



Documentation of the work of the
General Assembly Third Committee (GA3) NMUN
simulation*



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General Assembly Third Committee (GA3)

Committee Staff

Director	Kenny Van Nguyen
Assistant Director	Maria Anne Ruedisueli
Chair	Jesse Cramer

Agenda

1. Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict
2. Preventing Violence and Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
GA3/1/1	Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict	90 in favor, 26 against, 48 abstentions
GA3/1/2	Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict	108 in favor, 23 against, 33 abstentions
GA3/1/3	Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict	91 in favor, 32 against, 41 abstentions
GA3/1/4	Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict	60 in favor, 57 against, 47 abstentions
GA3/1/5	Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict	69 in favor, 48 against, 47 abstentions
GA3/1/6	Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict	104 in favor, 27 against, 33 abstentions

Summary Report

The General Assembly Third Committee held its annual session to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict
2. Preventing Violence and Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

The session was attended by 163 Member States and one Observer. On Sunday, the committee voted to discuss the agenda items in the order of Topic one, followed by Topic two, beginning discussion of the topic "Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict."

On Monday, the delegations emerged into intense debates regarding the given issue. Thereafter, a variety of groups of delegates started working on their first proposal with vastly different issue focusses. Approaching the deadline, 21 proposals were handed in to the Dais with 19 meeting the Sponsor/Signatory requirement of 32 Member States.

On Tuesday, the delegations discussed their first proposals with the Director and Assistant Director to incorporate important changes. The proposals focused on vast issue areas like monitoring, education, financial aid, capacity building, health care, inclusivity, infrastructure, legislative approaches and many more. In formal session, all delegates were eager to further debate their respective solutions and to inclusively invite fellow delegates to collaborate. On the third day of committee, the Dais received six proposals, showing a great degree of cooperation through merging proposals by all delegates.

On Wednesday, the delegates received their final feedback of the proposals by the Dais and started implementing final changes to their already very specific and thorough proposals. By the end of committee sessions, all six draft resolutions were adopted by the committee.



Code: GA3/1/1

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC) (1991), including its optional protocols, for outlining special care and assistance for children in conflicts,

Affirming the four General Principles in the CRC, including the principle of non-discrimination, the best interests of the child, the right to life, survival, and development, and child participation,

Condemns non-governmental actors, such as paramilitary groups, that continue to use child soldiers,

*Recognizing the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) discussion paper on *Children with Disabilities in Situations of Armed Conflict* as a reference to encourage humanitarian action which is inclusive of children with complex needs,*

Noting with appreciation all of the Member States that have passed national frameworks and created relevant committees and agencies to protect children in conflicts,

Reminding Member States that special care and safeguard measures should be provided to children who are vulnerable in armed conflict, including but not limited to girls, orphan children, children with disabilities, children from indigenous communities, migrant children, and children from minority ethnic groups,

Guided by Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Sustainable Development Goal 16, Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions and Sustainable Development Goal 17, Partnerships for the goals which actively promotes collaboration, justice, and partnership between Member States,

Acknowledging the influential authenticity connecting the excessive rate of education and the decreasing number of child soldiers, working in correlation with Sustainable Development Goal 4, Quality Education, to promote lifelong learning opportunities for children, ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, promote literacy and critical thinking,

*Mindful of the rights to health and importance of providing mental health services in mitigating long-term effects of physical injuries and traumas facing children in the conflicts, as outlined in the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (1967),*

*Underlining the discrepancy between the number of children around the world and the number of registered children in Member States' national birth registries is 166 million, as cited by UNICEF's report *Birth Registration for Every Child by 2030*, as caused by factors of inaccessibility, cost, and bureaucratic processes,*

Reiterating the significance of child soldiers' post-conflict reintegration as members of a productive society in reference to the goals and objectives of the Global Coalition for Reintegration of Child Soldiers,

Emphasizing the importance of global educational campaigns to generate awareness of violations against children in conflict zones and the use and recruitment of child soldiers, such as “Zero Under 18” and “Children, Not Soldiers” which have proven successful and should be continued through collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and pre-existing subsidiary bodies, such as the International Islamic Committee for Women and Child, UNICEF, and Save the Children,

Appreciating the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) work to protect children, as well as those forcibly displaced and of statelessness, in the context of strengthening inclusive child protection programs, promotion of safety in sectoral responses and child-friendly communication,

Bearing in mind UNICEF’s report *25 Years of Children and Armed Conflict: Taking Action to Protect Children in War* that emphasizes on the limitations in data due to issues in monitoring, reporting, and verification when it comes to children in conflict-affected countries,

Recognizing the lack of coverage by the Integrated Disarmament Demobilization Reintegration System of its role in guiding and facilitating post-conflict reconciliation and transitions for former combatants, whereby neglecting the special needs of orphaned and vulnerable children,

Draws attention to the use of pre-existing regional and national organizations to oversee and make sure all countries have access to the necessary resources for optional participation, including but not limited to the Arab League, African Union, Association of South Eastern Asian Nations, and Caribbean Community and Common Market,

Condemning the under-reported cases of sexual exploitation and abuses of children during conflict and its risks in accordance with the latest report on Impact of Armed Conflict on Children as initiated by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG CAAC),

Observing the importance of the children with disabilities’ security in post-conflict zones, having complete awareness of the *Towards Greater Inclusion: A Discussion Paper on the Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) Mandate and Children with Disabilities in Armed Conflict* report of the OSRSG CAAC,

Acknowledging the high emphasis placed on Member State sovereignty and the doctrine of non-interference as critical international principles upon which the United Nations was founded, as outlined in Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing its appreciation for the Member States who formulate appropriate legislative, administrative, social, and educational measures within their discretion to protect the child from six grave violations in times of war, including killing and maiming of children, recruitment and use of children by armed forces and armed groups, sexual violence against children, attacks against schools or hospitals, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access for children,

Acknowledging the vital role of UNICEF Information and Communication Division (ICTD) Strategy in addressing challenges faced by children in conflict zones,

Solemnly affirming other Member States, regional organizations, and non-state actors to provide assistance and guidance at the discretion of the requesting Member State,

1. *Suggests* collaboration with NGOs and other monitoring agencies, such as the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM), to compensate for the deficiencies in the collection of data on children with disabilities and provide more targeted protection to these vulnerable children;

2. *Calls for* all willing and able Member States to draw upon UNICEF's ICTD Strategy to strengthen information, communication, and technology skills such as crime analysis software, drones, and body-worn cameras amongst local professionals and domestic law enforcement, in order to facilitate reporting mechanisms and assistive technologies to record, track, and assist children in conflict zones with disabilities and complex needs;
3. *Urges* all willing and able Member States to emphasize the procedures to report violations confidentially through the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council (HRC), and the Human Rights Treaty Bodies or the HRC and the importance of denouncing activities involving child soldiers and to promote a safe environment for victims and anyone with information to denunciate;
4. *Reinforces* the preexisting demographic-tracking programs by Member States, which can be used to prevent the use and recruitment of child soldiers;
5. *Encourages* all willing and able Member States to implement child soldier rehabilitation programs as recommended by the OSRSG CAAC;
6. *Emphasizes* programs which aid in psychosocial support and general mental health of former child soldiers within the mandates of the OSRSG CAAC and UNICEF's Global Coalition for Reintegration of Child Soldiers;
7. *Calls* all willing and able Member States to strive to ensure the implementation and expansion of educational programs and continue to work with vital organizations, including the Education Development Centre and Save the Children, increasing the educational and vocational opportunities available;
8. *Draws attention to* all willing and able Member States to work with regional NGOs to educate on methods that improve assistive tools necessary for the improvement of refugee camp infrastructure;
9. *Recommends* the swift repatriation of refugees to their countries of origin when conflict has either ceased or certain regions are deemed safe to return and the increased effort to reunite estranged families after repatriation;
10. *Invites* Member States to continue their collaboration regarding internally displaced persons and to ensure that aid, including healthcare, food, water, and sanitation arrivals are not blockaded or intercepted;
11. *Further invites* all willing and able Member States implement policies in line with the UNICEF Children Recruited by Armed Forces or Armed Groups *Paris Principles Operational Handbook* to decrease children's susceptibility to participate in paramilitary groups and hostilities;
12. *Strongly calls for* the increase of legislative support in recognition of the value of secured institutions in dedication to the reintegration efforts of psychological, physical health, and educational nature in line with UNICEF and United Nations Human Settlement Programme's initiatives;

13. *Creates* a framework and international lesson plan based on Global Media and Information Literacy Week as a mandatory course in order to get certified in any UN technology based certification:
 - a. Adding to the Global Media and Information Literacy Week to include the signs of child soldier recruiters and its subsequent dangers;
 - b. Considering a social media campaign against the recruitment of child soldiers;
 - c. Focusing on the rehabilitation of child soldiers rather than the imprisonment and punishment of them;
 - d. Expanding Child Online Protection to become a worldwide initiative, creating multiple regional coalitions to focus on each region's specific issues with their current online protection state;
14. *Stresses* Family Separation During Crisis initiated by UNICEF to strengthen the possibilities of reunification with family units by establishing globalized secure locations where children can also be brought, identified, and provided immediate care and safety;
15. *Recommends* to all willing and able Member States to support the Children in War and Conflict program by UNICEF which will be focused on children's protection to ensure every child the safeguards of their basic rights and future while preventing them from facing conflict and living these situations;
16. *Encourages* stronger international collaboration to improve healthcare in refugee camps, increase access to care, improve culturally sensitive services, and expand the professional healthcare workforce, using as a guide the *Regional, Refugee and Resilience Plan*;
17. *Invites* all willing and able Member States to participate in a conference to discuss the expansion of safe zones for education, promoting ongoing efforts to ensure the security of children while gaining skills necessary for their economic future and participation in society through international collaborative efforts and outreach campaigns;
18. *Promotes* the improvement on the reporting and monitoring of their health and education status to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal 10 Reduced Inequalities, particularly through addressing data deficiency;
19. *Suggests* all willing and able Member States to hold a conference to promote innovative, mobile aid solutions that provide food and medical care to both able-bodied children and children with disabilities in armed conflict zones, recognizing that children with disabilities have been historically deprived of aid and may be unable to independently access aid stations or medical care;
20. *Calls upon* all willing and able Member States to facilitate the education and resource management specifically for children with disabilities and complex needs in conflict zones by providing educational toolkits and materials to formally displaced children;
21. *Encourages* all willing and able Member States to implement protections for children from conflict through their national legislatures and law-making procedures;

22. *Strongly recommends* the ratification and signature of relevant international and regional legal instruments, such as the *Optional Protocol of the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict*;
23. *Invites* all willing and able Member States to share expertise and experience in the Global Refugee Forum by UNHCR in the accommodation or provision of education to displaced or refugee children through:
 - a. Collaborating with the UNHCR Adopting an agenda for the Global Refugee Forum with the focus on transforming juvenile detention centers into children-focused safe havens packaged with educational, healthcare, and cultural rehabilitation;
 - b. Working with NGO Committee on Migration to implement universal provision of the right to education for migrant and refugee children, including early childhood education for those under five years of age, in accordance with SDG 4.2;
24. *Expresses hope* to all willing and able Member States outsource technological expertise from the UN Statistics Division to install manual birth registries in governmental institutions, such as national hospitals, alongside digitalizing the application process to increase accessibility and efficiency for birth registrations;
25. *Suggests* the Inter-Agency Working Group on Disarmament Demobilization Reintegration to expand its Level 5 “Cross-cutting issues” module to include “orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC)”:
 - a. Outlining child-sensitive and sustainable reintegration support for foster children;
 - b. Extending specifically regulations for foster families and suggestions for communal support and guardianship;
 - c. Introducing channels of the establishment of new and legal civil identities conditioned on rehabilitation and education program participation;
26. *Further suggests* the adoption of an agenda for the High-Level Political Forum that focuses on further protecting safe zones, such as schools and hospitals, and by bridging cooperation between NGOs, the International Red Cross, and the Red Crescent Movement.



