DRAFT:
Child Protection in Peace Agreements and Related Materials:
An Overview
(1999 – 2014)

Presented at Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination / Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict workshop: “Child Protection in Conflict Mediation: Charting a Way Forward”.
July 15, 2014

Disclaimer: Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict (henceforth ‘Watchlist’) is a network of human rights and humanitarian non-governmental organizations working together to protect the security and rights of children in armed conflict. Watchlist itself does not mediate, nor enter into a humanitarian dialogue, with armed forces or non-state armed groups. This overview resulted from desk-based research. It does not constitute a comprehensive analysis of child protection in peace agreements and related materials, nor does it seek to reflect the particular context or evolution of individual peace processes. Its status is purposely set to be a ‘draft’. Watchlist welcomes any additions or corrections to this document as it seeks to expand its knowledge on the intersection between child protection and conflict mediation.
CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

[The Security Council] *Further urges* Member States, United Nations entities and other parties concerned to ensure that child protection provisions, including those relating to the release and reintegration of children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups, are integrated into all peace negotiations and peace agreements;

[The Security Council] *Calls upon* Member States, United Nations entities, including the Peacebuilding Commission and other parties concerned to ensure that the protection, rights, well-being and empowerment of children affected by armed conflict are integrated into all peace processes and that post-conflict recovery and reconstruction planning, programmes and strategies prioritize issues concerning children affected by armed conflict;
- Resolution 1998 (2011), para 19

[The Security Council] * Calls upon* Member States, United Nations entities, including the Peacebuilding Commission and other parties concerned to ensure that the protection, rights, well-being and empowerment of children affected by armed conflict are integrated into all peace processes and that post-conflict recovery and reconstruction;
- Resolution 1882 (2009), para 15

[The Security Council] *Calls upon* all parties concerned to ensure that the protection, rights and well-being of children affected by armed conflict are specifically integrated into all peace processes, peace agreements and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction planning and programmes;
- Resolution 1612 (2005), para 4

[The Security Council] * Calls upon* all concerned parties to ensure that the protection, rights and well-being of children are integrated into the peace processes, peace agreements and the post-conflict recovery and reconstruction phases;
- Resolution 1460 (2003), para 12

[The Security Council] *calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to] Provide protection of children in peace agreements, including, where appropriate, provisions relating to the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and rehabilitation of child soldiers and the reunification of families, and to consider, when possible, the views of children in those processes;
- Resolution 1379 (2001), para 8 (e)

[The Security Council] *Requests* parties to armed conflict to include, where appropriate, provisions for the protection of children, including the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of child combatants, in peace negotiations and in peace agreements and the involvement of children, where possible, in these processes;
- Resolution 1314 (2000), para 11

[The Security Council] *Urges* all parties to armed conflicts to ensure that the protection, welfare and rights of children are taken into account during peace negotiations and throughout the process of consolidating peace in the aftermath of conflict;
- Resolution 1261 (1999), para 7
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1. Methodology

This overview of child protection in peace agreements and related materials resulted from a desk-based study.

The review period was set to 1999-2014, i.e. any documents issued prior to the establishment of the UN Security Council’s thematic agenda on children and armed conflict (CAC), through Security Council Resolution 1261 (1999), were excluded.

The main source for peace agreements and related materials was the Peace Agreements Database¹, available through the United Nations/Department of Political Affairs Peacemaker website.


From the DPA Peace Agreements Database, a total of 407 documents, ranging from cessation of hostilities, ceasefires, to comprehensive peace agreements, declarations, and communiques, were included in this review. Each document was searched for the following key words: “child”, “girl”, “boy”, “18”, “rape”, “sex”, “youth”, “vulnerable”, “humanitarian”, “aid”, “school”, and “hospital.” The consulted documents included publications in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, and Russian.

Beyond the DPA Peace Agreements Database, the following sources were consulted:

- The University of Ulster Transitional Justice Institute, Peace Agreement Database: http://www.peaceagreements.ulster.ac.uk/
- Public International Law and Policy Group: http://publicinternationallawandpolicygroup.org/ceasefire-database/
- Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University: http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/ucdp/database/
- Geneva Call, Their Words²: http://theirwords.org/pages/home

These complimentary sources were scanned using the search criteria available on the individual websites (e.g. "children"), but no additional documents were found that were not already included in the DPA Peace Agreements Database. Examples of humanitarian dialogue (e.g. action plans between armed forces or groups and the UN or Deeds of Commitment between Geneva Call and armed groups) were excluded.

The references are included in Annex i and Annex ii. Annex i focuses on children and armed conflict references, grouped by the six grave violations against children, designated by the UN

¹“The database includes formal peace agreements and sub-agreements, as well as more informal agreements and documents such as declarations, communiqués, joint public statements resulting from informal talks, agreed accounts of meetings between parties, exchanges of letters and key outcome documents of some international or regional conferences. The legal status of such documents can vary. The database also contains selected legislation, acts and decrees that constitute an agreement between parties and/or were the outcome of peace negotiations. A number of key UN Security Council Resolutions and decisions of the International Court of Justice have also been included. In addition, the database contains selected peace proposals that marked significant phases of a negotiation process but were not ultimately accepted by all relevant parties.” – Content explanation from Peacemaker website

Security Council, which are: (1) recruitment and use (2) killing and maiming (3) rape and other forms of sexual violence (4) attacks on schools and/or hospitals (5) abductions (6) denial of humanitarian assistance.

Annex ii includes child protection references that do not specifically fit within the CAC agenda. These references are included to demonstrate the extent of discussions around child protection in relation to peace agreements and related materials. Annex II is divided by the following categories: (1) General commitments to protection of ‘women, children, and other vulnerable groups’ (2) Children / youth and economic opportunities (3) Children / youth and education or vocational training (4) Children / youth and participation in peace processes (5) Children/youth and transitional justice, criminal justice, accountability and reconciliation processes.

All references are also sub-grouped by cessation of hostilities/ceasefires, comprehensive peace agreements, or “other” materials, including declarations, communiques, joint public statements from informal talks, key outcome documents of conferences, and more.

Watchlist focused on language targeting the specific needs of children. For example, a document that references “sexual violence” without specific mention of children is not included. The only exception made to this rule was re: ‘denial of humanitarian assistance’ (see also ‘preliminary findings’).

