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United Nations Multidimensional
Integrated Stabilization Mission in the
Central African Republic



MINUSCA

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en République Centrafricaine

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM INTERIOR

To: FCOS, FHQ Chiefs, SHQ Commanders, Battalions/Contingents Commanders,
CMO

Info: DFC
CPA Section

From: Lieutenant General Balla Keita
Force Commander

Date:

Subject: FC CHILD PROTECTION DIRECTIVE



GENERAL

1. Situation

The devastating nature of the conflict in the Central African Republic (CAR) has resulted in thousands of children being exposed to grave child rights violations¹.

The responsibility to protect children from armed conflict is a mission wide responsibility and is to be mainstreamed and integrated throughout mission planning processes, operational decisions and activities of the mission. Preventing and ending violations and abuse against children reduces the threat of armed groups and contributes towards peace building. The MINUSCA Force therefore has a responsibility to address and mainstream child protection concerns throughout the daily activities of the Force.

2. AIM

This Directive mainstreams child protection concerns throughout the responsibilities of Force Head Quarter (FHQ), Sector Head Quarters, Battalions/Contingents and Military Observers (MILOBs) consistent with the legal framework on the protection of children in armed conflict. In addition, the Directive provides clear guidelines on how the MINUSCA Force can protect children whilst implementing its daily tasks.

¹ See para 6 for grave child right violations.



3. Mandate

The 2017 DPKO-DFS-DPA Policy on Child Protection in Peace Operations directs Force Commanders of PKOs to issue mission-specific directives, in order to promote a common understanding by all military personnel regarding what actions should and should not be taken to protect children².

Furthermore, Security Council resolution 2387 (2017) requests MINUSCA to fully take into account child protection as a cross-cutting issue throughout the implementation of its mandate and to assist the CAR authorities in ensuring that the protection of child rights is taken into consideration. The resolution also highlights that providing specific protection for children affected by conflict is one of the priority tasks in the protection of civilians Mandate.

The Child Protection Policy stipulates the Child Protection Adviser (CPA) to be the principal interface and intermediary between MINUSCA and external partners on child protection concerns, as well as the lead adviser on mandate implementation. The Policy provides that the CPA should be coordinated and consulted with in implementing the children and armed conflict mandate.

4. Scope

This Directive is applicable to all MINUSCA military units deployed in the three sectors of the Mission: Sector West, Sector Centre and Sector East; the Joint Task Force Bangui (JTFB) and the Force HQ.

KEY CONCEPTS

5. Definition of a Child for UN Personnel

For United Nations personnel, a child is "Every human being below the age of 18 years".

6. Violations against Children

In the CAR, children are recurrently victims of serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law including the **six grave child rights violations**, predominantly committed by armed groups. All members of MINUSCA Force must be aware of the six grave child rights violations as well as other violations and abuses

² 2017 DPKO-DFS-DPA Policy on Child Protection in Peace Operations, para. 20.1

which affect children in the CAR and may take place at the community level³. They must also be able to identify early warning relating to these child rights violations to appropriately respond, know how to report these violations through their respective chain of command, as well as how to share information and coordinate with CPAs. The six grave violations against children are:

- (1) Killing and maiming;
- (2) Recruitment and use of child soldiers;
- (3) Sexual violence against children;
- (4) Abduction;
- (5) Attacks against schools and hospitals; and
- (6) Denial of humanitarian access.

7. Guiding Principles on Working with Children (See Annex A):

The following principles should guide the work of the Force when addressing child protection concerns:

- The best interest of the child;
- Do no harm;
- Protect confidentiality and anonymity of victims where necessary;
- Child participation in decision making processes which affect them;
- Non-discrimination including treating children associated to armed groups as victims;
- Gender and child sensitive approach;
- Coordination with MINUSCA Force Child Protection Focal Point (CPFP), MINUSCA CPA, child protection actors and Governmental/local authorities where present (ensuring the CPA is informed);
- Timeliness; and
- If in doubt, report it.

Note: Dialogue on child protection concerns with armed groups is led by CPAs. If any advocacy is carried out with armed groups, the CPA is to be contacted beforehand.

³ For example, the consequences of being accused of witchcraft.

8. MINUSCA Senior Child Protection Adviser (SCPA)

The SCPA leads a team of Child Protection Advisers and is mandated to: advise the Mission on strengthening child protection including the implementation of Security Council resolutions on children and armed conflict; mainstream child protection concerns throughout the work of mission components; build the capacity of mission personnel to better protect children; monitor and report on grave child rights violations; advocate for children's concerns; and engage in a dialogue with parties to the conflict to prevent and end grave child rights violations. CPAs or Human Rights Officers/Child Protection Focal Points (HRO/CPFps) are present in all MINUSCA field offices.

