

Recommendations to the Security Council

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

The ex-Séléka coalition and associated armed groups are listed for recruitment and use, killing and maiming, and sexual violence against children, in addition to attacks on schools and/or hospitals. The anti-Balaka defense militias are listed for recruitment and use, killing and maiming, and sexual violence against children. On January 27, the Security Council renewed the Panel of Experts' mandate, pursuant to SCR 2196 (2015). The Panel submitted its final report (S/2015/936*) to the Sanctions Committee in December 2015. **The Council Members should:**

- **Immediately review and approve designations for individuals, presented by the Panel, who have committed grave violations against children as per SCR 2196; and furthermore, enforce travel bans and other restrictions for those previously sanctioned** through the CAR Sanctions regime without delay;
- In preparation for the upcoming legislative elections, **urge the National Election Authority and Transitional Constitutional Court to bar from participation any candidates sanctioned by the Committee**, in keeping with the Transitional Government's commitment to hold accountable individuals responsible for committing war crimes and crimes against humanity in CAR since 2003 through the Special Criminal Court;
- In light of the increasing number of attacks and abductions perpetrated by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), including of children, in the eastern and southern prefectures of CAR, **welcome recent measures taken by MINUSCA to respond to LRA violence and encourage MINUSCA to take additional steps to protect civilians**, including through increasing its presence and patrols in key areas, facilitating a secure environment for civilian-led delivery of humanitarian assistance, and expanding and enhancing coordination with the African Union Regional Task Force (AU RTF) and US military advisers in LRA-affected areas;
- **Encourage donor countries to provide financial and logistical support for the establishment of the Special Criminal Court, and ensure that its judicial framework enables the prosecution of alleged perpetrators of grave violations against children;** the framework should also ensure the protection of children as victims and witnesses.

FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON CAR. UKRAINE CHAIRS THE 2127 SANCTIONS COMMITTEE AND JAPAN IS THE VICE-CHAIR.

SUDAN (DARFUR)

In Sudan, six parties, including the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and pro-government militias have been listed for the recruitment and use of children. In January, the 1591 Sanctions Committee considered the final report of the Panel of Experts (S/2015/31). The Panel provided very little information on grave violations against children in its report. In February, pursuant to SCR 1591 (2005), the Panel of Experts is due to brief the 1591 Sanctions Committee and its mandate is up for renewal. **The Council Members should:**

- **Request the Panel of Experts to continue to investigate allegations of recruitment of children pursuant to SCR 2138 (2014), and to present the names of alleged perpetrators of grave violations against children** in its reports and briefings, and recommend the Sanctions Committee designate them for targeted measures;
- Call on all parties to allow the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance and **encourage the Sanctions Committee and the Panel of Experts to pay particular attention to the denial of access for humanitarian action;**
- **Encourage Member States to provide the Sanctions Committee with any information related to the potential designation of individuals and entities who have allegedly committed grave violations against children.**

THE UNITED KINGDOM IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON DARFUR. VENEZUELA CHAIRS THE 1591 SUDAN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE. SENEGAL AND SPAIN ARE VICE-CHAIRS.

SYRIA

Six parties are listed. The Free Syrian Army and its affiliated groups, and the People Protection Units (YPG) are listed for recruitment and use of children. Syrian Government forces, including the National Defence Forces and the Shabbiha militia, are listed for killing and maiming, rape and other forms of

Situations before the Council involving parties listed for grave violations against children:

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[Iraq](#)

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SYRIA cont'd

sexual violence, and attacks on schools and/or hospitals. Listed for the recruitment and use and killing and maiming are Ahrar al-Sham al-Islami, Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and al-Nusra Front. ISIL is additionally listed for rape and other forms of sexual violence, and attacks on schools and/or hospitals. In February, the Council will receive its regular briefings on the implementation of SCR 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), and 2258 (2015). On January 15, the Council held an emergency meeting where it was briefed by UNOCHA on the situation in besieged and hard-to-reach areas after reports and photos circulated about severe malnutrition in Madaya and other areas. In light of the briefings, **the Council Members should:**