Code: GA3/1/2

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Reaffirming that peace is the central mission of the *Charter of the United Nations* Article 1 and one of the principal global public goods the United Nations (UN) was established to deliver,

Guided by the fundamental principles regarding the protection of children in conflict zones in terms of child trafficking, child abuse, and sexual violence globally,

Deeply concerned by the *Study on the Evolution of the Children and Armed Conflict Mandate 1996-2021* (2022) of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG CAAC), highlighting the lack of sufficient data for the protection of the rights of children with disabilities in armed conflicts,

Welcoming the facilitation of international cooperation, solidarity, and assistance in supporting efforts for children, namely about the conflict and humanitarian sphere,

Affirming Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) and its active efforts toward advocating against the unlawful war atrocities targeting children and vulnerable persons, which aims to secure the rights for the health and well-being of children and families, medical care, and necessary social services, and the right to security,

Recognizing Article 10 of the *Convention on the Rights of Children* (CRC) (1990), highlighting the protection of children's rights, well-being, and family reconnection,

Recalling Article 22 of the CRC, which acknowledges refugee children's unique vulnerability and allocates explicit protection for refugee and migrant children,

Acknowledging the presence of Security Council (SC) resolutions, more specifically resolution 2709 (2023), in its efforts to address the violence happening in various significant conflicts around the world that directly affect the well-being and right of life guaranteed to children,

Fully supporting the voluntary improvement of infrastructure in developing nations, underrepresented communities, and rural areas to promote secure employment for marginalized populations who may be susceptible to child labor and sexual exploitation,

Noting the alarming indiscriminate targeting of civilians with weapons that further harm children with disabilities, an already vulnerable population, further expressing its concern that the special needs of children with disabilities are often overlooked when implementing measures to protect children in conflict zones,

Acknowledging the SRSG CAAC *Towards Greater Inclusion* Report towards gender inclusion efforts to highlight the critical gap in data collection with children with disabilities,

Encouraging the promotion of the rights of children with disabilities in conflict, such as the right to security and the right to equal access to public services, as set by the UDHR, and States Parties recognized the right of disabled children to special care in paragraph 2 of Article 23 of the CRC,

Acknowledging Article 7 of the *Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (CRPD) (2008) and the CRC, along with its optional protocol that addresses children in armed conflict,

Further realizing the ground-breaking SC resolution 2475 (2019) on the “Protection of Persons with Disabilities in Conflicts,” ensuring humanitarian access to all people,

Noting the Human Rights Council (HRC) Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities’ latest report (2024), which highlights post-conflict peacebuilding activities to provide more inclusive measures for children with disabilities,

Condemning the detention of refugee children as well as the separation of refugee children from their families, as this mainly affects the psychological development of children,

Noting further the importance and efforts of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to improve the situation of refugee children is fundamentally essential,

Fully alarmed by the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Funds (UNICEF) 2023 press release acknowledging recent events happening around the world, including over 315,000 children being victims of at least 1 of 6 grave violations in the conflict zones in the past 18 years,

Deeply concerned about the treatment of children in areas of conflict, including recruitment of child soldiers, the trauma children endure, the lack of health services and educational opportunities, and the destruction of essential buildings such as hospitals and schools,

Recognizing the need for all Member States to implement *Sustainable Development Goal* (SDG) 16.2 in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with specific targets to terminate all forms of violence against children, gives momentum toward the awareness of the right of every child to live liberated from fear, neglect, abuse, and exploitation,

Referring to General Assembly (GA) resolution 73/155 (2019), which underscores the rights of children,

Expressing deep concern over the alarming increase in violations of children’s rights in conflict zones, as cited in UNICEF’s 2022 report “25 years of children and armed conflict: taking action to protect children in war,” which verified 266,000 grave violations against children in more than 30 conflict zones between 2005 and 2020,

Calling attention to the compounding negative impacts conflict zones have on children brought forward by the 2017 annual report summary of the SRSG CAAC on the impact of armed conflict on children, such as ongoing mental health issues, sexual violence, and killing and maiming of children,

Underlining the importance of following measures recommended by UNSC resolution 2601 (2021),

Calling for the mobilization of the international community to take a unified stand to prevent the use of child soldiers or any other active role for children in armed conflict so they may pursue their educations and work toward more promising futures,

Endorsing the work of the Academic Conference on Africa (2023) and SC Working Group on Children in Armed Conflict in promoting education and humanitarian aid efforts for capacity-building purposes across all demographics for the promotion of children's right to receive education,

1. *Suggests* the denotation of “safe zones” as the following: It would be considered as a safe area in which it allows humanitarian aid to protect all children and their families that are in a humanitarian crisis context, and stresses the importance of international cooperation, solidarity, and assistance in supporting efforts to establish and sustain for children, such as:
 - a. Recommending the inclusion of schools as a part of “safe zones” to protect children in armed conflict and provide them with the intellectual tools that will help them to thrive;
 - b. Inviting Member States to be mindful of accessibility to education for disabled children when building infrastructures, such as roads and sidewalks, wheelchair-accessible classrooms and desks, which would facilitate children with disabilities access to education even in conflict situations;
2. *Invites* Member States and social media companies to work to protect children from online recruitment into armed groups such as paramilitaries or gangs;
3. *Suggests* that Member States, in collaboration with the UNICEF, World Health Organization (WHO), and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), promote access to mobile medical care, disability services, educational services, nutrition, feminine hygiene products, shelter, and other human needs for all children, including refugee and orphaned children;
4. *Calls for* the development of international strategies through which Member States may work collaboratively to dismantle the transnational criminal structures that sustain the use of child soldiers and other active roles for children in conflict zones;
5. *Invites* the United National High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and NGOs to provide aid for internally and externally displaced children in regions of conflict while promoting more educational opportunities for children affected by conflict;
6. *Expresses conviction for* UNICEF to maintain open collaboration with Member States, local NGOs, and related United Nations bodies such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for the proliferation of educational opportunities for children in conflict zones *by strongly encouraging* the implementation of age-specific educational toolkits, such as the *Youth Rights Advocacy Toolkit* developed by the OHCHR to improve the quality of life and empowerment of children in conflict zones;
7. *Recommends* for Member States to expand their national database to monitor violence against disabled children in conflict zones through the creation of color emergency codes to build urgency for the WHO and use the research outcomes to send aid accordingly;
8. *Encourages* the UNHCR to utilize digital advocacy efforts to positively influence public trust in social resources as well as humanitarian resources such as food, water, and education services as provided by UN entities;
9. *Urges* Member States to take measures such as those recommended in HRC resolution 49/31 Report on the rights of the child and family reunification adopted by the HRC to reunite children who have been separated from their parents such as supporting the access of families;

10. *Suggests* Member States voluntarily provide resources to support the work of NGOs by guaranteeing the safety of NGO workers;
11. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing safe and reliable transportation networks, pedestrian pathways, and traffic management systems within and around safe zones, enabling children to travel to and from school, healthcare facilities, and recreational areas securely;
12. *Advises* Member States to assist in the resolution of active conflicts and post-conflicts by:
 - a. Requesting the reintegration of children into educational programs;
 - b. Emphasizing that humanitarian efforts can only go so far, and to prevent these conflicts from continuing, recommending more assertive communication between UN bodies such as the Security Council and International Court of Justice (ICJ) about possible improvements regarding infrastructure;
 - c. Understanding that while most reforms are out of our mandate, we recommend that UN bodies with more jurisdiction than GA 3 prioritize accountability when attempting to solve world conflicts;
13. *Recommends* partnerships with local NGOs, *UNICEF*, *United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization* (UNESCO), WHO, Child Fund International, and local governments by encouraging collaboration with local communities and the youth through regional meetings and conversations, empowering the youth to share their unique experiences and needs;
14. *Further recommends* the need for consistent collaboration among willing Member States to ensure systematic engagement and mobilization of political support by:
 - a. Suggesting the collection and sharing of information through the creation of a network of voluntary Member States, local governments, and NGOs;
 - b. Insisting on open communication regarding information within provided educational toolkits and regarding services related to quality of life for the families to remain informed and heard by all concerned organizations;
15. *Encourages* the protection, promotion, distribution, and opportunities for extracurricular activities, including but not limited to sports, musical and artistic hobbies, literacy, and future professional experiences, via financial support and collaboration from local governments, *UNICEF*, *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization* (UNESCO), and local NGOs, for the children in conflict areas, in the form of:
 - a. Recommending the development of recreational programs to benefit the mental and physical health of children via collaboration, communication, and possible reallocation of available funds from all relevant partners;
 - b. Further recommending the promotion of work opportunities via local NGOs or public institutes for adults, older children, and family members of children in the zones for them to actively support the community and practice the utilization of their present professional skills, such as teaching, nursing, or agricultural positions or via online learning and resources;

16. *Suggests* the formation of a new commission focused on children with disabilities in armed conflicts so they can guide UN organs that work with children with disabilities in armed conflicts and give recommendations to the relevant Member States by:
 - a. Raising awareness on the situation of children with disabilities in armed conflict through qualified research which utilizes the existing knowledge of the experts and through cooperation with the UNICEF Office of Research and NGOs;
 - b. Searching for methods to improve difficulties with access to local information by researching social media, exchanging experiences and best practices to combat misinformation, and the engagement of the public as ways to gather information and including NGOs serving as a contact point for specific areas, providing localized support and resources;
 - c. Encouraging Member States for voluntary contributions following the example of Canada, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and the Kingdom of Spain, who are contributing 2 million dollars each, as well as the United Mexican States who is contributing 500.000 dollars;
17. *Encourages* the use of awareness campaigns, such as the ACT To Protect Children affected by conflict, highlighting the specific challenges faced by families in conflict zones, as well as the resources available to assist them, through various media channels promoted by Member States and by the UNHCR to spread awareness to families by:
 - a. Considering the use of nationwide promotion through available resources, such as news networks;
 - b. Supporting children in conflict through online social media campaigns that provide information through multiple networks to be accessed freely;
18. *Recommends* the expansion of the availability and affordability of assistive tools for persons with disabilities in armed conflict to promote best practices on approaches to provide treatment and relief of children with disabilities by:
 - a. Advocating for subsidy programs, making a policy development and an application process that covers the full or partial cost of assistive tools for individuals whose income falls below a previously determined Member States' threshold;
 - b. Encouraging the development of international standards for the interoperability of assistive technologies to increase the availability and decrease the costs of these essential tools on a global scale;
 - c. Further recommending the creation and strengthening of public-private partnerships to stimulate research and development in assistive technology, such efforts should prioritize enhancing the adaptability, usability, and affordability of assistive tools for persons with disabilities in armed conflict zones;
19. *Supports* the expansion, by voluntary NGOs, of the *Accelerating Disability Rights* in UN members actively combating systemic discrimination against children with disabilities within refugee camps;