2. Documents reviewed

AFRICA

1. Agreement on Ceasefire in Sierra Leone, 18 May 1999
2. Peace Agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front of Sierra Leone (Lomé Peace Agreement), 7 July 1999
3. Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement (Democratic Republic of Congo), 10 July 1999
4. Agreement between the Governments of Sudan and Uganda (The Nairobi Agreement), 8 December 1999
5. Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi, 28 August 2000
6. Accord cadre pour la reconciliation aux Comores (Accord de Fomboni), 17 February 2001
7. Acte d’Engagement Gaborone (Democratic Republic of the Congo), 24 August 2001
9. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement to protect non-combatant civilians and civilian facilities from military attack, 31 March 2002
12. Inter-Congolese Political Negotiations: The Final Act (Sun City Agreement), 2 April 2003
13. Le texte intégral de l’accord de cessez-le-feu (Cote d’Ivoire), 3 May 2003
15. Peace Agreement between the Government of Liberia, the Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy, the Movement for Democracy in Liberia and the political parties, 18 August 2003
16. The Transitional Federal Charter of the Somali Republic, 1 February 2004
17. Protocol between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) on Power-sharing, 26 May 2004
18. Protocol between the Government of Sudan, the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A), and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) on the enhancement of the security situation in Darfur in accordance with the N’djamena Agreement, 9 November 2004
20. Agreement on Permanent Ceasefire and Security Arrangements Implementation Modalities between the Government of the Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan Peoples’ Liberation Movement/Sudan Peoples’ Liberation Army (SPLM/SPLA) during the pre-interim and interim periods, 31 December 2004
22. Darfur Peace Agreement, 5 May 2006
25. Accord Politique de Ouagadougou (Cote d’Ivoire), 4 March 2007
27. Agreement on Accountability and Reconcilliation between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army/Movement, 29 June 2007
28. The Chairman’s Conclusions from the Arusha Consultations (Sudan), 6 August 2007
33. Annexure to the Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation between the Government of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), 19 February 2008
34. Agreement on a Permanent Ceasefire between the Government of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), 23 February 2008
35. Agreement on Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration between the Government of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), 29 February 2008
38. Agreement between the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF) and the Two Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) Formations, on Resolving the Challenges Facing Zimbabwe, 15 September 2008
40. Declaration du Directoire Politique du Processus de paix au Burundi sur le processus de mise en oeuvre des decisions conjointes prises a Pretoria, 8 April 2009
41. **Ceasefire agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM),** 18 March 2010
42. **Framework Agreement to Resolve the Conflict in Darfur between the Government of Sudan (GOS) and Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM),** 18 March 2010
43. **Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan),** 31 May 2011
44. **Agreement Between the Government of the Republic of Sudan and The Sudan People’s Liberation Movement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area,** 20 June 2011
45. **Draft Constitutional Charter for the Transitional Stage (Libya),** 3 August 2011
46. **Consultative Meeting on Ending the Transition in Somalia,** 6 September 2011
47. **Accord de cessez-le-feu entre le Gouvernement de la République Centrafricaine et la Coalition Seleka,** 11 January 2013
48. **Declaration de Principe des Parties aux Negociations de Libreville sur la crise Centrafricaine,** 11 January 2013
49. **Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Justice and Equality Movement Sudan (JEM),** 10 February 2013
50. **Accord Préliminaire à L’Election Présidentielle et aux Pourparlers Inclusifs de Paix au Mali,** 18 June 2013
51. **Joint ICGLR-SADC Final Communiqué on the Kampala Dialogue, (Democratic Republic of Congo),** 12 December 2013
52. **Outcome Documents from the Conclusion of the Kampala Dialogue between the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the M23,** 12 December 2013
53. **Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army,** 23 January 2014
54. **Agreement to Resolve the Crisis in South Sudan,** 9 May 2014
55. **Accord de cessez-le-feu (Mali),** 23 May 2014

**THE AMERICAS**

1. **Agenda Común por el Cambio hacia una Nueva Colombia,** 6 May 1999

**ASIA**

1. **Agreement on a Ceasefire between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam,** 22 February 2002
2. **The Afghanistan Compact,** 1 February 2006
3. **Comprehensive Peace Accord (Nepal),** 22 November 2006
4. **Agreement on Monitoring of the Management of Arms and Armies (Nepal),** 8 December 2006
5. **The North West Frontier Province Government’s Agreement with the Taliban (Pakistan),** 21 May 2008
6. **SWAT Peace Accord (Pakistan),** 16 February 2009
7. **Agreement on the Civilian Protection Component of the International Monitoring Team (IMT) (Philippines),** 27 October 2009
8. **Terms of Reference of the Civilian Protection Component (CPC) of the International Monitoring Team (IMT) (Philippines),** 5 May 2010
9. **Resolution Adopted at the Conclusion of the National Consultative Peace Jirga, (Afghanistan),** 6 June 2010
10. A Renewed Commitment by the Afghan Government to the Afghan People and a Renewed Commitment by the International Community to Afghanistan, 22 July 2010
11. Memorandum of Agreement between the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Cordillera Bodong Administration (CBA) and the Cordillera People’s Liberation Army (CPLA), 18 January 2011
12. The International Afghanistan Conference in Bonn, 5 December 2011
13. Agreement between “Wa” Special Region and the Government (Myanmar), 29 December 2011
14. Agreement between the Government and the Mongla Armed Group (Special Region 4 - Northern Shan State, Myanmar), 30 December 2011
15. Roadmap for a Possible Way Forward (Maldives), 16 February 2012
16. The Tokyo Declaration Partnership for Self-Reliance in Afghanistan From Transition to Transformation, 8 July 2012
17. Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (Philippines), 15 October 2012
18. The Independent Commission on Policing and its Terms of Reference (Philippines), 27 February 2013

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

1. Protocole d’accord (Georgia), 12 August 2008
2. Agreement at Hillsborough Castle (United Kingdom and North Ireland), 5 February 2010

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

1. Agreement on the implementation mechanism for the transition process in Yemen in accordance with the initiative of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), 5 December 2011
2. Preliminary understanding on the United Nations supervision mechanism (Syria), 19 April 2012
3. Final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria, 30 June 2012
3. Preliminary findings

BY TOPIC

- ‘Child protection’ was included in 79 out of 407 documents reviewed or 19%.
  - Of these, 56 documents included CAC-specific issues (71%).
  - Of these, 33 documents included child protection issues not related to the CAC-agenda (42%).

![Figure 1: CAC References in Peace Agreements and Related Materials](image_url)
• The grave violation most frequently included is recruitment and use of children.
• On ‘denial of humanitarian access’: the overview includes all documents which reference the denial of humanitarian access, though only 3 documents referenced the specific needs of children in relation to humanitarian access. These documents are:
  o “There will be no ban on health teams administering vaccination or drops to children against diseases like polio. There will be no ban on girls’ education.” – The North West Frontier Province Government’s Agreement with the Taliban (Pakistan), 21 May 2008.
  o “The Taliban will cooperate with the government to vaccinate children against diseases like polio.” – SWAT Peace Accord (Pakistan), 16 February 2009.
  o “Ensuring that humanitarian assistance is delivered to the affected people, especially women and children, undertaking to address the situation of the disabled among them and provide them with health and social services.” – Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan), 31 May 2011
• Rape and other forms of sexual violence is rarely referenced with regard to children.
BY YEAR

TABLE 1: BY YEAR - NUMBER OF PEACE AGREEMENTS AND RELATED MATERIALS INCLUDING CHILD PROTECTION

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BY REGION

• In Africa, 55 documents include child protection issues, of which 43 documents include CAC-specific issues. Of all the regions, inclusion of CAC-specific issues was most prevalent in Africa. Note that this could reflect the proportion of armed conflicts during the time period under review.

• In Asia, 18 documents include child protection issues, of which 7 documents include CAC-specific issues.

• In the Middle East and North Africa, 3 documents include child protection issues, all of which include references to the denial of humanitarian access. These documents are:
  o "Immediately after its formation, the government of national unity shall facilitate and secure humanitarian access and delivery wherever it is needed." – Agreement on the implementation mechanism for the transition process in Yemen in accordance with the initiative of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), 5 December 2011
  o "The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic ensures the full and unimpeled access of humanitarian personnel to all populations in need of
assistance.” - *Preliminary understanding on the United Nations supervision mechanism (Syria), 19 April 2012*

- In all circumstances, the Government **must allow immediate and full humanitarian access by humanitarian organizations to all areas affected by the fighting.** The Government and all parties must enable the evacuation of the wounded, and all civilians who wish to leave must be enabled to do so. All parties must fully adhere to their obligations under international law, including in relation to the protection of civilians...Effective steps to ensure that vulnerable groups are protected and that immediate action is taken to address humanitarian issues in areas of need.” – *Final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria, 30 June 2012*

- **In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, 2 documents include child protection issues, of which 1 document includes a reference to the denial of humanitarian access.** These document are:
  - “Donner libre accès à l'aide humanitaire.” – *Protocole d'accord (Georgia), 12 August 2008*
  - “The necessary actions to support the agreed policies could usefully include, inter alia: review of how children and young people are processed at all stages of the criminal justice system, including detention, to ensure compliance with international obligations and best practice;” – *Agreement at Hillsborough Castle (United Kingdom), 5 February 2010*

- **In Latin America, only 1 document includes child protection issues.** It tables “**recruitment and use of children**” as an agenda item, but does not go into further detail. This document is:
  - (Agenda item:) “Desvinculación de los niños al conflicto armado.” – *Agenda Común por el Cambio hacia una Nueva Colombia, 6 May 1999*

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**Figure 3: By Region - Child Protection in Peace Agreements and Related Materials**

