

Recommendations to the Security Council

IRAQ

Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) is listed for the recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, and attacks on schools and hospitals. In July, the Council is expected to renew UNAMI's mandate, and the Secretary-General's (SG) progress report is due pursuant to SCR 2169 (2014). The SG's annual report (S/2015/209) documents high numbers of abductions and detention of children for their alleged association with armed groups. **The Security Council should:**

- Call on **all parties to the conflict to immediately put an end to grave violations committed against children**, including recruitment and use, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, attacks on schools and hospitals, and abductions;
- Recalling the SG's annual report, strongly encourage the Government to **ensure that a formal inter-ministerial committee is put into effect, to facilitate regular information-sharing on and the response to grave violations against children**, and to do so in partnership with the Country Task Force for Monitoring and Reporting grave violations against children;
- Urge UNAMI to **monitor and report on the conditions of children in the detention facilities who are being held on the basis of their alleged association with armed groups;**
- Encourage the Government, as well as the Kurdistan Regional Government, to **develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the treatment and transfer of children detained for their association with armed groups or armed forces** to child protection actors to facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration;
- Encourage the Government to **amend the draft National Guard Law presented to the Council of Representatives in early March**, to remove exceptions relevant to the age of recruitment, in order to prevent association of children with the pro-government militias, particularly the Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMFs).

THE UNITED STATES IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON IRAQ.

SOMALIA

Somali National Armed Forces (SNA) and Al-Shabaab are both listed for the recruitment and use and killing and maiming of children. Ahlus Sunnah wal Jammah (ASWJ) are listed for recruitment and use. The Transitional Federal Government signed two action plans with the UN in 2012. In July, the Council is expected to renew UNSOM's mandate pursuant to SCR 2221 (2015). The last progress report by the SG (S/2015/331) highlighted the continuing arrest and detention of children by several parties to the conflict as a major concern. **The Security Council should:**

- **Maintain the promotion of child protection as one of UNSOM's key priorities, and to that end, continue to ask for the deployment of Child Protection Advisors, ensure that all mandatory pre-deployment training on child protection is being undertaken, and call upon UNSOM to continue to coordinate with AMISOM's Child Protection Adviser** appointed in January 2015;
- Urge UNSOM to **continue to support the Federal Government in the implementation of two relevant action plans** on recruitment and use, and killing and maiming, in collaboration with UNICEF;
- **Stress to the Federal Government that children detained during military operations, and on charges for their alleged association with armed groups, should be treated primarily as victims** and handed over to child protection actors in accordance with the SOPs on the reception and handover of children separated from armed groups in Somalia, signed on 13 February 2014; and furthermore, **encourage UNSOM to work together with the Federal Government on the implementation of the SOPs**, with the support from other child protection actors.

THE UNITED KINGDOM IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON SOMALIA. THE CHAIR OF THE 751/1907 SOMALIA/ERITREA COMMITTEE IS VENEZUELA.

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

[Afghanistan](#)

[Central African Region \(LRA-affected areas\)](#)

[Central African Republic](#)

[Colombia](#)

[Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

[Iraq](#)

[Mali](#)

[Myanmar \(Burma\)](#)

[Nigeria](#)

[Philippines](#)

[Somalia](#)

[South Sudan](#)

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[Syrian Arab Republic](#)

[Yemen](#)

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SUDAN/SOUTH SUDAN (ABYEI)

In July, UNISFA's mandate is expected to be renewed, pursuant to SCR 2205 (2015). The SCR 1990 (2011) calls for the SG to ensure effective human rights monitoring and reporting to the Security Council. The SG's quarterly report on Abyei documented abduction of four Dinka Ngok children during an attack on the village of Marial Achak by Misseryia on 2 March. **The Council should:**

- Continue to urge parties to cease all forms of violence, human rights violations and abuses, and violations of international humanitarian law, including violations and abuses against children;
- Include as part of UNISFA's mandate, **specifically, the monitoring and reporting on the grave violations against children** in Abyei.

THE UNITED STATES IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON SUDAN/SOUTH SUDAN.

BURUNDI

In July, the Security Council will receive a progress report from the SG on the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB). Pursuant to SCR 1959 (2010), BNUB is responsible for supporting the Government of Burundi in promoting and protecting human rights. Government security forces have allegedly entered hospitals in Bujumbura in order to find informants regarding opposition, and to that end, invoking fear among patients. In light of this progress update, **the Security Council should:**

- In following the situation in Burundi, **make appropriate inquiries through the UN country team and its agencies into any potential child rights violations**, and to that end, **encourage BNUB to pay attention to any possible recruitment and use of children by the armed youth groups** in particular;
- Encourage BNUB to **remind the Government of its obligation to respect the civilian character of hospitals** in the course of any potential investigations;
- Furthermore, **ensure that any post-BNUB mandate takes into account the situation of children and armed conflict.**

Recommendations to the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

AFGHANISTAN

In May, the Working Group received a draft [SG's report on children and armed conflict in Afghanistan](#), and the report was published on the 25 June. The negotiations on the report are due to take place in July. For detailed recommendations, see: '[Children and Armed Conflict Monthly Update May 2015](#).'

SPAIN IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON AFGHANISTAN. NEW ZEALAND IS THE CHAIR OF THE 1267 AL-QAIDA SANCTIONS COMMITTEE AND THE CHAIR OF THE 1988 AFGHANISTAN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE.

Presidency of the Security Council for July: New Zealand

- Party to the Geneva Conventions I - IV, Additional Protocols I, II and III, Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol, ILO Convention 182, and the Rome Statute of the ICC; Has endorsed the Paris Principles and the Paris Commitments.

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NGO Resources

- Amnesty International, Stars on their Shoulders. Blood on their Hands: War crimes Committed by the Nigerian Military, June 2015 
- Security Council Report, Cross-Cutting Report, Children and Armed Conflict, June 2015 
- International Network on Explosive Weapons (INEW), Protecting children from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas, June 2015 
- Child Soldiers International, Briefing on the situation of underage recruitment and use of children by armed forces and insurgent groups in Afghanistan to the UN Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, June 2015 

Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict

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