9. Protection of Civilians

The Protection of Civilians (POC) is a mission wide responsibility and an "active" mandate in MINUSCA requiring a multi-dimensional approach, including a military response to threats of physical violence against civilians, including children. Please consult the annex for further details (**See Annex B**).

10. Everybody's Responsibility: Plan- Act- Alert- Protect.

The Force regularly witnesses or receives information on violations and is often a first responder to either record or intervene in cases of violations. Therefore, all members of the Force are responsible for delivering and reporting the following, both before, during and after an operation.

Reporting and information-sharing must be carried out as follows:

- a) Plan.** The Force must take a proactive role in preventing violations against children (including the six grave violations) and plan responses to early warning signs such as hate speech, children suddenly not attending school and risks of retaliation after an attack. The Force must take into account the different consequences that conflict has on children and consequently plan effective contingency plans to mitigate risk. The Force must also actively plan operations to provide protection to children and simultaneously target those seeking to abuse children during conflict.
- b) Act.** Whether in the sector or headquarters, should a risk of death, serious harm or disappearance of a child be imminent or in progress, the first duty of a Force member is to immediately act to protect the child, subject to Rules of Engagement (ROE).

- c) **Alert/Report.** After immediately responding to a violation against a child (including the six grave violations), or where such a risk cannot be prevented, the Force member must alert his/her Military Child Protection Focal Point (CPFP)⁴ (see the Reporting Flow Chart (**See Annex C**)). Reporting must always be carried out in compliance with the SOP on Information Sharing and response on Human Rights violations for MINUSCA Human Rights, Military, Police and Corrections components (2017).
- d) **Protect.** In addition to acting upon immediate threats and alerting, the protection of children includes recording good practices which are to feed into planning and operations to strengthen an effective response to threats.

11. Military Child Protection Concept of Operations

According to the Mission Concept⁵, **Strategic Priority 1** provides for: **Improving security, protection and human rights** by protecting civilians from the threat of physical violence; promoting and protecting human rights; facilitating the creation of a secure environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance and the safe return of IDPs and refugees. In this regard, the Concept of Operations (CONOPS) and Operations Orders (OPSORD), must internalize the concept of child protection, with clear instructions and tasks through the PKO phases, and be operationalized by the Force with the support of the Military CPFPs.

12. The Military Child Protection Focal Point System

The Military Child Protection Focal Point System follows a hierarchical structure, facilitating information sharing and guidance from FHQ to SHQs and tactical levels (**see Annex D**). The functions of Military CPFPs have been developed in accordance with mandated nominations of Military CPFPs as provided by the DPKO-DFS-DPA Policy on Child Protection in UN Peace Operations and the United Nations Infantry Battalion Manual (2012) (UNIBAM) (**see Annex E**).

Battalion Commanders shall appoint a Military CPFP per POB, tasked with, among other responsibilities, channeling alerts of violations against children to Military CPFPs, CPAs and HRO/CPFPs in accordance with agreed information sharing protocols and the flowchart (**see Annex C**).

⁴ In the absence of a Military CPFP, the battalion/Sector or Force CPFP should be informed and will then take further action to liaise with the CPA

⁵ MINUSCA Mission Concept, 28 December 2016

INTEGRATING CHILD PROTECTION INTO MILITARY UNIT ACTIVITIES

13. Staff Functions

All staff functions within MINUSCA Force should take into account the protection of children while implementing their assigned tasks as explained below:

a) U2 – Intelligence

When providing an intelligence assessment, analyze the nature of threats facing children on the ground, per sector and localities in the AOR, increasing preventive measures through situational awareness and mapping of risk areas where they are more vulnerable. Share this analysis with FHQ Military CPFP.

b) U3 – Operations

Ensure that during the preparation and coordination of FHQ SOPs, FRAGOS and Contingency Plans, specific instructions on child protection concerns including on how to prevent and respond to violations are addressed. The FHQ Military CPFP is to participate and provide the necessary input. This Includes: **(1)** analyzing the intelligence information provided by U2 related to attacks perpetrated by armed groups involving children, and set up measures and actions to protect them; **(2)** planning and ensuring patrols in areas where children are most active or at risk, emphasizing the prohibition of the use of and attack against schools and hospitals by armed forces and groups, and **(3)** deterring attacks by armed groups through Force presence in sensitive areas, such as around IDP sites and locations where children are most active (i.e. looking for water/firewood, local markets and on the way to school).

c) U4 - Logistics

In situations when the child's life is threatened by for example an armed group, as a last resort, and should not suitable partners be available, or should the security situation not permit, where feasible, ensure the necessary conditions to temporarily receive/accommodate a child (escapee/deserter/released) from an armed group pending a temporary solution by specialized offices/actors. Protection of such children is considered a priority and the necessary support is to be provided. Any Unit that receives such a child should immediately inform the CPA who will ensure a durable solution is identified for the child out of the military base.