20. *Recommends* Member States organize the proper training of educators inspired by the European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education specifically catered to children with disabilities during conflicts by:
 - a. Adopting online training sessions for volunteers to assist children efficiently;
 - b. Recognizing trained professionals as volunteers to administer efficient support catering to disabled students' needs in conflict areas;
21. *Encourages* the precise and accurate delivery of quality services, especially in schools, for children with disabilities and benefit from the same opportunities UDHR as their peers to promote physical wellness, psychological wellness, and career development through collaboration with UNICEF, WHO, local NGOs, and local government by:
 - a. Encouraging the implementation of inclusive learning methods catered to children with visual impairment, such as braille textbooks;
 - b. Supporting the initiative to raise awareness within classrooms to be more empathetic toward children with disabilities;
 - c. Recommending UN members to cooperate through the adoption of common policies, such as the provision of informational handbooks on disabilities inspired by the actions taken by the WHO, UNICEF, local NGOs, and local governments;
22. *Invites* Member States to be mindful of accessibility to education for disabled children when building infrastructures, such as roads and sidewalks, wheelchair-accessible classrooms and desks, which would facilitate children with disabilities access to education even in conflict situations;
23. *Calls upon* the international community to recognize the plight of children who have become disabled due to conflicts by urging Member States to acknowledge the existence of physical and psychological traumas that have been inflicted on children in the duration of conflicts;
24. *Emphasizes* the need for professionals to specialize in children with disabilities by having the UNICEF and the *Office of the Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)* promote international sharing of knowledge during an international annual training program for all relevant states, as they receive an accredited formation for children with disabilities in an armed conflict context with the following notable skills such as:
 - a. Appropriating communication skills depending on the age and maturity of the child, using a multi-sectoral approach covering psychological health, legal assistance, educational, and family aspects;
 - b. Considering the principle of the best interest of the child in all decisions and interventions;
 - c. Updating references concerning international services provided by the UN, government, or non-governmental bodies;
25. *Requests* the promotion of best practices provided by healthcare workers for children with disabilities in armed conflict so they can offer appropriate treatments and reliefs for these young victims;

26. *Draws attention to* the importance of including children with disabilities, including children whose disability results from a conflict situation, into the global and institutional conversation to guarantee fundamental rights for all children, no matter their capacity, in conflict, such as during the annual Conference of State Parties to the CRPD;
27. *Strongly suggests* the promotion of the universalization of peace for all, mainly on guaranteeing the rights of children with disabilities, especially in conflict situations, by emphasizing, with the collaboration of voluntary parties (NGOs, Member States, UN organs), the importance of informational campaigns about the rights of children with disabilities in conflict;
28. *Recommends* using more disability-inclusive language within UN documents in the future, following the Disability-Inclusive Language Guideline of the UN Office in Geneva (2019), because specific terminologies currently used have a negative connotation;
29. *Supports* the expansion of the *Academic Conference on Africa* (2023) to encompass a global scale;
30. *Encourages* Member States to implement National action plans and proposals on recognizing the differentiated needs for nutrition in the context of protecting children in conflicts.



Code: GA3/1/3

Committee: The General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations (UN) of 1945,

Preserving the support for national sovereignty as outlined in Article 2 (4) of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the Convention on the Rights of the Children (CRC) of 1989, specifically its Optional Protocol on the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict of 2000 and its clause on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography, in its application of international conduct in war and children's inalienable rights, and the struggle of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to uphold the conventions,

Expressing its deep concern regarding the 46 Member States not following the Straight-18-Standard for recruitment in their national armies,

Recalling the Paris Principles, which focus on preventing the recruitment of child soldiers and setting guidelines for reintegration of children associated with armed forces and groups,

Profoundly concerned about the educational future of children in conflict as they are the most cognitively vulnerable as referenced by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4: Quality Education,

Further recognizing the progress of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) in strengthening institutions, promoting the achievement of SDG 16: Peace Justice and Strong Institutions,

Seeking to provide mental, moral, and educational support to children in conflict alongside child soldiers in a regular and effective method,

Considers the challenges faced by the 468 million children within current conflict zones, as well as those within post-war communities, such as threats of child recruitment, potential mental ailments resulting from war as reported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the need for support of these groups,

*Deeply conscious that safety zones, as defined by the General Assembly resolution 51/306 (1996), notably: places of worship, schools, and hospitals where children are granted protection in times of conflict, have been outlined in the report of the expert of the Secretary-General *Promotion and the Protection of the Rights of Children* (1996),*

Fully alarmed by the concerning statistic from the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA) which highlights a 17% increase in attacks on schools worldwide,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 73/25 (2018) on the "International Day of Education,"

Affirming the importance of preventing and mitigating the radicalization of children towards violent extremism in conflict zones through mental health and psychological support as it not only safeguards their mental well-being but also contributes to the long-term security and therefore reaffirming the United Nations Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism created during the 70th General Assembly,

Noting Security Council resolution 2417 (2018) that links food insecurity and the vulnerability of children in conflict areas,

Recognizing the effect of nomad cultures and migratory movements and their impact on cross-border conflict spill-overs and highlighting the importance to consider these to protect children adequately,

Bearing in mind the need for training programs for professionals in the specific expertise of frameworks, repatriation, disabilities, and grassroots campaigns like Play for Peace (PFP) and Save the Children International (SCI), especially when looking at immediate action in points of interest,

Further recalling the UNICEF declaration about the 105,000 children recruited as soldiers in the past 20 years,

Deeply appreciative of sharing knowledge on new technologies to offer adequate specialized services for children with and without disabilities,

Viewing with appreciation the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Global Education Monitoring Report (2023) that collects data on education technology,

Expressing concern about the World Health Organization's recent findings, including a declaration on the protection of children in armed conflicts, specifically detailing how more than 10% of children who experience traumatic events will later experience symptoms of trauma disorders, depression, and anxiety,

Keeping in mind the importance of preventing and mitigating the radicalization of children towards violent extremism in conflict zones through mental health and psychological support as it not only safeguards their mental well-being but also contributes to the long-term security and therefore reaffirming the United Nations Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism created during the 70th General Assembly,

Reiterating the importance of collaborations with youth-focused non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society actors at the national and regional levels emphasizing targeted efforts to prevent violent extremism, particularly among children and youth, on an individual level,

Stressing Article 24 paragraph 2 of the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* which states the necessity to register every child at birth, Article 7 of the CRC demands the immediate registration of a child after birth reinforces the right to acquire a nationality, and 6 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) that implements the idea of the right of everyone being recognized as a person before the law,

Emphasizing UNICEF's publication *Birth Registration for Every Child by 2030* and its goal to register every child at birth by 2030, and aware that birth IDs are the foundation to knowing about the age of and protecting children,

Further requesting Member States to understand and recognize mental health care as a human right since it affects basic human needs and can negatively impact people's, especially children's quality of life,

Promoting the expansion of access to land for shelter to harbor refugee children and their families,

Draws attention to Article 78 of the *UN Charter*, that the equal sovereignty of nations facing crisis remains paramount, especially in those times of crisis,

Noting with appreciation the important work UNICEF conducts regarding data collection on children in conflict,

Fully aware of the work accomplished by the Blue Heart Campaign to prevent child trafficking,

Calling upon Member States to strengthen efforts to combat child trafficking, including the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims, while providing safeguards for child victims,

Further recognizing General Assembly Resolution 74/133 (2020) on the Rights of the Child and the need for children who have been exposed or participated in conflict to be effectively reintegrated into peaceful society,

Understanding the Six Grave Violations of children's rights as identified by the Security Council resolution 1612 (2005), which include the killing and maiming of children, recruitment and use of children by armed forces and armed groups, sexual violence against children, attacks against schools or hospitals, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access for children,

Realizing the hope for international cooperation to continue the *ACT to Protect Children Affected by Conflict* campaign,

Further stressing the detrimental effect that landmines have on children's protection in conflict zones, as UNICEF cited them as one of the foremost causes of conflict-related child casualties in 2017,

Further acknowledging the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) placement of landmine awareness as a critical issue, noting the need to educate children in conflict-inflicted regions on how to identify and safely navigate around existing landmines,

Drawing attention to the CRC Article 9 Section 1 which ensures children are not separated against their will from the child's family due to the effects family separation has on the health and overall well-being of children in times of conflict,

Observing the lack of international standards on education concerning emergency response protocols which are essential to the safety of children affected by the crisis,

Further considering the denial of humanitarian aid in zones of conflict despite Security Council resolution 1674 (2006), which highlights the need for humanitarian aid and the obligation to allow it,

Having studied the effectiveness that grassroots organizations and NGOs have on conflict-affected areas,

Noting with approval NGOs like Human Rights Watch and World Vision which focus on the rehabilitation and reintegration of citizens affected by conflict,

Cognizant of the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court* that outlines major crimes against conflict and the protection that children need during times of conflict,

Uplifting the point made by the CRC, which emphasizes the need to consider children and their unique characteristics, including vulnerability to pollution, disease, and extreme weather, in global responses to climate change,

Drawing the attention to the impact of child trafficking on its victims, including emotional, psychological, and physical harm,

Emphasizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold their obligations and the well-being of children, enshrined in the CRC,

Reaffirming the importance of collaboration through governments, law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations, and technology companies, in addressing the complex challenges posed by child trafficking and the use of social media in its perpetuation,

Acting under Article 10 of the *United Nations Charter* to guide the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to identify the most affected Member States by landmines and work alongside their governments in the promotion and financing of demining programs,

Strongly emphasizing the international definition of the child as written in the CRC with the inclusion of all children, notwithstanding disabilities, such as follows “every human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier; without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability, or other status,”

1. *Calls to* prioritize the bolstering of local communities affected by armed conflict in all international activities regarding children to consider region-specific applicability of child protection efforts:
 - a. Requesting upon Member States to adopt this perspective;
 - b. Inviting UN programs actively working on the ground to adopt this policy in their actions, in particular the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the UNESCO, and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF);
 - c. *Further suggests* that these UN programs focus their financial assistance and capacity-building actions regarding children in conflict-related areas on:
 - i. Formal schooling, non-formal education programs, and vocational training in fields of local need;
 - ii. Strengthening authorities in charge of the security of areas where children are at risk of being recruited, kidnapped, or trafficked;
2. *Invites* all willing and able Member States to abide by the *Cape Town Principles (1997)* and *Paris Principles and Commitments (2007)* by reaffirming these commitments into national policies to ensure that Member States successfully work toward the elimination of the use of child soldiers;
3. *Requests for* the reallocation of funding from international banking systems to expand pre-existing NGOs to reach all developing Member States in need, such as Invisible Children and Save the Children who combat non-state actors that recruit children in conflict-affected areas as child soldiers, to expand those who assist in developing Member States with the tracking and location of missing and kidnapped children;
4. *Recommends* the expansion of the Annual Day of the Rights of the Child on March 14 into a new event entitled the Annual Conference on the Rights of the Child, stipulating that:
 - a. Member States originally organizing within the Annual Day of the Rights of the Child will participate in discussing the ongoing issues related to children, especially those within areas of conflict;
 - b. The involvement of local operatives and NGOs;

