

Recommendations to the Security Council

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)

Thirteen parties are listed, including the Congolese Armed Forces (FARDC). The FARDC were delisted from the annexes of the Secretary-General's (SG) 2017 annual report on children and armed conflict (CAC) (A/72/361–S/2017/821) for recruitment and use, but remain listed for rape and other forms of sexual violence, pending full implementation of the Government's action plan. In July, the Council will receive the SG's progress report on MONUSCO, after renewing its mandate in March through SCR 2409 (2018). In his last report (S/2018/174, paras. 31 and 32) covering the period from January to March 2018, the SG reports that 189 children were affected in instances of all six grave violations: 14 children were killed, nine were maimed, and four schools and three hospitals were attacked. **The Council should:**

- Urge the Government to **sustain the gains of the action plan on recruitment and use and to fully and without delay implement its action plan to end and prevent sexual violence against children by members of the FARDC and other security forces**, and encourage MONUSCO to continue supporting the Government in these efforts;
- **Remind all parties that children should never be criminalized, detained, and prosecuted solely for their alleged association with armed forces or groups; they should be considered primarily as victims and handed over to child protection actors;**
- Call upon all parties to **cease attacks on and military use of schools**, and urge the Government to uphold its commitments under the *Safe Schools Declaration* to implement the *Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use*;
- Echoing the SG's call (S/2018/174, para. 62), **urge the Government to take concrete actions to end impunity for grave violations against civilians, including children, committed by the FARDC, through prompt investigation of human rights violations by members of security forces and prosecution of responsible parties.**

FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO. KUWAIT CHAIRS THE 1533 SANCTIONS COMMITTEE.

IRAQ

Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF) are listed for recruitment and use of children. ISIL is listed for recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, abductions, and attacks on schools and/or hospitals. In July, the Security Council will discuss the mandate renewal for UNAMI and the Secretary-General (SG) will report on UNAMI's progress pursuant to SCR 2367 (2017). In his latest report (S/2018/359, paras. 51 and 53), covering the first quarter of 2018, the SG reports that the Task Force on Children and Armed Conflict verified 10 incidents affecting 19 boys, which included five recruitments, four killings and 10 other injuries resulting from explosive materials. The SG also mentions the visit of his Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Ms. Pramila Patten, in which she met with survivors of sexual violence perpetrated by ISIL. **Council Members should:**

- **Renew UNAMI's child protection mandate; and to ensure its implementation, request the SG to strengthen the child protection capacity of UNAMI to be able to efficiently and effectively contribute to the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) in Iraq, as well as to engage in negotiations with armed parties listed for committing grave violations against children;**
- **Urge the government to continue working through the Inter-ministerial committee on monitoring and reporting, as well as its National Security Adviser, to develop an action plan to address the recruitment and use of children by the PMF and enhance measures to protect all children affected by the conflict in Iraq;**
- **Echoing the call made by the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict in her *press release* after visiting Iraq, urge the government to take concrete actions to ensure accountability and end impunity for sexual violence against children;** and to that end, keep working on the establishment of an investigative team to enhance the work of Iraqi judges, investigators, and prosecutors;
- **Include provisions regarding the support for child reintegration programming as part of the mandate renewal, and in that sense, remind all parties that children should be considered primarily as victims, entitled to full protection of their human rights, and that alternatives to detention should be given preference whenever possible.**

THE UNITED STATES IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON IRAQ.

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

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[Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)
[Iraq](#)
[Mali](#)
[Myanmar \(Burma\)](#)
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MALI

Three armed groups, Ansar Eddine, Mouvement national de liberation de l'Azawad (MNLA), and Mouvement pour l'unification et le jihad en Afrique de l'Ouest (MUJAO), are listed for recruitment and use and sexual violence against children. In March 2017, the Coordination des Mouvements de l'Azawad (CMA) signed an action plan with the UN to end and prevent recruitment and use and sexual violence against children. In June the Council will receive the SG's report pursuant to SCR 2364 (2017) on MINUSMA and is expected to renew its mandate ending on June 30. In his last report (S/2018/273 paras. 52 and 53) covering the first quarter of 2018, the SG mentions that the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) verified 48 instances of grave violations against children, including two cases of attacks on schools and hospitals, and 29 cases of denial of humanitarian access. **The Security Council should:**