- Africa: 70%
- Americas: 23%
- Asia: 4%
- Eastern Europe and Central Asia: 2%
- Middle East and North Africa: 1%
**Figure 4: By Topic - CAC References in African Peace Agreements and Related Materials**

- Recruitment and use: 63%
- Killing and Maiming: 27%
- Rape or other forms of sexual violence: 4%
- Attacks on schools/hospitals: 2%
- Abductions: 2%
Figure 5: By Topic - Non-CAC References in African Peace Agreements and Related Materials

TABLE 2: BY YEAR - CHILD PROTECTION REFERENCES IN AFRICAN PEACE AGREEMENTS AND RELATED MATERIALS
Figure 6: By Topic - CAC References in Asian Peace Agreements and Related Materials

- Recruitment and use: 25%
- Killing and Maiming: 25%
- Rape or other forms of sexual violence: 38%
- Attacks on schools/hospitals: 12%
- Abductions: 0%
- Humanitarian Access: 0%

Figure 7: By Topic - Non-CAC References in Asian Peace Agreements and Related Materials

- General commitments to the protection of 'women, children, and vulnerable groups': 58%
- Children/youth and economic opportunities: 25%
- Children/youth and education or vocational training: 17%
- Children/youth and participation in peace processes: 0%
- Children/youth and transitional justice, criminal justice, accountability and reconciliation processes: 0%
TABLE 3: BY YEAR - CHILD PROTECTION REFERENCES IN ASIAN PEACE AGREEMENTS AND RELATED MATERIALS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Attacks on Schools/Hospitals</th>
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ANNEX I: CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT REFERENCES IN PEACE AGREEMENTS AND RELATED MATERIALS

RECRUITMENT AND USE OF CHILDREN

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS

“The Ceasefire shall entail the cessation of all acts of violence against the civilian population by respecting and protecting human rights. The acts of violence include summary executions, torture, harassment, detention and execution of civilians based on their ethnic origin; propaganda inciting ethnic and tribal hatred; arming civilians; recruitment and use of child soldiers; sexual violence...” – Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement (Democratic Republic of Congo), 10 July 1999

“Principles of the ceasefire [include]... All acts of violence against or other abuse of the civilian population, e.g., summary executions, torture, harassment, arbitrary detention and persecution of civilians on the basis of ethnic origin, religion, or political affiliations, incitement of ethnic hatred, aiming civilians, use of child soldiers, sexual violence, training of terrorists, genocide and bombing of the civilian population.” – Nuba Mountains Cease Fire Agreement, 19 January 2002

“Cessation of all acts of violence against the civilian population: acts of vengeance; summary executions; torture: harassment; detention and persecution of civilians on the basis of ethnic origin; religious beliefs; and or political affiliation; arming of civilians; use of child soldiers; sexual violence; sponsoring or promotion of terrorist or genocide ideologies.” - Ceasefire Agreement between the Transitional Government of Burundi and the Conseil National pour la Defense de la Democratie-Forces pour la Defense de la Democratie, 2 December 2002

“S'engagent à s'abstenir de poser les actes suivants qui constituent tous des violations du présent accord : le recrutement et l'utilisation d'enfants soldats, de supplétifs mercenaires ou l'emploi de personnes n'étant pas de nationalité ivoirienne, en dehors du cadre des accords passés régulièrement par l'Etat ivoirien” – Le texte intégral de l'accord de cessez-le-feu (Cote d'Ivoire), 3 May 2003

“After the Completion of SAF redeployment to the North the parties shall be in the negotiations on proportionate downsizing. Nonetheless, the parties shall allow voluntary demobilization, demobilization of nonessentials (child soldiers and elderly, disabled) during the first year of interim period.” – Agreement on Permanent Ceasefire and Security Arrangements Implementation Modalities between the Government of the Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan Peoples’ Liberation Movement/Sudan Peoples’ Liberation Army (SPLM/SPLA) during the pre-interim and interim periods, 31 December 2004

“Cessation of all acts of violence against the civilian population: acts of vengeance; summary executions; torture: harassment; detention and persecution of civilians on the basis of ethnic origin; religious beliefs; and or political affiliation; arming of civilians; use of child soldiers; sexual violence; sponsoring or promotion of terrorist or genocide ideologies.” – Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and the Palipehutu-FNL, 7 September 2006
“Interdiction de tout recrutement et promotion particulière des droits des enfants en zones de conflits (ou post-conflits).” – Acte d'Engagement- Sud Kivu (Democratic Republic of Congo), 23 January 2008

“Interdiction de tout recrutement et promotion particulière des droits des enfants en zones de conflits (ou post-conflits).” – Acte d'Engagement- Nord Kivu (Democratic Republic of Congo), 23 January 2008

“In the preparation of detailed agreements and arrangements for disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration, the implementation of measures necessary to adhere to gender and child specific UN IDDRS standards for encampment shall be given the highest priority...Responsibilities of the Government of South Sudan: in the implementation of this Agreement, international standards and mandates, in particular, relevant mandates in Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000), and Security Council Resolution 1612 on Children and Armed Conflict (2005) are applied.” – Agreement on a Permanent Ceasefire between the Government of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), 23 February 2008

“The Parties shall refrain from recruiting children as soldiers or combatants, consistent with the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of Children, the Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC) and the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict and agree to immediately release and hand over to the UN upon the signing of this Agreement all boys and girls associated with armed forces and groups in accordance with international norms.” – Ceasefire agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM), 18 March 2010

“Le cessez-le-feu implique: la cessation de tous les actes de violence contre les populations civiles et le respect et la protection des droits humains. Ces actes de violence incluent les exécutions sommaires, la torture, le harcèlement, la détention et l’exécution des civils sur la base de l’origine ethnique ainsi que le recrutement et l’utilisation des enfants soldats, la violence sexuelle, l’armement des civils, la détention et l’exécution des prisonniers...un programme prioritaire doit être mis en place en urgence selon le chronogramme Suivant...Protection des Droits de l’homme, y compris la libération de toutes les personnes arrêtées, l’arrêt des violences sexuelles et la conscription des enfants soldats;” – Accord de cessez-le-feu entre le Gouvernement de la République Centrafricaine et la Coalition Seleka, 11 January 2013

“Agree to immediately cease and refrain from any: ...recruitment and use of boys and girls under age 18 by armed forces and armed groups in hostilities, in accordance with Sudan’s obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, and obligations under Protocol II (1977) of the Geneva Conventions of 1949...Further undertake to ensure that: ... all children, boys and girls, who are accused of crimes against international law after being unlawfully recruited by armed forces or armed groups, are considered primarily as victims of violations against international law and not as alleged perpetrators... [ensure that] all children, boys and girls, recruited by armed forces or armed groups, if any, are released unconditionally through the development of Action Plans.” – Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Justice and Equality Movement Sudan (JEM), 10 February 2013

“The Parties shall cease acts of violence including summary executions, displacement of populations, all forms of torture, destruction of property, attacking civilian aircrafts, vehicles or
riverboats, **recruitment of child soldiers** or any other acts as prohibited by applicable national, continental and international agreements.” – Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army, 23 January 2014

### B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

“The Government shall accord particular **attention to the issue of child soldiers**. It shall, accordingly, mobilize resources, both within the country and from the International Community, and **especially through the Office of the UN Special Representative for Children in Armed Conflict, UNICEF** and other agencies, to **address the special needs of these children in the existing disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes.**” – Peace Agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front of Sierra Leone (Lomé Peace Agreement), 7 July 1999

“No **child shall be used directly in armed conflict**, and **children shall be protected** in times of armed conflict... All acts of violence against the civilian population – summary executions, torture, harassment, detention and persecution of civilians on the basis of ethnic origin, religious, beliefs and political affiliations, incitement of ethnic hatred, arming of civilians, **use of child soldiers**, **sexual violence**, training of terrorists, genocide and bombing of the civilian population” – Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi, 28 August 2000

“Government shall **facilitate the One Hundred and Thirty-Five (135) Child Soldiers who are interested in going back to school.**” – The Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Uganda National Rescue Front, 24 December 2002