Depending upon the age and sex of the child, special provisions may be required. Ensure that the child is not isolated and is regularly visited at the military base by a

family member, social worker or appropriate actor, whilst ensuring the 'best interests of the child'.

d) U5 - Plans

To protect children from violations, ensure the identification of threats per area and mainstream child protection concerns throughout military planning activities, addressing preventive and protective measures in all operational phases. Consult CPAs and FHQ Military CPFP to ensure an effective response to risks facing children in AOR.

e) U6 – Communications

Ensure that radio masts and military communication equipment are not placed near schools and hospitals as they could become a military target and expose the population and in particular, children, to physical threats.

f) U7 – Training

In-Mission training on child protection is a priority for the Force. To sustain implementation of the Force Child Protection Directive, the Directive is to be systematically included in all in-mission child protection trainings at FHQ and Sector/Battalion levels, in keeping with the rotation schedules (**see Annex F**).

In collaboration with the CPA, organize training on child protection for all newly deployed contingent members, Staff Officers and Military Observers in Bangui and in the sectors, where the contingents and battalions are deployed, twice per year or when rotations occur. Sector level training will be provided by the FHQ Military CPFP in coordination with the CPA to Sector level Military CPFPs.

g) U8 – Engineering

Prioritize areas where children are frequently present, and work on improving roads and bridge repairs, to enable patrolling, humanitarian services and access to schools and hospitals.

h) U9 – CIMIC

Consider the situation of children in respective AOR when planning actions to benefit the local population. Such actions shall include improvement of education, health and basic services such as the provision of clean water and lights in places where children are active. Military QIPs should take into account children's interests and concerns, in consultation with CPAs.

i) Force Medical Office (FMO)

FMOs should take into account medical assistance which children in conflict areas of the mission may require and plan accordingly, including for children seeking refuge in MINUSCA Units, or for children temporarily detained by the Force.

j) Military Public Information Office (MPIO)

In consultation with the SCPA, promote Force actions in protecting children, showing MINUSCA's efforts to protect children from violations through operations, outreach activities and engagement with the local population. Ensure that principles of protection and confidentiality are respected and implemented.

k) Military Police

Develop activities, such as patrolling where children are most vulnerable, including around military bases and MINUSCA offices, share information on incidents of grave child rights violations (when informed) and SEA threats through the chain of command and with CPA's, Military CPFPS, and the Joint SEA Prevention Task Force. Also, provide investigative assistance when required, helping to raise situational awareness about risks to children.

l) Force Provost Marshall (FPM)

Inform the SCPA of all investigations concerning children as victims or witnesses, for support and/or as information. SCPA will support to ensure investigations concerning children provide for children being accompanied by their parent/guardian or social worker, that consent is provided, and that necessary protection measures are assumed to protect confidentiality and anonymity.

m) National Investigation Officers (NIOs)

Ensure that investigations relating to children as victims or witnesses promote and protect their rights, follow the "Do No Harm" principle, maintain the "best interests of the child", ensure that interviews are child sensitive and are carried out in a child sensitive environment. When investigating SEA involving children, investigations should be carried out jointly with OIOS. Ensure that investigations do not expose child victims or witnesses to additional harm through threats or intimidation. Prior to investigating allegations concerning children, the SCPA must be informed, in order to provide necessary briefing.

14. UN Military Observers

Report violations against children and risk indicators in AOR through the chain of command, share information with CPA's and be aware of the situation of children in the AOR.

15. Female Engagement Teams (FET)

Plan activities and sensitizations focusing on the protection of children, through engagement with the local population and female leaders. Gather information concerning threats to children, improve situational awareness, work proactively to prevent risks to children, and increase presence of MINUSCA in sensitive areas.

16. Liaison Officers to Host Government Military Forces

Advise FACA and ensure that they are trained on child rights and child protection. Request that information on violations against children is shared with MINUSCA Force and ensure that during meetings and joint planning and operations, children's concerns are taken into consideration.

17. Individual Responsibilities

Every member of the Force is responsible for monitoring and reporting risk indicators and violations against children, through their respective chain of command.

They should not fraternize nor establish friendships with children. Any activities with children are to be formally organized so that they remain professional and institutionalized by the mission, and represent the actions of the Force as opposed to the actions of an individual. Sexual relations with children (below the age of 18 years) is completely prohibited regardless of the age of majority of consent locally. Mistaken belief in the age of a child is not a defense⁶.

18. Child Labour

Use of children (persons under the age of 18 years) for the purpose of labour, small errands or other rendering of services is strictly prohibited.

19. Detention Procedures

Detention procedures for children will follow MINUSCA's SOP on Detention and Handover to police and military (February 2017).

