

# Module 1, Lesson 2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MISSION COMPONENTS AND EXTERNAL PARTNERS

## Learning Objectives

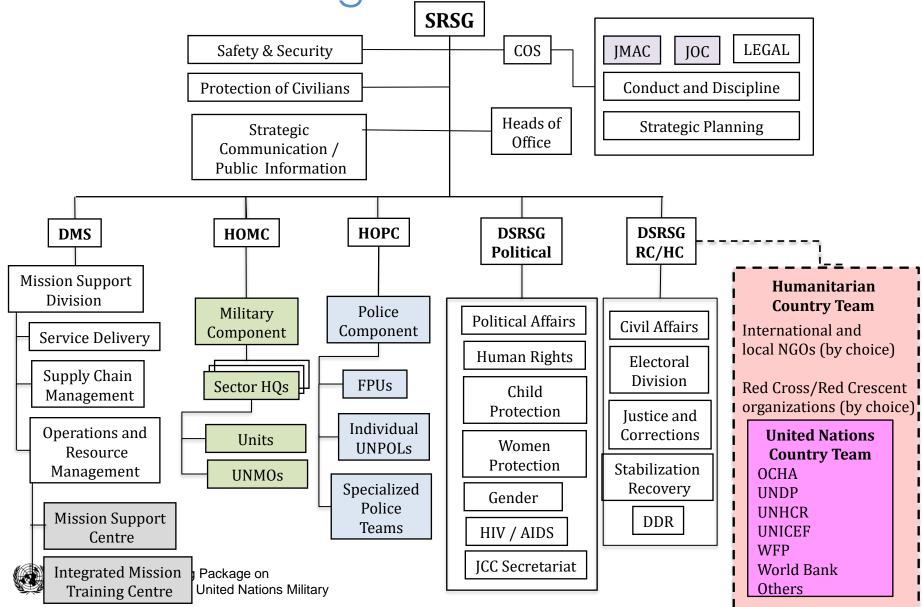
- Recognize that protecting children in armed conflict is a shared responsibility
- Describe the roles and responsibilities of the mission components with regard to protecting

children

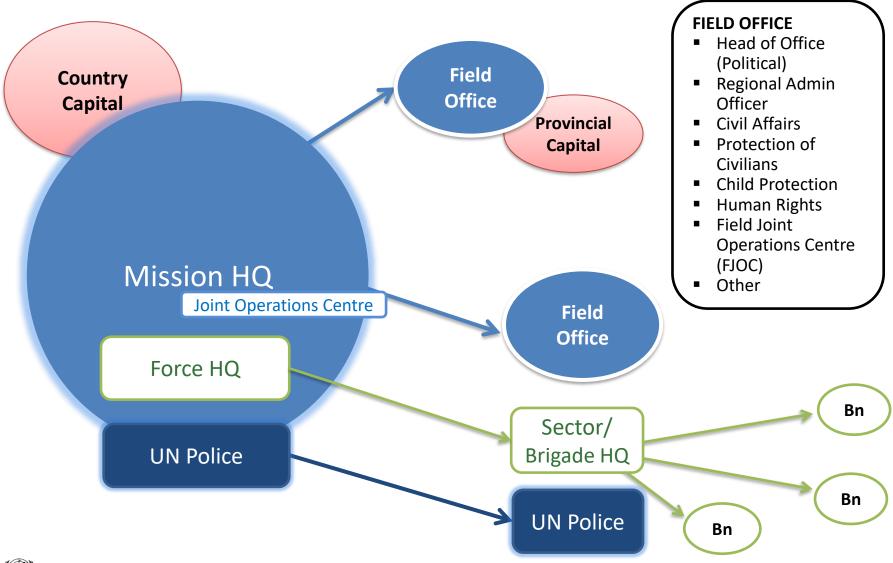
Explain the coordination mechanisms in a mission