"The NTGL shall, in addition, **accord special attention to the issue of child combatants**...It shall, accordingly, mobilize resources with the assistance of the International Community, especially in **cooperation with the Office of the U.N. Special Representative for Children in Armed Conflict, UNICEF**, the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and other relevant agencies, to **address their special demobilization and re-integration needs.**” – Peace Agreement between the Government of Liberia, the Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy, the Movement for Democracy in Liberia and the political parties, 18 August 2003

"Guiding Principles: ...The **demobilization of all child soldiers** within six months of the signature of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement...The **identification and registration** within six months from the signature of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of all children separated from their families for family tracing and ultimate reunification.” – Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the SPLM/A, 9 January 2005

“The roles and responsibilities of the Unit shall include the following: To support efforts by relevant organisations to **solve the problems of child soldiers, children who have disappeared, children who have been detained, and other children in Darfur.**” – Darfur Peace Agreement, 5 May 2006

“Both parties [Nepalese government and the Communist Party of Nepal agree] **not to include or use children** who are 18 years old and below in the armed force. **Children thus affected would be immediately rescued** and necessary and appropriate assistance will be provided for their **rehabilitation.**” – Comprehensive Peace Accord (Nepal), 22 November 2006
“The Parties shall, with the support of UNAMID, provide security and protection from all forms of physical attack, all forms of sexual violence, exploitation, abduction, child recruitment, child labour...children implicated in the conflict who may have been involved in the commission of crimes under international law shall be considered primarily as victims and shall be treated in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Protocol II to the Geneva Convention, the African Charter on Rights and Welfare of the Child, the Beijing Rules and related international juvenile justice and fair trial standards...the Parties agree to immediately cease and refrain from recruitment and use of boys and girls under age 18 by armed forces and armed groups in hostilities, in accordance with Sudan's obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, and obligations under Protocol II (1977) of Geneva Conventions of 1949...The Parties further undertake to ensure that all children, boys and girls, recruited by armed forces or armed groups, if any, are released unconditionally through the development of Action Plans...

That all children, boys and girls, who are accused of crimes against international law after being unlawfully recruited by armed forces or armed groups are considered primarily as victims of violations against international law and not as alleged perpetrators...The Parties shall assemble their former combatants. However, care shall be taken for disarmament and demobilization to be done in accordance with the following: The Parties shall ensure that the duration of the release process of all child combatants, if any, is as brief as possible and not dependent on any release or demobilization of adults. The safety and dignity of the child and his/her need for confidentiality must be primary considerations. Children should be rapidly separated from adult fighters and handed over to an appropriate, mandated and independent civilian process; The Parties shall not transfer former combatants who are below the age of 18 to the assembly areas. Rather, they shall be released and demobilized separately before the signing of this Agreement; The integration of the Movements' forces into the SAF and the SPF shall include a vetting process agreed upon by the Parties and monitored by the ITC, and shall be guided by the following criteria: Age (shall not be less than 18 or has attained retirement age)...The Parties reaffirm their commitment to provide special protection for women, disabled persons, children including those associated with the armed forces and armed groups, and other persons with special needs...The following conditions shall be fulfilled for such support to be provided: The number and location of combatants including the presence of children, if any, among the ranks, is given to the UNAMID Force Commander and verified in accordance with paragraphs 393 & 394...It is imperative that social and economic reintegration of ex-combatants assures the participation of local communities and civil society organizations including women groups, towards enabling them to play their role in the sustainability of the social and economic reintegration of boys and girls associated with armed forces and armed groups and other vulnerable conflict affected children...Reintegration programmes must be inclusive to support boys and girls who have left armed forces or armed Movements through formal and informal processes, as well as other vulnerable conflict affected children in need of protection, such as girl mothers...Priority shall be to address the social and economic reintegration of Special Needs Groups such as women combatants and women associated with armed Movements, in particular widows, boys and girls associated with armed forces and armed Movements and other vulnerable conflict affected children, disabled combatants and the elderly...” – Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan), 31 May 2011

C. OTHER MATERIALS

(Agenda item:) “Desvinculación de los niños al conflicto armado.” – Agenda Común por el Cambio hacia una Nueva Colombia, 6 May 1999

“We, the Participants at the Inter-Congolese Political Negotiations, agree on the following: ...the demobilisation and reintegration of child soldiers and vulnerable persons in collaboration with the appropriate organisations.” – Inter-Congolese Political Negotiations: The Final Act (Sun City Agreement), 2 April 2003

“Undertake to dismantle, everywhere in Côte d'Ivoire, groups of ill-intentioned youths, both armed and unarmed, in order to provide the people with a feeling of security and reassure the international community.” – Joint Declaration of the Defence and Security Forces of Cote d’Ivoire and the Armed Forces of Forces Nouvelles, 4 July 2003

“The [Somali] Government shall guarantee public social welfare as follows: ...forced labor or military service for children under 18 years shall not be permitted.” – The Transitional Federal Charter of the Somali Republic, 1 February 2004

“The Parties shall refrain from recruiting children as soldiers or combatants, consistent with the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of Children, the Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC) and the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.” – Protocol between the Government of Sudan, the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A), and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) on the enhancement of the security situation in Darfur in accordance with the N’djamena Agreement, 9 November 2004

“Prohibit the recruitment of children into armed forces or their participation in any manner in hostilities, including support roles, and to this end, accede to and implement, through domestic legislation in internal legal systems, the relevant provisions of the African Charter on the Right and Welfare of the Child, the optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child and the relevant recommendations of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Children in Armed Conflict; take all necessary measures to ensure that former child soldiers are exempted from compulsory military service, reunited with their families, reintegrated into their communities, rehabilitated, counseled and resettled...Adopt and implement, in an effective and sustainable way, national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs (DDR) and, where applicable, ensure regional coordination for repatriation and resettlement components (DDRRR), taking into account the special needs of former child soldiers and female ex-combatants.” – Dar es Salaam Declaration on Peace, Security, Democracy and Development in the Great Lakes Region, 20 November 2004

“Both sides fully agree to provide special protection to the rights of women and children, to immediately prohibit all types of violence against women and children, including child labor, as well as sexual exploitation and harassment...Both parties fully agree to not include or use children who are 18 years old and under in the armed forces. Children thus affected would be immediately rescued and necessary and appropriate assistance will be provided for their rehabilitation.” – Agreement on Monitoring of the Management of Arms and Armies (Nepal), 8 December 2006

“Les deux (02) Parties conviennent que le Service civique, destiné à encadrer toute la jeunesse de Côte d’Ivoire et à la former en vue d’un emploi, accueillera également tous les jeunes qui se sont familiarisés avec le maniement des armes pour les besoins de la guerre, dans le but de les
The Parties recognize that the recruitment and use of children by armed forces and armed groups is a violation of children’s rights. Commitments of the GoU: To implement a return and reintegration programme for children associated with the LRA that harnesses national and community ownership and adheres to relevant international standards, including the Paris Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups, and clause 12 of the Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation signed by the Parties on 29 June 2007; To provide reintegration support for children returning from the LRA within inclusive community based programs for conflict-affected children and youth; To provide reintegration support that emphasises educational and livelihood opportunities, and gives particular attention to the situation and needs of girls and young mothers; To make special provision for children who may require family and community mediation, treatment for war related illnesses and injuries, targeted mental health services, and other specialized services...Commitment of the LRA/M: To ensure the earliest release and repatriation to Uganda of pregnant and lactating women along with all children under 18 years of age...Commitment of both Parties: Any person identified in the adult disarmament and demobilization process to be under 18 years of age (other than children accompanying their mothers) will be immediately referred to the agencies implementing the removal and reintegration program for children...The Government shall provide reintegration programmes for former LRA combatants that are responsive to the particular needs and aspirations of the youth and in accordance with any relevant policies on youth in Uganda. Insofar as relevant, the guidelines on Youth and DDR in the UN IDDRS shall be applied...The Parties shall ensure that the DDR process fully incorporates the special rights and needs of women. In particular, Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000) and clauses 10 and 11 of the Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation shall be observed. As far as possible funding for specific measures for women and girls in the reintegration phase of the DDR process shall be earmarked for that purpose...The CMT (Ceasefire Monitoring Team) shall monitor the implementation of specific clauses on children, women and persons with special needs contained in this Agreement...The CMT shall adopt a Disarmament Operations Plan as well as any necessary procedures for carrying out its functions. These may provide for the following matters: Specific procedures for any unaccompanied children encountered in the process...In the repatriation and reception process, consideration will be given to the special needs of children, women and non-combatants. Separate transitional accommodation will be provided for men, women and children...The CMT shall draw on UN DDR, World Bank and other technical expertise to make further arrangements for: protection from sexual violence or abuse, appropriate services for pregnant women and lactating mothers, and adequate presence of female staff; child specific measures including appropriate facilities and specialised child protection trained staff.” – Agreement on Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration between the Government of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), 29 February 2008

