Annex III

Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee on the Rights of the Child

(**Please respect the specified amount of lines when filling out this form and
return it electronically in word formatto** **crc@ohchr.org**)

Nelson, Clarence

Family name and first name: ……………………………………………………………

22 December 1955 at Apia in Samoa

Date and place of birth: …………………………………………………………………

Samoa

Place of residence: ………………………………………………………………………

Samoan

Nationality: ………………………………………………………………………………

Email address: …………………………………………………………………………..

English

United Nations working languages: ……………………………………………………..

Current position/function:[[1]](#footnote-1)

(5 lines maximum)

Senior Judge of the Supreme Court of Samoa.

Justice of the Samoa Court of Appeal and Land and Titles Court (Appellate Division).

Vice-Chair of the Committee of the Rights of the Child.

Co-ordinator, OPIC Working Group and member, other Working Groups of the Committee.

Certified national & regional Trainer for Pacific Judicial Education.

Other main professional activities, in particular related to children’s rights:

(10 lines maximum)

As a sitting judge, adjudication of all disputes (civil, criminal, Constitutional or otherwise) that come before the Supreme Court, the highest trial court in Samoa.

Also trained in other forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution such as mediation.

Mentor and supporter of Samoa Victim Support Group and its activities.

Assisting in the development of the Olomanu Juvenile Facility, a separate low security facility for juvenile offenders.

Presenting at in-country and regional workshops concerning CRC and childrens rights.

Facilitating OHCHR Training of Trainers on Treaty Body Reporting for the Pacific.

Presenting at Pacific Conferences on work of CRC Committee and implementation of its COBs.

National presentations on sexual offending against children and rehabilitation programs for young offenders.

Consulting on reporting and implementation of Samoas Treaty Body Obligations particularly in relation to CRC.

Educational background:

(5 lines maximum)

1971 – graduated Proxime Accessit, St. Josephs College, Apia, Samoa

Awarded NZ Govt Scholarship to undertake further studies in New Zealand

1977 – Bachelor of Laws (LLB), University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

2002 – Youth Justice Training, Suva Fiji

2009 – Certified national and regional Trainer for Pacific Judicial Development programmes.

Relevant expertise on children’s rights.

Please elaborate on your areas of expertise under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and related experience:

(5 lines maximum)

Mentor – Samoa Victim Support Group.

Advocate for childrens rights & protection of children especially young victims of sexual violence.

Served 5 years as Member, South Pacific Council of Youth & Childrens Courts.

Involved in creation and set-up of the Olomanu Juvenile Facility, a minimum security facility for juvenile offenders.

Established 1st Youth Court in Samoa including drafting and implementation of the Young Offenders Act 2007.

List of most recent publications in the field of children’s rights:

(5 lines)

Landmark court decision in Police v Vailopa [2009] WSSC 69 (special requirements for Police interviews of child suspects).

Support from the CRC, IAYFJM Chronicle, January 2010.

Role of the media in the Youth & Family Courts of Samoa, IAYFJM Chronicle, July 2013.

Promises to Keep : 25th Anniversary of CRC, 2014.

1. It should be noted that membership in the Committee on the Rights of the Child requires participation in three (January/February, May/June and September /October) sessions of three weeks duration each per year; in addition, pre-sessional working groups are held immediately after each session during five working days in order to prepare the following session. The total number of weeks during which the Committee meets in Geneva therefore amounts to at least 12 weeks per year. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)