- c. Designated to a chosen, annual occurrence on a multi-day period within the year by 2027;
5. *Welcomes* the implementation of a negotiation summit which invites the conflict parties and mediators as well as children who have suffered from conflict situations to expand the topic on a global level and explore more in-depth solutions concerning children's rights and needs in conflict zones:
 - a. The debate of prevention of recruitment of children into militant organizations;
 - b. Address children's issues and expand them based on contemporary sentiments by 2030;
 - c. Reporting the findings and consensus to UNICEF;
 - d. Inviting public and private organizations to participate and fund the forum;
6. *Suggests* increasing calls for international voluntary aid through public and private organizations to the UN operations budget in order to assist Member States hosting displaced populations, ease the strain on healthcare resources, better bolster education systems, and reinforce public infrastructure utilized by utilized by displaced populations including children in conflict;
7. *Calls for* the strengthening of reintegration programs for children who have been a part of armed conflict or otherwise exposed to it;
8. *Calls upon* all willing and able Member States to consider working with other UN bodies such as the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect to help strengthen current national policies to safeguard children's rights prior to conflict through the current trainings offered which will ensure that violations of children's rights do not occur;
9. *Calls upon* greater collaboration between the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction and NGOs related to children's humanitarian relief such as Action Against Hunger, the goal being to better develop and support resilient infrastructure in designated safe zones from conflict, to help ensure that infrastructure necessary for the protection of children's rights in conflict zones remain steadfast:
 - a. During and following natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods, which continue to grow in prevalence and severity as the effects of global climate change continue;
 - b. With emphasis on regions that lack essential and social services, in which extreme weather and natural disasters can have disproportionately large impacts;
10. *Recommends* the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to consider modernizing the tools at the disposition of the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting of the Six Grave Violations, by:
 - a. Increasing the use of new technologies, such as hotlines and online platforms, in the collection of information and the engagement of advocacy;
 - b. Reminding all Member States of the six grave violations and the importance of continuing to uphold their respect;

11. *Recommends* the Department of Peace operations to adopt a child-centric approach, in order to prevent the Six Grave Violations of Children's Rights, training, focusing on how to handle children appropriately, taking into consideration their mental health status and recognizing trauma responses;
12. *Further recommends* Member States within or near zones of conflict to cooperate and allow children and their families to cross their borders to repatriate them or assist them to a United Nations Security Zone;
13. *Reemphasizes* the sanctity of safety zones as defined by the Security Council and as provided under the Geneva Convention with the aim of protecting the growing amount of civilians in harm's way, such as acts of violence against places of worship, schools, and hospitals, by providing a haven for civilians, specifically children, and refugees;
14. *Suggests* all willing Member States to update and implement the Security Council's 2021 Resolution 2601 for Member States with ongoing or at risk of conflicts to ensure continuity of education;
15. *Underlines* the need to combine the findings of the UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report concerning technology in education with decentralized education emergency plans, as digital education makes a decentralized approach possible, also considering programmes like the Can't Wait to Learn programme by the War Child NGO;
16. *Expresses its hope* for other Member States to adopt their education emergency plans, that makes decentralized education feasible with digital help in case schools are no safe spaces for children;
17. *Prompts* Member States to develop a group of experts who contribute information to the United Nations and are trained to work in the field to educate children with the intent of keeping families together as well as bringing family units back together by providing a resource to help encourage forms of identification to promote familial togetherness and provides authorities with a database of children and their relatives which will help encourage a firmer foundation for children in conflicts;
18. *Affirms* the urgent vulnerability of these children and the importance of adopting a thorough approach that encompasses psychological support in educational provision, vocational training and social reintegration and rehabilitation programs and therefore suggests an additional pillar to the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) Youth Engagement and Empowerment Program to aim a holistic approach to conflict-affected youth and therefore integrate mental health support to counter the radicalization of children in post-conflict;
19. *Recommends* the creation of international standards regarding the education of families to react to a context of conflict and emergency, including short-term medical and hygienic procedures as well as emergency response procedures;
20. *Further recommends* Member States to work with UNESCO to implement policies that teach about the culture of displaced families and children of nearby areas in school curriculums which draws attention to the protection of culture;
21. *Emphasizes* an increase in fostering international cooperation with UN-sponsored, culturally sensitive, grassroots initiatives; grassroots initiatives referring to civilian formed and ran groups

according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), mental health services, rehabilitation, and re-education of children;

22. *Further invites* various organizations, such as *Children International* and *Child Protection in Emergencies* and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as *Save the Children*, *Doctors without borders* and *International Rescue Committee* to participate in grassroots regional campaigning:
 - a. Encourages regional organizations and local initiative projects to endorse education of children in conflict zones to end the cycle of violence;
 - b. Recommends further involvement of regional grassroots campaigns in conflict zones for youth programs and engagement within the established yearly Youth Conference;
 - c. Strongly recommends grassroots organizing of rehabilitation efforts and initiatives:
 - i. Encourages grassroots efforts, collaborating with Member States, will help rehabilitate and reintegrate children suffering from mental illness, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as well as victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking without any discrimination, based on the proposed definition of a child, with the goal of providing additional safeguards for child victims;
 - ii. Supports the initiative of training for reintegration therapists to help child soldiers and other traumatized children and raped girls and mothers to readjust to society;
 - iii. Further enhancement of rehabilitation services for the aim of improving interconnectivity challenges between organizations and children affected by conflicts;
 - iv. Supports the expansion of national grassroots campaigns working against the involvement of children in conflicts, such as the “Zero under Eighteen” campaign against child recruitment in armed conflicts;
23. *Encourages* partnerships between the World Food Programme (WFP) and Member States such as nationally implemented Emergency School Feeding Programmes with local implementation and distribution that improve access to healthy food for children in crisis-affected areas;
24. *Encourages* increased cooperation between Member States and grassroots campaigns like PFP, an NGO designed to promote peace in an economically viable way, to build security in conflict-ridden areas;
25. *Asks UNICEF to:*
 - a. Prioritize trans-national conflict regions in its goal to register every child at birth by 2030;
 - b. Provide assistance for Member States suffering under armed conflict to expand institutional capacities, financial resources, and knowledge regarding the protection of children;
 - c. Support national and local authorities across borders in regions related to conflict in their efforts to protect children;

- d. Initiate a study among developing Member States experiencing active conflict with the aim of strengthening reporting and data collection efforts on schools and hospital attacks;
 - e. Identifying means of better communication between these developing nations and NGOs, such as Save the Children to report damage to critical infrastructure for children;
26. *Calls upon* UN programs operating in conflict-related areas to acquire information on the methods used to recruit children to provide prevention and safekeeping for those susceptible to recruitment;
27. *Guided by* the findings of the UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report:
- a. Recommends combining them concerning technology in education with decentralized education emergency plans, as digital education makes a decentralized approach possible;
 - b. Asks UNESCO to dedicate part of its mission to the organization of census data and the development of census infrastructure, particularly systems for national registries both civilian and military, as a means of ensuring that allocation of aid is distributed in efficient and safe ways while maintaining national sovereignty through supportive, rather than regulatory, systems;
28. *Recommends* the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) to support strengthening the technical capacity of all Member States for data collection and analysis to secure a more efficient production of research and studies on children in conflict zones to:
- a. Show urgency by visualizing violence, terror, and traumas regarding children in armed conflict;
 - b. Tailor messages and aid to specific needs;
 - c. To show the effectiveness and progress of international efforts;
29. *Reaffirms* its belief that:
- a. Increased cooperation with academia and NGOs may lead to a stop of under-18-recruitment by spreading their findings and designing comprehensive prevention programs;
 - b. UN Member States with strategies in place to avoid under-18-recruitment should support other Member States in implementing concurring policies;
 - c. These strategies should be presented at the International Day Against the Use of Child Soldiers (Red Hand Day) in 2025;
30. *Requests* an update of the Disarmament Demobilization Reintegration Standards, with an additional renewal containing a special focus on community initiatives for child reintegration;
31. *Requests* UNESCO's facilitation of the organization of census data and the development of census infrastructure, particularly systems for national registries both civilian and military, as a means of ensuring that allocation of aid is distributed in efficient and safe ways while maintaining national sovereignty through supportive, rather than regulatory, systems;

32. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with the UNHCR Mental Health and Psychological Support (MHPSS) to identify mental health needs of children and expand upon Article 19 of the CRC to include proper psychological care, especially for those who have been forced to participate in conflict and encourages the implementation of programs similar to UNHCR Mental Health and Psychological Support (MHPSS);
33. *Urges* the embedment of mental health specialists like psychologists, and therapists associated with NGOs such as the Children and War foundations within health provisional groups to provide support for mental healthcare for children suffering from post-conflict trauma;
34. *Reaffirms* that Member States to prioritize the rehabilitation and reintegration of child trafficking survivors into society by providing access to comprehensive support services, including education, vocational training, medical care, and psychological counseling, on a case-by-case basis;
35. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with social media companies and online platforms to develop and implement robust strategies to prevent and combat the use of these platforms for child trafficking purposes, including the detection and removal of exploitative content, the implementation of age verification mechanisms, and the promotion of digital literacy and online safety education programs for children and parents;
36. *Welcomes* the consideration of an establishment of cross-border cooperation mechanisms and information-sharing networks among Member States' law enforcement agencies, to enhance the detection, investigation, and prosecution of transnational child trafficking networks, including those exploiting social media platforms for illicit activities;
37. *Reaffirms its belief* that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) should provide technical assistance, capacity-building support, and coordination mechanisms to Member States in their efforts to combat child trafficking and address the threat posed by social media, including the development of best practices, training materials, and data-sharing frameworks;
38. *Invites* UNICEF to initiate a study among developing Member States focusing on identifying means of better communication between developing nations experiencing active conflict and NGOs, such as Save the Children, with the purpose being to determine more effective means of reporting and data collection regarding the destruction of infrastructure of designated safe zones, such as schools and hospitals, in order to encourage more efficient repairs of such infrastructure, which is necessary for the protection of children in conflict zones.