“Le FNL ayant séparé leurs membres adultes des enfants, doivent (a) simultanément rassembler endéans 3 jours taus leurs membres dont les noms figurent sur leur liste certifiée et qui se trouvent encore dans les zones de pré-rassemblement, les désarmer et remettre toutes leurs armes à la Force spéciale de l’Union Africaine, (b) procéder a’ la séparation de leurs éléments et les repartir selon les quatre catégories suivantes.” – Déclaration du Directoire Politique du Processus de paix au Burundi sur le processus de mise en œuvre des décisions conjointes prises à Pretoria, 8 April 2009
“National Security and Stabilization Plan (NSSP) approved and being implemented by 19 October 2011. Over the next 12 months implement the following priority area: Prevention of the presence of children in the armed forces.” – Consultative Meeting on Ending the Transition in Somalia, 6 September 2011


"Amnesty does not cover war crimes, crimes of genocide and crimes against humanity, including sexual violence, recruitment of child soldiers and other massive violations of human rights...Given the atrocities and other massive violations of human rights perpetrated in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and with a view to putting an end to impunity, the Government shall ensure that prosecutions for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, sexual violence and recruitment of child soldiers are initiated against any presumed author thereof... The M23 agrees that, given the atrocities and other massive violations of human rights perpetrated in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and with a view to putting an end to impunity, prosecutions for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, sexual violence and recruitment of child soldiers shall be initiated against any presumed author thereof. For the purposes of implementing the transitional security arrangements as a whole, the TSAIM shall verify information submitted by M23, including their exact location and equipment, number and types of weapons, the strength of their forces including the presence of any children among their ranks and other information that the TSAIM may request. This information shall remain confidential throughout the phases of preparation and disengagement.” – Outcome Documents from the Conclusion of the Kampala Dialogue between the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the M23, 12 December 2013

KILLING AND MAIMING OF CHILDREN

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS

No references found.

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

No references found.

C. OTHER MATERIALS

“Assurer la protection des populations civiles contre les rafles, les arrestations arbitraires, les réquisitions, les spoliations, les travaux forces, les massacres, les bombardements aveugles, les tortures, les viols des femmes, les mutilations des enfants, les déportations et assurer l’arrêt définitif a la collaboration avec les forces génocidaires” – Acte d’Engagement Gaborone (Democratic Republic of the Congo), 24 August 2001
RAPE AND OTHER FORMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS

No references found.

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

“Both parties [Nepalese government and the Communist Party of Nepal] fully agree to provide special protection to the rights of women and children, including child labor, as well as sexual exploitation and abuse.” – Comprehensive Peace Accord (Nepal), 22 November 2006

C. OTHER MATERIALS

“The Member States undertake, in accordance with the Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Violence Against Women and Children, to combat sexual violence against women and children through preventing, criminalizing and punishing acts of sexual violence, both in times of peace and in times of war, in accordance with national laws and international criminal law.” – Pact on Security, Stability, and Development in the Great Lakes Region, 15 December 2006

ATTACKS ON SCHOOLS AND/OR HOSPITALS

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS

“Beginning on the date on which this Agreement enters into force, school buildings occupied by either party shall be vacated and returned to their intended use. This activity shall be completed by D-day + 160 at the latest.” – Agreement on a Ceasefire between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, 22 February 2002

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

No references found.

C. OTHER MATERIALS

“The Government of the Republic of Sudan (GOS) and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) (hereafter referred to as the “Parties”) reconfirm their obligations under international law, including common Article 3 of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, to take constant care to protect the civilian population, civilians and civilian objects against the dangers arising from military operations. In this context, the Parties specifically commit themselves: to refrain from targeting or intentionally attacking civilian objects or facilities, such as schools, hospitals, religious premises, health and food distribution centers, or relief operations, or objects or facilities indispensable to the survival of the civilian population and of a civilian nature” – Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement to protect non-combatant civilians and civilian facilities from military attack, 31 March 2002
“Refrain from targeting or intentionally attacking civilian properties or facilities such as schools, hospitals, religious premises, health and food distribution centers, or relief operations, or objects or facilities indispensable to the survival of the civilian population and of a civilian nature.” – Agreement on the Civilian Protection Component of the International Monitoring Team (IMT) (Philippines), 27 October 2009

“The above undertaking shall commit and endeavour the CPC to the following: To monitor and ensure that both Parties respect the sanctity of places of worship namely mosques, churches and religious places and social institutions including schools, madaris, hospitals and all places of civilian nature;” – Terms of Reference of the Civilian Protection Component (CPC) of the International Monitoring Team (IMT) (Philippines), 5 May 2010

ABDUCTION

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRES AGREEMENTS

No references found.

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

“The Government and relevant authorities in Darfur shall take all necessary measures so that families which are separated by displacement are reunited as quickly as possible. Special efforts shall be made to expedite the reunification of unaccompanied and separated children with their families. The VRRC shall coordinate and cooperate with humanitarian organizations engaged in family tracing and assisting family reunification. The Parties underscore their commitment to fight child abduction and trafficking, and shall work to prevent and disclose any irregular practices.” – Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan), 31 May 2011

C. OTHER MATERIALS

“We especially condemn any abuse or injury of innocent citizens, and will make a special effort to locate any abductees, especially children, who have been abducted in the past and return them to their families. All information about such cases will be shared with The Carter Center, UNICEF, and other international organizations and we will cooperate fully in the search and rescue of these victims, beginning immediately with those who can be identified.” – Agreement between the Governments of Sudan and Uganda (The Nairobi Agreement), 8 December 1999

DENIAL OF HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS

“Guarantee safe and unhindered access by humanitarian organizations to all people in need; establish safe corridors for the provision of food and medical supplies to ECOMOG soldiers behind RUF lines, and to RUF combatants behind ECOMOG lines.” – Agreement on Ceasefire in Sierra Leone, 18 May 1999


“Des l’ entrée en vigueur du présent Accord, les Parties faciliteront l’acheminement de l’aide humanitaire grâce à l’ouverture de couloirs d’aide humanitaire et la création de conditions favorables à la fourniture de secours d’urgence aux personnes déplacées et de toutes autres personnes concernées.” – Accord de cessez-le-feu entre le Gouvernement de la République Centrafricaine et la Coalition Seleka, 11 January 2013

“(The parties) agree to implement the ceasefire in accordance with the DDPD, and the following general principles: ... b) Civilians in Darfur have the right to protection, including provision of specific measures for vulnerable groups such as women and children taking into account their special status in international law, and in recognition that they have suffered disproportionately during the conflict.... ... d) the imperative to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular vulnerable groups such as women and children, and from violations of human rights and international humanitarian law... e) the need to address the humanitarian crisis faced by the people of Darfur, including the guarantee of unrestricted humanitarian access to all areas... (The parties) agree to immediately cease and refrain from any actions that may impede or delay the provision of humanitarian assistance or protection to civilians and restrict free movement of people g) restrictions on the safe, free and unimpeded movement of humanitarian agencies... i) acts and forms of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation... (The parties) further undertake to ensure... b) unimpeded humanitarian access to the population in need and the protection of humanitarian workers and their operations in areas under their control.” – Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Justice and Equality Movement Sudan (JEM), 10 February 2013

