

Recommendations to the Security Council

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Seven parties in the Central African Republic are listed for the recruitment and use of children. Two previously active parties (CPJP and APRD) have concluded an action plan with the United Nations. The Lord's Resistance Army is listed additionally for killing and maiming and for rape and other forms of sexual violence. BINUCA's mandate expires on 31 January 2014. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General in CAR, Babacar Gaye, will brief the Council on BINUCA's latest report. The Security Council is expected to adopt a resolution extending the mandate of the UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA). **The Security Council should:**

- Condemn and demand that all armed groups immediately **cease all forms of violence** and human rights abuses against children;
- Bearing in mind the possibility of a UN peacekeeping operation, **temporarily renew BINUCA's mandate;**
- Expand the role of BINUCA in assisting MISCA, and specifically call for the use of **dedicated capacity to investigate and report on child rights abuses** to the Security Council;
- Call on the government, and specifically President Djotodia, to issue a presidential decree proclaiming that suspected **perpetrators of grave violations against children are to be arrested and prosecuted;**
- Call on all parties to ensure that the **cessation of violations against children**, including the release of children, is an essential requirement for the resumption of the peace process.

FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

SUDAN / SOUTH SUDAN

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) is listed for recruitment and use of children. In 2009, the SPLA signed a first action plan with the United Nations. In May 2012, after South Sudan's independence, the Government of South Sudan concluded a revised action plan to end recruitment and use. In January, the Secretary-General is expected to inform the Security Council on the status of compliance with Resolution 2046 (2012), pertaining to an end of hostilities and negotiations under the auspices of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, including the status of the disputed Abyei area. It is also likely that the Council will discuss the emergency situation in South Sudan, and its impact on the protection of civilians, including children and armed conflict. **Council Members should:**

Sudan/South Sudan

- Call on all parties to ensure that **negotiations systematically incorporate child protection concerns** including: the cessation and prevention of violations against children; demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration of recruited children; and accountability for perpetrators of grave violations against children;
- Request the Secretary-General **continue to include** the matter of children and armed conflict as a specific aspect of all reports.

South Sudan

- Condemn and call for an end to all violations against children by all parties, and issue a **call for accountability** for grave violations perpetrated against children;
- Deploy a visiting mission to South Sudan to mediate between the different factions of the SPLM in an effort to end the violence, and ensure that peaceful political dialogue is initiated. Ensure that negotiations **systematically incorporate child protection concerns** including the release of recruited children;
- Urge robust patrolling by UNMISS within its capacities to protect civilians;
- Call on all parties to **allow and facilitate the effective and safe passage of aid** to all populations in need.

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

SUDAN (DARFUR)

Nine parties, including both Sudanese Government forces and non-state actors, are listed for recruitment and use of children. The Secretary-General is expected to submit his quarterly report ►

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

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SUDAN (DARFUR) (cont'd)

to the Council on the AU/UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). The mandate of UNAMID expires on 31 August 2014. **The Security Council should:**

- Call on the Government to **sign an action plan** to address the recruitment and use of children by Government forces, in line with Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009) and 1998 (2011);
- Demand that Sudan commit to ensuring that members of the 1591 Sanctions Committee can visit the region, while 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;
- Call on all parties to allow the **unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance** and encourage the Sanctions Committee and Monitoring Group to pay particular attention to the denial of humanitarian assistance.

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

YEMEN

Three parties in Yemen are listed for recruitment and use of children, including State armed forces and non-state actors (al-Houthi and Ansar al-Sharia). In January, the Council expects a briefing on Yemen by Jamal Benomar, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Yemen. The mandate of the Office of the Special Adviser on Yemen was renewed on 12 June 2013 without an expiration date. **Council Members should:**

- Call on the Government to **adopt the action plan** to address the recruitment and use of children by Government forces, in line with Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009) and 1998 (2011);
- Urge participants to **systematically incorporate** children's issues and needs in the National Dialogue Conference;
- Request the Secretary-General to **continue to include** the matter of children and armed conflict as a specific aspect of all reports on progress in Yemen, and more specifically, to report on the implementation of the 2013 conclusions adopted by the SCWG-CAAC on Yemen.

UNITED KINGDOM IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON YEMEN.

Recommendations to the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Two parties are listed. The Free Syrian Army is listed for recruitment and use. Syrian Government forces are listed for killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, and attacks against schools and/or hospitals. Council members will be briefed on the implementation of Resolution 2118, regarding the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons, by the Special Coordinator of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission. Council members will also closely follow preparations for the 22 January Geneva II peace talks. The Secretary-General's report on the situation of Children and Armed Conflict in Syria is expected to be presented to the Working Group in January. Bearing in mind the October Presidential Statement on Humanitarian Access, the Working Group should:

- Demand that all parties to the conflict **comply fully with international human rights and humanitarian law**, in particular the rights of children affected by armed conflict;
- Demand that all parties take effective measures to end all forms of unlawful recruitment of children or their use in hostilities;
- Call on all parties to ensure that peace or reconciliation discussions, including Geneva II, **systematically incorporate child protection concerns** including: the cessation and prevention of violations against children; demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration of recruited children; and accountability for perpetrators of grave violations against children;
- 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;
- Ensure that those responsible for grave violations against children are held accountable, including by demanding that the Syrian government allow the UN-mandated Commission of Inquiry on Syria access to **investigate all human rights violations** and by referring the situation to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

UNITED KINGDOM IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC.

Presidency of the Security Council for January: Jordan

- Party to Geneva Convention I-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; Has not endorsed the Paris Commitments.

NGO resources

- Oxford Research Group, *Stolen Futures: The Hidden Toll of Child Casualties in Syria*, November 2013 
- Mission: Congo (documentary), released in theatres November 2013 
- Human Rights Watch and the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, *End Military Use of Schools* (video in six languages), October 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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