

## Recommendations to the Security Council

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)

Ten parties are listed for violations, including the DRC armed forces (FARDC). The Government signed an action plan in 2012 to end and prevent recruitment and use of children and sexual violence by the FARDC. Pursuant to SCR 2198 (2015), the Group of Experts of the Sanctions Committee is expected to provide the Security Council with a mid-term report focused on the areas affected by the presence of illegal armed groups no later than October 30, 2015. In consideration of this report, **Council Members should:**

- Call on the Panel of Experts on the DRC Sanctions Committee, established pursuant to SCR 1533 (2004), to **dedicate increased attention to children and armed conflict issues, as grave violations are a designation criteria, and extend their investigations to other regions and groups**, in addition to North Kivu and armed groups covered in their last report to the Security-Council;
- Recalling SCR 2198 (2015), **call on the Panel of Experts to effectively fulfill its mandate**, particularly with respect to designations of individuals and entities for sanctions who are known to commit grave violations against children;
- Encourage relevant stakeholders, including UNICEF, MONUSCO and the Sanctions Committee, to **monitor the prosecution of the FARDC Brigadier General Goda Supka Emery by the High Military Court in Kinshasa** for war crimes and crimes against humanity, including recruitment and use of children.

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

### 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 October, the Secretary-General (SG) is expected to report on UNAMI's progress and revise and prioritize its tasks pursuant to SCR 2233 (2015). The last SG's report (S/2015/530) from July 13, 2015, reported increased recruitment of children by ISIL, which used schools as recruitment grounds in eastern Mosul and Anbar governorates. The report also noted continued presence of children in the ranks of the Popular Mobilization Forces in Baghdad, Basra, and conflict areas. **The Security Council should:**

- **Call on all parties to the conflict to immediately end 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; and furthermore, **call on all parties to the conflict to release abducted civilians, including children, and for appropriate reintegration support to be provided to the released children**; any child abducted and released should be treated as a case of abduction, not one of association with a non-State armed group;
- **Strongly urge UNAMI and the UN Country Task Force for Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) to monitor and report on the conditions of children in detention facilities who are being held on the basis of their alleged association with armed groups**; such reporting is missing from the latest SG's progress report but remains a concern in Iraq;
- **Urge the Government, as well as the Kurdistan Regional Government, to develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the treatment and timely transfer of children detained for their alleged association with armed groups or armed forces to child protection actors to facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration**;
- **Encourage the Government, in finalizing the draft National Guard Law presented to the Council of Representatives in early March, to ensure that there are no exceptions with regards to the age of recruitment**, in order to prevent association of children with pro-government militias, particularly the Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMFs);
- Call on the Government to **adopt concrete measures to deter military use of schools in contravention of applicable international humanitarian and human rights law**, in line with SCR 1998, 2143 and 2225.

**THE UNITED STATES IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON IRAQ.**

### 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](#)

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## SOUTH SUDAN

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), SPLA in Opposition and White Army are listed for recruitment and use. The SPLA and SPLA in Opposition are also listed for killing and maiming of children. In 2014, the Government of South Sudan re-committed to its 2012 Action Plan. A peace deal was signed in August by the warring parties containing provisions on the immediate release of children from armed groups. In October, the Council is expected to review the UNMISS mandate in order to adjust it in support of the implementation of the peace agreement. The Council is also expected to review the sanctions regime pursuant to SCR 2206 (2015). In Upper Nile, due to heightened insecurity and restriction of movement, the UN CTFMR experienced difficulties collecting data on grave violations, but received many reports of observations of child soldiers where the UN has been able to move. In Unity State, the UN CTFMR continued to receive many reports of grave violations against children, in part from IDPs who bore witness or fell victim to these violations. **Council Members should:**

- **Call on Member States to urge all parties to immediately cease violations against children**, and stress that the perpetrators of such violations should be held accountable;
- **Call on UNMISS to continue to systematically monitor and report on grave violations against children**; and furthermore, urge UNMISS to **proactively seek to prevent violations, particularly through conducting more patrols**, and encourage complementarity with the practices of unarmed civilian protection actors wherever possible, both by cooperating with civil society actors onsite and absorbing unarmed approaches into UNMISS protocols and practices;
- **Ensure that the updated UNMISS mandate for monitoring the ceasefire agreement encompasses implementation of the provisions related to child protection in the political process and dialogue**, namely for the parties to cease all violations against children and release all remaining children from their ranks (points 1.7.3 and 1.10), as well as conduct the initial screening of the underage (point 2.4.2);
- **Call on the Government to collaborate with UNMISS in the swift and vigorous implementation of its re-commitment to the Action Plan and associated work plan** to prevent and end the recruitment and use of children, sexual violence and other grave violations against children by the SPLA; and **call on UNMISS to intensify efforts to engage with the SPLA in Opposition and other listed parties to obtain further commitments**, and work towards the development and implementation of action plans to prevent and end grave violations;
- **Request prompt follow up information from the Special Representative to the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG-CAAC) regarding the implementation of the Action Plan and the relevant commitments** by parties to the conflict in South Sudan;
- In accordance with the designation criteria in SCR 2206 (2015), **strongly urge Member States to designate individuals and entities** who commit grave violations against children for sanctions, and **encourage the SRSG-CAAC to continue to provide the Sanctions Committee and the Panel of Experts with information relevant to the potential designation of individuals and entities who have allegedly committed grave violations against children.**

**THE UNITED STATES IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON SOUTH SUDAN. CHILE CHAIRS THE SOUTH SUDAN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE.**

### 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 the conclusion negotiations on the report are still pending as the Working Group members wait for the Chair to circulate the first draft of the report. For detailed recommendations on Afghanistan, see Watchlist's ['Children and Armed Conflict Monthly Update August 2015'](#).

### Presidency of the Security Council for October: Spain

- 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, the Safe Schools Declaration and through it, the Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict.

## NGO resources

- Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, Vulnerable Students, Unsafe Schools: Attacks and Military Use of Schools in the Central African Republic, September 2015
- Save the Children, Education Under Attack in Syria, September 2015
- Amnesty International, Human Rights Under Fire: Attacks and Violations in Cameroon's Struggle with Boko Haram, September 2015
- Defence for Children International, Overview of Child Rights Situation in Arab Countries, September 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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