

**ITALIAN REPORT ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE  
WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN**

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**-Interdepartmental Committee**

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**PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE**

**MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SOLIDARITY**

**NATIONAL DOCUMENTATION AND ANALYSIS CENTRE**

**FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS- FLORENCE**

**National Report of the Italian Government on the Follow-up to the  
World Summit for Children**

**1. Foreword**

**1.1 The Italian delegation at the 1990 Summit**

Italy attended the World Summit for Children with a delegation represented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**1.2 Measures adopted following the 1990 Summit**

The first tangible sign of Italy's adoption of the commitments indicated by the Summit was the ratification by the Italian Parliament, one year later, of the United Nations International Convention on the Rights of the Child. Two Plans of Action were subsequently drawn up. The first Plan of Action was adopted by the government in 1997 for a two-year period. The second was drawn up this year, and will apply to the biennium 2000-2001. Both Plans of Action have been drafted by the National Childhood and Adolescence Monitoring Centre. This Monitoring Centre is based in Rome, at the Department of Social Affairs, headed by the Minister for Social Solidarity. Its members are individual national experts, representatives of government departments, local authorities and the voluntary sector.

As long ago as 1986, Italy instituted an interagency body

to study and propose measures on behalf of children, and to coordinate their nationwide implementation: the National Council on the Problems of Children, which produced two reports on the condition of children in Italy. In 1995 the Council was reorganized as a national Monitoring Centre to analyse the data collected by the National Centre for the Protection of Children, and to submit annual reports to Parliament. The Monitoring Centre was subsequently institutionalized with a more complete remit with the enactment of Law No 451 of 23 December 1997, *"Instituting the Parliamentary Commission on Childhood and the National Childhood Monitoring Centre"*. For the drafting of the most recent Plan of Action, the Monitoring Centre worked through six committees, each one dealing with one of the main issues for improving living conditions for children and adolescents in Italy, raising the problems awaiting solution, the challenges to be addressed, the changes to be made and the guidelines for adopting appropriate instruments for solving the problems identified. The six Committees that carried out the work of the Centre were:

- S New services for children, and the design of liveable and safe urban spaces;
- S Pre-adolescence, adolescence and parental support;

S Educational and cultural systems;  
S International solidarity and international adoption;  
S Television and the media;  
S Institutional reform and adjusting to the provisions of the United Nations Convention.

These committees were flanked by two others from outside the Centre, whose contributions were used as input for the drafting of the Plan of Action:

S Violence, Abuse and Sexual Exploitation of Children, run by the Coordination Committee, pursuant to Law No 269/98;

S Child Labour, run by the Coordination Table against Child Labour, set up in 1998.

All the documents produced by the working groups were then merged and harmonized. This was used as input for the Government to design a programme of targeted activities, specifying the legislation it intended to introduce during the biennium in order to comply with the commitments entered into under the Plan of Action.

### **1.3 Procedures for the regular monitoring of progress made by Italy in relation to the commitments undertaken at the 1990 Summit.**

In the decade 1990-2000 the government produced three

national reports (in 1990, 1996 and 1997) on the condition of children in Italy. With the enactment of Law No 451/97 the National Childhood and Adolescence Monitoring Centre was required to produce a biennial report every two years. These reports examine the living conditions of children and adolescents, and each one examines in greater detail some specific aspect of growth and development.

The latest report focused on the ways and situations in which the process of building up a personal and social identity takes place, particularly with regard to gender, and to territorial and ethnic identity. A new report is scheduled to be published for the end of 2000.

#### **1.4 Mid-term progress report and measures adopted subsequently.**

In 1997, the 1996 Report on the condition of children in Italy was published under the title *The Right to Grow Up, and Hardship*. Forty thousand copies of the report were printed and distributed throughout Italy, through Municipalities, schools, the social services, universities, local government offices and the voluntary services.

The main purpose of the report was to highlight a number of facts to be used as input for drafting strategic

guidelines to guarantee children better living standards. The analysis set out in the report laid down guidelines for a strategy to provide adequate protection for children and foster their advancement, which was subsequently used to draw up National Plans of Action.

In short, the report drew attention to the need to implement a strategy involving a general mobilization of the country on behalf of children and adolescents based on the following points documented in it, and considered to be critical:

S the need to develop a new form of solidarity between generations, avoiding the fragmentation of policies and guaranteeing greater equity in the redistribution of national and local public resources, encouraging the generations to relate properly to one another both within the family and in society at large;

S the need to develop and foster the spread of new attitudes towards children and adolescents, facilitating and encouraging research and disseminating research findings, promoting experiments with different services and measures "for children and with children" (and not only for and with problem children), disseminating a better understanding of the rights and duties of children towards their families, the school,

the institutions and other agencies, and the social workers who come into contact with children;

S the need to reduce inequalities between different areas of the country, tackling the economic and social discrepancies between the north and the south which impact negatively on the situation of children;

S the need to develop a new policy for children and adolescents which is more focused on the problems of these age groups at the national and local level, moving beyond a strategy based merely on tackling the problems caused by emergency situations, and which more closely links social and healthcare measures, developing a sense of health and fitness based not only on remedying pathological conditions but promoting the more comprehensive "well-being" of individuals, providing adequate financial resources for the benefit of children as well as introducing procedures for monitoring the use of these resources, providing help to use the funds which are made available by the European Union, and supporting the incorporation of an explicit reference in the Maastricht Treaty to the need for policies on behalf of children and adolescents, with prior verification of the impact and the effects connected with the adoption of statutory measures not

directly dealing with children.

The Report's conclusions were used to draft the first Plan of Action for Children and Adolescents adopted by the government in April 1997, and subsequently for the enactment of Law No 285/97 and Law No 451/97.

The first Plan of Action took on board the principles of comprehensiveness and solidarity in policies for children that had been indicated in the 1996 report, and laid the foundations for developing a new culture of "growing citizens". The Plan was based essentially on two instruments: coordinating the administrative measures to be adopted at all local, central and international levels, defining a series of specific commitments to be undertaken by each of the government departments involved in programmes for the benefit of children and adolescents, and enacting legislation to cover the areas indicated in the report and by the Monitoring Centre as being the most problematic and requiring the closest attention.

Under Law No 285/97 the government allocated about 800 billion lire for the three-year period 1997-99 to implement measures for the protection, care and advancement of children and adolescents under plans and projects to be drawn up by the local authorities and the voluntary sector. In the three-year period 1997-99 a total



of 2,840 projects were funded. Under Law No 451/97 the institutional framework for policies for children was completed with the institution of the Parliamentary Commission on Childhood, the National Childhood and Adolescence Monitoring Centre, the National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents, and the network of information flows between the regional authorities and the National Centre for the establishment of an information system on the living standards of children and adolescents in Italy.

#### **1.5 Reports submitted to the United Nations pursuant to article 44 of the CRC**

Italy has submitted two reports on the implementation of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention was ratified in Italy by Law No 176 of 1991. The first report was submitted to the United Nations Committee in 1994, and the second in 2000.

#### **The features of the reports**

The first report provided an overview of current Italian legislation and on Italy' practice in relation to the subject-matter dealt with by all the articles of the Convention in order to show the extent to which Italian

legislation had taken up the principles of the Convention. The first report indicated that the aspects needing the closest attention were compulsory school attendance and adoption.

