



Office of the Special Representative
of the Secretary-General for

CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2009-2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	P.3
2. Mission Statement	P.5
3. Objectives	P.6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To support global initiatives to end grave violations against children affected by armed conflict• To promote the rights of children affected by armed conflict and advocate for their protection and care• To make CAAC concerns an integral part of Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding• To strengthen knowledge and research through partnership• To secure political and diplomatic engagement of Member States on CAAC initiatives• To raise global awareness and support with regard to all issues relating to children and armed conflict	
4. Strategies	P.11
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring and Reporting• Advocacy• Research• Working in partnership, coordination and mainstreaming	
5. The Office of the Special Representative	P.14
6. Abbreviations	P.16
Annex 1 - Relevant elements of the founding G.A. Resolution for the mandate of the SRSG/CAAC	P.17

1. INTRODUCTION



© UNICEF/NYHQ2002-0105/Markisz

"We cannot waste our precious children. Not another one, not another day. It is long past time for us to act on their behalf. The impact of conflict on children is everyone's responsibility and it must be everyone's concern."

Graça Machel

In 1996, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/51/77 which called for the Secretary-General to appoint for a period of three years a Special Representative as a high-level independent voice for Children affected by Armed Conflict. The General Assembly has since extended the mandate of the Special Representative on four occasions, most recently in December 2008 (A/RES/63/241).

The initial mandating resolution of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG/CAAC) stemmed from a groundbreaking report on the "Impact of armed conflict on children" (A/51/306 and Add.1) presented to the General Assembly that year by Ms. Graça Machel, former Minister of Education of Mozambique.

The Machel Report was the result of two years of extensive research, consultations and field visits. It was prepared with the special support of UNICEF, UNHCR and OHCHR. This report provided the first comprehensive assessment of the multiple ways in which children are abused and brutalized in the context of armed conflict. It called the attention of the international community to the need to ensure their protection. This call has been reiterated in the recent ten-year review of the Machel Report which also notes the changing nature of armed conflict and consequences for children (A/62/228).

Collaborative efforts over the last ten years between the Office of the SRSR/CAAC, UNICEF and other key United Nations entities, as well as United Nations Member States, regional organizations, NGOs and other civil society groups, have resulted in significant advances for the children and armed conflict agenda. These advances include increased global awareness of some of the issues concerning children affected by armed conflict; development of international norms and standards; strengthening legal protection for children; placing children and armed conflict on the international peace and security agenda through systematic engagement of the Security Council on this issue; and increased mainstreaming of children and armed conflict in the United Nations system and beyond. The broadening of the global circle of stakeholders and action on children and armed conflict through strategic and concerted advocacy has been critical in this process.

At the 2005 World Summit, governments reaffirmed (World Summit Outcome Document - A/RES/60/1) their commitment to promote and protect the rights and welfare of children in armed conflicts and called upon all States concerned to take concrete measures to ensure accountability and compliance by those responsible for grave abuses against children. They further welcomed the significant advances achieved over the past several years, and in particular welcomed the adoption of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 to establish a monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict.

Challenges, however, remain. The Machel Strategic Review, commissioned jointly by OSRSG/CAAC and UNICEF ten years after the original report, identifies progress made in the development of agreed international standards and norms for the protection of children affected by armed conflict. At the same time it underscores the changing nature of armed conflict as a central concern in addressing the protection and needs of war-affected children.

The Strategic Review includes among its recommendations that there be expanded action in: securing universal compliance with international norms and standards; ending impunity; ending gender based violence, strengthening national capacities for the protection and care of children in armed conflict including the development of inclusive reintegration strategies; securing the engagement of regional bodies; increased child participation and ensuring that all the rights of children affected by armed conflict are protected

These challenges call for innovative strategies and a renewed engagement by the international community. OSRSG/CAAC, in consultation with partners, hopes to keep the agenda alive and to take the lead in securing political and diplomatic engagement on all the issues that concern children in situations of armed conflict. To that end, OSRSG/CAAC presents this strategic framework, in line with paragraph 36 of the mandating resolution (see Annex 1). The framework was drafted after wide-ranging consultations with our partners and Member States over the last year.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

