| ➤ Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association | AHATA |
| ➤ Aruba Trade and Industry Association | ATIA |

The worker's organisations:

- | | |
|--|-------|
| ➤ Union of Nurses of Aruba | ABV |
| ➤ Federation of Workers of Aruba | FTA |
| ➤ Union of Public and Private Employees of Aruba | SEPPA |

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Questions on Group 4 provisions Conclusions XXII-4 (2023) ARUBA

Children families and migrants.

This report based on the given questionnaire covers “Thematic Group 4 – Children, families and migrants”, comprising Articles:

- the right of children and young persons to protection (Article 7),
- the right of employed women to protection (Article 8),
- the right of the family to social, legal and economic protection, (Article 16),
- the right of children and young persons to social, legal and economic protection (Article 17),
- the right of migrant workers and their families to social, legal and economic protection (Article 19),

Given the date of transmission of this questionnaire, the Committee requests that state reports be submitted by 31 December 2022 (and not the usual deadline of 31 October).

Article 7 – The right of children and young persons to protection

Article 7, No.1. to provide that the minimum age of admission to employment shall be 15 years, subject to exceptions for children employed in prescribed light work without harm to their health, morals or education;

Question a) Please provide information on the measures taken by the authorities (e.g. Labour Inspectorates and social services) to detect child labour, including children working in the informal economy. In this regard, please provide information on the number of children actually working (either from existing statistics on this issue or from surveys to be conducted to obtain such information), as well as on measures taken to identify and monitor sectors where it is strongly suspected that children are working illegally (General question, Conclusions XXI-4 (2019)).

ANSWER to question a: In 2018, Aruba signed a memorandum of understanding on the Rights of the Child, in which assistance for vulnerable children, including migrant and disabled children, and “safety nets” within the local community would be provided. The Social Crisis Plan includes 31 projects with the aim to provide protection and assistance to children. According to the report, children born in families of low-income migrants may experience risks from birth up to four years, and this may be resolved by training the family in parenting techniques, among other efforts; however, provisions for training migrant parents are not included in the report.

Article 7, No. 5. to recognize the right of young workers and apprentices to a fair wage or other appropriate allowances;

Question a) Please provide updated information on net minimum wages and allowances payable to persons under 18 years of age. Please provide information on measures taken to ensure that fair remuneration is guaranteed to young workers:

i) In atypical jobs (part-time work, temporary work, fixed-term work, casual and seasonal work, self-employed people, independent workers and homeworkers.)

ii) in the gig or platform economy and

iii) having zero hours contracts.

Question b) Please provide information on measures taken to ensure that this right is effectively enforced (e.g., through Labour Inspectorates and similar enforcement authorities, trade unions) (General question, Conclusions XXI-4 (2019)).

ANSWER to question a and b:

The Government is also pleased to report that the amount of the minimum wage for an employee who has reached the age of 18 is adjusted to Afl. 1,815.35 per month and Afl. 423.40 a week, as per January 1st, 2020. For an employee who has reached the age of 18 and performs household services in the household of natural persons, the minimum wage is set at Afl. 846.92 per month. For domestic service workers who work 22 hours a week or less, the minimum hourly wage is Afl. 9.45. Because of the adjustment of the minimum wage, the income limit for application of the Labor Regulation 2013 will also be increased from 1 January 2020. The Labor Regulation 2013 regulates the employment

conditions, such as the maximum working hours per day or per week, rest days, overtime payments and payments on public holidays. The Labor Regulation does not apply to all employees but only to those employees who fall under the income limit. The new income limit is Afl. 4,538.38 (the minimum wage Afl. 1,815.35 x factor 2.5). This means that employees who earn a salary of Afl. 4,538.38 per month or Afl. 54,460.56 per year or less fall under the protection of the Employment Regulation 2013 and are entitled to all the terms of employment prescribed by this law.

Article 7, No. 10. to ensure special protection against physical and moral dangers to which children and young persons are exposed, and particularly against those resulting directly or indirectly from their work.

Question a) Please provide updated information on the measures taken to strengthen the protection of children, including migrant, refugees, and displaced children, from sexual exploitation and abuse (in particular in response to the risks posed by the Covid-19 pandemic) during the reference period, including information on the incidence of such abuse and exploitation.

Question b) Please provide information on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the monitoring of the exploitation and abuse of children, as well as measures taken to strengthen monitoring mechanisms.