The second report was drafted according to the guidelines drawn up by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. In addition to examining all current statutory provisions to ascertain their compliance with the principles enshrined in the Convention, it also provided a mass of statistical documentation, and an overview of the programmes, measures and services currently being supplied in order to make the rights enshrined in the law effective.

#### **Comments on the first report**

When Italy's first Report was submitted, the United Nations Committee made a number of recommendations and suggestions that were taken into account in the policies that have been implemented over the past few years. In short, the comments and recommendations were the following:

- a) the Italian criminal code did not children from physical and sexual abuse or from violence in the family;
- b) changes to legislation were recommended, to guarantee

equal treatment of all children born in or out of wedlock;

c) measures should be adopted for responsible parenting;

d) national legislation should introduce provisions for the prevention and prohibition of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment;

e) coordination was poor between the various government agencies involved, and between the national, regional and municipal authorities, and a network was needed to collect all the data on the different areas of the Convention, in order to cater for all the children living in Italy;

f) there was an economic and social inequality between northern and southern Italy, which impacted negatively on the condition of children;

g) adequate measures should be appraised and adopted to meet the needs of children belonging to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups;

h) the principle of the Convention regarding listening to children should be enshrined in Italian legislation;

i) appropriate measures were needed for the psychological and physical rehabilitation of children who were victims of abuse, and to deal with the problem of school dropouts and juvenile crime rates;

j) Italian society paid scant attention to the rights of children, the public did not become involved in issues

relating to children, and there was a lack of vocational training to address these problems.

Italy responded to these remarks and recommendations by adopting a number of measures of which a full account was given in the second report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, to which the reader is referred.

## **2. The process adopted to carry out the end-of-decade review**

This document is the work of a technical group forming part of the Interdepartmental Committee on Human Rights. The group met several times during 2000 to discuss the issues which Italy intends to raise at the meetings of the Preparatory Committee for AENGUS 2001. Input was also supplied by the National Coordination Unit "For the Rights of Children and Adolescents" (PIDIDA) which has a membership of over thirty Italian non-governmental organizations and associations working in Italy and the developing countries for the protection of children and adolescents. The Coordination has a Secretariat which reports to the UNICEF Italia headquarters in Rome.

The substance of the document is essentially based on the

issues raised in the United Nations Report on progress with the implementation in Italy of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was prepared and disseminated with the widespread involvement of Italian associations and institutions.

Representatives of professional and voluntary associations dealing with the problems of children were interviewed for this report, not so much to find out what they were doing but above all to hear their criticisms about the situation of children and adolescents in Italy and hear their proposals for improving it.

Contacts were made, inter alia, with 24 NGOs working in Italy (Telefono Azzurro, Caritas Italiana, Bice, CNCM - Coordinamento Nazionale Comunit Minori, Coordinamento Nazionale "Dalla Parte dei Bambini", Ciai - Centro Italiano Adozione Internazionale which will become Centro Italiano Aiuti per l'Infanzia, AiBi - Associazione Amici dei Bambini, CNCA - Coordinamento Nazionale Comunit di Accoglienza Aizo - Associazione Italiana Zingari Oggi, Opera Nomadi, WWF, Lega ambiente, Coni - Comitato Olimpico Nazionale Italiano, Agesci, ACLI - Associazione Cattolica Lavoratori Italiani, ACP - Associazione Culturale Pediatri, Societ Italiana di Pediatria, Coordinamento Nazionale dei Centri e dei Servizi di Prevenzione e

Trattamento dell'Abuso a Danno di Minori, Comitato Italiano Unicef, Movi - Movimento Volontariato Italiano, Arciragazzi, Tribunale per i Diritti del Malato, Movimento Federativo Democratico, Terres des Hommes).

The Report will also be disseminated with the help of young people, through school organizations and youth associations, and through workshops and seminars on the implementation of the rights enshrined in the Convention along the lines indicated in the Report.

While on the subject of public involvement and spreading a wider attention to issues relating to children, during the present parliament, the agenda of Cabinet meetings has frequently included issues relating to children and adolescents.

Examples of what has been done to create a new awareness of the rights of children in the community, and the need to ensure that these rights are actually enjoyed include the following: a wide range of measures to foster a different and more appropriate attitude towards children in the country; publications by the National Documentation Centre; the wide distribution of the two recent Reports on the Condition of Children and Adolescents in Italy, the

Report to the United Nations and the recent Plan of Action; the institution of the National Monitoring Centre which will include representatives of the professions; cooperation with a number of professional associations (for example the Paediatric Cultural Association) to carry out awareness- building campaigns; the institution of the National Day on the Rights Of the Child; programmes to disseminate the Convention through schools; promotional campaigns using TV commercials and setting up hotlines (for child custody and foster parenting, child labour problems), and numerous cultural programmes regarding the condition of children carried out by the local authorities to sensitize families and social workers of all kinds who deal with children and the problems of child development.

It is also thanks to Law 285/97 that the Convention could be disseminated widely, by financing 164 programmes linked to the celebrations of the National Day on 20 November, the organization of training courses, and sensitization and awareness-building on the theme of children and adolescents.

### **3. Nationwide activities**

#### **3.1 Plans of action for children and adolescents**

Italy drew up the first Plan of Action in 1997, and the

second one was adopted by the government in June 2000. The institutions as well as the associations represented on the National Childhood and Adolescence Monitoring Centre contributed to it. In both the first and the second Plans of Action, the regional and local authorities were urged to adopt the planning method as a strategy for fostering and implementing new policies for children and adolescents. This is a method which requires linkage and integration with other important spheres of life relating to children and adolescents: for example, the Mother and Child Target Project, forming part of the National Health Plan 1998-2000, which contains activities to foster health, treatment and rehabilitation in order to have a positive effect on the quality of the physical and psychological well-being of mothers, newborn babies and children in general. Then there was the government's Action Programme for disability policies 2000-2003, designed to create a society that is capable of drawing on all the "diversities" in society as a source of enrichment, to eradicate the disadvantages caused by disability, to resolve situations of need afflicting people suffering from "serious" disabilities and the families which look after and care for them, to make existing legislation more effective so that human and



social rights which are denied them because of disability can be effectively enjoyed.

