

Recommendations to the Security Council

SOMALIA

Somali National Army (SNA) and Al-Shabaab are both listed for recruitment and use and killing and maiming of children. Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaah (ASWJ) are listed for recruitment and use. The Transitional Federal Government signed two action plans with the UN in 2012. Pursuant to SCR 1884 (2008), the 751/1907 Sanctions Committee on Somalia and Eritrea is due to report to the Council on its work this November. In October, the Council renewed the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group's mandate until December 15, 2016. Since expanding its designation criteria in SCR 2002 (2011) to include recruitment and use of child soldiers, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, attacks on schools and/or hospitals, and abductions, no individual has been listed for these grave violations against children. **The Security Council should:**

- **Request the SRSB-CAAC to regularly share information with the Sanctions Committee** on those responsible for the grave violations against children in Somalia, including through briefings;
- **Call on the Sanctions Committee to designate individuals and entities responsible for grave violations against children, in accordance with its designation criteria**, including recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, attacks on schools and/or hospitals, and abductions.

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

SUDAN/SOUTH SUDAN (ABYEI)

In November, the Secretary-General (SG) is expected to report on the progress of implementing UNISFA's mandate, as per SCR 2230 (2015). The last SG's report from September 11, 2015 contained information on the activities related to child protection conducted by UNICEF and its local partner on the ground, focusing on trainings of community-based child protection networks; however, the report did not capture any information on grave violations perpetrated against children.

The Security Council should:

- **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**;
- **Call on UNISFA to monitor and report on grave violations against children in Abyei** whenever possible, using the community-based child protection networks trained by UNICEF and partners;
- **Encourage UNICEF's continued collaboration with its field-based partner in the trainings of community-based child protection networks.**

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

SUDAN (DARFUR)

Six parties, including the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and pro-government militias, have been listed for the recruitment and use of children. Pursuant to SCR 1591 (2005), the 1591 Sudan Sanctions Committee is expected to report to the Council in November on its progress, and contains designation criteria that include violations of humanitarian and human rights law. **The Council**

Members should:

- 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**;
- **Request the Panel of Experts to investigate perpetrators of grave violations against children** and to recommend the Sanctions Committee designate them for targeted measures;

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

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SUDAN (DARFUR) cont'd

- Encourage Member States to provide the Sanctions Committee with any information related to 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. SPAIN AND NIGERIA 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 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 November, the Council will receive its regular briefings on the implementation of SCR 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014) and 2191 (2014). During these briefings and the subsequent consultations, the Council Members 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, in particular all violations and abuses committed against children; and demand that all parties take effective measures to end all grave violations against children in conflict;
- Reference the plight of children in Syria in their interventions whenever possible to bring deserved attention to the issue of children and armed conflict in Syria on the Council floor;
- Call on all parties to allow and facilitate the effective and safe passage of aid to all populations in need, including easing bureaucratic constraints and agreeing on priority humanitarian routes across conflict lines or borders if needed;
- Denounce attacks on schools by all parties to the conflict, and demand that the Syrian armed forces and armed opposition groups cease using schools for military purposes and act in accordance with international guidelines; those parties occupying schools should immediately vacate the premises and clear them of any risks, such as ammunition left behind, and furthermore, issue orders to commanders not to use school buildings or school property;
- Immediately publish and implement additional measures to address non-compliance, by any party, with resolutions 2139 and 2165 in a manner that will, at a minimum, end attacks on civilians, health professionals, and medical facilities.

FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC.

Recommendations to the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

AFGHANISTAN

On July 6, the SG's report on children and armed conflict in Afghanistan was formally presented to the Working Group, and negotiations on the conclusion are still pending as the Working Group members continue to wait for the Chair to circulate the first draft. For detailed recommendations on Afghanistan, see Watchlist's 'Children and Armed Conflict Monthly Update August 2015'.

Presidency of the Security Council for November: United Kingdom

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

NGO resources

- Save the Children, Education under attack in Syria, September 2015
- Human Rights Watch, Our School Became the Battlefield: Using Schools for Child Recruitment and Military Purposes in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, October 2015
- Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC), Within and Beyond the Gates: The Protection of Civilians by the UN Mission in South Sudan, October 2015

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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