- Demand an immediate and full implementation of the relevant resolutions, and demand that all parties take effective measures to prevent and end all grave violations;
- Call on all parties to immediately lift the sieges of populated areas and allow sustained and unimpeded access for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all civilians in need, and allow for immediate medical evacuation of civilians in besieged areas in need of life-saving care;
- Consider additional measures, such as targeted sanctions, to address non-compliance, by any party, with relevant resolutions to end attacks on civilians, health professionals, and medical facilities;
- Support the peace negotiations and the implementation of the confidence-building measures addressing protection of children, including protection of schools, as well as release of all child recruits, ensuring their safe demobilization and reintegration.

FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC.

YEMEN

The Government forces and three armed groups (Al-Houthi/Ansar Allah, Al-Qaida in the Arab Peninsula (AQIP)/Ansar al-Sharia, and pro-Government militias) are listed for the recruitment and use of children. In May 2014, the Government signed an action plan with the UN to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children. The Council is expected to review the Panel of Experts' mandate, pursuant to SCR 2140 (2014). **The Security Council should:**

- Call for an immediate end to hostilities and demand that all parties to the conflict comply fully with international human rights and humanitarian law, and demand that all parties take effective measures to prevent and end all grave violations against children in conflict;
- Urge all parties to engage with the UN in order to develop and implement action plans, and to ensure that any political dialogue between the parties to end the conflict includes child protection issues;
- Invite the SRS-CAAC to continue briefing the Sanctions Committee on violations committed, with an emphasis on seeking to identify perpetrators of grave child rights violations in the form of allegiances and affiliation to armed groups or military forces; furthermore, encourage continued enhanced communication between the SRS-CAAC, the Committee and the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, as seen through the September 2015 joint informal consultations;
- Consider establishing an international commission of inquiry to investigate reports of violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, including grave violations against children, by all parties to the conflict, and to identify the perpetrators of such violations with a view to ensuring those responsible are held to account.

THE UNITED KINGDOM IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON YEMEN. JAPAN CHAIRS THE 2140 SANCTIONS COMMITTEE AND UKRAINE IS THE VICE-CHAIR.

Recommendations to the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

AFGHANISTAN

In January, the Working Group began negotiations on the conclusion regarding the SG's report on children and armed conflict in Afghanistan, formally presented on July 6, 2015. For detailed recommendations on Afghanistan, see Watchlist's 'Children and Armed Conflict Monthly Update August 2015'.

IRAQ

In February, the Working Group is expected to begin negotiations of the conclusion regarding the SG's report on children and armed conflict in Iraq. Watchlist is currently developing a policy briefing outlining key challenges and recommendations to inform the Working Group ahead of conclusion negotiations.

Presidency of the Security Council for February: Venezuela

- Party to Geneva Convention I-IV, Additional Protocols I and II, Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol, ILO Convention 182, the Rome Statute of the ICC; Not a party to the Additional Protocol III of the Geneva Convention and has not endorsed the Paris Principles and the Paris Commitments.

NGO resources

- Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, What Ministries Can Do to Protect Education from Attack and Schools from Military Use: A Menu of Actions, December 2015
- Human Rights Watch, Central African Republic: Amid Conflict, Rape, December 2015
- World Vision UK, No Shame in Justice: Addressing Stigma Against Survivors to End Sexual Violence in Conflict Zones, December 2015
- Human Rights Watch, Yemen: Houthi Endangered School for Blind, January 2016
- PAX, Over a Million Syrians Under Siege: Lifting of All Sieges an Essential Confidence-building Measure for the Vienna Process, January 2016

About Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict

Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict is a global network of international human rights and humanitarian non-governmental organizations which strives to end violations against children in armed conflicts through local partnerships, reporting and advocacy.

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