“To promote and protect the rights of all children affected by armed conflict”

- The SRSG serves as a moral voice and an **independent advocate for the protection** and well-being of boys and girls affected by armed conflict.
- The SRSG and her office advocate, build **awareness** and give prominence to the rights and protection of children affected by armed conflict.
- The SRSG works with **partners** to propose ideas and approaches to enhance the protection of children affected by armed conflict and to promote a more concerted protection response.
- The SRSG is a **facilitator**, undertaking humanitarian and diplomatic initiatives to facilitate the work of operational actors on the ground with regard to children affected by armed conflict.



© UNICEF/NYHQ2006-1679/Brooks

3. OBJECTIVES



Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy puts forward this three-year strategic plan to strengthen and consolidate the gains made since the establishment of the mandate in 1996 and to meet the new challenges that face the office in 2009 and beyond.

© United Nations/Photo Library133172/Paulo Filgueiras

3.1. To support global initiatives to end grave violations against children affected by armed conflict

The first priority for OSRSG/CAAC will be to support global efforts to prevent and address grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict. Killing and maiming of children, abduction, recruitment and use of children, rape, attacks on schools and hospitals and denial of humanitarian access are grave violations that require the concerted action of the international community. Forced displacement, arbitrary detention and trafficking also continue to pose major challenges for the protection of children in situations of armed conflict.

In this regard, it must be noted that one of the great advances in the protection of children in recent times is the intervention of the United Nations **Security Council** and the passing of **resolution 1612** on 26 July 2005. The resolution requests the Secretary-General to implement a comprehensive **monitoring and reporting mechanism on the six grave violations** against children, which may eventually lead to targeted measures against offending parties. The resolution also calls for the creation of a Security Council Working Group to deal specifically with children and armed conflict, and to review reports of the mechanism as well as progress on action plans as called for in Security Council resolution 1539 of April 2004.

In this context, the primary goal of the Office over the coming three years will be, in consultation with UNICEF and other partners, to take the lead on issues relating to the above-mentioned Security Council reporting and coordination process. The Working Group set up by the Security Council envisions bimonthly meetings. The Secretary-General will be required to provide to the Working Group, specific reports on country situations set out in its agenda and a Horizontal Note on current developments with regard to children and armed conflict. OSRSG/CAAC will ensure that these reports have gone through a thorough vetting and review process prior to submission by the Secretary-General to the Security Council Working Group. Additionally, OSRSG/CAAC will work toward the development of action plans as called for in Security Council resolution 1539 of April 2004, in consultation with UNICEF, DPKO and its other partners.

Finally, the Office will prepare in close consultation with Member States, members of the UN Task Force on CAAC¹, and NGOs, the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council simultaneously submitted to the General Assembly. This report will include detailed information on compliance and progress in ending the grave violations against children by parties in situations of concern. This reporting process has as its main purpose the curtailment of these practices and an end to impunity.

The Office will also closely follow proceedings of the International Criminal Court and other international tribunals in cases relating to grave violations against children. In this regard, where appropriate and in consultation with the office of the Secretary-General, the Office may file amicus curiae containing gathered information as well as our approach to the legal interpretation of the provisions of the ICC relating to war crimes and crimes against humanity involving children.

Ending of impunity, to be sustainable, must involve the active participation of Member States. It is important to build national capacity to ensure systematic and timely investigation and prosecution of crimes against children. To this end, OSRSG/CAAC will work with operational partners to advocate for increased international cooperation and strengthened programmes to assist Member States.

For the purpose of child protection, OSRSG/CAAC will, when appropriate, undertake dialogue with parties to conflict, including non-State actors, in support of the development of concrete and time-bound action plans to halt recruitment and use of children in violation of applicable international law, and to address all violations and abuses against children.

