Workshop on Children and Armed Conflict:
Priorities for the UN’s Children and Armed Conflict Agenda, 2018

January 25-26, 2018
Princeton University

Thursday, 25 January
Prospect House

7:00 Private Dinner hosted by Workshop Co-organizers

Friday, 26 January
016 Robertson Hall
(Closed Meeting – Workshop Participants Only)

8:30 – 9:00 Light Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 Introductory Remarks
- Dr. Beth English, Program Director, Women in the Global Community, Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination
- Ms. Jo Becker, Advocacy Director, Children’s Rights Division, Human Rights Watch and Chair of Advisory Board for Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict

9:15 – 10:45 Session I: Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) Agenda: Current Status and Priorities

The first session will feature presentations by the Office of the Special Representative to the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC), Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), and UNICEF (tbc), reflecting on the current status of the CAAC agenda with respect to trends and priorities. Their presentations will cover the status of child protection in relevant UN peacekeeping missions with respect to the implementation of the CAAC mandate, among other themes. Participants will engage with these timely topics to develop concrete proposals for how to support implementation and advocacy in the near term.
10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 1:00 Session II: Working Group Methods: Reflecting on the Challenges and Opportunities

This session will exclusively focus on the Security Council Working Group and its working methods. It will feature reflections by Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict based on its updated briefing note ‘Working Methods 2006-2016’, reviewing 10 years of Working Group activity. Additionally, Security Council Report will present on its recent report dedicated to tracking the UN Security Council’s involvement with the issue of children and armed conflict. Participants will engage on these reflections to provide input on concrete actions for the Working Group to take forward in 2018.

Moderator: Mr. Raphael Dang, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations

1:00 – 2:00 Lunch

2:00 – 3:30 Session III: Follow Up to Addressing Child Protection in Mediation and Peace Processes

In its recent Presidential Statement (PRST/2017/21) on CAAC, the Security Council encouraged the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, together with relevant child protection actors, to carry out lessons learned initiatives in order to compile comprehensive best practices on the children and armed conflict mandate, including practical guidance on the integration of child protection issues in peace processes. Participants will resume the question of charting further guidance towards effective integration of child protection within mediation and peace processes, begun in 2015 and 2016 through the development of a checklist for mediators.

Moderator: TBC

3:30 – 4:00 Coffee Break

4:00 – 5:00 Wrap-Up Session: Setting Priorities for 2018

In the wrap-up session, based on the recommendations from the previous sessions, participants will provide input for priorities and exchange views on how to best to take these forward in 2018.

Moderators: Dr. Beth English, LISD, and Ms. Dragica Mikavica, Advocacy Officer, Watchlist