

Recommendations to the Security Council

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Five parties including both Government forces and non-state actors are listed for violations including recruiting and using children, rape, and other forms of sexual violence and attacks on schools and/or hospitals. In February, the Secretary-General will report on MONUSCO, including a strategic review on the implementation of the International Security and Stabilization Support Strategy.

Council Members should:

- Demand that all armed groups immediately **cease all forms of violence and human rights abuses** against children;
- Insist that Member States immediately **put an end to all external support for the M23** and any other armed groups committing grave violations against children;
- Call on all States to support efforts to **arrest and to bring to justice those responsible** for grave violations against children;
- Emphasize the need to increase efforts to **combat sexual violence against children** in the context of the International Security and Stabilization Support Strategy.

FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON THE DRC.

MALI

No armed group has been listed by the Secretary-General, but there are reports of recruitment and use of children by non-state actors. In February, the African Union will report on the deployment of AFISMA. **Council Member should:**

- Request the African Union and the Secretary-General to **ensure full pre-deployment training of all AFISMA troops on international humanitarian and human rights law**, including the protection of children;
- Call on AFISMA, with the support of the Secretary-General, to ensure adoption and implementation of adequate **procedures for encountering children associated with armed groups**;
- Emphasize the need for a **civilian-led humanitarian UN presence**, completely separated from support to AFISMA.

FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON MALI.

SUDAN

14 parties including Government forces and non-state armed groups are listed for recruiting and using children. The mandate of the Panel of Experts to support the Sanctions Committee established by Security Council Resolution 1591 is up for renewal. **The Security Council should:**

- **Express concern at the continuing grave violations** against children and call on parties to the conflict to immediately cease such violations, to enter into dialogue with the United Nations to sign action plans to halt violations;
- **Extend the mandate of the Panel of Experts**, reiterating that those who commit violations of international humanitarian or human rights law or other atrocities may be subject to targeted measures in accordance with paragraph 3 (c) of Resolution 1591.
- Request the Panel of Experts to **investigate perpetrators** of grave violations against children and to recommend the Sanctions Committee **designate them for the imposition of targeted measures.** ►

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

[Afghanistan](#)

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

[Central African Republic](#)

[Chad](#)

[Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

[Iraq](#)

[Myanmar \(Burma\)](#)

[Somalia](#)

[South Sudan](#)

[Sudan](#)

[Syrian Arab Republic](#)

[Yemen](#)

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SUDAN (cont'd)

- Request the **Secretary-General to strengthen child protection in UN system activities** in Sudan and ensure continued monitoring and reporting of the situation of children affected by armed conflict.

THE UNITED KINGDOM IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON DARFUR.
ARGENTINA CHAIRS THE 1591 COMMITTEE.

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS IN ARMED CONFLICT

The Security Council is anticipated to hold its biannual debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. **Participating Member States should:**

- **Insist on compliance** by all parties to conflicts with the relevant rules of **international law and Security Council resolutions** including those pertaining to children and armed conflict, in particular Resolutions 1612, 1882 and 1998;
- Underscore the importance of **strict compliance with international humanitarian law by forces of all UN-mandated missions**;
- Request the Secretary-General to include **dedicated child protection capacity** in all UN missions;
- Strongly **condemn the denial of humanitarian access** to civilians, including children, and encourage Member States to consult with humanitarian actors with a view to better facilitating humanitarian access in conflict situations;
- Call upon Member States to **bring to justice** those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law against civilians, including grave violations against children, pursuant to Resolution 2068.

THE UNITED KINGDOM IS THE LEAD COUNTRY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS.

Recommendations to the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

LORD'S RESISTANCE ARMY ("LRA")

(negotiations pending 8 months, since the Secretary-General's Report of 25 May 2012)

- Swiftly adopt the conclusions to reduce the ongoing backlog in the Working Group;
- Encourage the African Union Regional Task Force to deploy a child protection advisor and to adequately mainstream child protection concerns throughout the Task Force;
- Encourage all relevant States to ensure their militaries adopt standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the reception and handover of LRA children to child protection actors;
- Request the Secretary-General to ensure the adoption and implementation of LRA-specific SOPs in all UN peacekeeping missions in the region;
- Call on all Member States to deny safe haven to members of the LRA and to support efforts to arrest LRA leaders subject to arrest warrants by the International Criminal Court;
- Call on donors to provide more support to the long-term reintegration of children separated from the LRA.

Presidency of the Security Council for February: Republic of Korea

- 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, Press Release: DR Congo: M23 Rebels Committing War Crimes, September 11, 2012
- Human Rights Watch, Report: Under Siege: Indiscriminate Bombing and Abuses in Sudan's Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States, December 2012
- Human Rights Watch, Press Release: Islamists should Free Child Soldiers
- Watchlist, SCWG Working Methods: Update January 2013

About the Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict

The 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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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
Website: www.watchlist.org