Question c) Please provide information on the protection of children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse in the digital environment, in particular sexual exploitation and abuse and solicitation for sexual purposes (grooming).

Question d) If the previous conclusion was one of non-conformity, please explain whether and how the problem was remedied. If the previous conclusion was deferred or conformity pending receipt of information, please reply to the questions raised.

ANSWER to questions a, b, c and d:

In 2021 the CMMA met with the Prime Minister of Aruba. During the meeting, they discussed what the CMMA is doing for the Aruban community and why it is important to continue with the program. One of the most important aspects of this meeting was the formalization of the CMMA by the Aruban Government in order to continue developing their plans. CMMA started in 2020, right before the global pandemic and continued working toward the 3 main goals which are: to inform, educate and assist in the fight against human trafficking and migrant smuggling on Aruba. The CMMA has a tip line dedicated to human trafficking and migrant smuggling situations where people can call for more information and notify the authorities of suspicious activity. The “Habri Bo wowo” campaign (www.habribowowo) was and remained a part of the effort to inform the local community of the problem and severity of human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

Medio 2022, a United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) initiative was organized in Aruba, regarding human trafficking for judiciary entities. It regards the TRACK4TIP which stands for ‘transforming alerts into criminal justice responses to combat trafficking in persons within migration flows. Two UNODC executives from the region guided the presentations in collaboration with the Centre for Coordination on Human Trafficking and Smuggling, and HIAS, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society which is also active in Aruba to provide support particularly to Venezuelan migrants and refugees. Members of

the Police Force, the intelligence unit in Human Trafficking (TIP), the investigative unit of TIP, the victim assistance office, the Department of Social Affairs, Interpol and the National Bureau of Counter-terrorism all participated in the three-day training, during which they did analysis and practical exercises based on real cases. As such, the presentations were multidisciplinary, focused on the victim in order to identify, prevent and pursue cases of human trafficking. To achieve this, TRACK4TIP also proposed the implementation of seven main objectives organized under three specific goals which together make it easier for the countries to fortify the way in which their judicial entities respond in cases of human trafficking. It is focused on Venezuelans, who are the biggest migrant group in these countries, which also include Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Trinidad & Tobago, and the Dominican Republic.

The government of Aruba has an Asylum unit within the DIMAS Directorate. This sub-unit was set up to handle all asylum applications. The Asylum unit consists of 12 employees with the following positions: administrative employees, interrogation employees, decision-making employees, policy employees, process support staff and a coordinator. It should also be mentioned that the government of Aruba also cooperates with the HIAS, UNHCR and the IOM.

In response to the refugee situation in Aruba, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) established an office on the island in 2019 to help Venezuelan refugees. The HIAS Aruba office runs gender-based violence prevention programs to help women and girls who are subject to sexual assault and human trafficking, provides mental health services, and coordinates a socio-economic support program to help at-risk families focus on the best ways to integrate into communities. HIAS also disburses cash support, food vouchers, hygiene kits, and medical packages and strengthens the capacity of local civil society to better address the needs of refugees and migrants.

During the Covid-19 pandemic the HIAS was of great assistance to the people staying in Aruba with irregular status, that is, mainly from Venezuela. The government of Aruba approached the HIAS in order to help administer the Covid-19 vaccine to people with irregular status, who were afraid to get vaccinated for fear of being deported.

HIAS Aruba recently opened a community center to expand its support services in a new and safe space. The center — a cooperative project of HIAS, UNHCR, and the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration of the U.S. State Department — will serve more than 5,000 refugees and migrants on the island. The community center will provide a place where HIAS clients can meet, learn, and build supportive networks and develop independence. It will offer language courses, entrepreneurial workshops, wellness classes, and support groups, as well as socioeconomic support and other integration activities.

For the application of criminal sanctions for the enforcement of forced labour, there is a stronger focus on cooperation. Corruption, (heavy) subversion, robbery and human trafficking and smuggling put security under pressure. To face these and other security threats, the collaboration and connection with all security partners, whether local, interregional and international, remains crucial. Criminal law enforcement always takes place in close collaboration with the Aruba Police Force (KPA), the Criminal Investigation Cooperation Team (RST), the Aruba Probation and Youth Protection Foundation (hereinafter: Probation Service), the KIA, Customs, the Coast Guard, the Fiscal Intelligence and Investigation Team (FIOT) and other services. There are therefore plenty of partnerships underway to increase safety. Close cooperation and the active involvement of many parties demonstrably lead to concrete results.

