

Secretariat of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee  
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights  
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United Nations Office at Geneva,  
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The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Chinese Organization for Albinism, founded in 2008, is a non-government organization dedicated to provide services and support for people with albinism in China. We appreciate the effort and accomplishment that the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the issue of protecting and improving the human rights of people with albinism worldwide especially in the Africa.

Chinese Organization for Albinism would like to submit our response of the questionnaire to the Committee with respect.

1. What is the human rights situation of persons living with albinism in your country or in any country you are familiar with? Are they considered a particular social group? Are they considered disabled? Are they considered to belong to another category?

In China, albinism is widely regarded as a special social group. But persons with albinism are not considered as people with disabilities only if they fit the standard of visual disabilities because of the low vision. At present, China does not have a specific law or policy on albinism.

2. Does your country, or any country you are familiar with, have any problem of prejudice or stigmatization against the persons with albinism? How serious is it?

In China, most population is yellow race with black hair and yellow skin, persons with albinism have highly contrasts in the crowd. The general public is lack of awareness about albinism, therefore more vulnerable to prejudice and discrimination against persons with albinism. In the less developed area, the prejudice condition is more serious.

3. What are the obstacles that impede the efforts to improve the human rights situation of persons living with albinism?

The biggest obstacle is that no clear definition of albinism. Also the lack of public awareness, and lack of support-related policies and regulations are the obstacles.

4. What measures, if any, (legislative, administrative, institutional, or other policy/measures) have been put in place in your country to ensure the elimination of violence against persons with albinism and their protection from all other human rights violations?

In China, although there is some discrimination and misunderstanding, but there are no records of violence specifically against people with albinism. China's basic laws and regulations can ensure the personal safety and basic human rights of people with albinism as the other citizens.

5. What improvements (if any) have to be made to such measures in order to make them more effective?

Currently, only non-profit organizations are advocating to promote the establishment and improvement of relevant laws and policies.

6. How, if at all, you're your country rehabilitate victims of attacks against persons living with albinism?

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In China, there are no attacks specifically against people with albinism. Persons with albinism have access to social services of basic health care and rehabilitation as other citizens.

7. Do you have any information on allegations, complaints, investigations, prosecutions and their outcomes?

There are small amount of cases reported by media about persons with albinism fight for their equal rights of education and employment. Most people with albinism have little knowledge or conscious of using policies and laws to safeguard their own interests.

8. Do religious/spiritual institutions in your country play a role in helping persons with albinism? Are they effective in preventing attacks against these persons?

In China, the development of religious institutions is restricted, there is no specific religious institutions for persons with albinism, but there are some religious institutions have done a lot of work on providing care and rehabilitation for abandoned children including children with albinism.

9. In what ways can the Human Rights Council and the other UN human rights bodies assist with improving the situation of persons living with albinism within your country or any country you are familiar with?

The Human Rights Council could launch special survey/investigation of the situation of persons living with albinism in some region/country, and announce the result of the investigation to the governments and the public in some specific region/country.

10. What other institutional or practical measures should the Human Rights Council take to strengthen the efforts to improve the human rights situation of persons living with albinism?

A Convention on the Rights of People with Albinism can be established under the framework of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Human Rights Council could promote the United States to improve the relevant policies and regulations. Advocates the UN to establish a World Albinism Awareness Day to raise awareness and to improve the human rights situation of people with albinism around the world.

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