The first Plan of Action for Children and Adolescents set out to implement a legislative and administrative coordination programme which has now been almost completely achieved, four years after the Plan was adopted by the government:

S an expenditure Law has been enacted for children and adolescents, Law No 285/97, to fund over 2,800 projects to introduce new services for children and consolidate and extend those that already exist ;

S an organic framework of central institutions has been designed to give continuity to policy-making and to sustain the focus on the rights of children in the government's work and in Parliamentary lawmaking activities; it was for this reason that the Parliamentary Commission on Childhood and the National Childhood and Adolescence Monitoring Centre were set up. Other facilities have also been instituted to provide adequate scientific knowledge regarding the conditions of life of children in Italy through the National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents, and the creation of a network for the exchange of information with the regional governments,

for which funding was provided to set up similar facilities to create data collection and data exchange monitoring systems;

S with the enactment of Law 269/98 a programme was launched to combat the exploitation and sexual abuse of children and paedophilia, and guidelines have been drafted for the centres and services working in this area;

S parliament is currently examining three major pieces of draft legislation: one instituting a children's Ombudsman, another to reform the services for very young children, and a third bill to institute a system for the participation and representation of the younger generation;

S Law 476/98 was enacted to ratify the Hague Convention On International Adoption, and the new central authority to deal with international adoptions, and the official register of authorized adoption agencies have been instituted;

S in order to combat the exploitation of child labour an Interagency Coordination Table has been set up, which drafted a Charter of Undertakings in 1998, endorsed by the government and by the trade unions and employers, to launch a programme of action to eradicate the

exploitation of child labour. In 2000, moreover, the enactment of Law No 148 of 25 May 2000 ratified and made effective the ILO Convention on the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour;

S Law 53/2000 was also enacted to give working parents parental leave to spend more time with their newborn babies, so that their pace of life, care and working hours in towns can be harmonized;

S in order to integrate and upgrade the social-health care services for children and adolescents, in addition to the aforementioned Mother and Child Target Project parliament has also reformed the social services system by enacting the framework Law No 328/2000 which enshrines the principles and identifies instruments for creating an integrated social services and activities system;

S lastly, measures which had already been initiated before the Plan of Action have been further consolidated and developed, including:

a) the project instituted by the Ministry of the Environment to make the towns and cities "to the measure of children", and hence more liveable for adults, as well;

- b) the completion of the reform of the school system, giving autonomy to the schools, reforming curricula and syllabuses, raising the school-leaving age and introducing the obligation to continue training until 18, setting up an integrated training system comprising school education, vocational training, apprenticeship and work experience, combating the dropout rate and disaffection with formal education, by setting up, in many middle schools, Information and Counselling Centres (CICs), health education schemes and local Adult Education Centres (EDAs);
- c) international cooperation on behalf of children threatened with social exclusion, through sectoral, human development and poverty eradication programmes.

The second Plan of Action was designed to further develop the commitments already entered into under the first Programme, seeking to make the provisions enacted by parliament more effective and focused, supporting and advocating the enactment of the other bills currently lying before Parliament. Additionally, the Plan laid down several new objectives:

S to encourage activities to combat the problems of young

people, expressed in forms of juvenile delinquency, Law No 216/91 will be refunded;

S to foster a national culture of greater awareness and responsibility towards the younger generations and the future generations, an awareness-building campaign has been launched on parenting, by distributing 1,200,000 booklets to all first-time parents and families who enrol their children at first-year elementary school, as a means of encouraging them and supporting them in their role in order to guarantee the development of their children in a way which will enable them to completely acquire a personal and social identity;

S to support the implementation of the new law on International adoption through an information campaign which will include the distribution of a booklet to all interested families together with training schemes for social workers involved in the various stages of the adoption process;

S to commit the government to a thorough root-and-branch reform of the juvenile justice system, unifying the various jurisdictions that are currently scattered between a large number of different judicial bodies, to establish a specific juvenile prison system and amend any parts of current criminal law which is not

compliant with the United Nations Convention, and to lay a government bill before parliament ratifying the European Convention on listening to children in judicial and administrative proceedings;

S to help foreign children, the work of the Committee for the Protection of Foreign Children instituted by law 40/98 is to be stepped up, so that a national census of foreign unaccompanied children can be carried out, national standards drafted for accommodating them throughout Italy, a network of accommodation centres set up for them, and to provide conditions for their safe return home and to prevent them from leaving their home countries illegally;

S to guarantee children a quality television offering with an educational content, the government is to promote the independent production of programmes geared to the needs of children, in line with indications set out in the United Nations Convention, seeing the media not as something against which to defend the public but as useful instruments for the development of the younger generations;

S for "Children In The World" The government is to set up a single and permanent "Pro-Childhood" coordination agency to manage humanitarian aid in emergencies and

increase the funding available for development cooperation on projects to improve living standards and the conditions for the development of children;

S lastly, for the "Children Of Europe" The government is to propose to the European Union the adoption of a common strategy for the rights of children and adolescents by amending the Treaty Establishing the Union and by drafting a European Plan of Action.

### **3.1.1 Health care planning**

Here are a few details regarding the programming carried out by the Ministry of Health, to which reference was made at the beginning of this chapter, in relation to the global strategy for measures to assist children and adolescents set out in the Plan of Action.

Between 1992 and 1993 approval was given to the main measures for the reorganization of the National Health Service (Legislative Decree 502/92 and Legislative Decree 517/93) to promote a different approach to the management of health care, by introducing the concept of converting district health authorities (USLs) and hospitals into corporations; these measures change their previous structure which was instituted by the Healthcare Reform Act, Law No 833/78.

An integral and essential part of the overall organization of health care is "Free-choice Paediatrics" (involving about 7500 paediatricians working under contract for the National Health Service), who are responsible for the health of children by providing free primary health care services, with responsibility for preventive care, health education, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation, through a nationwide network. This represents a major step forward in terms of the improving the quality and standardizing the care and treatment available for individual children.

***The Mother and Child Target Project under the National Healthcare Plan***

The National Healthcare Plan for the three-year period 1998-2000 (Presidential Decree of 23 July 1998), forming part of overall health care planning, forms the basis for drafting Regional Healthcare Plans. It indicates the protection of the health of women, children and adolescents as phases in life to which specific attention must be given, for which a specific Mother and Child Target Project was instituted (Ministerial Decree of 24 April 2000).

The Mother and Child Target Project, which began under the



previous 1994 National Healthcare Plan, takes up several of the objectives of the previous National Healthcare Plan, and provides a number of care objectives and models. These ensure that the measures are standardized, based on the criterion of appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency, based on the idea of catering no longer merely for an individual but of extending the monitoring to more complex units, such as the family. This involves a much closer focus on the individual person, while reducing the present scattering of resources, avoiding piecemeal measures which are duplicated to deal with the same population.

This project, which has been set in motion by the Mother and Child Departments of the Health Districts established under the Target Project provides not only health-care policy measures but also the following important social/health-care measures:

- S protecting mother and newborn babies as a unit, providing care that will increasingly humanize childbirth;
- S reducing perinatal mortality to below 0.8% in all Regions by the end of 2000;
- S extending paediatric care to make it available to all children;

- S improving the care available to children suffering from chronic and disabling illnesses, neuropsychiatric care for children of the victims of maltreatment, abuse and sexual exploitation;
- S identifying an area for paediatric care with structural and logistical features that are suitable to meet the psychological/physical needs of children, staffed by personnel with paediatric skills and training;
- S taking paediatric care outside the hospital environment by upgrading counselling/outpatient networks, community paediatrics and free-choice paediatrics;
- S reducing the number of general paediatric inpatient units, converting them into facilities to treat serious or expanding pathologies;
- S instituting national epidemiological registers at the National Institute of Health of the Ministry of Health (giving priority to congenital deformities, children's cancers and leukaemia, chronic kidney failure, immune deficiency, hypothyroidism, mental retardation);
- S guaranteeing an effective and efficient obstetrics, gynaecological, paediatric emergency service;
- S guaranteeing care for women's health in every stage of their life;
- S drawing up a technical/scientific protocol for

pregnancy monitoring;

S stepping up preventive care and health education;

S extending the range of services available to, and their take-up by, adolescents.

