



UN MILITARY
SPECIALISED
TRAINING MATERIALS
ON CHILD PROTECTION

Trainer's Guide

PREFACE

Background

1. Deploying Military peacekeepers trained in child rights and child protection has become an increasingly crucial element for UN Peace Operations. They are mandated by the Security Council resolutions on children and armed conflict, which were established to protect children from the effects of conflict. Security Council resolutions 1261 (1999), 1379 (2001), 1460 (2003), 1612 (2005), 2143 (2014), 2225 (2015), and 2427 (2018) specifically call for training of peacekeepers on the protection and rights of children and pre-deployment awareness training on child protection. Accordingly, the training of Military peacekeepers on Child Protection is recognised as a key priority for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) in its Child Protection Policy.
2. In 2008, DPKO included a Child Protection training module in its Core Pre-deployment Training Materials (CPTM) as part of the mandatory curriculum.
3. In 2017, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, C34, in its report A/71/19, affirms *“...the importance of continuing to ensure that all peacekeeping personnel receive adequate training on child protection and child rights in order to strengthen the protection of children in conflict and post-conflict situations. The Special Committee also notes with appreciation the efforts to update training programmes and materials, all of which are critical to ensuring that there is an effective and comprehensive response, including preventive measures, with respect to child protection. The Special Committee welcomes the launch of the child protection pre-deployment training modules developed by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and UNICEF, encourages the continued development of specialised training modules on child protection for all categories of peacekeeping personnel, requests the Department to make them available, and encourages troop and police-contributing countries, as well as all regional and national peacekeeping training centres, to make full use of them.”*
4. In Resolution 2143 (2014), paragraph 20, the Security Council, *“...Recommends that Member States include child protection in military training and standard operating procedures, as well as in military guidance as appropriate; recommends further that United Nations entities and United Nations peacekeeping troop and police-contributing countries undertake targeted and operational trainings for the preparation of United Nations mission personnel including troop and police contingents on their contribution in preventing violations against children so as to give all mission personnel the ability to effectively recognize, report and respond to*

violations and abuses committed against children and to successfully support child protection activities for better implementation of their respective mandates...”

Child Protection Training Materials 2014

5. Following the request of the C34 in 2012, DPKO surveyed six peacekeeping missions on child protection training needs and received over 500 replies from actively serving peacekeepers. With this critical input from the field, the materials were developed in close consultation with child protection actors, as well as all members of the C34. A total of 37 Member States participated in the workshops accompanying the development process.
6. The resulting materials included:
 - a. An update to the Module on Child Protection included in the Core Pre-deployment Training package;
 - b. Specialised Training Materials on Child Protection; and a
 - c. Training Film.

They were designed for the Pre-deployment and in-mission training of UN Peacekeepers, both military personnel and Formed Police Units. These modules are available at the Peacekeeping Resource Hub web page: <http://www.peacekeepingbestpractices.unlb.org/PBPS/Pages/Public/Home.aspx>

Updated Child Protection Training Materials, 2018

7. These training materials were reviewed and updated in 2018 to ensure compliance with the latest UN Child Protection policy and guidelines for UN Military peacekeepers. The updated materials include new scenarios based on current challenges in the Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, and South Sudan.
8. Specialised training materials on child protection were developed for UN Police in 2015/16. A separate specialised training materials package on child protection for Military Child Protection Focal Points is also under development and will be issued to Member States in 2018.

Purpose

9. Child protection is more than a subset of protection of civilians. While many of the concepts of POC and the basic information on the Rules of Engagement apply, the child protection mandate entails some very specific tasks the military needs to

undertake in addition to the physical protection of children. These are mandated by the Security Council and usually include, but are not limited to, supporting the implementation of a Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on grave violations against children, supporting the implementation of Action Plans to end these grave violations against children, and supporting DDR processes.

10. These training modules aim at introducing child protection concepts and providing child protection mission-specific tactical situations for discussion among military and police contingent leaders and staff. The materials intend to promote a better understanding of the missions' child protection mandate, actors in the mission and outside of the mission who contribute to the protection of children, and actors integral to the coordination of child protection.
11. Included in this training are exercises that encourage peacekeepers to consider their own behaviors towards children, and the differentiation between child protection activities and community outreach activities. Finally, the training focuses on the roles and responsibilities of every peacekeeper to successfully implement the child protection mandate. Three scenario-based exercises, set in UNMISS, MINUSCA and MONUSCO, allow for the opportunity to apply the knowledge presented in these modules.

Structure of the Materials

12. The six modules in this Specialised Training Material on Child Protection can be delivered over the duration of three days and are organised as follows:

Module 1: Children in Armed Conflict

Examines the impact of armed conflict on children and identifies the six grave violations that guides UN peacekeeping mandates.

