



Security Council

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Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

Conclusions on children and armed conflict in Somalia

1. During its formal meeting on 18 July 2022, the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict of the Security Council examined the sixth report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Somalia ([S/2022/397](#)), covering the period between 1 October 2019 and 30 September 2021, which was introduced by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict. The Permanent Mission of Somalia did not address the Working Group.

2. The members of the Working Group expressed grave concern at the scale, severity and recurrence of violations and abuses perpetrated against children in Somalia and strongly condemned all violations and abuses that continue to be committed against children affected by the armed conflict in Somalia. They highlighted in this regard that the compounding impact of insecurity, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19 pandemic) and the worsening humanitarian situation, demands urgent attention. They welcomed the signature by the Federal Government of Somalia in October 2019 of a road map to expedite the implementation of the two action plans signed in 2012 and the progress made thereafter and noted the importance of supporting Somalia's new Government in this endeavour. They further discussed the finalization of elections, the status of the child rights bill; the status of the sexual offences bill; the draft national strategy for the prevention of child recruitment and use; the standard operating procedures for the handover of children, endorsed by Somalia in 2014; the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict; and the child protection advisory capacities of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS); accountability, including for sexual and gender-based violence committed by parties to the conflict; attacks as well as threats of attacks against schools and hospitals; and the cooperation of the Federal Government of Somalia and federal member states authorities with the country task force on monitoring and reporting and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

3. The members of the Working Group welcomed the report of the Secretary-General, and in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions [1612 \(2005\)](#), [1882 \(2009\)](#), [1998 \(2011\)](#), [2068 \(2012\)](#), [2143 \(2014\)](#), [2225 \(2015\)](#), [2427 \(2018\)](#) and [2601 \(2021\)](#) the Working Group agreed to the direct action as set out below.



Public statement by the Chair of the Working Group

4. The Working Group agreed to address the following message to all parties to the armed conflict in Somalia mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General, through a public statement by its Chair:

(a) Strongly condemning all violations and abuses that continue to be committed against children in Somalia in alarmingly high numbers, noting that the majority of violations and abuses verified during the reporting period were attributed to Al-Shabaab, and noting with concern the disproportionate negative impact of pervasive food insecurity, the COVID-19 pandemic and the dire humanitarian situation on children, which further exacerbated existing challenges; demanding that all parties to the conflict immediately end and prevent all violations and abuses against children, including those involving killing and maiming of children, the recruitment and use of children, rape and other forms of sexual violence, attacks on schools and hospitals, abduction and the denial of humanitarian access, noting that the number of incidents of the six grave violations is underreported owing to access challenges, and further demanding that all parties comply with their obligations under international law;

(b) Calling upon all parties to further implement the previous conclusions of the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict in Somalia ([S/AC.51/2020/6](#));

(c) Stressing the importance of accountability for all violations and abuses against children in armed conflict and stressing that all those responsible must be brought to justice and held accountable without undue delay, including through comprehensive, independent, timely and systematic investigations and, as appropriate, prosecution and conviction;

(d) Stressing that the best interests of the child should be a primary consideration and that the particular needs and vulnerabilities of girls and boys, including those disproportionately affected, should be duly considered, when planning and carrying out actions concerning children in situations of armed conflict;

(e) Expressing deep concern at and condemnation of the high number of children recruited and used in armed conflict, the majority of whom were recruited and used by Al-Shabaab, noting that some were as young as 10 years old and that children were used as fighters and in support roles, such as bodyguards, cleaners and to operate checkpoints, and strongly urging all parties to the conflict, in particular Al-Shabaab, to immediately and without preconditions release all children associated with them, to hand them over to relevant civilian child protection actors and end and prevent the further recruitment and use of children, including the re-recruitment of children who have been released, consistent with their obligations under international law and, as applicable, the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;