Mother and child healthcare is considered to be a strategic part of the National Health Service, partly because of the beneficial effects that the promotion of healthcare, treatment and rehabilitation in this field have on the psychological and physical well-being of the present and future population in general. This also falls in line with the thinking of the World Health Organization, which considers that improving the quality of life of mothers and their children is one of the priority objectives of health-care worldwide.

### ***The National Vaccinations Plan***

The National Vaccinations Plan (dated 18 June 1999) in implementation of the provisions of the National Healthcare Plan 1998-2000 clearly, comprehensively and homogeneously sets out vaccination policy for the next few years, aiming at reaching the same levels of vaccination coverage as the most advanced countries, and identifying the objectives and the procedures for achieving this.

The national vaccination system has already produced

satisfactory results in line with the indications set out in the National Healthcare Plan 1998-2000, to protect children against diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis, hepatitis B (95 percent vaccination coverage in every Italian region for children between 12 and 24 months). However, this is not the case with the voluntary vaccinations against whooping cough, measles, rubella, type B haemophilus influenzae, for which the National Health Plan has set the same targets as for compulsory vaccination.

***Protection of children's health against environmental pollution***

The objectives and targets set for promoting the health children are also linked to environmental protection and conservation, breaking the vicious circle of poverty and environmental degradation.

In order to achieve the targets and objectives of the National Health Plan, in 1998 the Ministry of Health instituted the Scientific/technical Committee to draft proposals for legislation on indoor pollution. The Committee produced the *Final document for protecting and improving health in confined environments*.

This document provides a useful framework of reference for

preventing and controlling risk factors in confined environments (homes, schools, recreational and sports facilities and amenities, etc) and for protecting the health of the population at large, particularly the most vulnerable groups (children, old people, expectant mothers) whose exposure risk may be high.

The main areas of intervention indicated in the document are: tobacco smoke, radon, building materials, technological facilities, common chemical products, carbon dioxide poisoning, asthma, allergies and other pollution-related illnesses.

### ***Health education programmes***

When programming measures and operational instruments to provide information and health-care education, the Ministry of Health has implemented a number of measures using a variety of educational instruments, including innovative teaching aids, for the protection of the health of children and adolescents, and particularly in relation to the prevention of hepatitis A and other diseases transmitted by food. Several information and educational campaigns have also been run on HIV/AIDS prevention.

### **3.2 Expenditure on Children and Adolescents**

Government policy has given priority to both these Plans, guaranteeing the necessary financial coverage for each measure within the limits of the funds allocated for them under current legislation. Other measures which require funds to be committed by newly-enacted legislation, on the other hand, are financed under the ordinary procedures for financial planning.

The most evident financial commitment was the result of Law No 285/97, with a guaranteed annual appropriation of 312 billion lire to be spent on children and adolescents. According to the latest report to the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in Italy, expenditure on children can be classified under four main headings:

- social security and taxation
- welfare
- health
- education and training
- juvenile justice.

**a) Social security and taxation measures**

The first set of expenditure items include such things as family allowances and tax abatements for dependent children.

Family allowances are means-tested according to household

income, the number of members of the household and whether or not there are sick members of the household. By "household" is meant the partners, children aged under 18 and children over 18 who are wholly unfit for work. We believe that this system is very largely responsible for improving the quality of life of children by providing financial support for the family unit.

Over the past few years family allowances have constantly risen in value: in 1995, aggregate expenditure was 5,662 billion lire, rising to 6,623 billion in 1996 and 7,237 in 1997.<sup>1</sup>

The recently enacted Law No 450/97 make provision for a further increase over the next few years of 595 billion in 1998, and a further 618 billion in 1999 and in 2000.

With regard to tax abatements for dependent relatives, Legislative Decree No 446/97 modified the rules for dependent children, raising the tax abatement to 336,000 lire for each dependent child; under previous legislation a distinction was drawn between dependent children and other dependent relatives, with a tax abatement of 94,437

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<sup>1</sup> ISTAT, *Contabilità nazionale*, tomo II, *Conti economici e finanziari dei settori istituzionali*, anni 1980-1997, 1999

lire for each dependent child, but under the new legislation the tax abatement has been recalculated in a way that reduces the penalty on large families.

**b) Welfare expenditure**

At the central level no distinction is drawn between welfare expenditure by beneficiary groups. It is not therefore possible to identify the percentage of expenditure allocated to the protection and care of children.

Law No 285/97, mentioned earlier, is the most recent legislation for children.

Under the statutory measures linked to the 1998 Finance Act, Law No 449/97, a Social Policies Fund was instituted for welfare policy priorities. This Fund received resources of 28 billion lire in 1998, 115 billion in 1999 and 143 billion in 2000. Since 1998 it has been funded by the appropriations made for the various statutory welfare measures.

A further indication, with the limitations referred to above, can be seen in the regional and local authority accounts.

In 1994 mother-and-child welfare expenditure by regional governments totalled 167.6 billion lire, or 9.7% of the



whole. If the expenditure on measures designed specifically for children, totalling 92 billion lire, is also taken into account the grand total of expenditure on children takes up 15% of aggregate welfare expenditure.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Regional data taken from Commissione di indagine sulla povertà e sull'emarginazione della Presidenza del Consiglio di Ministri, edited by *La spesa pubblica per l'assistenza in Italia*, 1996, processed by IRS.

The latest available data on welfare expenditure by the provincial authorities, referring to 1994, shows that expenditure on children's welfare totalled about 116 million lire, or 31 percent of total provincial welfare expenditure and 1.6% of total current provincial expenditure. Municipal authorities' welfare expenditure is considerably higher, at about 4,860 billion lire. In 1993, municipal expenditure on children's welfare and nursery schools was 1,376 billion, of which about 999 million was spent on wages and salaries and social security contributions.<sup>3</sup>

The amount spent by municipal authorities on welfare remains fairly constant: between 1988 and 1994 total municipal expenditure kept pace with inflation. Current expenditure items accounted virtually for the whole of municipal welfare expenditure: in 1994, expenditure on current account was 4,726 billion with 132 billion lire was for capital expenditure.

In 1993 capital expenditure on children or nursery schools totalled 38 billion lire. Local authorities borrowed about 6 billion lire for nursery school building in 1997,

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<sup>3</sup> ISTAT data processed by IRS

compared with almost 17 billion in loans in 1996.

At the regional level, however, there are huge differences between per capita current account expenditure on welfare, ranging from the highest per capita expenditure in the municipalities in Valle d'Aosta of 229,273 lire, to the lowest expenditure of 21,468 (1994 figures) by the municipalities in Calabria.<sup>4</sup>

With regard to municipal expenditure it is possible to identify specific types of intervention for which disaggregated data exists. In 1994, expenditure on nursery schools was about 1,324 billion, making it one of the most substantial expenditure items in the municipal accounts. Still in 1994, per capita current account expenditure on nursery schools was 23,000 lire. Between 1988 and 1994 nursery school expenditure rose by about 60% in absolute terms, which was equivalent to just under 10% taking inflation into account. In 1993, nursery school fees ranged from a minimum of 132,000 lire in State-run nursery schools to 3 and even 4 times that figure in private nursery schools. No reliable figures are available for the past few years, but the local authorities are now tending

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<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*

to nursery school fees into line with private nursery school fees, adjusted by means-testing.