Combating human trafficking and human smuggling also remains an important priority of the Public Prosecution Service. These forms of crime are closely related to the influx of illegal immigrants in Aruba and require a multidisciplinary approach. The Public Prosecution Service will continue to participate in the 'Taskforce Human Trafficking and Human Smuggling' in 2021, the main goal of which is to arrive at a thorough integrated approach, in which attention is not only paid to the criminal law aspect, but also to other disciplines regarding their role and responsibility in the criminal justice system. combating human trafficking and human smuggling. A bottleneck is the lack of investigative capacity at the Human Trafficking and Smuggling Unit (UMM). As a result, too few cases of human trafficking are dealt with, even though there are signs of human trafficking (both sexual exploitation and labor exploitation).

In 2021, the Public Prosecution Service also insists on increasing investigative capacity and further developing expertise at UMM. As far as the Public Prosecution Service is concerned, collaboration with the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee is a good option. Another bottleneck is the lack of good analytical capacity. Human trafficking and people smuggling often involves networks. After all, people who are smuggled to Aruba are housed and employed. People smuggled are usually vulnerable people who are dependent on their network and exploitation is lurking. Sufficient information emerges from the human smuggling cases that could be used for further investigations.

Regarding the protection of children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse in the digital environment, in particular sexual exploitation and abuse and solicitation for sexual purposes (grooming) we would like to mention that the Immigration Service has reviewed a new procedure for permitting minors to travel abroad. The current procedure requires a letter of authorization signed by one of the parents for a minor to leave Aruba. During the holidays, many families will travel, and in many cases with minors. However, this process can cause hiccups in checking the submitted documents. On several occasions this causes confusion, delays and missing flights. For this reason, the Aruban Immigration Service has introduced the uniform form to take into account children's rights and to prevent kidnapping. In the past, there have been cases where a parent or other person took advantage of the situation and left Aruba with a minor without the other parent's knowledge. For this reason, Aruba's immigration authorities have introduced a standard form for this new process where a birth certificate is no longer required. With this system, the immigration services get a more extensive database, better control and shorter and more efficient processes. Immigration Aruba is monitoring the situation and is evaluating the possibility of introducing the new process from July 18, 2022.

Article 8 – The right of employed women to protection

Excerpts from the ECSR's case law

Article 8, No 1. to provide either by paid leave, by adequate social security benefits or by benefits from public funds for women to take leave before and after childbirth up to a total of at least 12 weeks:

Question a) Please provide information whether the Covid-19 crisis had an impact of on the right to paid maternity leave (in particular whether all employed women concerned – in the private as in the public sector - continue to receive at least 70% of their salary during the whole length of the compulsory maternity leave during the Covid-19 crisis).

Question b) If the previous conclusion was one of non-conformity, please explain whether and

how the problem was remedied. If the previous conclusion was deferred or conformity pending receipt of information, please reply to the questions raised.

ANSWER to question a and b:

Below you will find some statistics, provided by the Dept of labor, about the position of women in the Aruban labor market:

Women make up 51.4% of the workforce at the end of 2021. In 2019 it was 51.9%. About 49% of women worked for the same employer for more than 5 years. The majority of female employees (28%) work in the hospitality, trade, wholesale and retail trade and car repair (15%). By the end of 2020, 60% of the families receiving social assistance will be women. This number has increased by 20% in 2019.

Unemployment among women has increased from 6.2% in 2019 to 8.0% in 2020. The female employment rate has fallen from 58.7% in 2019 to 50.2% in 2020. The number of inactive women will increase by 30% from 2019 to 2020. It concerns about 5500 people. The percentage of working women aged 15 and older has fallen from 55.7% in 2019 to 46.2% in 2020.

Article 8, No. 2. to consider it as unlawful for an employer to give a woman notice of dismissal during her absence on maternity leave or to give her notice of dismissal at such a time that the notice would expire during such absence:

Question a) Please provide information:

i) whether the Covid-19 crisis had an impact on the possibility of dismissing pregnant employees and employees on maternity leave and

ii) whether there were any exceptions to the prohibition of dismissal during pregnancy and maternity leave during the pandemic.

Question b) If the previous conclusion was one of non-conformity, please explain whether and how the non-conformity was remedied. If the previous conclusion was deferred or conformity pending receipt of information, please reply to the questions raised.