Code: GA3/1/4

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Reaffirming Article 1.1 of the *United Nations Charter* which declares the need for the maintenance of security, and the emphasis on international peace,

Recognizing Article 14 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) that states that everyone has the right to seek and enjoy other countries asylum from persecution,

Emphasizing the fundamental rights of children such as the right to their name, nationality, and the freedom of their speech and thought; access to healthcare and education and freedom from exploitation, torture, and abuse as outlined in the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC),

Bearing in mind Article 3 Section 2 of the CRC ensures that all necessary legislation and administrative action are taken to ensure the health and well-being of children,

Welcoming similar launches to that of UNHCR's #IBelong Campaign, which aims to end statelessness and ensure citizenship rights for all, particularly for refugee children,

Acknowledging Article 9 of the CRC that states that parties shall ensure that children should not be separated from their families against their will,

Appreciating the efforts of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in providing humanitarian assistance and protection to refugee children,

Alarmed by the fact that the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) states 43.3 million children have been forcibly displaced since the end of 2022,

Taking note of the 17.5 million children displaced as refugees or asylum seekers as of the end of 2022 according to UNICEF,

Considering that the mental health and psychological well-being of children are often overlooked,

Recalling since 2009 the World Health Organization (WHO) report "Changing cultural and social norms that support violence,"

Expressing concern with the contradiction between disarming children and trying to reintegrate them in societies which social norms support violence, and with the effect of that contradiction on their mental health and their reintegration and empowerment process,

Taking into consideration Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, Good Health and Well-Being, which aims to ensure access to health and well-being can be achieved for all,

Referring to SDG 4, Quality Education, that aims to ensure access to quality education,

Observing SDG 16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, which aims to ensure access to peace, specifically targets 16.1, 16.6, and 16.9,

Seeking the observation of SDG 17, Partnerships for the Goals, which attempts to ensure global partnership to promote global development,

Reiterating that children are entitled to protections under the UDHR,

Reminding Article 27.1 of the CRC that ensures children have access to all they need to thrive,

Highlighting Article 28.1 of the CRC that allows children to receive free compulsory education, measures to allow students to remain in school for as long as possible and maintain access to higher education beyond basic education,

Expressing recognition of Article 32.1 of the CRC emphasizing the need to protect children from exploitation and labor,

Taking into account already present principles under the *Master Plan of the Principle Standards and Resettlement Planning* set forth by the UNHCR,

Acknowledging the 2023 *Global Refugee Forum* framework which implements four key objectives, which help ease the pressure on host countries, enhance refugee self-reliance, expand access to third-country solutions, and support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity to create a sustainable solution to refugee situations,

Recalling further that according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) more than half of (refugees) are children, and 6 million are of primary and secondary school-going age, the average length of time that a refugee spends in exile is about 20 years,

Comprehending the humanitarian crisis resulting from the displacement of refugee children due to conflict,

Bearing in mind the *Paris Principles and Commitments on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups*, more specifically number 7.37 on the development of communities' capacity for reintegration of impacted children and 7.39 on eliminating communities' stigmatization and ostracization of children associated with armed forces or groups,

Reaffirming General Assembly Resolution 76/147 on the "Rights of the Child" Article 23, which calls for Member States to treat the child victims with humanity and focus on rehabilitation and reintegration as alternatives to persecution and detention,

Recalling Security Council Resolution S/RES/1261 on children in armed conflict which affirms that children participating in armed conflicts are victims of the conflicts,

Emphasizing concern regarding the plight of children who are rejected and marginalized upon their return to their communities after conflict,

Recognizing that the UNHCR defines refugee camps as a temporary facility built to provide immediate protection and assistance to people who have been forced to flee their homes due to war, persecution, or violence,

Expressing further concern with the impact of such contradiction on children's mental health, reintegration process, and empowerment process,

Acknowledging the collaborative efforts between the Kingdom of Denmark and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in establishing "Green Rooms" in Ukraine, aimed at providing a warm and welcoming environment for children involved in conflicts during interrogation processes,

Recognizing the success of these green rooms in mitigating the intimidation and re-traumatization experienced by children in traditional sterile interrogation settings,

Appreciating the importance of providing a supportive and nurturing environment for children undergoing interrogation processes to ensure their well-being and protection,

Emphasizing the responsibility of all Member States of the United Nations to uphold the rights of children, particularly those involved in conflict situations, as enshrined in the UDHR and CRC,

Acknowledging the lack of initiatives to tackle this issue,

Appreciating the UNICEF Campaign Children, Not Soldiers and the Office of the Special Representative for Children in Armed Conflict Campaign ACT to Protect Children on their efforts to respond to the six grave violations and dedicate action towards creating preventative measures,

Affirming the specific challenges which these refugee children (fleeing from conflict for their safety and displaced) including but not limited to conflict trauma, loss of education, healthcare, loss of cultural identity, and access to basic human necessities,

Strongly condemning the lack of support towards the victims of conflicts not receiving media attention,

Also bearing in mind, the ideas put forth by the World Health Organization (WHO) which states that the early years of a child's life are critical to building a nurturing environment,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to remember the goal of the United Nations of building communities committed to peace and pacifism;
2. *Affirms* its strong belief that refugee camps are not detention centers and should never resemble such;
3. *Calls upon* Member States to consider the rehabilitation of children, as soon as the State which the child has fled from is deemed safe by the current host country, with the utmost consideration for the child's wellbeing and will;
4. *Declares* that the temporary character of refugee camps does not contradict the goal of improving the quality of life in them, with special attention to children's needs, including but not limited to basic necessities as defined by the ILO report for the 1976 World Employment Conference;
5. *Encourages* the Member States with those refugee camps to introduce measures that address the need to analyze the necessities of these conflict affected children to aid with:
 - a. Reintegrating them smoothly back into their home State or community;
 - b. Their later transition into society post-war;
 - c. Strongly suggests Member States invite individual experts to evaluate how safe a State is for the safe return of refugee children, in an attempt to speed up the rehabilitation

processes of children in refugee camps;

6. *Urges* the implementation of measures to address the specific needs of children with disabilities, ensuring equal access to services and opportunities;
7. *Recommends utilizing* the already present principles under the framework of the Principle Standards and Resettlement Planning set forth by the UNHCR to limit the amount of time children are in refugee camps;
8. *Strongly encourages* Member States to utilize family tracing and UNHCR's family reunification program to focus on cultural ties and community relations for displaced refugee children;
9. *Requests* that capable Member States utilize existing centralized data management systems of child statistics to track progress, identify gaps, and inform evidence-based decision-making in support of child refugees;
10. *Encourages* Member States to consider implicating expert groups with the intent of identifying areas of weakness within the refugee camps found throughout territories experiencing emergencies;
11. *Pleads* for monetary support from able and willing Member States to facilitate the rehabilitation of vulnerable children who are affected by armed conflict to provide resources necessary for nutrition, culture, and education;
12. *Welcomes* the support from Non-Governmental Organizations that aim to promote the protection of children in armed conflict by:
 - a. Providing specialized and accessible educational and medical materials to refugee camps and the rehabilitation programs within them;
 - b. Training locals on the rehabilitation of children;
13. *Strongly encourages* Member States to align their efforts regarding rehabilitation services for children affected by armed conflict with Member States that are seeking support by:
 - a. Presenting a united front on the international scene regarding the protection of children during times of war;
 - b. Implementing designated passages between Member States to ensure the safe passage of persons and materials assisting with the rehabilitation of children;
 - c. Sharing of all information related to the program outcome;
14. *Highly requests* Member States to follow initiatives such as Nurturing care for children living in humanitarian settings thematic brief put forth by the World Health Organization (WHO) that aid children in humanitarian and armed conflict zones;
15. *Encourages* the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict ACT to Protect Children Affected by Conflict to consider the rehabilitation of

children through community-based policy initiatives;

16. *Reiterates* its calls to Member States and United Nations mechanisms to focus not only on educating children who participated in armed conflict but also on communities welcoming them post-conflict and rehabilitation;
17. *Urges* the creation of guidebooks made by host countries of best practices and suggestions for policies on the implementation of the reintegration of refugees and children with disabilities in local communities;
18. *Encourages* Member States to raise awareness on the damage of the stigmatization of children returning to their communities with the emphasis on those who participated directly in armed conflict;
19. *Calls upon* Member States to recognize that children who participated in armed conflict cannot be reintegrated into societies valuing violence and militarism to redirect the Member States attention to the reintegration process for children;
20. *Invites* Member States to consider the impact of decreasing the weight of militarism in their culture by structuring stronger policy reforms by:
 - a. Raising awareness about the dangers of overexposing children to violent cultural content and games;
 - b. Revisiting educational curriculums to promote peace and reduce the glorification of war;
21. *Welcomes* the consideration of this code of standards within refugee camps through:
 - a. *Inviting the* donor community to consider allocating funds to implement education and mental health counseling;
 - b. *Encouraging the* establishment of a specialty forum to create a code of standards including the: rehabilitation, education, mental health acknowledgment, and safety (REMAS), for refugee children within these camps;
22. *Recommends* Member States to establish rural hubs equipped with sensory tools such as fidget spinners, stress balls, and other calming materials, aimed at addressing mental health crises among children affected by conflict, particularly in remote areas where access to mental health resources is limited;
23. *Calls upon* Member States to collaborate with local communities and NGOs, to identify suitable locations and resources for the establishment and operation of rural hubs, ensuring accessibility to children in remote and underserved regions, including those from cultures where mental health issues are sensitive topics;
24. *Calls upon* the United Nations Secretary-General to facilitate knowledge-sharing and capacity-building efforts among Member States, providing technical assistance and best practice guidelines on the implementation and evaluation of rural hubs as part of comprehensive mental health support systems for children in conflict-affected areas, with particular attention to

addressing cultural sensitivities and supporting all children;

25. *Requests* Member States to collaborate with relevant international organizations, such as UNDP, UNICEF, and UNESCO, to access technical assistance, expertise, and guidance in implementing green rooms, including the development of tailored programs and training materials for personnel involved in operating such facilities;
26. *Encourages* Member States to participate in upscaling the green room model and adapt it to suit the cultural, social, and legal contexts of each jurisdiction, while maintaining core principles of warmth, inclusivity, and child-centeredness, and ensuring compliance with international human rights standards and conventions, particularly those concerning the rights of children in conflict situation;
27. *Requests* the establishment of a knowledge-sharing platform or network facilitated by the UN, where Member States can exchange experiences, best practices, and lessons learned in implementing green rooms, to foster continuous improvement and innovation in this area;
28. *Calls upon* the United Nations Secretary-General to provide technical assistance and support to Member States upon request, including through the dissemination of guidelines, toolkits, and case studies on establishing and operating green rooms, and to report on progress and challenges encountered in replicating this initiative across Member States in future sessions of the General Assembly.



Code: GA3/1/5

Committee: General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Conflict

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Reaffirming the purpose of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation between Member States, solve global problems, and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the principles enshrined in the *United Nations Charter* (1945) and the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015), including the insurance of inclusive and equitable quality education enshrined in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 (quality education),

Underlining the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* of 1948, which states that children have the right to education, special care, and assistance,

Taking into account the *Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts* (2000) and the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, particularly Article 6 that stipulates the inherent right to life, and Article 19 as well as 38 that highlight the obligation to protect children from all forms of physical and psychological violence, and involvement in armed conflicts,

Aware of the work done by the United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Office for Coordinating Humanitarian Affairs, Human Rights Council (HRC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and other UN entities,

Noting with satisfaction the successful implementation of the Geneva International Discussions, which offer a platform established to cope with the conflict in the South Caucasus region,

Acknowledging the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons- in the context of armed conflict*, which addresses all forms of trafficking and specifically child recruitment, with references to situations in Africa and the Middle East,

Emphasizing the importance of General Assembly resolution 61/146 on "*Rights of the child*" (2006) about the critical importance of promoting and protecting the rights of children on a global scale, and General Assembly resolution 76/147 on "*Rights of the child*" (2021), which emphasizes the need for Member States to cooperate,

Appreciating the diligent support of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Save the Children, contribute toward upholding children's rights,

Affirming all Member States' commitment to protecting the most vulnerable, advocating for a world where every child is shielded from the horrors of conflict and granted the opportunity to thrive in safety and peace, as declared at the *Geneva Convention* (1949), which establishes the general provisions of children protection in armed conflicts, enclosing a broader implementation of the *Education Cannot Wait Plan's* goal,

