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Paper Title: **Juvenile Justice in Tanzania: The Law of the Child Act of 2009 and Beyond**

*Abstract: This paper analyzes the passage and implementation of Law of the Child Act of 2009 in Tanzania, which domesticates the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Drawing on interviews with people responsible for passing, implementing, and enforcing the law, this paper provides background on Tanzania's juvenile justice system and the experiences of children in conflict with the law. It analyzes the political and social forces that led to the passage of the law, the law's mandates related to children in conflict with the law, and how the law is being implemented. Finally, this paper compares Tanzania to three other Africa nations that have also passed laws codifying the CRC. Although the passage of the Law of the Child represents significant strides to promote children's rights and juvenile justice, the law should be viewed only as a starting point in the process of reforming juvenile justice in Tanzania. The aim of this paper is to make recommendations to the Tanzanian government as well as other interested stakeholders with the goal to help promote true reform of juvenile justice, both in the near future and long-term. Specific recommendations include amending Tanzania's Constitution to include a children's Bill of Rights, charging one government ministry with responsibility for implementation efforts, incorporating all stakeholders in the implementation, regulation-writing, and enforcement process, investing resources in establishing a juvenile court in all regions of the country, and providing for diversion and mediation opportunities in law's rules and regulations.*