ANSWER to question a and b:

In 2021, The Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba (CBS) presented the results of the Censo2020 for the theme of Labor.

The data on the labor force is essential and it gives us a picture of the economic and social development of our country. That is why, during a census, the CBS asks every person aged 14 and older whether he or she has worked in the week prior to the census.

The results of the Censo2020 indicate that on October 1, 2021, a total of 43,632 people had a job. In total, 4 111 people were unemployed and looking for a job. 40 039 persons were not active in our labor market, which means that they were unemployed and looking for a job.

Between 2019 and 2020, the number of non-active people on our labor market grew by 26.8%. 2019 trial census male unemployment rate 5.3%. Censo2020 male unemployment rate 9.3%. 2019 trial census female unemployment rate 5.2%. Censo2020 female unemployment rate 8.0%. The pandemic affected the labor market around the world. For a better overview of the effects of the pandemic, a comparison has been made between the results of the 2019 pilot count and Censo2020.

If we compare the 2019 test count and the Censo2020, the unemployment rate has increased from 5.2% to 8.6%. For men, the unemployment rate increased from 5.3% in 2019 to 9.3% in 2020. For women, the unemployment rate was 5.2% in 2019 and 8.0% in 2020.

Result Censo2021. The pandemic had consequences for the labor market throughout the world. As a result of the pandemic, the number of inactive people in our labor market has increased significantly. Between 2019 and 2020, the number of non-active people on our labor market grew by 26.8%. Usually this group consists of retirees and school-going individuals. 2020 also included people waiting for work to be resumed after the effects of the pandemic have ended.

The employment rate of men and women has also fallen significantly during the pandemic. From 70.5% in 2019 to 58% in 2020 for men and from 60.2% in 2019 to 51.2% in 2020 for women.

Article 8, No 4. a. to regulate the employment of women workers on night work in industrial employment; b. to prohibit the employment of women workers in underground mining, and, as appropriate, on all other work which is unsuitable for them by reason of its dangerous, unhealthy, or arduous nature.

Question a) Please provide updated information to confirm that no loss of pay results from the changes in the working conditions or reassignment to a different post and that in case of exemption from work related to pregnancy and maternity, the woman concerned is entitled to paid leave. Question b) If the previous conclusion was one of non-conformity, please explain whether and how the problem was remedied. If the previous conclusion was deferred or conformity pending receipt of information, please reply to the questions raised.

ANSWER to question a and b:

The Government of Aruba refers the Committee to its previous report. The Government informs the Committee that during this reference reporting period, no complaints were submitted regarding loss of pay results from the changes in the working conditions or reassignment to a different post and that in case of exemption from work related to pregnancy and maternity, where the woman concerned is entitled to paid leave.

Article 16 – The right of the family to social, legal and economic protection

Excerpts from the ECSR's case law

With a view to ensuring the necessary conditions for the full development of the family, which is a fundamental unit of society, the Parties undertake to promote the economic, legal and social protection of family life by such means as social and family benefits, fiscal arrangements, provision of family housing, benefits for the newly married and other appropriate means.

Question a) Please provide updated information on measures taken to reduce all forms of domestic violence against women including information on incidence and conviction rates.

Question b) Please provide updated information on the availability of adequate affordable housing for families.

Question c) Are family or child benefits provided subject to a means-test? If so, what is the percentage of families covered?

Question d) Please provide information about the amounts paid in child/family benefit as well as the median equivalized income for the reference period.

Question e) Is there a length of residence requirement imposed on nationals of other States Parties lawfully resident in your country for eligibility to child/family benefits?

Question f) What measures have been taken to ensure that vulnerable families can meet their energy needs, in order to ensure their right to adequate housing (which includes access to essential services)?

Question g) If specific temporary measures were taken to financially support vulnerable families during the Covid-19 pandemic, will they or are they expected to been maintained or withdrawn? If they have been withdrawn, what effect is this expected to have on vulnerable families?

Question h) If the previous conclusion was one of non-conformity, please explain whether and how the problem was remedied. If the previous conclusion was deferred or conformity pending receipt of information, please reply to the questions raised.

ANSWERS to question a, b, c, d, e, f, g and h:

Safe House Aruba is a cooperation platform between different entities in Aruba in the penal and care scope who come together every two weeks to address individual cases. The Safe House was established as a platform to address cases of extreme social issues like individuals in the risk category, repeat offenders, those with mental issues who need help, as well as those that are victims and also domestic violence offenders. It is remarkable to say that many seniors are victims of abuse.