⁶ ST/SGB/2003/13, para 3.2(b)).

IMPLEMENTATION

a) Timing

This FC Directive is effective as of the date of signature. All Staff officers, All Sector, contingent, battalion, company, POB/TOB Commanders are to implement these measures upon issuance.

b) Seminar

The FHQ Military CPFP shall organize a series of meetings to launch implementation with all military branch offices and Focal Points throughout the mission.

CONCLUSION

a) Amendments and review

Proposed amendments are to be suggested to the points of contact listed below. Evaluations will be conducted quarterly. This Directive is reviewed annually.

b) Closing Remarks

This Directive seeks to implement measures to effectively address Child Protection concerns by deliberate planning to prevent violations against children and action to respond to such violations. To achieve succeed, all members of the Force must be actively involved and must carefully consider the protection of children while assuming their duties.

POINTS OF CONTACT FOR THE DIRECTIVE

FHQ Military Child Protection Focal Point	Lt. Cdr. MARCIA Andrade Braga E-mail : Minusca-fhq-mga@un.org
Senior Child Protection Adviser	Ms. Natalie Ben Zakour Man (SCPA) E-mail: man1@un.org
Child Protection Adviser	Mr. Charles Fomunyan (CPA) E-mail: fomunyam@un.org

REFERENCES

- UN DPKO, DFS, DPA Policy on Child Protection in Peace Operations, 2017;
- UN Security Council Resolution 2387, 2017 – MINUSCA Mandate;
- UN Security Council Resolutions on Child Protection and Armed Conflict (CAAC): 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);
- Secretary-General's Bulletin: Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, ST/SGB/2003/13;
- MINUSCA Mission Concept, 2016;
- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) – Joint Protection Teams (JPT);
- Military Concept of Operations (CONOPS), July 2018;
- MINUSCA Protection of Civilians Strategy, April 2018;
- MINUSCA Directive on Protection of Schools and Universities against Military Use, 2015;
- MINUSCA Force Commander Directive on Child Labour, January 2015;
- MINUSCA SOP on Information Sharing and response on Human Rights violations for MINUSCA Human Rights, Military, Police and Corrections components, 2017;
- MINUSCA Force Commander Directive on Protection of Civilians (IDP's), 2015;
- MINUSCA FHQ Military Gender Adviser Action Plan, 2018;
- MINUSCA FHQ Military Gender and Child Protection Personnel Contingency Plan, 2018; and
- MINUSCA FHQ Directive on Establishment of Points of Contact – Military Gender and Child Protection Focal Points, 2018.

ANNEXES

Annex A	Legal & Guiding Principles
Annex B	Mission Strategy for the Protection of Civilians
Annex C	Reporting Flow Chart for the FC Child Protection Directive
Annex D	Military Child Protection Focal Point System
Annex E	Child Protection Focal Point FHQ/SHQ/UNIT/MILOB Role & Task
Annex F	Training Schedule

ANNEX “A” TO FC CHILD PROTECTION DIRECTIVE

LEGAL & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. General

The following is a set of legal references and guiding principles to provide specific guidance when executing this directive

2. Core Principles

Pursuant to the 2017 DPKO-DFS-DPA Policy on Child Protection in UN Peace Operations, and in accordance with the highest international norms and standards reflected in the body of law and guidance on children’s rights, the following core principles must be followed when interacting with a child:

- **Best interest of the child:** In all actions and decisions concerning children, the best interest of the child shall be a primary consideration. Assessing the best interests of a child means evaluating and balancing all elements necessary to make a decision in a specific situation for a specified individual child or groups of children⁷;
- **Non-discrimination:** All children are equally entitled to all rights accorded to them in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international norms and standards on child protection. No child shall be discriminated against on the basis of nationality, race, ethnicity, language, gender, identity or sexual orientation, age, religion, physical abilities or any other characteristic⁸;
- **Gender and Child sensitive approach:** Understanding the different experiences of boys and girls in situations of armed conflict, and reflecting on gendered assumptions and how this may impact boys and girls, can provide a comprehensive assessment to support tailored responses based on differing needs. Provide sex and age-disaggregated data when reporting on violations against children.
- **Do no harm:** In all actions and decisions concerning children, all efforts shall be made to minimize possible negative effects and maximize possible benefits. It is the

⁷ DPKO-DFS-DPA Policy on Child Protection in UN Peace Operations, 2017, para 52.