# UN Mission – Generic Multidimensional Integrated Structure



#### **UN Field Office**

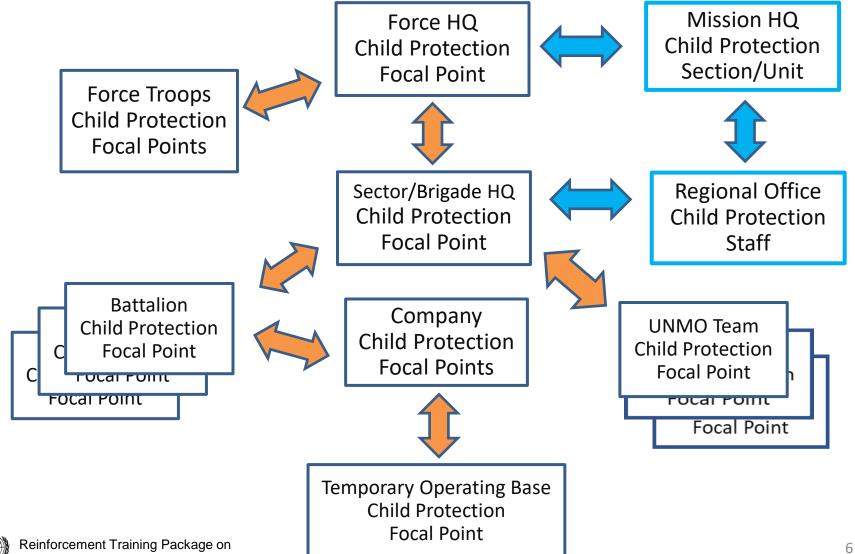


#### Civilian Child Protection Staff

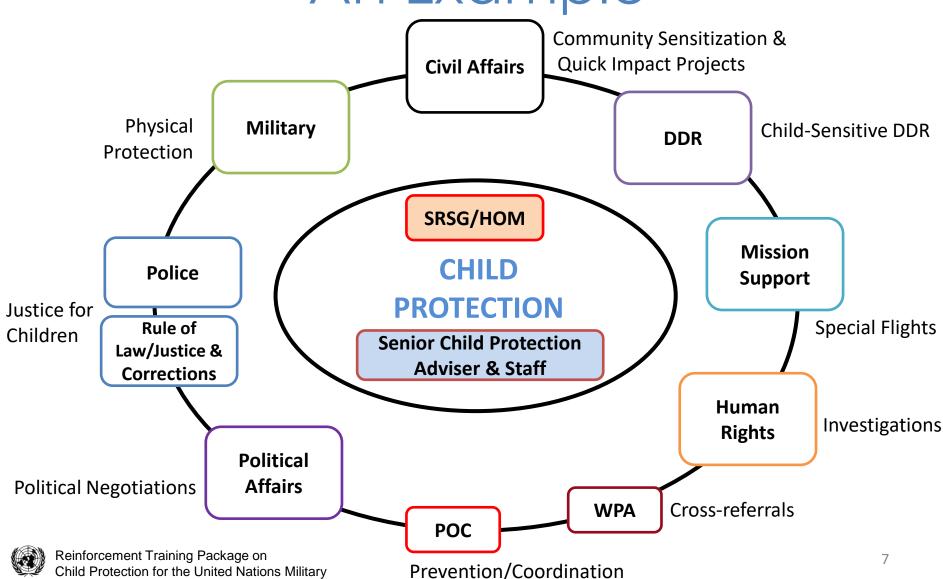
- Points of contact on child protection within peacekeeping mission
- Advise mission leadership on child protection
- Mainstream the child protection mandate across mission components/ sections
- Liaise with Protection of Civilian Advisers and uniformed components on prevention activities
- Conduct training on child protection for civilian and uniformed components
- Monitor and report on the six grave violations against children
- Co-chair the Country Task Forces on Monitoring and Reporting
- Engage in dialogue with parties to the conflict
- High-level advocacy for child protection needs
- Coordinate with UNICEF and other relevant actors

Note: a Child Protection Unit may be a stand-alone mission section or may be embedded within the Human Rights component

