tool 7   Key Actors in the MRM

Factsheet

Country Level	
Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC)	Highest UN authority in countries that **do not** have a peacekeeping, political or peace-building mission. Usually the head of UNDP. Co-chairs the CTFMR.
Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG)	Highest UN authority in countries that have a peacekeeping, political or peacebuilding mission. The SRSG is appointed by the Secretary-General. Co-chairs the CTFMR.
UNICEF Representative	Head of UNICEF at country level. Co-chairs the CTFMR with RC/HC or SRSG.
Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR)	Structure responsible for the implementation of the MRM at country level. It is co-chaired by the highest UN authority (SRSG or RC/HC) in the country and by the UNICEF Representative. Other UN entities may be designated as additional co-chairs if appropriate. The CTFMR is composed of all relevant UN entities and may include national and/or international NGOs or national bodies (e.g., National Human Rights Commission, Ombudsman Office) provided they are neutral, impartial and independent. Governments are not part of CTFMRs. CTFMRs compile and analyze all information on grave violations in the country and report it to the Office of the SRSG-CAAC on a quarterly basis. CTFMRs are also responsible for ensuring the establishment of referral mechanisms for immediate response, verifying incidents of violations, following up on Security Council recommendations, engaging in dialogue with parties to the conflict, and support the preparation and implementation of Action Plans.
MRM focal points	MRM focal points are individuals based in the field tasked to collect information on grave violations and communicate it to the CTFMR and to provide advice and technical support to organizations that monitor or provide alerts on violations. MRM focal points are generally UN staff, typically from UNICEF and/or peacekeeping mission, but may also be from other UN entities as relevant for a particular area (e.g., OHCHR, UNDP, UNHCR, OCHA). In areas where there is no UN presence, NGOs may also fulfill the role of focal point.
NGOs	On the ground, NGOs can provide alerts and information on grave violations to CTFMRs and they are engaged in the programmatic response to the needs of children affected by conflicts. NGOs can also play an advocacy role at the country and global level to strengthen mechanisms and policies to protect children in armed conflicts.
Humanitarian Clusters	The CTFMR should work closely with the Cluster system, in particular coordination spaces with mandates related to the protection of children. However, the distinction between the two bodies is important to maintain as some of the NGOs involved in Clusters may not wish to be associated with the MRM for security reasons. Good collaboration between the CTFMR and the Cluster system plays a key role in ensuring that monitoring translates into better access to referral services for victims. The Clusters can also provide information on grave violations as appropriate.

Headquarter Level	
Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG-CAAC)	Acts as convener for the children and armed conflict agenda within the entire UN system and as an independent advocate for the protection of children in armed conflicts. This mandate was established by the UN General Assembly in 1996 and has since been renewed every three years. The appointment of the SRSG-CAAC is made by the UN Secretary-General. On a day-to-day basis, the SRSG-CAAC and her office work to build awareness and garner political support for the protection of children in armed conflicts, including by supporting the negotiation of Action Plans; overseeing and providing strategic direction for the global implementation of the MRM together with UNICEF and DPKO,[3] and preparing and vetting all CAAC-related reports for the UN General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Security Council.
UNICEF Headquarters	Together with the Office of the SRSG-CAAC, UNICEF provides day-to-day technical guidance and support to CTFMRs for an effective implementation of the MRM and develops working tools for the field (MRM guidelines, field manual, information management systems, etc.).
Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)	A child protection team provides training, guidance and technical advice to child protection advisors deployed to peacekeeping missions. They also work to mainstream child protection in peacekeeping by providing child protection training to military personnel deployed to peacekeeping operations.
UN Secretary-General (UNSG)	The UNSG submits reports on children and armed conflict to the Security Council through his SRSG on Children and Armed Conflict. The UNSG also decides on the inclusion or exclusion of parties to a conflict in the annexes of his Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict, based on the recommendation by the SRSG and UN entities engaged in the MRM.
Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict (SCWG-CAAC)	Established by Resolution 1612 (2005), the SCWG-CAAC is composed of all 15 member states of the Security Council. The working group is responsible for reviewing all MRM reports (quarterly and country specific reports) and subsequently making recommendations to the Security Council, other UN entities, member states and non-state armed groups to improve the protection of children in armed conflict and strengthen accountability for perpetrators. The SCWG-CAAC is also mandated to review progress on the development and implementation of action plans and it can take action in different ways, as described in its 'Toolkit'.

related tools

🔗 tool 1 – Glossary of terms on the MRM

🔗 tool 3 – The MRM cycle

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3   Department of Peacekeeping Operations