3.2. To promote the rights of children affected by armed conflict and advocate for their protection and care

In addition to taking measures for monitoring and reporting violations and ending impunity, OSRSG/CAAC will promote the adoption of a rights-based approach to protect and support the rights of all children affected by armed conflict.

As Graça Machel wrote in her report, “**war violates every right of the child**”. OSRSG/CAAC will continue to advocate that all the rights of children are protected. Basic services such as education, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, HIV and AIDS initiatives, reproductive health, psychological support and social services must be present for children in situations of conflict.

OSRSG/CAAC will advocate particularly for education in conflict and crisis situations, to ensure that education is an integral part of international humanitarian assistance planning and support and also that all schools remain “safe zones” during conflict.

OSRSG/CAAC will also advocate for the **protection of internally-displaced children**, and in close consultation and collaboration with UNHCR, for the **protection of refugee children** to ensure that their special needs are met and work toward securing camps to prevent abduction, recruitment and sexual violence.

Increasingly, **child and youth participation** in decisions that affect them has allowed operational partners to develop effective programmes. OSRSG/CAAC will try to involve youth and children in its communication and advocacy efforts, as well as, where appropriate monitoring and reporting processes.

¹ The United Nations Task Force on Children and Armed Conflict, which consists of all concerned United Nations offices, departments, funds and programmes, serves as a locus of consultation and policy formulation on children and armed conflict.



©Alvaro Ybarra Zavala (2004)

Prevention of child recruitment is also an important part of protecting children in situations of armed conflict. OSRSG/CAAC will work with development partners to advocate for prioritizing children and youth in their programme planning. Providing education, livelihood training and opportunities for youth and other special programmes for children and youth, particularly in the areas of armed conflict may help reduce the number of children recruited into armed groups.

The successful **reintegration of children** back into their communities remains a high priority for OSRSG/CAAC. The SRSR and her Office will advocate for inclusive community based programming for reintegration that does not stigmatize returning children. She will also advocate for special programmes for children who have experienced sexual violence, who have been forced to commit extreme acts of violence or who do not want to go back to their homes. Such programmes should not treat children as victims only but should capitalize on strengths and skills learnt. OSRSG/CAAC will promote the need for adequate funding for these programmes, in close cooperation with operational partners.

The SRSR will engage in high level advocacy with regard to the **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict**, and will cooperate closely with the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in monitoring situations of concern including the reporting process under the Convention on the Rights of the Child in particular the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict. She and her Office will advocate for the implementation of the concluding observations of the CRC, including under the Optional Protocol.

The SRSR will continue to report annually to the **Human Rights Council** and will also continue to cooperate with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, as well as contribute to discussions under the Universal Periodic Review. Additionally, the SRSR will seek complementarity of efforts with the Special Representative on Violence Against Children.

3.3. To make CAAC concerns an integral part of Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

The Office is aware that there are many peacekeeping operations around the world and that there is the need for peacebuilding in a systematic and comprehensive manner. In this regard, the Office will work closely with UNICEF, DPKO, DPA, ILO, OHCHR, the Peacebuilding Support Office and other partners to ensure that children's protection, demobilization and reintegration needs are addressed in the initial planning and implementation stages of peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations

OSRSG/CAAC will also work with DPKO in developing a child protection policy. Emphasis will be given to the important role of child protection advisors and other child protection procedures and mechanisms in peacekeeping operations.

OSRSG/CAAC will furthermore seek to ensure that child protection clauses are present in peace agreements and Security Council resolutions dealing with peacekeeping. OSRSG/CAAC will assist partners in advocating for child and youth participation in the peacebuilding process.

3.4. To strengthen knowledge and research through partnership

In line with the mandate of the SRSG to serve as a convener, facilitator, and promoter of ideas, her office will bring together academics, Member States and the community of practitioners to explore more fully themes of cross-cutting interest and concern. This would allow for a better understanding of the issues and permit reflection on the larger frameworks and processes.

During recent field visits, OSRSG/CAAC has noticed the **impact of the changing nature of warfare**. In the next years, the Office will attempt to bring academics and practitioners together to discuss these concerns so as to better understand how to protect children in situations of armed conflict.