The safety house is, among other things, responsible for processing the policy regarding complex matters and persons with multiple social problems. It provides treatment for aggressors and victims of relational violence, undocumented individuals, and seniors. It also facilitates and develops the collaboration between the chains of social care and judicial chain. The Safe House focuses on specific groups, including risk juveniles, repeat offenders, confused individuals, individuals with addictions, psychiatric patients, double diagnostic cases, aggressors and victims of relational violence, undocumented individuals, and seniors.

The Safe House works with key partners in the judicial chain and social care like; Bureau Leerplicht, Bureau Sostenemi, KIA, Department for Social Affairs, Guardianship Council Department, Fundacion Guia Mi, Wit Gele Kruis, Fundacion pa Maneho di Adiccion, Respaldo, Bureau Slachtofferhulp, Aruba Police Department, Prosecutors Office, Stichting Reclassering en Jeugdbescherming Aruba, Sociaal Psychiatrische Dienst and the FCCA.

The Safe House's goals for 2022 include personnel self-care, professional development, early detection, and case studies within the chain. The Ministry of Justice and Social Affairs encourages structural participation in these meetings, considering its added value throughout the chain, to better coordinate the cases and take the necessary steps to offer help on time.

The government of Aruba has also signed an MOU with Cede Aruba and with the board of the community centers for the Safe Barios project. For the government of Aruba, the Safe Barios project is of great importance for the development of Aruba, for which they allocated additional resources for its implementation.

The Safe barios project, which entails the following pillars:

- Creation of awareness and responsibility among all stakeholders and ensure their participation;
- improve infrastructure in the neighborhoods that are also safe for the children;
- security – the approval of the street lighting project, where 198 extra light points will be installed.

The signing of the MOU with CEDE Aruba will give meaning to these three pillars, where the government will ensure that all community centers get more funding. In this case, CEDE Aruba and Aruba pledged about 2 million florins for more activities in the community centers. This project was approved by parliament in the 2022 national budget to offer more to young people in the neighborhoods.

The government has enlisted the help of CEDE Aruba as a strategic partner because of CEDE's primary goal of pooling resources and pursuing sustainable development. They also appealed to the community centers because this project should expand the activities in the neighborhoods to create more opportunities. It will offer our youth more opportunities to participate in sports, arts and crafts, music, and educational programs.

The realization of such an important project will benefit those most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, namely children, the elderly, and women. The government considers this investment essential because it is done precisely in prevention.

A recent survey on the quality of life of young people shows an urgent need for activities for young people to keep them on track. That is why it is so important to invest sustainably in the neighborhoods. These investments should make these areas less attractive to all forms of crime and offer a unique opportunity to transform them into places offering opportunities to young people and the community.

The Minister of Justice and Social Affairs met with CEDE Aruba to discuss how to carry out the 'Safe Barios' project. This project aims to transform the community centers. This project will be made possible with the cooperation of the Ministry of Sports and Education, the Ministry of Labor, Integration, and Energy, and the Ministry of Integrity, Nature, Transport, and Elderly Care. As part of this project, the sports facilities and recreational parks for young people, will undergo proper maintenance. They will install better lighting, and traffic will be made safer. Several after-school programs will be available.

On December 16, 2021, the Central Bureau of Statistics CBS gave a presentation about inflation in Aruba. Globally, prices are rising mainly due to supply chain failures and rising energy prices. The rise in prices translates into higher inflation rates. In this context, the Minister of Economic Affairs and Statistics Netherlands gave a presentation on the subject of inflation.

During the presentation, Statistics Netherlands discussed in detail the procedures and methodology used in price monitoring and the calculation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The procedures and methodology used are in line with the July 2020 IMF recommendations. The CPI is calculated monthly and provides an overview of the price development of the consumer product. The CPI for November 2021 indicates an increase of 0.6% compared to October 2021. The current year's quote is 3.1%.

To track prices, CBS monitors the prices of a fixed list of products in various locations in Aruba, including supermarkets, restaurants (fast food and full-service), clothing stores, hardware stores and much more. Statistics Netherlands monitors an average of 7,157 product prices.