Module 2: Frameworks for Child Protection

Examines the international laws, Security Council resolutions, and Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)-Department of Field Support (DFS)-Department of Political Affairs (DPA) Policy on Child Protection that guide all mission mandates.

Module 3: Interacting with Children

Examines the difference between military child protection activities and civilian child protection activities.

Module 4: Roles and Responsibilities of Peacekeeping Mission Components and External Partners

Identifies the various actors within peacekeeping missions, the role of the civilian child protection advisers and the military child protection officers, and the internal and

external child protection actors that coordinate with the military on issues related to child protection.

Module 5: Military Roles and Tasks on Child Protection Part I

Examines the roles and tasks of military personnel as related to child protection, situational awareness, and child protection considerations in military operations.

Module 6: Military Roles and Tasks on Child Protection Part II

Examines Rules of Engagement as related to child protection, reviews the grave violations peacekeepers are most likely to encounter in the field Mission context, as well as responses and appropriate actions when encountering child soldiers, and engages in scenario discussions.

Important Considerations for Peacekeeping Training Centre Commanders, Course Directors, and Trainers

13. This **training package is not a course. National trainers need to be prepared to design a course and adapt these materials to the needs of their audience.** The scenarios contain critical situations that have occurred in the field, combined with mission information on child protection, protection actors, and relevant mechanisms.
14. No single training materials can offer the entire complex and vast range of Child Protection challenges and possibilities. Therefore, Troop or Police Contributing Countries TCC/PCC have to **design courses according to the specificities of the particular area of operations in which battalions or FPUs will be deployed.** The same rationale applies for the training of Force level staff officers, military observers (MILOBs), military liaison officers (MLOs) and individual police officers (IPOs). National training systems (military and police) are requested to analyse the package and tailor the modules to their own needs. Mission operational documents such as the Mission Concept, the Force and Police Concept of Operations (CONOPS), operation orders, directives, Rules of Engagement (ROE) and Directives on the Use of Force (DUF), among other documents deemed necessary like country maps, should be obtained by national trainers to supplement the scenarios and course design.
15. Concerning previous skill, behavior and knowledge, it is necessary that **all military and police recipients of this training be proficient in basic operational tasks (individually and collectively).** As such, it is expected that a battalion staff officer be fully capable of performing as a staff officer before receiving the training on child protection, just as it is expected that a driver be fully capable of driving a vehicle under certain weather and terrain conditions.

16. It is also decisive that trainees must have already received the **Core Pre-deployment Training Materials (CPTM)** as a pre-requisite before undertaking this **CP training**. The CPTM contains fundamental UN principles, concepts and ideas related to field mission structure and functioning, which should be well grasped by trainees before taking the Child Protection STM Course. **Any course to be designed by Member States should encompass the CPTM followed by any Child Protection specific materials for military or police.**

The CPTM can be downloaded at: <http://research.un.org/revisecptm2017>.

17. The training package places emphasis on understanding mission coordination among components (military, police and civilians). Therefore, **it is highly desirable that the national peacekeeping institution in charge of the training invites civilian child protection actors to participate in the training, and in particular, in the scenario discussions.** These civilians can be brought from existing UN country teams, UN agencies such as UNICEF or DPKO Child Protection, or INGOs such as Save the Children.
18. The materials, especially the scenarios, are mission-specific-based (i.e. from MONUSCO, UNMISS, and MINUSCA). Due to the fact that training materials cannot be classified and that there is a considerable amount of sensitive information in the situation depicted, the scenarios were developed on the grounds of a fictitious country named Mission X and Mission Y. Nevertheless, **the contexts in each of these scenarios are realistic mission-specific situations.**

Instructor Profile

19. This training package is best presented and applied by instructors who **master the Child Protection STM and the CPTM** and have preferably undertaken a TOT training on the latter materials. **Specific knowledge on the particular mission where the unit is to be deployed is advisable**, preferably if instructors participated in the targeted UN peacekeeping operations, so they are able to bring a practical understanding of a mission into class discussions. Finally, instructors should be familiar with facilitating scenario-based exercises.

Training Characteristics

20. Training for UN Infantry Battalion commanders and staff, FPU commanders and staff, and individually deployed personnel (Force staff officers, military observers, military liaison officers and individual police officers) may vary according to national peculiarities and resources. However, there are fundamental training characteristics

that must be respected when preparing to deploy to a peacekeeping mission:

- a) Training should be realistic: all necessary efforts shall be fulfilled to replicate possible real situations that the battalion might face on the ground;
- b) Training should be mission-specific: it is necessary to bring the missions' operational-reality to the training environment;
- c) Training methodology should be based on practice.

