

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL & CULTURAL RIGHTS (ICESCR)

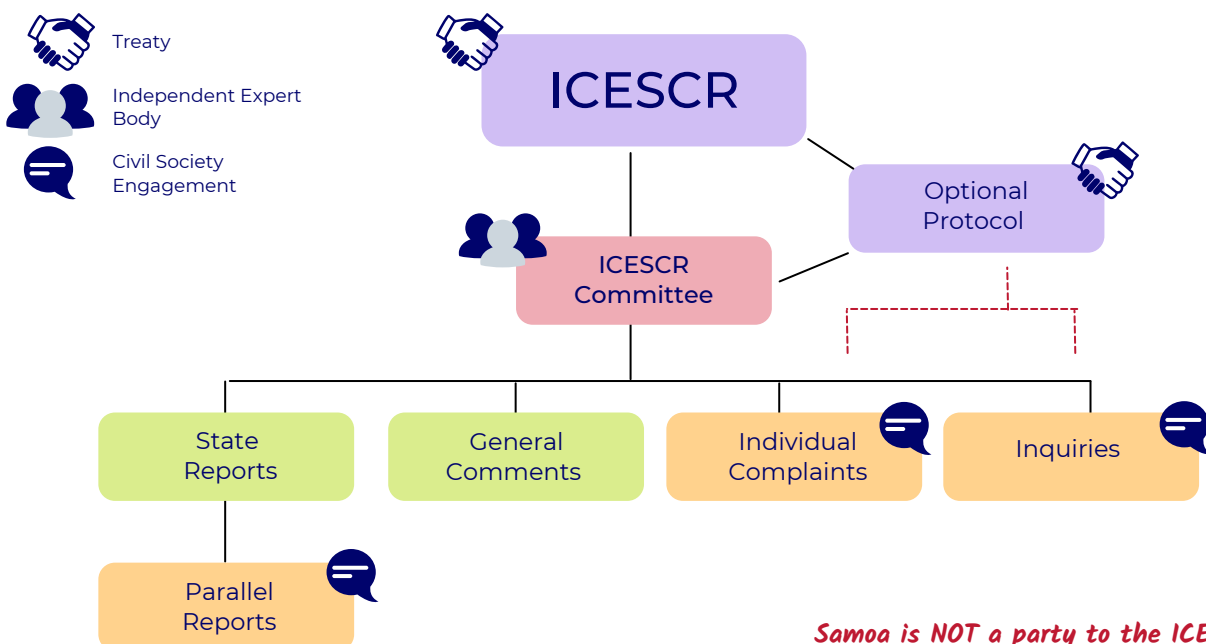
PURPOSE

ICESCR aims to ensure the protection of economic, social and cultural rights including: the right to self-determination of all peoples (article 1); the right to non-discrimination based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status (article 2); the equal right of men and women to enjoy the rights in the ICESCR (article 3); the right to work (articles 6–7); the right to form and join trade unions (article 8); the right to social security (article 9); protection and assistance to the family (article 10); the right to an adequate standard of living (article 11); the right to health (article 12); the right to education (articles 13–14); and the right to cultural freedoms (article 15).

STATE OBLIGATIONS

- Undertake steps, in accordance with the maximum of their available resources, to progressively achieve the full realization of the rights contained in the ICESCR. However, there exists minimum requirements, 'core obligations', for all the rights enshrined in the Covenant, that all States parties have to comply with independently of their available resources (Article 2 (1)).
- Undertake to guarantee that the rights enunciated in the present Covenant will be exercised without discrimination of any kind as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status (Article 2(2)).
- Developing countries, with due regard to human rights and their national economy, may determine to what extent they would guarantee the economic rights recognized in the present Covenant to non-nationals (Article 2(3)).
- May in certain circumstances, limit some rights enshrined in the Covenant; however, such limitations must be determined by law, compatible with the nature of the rights included in the Convention and imposed to promote the general welfare in a democratic society (Article 4).

ICESCR OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE



Samoa is NOT a party to the ICESCR