(f) Expressing grave concern at the continuing high number of children being deprived of their liberty for association or alleged association with armed groups or armed forces, the prosecution of children through military courts, and cases of death penalty imposed on children, urging all parties to the conflict to treat associated children, primarily as victims of recruitment and use, further urging the Federal Government of Somalia to comply with its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular the obligation which states that the arrest, detention and imprisonment of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, and to prioritize their reintegration, as guided by the Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (Paris Principles), which it has endorsed; and urging the Federal Government of Somalia to consistently implement the standard operating procedures for the

reception and handover of children separated from armed groups, endorsed by Somalia in 2014,

(g) Expressing deep concern at the persistent high number of children killed and maimed in Somalia and at the significant increase in number of children killed or maimed owing to the conflict, and increased attacks utilizing improvised explosive devices, predominantly by Al-Shabaab, as well as a result of crossfire by all groups, failure to take adequate precautions to protect children during armed conflict and indiscriminate attacks involving explosive devices, including improvised explosive devices, mines and explosive remnants of war, physical assault and shooting, and urging all parties to take special measures to protect children and to respect their obligations as applicable under international law, including the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, in particular the principles of distinction and proportionality and the obligation to take all feasible precautions to avoid and in any event minimize harm to civilians and civilian objects;

(h) Expressing deep concern about the high number of cases of rape and other forms of sexual violence perpetrated against children, predominantly by unidentified perpetrators and Al-Shabaab, including attempted rape and forced marriage, noting that sexual violence in Somalia is underreported, and strongly urging all parties to the armed conflict to take immediate and specific measures to put an end to and prevent the perpetration of rape and other forms of sexual violence against children, in particular in camps for internally displaced persons where children are at enhanced risk, and stressing the importance of accountability for those responsible for sexual and gender-based violence against children, in particular considering that most perpetrators remained at large or were released when communities opted to use local dispute resolution mechanisms instead of the formal justice system; also stressing the importance of providing non-discriminatory and comprehensive specialized services, such as mental health and psychosocial support, sexual and reproductive health-care services, legal and livelihood support and services to victims and survivors of sexual violence;

(i) Strongly condemning the attacks on schools and hospitals in violation of international law, the majority of which were attributed to Al-Shabaab, and expressing concern that Al-Shabaab continued to exert pressure on communities to adopt its curriculum and that claims of non-compliance in this regard resulted in school closures and abduction of teachers, and calling upon all parties to the armed conflict to comply with international law and to respect the civilian character of schools and hospitals, including their personnel, as such, and to end and prevent attacks or threats of attacks against those institutions and their personnel in violation of international law, and noting the effect that attacks on schools and their use can have on the enjoyment of the right to education, expressing concern at the verified use of a school for military purposes that placed students at risk and interfered with their education and protection support, and calling on all parties to take concrete measures to facilitate the continuation of education of Somali children, consistent with Security Council resolution [2601 \(2021\)](#);

(j) Strongly condemning the high number of abductions of children, including the use of mass abductions as tactics for recruitment and use, predominantly by Al-Shabaab, and urging all parties, in particular Al-Shabaab, to cease the abduction of children and all human rights violations and other violations and abuses committed against abducted children, including rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including forced marriage of girls to Al-Shabaab fighters, and to immediately release without preconditions all abducted children in their captivity to relevant civilian child protection actors;

(k) Strongly condemning all incidents of denial of humanitarian access, including attacks on humanitarian personnel, looting of humanitarian goods, the majority of which are attributed to Al-Shabaab, and calling upon all parties to the conflict to allow and facilitate safe, timely and unhindered humanitarian access to children, consistent with their obligations under international humanitarian law, to respect the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, as well as the United Nations guiding principles of humanitarian assistance, to respect the exclusively humanitarian nature and impartiality of humanitarian aid and to respect the work of all United Nations agencies and their humanitarian partners, without adverse distinction;

(l) Welcoming the efforts made by the Federal Government of Somalia since the previous conclusions of the Working Group to end and prevent the six grave violations against children affected by armed conflict, in particular the continued engagement and signature by the Federal Government of a road map to expedite the implementation of the action plan to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children by the Somali National Army and the action plan to halt the killing and maiming of children by the Somali National Army, both signed in 2012, as well as the establishment of a working group on children and armed conflict at the federal member state level and calling for the swift and effective implementation of these action plans and the road map, signed in October 2019 by all government security forces, including the Somali National Army and the Somali Police Force, as well as at the federal member state level;

(m) Recalling that the Security Council, in its resolution [2498 \(2019\)](#), recalled the financial and travel measures imposed by resolution [2002 \(2011\)](#), which apply to individuals and entities designated by the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution [2713 \(2023\)](#) concerning Al-Shabaab consistent with paragraph 43 of resolution [2093 \(2013\)](#), for actions that threaten the peace, stability or security of Somalia, such as:

- (i) Recruitment or use of children in armed conflict in Somalia by political or military leaders in violation of applicable international law;
- (ii) Violation of applicable international law in Somalia involving the targeting of civilians, including children and women, in situations of armed conflict, including killing and maiming, sexual and gender-based violence, attacks on schools and hospitals and abduction and forced displacement;
- (iii) Obstruction of the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia or access to or the distribution of humanitarian assistance in Somalia;

(n) Expressing the readiness of the Working Group to communicate to the Security Council and to the Committee pertinent information with a view to assisting them in the imposition of targeted measures on perpetrators;

(o) Expressing grave concern about the high number of cases of the six grave violations against children in armed conflict attributed to Al-Shabaab, the main perpetrator of such violations, as well as clan militia and unidentified perpetrators and the level of insecurity in Somalia linked to Al-Shabaab's activities with devastating effects on children;

(p) Calling upon all non-State armed groups to express their commitment and take active steps to end and prevent all violations and abuses committed against children and to enter into dialogue with the United Nations to prepare, adopt and implement without delay action plans to end and prevent violations and abuses against children in line with Security Council resolutions [1539 \(2004\)](#), [1612 \(2005\)](#), [1882 \(2009\)](#), [1998 \(2011\)](#) and [2225 \(2015\)](#).

5. The Working Group agreed to address a message, through a public statement by the Chair of the Working Group, to community and religious leaders:

(a) Emphasizing the important role of community and religious leaders in strengthening the protection of children affected by armed conflict;

(b) Urging them to strengthen community-level engagement and protection and to publicly condemn and continue to advocate ending and preventing violations and abuses against children, in particular those involving the recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence against children, attacks and threats of attacks on schools and hospitals, abductions and denial of humanitarian access, and to engage with the Federal Government of Somalia, the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders to support the reintegration of children affected by armed conflict in their communities, including by raising awareness to avoid stigmatization of these children.

Recommendations to the Security Council

6. The Working Group agreed to recommend the following to the Security Council:

(a) Recommending that the Security Council continue to take into due consideration the situation of children and armed conflict in Somalia, in particular when discussing the mandates of UNSOM and ATMIS and their activities;

(b) Encouraging the Security Council to ensure the continuation of and support for the implementation of a child protection mandate for UNSOM, especially with regard to monitoring and reporting, as well as dialogue with parties to the armed conflict on action plans and support in their implementation;

(c) Inviting the Security Council to transmit the present document to the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution [2713 \(2023\)](#) concerning Al-Shabaab.

7. The Working Group agreed to recommend that the President of the Security Council transmit a letter addressed to the Government, referring to the Group's public statement on the violations and abuses that continue to be committed against children in Somalia:

(a) Welcoming the continued engagement by the Federal Government of Somalia with the United Nations since the previous conclusions of the Working Group to end and prevent the six grave violations against children affected by armed conflict, and the steps taken to implement the action plan to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children by the Somali National Army and the action plan to halt the killing and maiming of children by the Somali National Army, both signed in 2012, and the 2019 road map, calling for the swift and effective implementation of these action plans and the road map by all government security forces, including the Somali National Army and the Somali Police Force, as well as security forces at the federal member state-level;

(b) Welcoming the establishment of working groups on children and armed conflict at the Federal Government of Somalia level and calling for its extension to all federal member states;

(c) Noting the drafting of a national strategy aimed at preventing the recruitment and use of children and facilitating the release and reintegration of children associated with armed groups and calling for its adoption and implementation; welcoming furthermore the issuance of a general command order by the Commander of the Somali National Army to prevent the recruitment and use of children within the Somali armed forces, as well as the six grave violations against

children during military operations, and calling for its continued dissemination and implementation;

(d) Calling upon the Federal Government to provide information to the United Nations on the possibility of integration of Ahl al-Sunna wal-Jama'a into the Somali Federal Defence and Police Forces, encouraging the Government to ensure that armed groups integrating its security forces are screened and any associated children are released and handed over to civilian child protection actors for reintegration;

(e) Calling upon the Federal Government of Somalia to swiftly enact the child rights bill, ensuring that it criminalizes the six grave violations against children affected by armed conflict, as well as the sexual offences bill, including by providing non-discriminatory and comprehensive specialized services, such as health care, including mental health and psychosocial support, legal and livelihood support and services, for victims and survivors of sexual violence, and in full conformity with regional and international human rights obligations and commitments of Somalia, calling upon the Federal Government to strengthen its legal framework for the protection of children, including to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and to ensure that legislation is compatible with its obligations under international law and commitments on the protection of children, encouraging it to take into account child rights issues in the framework of the constitutional review process in compliance with its international obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and requesting it to encourage the relevant federal member states to swiftly align regional legislation accordingly, including those pertaining to the age of the child;

(f) Expressing deep concern at the lack of accountability and impunity for violations and abuses committed against children, including accountability for sexual and gender-based violence, and calling upon the Federal Government of Somalia to put an end to impunity by ensuring that all those responsible for violations and abuses against children are brought to justice and held accountable without undue delay, including through comprehensive, independent, timely and systematic investigation and, as appropriate, prosecution and conviction;

(g) Welcoming the efforts by federal member states to strengthen child protection legislation and policies, encouraging the application of the Juvenile Act in Puntland and the swift adoption of the child rights policy in South-West State and the sexual offences bill and child protection policy in Jubaland, and further encouraging similar efforts in other federal member states;

(h) Calling upon the Federal Government of Somalia and federal member states to treat children associated or allegedly associated with armed groups primarily as victims, to immediately release them to civilian child protection actors and refer them to reintegration programmes; emphasizing that children accused of crimes should be detained only as a measure of last resort for the shortest appropriate period of time; further calling on the Federal Government to apply the Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (the Paris Principles), which it has endorsed;

(i) Calling upon the Federal Government of Somalia and federal member states to consistently implement the standard operating procedures for the reception and handover of children separated from armed groups, endorsed by Somalia in 2014, and to allow access for child protection actors to children during the release and reintegration process, further calling upon the Federal Government to adopt age verification guidelines for its security forces;

(j) Stressing the primary role of the Federal Government of Somalia in providing protection and relief to all children affected by armed conflict in Somalia and recognizing the importance of strengthening national capacities in this regard;

(k) Calling upon the Federal Government of Somalia to take immediate and specific measures to put an end to and prevent the perpetration of rape and other forms of sexual violence against children, including to expedite the full implementation of its child protection commitments, including the 2019 road map and the joint communiqué on ending sexual violence in conflict, including at federal member state level, and to facilitate access to services for victims and survivors of sexual violence against children and stressing the importance of accountability for those responsible for sexual and gender-based violence against children; and recognizing that the new Federal Government of Somalia has an opportunity to address these past violations and demonstrate its clear commitment to upholding human rights as part of its renewed security focus;

(l) Urging the Federal Government of Somalia to ensure that all disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes and security sector reforms take into account the age- and gender-specific needs and protection of children affected by armed conflict and that existing vetting mechanisms are strengthened, so that no perpetrators of violations and abuses against children are integrated or recruited into the regional and federal security forces and to systematically withdraw all perpetrators of violations and abuses committed against children from its ranks;

(m) Calling upon the Federal Government of Somalia and the federal member states to further support and cooperate with United Nations entities and civil society organizations providing sustainable reintegration opportunities for children affected by armed conflict, including those formerly associated with Al-Shabaab, such as raising awareness within communities to avoid the stigmatization of such children, as well as mental and psychosocial support, back-to-school support programmes and vocational training, and urging the Federal Government of Somalia and the federal member states to take into account the specific needs of boys and girls, as well as of children with disabilities, orphans, unaccompanied and displaced children;

(n) Welcoming the training of Somali security forces, including the organization, in collaboration with the European Union Training Mission for Somalia, UNSOM and ATMIS, of joint child protection training, requesting the Federal Government of Somalia to ensure training of its security forces on the promotion and protection of children's rights and requesting it to increase its support for the Child Protection Unit of the Ministry of Defence with additional technical, financial and human resources;

(o) Expressing concern about the military use of a school by the Somali National Army in violation of international law, as verified in the report, and stressing the importance of access to education and health care for children in Somalia, commending the Federal Government of Somalia for its commitment to education and the protection of schools, including through its endorsement of the Safe Schools Declaration, and encouraging the Government to implement it and to ensure that attacks on schools and military use of schools in violation of international law are prevented and investigated and that those responsible are duly prosecuted as appropriate, while welcoming the work of the Federal Ministry of Education, Culture and Higher Education, supported by the United Nations, to draft a national policy and guidelines on the Safe Schools Declaration;

(p) Inviting the Federal Government of Somalia to actively engage with the Working Group and to keep the Working Group informed of its efforts to implement the recommendations of the Working Group and the Secretary-General.

8. The Working Group agreed to recommend that the President of the Security Council transmit a letter to the Secretary-General:

(a) Encouraging the Secretary-General to continue to call upon all parties engaged in armed conflict in Somalia to fully respect international humanitarian law and international human rights, as applicable; and noting the Secretary-General's global call for an immediate cessation of hostilities, as supported in Security Council resolutions [2532 \(2020\)](#) and [2565 \(2021\)](#);

(b) Requesting the Secretary-General to ensure the effectiveness of the monitoring and reporting mechanism in Somalia and of the child protection component of UNSOM, including by allocating sufficient dedicated child protection capacity to the component to, inter alia, monitor and report on violations and abuses committed against children, and to engage in dialogue with parties to armed conflict on action plans and their implementation, and to continue to include in future reports of the Secretary-General information and analysis on children and armed conflict in Somalia, in line with relevant Security Council resolutions;

(c) Also requesting the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations continues its advocacy for the release and reintegration of children associated with armed groups and armed forces and of children detained for their alleged association with armed groups;

(d) Further requesting the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations country task force on monitoring and reporting prioritizes its efforts to ensure that the action plans and road map are fully implemented;

(e) Encouraging continued cooperation of the United Nations with ATMIS, in particular on the protection of children arrested and captured during military and security operations;

(f) Inviting the Secretary-General to request UNSOM, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant United Nations agencies, within their respective mandates, to continue to strengthen their efforts to support the Federal Government of Somalia and regional authorities in fighting impunity, implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child, establishing effective age verification mechanisms, mainstreaming the specific needs and protection of children affected by armed conflict into all disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes and security sector reforms and providing long-term rehabilitation and reintegration programmes to children.

9. The Working Group agreed to recommend that the President of the Security Council transmit a letter by the Chair of the Working Group to the President of the Peace and Security Council and the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union:

(a) Welcoming the commitments made by the African Union and AMISOM to peace and security in Somalia and to the protection of children affected by armed conflict in Somalia and the establishment of ATMIS in April 2022;

(b) Welcoming the close cooperation between the country task force on monitoring and reporting and ATMIS on the protection of children in Somalia;

(c) Stressing the need for all military action against Al-Shabaab to be conducted in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of distinction and proportionality;

(d) Encouraging ATMIS to fully implement the Force Commander's directive on the protection of children's rights during and after operations and to comply with the standard operating procedures for the reception and handover of children

separated from armed groups in Somalia signed by the Federal Government of Somalia;

(e) Encouraging ATMIS to continue its cooperation with the United Nations regarding child protection issues and urging ATMIS to devise an alert system to inform the United Nations whenever its forces capture and hand children over to the Somali National Army and the National Intelligence and Security Agency to enable adequate follow-up of the situation of those children and ensure their protection;

(f) Calling upon ATMIS and the African Union to investigate and report thoroughly and transparently allegations of violations and abuses against children by their troops and ensure accountability for perpetrators; and to further reinforce measures to end and prevent such violations and abuses against children;

(g) Strongly encouraging the Peace and Security Council to support as a priority provision for the protection of children specified in the Security Council mandate for ATMIS;

(h) Further encouraging the African Union to deploy child protection officers or designate child protection focal points within ATMIS to contribute to training, capacity-building and advocacy on violations and abuses committed against children.

10. The Working Group agreed to recommend that the President of the Security Council transmit a letter by the Chair of the Working Group to the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution [2713 \(2023\)](#) concerning Al-Shabaab:

(a) Recalling paragraph 7 (b) of resolution [1882 \(2009\)](#), by which the Security Council requested enhanced communication between the Working Group and relevant Council sanctions committees, including through the exchange of pertinent information on violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict;

(b) Encouraging the continued sharing of relevant information by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict with the Committee and the Working Group;

(c) Encouraging the Committee to continue to consider the designation for sanctions of individuals and entities, in accordance with the rules and guidelines of the Committee, and stressing that measures imposed by the Committee are not intended to have adverse humanitarian consequences for the civilian population, including children in Somalia.

Direct action by the Working Group

11. The Working Group agreed to send letters from the Chair of the Working Group addressed to the World Bank and other donors:

(a) Underlining the importance of providing flexible, timely and sufficient funding and support to the Government of Somalia towards strengthening the protection of children affected by armed conflict;

(b) Stressing that the best way to protect children is through peace and urging the World Bank and donors to continue to provide political and financial support to Somali peacebuilding initiatives;

(c) Urging also the World Bank and donors to continue to provide political and financial support to Somali peacebuilding and conflict de-escalation initiatives in federal member states where Al-Shabaab perpetrate most of its attacks, such as Jubaland, South-West and Hirshabelle;

(d) Calling upon donors to prioritize support for the timely and effective implementation of the two action plans signed in 2012 and the related road map, including by making funding available;

(e) Also calling upon donors to provide support to programmes and initiatives of federal and regional authorities aimed at protecting children affected by the armed conflict in Somalia, including prevention and reintegration activities and strengthening of justice and rule of law institutions, as well as finding durable solutions for internally displaced children;

(f) Further calling upon donors to support the child protection efforts and initiatives of United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations related to the strengthening of federal and regional capacities, institutions and programmes, such as putting in place age assessment mechanisms in the recruitment process of the Somali National Army and other security forces and promoting birth registration;

(g) Urging donors that support disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes and security sector reforms to take into account the rights, specific needs and protection of children affected by armed conflict, that is gender sensitive in its application;

(h) Encouraging donors to support the development of clear codes of conduct for Somali security forces that strictly prohibit violations against children, including the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict in violation of international law and to support the development of accountability and oversight mechanisms to ensure that all those responsible for violations and abuses against children are swiftly brought to justice and held accountable without undue delay, including through comprehensive, independent, timely and systematic investigation and, as appropriate, prosecution and conviction;

(i) Calling upon the donor community to match funds committed by the Peacebuilding Fund and to support the release and reintegration of children, as well as support for victim- and survivor-centred, age-appropriate and gender-sensitive services and assistance programmes for child victims and survivors, including of sexual and gender-based violence, and highlighting that it must be in line with international law, including the best interests of the child;

(j) Encouraging donors to ensure support for the training of relevant federal and regional security authorities, including the Somali National Army, the Somali Police Force, the Child Protection Unit of the Ministry of Defence and the National Intelligence and Security Agency, and community child protection focal points on child protection issues;

(k) Calling for greater support for employment opportunities, as well as health care, psychosocial and mental health support, education and awareness-raising, among community leaders and parents throughout Somalia on the prevention of the recruitment and use of children in violation of international law and encouraging donors to support such efforts;

(l) Encouraging donors to support and research programming on the prevention of radicalization in the context of Somalia;

(m) Inviting international partners, including the World Bank and donors, to keep the Working Group informed of their funding and assistance efforts, as appropriate.