Terrorism and counter-terrorism strategies take a terrible toll on civilian life, including children. Terrorist tactics imply the targeting of civilians. In certain parts of the world children, schools and teachers are also targeted. Children have been used as suicide bombers. Counter-terrorism strategies often result in collateral damage and civilian casualties. A large number of children are often detained as part of ongoing operations. Humanitarian assistance to civilians is also affected. There is a need to look at these issues more systematically with the help of academics to see what kind of strategies could be developed to maximize protection efforts for children.

In many parts of the world, there is a blurring of the lines between criminal and political activity. Armed groups involved in political activity are also conducting criminal operations and criminal gangs now develop close relationships with political actors, especially in situations of armed conflict. We have seen this happen in Colombia, Haiti and the Terai in Nepal. We hope to explore this linkage more carefully and its implications for the recruitment of children. In this context, OSRSG will work closely with the new SRSG on Violence Against Children, relevant special procedures of the Human Rights Council, academics and practitioners in trying to understand frameworks that will better protect children.

The Paris Principles and other guidelines by operational partners have developed frameworks for reintegration of children associated with armed groups. It is now time to see if the application of these frameworks is producing results. What refinements are necessary to the frameworks that will better our understanding of reintegration? What are some of the best practices?

Finally, an important concern of our work is the children and youth themselves. What are their attitudes, opinions and expectations especially in the reconstruction phase? It is important to listen to their voices and to give a place for their narratives. OSRSG/CAAC will continue to record and collect narratives of children's lives in conflict zones as well as work with academics who conduct interviews and programmes with these children in an attempt to better understand their aspirations.

3.5. To secure political and diplomatic engagement of Member States on CAAC initiatives

As an independent moral voice for children and armed conflict, the SRSG will seek to enhance consultations and diplomatic engagement with Member States and regional bodies on issues relating to her work. Through her mandated reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, briefings at international and regional fora and bilateral exchanges, the SRSG hopes to keep all Member States fully informed of developments in her mandate and the special problems faced by children affected by armed conflict. She will attempt to garner the political will necessary to ensure that the international community acts decisively and effectively when it comes to protecting children during armed conflict.

3.6. To raise global awareness and support with regard to all issues relating to children and armed conflict

Raising awareness with regard to the rights of all children affected by armed conflict remains one of the principal goals of OSRSG/CAAC. A major element in this regard includes **high-level field visits to situations of concern** to raise the profile and visibility of issues relating to children and armed conflict. Meetings with Government and opposition leaders, State officials, civil society, parties to conflict and the children themselves not only result in raising visibility of the issue, but it may also act as a catalyst for effective action on the ground. All field visits are closely coordinated with the UN Country Team, in particular UNICEF, and with the DPKO mission where it exists as well as with other partners on the ground.

In addition to field visits, the Office will engage in **public outreach** through the implementation of a communications strategy. This includes media relations, maintaining an up-to-date website that serves as a platform of references on children and armed conflict issues for United Nations partners, Member States, NGOs, practitioners, the media and the public at large, the organization of special events focusing on themes related to children and armed conflict, convening of meetings with a broad spectrum of partners and civil society groups wherever appropriate to discuss issues of mutual interest; and facilitating a network of former child soldiers who have rebuilt their lives after their experience. In this context the SRSG will raise awareness about the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, and the need for national legislation consistent with the same.

A communications strategy will draw on the fact that the SRSG serves as an independent moral voice who advocates to promote and to protect the rights of all children in armed conflict and also gives a voice to the children so that their stories can be told and heard. Emphasis will be given to the fight against impunity, the need for sustainable reintegration policies, education in emergencies, the protection of internally displaced and refugee children, prioritizing youth and children in development policies in conflict zones, the provision of basic services, and child participation.