- **Renew MINUSMA's child protection mandate; and to ensure its implementation, maintain capacity of MINUSMA's child protection section to advance and consolidate commitments made by armed groups to end and prevent grave violations against children and to facilitate the release of all associated children;**
- **Urge the CMA to fully and swiftly implement its action plan with the UN** to end recruitment and use and sexual violence, with engagement from the CTFMR, and furthermore, **allow the UN to monitor its progress toward implementation;**
- Call upon all parties to **cease attacks on and military use of schools**, and urge the Government to uphold its commitments under the [Safe Schools Declaration](#) to implement the *Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use*;
- **Call on all parties to allow the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance.**

FRANCE IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON MALI.

SUDAN

In Sudan, six parties are listed, including Government security forces. In March 2016, the Government signed an action plan to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children by government forces. The listed armed groups JEM, SLA/MM, and SPLM-N have also signed action plans with the UN towards ending and preventing grave violations. In June, the Council will receive the SG's report pursuant to SCR 2363 (2017) on UNAMID and is expected to renew its mandate ending on June 30. In his last report (S/2018/389, paras. 8 and 17) from April, the SG notes that UNAMID documented 77 cases of child rights violations affecting 22 children, and the denial of humanitarian access by the Government to parts of Jebel Marra, Central Darfur, and South Darfur. **The Security Council should:**

- In renewal of UNAMID's mandate, **increase its specialized, standalone capacity to document and verify grave violations against children through allocation of sufficient budgetary resources and staff to the Child Protection Unit;**
- **Urge the Government and armed groups to allow unimpeded access to humanitarian actors for ensuring safe and rapid delivery of humanitarian assistance to all children affected by conflict**, and also to effectively monitor action plan implementation;
- **Encourage UNAMID to continue to train police and military personnel**, as mentioned by the SG in his report (S/2018/389, para. 36), **on international instruments for protecting children, as well as continue to work with civil society to enhance local ownership of the protection of children affected by armed conflict;**
- **Urge the SLA/MM and JEM to continue to engage with the UN for the purposes of implementing actions plans to end and prevent grave violations against children**, with the CTFMR's support, and furthermore, encourage SLA/AW to develop an action plan with the UN; **call upon the Government to facilitate and support that engagement;**
- **Urge the Government to facilitate access for UN and other independent monitors for the purpose of monitoring and reporting on grave violations against children.**

THE UNITED KINGDOM IS THE LEAD COUNTRY ON DARFUR. POLAND CHAIRS THE 1591 SUDAN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE.

Recommendations to the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

On May 4, the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict adopted its [conclusions](#) on Mali on the basis of the second report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Mali. Presently, the Working Group has no country reports to negotiate.

Presidency of the Security Council for June: Russian Federation

- 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; has not ratified the Rome Statute of the ICC. Endorsed the Paris Principles and the Paris Commitments; has not endorsed the Vancouver Principles or the Safe Schools Declaration.

NGO resources

- Amnesty International, [Myanmar: New Evidence Reveals Rohingya Armed Group Massacred Scores in Rakhine State](#), May 2018
- Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, [Education Under Attack 2018](#), May 2018
- Human Rights Watch, ["No Safe Place" Insurgent Attacks on Civilians in Afghanistan](#), May 2018
- Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre & Norwegian Refugee Council, [Global Report on Internal Displacement 2018](#), May 2018
- Safeguarding Health In Conflict, [Violence on the Front Line: Attacks on Health Care in 2017](#), May 2018
- Save the Children, [More than 250 Children in Gaza Shot with Live Ammunition as Protests Escalate](#), May 2018
- Save the Children, [The Many Faces of Exclusion: End of Childhood Report 2018](#), May 2018
- War Child UK, [Tug-of-War: Children in Armed Groups in DRC](#), May 2018

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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

