



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10 January 2017

Excellency,

Twenty years ago, on 12 December 1996, the General Assembly adopted the landmark resolution 51/77 which created the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

In two decades, this General Assembly mandate has led to positive changes in the lives of children growing up in countries affected by war, including the release and reintegration of tens of thousands of child soldiers and increased accountability for perpetrators.

The 2030 Agenda envisages a world which invests in its children and in which every child grows up free from violence and exploitation. I will organize an informal meeting to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the mandate on Children and Armed Conflict and to reflect on the progress achieved as well as to discuss challenges and ways to strengthen the protection of children in armed conflict including in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8 February 2017, from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. Further information about the program of the meeting will be shared in due course.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson', written in a cursive style.

Peter Thomson

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York