Milan City Council is a good example, being a particularly important municipality in terms of its size and the amount it spends on welfare: with a 214.7 billion lire social services bill, expenditure on children accounted for 13.5% (29 billion), of which about 20 billion was spent on inpatient care.<sup>5</sup>

No disaggregated data is available for the expenditure on disabled children. It is only possible to indicate the number of disabled children by age group based on the number of 'disabled civilians' qualifying for an attendance allowance. In 1997, Italy paid out attendance allowances for 3,728 children under four years of age, 11,990 children aged between five and nine years, and 15,391 children aged between 10 and 14 years.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Source: Milan Social Services Department.

<sup>6</sup> Source: Ministry of Finance, State Accountant's Office.

Law No 104/92 for the disabled earmarked 120 billion lire in 1992 and 150 billion every year from 1993, of which about 50 percent is spent on children or pre-adolescents. The most recent survey of the measures adopted by the various regional authorities shows that the situation varies widely from one region to another: Lombardy invested 320 billion in 1997 compared with only 850 million in Basilicata.

The data supplied by the regional authorities to the Ministry for Solidarity deals separately with measures for children under 18 in only 8 cases: in six regions, expenditure on children accounts for about 30 percent of total spend, while in two regions expenditure on children is marginal compared with overall spending. Lombardy is a significant case, where the 105 billion lire invested in 1997 made it the region that had invested more than any other to help disabled children.<sup>7</sup>

In the absence of disaggregated data on municipalities, we can take the Milan City Council as an example: of the 34.8 billion lire spent, about 20.5 billion went on education

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<sup>7</sup> Source: Data from the Progress Report on the Implementation of Policies for the Disabled in Italy 1997, processed by AIl sole 24 ore del lunedì@ 8/6/98.

centres for children and adolescents.<sup>8</sup>

c) Healthcare expenditure

Health care policy for the treatment of children and the protection of child health indicates that:

S about six percent of National Health Service expenditure on children under 14 years of age goes to hospital care, 6.7% on medicines and drugs, and 12.8% to consultants' examinations and diagnosis. No charges are made for diagnostic tests on children under six years of age from families with a gross annual income of below 70 million lire.

**d) Education expenditure**

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<sup>8</sup> Source: Milan Social Services Department

Data on public expenditure for education (Source: Ministry of Education) indicate a global amount of 57.208 billion lira in 1999. This figure, however, does not include private education nor the expenditure of local governmental entities, like Regions or City Councils, which represent approximately a further 10%, to be added to the total. Out of this amount, 16.552 billion have been devoted to elementary school and 14.558 to lower secondary school. As to *per capita* expenditure, every pupil in 1999 cost 6,3 million lira in elementary school and 8,8 in lower secondary. Compared to the previous year, the real average expenditure for student has increased by 1,1%. This confirms a global positive trend which started with the expenditure increase per pupil in 1996 which, over with the previous year, was in excess of 30%.<sup>9</sup>

**d) Expenditure on juvenile justice**

Expenditure on juvenile justice in Italy has risen since 1996 from 135.5 billion to 257.1 billion lire (the

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<sup>9</sup> Source: Ministry of Education, Statistics Service - SISTAN Office.

estimated spend in 2001). Over the same period the resources used to deal with juveniles rose from 16.5 billion to 39.5 billion. Between 1996 and 1999 10 billion lire was allocated each year for projects under Law No 216/91 enacting "Preliminary measures for children at risk of involvement in crime". It should be borne in mind that during this same period the increased expenditure on juvenile justice included both to the increase investment, which rose from 9.4 billion to 32.1 billion between 1996 and 1998, and the inclusion of personnel expenditure items that had previously been managed by other Directorates-General of the Justice Ministry.

Lastly, it must be remembered that in implementation of Legislative Decree No 300/99 on the reform of the organization of government, the Central Office for Juvenile Justice will be known as the Department of Juvenile Justice under the reorganization of the Ministry of Justice. It follows that expenditure items in the budget and the consequent appropriation of resources for measures to deal with juveniles will inevitably rise.

### **3.3 The mobilization of society on behalf of children**

In order to achieve comprehensive care for children and a general mobilization of society on the rights of children



and adolescents, Italy has decreed that 20 November each year is a "National Day for Children's Rights". Throughout Italy various events, workshops and conferences are organized by the local authorities and associations, and at least once every three years a national conference on children and adolescents is convened. In 1998, the first national conference was convened, attended by almost 5,000 people.

The Department of Social Affairs has also run a number of social communication campaigns through the mass media to disseminate familiarity with the contents of the Convention and the issues relating to children more generally.

A number of TV commercials have also been broadcast:

S child custody and fostering, backed up by an information campaign with a toll-free number and a call centre;

S the exploitation of child labour; this has also been associated with a toll-free number and a call centre;

S child neglect;

S convening the 1<sup>st</sup> National Conference on Children and Adolescents.

In conjunction with the Ministry of Education a competition was run in primary schools, middle schools and

secondary schools for the best essays, drawings and videos on the issue of children's and adolescents' rights. The entries were all made public and the prizes were awarded on 16 April 1999, the day commemorating the murder of the young Pakistani trade union child activist, Iqbal Masih. In order to familiarize children, students and their families with the Convention, the Department of Social Affairs has published and distributed about 15 million booklets, written in appropriate language for each target group, and with illustrations. It is estimated that 25,000 information booklets had been distributed by the end of 2000 to all families interested in international adoptions, explaining the new system following the enactment of the law ratifying the Hague Convention. Over one million booklets were also distributed to all first-time parents and to families enrolling their children in the first year of primary School, to support their commitments.

To encourage the dissemination of the Convention throughout the country a number of books were also published by various non-governmental organizations (UNICEF, Telefono Azzurro, Arciragazzi) illustrating and commenting on the text. In recent years many magazines have published articles commenting on the Convention as a

whole and on specific points taken from it. A great deal of information and educational work has also been devoted to the issues raised by the Convention in Italian schools. For example, in the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia region a video cassette has been produced on the rights of children; it is shown in schools and has been used as the subject of open discussions between the children; UNICEF Italia has involved 15,000 schools at all levels in a campaign on development education, taking up the issues enshrined in the Convention; UNICEF has also promoted an Italian Youth for UNICEF Movement, to enlist children in promoting the Convention.

Many universities (Catania, Cosenza, Lecce, Bari, Cagliari, Nuoro, Benevento, Naples, Rome, Viterbo, Perugia, L'Aquila, Urbino, Siena, Genoa, Turin, Pavia, Milan, Padua, Verona, Venice, Trieste, Pisa, Udine and Trent) have also promoted multi-disciplinary development education courses and courses on the United Nations Convention, run in conjunction with UNICEF Italia. This programme involves 400 teachers and experts and 5,000 students every year in forms of active participation.

A number of universities have also organized courses on children's rights, as part of both standard courses and specialized courses. One example is the University of

Campobasso, which has organized an intensive course on this issue as part of the Erasmus Project together with an international workshop on *Measuring and monitoring the state of children beyond survival*; another example is Urbino University, which has set up a research and study centre on the family, and which over the past few years has been conducting research and teaching programmes on children and children's rights.