“The Parties shall open humanitarian corridors, support all humanitarian assistance, including the creation of conditions that enhance urgent supply of aid to all displaced populations in line with the Communique of the 23rd Extraordinary Session of the IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government of 26th December 2013 and the UNSC Resolution 2132 of 24th December 2013;” – Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army, 23 January 2014

“Agree to open humanitarian corridors, in accordance with the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement of 23 January 2014, and the 5 May 2014 “Recommitment on Humanitarian Matters in the CoH Agreement”; and to cooperate, unconditionally, with the UN and humanitarian agencies to ensure that humanitarian aid reaches affected populations in all areas of South Sudan.” – Agreement to Resolve the Crisis in South Sudan, 9 May 2014

“Les parties s’accordent à faciliter les opérations humanitaires des Nations Unies et les autres partenaires humanitaires et de et de respecter les principes du droit humanitaire en vigueur” – Accord de cessez-le-feu (Mali), 23 May 2014

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS
“The Taliban will cooperate with the government to vaccinate children against diseases like polio.” – SWAT Peace Accord (Pakistan), 16 February 2009

“Ensuring that humanitarian assistance is delivered to the affected people, especially women and children, undertaking to address the situation of the disabled among them and provide them with health and social services...The Parties shall secure and protect humanitarian aid routes and the security of humanitarian staff...The Permanent Ceasefire and the Final Security Arrangements shall be based on the following general principles: The need to address the urgent humanitarian crisis faced by the people of Darfur, including the guarantee of unrestricted humanitarian access to all areas; In accordance with this Agreement, the Parties agree to immediately cease and refrain from any: Acts of intimidation, hostility, violence or attacks against UNAMID personnel, installations or equipment, members of local or international humanitarian agencies including UN agencies, international organisations and non-governmental organisations, their personnel, installations or equipment, and members of the media; Actions that may impede or delay the provision of humanitarian assistance or protection to civilians and restrict free movement of people; The Parties further undertake to ensure: Unimpeded access of humanitarian assistance to the population in need and the protection of humanitarian workers and their operations in areas under their control; The Parties reaffirm their commitment to refrain from activities that would undermine or endanger humanitarian operations in Darfur; The Parties agree to refrain from acts that might jeopardize the humanitarian operations in Darfur and restate commitment to create appropriate security conditions for the unimpeded flow of humanitarian assistance and goods, guarantee security in IDP camps and the creation of an atmosphere conducive for the safe voluntary and sustained return of IDPs and refugees to their areas of origin.” – Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan), 31 May 2011

C. OTHER MATERIALS

“The Representatives of the Darfur Movements present expressed their commitment to allow free access to humanitarian aid agencies, to refrain from any act of hostilities against the personnel and assets of the African Mission in the Sudan (AMIS), as well as against humanitarian organisations in Darfur.” – The Chairman’s Conclusions from the Arusha Consultations (Sudan), 6 August 2007

“There will be no ban on health teams administering vaccination or drops to children against diseases like polio. There will be no ban on girls’ education.” – The North West Frontier Province Government’s Agreement with the Taliban (Pakistan), 21 May 2008

“Donner libre accès à l’aidehumanitaire.” – Protocole d’accord (Georgia), 12 August 2008

“The primary requirement of this Agreement is to: ensure the cessation of all armed confrontation and a political settlement for a durable peace; promote a peaceful environment; avoid a security vacuum; facilitate the protection of the population and the unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance and call for the convening of an architecture of reconstruction and development conference...To ensure the effective implementation of this Agreement, the Parties agree to: Undertake all necessary measures to ensure unhindered humanitarian access and assistance to affected populations.” – Agreement between the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) and The Alliance for the Re-Liberation of Somalia (ARS) – The Djibouti Agreement, 19 August 2008
“The Joint Security Committee shall operate to protect humanitarian assistance and access.” – Modalities for the Implementation of the Cessation of Armed Confrontation (Somalia), 26 October 2008

“The Parties shall ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches those in need and shall facilitate the work of the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies.” – Agreement Between the Government of the Republic of Sudan and The Sudan People’s Liberation Movement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area, 20 June 2011

“Immediately after its formation, the government of national unity shall facilitate and secure humanitarian access and delivery wherever it is needed.” – Agreement on the implementation mechanism for the transition process in Yemen in accordance with the initiative of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), 5 December 2011

“The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic ensures the full and unimpeded access of humanitarian personnel to all populations in need of assistance in accordance with the guidelines established in General Assembly resolution 46/182...Armed opposition groups and relevant elements should ensure the full and unimpeded access of humanitarian personnel to all populations in need of assistance.” - Preliminary understanding on the United Nations supervision mechanism (Syria), 19 April 2012

“In all circumstances, the Government must allow immediate and full humanitarian access by humanitarian organizations to all areas affected by the fighting. The Government and all parties must enable the evacuation of the wounded, and all civilians who wish to leave must be enabled to do so. All parties must fully adhere to their obligations under international law, including in relation to the protection of civilians...Effective steps to ensure that vulnerable groups are protected and that immediate action is taken to address humanitarian issues in areas of need.” – Final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria, 30 June 2012

“The Parties agree to refrain from acts that might jeopardize the humanitarian operations in North Kivu and reiterate their commitment to create appropriate security conditions for the unimpeded flow of humanitarian assistance, to guarantee security in the IDP camps and to create an atmosphere conducive to the voluntary and sustained return in complete safety of IDPs and refugees to their areas of origin.” – Joint ICGLR-SADC Final Communique on the Kampala Dialogue, (Democratic Republic of Congo), 2013
ANNEX II: CHILD PROTECTION REFERENCES IN PEACE AGREEMENTS AND RELATED MATERIALS

GENERAL COMMITMENTS TO THE PROTECTION OF ‘WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS’

A. CESSION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRES AGREEMENTS

“Arrêt des actes de violence, d'exaction, de discrimination et d'exclusion, sous toutes formes, à l'égard des populations civiles, particulièrement les femmes et les enfants, les personnes âgées et les personnes avec handicaps” – Acte D'Engagement - Sud Kivu (Democratic Republic of Congo), 23 January 2008

“Arrêt des actes de violence, d'exaction, de discrimination et d'exclusion, sous toutes formes, à l'égard des populations civiles, particulièrement les femmes et les enfants, les personnes âgées et les personnes avec handicaps” – Acte D'Engagement - Nord Kivu (Democratic Republic of Congo), 23 January 2008

“The imperative to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular to vulnerable groups such as women and children, and from violations of human rights and international humanitarian law...The Commission shall perform the following functions: In accordance with the UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000), the Commission shall ensure that all forms of violence that specifically affect women and children are heard and redressed in a gender sensitive and competent manner” – Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM)-Sudan, 10 February 2013

“The Parties shall not engage in any acts of violence against children, girls, women and the elderly...” – Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army, 23 January 2014

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

“Condemning all acts of violence against civilians and the violations of human rights, in particular violence against women and children; and stressing the imperative to refrain from such acts of violence and violations of human rights and international humanitarian law...The imperative to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular vulnerable groups such as women and children, and from violations of human rights and international humanitarian law...Women, children and men shall be guaranteed the equal enjoyment of all rights enshrined in the international human rights and humanitarian law instruments to which Sudan is a party...The needs of women, children and vulnerable groups shall be given due attention in the Darfur early recovery, reconstruction, rehabilitation and education policies and programmes...Durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees shall be based on the following principles: The protection and assistance of IDPs, refugees and all victims of conflict with special needs, including separated and unaccompanied children, female heads of household, expectant mothers, mothers with young children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities...Women, children, as well as men have equal rights to obtain all necessary identity documents and have the right to have such documents issued in their own names. Special efforts will be taken to expedite the provision of such documents to orphans as well as to
separated and unaccompanied children...The recognition of the special situation and concerns of women, children and youth and the important role of women and youth in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, in transitional justice processes and in peacebuilding, and the imperative of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance of peace and security, including justice and reconciliation...Civilians in Darfur have the right to protection, including provision of specific measures for vulnerable groups such as women and children taking into account their special status in international law, and in recognition that they have suffered disproportionately during the conflict... CFC members and observers will be expected at all times to adhere to the code of conduct which includes the following: Place the interests of the people of Darfur and other resident civilians, including women and children, ahead of personal considerations... In accordance with the UNSCR 1325 (2000), the Commission shall ensure that all forms of violence that specifically affect women and children are heard and redressed in a gender sensitive and competent manner.” – Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan), 31 May 2011