⁸ Ibid, para 62.

responsibility of those engaged with children to protect them from harm, as well as ensure that they experience the greatest possible benefits from such involvement⁹;

- **Confidentiality:** It is essential for the protection of children and their families that personal identifiable information relating to violations and abuses of child rights be treated as confidential. Principles on protection of data should be developed and implemented and training should be provided as necessary¹⁰;
- **Timeliness:** Information sharing and action to prevent and respond to violations shall be timely. Situations shall be handled with the utmost urgency when there is a threat to life and physical integrity. When such an incident of foremost urgency occurs, operationally-focused information shall be reported as soon as possible through a special child rights incident report and depending on the circumstances, it may be preceded by a verbal report¹¹.
- **If in doubt, report it:** If UN personnel are unsure as to whether a matter constitutes a child rights violation, the incident it should be reported to MCPFP and CPA for further action.

Six Grave Child Rights Violations

1. Killing and maiming

Killing: Any action in the context of the armed conflict that results in the death of one or more children.

Maiming: Any action that causes a serious, permanent, disabling injury, scarring or mutilation to a child. Torture can also be reported under this category.

Killing and injuring of children as a result of direct targeting and also indirect actions, including: crossfire, landmines, cluster munitions, improvised explosive devices or other indiscriminate explosive devices.

Killing or injuring can take place in the context of military operations, house demolitions, search-and-arrest campaigns, or suicide attacks.

⁹ Ibid, para 58.

¹⁰ Ibid, para 57. Also see MINUSCA SOP on Information Sharing and response on Human Rights violations for MINUSCA Human Rights, Military, Police and Corrections components, 2017, para D9.

¹¹ Ibid, D9.

2. Recruitment or use of children in armed forces and groups

Recruitment: refers to compulsory, forced or voluntary conscription or enlistment of children into any kind of armed force or armed group(s) under the age stipulated in the international treaties applicable to the armed force or armed group in question.

Use of children: refers to the use of children by armed forces or armed groups in any capacity, including, but not limited to, children, boys and girls, used as fighters, cooks, porters, messengers, spies and collaborators. It does not only refer to a child who is taking or has taken a direct part in hostilities.

3. Attacks on schools or hospitals

Attacks include the targeting of schools or medical facilities that cause the total or partial destruction of such facilities. Other interferences to the normal operation of the facility may also be reported, such as the occupation, shelling, targeting for propaganda of, or otherwise causing harm to schools or medical facilities or their personnel.

Note: A 'school' denotes a recognizable education facility or learning site. Education facilities and learning sites must be recognized and known by the community as a learning space and marked by visible boundaries.

'Medical facilities' are places where the sick and wounded are collected and/or provided with health-care services.

4. Rape or other forms of sexual violence

A violent act of a sexual nature to a child. This encompasses rape, other sexual violence, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced marriage/pregnancy, or enforced sterilization.

Rape/attempted rape: is an act of non-consensual sexual intercourse. This can include the invasion of any part of the body with a sexual organ and/or the invasion of the genital or anal opening with any object or body part. Any penetration is considered rape. Efforts to rape someone, which do not result in penetration, are considered attempted rape.

Sexual violence: is any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or acts to traffic a child's sexuality. Sexual violence takes many forms, including rape, sexual slavery and/or trafficking, forced pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and/or abuse, and forced abortion.

5. Abduction

The unlawful removal, seizure, capture, apprehension, taking or enforced disappearance of a child either temporarily or permanently for the purpose of any form of exploitation of the child. This includes, but is not limited to, recruitment in armed forces or groups, participation in hostilities, sexual exploitation or abuse, forced labour, hostage-taking and indoctrination. If a child is recruited by force by an armed force or group, this is considered as two separate violations - abduction and recruitment.

6. Denial of humanitarian access for children

The intentional deprivation of or impediment to the passage of humanitarian assistance indispensable to children's survival, by the parties to the conflict, including willfully impeding relief supplies as provided for under the Geneva Conventions; and significant impediments to the ability of humanitarian or other relevant actors to access and assist affected children, in situations of armed conflict.

The denial should be considered in terms of children's access to assistance as well as humanitarian agencies' ability to access vulnerable populations, including children.

ANNEX “B” TO FC CHILD PROTECTION DIRECTIVE

MISSION STRATEGY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

CHILD PROTECTION AND THE MISSION STRATEGY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

1. DPKO Concept for the Protection of Civilians

“In addition to the Child Protection mandate, the Protection of Civilians (POC) is a whole-of-mission responsibility and an “active” mandate in MINUSCA requiring military response to threats of physical violence against civilians, including children, by parties to the conflict (government forces and armed groups). Security Council Resolution 2387 (2017) provides that active measures be assumed by the Force to anticipate, prevent and respond effectively to serious and credible threats of physical violence against the civilian population. The use of lethal force in certain situations is permitted and may be used by the mission to protect civilians, including children.”