Recognizing that children in conflicts confront an unprecedented surge in violence caused by political and social turmoils and intercommunal violence, especially those who are neglected, forced to flee their homeland, and those who similarly suffered the six grave violations listed by the UN Security Council (UNSC),

Aware of the need for better learning programs in areas of conflict for the children to gain life skills needed to defy their current circumstances,

Noting with concern the alarmingly increasing number of internally displaced children and the extra layer of distress that displacement of any kind puts on them,

Taking into account the children death toll since the start of the Syrian and South Sudanese conflict, totaling to over 22,000 deaths over the years,

Recognizing the urgent need to address the escalating humanitarian crisis affecting child safety in Ukraine,

Troubled by the twenty-eight percent of children under the age of two in Gaza who are suffering from severe malnutrition, of which ten percent have severe wasting due to lack of available food,

Acknowledging the thirty-three thousand children in Tigray and Ethiopia in immediate danger of death as conflict is increasing famine,

Distressed by the children's lives lost before, on, and since October 7th and namely children captured as hostages in the ongoing conflict,

Distressed also by the twelve thousand children who have died in the past 5 months in South Sudan,

Recalling the persistent and devastating impact of the war in Gaza on children, resulting in widespread humanitarian suffering and displacement,

Highlighting the critical importance of achieving an immediate, sustainable, and permanent ceasefire in Gaza to enable safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid for children,

Expressing deep concern for the 400 million children living in Member States where there is war or other violent conflicts, expressly the 17,000 children in the Gaza Strip who are unaccompanied or separated from families and support systems,

1. *Invites* organizations like UNICEF, in cooperation with the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), to prepare a report focusing on the current analysis of children's rights protection in the ongoing armed conflicts and identifying their needs to further formulate effective national, regional, and global strategies;
2. *Requests* further collaboration between the UN and local organizations so that the rights of children in conflict to education and assistance are made readily available in the forms of:
 - a. Working with UNICEF and collaborating partners to promote educational access similar to Cuba's existing *Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)* programs and many others, which include;
 - b. Encouraging the expansion of preexisting organizations that partner with UNICEF and EAC-UNICEF, such as but not limited to Reach Out to Asia (ROTA), Al Fakhoora, and Protect Education in Insecurity and Conflict (PEIC), and Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA);
 - c. Being supported by funds like the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, local donation committees, and conferences addressing conflict zones, e.g., the Committee for the Protection of Palestinian Children, and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), overseen by

UNICEF, ECCE, Educate Your Child, EAC, the Committee for the Protection of Palestinian Children, UNRWA, ROTA, AI Fakhoora, PEIC, GCPEA;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to implement the Safe Schools Declaration Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA) where protection to students, schools, and universities from the worst effects of armed conflict with political commitment is granted;
4. *Strongly advises* Member States to request medical and psychological help to aid with mental conditions such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other common mental illnesses and traumas that are common results of conflict with assistance from programs such as Doctors Without Borders, Counselors Without Borders, UNICEF Child Soldier Integration Program;
5. *Recommends* active efforts aiming toward the reunification of children with their families and support systems, prioritizing family tracing and reunification efforts in their home country;
6. *Suggests* bodies, such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), to reform existing systems to ensure that such bodies are internationally respected by:
 - a. Urging that harmony be found between bodies like the ICJ and all member states in the form of global consensus-building and effective accountability policies;
 - b. Understanding that humanitarian aid for children in conflict is best achieved when international law is upheld and conflict is avoided altogether;
7. *Urges* the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to:
 - a. Gather data in the form of a guidebook to act as a mapping tool by identifying the hotspots of child recruitment;
 - b. Use the collected data in the form of a map and disperse it across local governments to criminalize and prosecute those who recruit and use children;
8. *Suggests* the establishment of platforms for diplomatic discussions in regions affected by conflict to facilitate dialogue among all parties involved by following the example of Geneva International Discussions and by that:
 - a. Giving each party an individual status during discussions;
 - b. Agreeing on regular meetings based on the scale and prevalence of conflict;
 - c. Implementing different working groups in the discussions focusing on particular and relevant sub-topics to the issue that is being discussed to ensure efficient resource management and workflow;
 - d. Disputing parties being co-chaired by other mediating bodies, organizations, and governments by their own volition to guarantee unbiased conduct;
9. *Calls upon* all Members States to improve the situation of Internally Displaced Children and Refugee Children by:
 - a. Ensuring durable housing solutions on a large scale to sufficiently secure shelter for all children in need;
 - b. Establishing digital infrastructure for educational purposes to ensure learning opportunities for children;

- c. Collaborating with NGOs such as Save the Children to consolidate expertise, resources, reach and access as well as extensive networks and grassroots connections which help governments to extend their initiatives and ensure that services reach those in need;
- 10. *Expresses its serious concern* on the displacement of children within their state and emphasizes the need for measures to prevent further displacements, including the protection of civilian infrastructure and promotion of durable solutions for internally displaced families, support systems, and children;
- 11. *Suggests* the implementation of the Legislation, Education, and Development (LED) principles conducted by the Uzbeki government in collaboration with NGOs such as the UNDP so that:
 - a. Legislation is used as a tool to promote and protect children's rights, specifically by the aforementioned global frameworks;
 - b. Educational programs are used in collaboration with the WHO to serve as a means for rehabilitating back into their communities effectively and swiftly;
 - c. There is a constant development and ensurement of sustainability when it comes to implementing these principles via ensuring continuity and reporting mechanisms;
- 12. *Highly recommends* Member States to ensure the full implementation of the CRC by:
 - a. Promoting the ratification of this document by all Member States;
 - b. Strengthening the legislation and administration of international, regional and national agreements related to the CRC;
- 13. *Regularly shares* the progress of the implementation of the CRC Suggests Member States to involve children in the peace-building process by:
 - a. Organizing children-led conferences addressing conflict-related issues;
 - b. Promoting World Children's Day (November 20th) to raise awareness of the rights of children.



Code: GA3/1/6

Committee: The General Assembly Third Committee

Topic: Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children in Armed Conflict

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Taking into consideration the lack of ratification by Member States of the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)* in the issuance of the *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC)*,

Conscious of the gravity of the situations of refugee and internally displaced children, especially those who were orphaned or deprived of access to essential services while fleeing, as well as children with disabilities,

Condemning the six grave violations against children in areas of armed conflict, including killing and maiming of children, recruitment and use of children by armed forces and armed groups, sexual violence against children, attacks against schools or hospitals, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access for children,

Keeping in mind SDGs 4, and 16, ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong opportunities for all and eliminating forms of violence against all children in the public and private sphere including other types of exploitation, and creating non-violent environments for education on all forms of violence against children respectively through accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Recognizing the responsibility of Member States in preventing violations of children in armed conflict areas, such as the six grave violations outlined in the UNCRC, noting the efforts by the Security Council adopted in S/RES/1261 condemning the targeting of children in areas of armed conflicts,

Recalling the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNDRR) *School Safety Programme* that addresses the importance of increasing resilience through prevention-focused DRR education and understanding basic concepts of DRR to reduce risks before they become disasters and to mitigate the impact of those risks,

Keeping in mind the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) (2015-2030)* adopted by the UN General Assembly following the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in calling for the need to understand disaster risk vulnerability,

Acknowledging United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) mandate includes the education of civil society, as reaffirmed in A/RES/72/75 and confirmed by the Security Council in SCR 2365 (2017),

Recognizing the displacement of 43.3 million children worldwide as a consequence of conflict zones and their severe effects on the future of these children,

Reminds Member States of the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) Plan's goal to help individuals affected by conflict to have access to quality education,

Recognizing the ongoing collaborative efforts with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to strengthen existing programs and develop new initiatives that prioritize The Child Thematic Protection

Fund as a provider of data on child abuse, GDP, social worker and welfare officers cost-benefit ratio, and implementation of child safe-zones in conflict-prone areas,

Underlining the recommendations of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG CAAC) for the need to comply with international humanitarian law to ensure a focus on the protection of children in conflict and the reiteration of the ratification of the CRC's Optional Protocols to prevent further risk for children,

Recalling the Implementation and Enforcement of Laws, Norms and Values, Safe Environment, Parent and Caregiver Support, Income and Economic Strengthening, Response and Support Services, Education and Life Skills (INSPIRE) goals set forward by the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, particularly those that focus on the importance of providing social and medical support services alongside strong educational infrastructure in securing child prosperity,

Recognizing the substantial resources compiled by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Network (MHPSS) in the "implementation and evaluation of mental health and psychosocial programs in adverse and emergency situations,"

Acknowledging the importance of preventing and mitigating the radicalization of children towards violent extremism in conflict zones through mental health and psychological support created by the 70th General Assembly United Nations Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism as it not only safeguards their mental well-being but also contributes to the long-term security,

Reiterating that, according to UNICEF, 24 million children are forced to forgo their education due to armed conflict worldwide, and understanding the importance of educational assessment to address the learning gaps caused by conflict and when recruited off the streets into armed forces groups,

Having considered that possible Post-War effects can affect those who suffer from PTSD with severe symptoms with regard to the studies conducted by the UN's Uniformed Capabilities Support Divisions with a response rate of 58.6%,

Furthering the 2023 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals (2030 Agenda) (2015), focusing on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 4 (Quality education) in collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGO) such as Defense for Children International (DCI) and Save the Children,

Recognizing that mental health is a fundamental human right for all persons, including children, as highlighted in Human Rights Council (HRC) Resolution 32/18,

Noting the predominance of children's mental health as outlined in Resolution A/RES/54/263,

Acknowledging the United Nations International Rescue Committee that sends immediate humanitarian aid prioritizing refugees — especially children — maintaining a sense of support from multiple member states,

Acknowledging the importance of fostering increased collaboration with humanitarian initiatives as well as NGOs, noting the success of the reintegration of former child soldiers due to these increased collaborations within the African Union,

Reaffirming the Youth, Peace, and Security Agenda of 2015, focusing on amplifying the voices of young people who have endured violence due to conflict and prioritizing their inclusion in decision-making processes,

Bearing in mind the importance of the role that families play in reintegrating children who have experienced violence due to conflict back into society and how children who have been exploited as soldiers are subject to exclusion and stigmatization when they return to their home communities,

Recognizing that children who have been separated from their own families experience reduced access to adequate healthcare, support services, and education as defined by UNICEF,

Reaffirming the 1951 *Refugee Convention* that defined refugees and established a standard framework for refugees by outlining the legal protection, rights, and assistance a refugee is entitled to, emphasizing the importance of this framework for children in conflict and the basic right of education of children in conflict,

Concerned about the conditions of political, social, and economical discrimination such as lack of access to financial support and social stigmatization in which several children born of conflict-related sexual violence live especially since they are not globally recognized as war victims,

Recognizing the weight of education on child development, life prospects, the disruption caused by conflict, and the preventative role of education in developing societies and children resilient to future conflicts with special concern regarding the provision of education to displaced persons and refugees,

Acknowledging the educational materials on Children's rights prepared by UNICEF, like the child-friendly version of the *UNCRC* and other training kit,

Reminding articles 23, 28 and 32 of the *UNCRC*, which sets forth that Member States ensure access to education for special needs children have the right to be protected from harmful work being a nuisance to their education and that these children in question have a right to education without exception,

Recognizing Security Council Resolution 2601 (2021) - Protecting Education in Conflict, condemning all attacks on educational facilities and establishing them as safe zones,