C. OTHER MATERIALS

“Provide adequate security and protection, particularly for vulnerable groups, including women and children in the camps.” - Public Statement, Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation, Mediated by H.E. Kofi Annan and the Panel of Eminent African Personalities, 4 February 2008

“United Nation Security Council Resolution 1325 and Resolution 1820 which protect women and girls from all forms of violence, particularly during and after armed conflicts.” – Terms of Reference of the Civilian Protection Component (CPC) of the International Monitoring Team (IMT) (Philippines), 5 May 2010

“People of Afghanistan demand a just peace which can guarantee the rights of its all citizens including women and children. For the purpose of social justice, the Jirga urges that laws be applied equally on all citizens of the country;” – Resolution Adopted at the Conclusion of the National Consultative Peace Jirga, (Afghanistan) 6 June 2010

“The GPH shall allocate funds dedicated for the purpose of implementing this Agreement...this development fund will not be used for activities that exploit children below 18 years old...” – Memorandum of Agreement between the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Cordillera Bodong Administration (CBA) and the Cordillera People’s Liberation Army (CPLA), 18 January 2011

“The family is the basis of society and shall be entitled to protection by the State. The State shall also protect and encourage marriage. The State shall guarantee the protection of motherhood, childhood and the elderly. The State shall take care of children, youth and the handicapped.” – The Draft Constitutional Charter for the Transitional Stage (Libya), 3 August 2011

“The Conference shall discuss the following issues: The adoption of legal and other means to strengthen the protection and rights of vulnerable groups, including children, as well as the advancement of women...” – Agreement on the implementation mechanism for the transition process in Yemen in accordance with the initiative of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), 5 December 2011

“We have taken note of statements by Afghan civil society organisations, including today’s statement by two of their delegates at this meeting. We all reaffirm that the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Afghan Constitution, including the rights of women and
children, as well as a thriving and free civil society are key for Afghanistan’s future. Therefore, we underscore the further promotion of civil society participation, including both traditional civil society structures and modern manifestations of civic action, including the role of youth, in the country’s democratic processes.” – The International Afghanistan Conference in Bonn, 5 December 2011

“The government of National Unity will ensure the uninterrupted provision of public services. It will continue to pay special attention to the rights of women and children, and to the needs and interests of the vulnerable, as is required by the constitution.” – Roadmap for a Possible Way Forward (Maldives), 16 February 2012.

“With support from the International Community, Afghanistan will continue its progress on such issues as security, with a focus on terrorism and counter-narcotics, poverty reduction, humanitarian needs, provision of basic social services, food security, protection of human rights in particular the rights of women and children, respect for individual dignity, promotion of education and culture, improvement of governance, reducing corruption, lessening reliance on international assistance, and promotion of private investment, thereby contributing to human security...The Participants reaffirmed the importance for Afghanistan to attain a fully professional, capable and accountable ANSF that protects the civilian population, in particular women and children, respects the Constitution, and observes Afghan and international laws...Ensure respect for human rights for all citizens, in particular for women and children, and allow the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and civil society organizations to perform their appropriate functions” – The Tokyo Declaration Partnership for Self-Reliance in Afghanistan From Transition to Transformation, 8 July 2012

“RESPECTER les DROITS de L’HOMME, SINGULIEREMENT CEUX de L’ENFANT et de la FEMME et NOUS ABSTENIR de TOUT ACTE de VIOLENCE SEXUELLE EXERCEE sur les FEMMES...” – Déclaration de Principe des Parties aux Négociations de Libreville sur la crise Centrafricaine, 11 January 2013

“The ICP will be guided by the provisions of normalization in the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro. Its guiding principles are: b) Inclusiveness, to reflect the ethnic and cultural diversity in the Bangsamoro, as well as the ability to address the different security issues facing women, men, children and minority groups.” – The Independent Commission on Policing and its Terms of Reference (Philippines), 27 February 2013

CHILDREN / YOUTH AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRES AGREEMENTS

No references found.

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

“The functions of the Fund (the Darfur Reconstruction and Development Fund) include, but are not limited to...Establishing financing mechanisms to meet the special needs of women, children and orphans...” - Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan), 31 May 2011

C. OTHER MATERIALS
“By end-2010, employment opportunities for youth and demobilised soldiers will be increased through special programmes.” – The Afghanistan Compact, 1 February 2006

“We acknowledge that the lack of effective opportunities that integrate the majority of Kenya’s youth into mainstream economic activities contributed to the destructive role played by the youth during the post-election violence...we therefore commit ourselves to advocate for the development of a comprehensive strategy...for the expansion of opportunities for youth in the formal and informal sectors of the economy.” – Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation, Statement of Principles on Long-term issues and solutions, 23 May 2008

“The Parties recognize the need to attract multi-donor country support, assistance and pledges to the normalization process. For this purpose, a Trust Fund shall be established through which urgent support, recurrent and investment budget cost will be released with efficiency, transparency and accountability. The Parties agree to adopt criteria for eligible financing schemes, such as, priority areas of capacity building, institutional strengthening, impact programs to address imbalances in development and infrastructures, and economic facilitation for return to normal life affecting combatant and non-combatant elements of the MILF, indigenous peoples, women, children, and internally displaced persons.” – The Framework of Agreement on the Bangsamoro (Philippines), 15 October 2012

CHILDREN / YOUTH AND EDUCATION OR VOCATIONAL TRAINING

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS

No references found.

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

“All levels of Government shall ensure the provision of continuing opportunities of general education, training and employment in public service to promote full and equal participation of the people of Darfur in advancing the nation’s welfare. In this context, special attention shall be given to women and children in the field of education, capacity building and training...Appropriate measures shall be taken to assist various groups such as youth and women through capacity building and affirmative action...The Parties agree that the necessary conditions for return of IDPs and refugees are the following: Provision of education and equal training for boys and girls including livelihoods training” - Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan), 31 May 2011

C. OTHER MATERIALS

“All workers, both public and private, must be assisted to return safely back to their places of work. Reopen all institutions of learning and assist teachers and children to return in an environment of safety.” – Public Statement, Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation, Mediated by H.E. Kofi Annan and the Panel of Eminent African Personalities, 1 February 2008

“Provision of basic services for people in displaced camps: Ensure that there is adequate food, water, sanitation and shelter within the affected communities - both those in displaced camps and those remaining in their communities; Provide medical assistance with a special focus for women, children, people living with HIV and AIDS and the disabled, currently in displaced camps; Ensure all children have access to education. This will involve reconstruction of schools; encouraging return of teaching staff and provision of teaching materials, and

“Recognising the desirability of a national youth training programme which inculcates the values of patriotism, discipline, tolerance, non-violence, openness, democracy, equality, justice and respect. Determined to ensure that the National Youth Training Programme raises awareness of the HIV and AIDS pandemic, engenders a spirit of community service, skills development and a commitment to the development of Zimbabwe... The Parties hereby agree that: all youths regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion and political affiliation are eligible to participate in national youth training programmes; the National Youth Training Programme must be run in a non-partisan manner and shall not include partisan political material advancing the cause of any political party; and while recognising that youths undergoing training at national youth training centres have a right to hold political opinions, they shall not, during the period of their training, collectively and as part of a scheme of the training centre be used or deployed for partisan political work.” – Agreement between the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF) and the Two Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) Formations, on Resolving the Challenges Facing Zimbabwe, 15 September 2008

“Participants committed to respect and prioritise the fulfilment of the rights of Afghan children, and to invest in girls’ and boys’ education, protection and healthcare.” – A Renewed Commitment by the Afghan Government to the Afghan People and a Renewed Commitment by the International Community to Afghanistan, 22 July 2010

“The Union government agrees to help increase opportunities for national races youths in “Wa” Special Region (2) to pursue education with the mindset to develop their insights, to equip them with vocational education and to realize human resources development.” – Agreement between “Wa” Special Region and the Government (Myanmar), 29 December 2011

“The Union government agrees to help increase the opportunities for youths of national races in Special Region (4) to pursue education with the mindset to develop their insights, to equip them with vocational education and to realize human resources development.” – Agreement between the Government and the Mongla Armed Group (Special Region 4 - Northern Shan State, Myanmar), 30 December 2011

CHILDREN / YOUTH AND PARTICIPATION IN PEACE PROCESSES

A. CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS

No references found.