RAI (Radiotelevisione Italia) has also been working in this area by producing commercials on children's rights: the right to self-expression, the right to non-violence (also in the family), the right to health, the right to live in a multi-ethnic society, and the right to play. A workshop has also been run by the Association of Journalists to sensitize journalists to the issue of "children's rights and information".

#### **3.4 Procedures for collecting, analysing and disseminating data on the state of children.**

With the enactment of Law No 451/97 Italy now has a system to collect, analyse and disseminate data on the condition of children and adolescents in the country. A national documentation and analysis centre for children and adolescents has been established to collect, store,

analyse and disseminate all the documentation that exists on children. The Centre has created an information system containing a huge statistical databank with 200 relevant social indicators regarding the well-being of children, broken down by gender, age group, territorial distribution and historical series.

All of this documentation and analysis work is disseminated through the web-site belonging to the National Centre which, through a series of periodicals containing documentation on the centre, is distributed throughout Italy to local government officials and social workers in relevant sectors, and to undergraduates and researchers.

It is also thanks to Law No 451/97 that the regional governments have set up Regional Childhood Monitoring Centres and Regional Documentation Centres with similar tasks to those instituted at the national level. So far, these have been brought into operation in one-half of the Regions. These centres are instruments for becoming better acquainted with the state of services locally, and children's living conditions, and also to be able to appraise the results of the measures that are adopted, and the impact and effectiveness of sectoral social policies.

### **3.5 Research**

As far as research is concerned, between 1998 and 2000 the National Centre launched a survey programme to try to fill some of the information gaps that had made it difficult for a long time to plan measures and policies consistently with the real magnitude of the problems to be solved. The areas where research has been conducted at the national level are: institutionalized children (the number of children living in institutions, and the number and types of institutions involved); children and the child custody/fostering services (the number of children being fostered, by gender, type of foster parent and duration, the number and type of public fostering services); services for very young children (nursery schools and alternative services, the number of babies and children in them, the potential number of users, and the number of teachers involved); services for adolescents (the types of services existing and the number of users); and children too young to be charged with crimes (the number of children aged under 14 reported for offences, the types of services existing for them and brought into operation following the reporting of the children). The first two research programmes have already been completed and the results are now ready, while the others will be completed

before the end of 2000, and the results published in mid-2001.

#### **4. International activities**

International co-operation schemes for children conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs took on a fresh approach following the adoption, in 1998, of the *Guidelines for Development Cooperation on behalf of Children*, as a result of the commitments entered into by the Italian government under the First Plan of Action for Children and Adolescents. The issue of children has therefore only been an autonomous focus area for short time, with its own place within the policies and practice of Italian Co-operation.

Consistently with the new OECD/DAC guidelines and policies, development co-operation measures conducted according to the principles and the strategies set out in the *Guidelines* converge in a strategic vision designed to create the conditions that will reduce poverty in the countries/regions benefiting from Italian development assistance, and remove the obstacles that are causing the social exclusion of the new generations from the national production processes. Illiteracy, abuse, violence, trafficking in and exploiting of the worst forms of child

labour, and the existence of social and cultural factors which hamper development, are all structural conditions that prevent the development of countries because they are the cause and source of poverty, conflict and increased crime.

The *Guidelines* also reflect the indications laid down by the World Bank, which has pointed out that development investment and measures on behalf of children and adolescents are of decisive to prevent and break the cycle of poverty.

In line with these underlying indications, the advancement of children and young people throughout the world has been carried out, by Italian Co-operation, by giving pride of place to such instruments as education in their rights, basic formal education, continuing vocational training, improving and adapting the services, and fostering participation and administrative decentralization, taking a holistic view of child as a person, and implementing specific preventive measures and combating intolerable phenomena connected with the failure to respect children's fundamental rights such as:

S depriving children of education;

S the increase in the number of cases of child neglect, particularly in the towns;



- S the weakness of the institutions in protecting the rights of children, and primarily the lack of legal protection and official public records on children, and the systematic denial of the children's rights (juvenile justice, citizenship rights, etc.);
- S the exploitation of the worst forms of child labour as defined by the recent ILO Convention No 182 (Geneva, June 1999), ratified by Law No 148 of 25 May 2000;
- S the trafficking of children;
- S the widespread persistence of gender-based discrimination, which places girls in far more critical living conditions than their male contemporaries (lower level of school attendance, vulnerability to sexual abuse and violence, early pregnancies, greater vulnerability to sexually-transmitted diseases and AIDS);
- S the dissemination among young people, from the earliest age, of such negative values as xenophobia, acceptance of war, violence, crime, and the treatment of human beings as commodities.

In the space of just over two years from 1998 to 2000, this policy has produced 24 programmes and projects for a total value of 18.2 billion lire. The channel used for

delivering funds has mainly been multilateral, through the United Nations Agencies. Two initiatives have been implemented through decentralized co-operation ventures with two Italian Regions: Friuli Venezia-Giulia, and Marche/Emilia Romagna. And two others have been entrusted to NGOs. Italian Co-operation has also attended the international conferences in Stockholm (1996), Oslo (1998), Accra (1999), and Winnipeg (2000), and continuously attends meetings of International Donors on the use of child labour and sexual exploitation.

The 24 programmes and projects have been designed to combat poverty and social exclusion by dealing, in different contexts, with issues deemed to be priorities such as:

- S eradicating the worst forms of child labour (Senegal, Nicaragua, India);
- S helping child war victims (Eritrea, Lebanon, Rwanda);
- S combating the trafficking of women and children (Nigeria, Albania);
- S combating the sexual exploitation of children and sex tourism (Dominican Republic);
- S helping street children and children living in vulnerable conditions (Ethiopia, Bolivia, Ecuador);
- S juvenile justice (Angola);

S promoting and protecting the civil rights of girls (Egypt);

S peacemaking and helping to improve the condition of children and young people (Bosnia & Herzegovina and Repubblica Sprska, Croatia, Albania, the Balkan Initiative).

These programmes are systematically implemented by providing support for institutions and organizations of civil society, and systematically fostering community involvement in identifying and implementing the measures programmed.

Geographic area	No of programmes	% programmes	Spend (Lire '000m)	% spend
Asia	1	4	5.8	7
Southeastern Mediterranean (Mashrek)	3	13	5.8	7
Not geographically divisible	4	17	6.5	8
Central America and the Caribbean	4	17	9	11

Balkans	5	21	20.8	26
Africa	7	29	32.3	40
Total	24	100	80.2	100

Italy's commitment to development co-operation on behalf of children also uses other financial channels in addition to the bilateral and multilateral aid referred to above, particularly through "pure multilateral programmes", "promoted programmes", "decentralized co-operation" programmes and "European co-operation" programmes, as well as programmes financed by the international financial institutions.

At present time there is not enough information available on all these programmes that make it possible to identify which ones are specifically designed for children and adolescents, except for the so-called "pure multilateral" programmes. Because of this lack of information, the ministry set up a special office at the end of 2000 to gather information on the programmes designed to help children, women and the disabled which are being supported through the various international development co-operation programmes, responsibility for which is currently distributed between different Directorates-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Under "pure multilateral" programmes Italian co-operation contributes to the core resources of such international institutions as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to which Italy contributed 20 billion lire in 2000, making Italy one of UNICEF's top 10 donors. Italy's multilateral commitment also includes contributing to other international organizations which deal, directly or indirectly, with children, such as UNESCO, WHO, UNHCR, UNRWA and UNFPA.