Since virtually everything we consume in Aruba is imported, the rise in product prices in the international market inevitably affects our prices. This is reflected in the rise in the CPI. In the Netherlands, Curaçao and the BES islands, the price increase is mainly caused by the increase in utility costs, gas, petrol and diesel.

In Aruba, the transportation sector, which includes gasoline, diesel and the auto market, has grown by an average of 7.3% between November 2020 and November 2021, while utility prices, including gas prices, have not increased.

Article 17 – The right of mothers and children to social and economic protection

With a view to ensuring the effective exercise of the right of mothers and children to social and economic protection, the Contracting Parties will take all appropriate and necessary measures to that end, including the establishment or maintenance of appropriate institutions or services.

Question No. a) Please provide information on measures taken by the State to:

i) reduce statelessness (e.g., ensuring that every stateless migrant child is identified, simplifying procedures to ensure the acquisition of nationality, and taking measures to identify those children who

ii) facilitate birth registration, particularly for vulnerable groups, such as Roma, asylum seekers and children in an irregular situation. (General question posed in Conclusions XXI-4 (2019)).were not registered at birth);

Question No. b) Please provide information on measures taken to:

i) child poverty (including non-monetary measures such as ensuring access to quality and affordable services in the areas of health, education, housing etc.) and

ii) combat discrimination and promote equal opportunities for children from particularly vulnerable groups such as ethnic minorities, Roma children, children with disabilities, and children in care.

iii) States should also make clear the extent to which child participation is ensured in work directed towards combatting child poverty and social exclusion.

Question No. c) Please provide information on any measures adopted to protect and assist children in crisis situations and emergencies.

ANSWER to question a, b, and c:

Aruban authorities place unaccompanied child victims in foster care centers, homes, or local churches, and risk assessments are conducted before deciding where to place a victim and whether they can be unchaperoned. In 2021, a shelter for victims of human trafficking comprising 20 beds is expected to be built and completed. Nevertheless, according to IOM Aruba, the Government of Aruba has expressed the need for training to improve the protection and assistance of victims of trafficking and unaccompanied children. The number of victims identified in Aruba has decreased significantly from 71 in 2017, to two in 2018, and zero in 2019. Law enforcement and social services officials are provided with a checklist of common trafficking indicators by the anti-trafficking task force.

Children who are accompanied by asylum seeking parents and whose parents have established an asylum application are assessed based on their parents' claims, and during this process, appropriate precautions are taken to ensure their well-being. When an unaccompanied child submits an asylum application, or it is assumed that the child wishes to be granted asylum, provisions related to the protection and assistance of the child exist to ensure a child-friendly procedure, including support in cases in which a legal representative is not available. The IOM Aruba is also supporting the Government of Aruba on the development of a standard referral procedure for the identification, referral and assistance of victims of human trafficking. Currently, no specialized shelter exists for victims of trafficking.

Nevertheless, according to IOM Aruba, the Government of Aruba has expressed the need for training to improve the protection and assistance of victims of trafficking and unaccompanied children.

Children who are accompanied by asylum seeking parents and whose parents have established an asylum application are assessed based on their parents' claims, and during this process, appropriate precautions are taken to ensure their well-being. When an unaccompanied child submits an asylum application, or it is assumed that the child wishes to be granted asylum, provisions related to the protection and assistance of the child exist to ensure a child-friendly procedure, including support in cases in which a legal representative is not available.

From the Ministry of Social Affairs, two important papers appeared, one about the social development of Aruba (A situational analysis of Aruba Case - 2017), describing the current state of affairs in different social and socio-economic domains (mainly based on CBS statistics and surveys) and one paper about the 'Sociaal Crisis Plan' (SCP) that appeared in 2018. The SCP prescribes different approaches to ensure a safe environment for all children and adolescents in Aruba and to solve social disadvantages that are affecting children and adolescents. The situational analysis of the social development of Aruba was carried out to ascertain the state of and progress in the economic condition and social development of Aruba.

In 2019, the government of Aruba also drew up a plan together with UNICEF Netherlands. This is a plan that focusses in which areas we can contribute to strengthening the child protection system on the island. With the support of UNICEF Netherlands, the government is also being supported in setting up a method to properly monitor child protection projects. UNICEF Netherlands also helped draw up the first

youth report to the UN Children's Rights Committee. This increases the participation of Aruban children in the international supervision of compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. During the reporting period, there were no cases regarding the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, for the production and trafficking of drugs. There were also no complaints or cases referring to determination of hazardous work.