
UN Human Rights Council
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SRSGs on Violence Against Children

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Legal Advisor

Thank you, Mr. President.

We wish to thank the Special Representative of the Secretary General for children in armed conflict for her important report.

It is Israel's strong opinion that on the issue of use of children by non-states armed-groups, the terrorist organization Hamas must also be under examination. Hamas doesn't only use children as human shields by sending them to the front line during an armed conflict but also uses those children's right of education to teach hatred and discrimination and instead of making models out of the true heroes of humanity for peace and coexistence, teaches children to glorify and look up to shahids and terrorists as role models.

Moreover, in addition to the concerns expressed in the report, we would like to add our own regarding the tremendous impact of armed conflicts on children who are victims of terrorist attacks perpetrated by non-state armed groups, children whom their childhood is deprived of then when the reality obligates them to fear balloons and kites, to fear walking freely on the streets, and even fear from going to sleep in their own beds, children whom their right of education is hampered by the constant need to run to shelters several times a day, and at times not even being able to go to school due to high security risks.

Therefore we would like to invite the Special Representative to focus her next report on the issue of brainwashing young children's minds with messages of hate and discrimination, and with the promise of glorification and prosperity to themselves and their families as a basis for them to perpetrate terror attacks.

Mr. President,

We would also like to thank the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against children for her very significant report.

It is crucial that children feel safe in their own homes. Already in 1991, the Supreme Court of Israel acknowledged that corporal punishment is unlawful and could be considered a criminal act of child abuse. Since last year violence against children is a criminal offence in Israel.

Furthermore, last year Israel opened the Child Online Protection Bureaus for the prevention of cybercrime and online violence, first and foremost against children.

Finally, Israel strongly agrees that children should be aware of their rights. Therefore, back in 2011, the Ministry of Education and UNICEF Israel interoperated the CRC to a child friendly language and translated it into Arabic, English and Russian.

I thank you Mr. President.