

## Recommendations to the Security Council

### AFGHANISTAN

The Afghan National Police, including the Local Police, and three armed groups (Haqqani Network, Hezb-e-Islami and Taliban forces) are listed for recruitment and use of children. All three armed groups are also listed for killing and maiming, while the Taliban are further listed for attacks on schools and/or hospitals. On 1 August, 2014, the Government of Afghanistan reconfirmed its commitment to end and prevent recruitment and use of children by endorsing a 'Road Map Towards Compliance' with the UN. In March 2015, the Security Council is expected to decide on UNAMA's mandate renewal, pursuant to SCR 2145 (2014), and the Secretary-General's (SG) report is due.

#### Council Members should:

- Bearing in mind UNAMA's renewal, and invoking paragraph 33 of SCR 2145 (2014), request the SG to **maintain the capacity of the human rights section of UNAMA and include dedicated child protection capacity within that section; and to continue to include the matter of children and armed conflict in Afghanistan in all the future reports;**
- Call on Government's **full implementation of the measures outlined in the Road Map** per SCR 2120 (2013) and SCR 2145 (2014) with the support of the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting;
- Call on NATO-mandated Resolute Support Mission, launched on 1 January 2015, to **integrate child protection in its trainings for the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces**, including standard operating procedures and rules of engagement; and urge the Government to **strengthen the recruitment procedures, age verification mechanisms, and independent oversight and accountability measures** for the police and other state security forces.

**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.**

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)

Eleven parties are listed for violations, including the Congolese armed forces. The Government signed an action plan in 2012 to end and prevent recruitment and use of children. In March 2015, the Council is expected to renew MONUSCO's mandate pursuant to SCR 2147 (2014), and the SG's progress report is due. The last report transmitted by the SG ([S/2014/957](#)) in December 2014 contained results of the Council-mandated strategic review of MONUSCO. In September 2014, the Working Group adopted conclusions on children and armed conflict in the DRC ([S/AC/51/2014/3](#)).

#### The Security Council should:

- Bearing in mind MONUSCO's mandate renewal and the recommendations in the strategic review, **strengthen the mission's capacity to document and verify child rights violations to improve reporting and allow for a thorough review of the implementation of the Action Plan, and to that end, specifically continue to ensure that MONUSCO's child protection advisors are able to maintain their essential contributions in monitoring and reporting, separating children from armed groups, and advocating for action plan implementation;**
- **As recommended in the strategic review, request MONUSCO to mainstream child protection as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate;**
- Request the Secretary-General to continue to **regularly report on the situation of children and armed conflict in the DRC;**
- Recalling paragraph 5k of SCR 2147 (2014), **remind MONUSCO of its authority to provide good offices, advice and support to the Government to promote human rights and to fight impunity**, including through implementation of the Government's "zero tolerance policy" with respect to discipline and human rights and international humanitarian law violations, committed by elements of the security sector;

### 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](#)

[Sudan](#)

[Syrian Arab Republic](#)

[Yemen](#)

For resolution language on Children and Armed Conflict, download the Children and Armed Conflict smartphone app from Watchlist and Liechtenstein, now available on iPhone, iPad, Android and Blackberry!



## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (cont'd)

- Request the Secretary-General to ensure that MONUSCO, in collaboration with other relevant UN agencies, mainstreams the specific needs of children affected by armed conflict in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs.

**FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO. JORDAN CHAIRS THE 1533 SANCTIONS COMMITTEE, AND CHILE AND LITHUANIA ARE VICE-CHAIRS.**

## MALI

Three armed groups (Ansar Dine, MNLA and MUJAO) are listed for the recruitment and use of children, and for rape and other forms of sexual violence. In March 2015, the SG's progress report on MINUSMA is expected, pursuant to SCR 2164 (2014). The last report from December 2014 documents continued detention of children for association with armed groups in violation of the **Protocol d'accord on the Release and Hand Over of children** associated with armed forces or groups in Mali signed on 1 July 2013 by the Government. **The Council Members should:**

- Welcome the evacuation of MINUSMA troops from the Academie d'Enseignement de Gao in December 2014, in accordance with the '2012 United Nations Infantry Battalion Manual for Peacekeepers,' and **call for full and prompt rehabilitation of all infrastructure and property so that students and teachers can return to the school;**
- For cases of children detained on charges related to association with armed groups, urge the Government to **work with the UN to establish, as a matter of priority, a joint process to review the cases with a view to transferring them to child protection actors as per the Protocol d'accord on the Release and Hand Over of children, stressing that children arrested during military operations should be primarily treated as victims;** and furthermore, call on the Government to **strictly implement the Protocol to ensure that any child detained in connection with the armed conflict is held separately from adults** and handed over to UNICEF and other child protection actors without delay;
- **Demand that all parties take effective measures to end recruitment and use of children,** as well as immediately release all children still in their ranks to child protection actors as per Inter-ministerial Circulaire on the prevention, protection and reintegration of the family of children released from armed forces or armed groups;
- **Urge armed groups to immediately cease the military use of schools (approximately 12-14), which has negatively impacted on children's safety and access to education;**
- **Urge the Government to adopt concrete measures to deter use of schools,** in accordance with SCR 2143.

**FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON MALI.**

## Recommendations to the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

## SOUTH SUDAN

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and White Army are listed for recruitment and use and killing and maiming of children. Opposition armed groups, including the SPLA in Opposition, are listed for recruitment and use. In 2014, the Government of South Sudan re-committed to its 2012 action plan. The SPLA in Opposition signed a commitment with the SRSB-CAAC to end grave violations against children. On 30 January 2015, the SRSB-CAAC presented the [SG's report on children and armed conflict in South Sudan](#) to the Working Group, and the negotiations over the conclusion began shortly thereafter. For detailed recommendations, see '[Children and Armed Conflict Monthly Update February 2014](#).'

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

## Presidency of the Security Council for March: France

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

## NGO resources

- Human Rights Watch, South Sudan: Government Forces Recruiting Child Soldiers, February 2015
- Human Rights Watch, Still Awaiting Justice for M23 Abuses, December 2014

## 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.

To subscribe to Watchlist updates and recommendations, [click here](#) or visit: <http://watchlist.org/sign-up>

Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict  
122 East 42nd Street  
Suite 1620  
New York, NY 10168-1289  
Telephone: 212.972.0695  
Fax: 212.972.0701  
Email: [watchlist@watchlist.org](mailto:watchlist@watchlist.org)  
Website: [www.watchlist.org](http://www.watchlist.org)