Children are the most vulnerable members of the local population. The Mission’s POC Concept therefore must take into consideration children’s needs for physical protection at all levels of command when planning, coordinating, executing, and reporting POC tasks during armed conflict, humanitarian crises, and natural disasters

The Mission POC Concept addresses preventing and responding appropriately to the protection of children and action to be taken when there are risks of physical threats against children.

2. Emphasis on Pre-emption

To prevent major threats against children, the Force must integrate child protection concerns into daily duties and be involved in activities such as dissuasive military patrols, threats/risks/vulnerability assessments, sensitizing community members and leaders on the protection of children in armed conflict, and engaging in advocacy efforts with armed groups to prevent and end serious child rights violations¹². CPAs lead on dialogue with armed groups on child protection concerns. Any advocacy assumed by the Force must be consulted/coordinated with CPAs.

Anticipation and prevention are key to strengthening the protection of children. This requires that the Force identifies in advance the imminent threats to children (taking

¹² For example: advocacy efforts with armed groups to vacate schools.

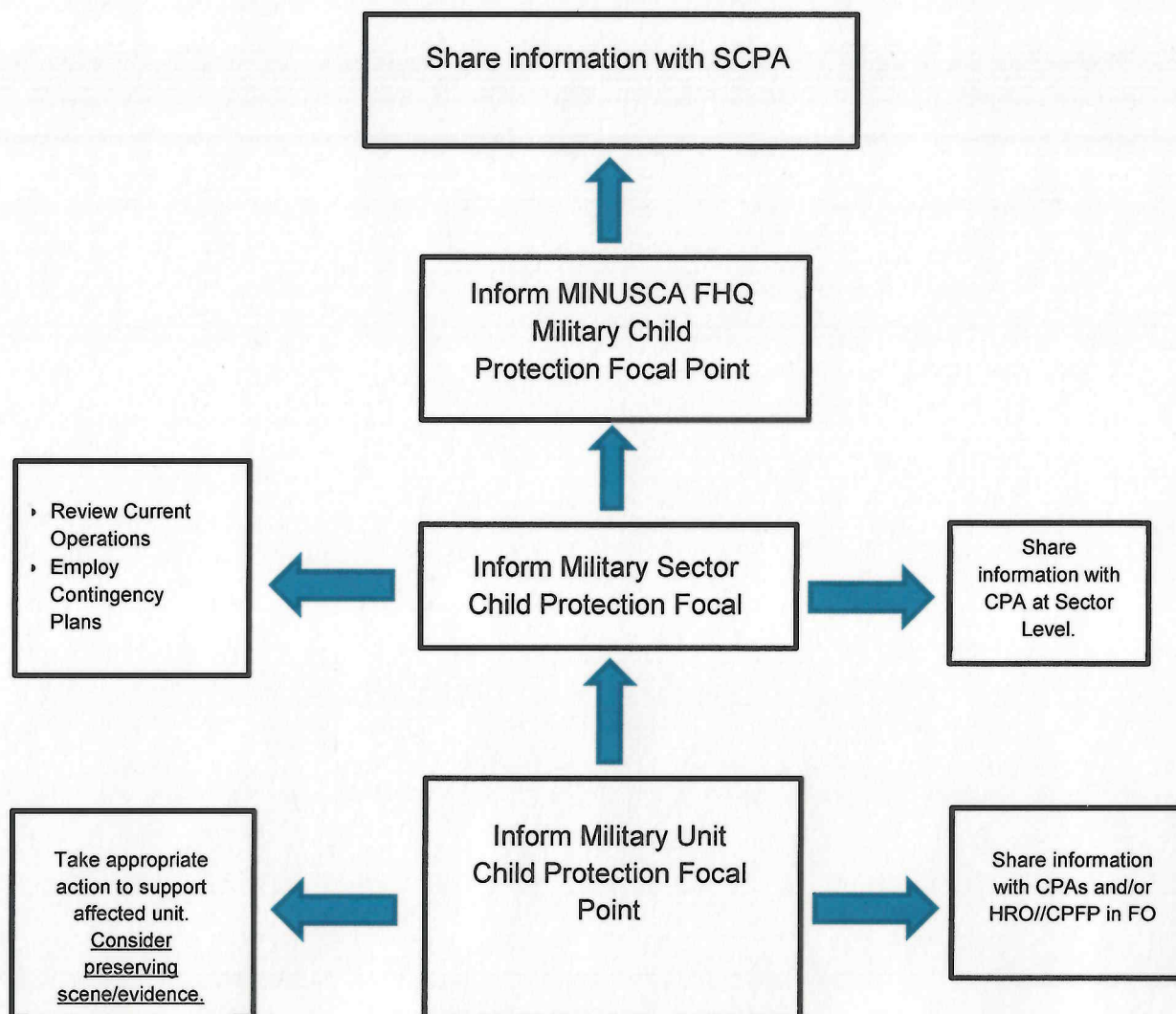
into consideration that the age, sex and gender of children will impact on their vulnerability to different threats), and assumes preventive measures. Also, deterrence of threats against civilians (including threats of grave child rights violations) must be put in place simultaneously with anticipation and prevention activities to improve results. When anticipation and prevention are not possible or have failed, more robust measures must be taken. These measures should include increased patrols or police and military presence in order to reduce the possibility of physical violence against civilians and allow a rapid response against attacks on civilians.