4. STRATEGIES

In pursuit of the above objectives, the Office will engage in four essential strategies:

1. Monitoring and reporting
2. Advocacy with regard to all aspects of the CAAC agenda
3. Research and study
4. Working in partnership and coordination with other UN entities to ensure mainstreaming of all aspects of the CAAC agenda

4.1. Monitoring and Reporting

The monitoring and reporting mechanism on children affected by armed conflict addresses six grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict:

- Killing or maiming of children.
- Recruiting or using child soldiers.
- Attacks against schools or hospitals.
- Rape or other grave sexual violence against children.
- Abduction of children.
- Denial of humanitarian access for children.

Following the landmark Security Council resolution 1612 (2005), the Office has been tasked with the coordination, vetting and preparation of the Secretary-General's reports to the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict. The Council's attention to the plight of children affected by armed conflict within the peace and security agenda is a keystone of OSRSG/CAAC's work and an important element of the "era of application" campaign.

Coordination of monitoring and reporting efforts

The Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism, as endorsed by the Security Council, ensures timely, accurate and objective information on grave violations against children in situations of conflict through the establishment of independent country-level task forces. These are chaired by the SRSG of peacekeeping and political missions or the Resident Coordinator of UN country teams and usually co-chaired by UNICEF, and include all relevant UN agencies. At the discretion of the chair, independent government bodies such as National Human Rights Commissions and civil society groups may participate as appropriate. The task forces collect and verify information on violations at country level. This is then passed through the country SRSG or Resident Coordinator to OSRSG/CAAC, which serves a UN Secretariat function for the drafting, consultation and preparation of reports of the Secretary-General. The reports are finalized in collaboration with the Steering Committee² on Monitoring and Reporting, co-chaired by OSRSG/CAAC and UNICEF and after consultation with concerned Member States.

The SRSG, as convener of the UN Secretariat Task Force on CAAC is also charged with drafting the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on children and armed conflict in close coordination with UN partners, Member States and civil society actions.

² A Steering Committee of the HQ Task Force on Children and Armed Conflict was formed to provide a working level inter agency advisory committee to ensure that information is well vetted, as well as providing technical guidance and support to country task forces.

4.2. Advocacy

Targeted, concerted and strategic advocacy on all aspects of the children and armed conflict agenda is essential for the achievement of the strategic objectives and underpins the work of the Office. It will be geared towards: a) creating awareness and global consensus on the need to protect all children affected by armed conflict both during and after conflict; b) creating a broad coalition of support for the further development and application of international human rights standards as they relate to war-affected children; c) advancing ideas and mobilizing support for policies with the United Nations system, regional organizations and donor aid practices to ensure that the protection of children affected by armed conflict is addressed in their peacebuilding, human rights, humanitarian, transitional and development aid strategies.

The SRSG's advocacy efforts will focus in particular on 'destinations for action' such as the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Security Council, the Peacebuilding Commission, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, regional organizations, national Governments, NGO's, civil society groups, and parties to conflict.

The Ten Year Strategic Review of the Machel Report will also serve as an important source for advocacy efforts.

4.3. Research

Though OSRSG/CAAC will not conduct its own research it will, subject to the availability of funds, convene seminars where academics working on the theme of children and armed conflict may interact with Member States, UN independent experts and agencies and NGO's to discuss knowledge gaps, or findings of recent research with programmatic response or policy implications. In certain areas, in close consultation with partners, the SRSG may commission independent experts to submit research papers on themes of concern to the office.



© UNICEF/NYHQ2006-1118/Brooks

4.4. Working in partnership, coordination and mainstreaming

The SRSG will make special efforts to ensure an effective, consultative and collaborative approach with key partners in implementing the four strategies identified. The SRSG chairs the **UN Task Force on Children and Armed Conflict**, in which all key UN partners participate. This forum serves as a locus of consultation and policy formulation on children and armed conflict, and as such represents an important tool for the mainstreaming and coordination of these issues. In addition, the SRSG/CAAC meets on a regular basis with Member States, NGO partners and other civil society groups.