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

“Special focus shall be put on the concerns of Darfur women, who are involved in all areas of activity and constitute the bulk of the labour force, especially in the agricultural and animal resource sectors, in addition to being heads of households particularly among refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants and to the fact that women’s situation in all these areas has been worsened by the conflict, which has had a particularly deleterious impact on them and children, mainly on their means of livelihood. Concrete measures shall be taken to address their concerns, as well as to ensure their equal and effective participation in commissions, committees and bodies established pursuant to this Agreement...The commitment of the Parties to establish mechanisms to
promote, enable and facilitate the active participation of IDPs, returning refugees, victims of conflict and civil society in the planning and implementation of strategies, policies and programmes related to addressing the humanitarian and human rights impact of the conflict and to the return process. Special measures shall be taken to ensure the participation of women and youth...The Parties shall make special efforts to ensure the participation of IDPs and refugees, including women and youth, in the planning and management of their return or resettlement and reintegration, in coordination with the VRRC and any other relevant entities...Women shall be fairly represented in the DSAIC and the subsidiary bodies it establishes. These bodies shall develop mechanisms to ensure that their work incorporates appropriate input from women on issues of special concern to women and children...Primarily, the DIDC (Darfur Internal Dialogue and Consultation) will, through popular consultation and dialogue seek to consolidate peace in Darfur, promote confidence-building and encourage reconciliation as well as unity among the people of Darfur and Sudan in general. Specifically, the DIDC will aim at raising awareness and mobilizing support for all measures taken regarding civilian arms control, the promotion of women, youth development, the safe return of IDPs and refugees and their reintegration into the society, property restitution and compensation, as provided for in this Agreement;” - Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (Sudan), 31 May 2011

C. OTHER MATERIALS

“Agreement on the importance of the role of civil society in the peace process and the necessity to establish mechanisms for general participation, in particular by civil society to ensure that the views, voice, needs, rights of women, youth, displaced people, refugees and vulnerable groups are reflected in the negotiations. To secure support of the political parties and the public for the peace process and the ensuing agreement to achieve a durable peace.” – Framework Agreement to Resolve the Conflict in Darfur between the Government of Sudan (GOS) and Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM), 18 March 2010

CHILDREN/YOUTH AND TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ACCOUNTABILITY AND RECONCILIATION PROCESSES

A. CESSION OF HOSTILITIES OR CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS

“In areas of GoS control, the GoS police shall investigate all crimes, including those committed against women and children, and ensure the prosecution of the perpetrators and the protection of the victims. The GoS agrees to give UNAMID unimpeded access and information to monitor these activities.” – Ceasefire agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM), 18 March 2010

B. PEACE AGREEMENTS

“Recognizing the imperative that the children of Sierra Leone, especially those affected by armed conflict, in view of their vulnerability, are entitled to special care and the protection of their inherent right to life, survival and development, in accordance with the provisions of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.” – Peace Agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front of Sierra Leone (Lomé Peace Agreement), 7 July 1999

“Every child shall have the right to special measures to protect or promote her/his care, welfare, health and physical security, and to be protected from maltreatment, abuse or exploitation...No child shall be detained except as a measure of last resort, in which case the
child may be detained only for the shortest appropriate period of time and shall have the right to be kept separately from detained persons over the age of 16 years and to be treated in a manner, and kept in conditions, that take account of her/his age.” – *Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi, 28 August 2000*

“The NTGL [National Transitional Government of Liberia] shall accord **particular attention to the issue of the rehabilitation of vulnerable groups or war victims** (children, women, the elderly and the disabled) within Liberia, who have been severely affected by the conflict in Liberia.” – *Peace Agreement between the Government of Liberia, the Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy, the Movement for Democracy in Liberia and the political parties, 18 August 2003*

“The Parties agree that the Government of Uganda shall in accordance with existing policies and through special assistance programs in the affected areas **make appropriate provision for vulnerable groups** and in particular shall protect, resettle and promote the advancement of **child-headed households, orphans, street children, unaccompanied minors, traumatized children...**” – *Agreement on Comprehensive Solutions-Between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and Lord’s Resistance Army/Movement, 2 May 2007*

**C. OTHER MATERIALS**

“Every **child shall have**, without any discrimination as to race, color, sex, language, religion, national or social origin, property or birth, **the right to such measures of protection** as are required by his/her status as a minor.” – *Protocol between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) on Power-sharing, 26 May 2004*

“In the conduct of accountability and reconciliation processes, measures shall be taken to ensure the safety and privacy of witnesses. Witnesses shall be protected from intimidation or persecution on account of their testimony. **Child witnesses and victims of sexual crimes shall be given particular protection during proceedings**...In the implementation of this Agreement it is agreed to: **recognise and address the special needs of women and girls**; **ensure that the experiences, views and concerns of women and girls are recognised** and taken into account; **protect the dignity, privacy, and security of women and girls**; **encourage and facilitate the participation of women and girls in the processes for implementing this agreement**...In the implementation of this Agreement it is agreed to: **recognise and address the special needs of children** and **adopt child-sensitive approaches**; **recognise and consider the experiences, views and concerns of children**; **protect the dignity, privacy and security of children** in any accountability and reconciliation proceedings; **ensure that children are not subjected to criminal justice proceedings**, but may participate, as appropriate, in reconciliation processes; **promote appropriate reparations for children**; **encourage and facilitate the participation of children** in the processes for implementing this Agreement.” – *Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army/Movement, 29 June 2007*

“All-inclusive Reconciliation and Peacebuilding Committees at the grassroots level should be established. The committees **should involve the** provincial administration, council of elders, women, **the youth**, conflict resolution/civil society organizations.” – *Public Statement, Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation, Mediated by H.E. Kofi Annan and the Panel of Eminent African Personalities, 4 February 2008*
“The necessary actions to support the agreed policies could usefully include, inter alia: review of how children and young people are processed at all stages of the criminal justice system, including detention, to ensure compliance with international obligations and best practice;” – Agreement at Hillsborough Castle (United Kingdom), 5 February 2010

“The Government shall by law establish a body to be conferred with all the necessary powers and immunities, whose functions shall include: to inquire into human rights violations committed during the conflict, giving particular attention to the experiences of women and children; to make provision for witness protection, especially for children and women...The special division of the High Court shall have a registry dedicated to the work of the division and in particular, shall make arrangements to facilitate the protection and participation of witnesses, victims, women and children...The Government shall establish a unit for carrying out investigations and prosecutions in support of trials and other formal proceedings as envisaged by the Principal Agreement Investigations shall give particular attention to crimes and violations against women and children committed during the conflict...Investigations shall: Seek to identify individuals who are alleged to have planned or carried out widespread, systematic, or serious attacks directed against civilians; Reflect the broad pattern of serious crimes and violations committed during the conflict; Give particular attention to crimes and violations against women and children committed during the conflict...All bodies implementing the Agreement shall establish internal procedures and arrangements for protecting and ensuring the participation of victims, traumatised individuals, women, children, persons with disabilities and victims of sexual violence in proceedings.” – Annexure to the Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation (Uganda), 19 February 2008