3. Early Warning Alert System

Each field office has an early warning and response cell (EWC), to ensure triangulation, verification and dissemination of information and assessment of all POC threats through the FO POC early warning matrix. The HoO is responsible for the EWC.

The early warning alert system must strengthen close collaboration between Community Liaison Assistants (CLA) through the CLA coordinator, community alert networks, MINUSCA components (military, police and civilian), the POC Unit, CPAs/CPFPs and Human Rights Officers for better action/advice regarding the protection of children within their respective capacity.

ANNEX "C" TO FC CHILD PROTECTION DIRECTIVE
REPORTING FLOW CHART FOR THE FORCE CHILD PROTECTION DIRECTIVE



CHILD PROTECTION ISSUE OCCURS - IF IN DOUBT REPORT!

(Any of the Six Grave Violations or mission-specific child right violations)

Think:

Plan- What orders/Contingency plans does my mission have
Act- What actions do I need to do now to protect children

Alert- Follow this flow diagram, draft reports
Protect- Think of protection of life, limb and freedom

Do

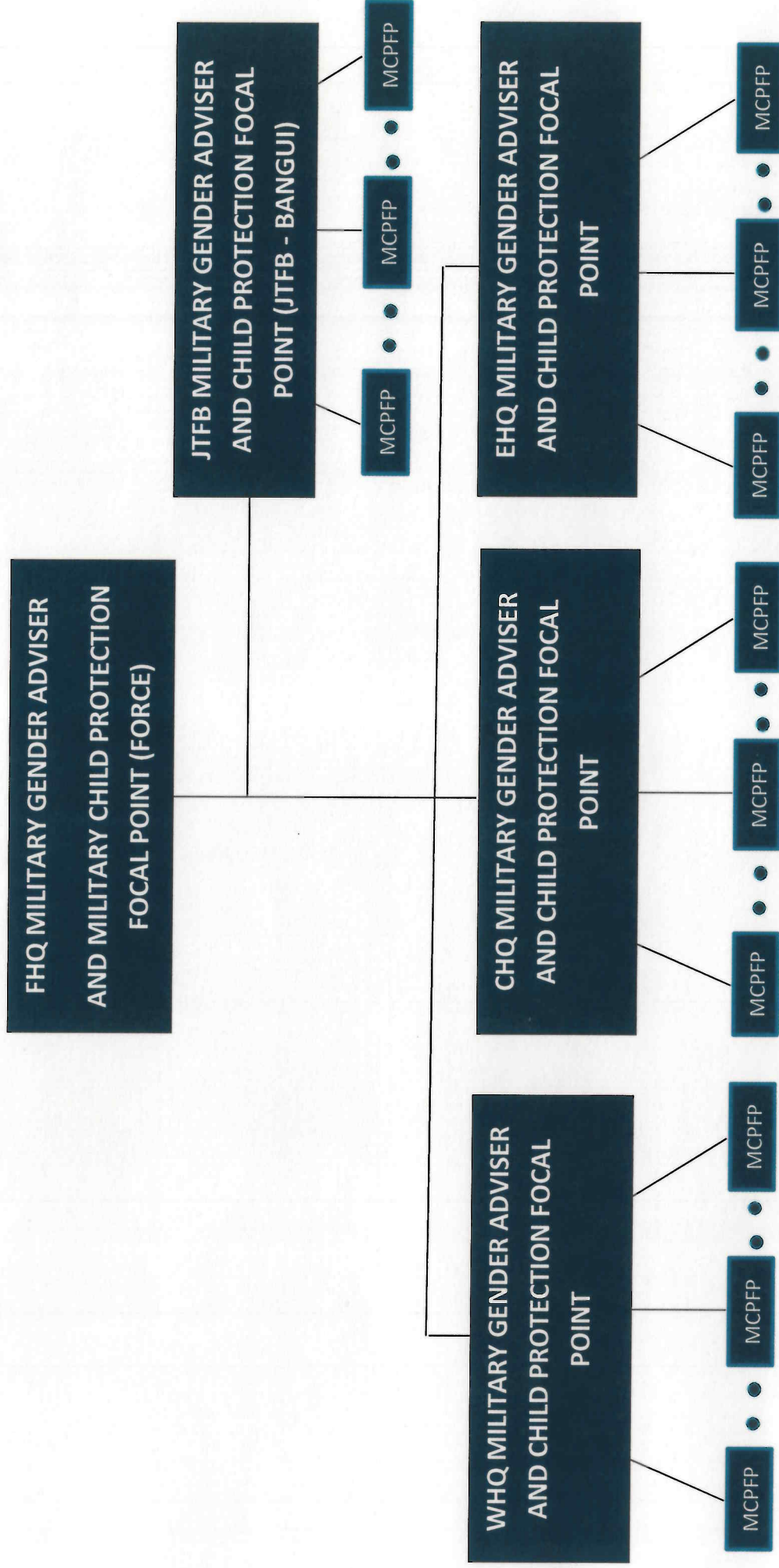
- Report Any Violation against a child ensuring principles of confidentiality;
- Take enough detail to inform chain of command;
- Provide protection if requested/required;
- Provide medical assistance if requested/required; and
- Consult CPAs before handing over children.

