

- [Courseware \(/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/courseware\)](/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/courseware) [Course Info \(/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/info\)](/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/info)
- [Discussion \(/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/discussion/forum\)](/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/discussion/forum) [Wiki \(/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/course_wiki\)](/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/course_wiki)
- [Progress \(/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/progress\)](/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/progress)
- [Reading Materials \(/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/pdfbook/0/\)](/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/pdfbook/0/)
- [Syllabus \(/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/3517b9300b554b118f11224b8c05eb10/\)](/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/3517b9300b554b118f11224b8c05eb10/)

Page: 2 of 5

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493 Indicators and benchmarks

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment No. 14 (2000), *The Right to the Highest Attainable Standard of Health (Art. 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights)* (E/C.12/2000/4, 11 August 2000), paras. 57–8:

Right to health indicators and benchmarks

57. National health strategies should identify appropriate right to health indicators and benchmarks. The indicators should be designed to monitor, at the national and international levels, the State party's obligations under article 12. States may obtain guidance on appropriate right to health indicators, which should address different aspects of the right to health, from the ongoing work of WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in this field. Right to health indicators require disaggregation on the prohibited grounds of discrimination.

58. Having identified appropriate right to health indicators, States parties are invited to set appropriate national benchmarks in relation to each indicator. During the periodic reporting procedure the Committee will engage in a process of scoping with the State party. Scoping involves the joint consideration by the State party and the Committee of the indicators and national benchmarks which will then provide the targets to be achieved during the next reporting period. In the following five years, the State party will use these national benchmarks to help monitor its implementation of article 12. Thereafter, in the subsequent reporting process, the State party and the Committee will consider whether or not the benchmarks have been achieved, and the reasons for any difficulties that may have been encountered.

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment No. 15 (2002), *The Right to Water (Arts. 11 and 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights)* (E/C.12/2002/11, 20 January 2003), paras. 53–4:

Indicators and benchmarks

53. To assist the monitoring process, right to water indicators should be identified in the national water strategies or plans of action. The indicators should be designed to monitor, at the national and international levels, the State party's obligations under articles 11, paragraph 1, and 12. Indicators should address the different components of adequate water (such as sufficiency, safety and acceptability, affordability and physical accessibility), be disaggregated by the prohibited grounds of discrimination, and cover all persons residing in the State party's territorial jurisdiction or under their control. States parties may obtain guidance on appropriate indicators from the ongoing work of WHO, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

54. Having identified appropriate right to water indicators, States parties are invited to set appropriate national benchmarks in relation to each indicator [see E. Riedel, 'New Bearings to the State Reporting Procedure: Practical Ways to Operationalize Economic, Social and Cultural



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