Acknowledgements

21. DPET would like to thank the numerous training personnel from national peacekeeping training institutions and field missions who provided feedback during the drafting process, including the participation in workshops and pilot courses. DPET would also like to thank the generous financial support of Member States, which enabled the broad consultations these materials are based on.
22. The content of these Specialised Training Materials was developed with the assistance of relevant substantive experts in the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support, with special support from the DPKO Office of Military Affairs (OMA), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG CAAC), UNICEF, Save the Children, and the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldier Initiative.

Symbols Legend

	Note to the Instructor Some background information to consider and mention
	Speaking Points The main points to cover on the topic; ideally the speaking points are presented in the trainers own words
	Learning Activity/Discussion An activity or discussions that is strongly recommended for inclusion
	Questions Potential questions to pose to learners
	Handout Indicates a handout that is to be provided to learners
	Film A film that is suggested as a core activity

REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

CONVENTIONS, PROTOCOLS, RESOLUTIONS & OTHER GUIDING FRAMEWORK

- UN Conventions on the Rights of the Child and Optional Protocols, 1989. (see also: http://www.unicef.org/crc/index_30160.html);
- The Geneva Convention of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977;
- The International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention 182 of 1999;
- The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 2000;
- The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, 2002;
- The Paris Principles and Guidelines on Children associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups, 2007;
- The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), 1998;
- Security Council Resolutions on Children and Armed Conflict: Resolutions 1261 (1999), 1314 (2000), 1379 (2001), 1460 (2003), 1539 (2004), 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009), 1998 (2011), 2068 (2012), 2143 (2014), 2225 (2015) and 2427 (2018);
- The Vancouver Principles on Peacekeeping and Preventing the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers, 2017.

NON-UN SOURCES

- Landmine Monitor 2017, International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munition Coalition, December 2017;
- Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative. Child Soldiers: A Handbook for Security Sector Actors, 2012 (Second Edition, 2013);
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Legal Framework for the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict, 2011.

UN SOURCES

- Code of Conduct and UN Policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, <http://cdu.unlb.org/UNStandardsofConduct/CodeofConduct.aspx>; <http://cdu.unlb.org/Policy/SexualExploitationandAbusePolicy.aspx>;
- DAW/UNICEF, The Girl Child and Armed Conflict: Recognizing and addressing grave violations of girls' human rights, September 2006;
- DPKO, Integrated Training Service, Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials, November 2009;
- DPKO, Integrated Training Service, Child Protection in Peacekeeping Training Modules, Core Pre-deployment Training Materials, September 2017;
- DPKO-DFS, Integrated Training Service, Comprehensive Protection of Civilians Training Materials for UN Peacekeeping Operations, 2017;
- DPKO-DFS, Guidelines on Implementing Protection of Civilians Mandates by Military Components of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, February 2015;
- DPKO-DFS Specialized Training Materials on Child Protection for UN Police, 2015/2016;
- DPKO-DFS-DPA Policy on Child Protection in UN Peace Operations, 2017;
- DPKO-UNICEF-OSRSG CAAC Field Manual: Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on Grave Violations against Children in Situations of Armed Conflict, 2012;
- Infantry Battalion Manual, Volume I, August 2012;
- Infantry Battalion Manual: Volume II, August 2012.
- Integrated Missions Planning Process (IMPP): Guidelines Endorsed by the Secretary-General on 13 June 2006;
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG CAAC), The Six Grave Violations Against Children During Armed Conflict: The Legal Foundation, 2009 (updated 2013);
- OSRSG CAAC, The Rights and Guarantees of Internally Displaced Children (Working Paper Number 2), 2011;

- Operational Guide to the Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards (IDDRS) — see chapters 5.20 on “Youth and DDR” and 5.30 “Children and DDR,” 2010;
- Peacekeeping Capstone Doctrine, 2008;
- UNICEF, Machel Study 10-Year Strategic Review: Children and Conflict in a Changing World, 2009.

WEBSITES & APPLICATIONS

- Children and Armed Conflict. Application for iPhone and Android, developed by Watchlist and Mission of Lichtenstein;
- <http://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/>;
- [http://www.icc-cpi.int/en_menus/icc/situations and cases/situations/situation icc 0104/related cases/icc 0104 0106/Pages/democratic republic of the congo.aspx](http://www.icc-cpi.int/en_menus/icc/situations%20and%20cases/situations/situation%20icc%200104/related%20cases/icc%200104%200106/Pages/democratic%20republic%20of%20the%20congo.aspx);
- <http://www.iccnw.org/?mod=drctimelinelubanga>;
- <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/issues/children/>;
- <http://watchlist.org/caac-smartphoneapp/iframe/6ResolutionsByTopic/6.9UNrole.htm>.