Do Not

- Turn Anyone Away;
- Interview Children (apart from seeking basic info);
- Separate Children from parents/guardians;
- Place children at risk; and
- Take photographs of children.

ANNEX "D" TO FC CHILD PROTECTION DIRECTIVE

MILITARY CHILD PROTECTION FOCAL POINT SYSTEM



ANNEX “E” TO FC CHILD PROTECTION DIRECTIVE

MILITARY CHILD PROTECTION FOCAL POINT FHQ/SHQ/UNIT/MILOB

ROLES & TASKS

FHQ Military Child Protection Focal Point (FHQ Military CPFP)

The FHQ Military CPFP is responsible for improving Child Protection mainstreaming within the military component and ensures compliance with this directive by MINUSCA military personnel. The FHQ Military CPFP collaborates with FHQ Units, acts as a liaison officer between the MINUSCA Child Protection Adviser and the Force, provides guidance and training to the SHQs Child Protection Focal Points, and develops a mechanism to ensure that incidents of violations against children in their AOR are reported and shared with CPAs in a timely, safe and ethical manner.

SHQ Military Child Protection Focal Point (SHQ Military CPFP)

The SHQ Military CPFP has the responsibility to ensure the implementation of this directive at the SHQ level and within contingents/battalions, through providing practical instructions at the tactical level, ensuring that threats to children and its indicators are identified and acted upon in the AOR. Additionally, the SHQ CPFP is responsible for delivery of child protection training with the support of the CPAs; monitoring the accomplishment of child protection training to the military within the sector; supporting the organization of these trainings and ensuring that newly deployed contingents have been trained; as well as reporting incidents of grave child rights violations to FHQ Military CPFP and CPA at the Sector level, through the chain of command.

Unit Military Child Protection Focal Point (Unit Military CPFP)

The Unit Military CPFP works at the tactical level and is responsible for identifying, monitoring and reporting early warning threats and indicators and grave child rights violations in the AOR to the SHQ Military CPFP and to the local CPA or Human Rights Child Protection Focal Point, through the established chain of command. Given that the military at the POB/TOB, is generally the first to have contact with the child victim, training on Child Protection is mandatory for all military at this level, Training must address the definition of a child, the six grave violations, interaction with children, as well as necessary

procedures to be assumed when referring children to CPAs or to partners (through the CPA). The responsible Unit Military CPFP has to ensure that these trainings take place and needs to know the referral arrangements to be used for children who may be exposed to sexual violence and/or other grave child rights violations.

Military Observer Child Protection Focal Point (Military Observer CPFP)

The Military Observer CPFP has the responsibility to ensure that team site MILOBS monitor and report indicators and violations against children through the chain of command and share reports with local CPAs/CPFPs and the SHQ Military CPFP. Additionally, the Military Observer CPFP should check if all the Military Observers receive specialized training on child protection. Such training should be provided in partnership and collaboration with local CPAs and the SHQ Military CPFP.

ANNEX "F" TO FC CHILD PROTECTION DIRECTIVE

TRAINING SCHEDULE

In-mission training on child protection for the military component should be consistent with the in-mission training materials modules developed by UNHQ's DPET and will be conducted at two levels:

Levels	Audience	Periodicity (after each rotation or twice a year)	Remarks
Basic	All Military and CLAs (Community Liaison Advisers).	Induction/In-mission training upon incoming rotation at HQ and field levels; and Provided by CPAs and Military CPFP to HQs/POBs/TOBs/MILOBS.	Mandatory (operational and tactical levels). Module 1 ("Who is a Child" and "Six Grave Violations"); and Module 3 ("Interacting with a Child").
Advanced	Military Child Protection Focal Points.	Following nomination to the functions. To be provided by CPAs in collaboration with FHQ Military CPFP and U7.	Mandatory (HQ level). Desirable (tactical level). Modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.