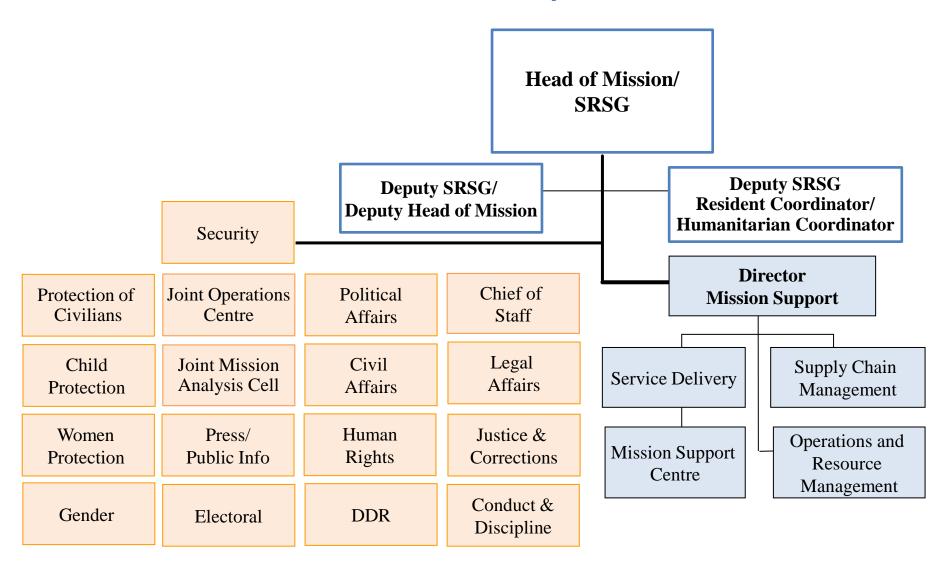
# Military Component Child Protection Focal Point System



# Sharing Responsibility An Example



## Civilian Component

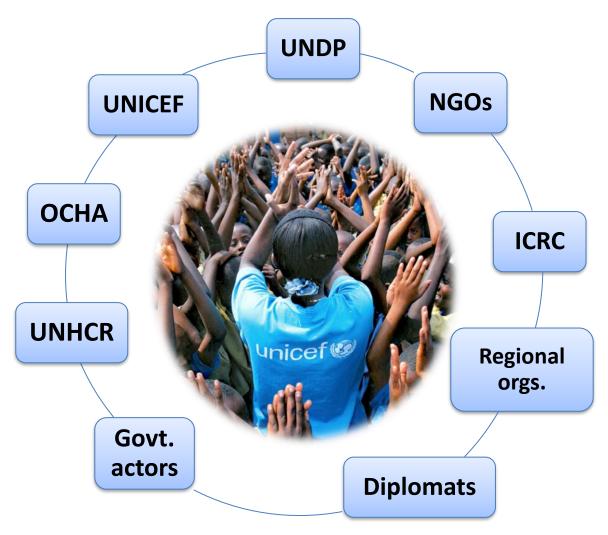


### Police Component

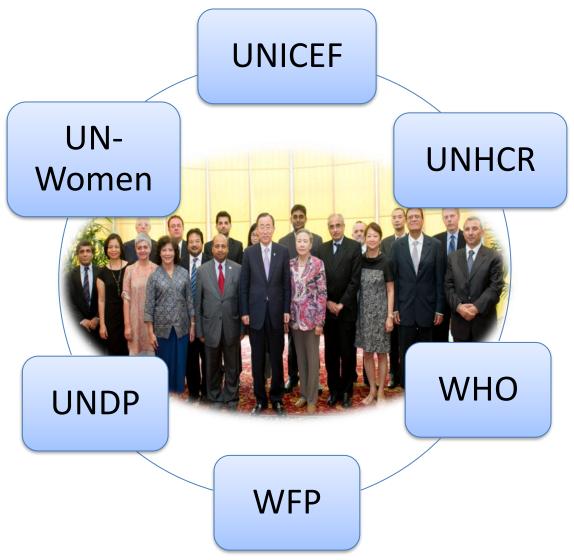
Head of Police Component/
Police Commissioner