Acknowledging the significant impact of the Children, Not Soldiers campaign, an initiative of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, and UNICEF, launched in 2014, to continue to demobilize all minors and reintegrate former child soldiers into society and give them prospects for the future,

Recognizing that the Save the Children's Child Rights Governance Program and the Ministry of Education's General Education Sector Strategic Plan have increased the school attendance of children in preschool and secondary school by 30% between 2009 and 2014 can be expanded upon to provide preschool, secondary, and basic education to children in conflict zones that do not have access to a school,

Noting with deep concern, children with disabilities are disproportionately affected by both conflicts and exploitation; as outlined in Sustainable Development Goal 4, promoting the safety and effectiveness of learning environments for children with disabilities,

Recognizing efforts already taken by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the UNICEF Global Education Coalition, which provides emergency digital education for

children in conflict, as well as its Digital Transformation Collaboration (DTC) focusing on advancing digital transformation in education, vital in conflict zones,

Affirming the authority of the World Health Organization (WHO) on the topic of disability, especially disability among children,

Stressing that quality education includes the presence of adequate infrastructure per Article 9 of the *Convention on the Rights of Peoples with Disabilities*, allowing children with disabilities to proactively engage in academics,

Fully alarmed that a recent study conducted by the World Bank found that on average a child born this year will only reach half their full potential when they become adults due to poor access to quality nutrition and education,

Expressing its appreciation for the 2030 Food Systems Pathway that has successfully transformed agricultural sectors to boost local production better strengthen the environment for a larger capacity of sustainable development of food systems, which helps deter food disruptions and secure access to nutritious food for children, which is crucial for the physical growth and cognitive development,

Noting with concern the lack of implementation of disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) programs,

Taking into account the 2020 UNICEF Pacific Islands Multi-Country annual report emphasizes a structured and collaborative approach taken to address the issue of food security, safety, and nutrition, especially for children at risk of conflict and coupled with diverse geographical structures and widely spread communities that pose unique challenges to food and nutrition security,

1. *Strongly condemns* the lack of ratification of the UNCRC and OPAC as violations against children in armed conflict areas, acknowledging the necessity of Member State ratification to promote and protect the rights of children in conflict, fulfilling their obligations to the world's children in armed conflict areas;
2. *Suggests* the Security Council to encourage UNMAS, specialized in the assessment and implementation of activities to limit the threat posed by mines, to assist countries affected by landmines in the inclusion of mine-risk education in their school curriculum; by giving mine-awareness workshops; created in collaboration with local educational facilities and governments;
3. *Requests* UNHCR to issue interpretative guidelines to establish that children at risk of recruitment and girls residing in armed conflict should be considered as included in the refugee criteria “members of a particular social group” to provide an escape to children victims of CRSV, forced marriage, human trafficking, and recruitment emphasizing the importance of protection measures for vulnerable groups like children at risk of recruitment and girls affected by sexual violence in conflict zones;
4. *Calls upon* all Member States to ratify the Optional Protocols of the UNCRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC) to further prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict with an emphasis on Article 6 to ensure physical and psychological support and sufficient safeguard;

5. *Reaffirms the necessity of preventing the six grave violations outlined in the UNCRC and the readiness to incentivize Member State ratification through rewards theory between other ratified Member States in the pursuit of safeguarding children's rights in conflict, increasing the number of Member States actively seized in the matter of promoting and protecting the rights of children in conflict emphasizing in accountability mechanisms to enable the protections outlined in the UNCRC provision:*
 - a. Recommending the implementation of birth registration centers and related laws throughout Member States to ensure accessible, free, and mandatory birth registrations with the help of Plan International that has several initiatives to assist with the goal of universal birth registration;
 - b. Drawing attention to the fact that children need to receive a birth certificate in order to be able to apply for a passport and additional fundamental documents needed; further requests that the governments of each Member State be asked to make funds available for building birth registration centers and providing birth certificates aiming at making birth registration accessible independent of the parent's income, as outlined by the Count Every Child campaign overseen by UNICEF;
6. *Pays special tribute to Resolution 1612 (2005) pursued by the Security Council Working Group on the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) that collected timely, accurate, and reliable information on violations against children affected by armed conflict and ensured that advocacy campaigns supporting and resolving issues facing children in conflict situations adhere to and pursue their stated objectives by restoring a subsidiary convention focusing on developing countries to reaffirm its commitment to provide robust tools that would support campaigns focused on the sensitive issues unique to developing nations, as well as to ensure continued contact with the Security Council funded through:*
 - a. The partnership with UNICEF, as the co-chair of the MRM;
 - b. Voluntary contributions from Member States that ratified the Convention were allocated on the basis of and based on their economic strength, level of development, debt, high poverty rates, economic and political instability, and high mortality rates;
 - c. Advocating for the reinforcement of firm admonishment from the International Community to those Member States who do not adequately adhere to the ratified campaigns through the submission of an annual report publicly available that will:
 - i. Allow the evaluation of the progress made by each Member State in implementing the provisions of the convention;
 - ii. Identify areas where there might be major gaps or specific challenges in promoting the ratified campaigns on the protection of children in armed conflict;
 - iii. Report annually the names of the organizations and groups perpetrating crimes against children and using educational facilities for military and terrorist purposes;
7. *Solemnly affirms amending the UNCRC and OPAC to include annexes of incentivization in accordance with Chapter IX of Part III of the Status and Treatment of Protected Persons of the*

Geneva Convention which outlines rewards theory between Member States outside of UNCRC ratification which:

- a. Emphasizes the impact incentivization annexes provide on the promotion and protection of children's rights in conflict through the ratification and upholding of UNCRC articles and amendments;
 - b. Recognizes concerns of incentivization clauses, but affirms them in the holistic approach to promote and protect the rights of children in conflict;
 - c. Underlines the reestablishment of defining children as Protected Persons within the *Geneva Convention* and defining children with disabilities as Protected Persons within the UNCRC;
 - d. Calls attention to Chapter IX Part III, the Status and Treatment of Protected Persons of the *Geneva Convention*, as a primary example of which the annexation of amendments within the UNCRC and OPAC incentivization clauses are to resemble;
8. Asks for the cooperation of Member States to fulfill the obligations requested by the amended *UNCRC* and *OPAC* to reinforce the promotion and protection of the rights of children in conflict, taking note of:
- a. The influential substance of Chapter IX Part III, the Status and Treatment of Protected Persons of the *Geneva Convention*;
 - b. The vast contribution the amendments will make to the promotion and protection of the rights of children in conflict;
9. *Endorses* the implementation of the amending of the UNCRC and OPAC in accordance with Chapter IX Part III, the Status and Treatment of Protected Persons of the *Geneva Convention* incentivization clauses, ensuring a substantial benefit and contribution, emphasizing the importance of spreading awareness among Member States in order to promote and protect children's right in conflict the international promotion and protection of children's rights in conflict by:
- a. Highlighting the crucial role of international cooperation in implementing and enforcing the annexed amendments of the UNCRC and OHCHR to support and protect children's rights in conflict;
 - b. Emphasizing the awareness among Member States on the important influence of the UNCRC and OHCHR to promote and prevent violations of children's rights in conflict;
10. *Endorses* the expansion of UNICEF's program, the UN Children, Not Soldiers campaign, as well as the UN Counter-terrorism Centre (UNCCT) program to include and monitor reintegration programs for vocational training as well as online access to learning materials to provide former child soldiers job opportunities and practical survival skills;
11. *Proposes* the establishment of the Secure Access to Fortified Education (SAFE) initiative and its SAFE task force as an extension of the DTC under the UNICEF's Global Education Coalition to create a SAFE report focusing on understanding the interactions between the context of a

conflict and education programs by analyzing the efficiency and effectiveness of existing online education programs in conflict by:

- a. Comprising experts in conflict analysis, education, and children's rights from UNESCO and the DTC while utilizing the UNESCO database to assess the impact of conflict on the quality of education in the affected areas;
 - b. Comparing and analyzing data including but not limited to the number of educational facilities, teachers available, and all students enrolled, as well as evaluating factors such as displacement, destruction of infrastructure, and psychological impacts of conflict on students and teachers;
 - c. Formulating the SAFE report based on collected data from the UNICEF database as well as from research from the experts, in which the local situation is assessed, the barriers to education for children in conflict are clarified, and suitable measures and policy implications to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of existing national and international online education programs such as UNICEF's Learning Passport are recommended;
 - d. Forwarding the SAFE report to the respective Member States, UNESCO, and UNICEF biennial or dependent on the evolving situation of the conflict, which SAFE experts decide;
 - e. Asking the Security Council (UNSC) to review the SAFE reports, to further encourage discussions of peacekeeping missions to areas recognized by SAFE reports as areas where children are most impacted by conflict;
 - f. Receiving funds from the UN Education Cannot Wait Fund and The Child Thematic Protection Fund;
 - g. Collaborating with UNICEF's Learning Passport platform;
12. *Endorses* further expansion of the Global Child Nutrition Foundation in education to help deter food disruption in conflict areas, for all children by way of nutritional committees that are created by experts in agriculture, nutrition, and public health, to develop sustainable food programs that provide nutrition and education despite conflict circumstances:
- a. Endorses an all-inclusive global program like Food Systems Pathway that specifically focuses on international childhood nutrition while taking into account the unique challenges conflict areas face to ensure children have something to eat and the nutrients needed for their growth and development;
13. *Suggests* the creation of a working group, "Working Group on Education Against Exploitation of Children in Conflict" (EECC), within the General Assembly consisting of at least two representatives of each regional group rotating biannually in cooperation with at least three associations with a consultative status within the United Nations Economic and Social Council, such as the World Association of Children's Friends (AMADE):
- a. With the purpose of further educating children, caretakers, and peacekeepers about the topic of children's rights, especially with regard to children with visible and invisible

disabilities, children with trauma, and children from more marginalized groups, such as girls or religious and ethnic minorities;

- b. By encouraging voluntary financial contributions by Member States and non-state actors to support the working group;
14. *Recommends* that Member States proactively educate the general public on children's rights, with a focus on children's rights in situations of conflict, by:
 - a. Emphasizing the teaching of the rights of children in schools by providing material to do so, such as the child-friendly explanations and charts created by UNICEF and available for free;
 - b. Participating in already existing and funded awareness-raising campaigns on children's rights and report systems in case of violation of said rights, aimed at the general public like the EU *Children as Champions of Change: Ensuring Children's Rights and Meaningful Participation*;
15. *Calls upon* Member States to further cooperate with local, regional, and international non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and civil society organizations to expand existing programs such as Teachers Without Borders into refugee camps to prioritize enhancing educational infrastructure within these camps;
16. *Urges* the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children to encourage Pathfinder countries to provide support to Member States affected by conflict in the form of:
 - a. Monetary support or grants aimed at establishing infrastructure needed to create mental health and healthcare facilities in accordance with guidelines set forth by the MHPSS and UNICEF Global MultiSectoral Operational Framework;
 - b. Assisting with policy creation and implementation focusing on codifying children's right to healthcare and mental health services during and beyond times of conflict into national law;
17. Encouraging Member States to collaborate with UNICEF to implement programs similar to the Child-friendly education model (CFE) implemented in Oman; which focuses on providing education and skills to remote areas in order to further develop the local economy;
18. *Welcomes* Member States to further strengthen NGOs and UN articles by aligning with UN's associations such as Article 10 of *The International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights*, Connect With Respect, The Trauma Foundation, World Hope International; providing educational resources for parents or guardians, having institutions where trauma survivors can receive help, and providing privacy to parents and guardians during times of crisis;
19. *Proposes* an additional pillar to the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) Youth Engagement and Empowerment Program to aim for the integration of psychological support to counter the radicalization of children in post-conflict settings, particularly those living in conflict-affected areas with the presence of terrorist organizations;
20. *Affirms* the urgent vulnerability of these children and the imperative of adopting a multifaceted approach that encompasses psychological support in educational provisions, vocational training,

and social reintegration programs, with a primary focus on deradicalization efforts which should be added to the existing United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) program;