To institutionalize relations between the Directorate-general for Development Co-operation (DGCS) at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNICEF, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed in April 2000 specifying and harmonizing the technical and administrative procedures. This Memorandum also takes account of the new policies and priorities of Italian Co-operation set out in the Guidelines, such as combating poverty, eliminating the worst forms of child labour, and decentralized co-operation.

Lastly, Italy acknowledges the top priority that UNICEF will continue to give to drawing up and submitting applications for contributions to programmes and projects, which may be financed by the Ministry through voluntary additional and/or multilateral contributions and

emergency funds.

## 5. Italy's commitment in the future

### 5.1 Guiding principles for a strategy to safeguard the rights of children and adolescents

A review of the initiatives on which Italy has embarked over the past decade to provide effective protection and foster the advancement of children clearly shows the need to link the action strategy defined in the Plans of Action for Children -- whose concrete commitments are described in paragraph 3.1 above -- with a number of general preconditions which will steer the development and implementation of the commitments defined in the second Plan of Action 2000-2001:

- a) *A meaningful policy for children can only be properly developed in a more general framework of political commitment to the democratic and social development of the whole community of Italy.* Combating poverty, the commitment to guaranteeing jobs and reducing unemployment, developing social solidarity against all forms of egoism on the part of individuals or groups, acknowledging the main citizenship rights, fostering greater participation in social and political life, guaranteeing equal opportunities to men and women,

developing culture and education in the country, guaranteeing ever-improved health services, not merely in terms of treatment and prevention of disease but also in achieving real well-being: these objectives cannot and must not be treated as separate from the implementation of an effective policy for the younger generation. The policy for children is developed mainly through a general policy geared to the need for the advancement of all men and women and of the community as a whole;

- b) *an effective policy for children cannot be developed if it only deals with emergencies*, when the problems have become critical (drug dependency, juvenile crime, paedophilia) seeking to paper over the problems or introducing piecemeal measures without an organic vision of the underlying problem and without an adequate comprehensive knowledge of the real state of children and adolescents. An adequate strategy not only requires accurate documentation on the conditions under which children live in our country, and a serious prior analysis of existing problems, but also a global and comprehensive development plan laying down strategic guidelines to be implemented gradually. This must ensure the necessary degree of coordination to enable

the plan to be implemented at all levels; mobilizing its institutional energies and the private social sphere in a global and effective form of co-operation for its implementation; regular monitoring to ascertain the effectiveness of the measures adopted, and to ensure that the plan can be tailored in order to take account of the difficulties that emerge during implementation;

c) *a policy to protect children and adolescents and foster their development and advancement cannot be carried through solely through legislation, however necessary this may be.* Laws for the protection of children must also have a real impact on the situation, by using adequate instruments for their implementation and enforcement; lawmaking must be linked to administrative practice which pays careful attention to the needs of children and respects their personality and their interests; measures must be developed throughout the country and locally, not only to protect but also to foster the advancement of children, by mobilizing institutional resources and private resources to enable them to co-operate actively; community life must be facilitated for child-citizens so that they can break out of what is a situation of substantial



marginalization;

- d) *a policy is needed to develop activities to prevent deprivation.* Prevention -- which is essential in this sphere because rehabilitation is not always entirely satisfactory because the damage caused can often leave indelible scars -- not only means identifying situations of very serious risk and only acting to prevent the risk from causing damage. It means providing the conditions which will enable everyone to progress along the complex path of personal development, and not be hampered; their original identity must be respected and enhanced; and all contributions must be positive and structuring. This requires a community to be built up which is 'educative' in the true sense of the term, which knows how to help children to build up their personality in the spirit of the ideals enshrined in the United Nations Charter and in particular in the spirit of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, equality and solidarity (as enshrined in the preamble to the Convention). This educational function cannot be left solely to the family or the school: all educational agencies, including those involved in informal education, must feel their responsibility for this

function; all adults who have any contact with children, whether in a professional capacity or otherwise, must feel that they have a responsibility to facilitate the maturity process of those who are just embarking upon life. And policies must stimulate this commitment;

e) *lastly, a sense of collective identity must be heightened among all those who are responsible for dealing with these issues, without a sense of inferiority in comparison with the much more powerful missions being pursued by other areas of welfare policy. Today, the least ideologically controversial value is the value of children (perhaps together with the value of women): a value whose proclamation is probably inversely proportional to the power that children actually enjoy. For it is difficult today to criticize children and minorities without this necessarily leading to the spread of a genuine concern for them.*

## **Statistical appendix**

### **Data sources:**

Objective 1: Istat

Objective 2: Istat

Objective 6: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

Objective 7: Ministry of Education

Objective 8: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

Objective 9: Mortality rate among children aged under five per 11,000 residents: Istat

Objective 9: Spread of HIV: Istat

Objective 10: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

Objective 12: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

Objective 19: Istat

Objective 20: Istat

Objective 21: Istat

Objective 22: Ministry of Health

Objective 23: Istat

Objective 24: Istat

Objective 26: Istat

**Supplementary indicators:**

- Mortality rate in accidents aged 5-19 per 100,000

residents: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

- Mortality rate by suicide aged 14-17 per 100,000

residents: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

- Primary school pupil:teacher ratio: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

- Middle school pupil:teacher ratio: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

- Upper secondary school student:teacher ratio: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents

- High school leaving certificate passes per 100 examinees: Istat

- % of students enrolled for upper secondary school per 100 residents aged 14-18 (excluding repeat years): Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents
- % of undergraduates per 100 residents aged 19-25: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents
- % of families with at least one child, living below the poverty threshold: Istat
- Child prostitution cases reported: Istat
- Children present in residential educational/welfare institutions at 31/12/1990: Istat
- Children present in residential educational/welfare institutions at 30/6/1999: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents
- Birthrate for women aged 15-19: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents
- Expenditure on maternity allowances as a percentage of total welfare expenditure: Istat data processed by The National Documentation and Analysis Centre for Children and Adolescents
- Children recognized as refugees: Ministry of Home

Affairs

- % live births less than 2,500 g - 1996: Istat
- Criminal liability (minimum criminal liability age):  
Ministry                                      of                                      Justice

*Obiettivo 1:  
Tasso di mortalità dei bambini con meno di 5 anni*

Classi di età	1991		1992		1993		1994		1995		1996		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
ITALIA													
0	8.9	7.1	9.0	6.8	7.5	6.3	7.1	5.7	7.1	5.5	6.2	5.7	
1-4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	

*Obiettivo 1:  
Tasso di mortalità infantile per genere e anno*

	1,991	1,996
Maschi	8.9	6.4
Femmine	7.3	5.5
Totale	8.1	6

*Obiettivo 2:  
Tasso di mortalità materna*

(TMM)

Donne  
morte  
per  
complic  
azioni  
della  
gravidan  
za, del  
parto e  
del  
puerperi  
o

	1991	1996
valore assoluto	41	20
tasso per 100.000 donne di 15-49 anni	0.29	0.14

*Obiettivo 6:*  
*Tasso netto di frequenza dell'insegnamento primario*

	ANNI		
	1990	1995	1999
% bambini iscritti alla prima elementare che raggiungono la quinta classe	99.71	99.78	99.81

