

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 11 November 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I am forwarding to you a letter dated 7 November 2014 (see annex) from the Chair of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict established by Council resolution 1612 (2005), based on the conclusions of the Working Group adopted on 19 September 2014 ([S/AC.51/2014/3](#)).

(Signed) Gary **Quinlan**
President of the Security Council



Annex to the letter dated 11 November 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

At its 49th meeting, on 21 July 2014, the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict examined the fifth report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2014/453), covering the period from January 2010 to December 2013. At its 50th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Working Group adopted its conclusions on children and armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/AC.51/2014/3).

In follow-up to the recommendations of the Working Group, approved by the Security Council, and subject to and consistent with applicable international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009), 1998 (2011), 2068 (2012) and 2143 (2014), I am entrusted, in my capacity as Chair of the Working Group, to:

(a) Request you to ensure that the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), as well as other relevant United Nations agencies, continue and strengthen their efforts to support, in line with their respective mandates, the Congolese authorities in fighting impunity, including through the strengthening of the criminal justice system in accordance with the Congolese strategy for justice reform; establishing effective recruitment procedures and age verification mechanisms in the national armed and security forces to prevent the recruitment and use of children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; mainstreaming the specific needs of children affected by armed conflict and the protection of their rights in all disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes and in security sector reform; providing long-term rehabilitation and reintegration programmes and opportunities to children formerly associated with national armed forces and non-State armed groups and training of the national armed and security forces on the protection of children; bolstering the education and health-care system; and establishing standard operating procedures for the handover of children formerly associated with national armed forces and groups and for the protection of children in the course of military operations;

(b) Further request you to ensure that the United Nations country task force on monitoring and reporting continues its advocacy for the release and reintegration of children associated with non-State armed groups and national armed forces and of children detained on charges related to association with non-State armed groups and prioritizes its efforts to ensure that the Action Plan to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children, sexual violence and other grave violations against children by the national armed and security forces, signed on 4 October 2012 by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is fully implemented, and to reach out in this regard to non-State armed groups, with a view to developing action plans to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, and attacks on schools and hospitals, in violation of applicable international law, as well as rape and other forms of sexual violence against children and to address other violations and abuses committed against children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(c) Request you to ensure the effectiveness of the monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and of the child protection component of MONUSCO, including by ensuring that sufficient child protection capacities are allocated to the Mission.

(Signed) Sylvie **Lucas**
Chair
Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict
