UNITED CRC NATIONS



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Distr. GENERAL

CRC/C/OPAC/SYR/Q/1 29 June 2007

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD Forty-sixth session Geneva, 17 September – 5 October 2007

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT

List of issues to be taken up in connection with the consideration of the initial report of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC (CRC/C/OPAC/SYR/1)

The State party is requested to submit in written form additional and updated information, if possible, before 6 August 2007.

- 1. Please indicate whether there is any legal provision criminalizing compulsory recruitment or involving in hostilities of a person under 18.
- 2. Please indicate if there is any case law regarding the application of the Convention and Protocol by the Syrian judiciary.
- 3. Please indicate, in the light of Article 6 of the Protocol, which authority is monitoring the application of the Protocol.
- 4. Please indicate how the principles embodied in the Convention are applied in practice to give effect to the Protocol.
- 5. Please also inform the Committee whether Syria assumes extraterritorial jurisdiction over war crimes which involve conscripting or enlisting children into armed forces or armed groups and/or making them take a direct part in hostilities, in particular if committed by or against a Syrian citizen.
- 6. In light of the important role of the International Criminal Court in deterring the recruitment of children below the age of 15 on an international level, please inform the Committee of the State Party's intentions with regard to the ratification of the Statute of the International Criminal Court, which the State Party signed on 22 November 2000.

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- 7. Please provide information on how Syria monitors the age of recruits.
- 8. Please provide disaggregated data (including by sex, age and country of origin) on the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children who have come to Syria from Iraq or other areas affected by armed conflict since 2003.
- 9. Please provide information on what measures are being taken to facilitate the physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of children who may have been involved in armed conflicts abroad.
- 10. With regard to the legal protection of asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children, including those who may have been involved in armed conflict, please inform the Committee whether Syria is considering becoming a party to the 1951 Convention on the status of refugees and its 1967 Protocol.