Police Formed Specialized
Advisers Police Units Police Teams

#### External Actors



## **UN Country Team**



# Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

#### Who they are:

- International, regional, national or local organizations
- Not part of the United Nations or the host-country Government

#### What they do:

- Have special interests and capacities in child protection
- Are in contact or close consultation with Child Protection Advisers
- May participate in the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM)









# Host State Authorities and Organizations

 Protecting civilians, including children, is the primary responsibility of the host Government



- Close coordination with government and local authorities
- Long-term
   sustainability and
   local ownership

#### Child Protection Coordination

**Head of Mission** 

Result: Verified information on 6 grave violations is reported to UNHQ

CHILD PROTECTION STAFF

MILITARY CHILD PROTECTION FOCAL POINT/ADVISER

MILITARY OFFICER (first point of contact with children)

HOST GOVERNMENT

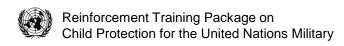
MRM Network (including UNICEF)

NGOs (provide interim care)

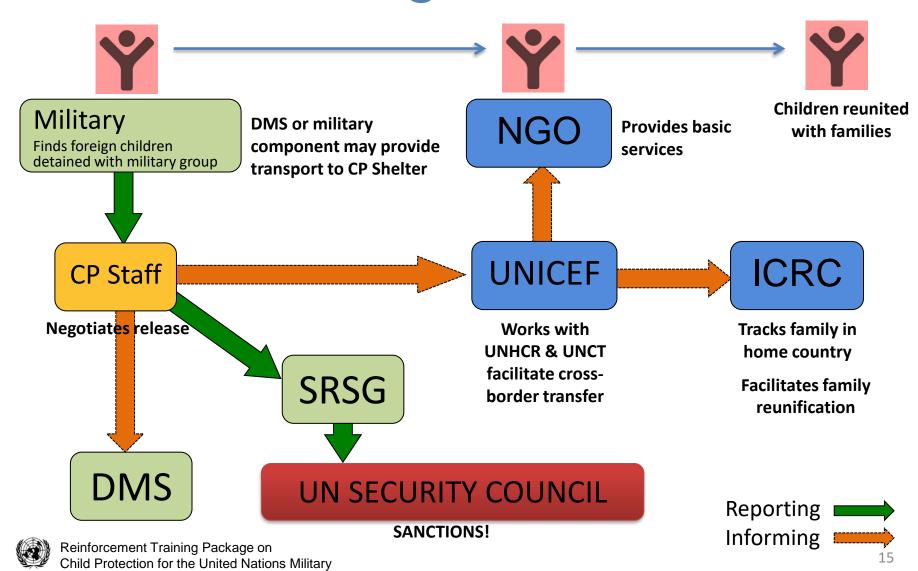


Result:
Response to
Child Protection
concerns





# Child Protection Coordination – Foreign Children



#### Takeaways

- Child protection is a team effort and everyone has a role to play
- Component responsibilities differ but are complementary
- Coordination is essential
- Reporting is crucial to triggering action
- The military component should establish Child Protection Focal Points at Force HQ, sector/brigade, battalion and company levels
- Child protection information requirements and mechanisms for sharing information with the civilian Child Protection staff should be established

#### References

- United Nations, DPO-DPPA Handbook for Child Protection Staff in UN Peace Operations, 2023
- United Nations, DPKO-DFS-DPA Policy on Child Protection in United Nations Peace Operations, 2017
- United Nations, DPKO-ITS, Core Pre-deployment Training Materials (Lesson 2.7: Child Protection), 2017
- United Nations, Integrated Mission Planning Process (IMPP): Guidelines Endorsed by the Secretary-General on 13 June 2006
- United Nations, DPKO/DFS, United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Principles and Guidelines, 2008

# Questions