*Obiettivo 6:*  
*Tasso netto di*



*iscrizion  
e  
all'inseg  
namento  
primario*

	ANNI		
	1990	1995	1999
% bambini in età scolastica elementare che sono iscritti ad una scuola elementare	100.0	100.0	100.0

*Obiettiv  
o 7:  
Tasso di  
alfabetiz  
zazione*

	Anno 1990
Maschi	99.23
Femmine	98.64

*Obiettiv  
o 8:  
Tasso di  
handicap  
infantile  
nelle  
scuole  
per anni  
scolastici  
(94/95 e  
96/97)*

% alunni con handicap sul totale degli iscritti	1994/1995	1996/1997
Scuola materna statale	1.0	1.1
Scuola materna non statale	0.5	0.5
Scuola elementare statale	1.9	1.9
Scuola elementare non statale	0.5	0.6
Scuola media inferiore	2.3	2.3

*Obiettivo 9:  
Mortalità dei bambini di meno di 5 anni di età; sesso maschile /femmine per 1.000 residenti*

Classi di età	1991		1992		1993		1994		1995		1996		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
ITALIA													
0	8.9	7.1	9.0	6.8	7.5	6.3	7.1	5.7	7.1	5.5	6.2	5.7	
1-4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	

*Obiettivo 9:  
Diffusione e dell'HIV; sesso maschile /femmine*

	Anno
	1999
Stima della prevalenza di infezione nelle	2/100
	0

donne a  
fine  
gravidanz  
a

		Anno 1999	
		M	F
Nuove diagn osi di infezio ne		70%	30%

*Obietti  
vo  
10:Tas  
so di  
fecond  
ità  
delle  
donne  
tra i  
15-19  
anni*

Anno 1996
tasso per 1.000 donne di 15-19 anni
6.41

*Obietti  
vo  
10:Ind  
ice  
sinteti  
co di  
fecond  
ità*

Anno 1996
Numero medio di figli per ogni donna 15-49 anni
1.21

*Obiettivo 12: Peso  
alla nascita inferiore  
ai 2.5*

	Anno 1993	Anno 1996
%Nati vivi che pesano meno di 2.500 grammi	5.6	6.0

*Obiettivo 19:  
eliminazione su  
scala mondiale  
della poliomielite per  
l'anno 2000*

	Anno 1993	Anno 1997
Casi di poliomielite	0	0

*Obiettivo 20: Casi di  
tetano neonatale*

	Anno 1993	Anno 1997
Casi di tetano neonatale	0	0

*Obiettivo 21: Casi  
di morbillo*

*nei  
bambini  
di 0-14  
anni*

	Anno 1993	Anno 1997
Casi di morbillo 0-14 anni	11,198	31,194

*Le malattie infettive hanno un  
andamento ciclico*

*per cui il dato 1993 potrebbe essere un  
dato di minimo e quello del 1997 un  
massimo*

*Obiettivi  
o  
21:Decessi di  
bambini  
di meno  
di cinque  
anni  
dovuti al  
morbillo*

	Anno 1992	Anno 1997
morti di morbillo 0-14 anni	8	2

*Obiettivi  
o  
22:Copertura  
vaccinazione  
della  
pertosse  
bambini  
0-12  
mesi*

	Anno 1999
% copertura vaccinale pertosse	80.0

*Obiettivo  
22: Copertura  
vaccinazione  
della  
morbillo  
bambini  
0-24  
mesi*

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	Anno 1999
% copertura vaccinale morbillo	60.0

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*Obiettivo  
22: Copertura  
vaccinazione  
della  
poliomielite  
bambini  
0-12  
mesi*

---

	Anno 1999
% copertura vaccinale poliomielite	97.0

---

*Obiettivo  
22: Copertura  
vaccinazione  
del  
tetano*

neonatal  
e  
bambini  
0-12  
mesi

	Anno 1999
% copertura vaccinale tetano neonatale	95.0

Obiettivo  
23:  
Casi di  
diarrea  
di  
bambini  
di 0-14  
anni

	Anno 1993	Anno 1997
Casi di diarrea infettiva 0-14 anni	863	1,653

*Le malattie infettive hanno un andamento ciclico*

*per cui il dato 1993 potrebbe essere un dato di minimo e quello del 1997 un massimo*

Obiettivo  
23:  
Decessi  
dei  
bambini  
di meno  
di cinque  
anni  
dovuti  
alla  
diarrea

	Anno 1992	Anno 1996
Morti di diarrea infettiva di meno di 5 anni	0	0

Obiettivo  
24:  
Decessi

*dei  
bambini  
di meno  
di cinque  
anni  
dovuti  
ad  
infezioni  
respirato  
rie acute  
(IRA)*

	Anno 1992	Anno 1996
Morti di meno di 5 anni per malattie respiratorie	43	96

*Obiettivo 26: %  
Iscritti  
alle  
scuole  
materne  
(36-71  
mesi)*

	Anno scolastico 1993/1994	Anno scolastico 1996/1997
% Iscritti alle materne di 36-71 mesi	95.1	93.5

**Indicatori supplementari per i paesi sviluppati**

% Bambini registrati alla nascita - Anno 1999	100
Minori presenti nelle strutture residenziali educativo-assistenziali al 31/12/90 al 30/6/99	45649 14,945
Tasso di mortalità 5-19 anni per traumatismi per 100.000 residenti	1992 1996 19.5 14.8



Tasso di mortalità 14-17 anni per suicidio per 100.000 residenti	1992	1998
	1.5	1.4
Alunni per insegnante alla scuola elementare per anno scolastico ( 96/97 e 98/99)	96/97	98/99
	9.7	11.3
Alunni per insegnante alla scuola media inferiore per anno scolastico (96/97 e 98/99)	96/97	98/99
	8	10.3
Studenti per insegnante alle scuole medie superiori per anno scolastico (96/97 e 98/99)	96/97	98/99
	8.5	10.2
Maturi per 100 esaminati alle scuole medie superiori per anno scolastico (96/97 97/98)	96/97	98/99
	94	94.6
% Iscritti alla scuola media superiore per 100 residenti di 14-18 anni, per anno scolastico ( 97/98 e 98/99)	97/98	98/99
(al netto dei ripetenti)	75.7	76.9
% Iscritti all'università per 100 residenti di 19-25 anni per anno accademico (91/92 e 96/97)	91/92	96/97
	16.1	27.8
% Famiglie con almeno un figlio minore che vivono sotto la soglia di povertà	1998	1999
	13.9	13.9
Delitti denunciati di prostituzione minorile - Anno 1998 (non rilevati prima del '98)		9
Delitti denunciati di pornografia minorile - Anno 1998 (non rilevati prima del '98)		30
Tassi di natalità delle donne di 15-19 anni	1993	1996
	7.6	6.4
% Spesa per assegni di maternità sul totale della spesa per prestazioni sociali	1990	1997
	0.8	0.7

Profughi minorenni riconosciuti rifugiati - Anno 1997		85
% Nati vivi che pesano meno di 2.500 grammi	1993	1996
	5.6	6.0
Imputabilità (età minima alla quali si può essere imputabili)		14 anni

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