© United Nations/Photo Library

The mainstreaming of the concerns of children affected by armed conflict into the policies and programmes of UN System entities and into UN institutional processes is a central priority, and ultimately critical to ensuring the protection and well-being of war-affected children. Also vitally important is the mainstreaming of this issue beyond the United Nations, into the priorities and activities of regional organizations and other multilateral groupings and into key national institutions and processes at country-level.

Within the United Nations system, the SRSG/CAAC will focus in particular on mainstreaming the issue of children and armed conflict in the peace and security sector. This includes continued advocacy to deepen and concentrate the engagement of the Security Council on this issue, and to integrate children's concerns more effectively in the context of United Nations peacekeeping, peacemaking, peacebuilding and other relevant thematic activities across the United Nations system.

The SRSG/CAAC will also focus attention on children and armed conflict in the context of the key UN executive coordination mechanisms such as the Policy Committee, Senior Management Group, the Executive Committee on Peace and Security, and the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs, and will work closely with relevant partners for the integration of children and armed conflict concerns into important newly emerging arrangements such as the Peacebuilding Commission and the Human Rights Council.

OSRSG/CAAC will continue to work closely with **key operational partners** in particular UNICEF and DPKO and will also seek to further strengthen its partnership with UNHCR, UNDP, OCHA, OHCHR, ILO, UNIFEM and UNFPA with a view to further mainstreaming CAAC related protection concerns and strategies in these. Further engagement with the Protection Cluster Working Groups as appropriate at the global and field levels will also be further explored.

Beyond the United Nations, the SRSG/CAAC and her office will continue to encourage the strategic and concerted focus on children and armed conflict of **regional organizations** in their peacemaking, peacebuilding and peacekeeping engagements, and in the activities of important multilateral entities, such as the World Bank, which are also becoming increasingly engaged in programmatic activities in conflict and post-conflict settings. Particularly in the context of visits to conflict-affected areas, the SRSG/CAAC will advocate for better coordination, mainstreaming and response for children at the national level.

Civil society and NGO remain important partners for OSRSG/CAAC. Their advocacy complements the role of the SRSG and strengthens the work of the office. The OSRSG/CAAC has created an informal advisory group of NGOs that meets on a bimonthly basis. The SRSG will use these meetings to communicate the work of the Office, to listen to the concerns of NGOs and to discuss themes of common interest.

5. THE OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE

5.1 The Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict



© United Nations/Photo Library/Myriam Asmani

Radhika Coomaraswamy was appointed by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan as Under-Secretary-General, Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, in April 2006. She was reappointed by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in February 2007. In this capacity, she serves as a moral voice and independent advocate to build awareness and give prominence to the rights and protection of boys and girls affected by armed conflict.

Ms. Coomaraswamy, a lawyer by training and formerly the Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Human Rights Commission, is an internationally known human rights advocate who has done outstanding work as Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women (1994-2003). In her reports to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, she has written on violence in the family, violence in the community, violence against women during armed conflict and the problem of international trafficking. A strong advocate on women's rights, she has intervened on behalf of countless women throughout the world seeking clarification from Governments in cases involving violence against women.

Ms. Coomaraswamy was appointed Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Human Rights Commission in May 2003. She has served as a member of the Global Faculty of the New York University School of Law. She has published widely, including on constitutional law and on ethnic studies and the status of women.

Ms. Coomaraswamy has won many awards. These include: the International Law Award of the American Bar association, the Human Rights Award of the International Human Rights Law Group, the Bruno Kreisky Award of 2000, the Leo Ettinger Human Rights Prize of the University of Oslo, Cesar Romero Award of the University of Dayton, the William J. Butler Award from the University of Cincinnati, and the Robert S. Litvack Award from McGill University

Ms. Coomaraswamy is a graduate of the United Nations International School in New York. She received her B.A. from Yale University, her J.D. from Columbia University, an LL.M. from Harvard University and honorary PhDs from Amherst College, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Essex.



