

**Children and Armed Conflict**  
**12 July 2011, United Nations Security Council Chamber**

***Statement by Mr. Kydyrov, Representative of Kyrgyzstan***

I would like to thank you, Mr. President, for having organized this very important debate. I also wish to congratulate the delegation of Germany on its excellent conduct of the presidency of the Security Council during this month of July.

Kyrgyzstan welcomes the tenth annual report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict (A/65/250). We also thank Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, and Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director of UNICEF, for their comprehensive presentations.

Let me reaffirm Kyrgyzstan's strong commitment, as a member and Vice-President of the Human Rights Council, to the promotion of human rights and the safeguarding of international humanitarian law.

Kyrgyzstan appreciates the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report. We believe that the strict implementation of those recommendations will greatly change the lives of many children for the better. We consider it necessary to adopt more stringent measures to bring to justice and end impunity for criminal gangs and individuals who have continuously committed serious violations against children and have been listed in the report of the Secretary-General for the past five years.

Kyrgyzstan welcomes the signing of the new plans of action mentioned in the report. We join the call of the Secretary-General to the parties involved in the recruitment, use, killing and maiming of children, as well as in committing sexual violence against them, to finalize plans of actions as soon as possible, in close cooperation with the relevant United Nations country task forces.

The timely implementation of action plans and the taking of appropriate measures in respect to those parties not complying with those documents are crucial to preventing criminal acts against children. We believe that the Security Council should develop concrete measures to track progress in the implementation of such plans.

Kyrgyzstan fully shares the concern of the Secretary-General and the Security Council with regard to the growing trend in attacks against schools and hospitals. We strongly condemn those acts and urge all parties to respect international humanitarian law.

Kyrgyzstan believes that the issue of child protection should be consistently reflected in peace processes and peace agreements. The special needs of children must be taken into account in post-conflict planning and in the funding of peacebuilding activities.

Protecting children in armed conflict should always be part of a wider conflict prevention strategy and of response measures aimed at overcoming hunger and poverty and promoting socio-economic development. In this regard, we would like to emphasize the pivotal role of the United Nations in ensuring the successful implementation of such a strategy. It is important to maintain a close and effective cooperation between the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as peacekeeping missions, political missions, UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme and other agencies.

Since 1994, Kyrgyzstan has been a party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two Optional Protocols, as well as other international legal instruments aimed at protecting civilians in armed conflict. I would like to confirm that Kyrgyzstan will continue to strictly follow the commitments assumed under these international instruments.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that Kyrgyzstan supports resolution 1998 (2011), adopted today by the Security Council, and believes that it will make an effective contribution to the protection of children in armed conflict.