21. *Encourages* collaboration between Member States, NGOs, and the rehabilitation center Child Rights Regulation and Support Hub (CHERISH) to both incorporate mental health training for its volunteers and increase communication between regional government officials in order to prioritize aiding former child soldiers in their reintegration to society;
22. *Endorses* the CHERISH programs and initiatives to be voluntarily funded through NGO's of the supporting Member States who will come into agreement with this initiative;
23. *Opposes* the stigma put upon returning child soldiers by calling for the creation of community-based centers, with the goal of implementing structured recreational activities, with the help of community organizations and volunteers, with a focus on various programs such as peer-to-peer programs as well as parent and caregiver programs;
24. *Calls on* UNICEF to establish a Child Identification Database (CID), a centralized voluntary data collection and storage program that will collect the birth information of children living in conflict zones, which will:
 - a. Assist in establishing legal identity for children who are unknown by providing a system of birth certificates for those who cannot obtain one, which will include verification of the identities of child and parents;
 - b. Utilize the collected data of children and parents to reunite families who have been separated during conflict;
 - c. Assist in the creation of a voluntary action plan to track the achievements of the global community in combating the use of child soldiers and assisting children currently living in conflict while holding Member States accountable;
 - d. Grant access to UN Agencies and NGOs who are providing aid and humanitarian assistance on the ground during times and regions of conflict to utilize and expand;
25. *Stresses* the importance of building upon the NGO Save the Children's Child Rights *Governance Program* workshops focused on helping children in conflict gain the capacity to advocate for their rights to include basic education alongside such capacity building as this type of education is an important part of learning how to advocate for one's own rights;
26. *Promotes* systems to increase child education already in place to have the necessary tools to develop programs aiming at giving children in conflict zones the same education as children with access to schools by:
 - a. Encouraging the sharing of best practices, like existing national education plans, to create an international plan with the specific goal of providing education to children in areas without access to schools and giving parents the necessary training to teach their children in the instance where no teacher would be available through:
 - i. A plan to fund a program that sends teachers to a group of children without school access or transporting these children to an area where they will be provided with classes;

- ii. A plan to provide teachers with the necessary materials to travel to parents' houses and train them how best to teach their children at home;
 - b. Encouraging further development of education programs, like by working with Lions Club International for the UNICEF initiative "School-in-a-Box", aiming at increasing children's access to education in and outside of classrooms, specifically to broaden these programs to include providing education to children in areas where a school or classroom is not readily available or accessible, like if a school is destroyed or closed by combat, and lessen children's exposure to rights violations;
- 27. *Reiterates* the demand for further implementation of community-based social programs and grassroots organizations, such as The Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) that provide information and funding, which aim to:
 - a. Encourage communities to implement specialized care directed toward the specific needs of individuals with disabilities during conflicts;
 - b. Support the engagement of grassroots organizations, facilitating a community-centered approach, towards countering the exploitation of those with disabilities particularly during conflicts;
- 28. *Further recommends* to Member States that children in schools be provided with tools on how to react during school attacks, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Information on how to best select an escape route in order to escape most effectively;
 - b. Teaching children how to react to an attack and how to behave during attacks to protect themselves;
 - c. Organizing practices for the behavior to follow in case of an emergency;
- 29. *Suggests* able and willing Member States to offer reimbursement and incentives to selected programs and increase purchases of locally grown food from small farmers which helps provide healthier meal choices and generate positive economic benefits for small farmers and local economies;
- 30. *Establishes* programs that support community resilience, which is crucial during times of conflict as a resilient community may better protect and care for its children;
- 31. *Further recommends* implementing an all-inclusive global program like Food Systems Pathway that specifically focuses on international childhood nutrition while:
 - a. Taking into account the unique challenges conflict areas face to ensure children have something to eat and the nutrients needed for their growth and development;
 - b. Recognizing the definition of disability by the WHO as the result of "the interaction between individuals with a health condition, such as cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and depression, with personal and environmental factors including negative attitudes, inaccessible transportation and public buildings, and limited social support" in order to incorporate full accessibility for all children;

32. *Encourages* the *Transforming Education* summit to recognize the special needs of a disabled child with full access to equitable education by implementing comprehensively the principle of inclusion in education that ensures equal access to education for all regardless of their individual potential and needs;
33. *Recommends* that Member States cooperate to create an international risk-management methodological guideline, which aims to maintain education and other essential services for children in times of duress, by:
 - a. Setting a goal for March 2025 for the establishment of said methodological guideline;
 - b. Establishing alternative forms of education through various means, which include:
 - i. Providing virtual education, facilitated by increasing internet access;
 - ii. Providing education through radio communication;
 - iii. Providing education with the distribution of school materials;
34. *Implores* Member States to help expand the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) plan:
 - a. Urges Member States to join the ECW as host governments, so that context-specific initiatives may be continued;
 - b. As economies allow, the General Assembly three encourages Member States to increase funding for the ECW by 2.5%;
 - c. Recommends Members States refer to The Grand Bargain for information on how to donate to the ECW and other Humanitarian organizations;
35. *Encourages* Member States to create inclusive educational environments by adopting the Policy Guidelines on Inclusion in Education developed by UNESCO:
 - a. To integrate primary education with individuals from different backgrounds in conflict zones;
 - b. To expand programs to prepare educators to cultivate a safe school environment for child soldiers such as the Global Coalition for Reintegration of Child Soldiers;
36. *Recommends* the implementation of extensive infirmary physical and mental pediatric care in educational facilities by creating a framework:
 - a. The division framework would proceed with health fair community events at educational institutions;
 - b. The health fair would consist of mental health workshops and doctor consultations;
 - c. Specialized Pediatrician doctors of conflict would be assisting with consultations; mental health workshops would be run by mental health professionals regarding conflict trauma;

37. *Suggests* Member States implement promotional global educational campaigns of mental health care for children of conflict for larger reports of violence against children to be displayed in the media in collaboration with basing it on the UNICEF campaign #OnMyMind: Better mental health for every child by:
- a. Providing media coverage on educational campaigns of #OnMyMind that include consensual involvement of the impacted families and children;
 - b. Implementing NGOs and UNICEF contributions to the #OnMyMind promotional efforts because of their past experience with similar campaigns and community strengthening media expertise;
 - c. Developing promotional efforts in taking charge of the narrative would change the public conversation around stigmas regarding mental health;
 - d. Spreading media coverage from #OnMyMind, which will improve visibility for victims thus creating a response of support and funding for the needed resources of the impacted communities;
38. *Urges* the development of regional programs for the equitable education of children in conflict zones, modeled after programs including but not limited to the Adolescent Girls Initiative for Learning and Empowerment (AGILE) Project in Nigeria, the Education Reform Support Project in Cameroon, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Human Capital Investment Project in Pakistan, and more, which entail:
- a. Understanding the relevant stigmas that impact children, the implications of trauma on children in conflict, and prioritizing the importance of accessibility for children in the process of reintegration;
 - b. Mainstreaming digital, psycho-pedagogical, and socio-emotional skills among teachers and children in schools for children in conflict zones;
 - c. Ensuring schools' infrastructures assess their accessibility level and compliance with the School Accessibility Checklist;
 - d. Eliminating potential architectural accessibility barriers per the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Framework for Implementation;
39. *Further urges* the prioritization of contextual adaptation in the development of regional programs, sensitive to geographical and cultural differences between states in which the program is implemented with:
- a. Prior formation of research case of regional, geographical, and cultural practices;
 - b. Mutual consent and comprehension from both present parties of the regional states and international organizations;
 - c. Regional conferences with the community and regional leaders to address the geographical and cultural differences for regional programs and to obtain an understanding of regional issues to respond to their needs;

- d. A procedure for the sensitive moderation of potential divisions between the international and local community;
40. *Fully supports* addressing physical and mental health crises stemming from conflict by recommending UNICEF to expand internet access in schools to provide telehealth services, specifically incorporating crisis counseling, therapy, and anonymous platforms for children's protection and rehabilitation into telehealth services as implemented by the Child Helpline International Foundation (CHI) and as previously implemented with the Ministry of Health and the Macedonian Medical Association;
41. *Recommends* the implementation of extensive infirmary pediatric care in education facilities by creating a framework for specialists to have standardized guides to treat children psychologically and physically;
42. *Calls upon* the creation of an international conference, to discuss and raise awareness of the mental health of children, especially in conflict zones which will:
 - a. Meet three times a year on different continents to ensure inclusive representation of Member States from various regions;
 - b. Include participation from relevant NGOs and experts in the field of medicine and representatives from conflict-affected communities;
43. *Utilizes* the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA) by recommending collaboration between Member States and UN Agencies for the collection and destruction of small arms and light weapons (SALW) in conflict zones, to prevent the proliferation of weapons that endanger the lives of children in conflict areas;
44. *Encourages* first responders to have psychological first aid training, allowing them to properly be able to deal with children struggling with psychological issues, providing them with the safe and appropriate services that they need;
45. *Further suggests* the HRC establish a forum to allow Member States and NGOs to share resources and research in tackling issues regarding mental health, focusing particularly on PTSD in children;
46. *Recommends* Member States to partner with WHO to establish sensitivity training for mental health therapists and counselors to propel empathy and proper guidance for children in precise safe zone locations that need to be established for children to receive constructive and humanitarian advice to satisfy their mental wellbeing;
47. *Strongly advocates for* management of chronic and acute illnesses of children in areas of conflict, including dispensing prescribed medications and training sessions for healthcare professionals that focus on nutrition and healthy food choices to ensure children have the right to grow and the means to reach their full potential;
48. *Recommends* UNICEF to expand the initiative of Destigmatizing menstruation workshop to teach girls how to make menstrual reusable pads in countries affected by armed conflict in the African and Asian regions;

49. *Endorses* vocational training for teachers and volunteers who work with children in conflict zones, modeled after educator-focused programs, including but not limited to the World Bank's Restoring Education and Learning Project in Yemen and the Education for Human Capital Development Project in Somalia by:
- a. Implementing a teacher exchange program inspired by Teachers Without Borders (TWB) to train and qualify teachers in partnership with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to ensure continuous education during and in conflict zones;
 - b. Establishing the prerequisites and requirements to qualify experts in the various vocational fields to provide quality education to disabled children in a given field;
 - c. Providing disability-inclusive training to educators to ensure accessibility for disabled children;
 - d. Equipping educators with the resources needed to provide psychosocial services to students;
 - e. Instructing professionals in academia with basic pediatric training to ensure students' safety and health.