5.2 Budget and staff

The General Assembly has approved funds from the regular budget to cover core functions of the Office in 2009. The regular budget allotment of US\$1.8 million for one year covers the approved posts of the Office, including some official travel, consultancy support and operating expenses. The monitoring and reporting activities of the office are almost wholly funded by the regular budget. OSRSG/CAAC hopes to raise voluntary contributions to meet the additional outreach activities and research goals set out in the strategic vision. The core staffing structure of the Office approved by the General Assembly in 2008 for 2009 consists of one USG post, one P-5, two P-4 posts, three P-3s, one GS-7 and two other level GS posts.

<p>Carolina Owens Chief of Office & Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary-General Tel: 212-963-9614 owensc@un.org</p>	<p>Roxana García Personal Assistant to the Under-Secretary-General Tel: 212-963-1555 garcia19@un.org</p>
<p>Tonderai Chikuhwa Programme Officer Tel: 212-963-0879 chikuhwa@un.org</p>	<p>Alec Wargo Programme Officer Tel: 212-963-9879 wargo@un.org</p>
<p>Laurence Gerard Communications Officer Tel: 212-963-0984 gerardl@un.org</p>	<p>Luca Solimeo Associate Expert Tel: 917-367-3563 solimeo@un.org</p>
<p>Rosalie Azar Associate Expert Tel: 917-367-8299 azarr@un.org</p>	<p>Jeyashree Nadarajah Programme Officer Tel: 917-367-9251 nadarajah@un.org</p>
<p>JoanAnn Hains Senior Administrative Assistant Tel: 212-963-3462 hains@un.org</p>	<p>Fernando Falcón Team Assistant Tel: 917-367-8234 falcon@un.org</p>

United Nations Headquarters - S-3161New York, NY 10017 - Tel: 212-963-3178 - Fax: 212-963-0807

Further information visit our website

www.un.org/children/conflict

6. ABBREVIATIONS

CAAC	"Children and Armed Conflict" or "Children affected by armed conflict"
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child and/or Committee on the Rights of the Child
DPA	Department of Political Affairs
DPKO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
GS	General Service
ICC	International Criminal Court
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
ILO	International Labour Organization
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSRSG/CAAC	Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
SCWG	Security Council Working Group
SRSR/CAAC	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USG	Under-Secretary-General
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
WFCL	Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention

ANNEX 1 – A/RES/51/77 (1996)

RELEVANT ELEMENTS OF THE FOUNDING G.A. RESOLUTION FOR THE MANDATE OF THE SRSG/CAAC

A/RES/51/77 Page 7

35. Recommends that the Secretary-General appoint for a period of three years a Special Representative on the impact of armed conflict on children and ensure that the necessary support is made available to the Special Representative for the effective performance of his/her mandate, encourages the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/Centre for Human Rights to provide support to the Special Representative, and calls upon States and institutions concerned to provide voluntary contributions for that purpose;

36. Recommends that the Special Representative:

(a) Assess progress achieved, steps taken and difficulties encountered in strengthening the protection of children in situations of armed conflict;

(b) Raise awareness and promote the collection of information about the plight of children affected by armed conflict and encourage the development of networking;

(c) Work closely with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other competent bodies, as well as non-governmental organizations;

(d) Foster international cooperation to ensure respect for children's rights in these situations and contribute to the coordination of efforts by Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, notably the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/Centre for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the specialized agencies and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, relevant special rapporteurs and working groups, as well as United Nations field operations, regional and sub regional organizations, other competent bodies and non-governmental organizations;

37. Requests the Special Representative to submit to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights an annual report containing relevant information on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, bearing in mind existing mandates and reports of relevant bodies;

38. Requests Governments, the specialized agencies, relevant United Nations organs and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as the Committee on the Rights of the Child, other relevant human rights treaty bodies and human rights mechanisms, to cooperate with the Special Representative and to provide information on the measures adopted to ensure and respect the rights of children affected by armed conflict;

39. Calls upon Member States and relevant United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations to consider how the impact of armed conflict on children can best be integrated into events designed to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Children and the entry into force of the Convention;



Office of the Special Representative
of the Secretary-General for

**CHILDREN AND
ARMED CONFLICT**



WWW.UN.ORG/CHILDREN/CONFLICT