Reader on Children and Armed Conflict

The following list contains selected resources about children affected by armed conflict. This includes basic texts, legal instruments, best practice documents, policy and advocacy documents, monitoring and reporting tools, training material and websites. Further resources on children and armed conflict are available on the CRIN website.

1. Basic texts

GRAÇA MACHEL REPORT

The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children (1996), Graça Machel. A/51/306.Add.1
In 1994, Graça Machel was named as the Expert in charge of producing a report on the impact of armed conflict on children. In the study, she proposes the elements of a comprehensive agenda for action by Member States and the international community to improve the protection and care of children in conflict situations, and to prevent these conflicts from occurring.
[English] www.unicef.org/graca/a51-306_en.pdf
[Français] www.un.org/special-rep/children-armed-conflict/KeyDocuments/Report/A-51-306-Add-1French.html
[Español] www.un.org/special-rep/children-armed-conflict/KeyDocuments/Report/A-51-306-Add-1Spanish.html

The Machel Review 1996-2000: a Critical Analysis of Progress Made and Obstacles Encountered in Increasing Protection for War-Affected Children (2000) Graça Machel. A/55/749
This report examines the progress made following the series of recommendations published in the 1996 report. It is a second call for action, which welcomes many new steps such as the appointment of Mr. Olara Otunnu as the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, and the formation of coalitions to strengthen advocacy in this area, but also points out the many areas for improvement.
[English] www.unifem.org/filesconfirmed/97/137_machelrep.pdf
[Français]
www.unifem.org/filesconfirmed/97/138_machelrepfr.pdf

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WAR-AFFECTED CHILDREN

The International Conference on War-Affected Children, which took place in Winnipeg, Canada, from 10 to 17 September 2000, was the largest ever gathering of youths, NGOs, experts and governments to discuss issues relating to war-affected children. The Winnipeg Conference was divided into three meetings: first, the youth meeting focused on the views of young Canadians and youth from several war-affected countries. Then, the experts' meeting brought together professionals from the political, NGO, academic and private sectors in order to draft a series of recommendations. Finally, the ministerial meeting saw government ministers - joined by representatives of NGOs, UN agencies, business and youth - adopt an international agenda for action on war-affected children which was presented at the UN Special Session on Children in 2002.

From Words to Action (2000) Canadian International Development Agency.
This is the official report of the Conference. It outlines the process used to reach an agreement on the outcome of the conference.
[English] www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/inet/images.nsf/vluimages/childprotection/$file/warreportaug2001.pdf
[Français] www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/inet/images.nsf/vluimages/childprotection/$file/guerrerapportaou2001.pdf

Youth Statement
The Winnipeg Conference undertook a new model of meaningful youth participation at a high-level, international meeting. The Youth Meeting allowed youths from war-affected countries to share their experiences with each other, engage in dialogue with a number of dignitaries, interact with journalists and NGOs, and develop ideas and recommendations on each of the issues they would discuss with the delegates at the Experts' and Ministerial-Level Meetings. Their statement focuses on five key issues: education, peace-building, refugees/IDPs, small arms, child soldiers.
[English] www.waraffectedchildren.gc.ca/Youth-Statement-Min-en.asp
[Français] www.lesenfantsetlaguerre.gc.ca/Youth-Statement-Min-fr.asp

Caught in the Crossfire No More: A Framework for Commitment to War-Affected Children
This document represents the formal outcome of the experts meeting of the Winnipeg Conference. It is a series of action-oriented recommendations on ways to work with and assist war-affected children. It addresses governments, the UN, NGOs, the media, the private-sector and children and youth.
[English] www.waraffectedchildren.gc.ca/crossfire-en.asp
[Français] www.lesenfantsetlaguerre.gc.ca/crossfire-fr.asp

The Agenda for War-Affected Children
This document represents the formal negotiated outcome of the ministerial meeting of the Winnipeg

Conference. This fourteen-point declaration is considered to be weaker than the experts' document, but it has the merit of having created accepted language around the issues of war-affected children.
[English] www.waraffectedchildren.gc.ca/Final_Agenda-en.asp
[Français] www.lesenfantsetlaguerre.gc.ca/Final_Agenda-fr.asp

REPORTS OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT

In collaboration with the Special Representative, the UN Secretary-General submits an Annual Report to the Security Council. This report reviews activities and progress made during the reporting period in the protection of children affected by situations of armed conflict, as well as in the implementation of previous resolutions.

First Report (2000)
[English] www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=5143
[Français]www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=5145
[Español] www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=5144

Second Report (2001)
[English] www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=2153
[Français]www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=5147
[Español] www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=5146

Third Report (2002)
[English] www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=3128
[Français]www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=5149
[Español] www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=5148

Fourth Report (2003)
www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=3777

Fifth Report (2005)
www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=5150

2. Key Legal Instruments

Convention on the Rights of the Child
Adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly resolution A/RES/44/25, 20 November 1989. Entered into force 2 September 1990. Article 38 is particularly relevant.
www.ohchr.org/english/law/crc.htm

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts
Adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly resolution A/RES/54/263, 25 May 2000. Entered into force 12 February 2002.
www.ohchr.org/english/law/crc-conflict.htm

African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
Adopted by the 26th Assembly of Heads of State and government of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), in July 1990 in Nairobi, Kenya. Entered into force 29 November 1999. The African Charter is the first regional and international treaty on the rights of the child. Articles 22 and 23 are particularly relevant.
www.africaninstitute.org/eng/afSystem/child/afcharter.php

Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (ILO Convention 182)
Adopted on 17 June 1999 by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation at its 87th session. Entry into force 19 November 2000. It defines and prohibits "compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict" as one of the worst forms of child labour (Art. 3a).
www.ohchr.org/english/law/childlabour.htm

ACCRA Declaration on War-Affected Children in West Africa
Adopted by the 130 participants of the West-African Conference on War-Affected Children, held in Ghana from 27-28 April 2000 and co-hosted by Canada. The Declaration represents a commitment to protect and children in the West African region who are affected by armed conflict.
www.unrec.org/eng/AccraCW.htm

UN Security Council Resolutions on Children and Armed Conflict:
Resolution 1261 (1999) S/RES/1261
Resolution 1314 (2000) S/RES/1314
Resolution 1379 (2001) S/RES/1379
Resolution 1460 (2003) S/RES/1460
Resolution 1539 (2004) S/RES/1539
www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions.html

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
Adopted by the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court on 17 July 1998. Entered into force 1 July 2002. It established the International Criminal Court (ICC), identified the recruitment of children under 15 as a war crime and specified that only individuals over the age of 18 can be tried at the ICC.
www.ohchr.org/english/law/criminalcourt.htm

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines, and on their Destruction (Ottawa Treaty)
Opened for signature in Ottawa, 3-4 December 1997. Entered into force 1 March 1999. Every year, landmines kill or injure thousands of children. The banning of anti-personnel landmines was therefore an important step in the protection of children, and other civilians, in armed conflict.
[English] disarmament2.un.org/rdb/apm-mbc-text.html

3. Best Practice Documents In Key Thematic Areas

CHILD SOLDIERS

Children - Not Soldiers: Guidelines for Working with Child Soldiers and Children Associated with Fighting Forces (January 2001), Isobel McConnan and Sarah Uppard, Save the Children UK.
Provides guidance for those working with children directly involved in armed conflict on these and other key areas. Drawing on existing and emerging lessons of experience from different countries, it highlights issues of special concern and areas where further research is needed. It will be useful for people working directly with children as well as for managers and policy-makers.
[English] www.savethechildren.org.uk/scuk/jsp/resources/details.jsp?id=505
[Français] www.savethechildren.org.uk/temp/scuk/cache/cmsattach/1374_ChildrenNotSoldiersFrench.pdf

A Fighting Chance: Guidelines and Implications for Programmes Involving Children Associated with Armed Groups and Armed Forces (November 2004), Child Soldiers Task Group, International Save the Children Alliance.
These guidelines reflect the combined experience and thinking of International Save the Children Alliance members who have worked with children associated with armed groups and armed forces. Their purpose is to provide guidance to policy-makers, advocacy initiatives and field-based programmes. It offers a policy framework, drawing out some recommendations based on global lessons learned.
www.savethechildren.org.uk/temp/scuk/cache/cmsattach/1956_A%20Fighting%20Chance_2004.pdf

Child Soldiers Global Report 2004 (November 2004) The Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers.
This is the most comprehensive global survey of child soldiers to date, produced by a coalition of the world's leading human rights and humanitarian organisations including Amnesty International, Defence for Children International, Human Rights Watch, International Save the Children Alliance, Terre des Hommes and World Vision. The report reviews trends and developments since 2001 in 196 countries. It states that despite some improvements the situation has remained the same or deteriorated in many countries. Wars ending in Afghanistan, Angola and Sierra Leone led to the demobilisation of 40,000 children, but over 25,000 were drawn into conflicts in Côte d'Ivoire and Sudan alone.
www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966

DDR (DEMOBILISATION DISARMAMENT AND REINTEGRATION)

Going Home: Demobilising and reintegrating child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo (February 2003), Beth Verhey, Save the Children UK.
More than 1,200 child soldiers have been demobilised in the North and South Kivu Provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo since 1999. The process has been gradual but consistent. Save the Children UK has led the majority of the work and this report draws conclusions and lessons learnt from this experience.
[English] www.savethechildren.org.uk/temp/scuk/cache/cmsattach/932_GoingHome.pdf
[Français] www.savethechildren.org.uk/temp/scuk/cache/cmsattach/1157_GoingHomeFrench.pdf

No Place Like Home? Children's Experiences of Reintegration in the Kailahun District of Sierra Leone (November 2004), Emily Delap, Save the Children UK.
Much work has been done to determine effective strategies for ensuring children's safe return to families and communities, but less attention has been paid to children's well being once back in their villages or towns of origin. Save the Children UK conducted group discussions and in-depth interviews on the reintegration process with 211 girls and boys, ex-child soldiers and other separated children. The report suggests ten principles for good practice that could be used in a range of contexts.
www.savethechildren.org.uk/temp/scuk/cache/cmsattach/1958_No%20Place%20Like%20Home_Oct04.pdf

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Gender-Based Violence: Emerging Issues in Programmes Serving Displaced Populations (September 2002), Beth Vann, Reproductive Health Response in Conflict (RHRC) Consortium.
Described by the author as a "compendium of key lessons learned during my five years working with GBV programs in 12 countries." This report provides background and current information about gender-based violence programming with populations affected by armed conflict. It gives concrete advice and examples, and lists valuable resources for further information. The report is divided into three sections: Emerging Standards; Common Issues, Practical Solutions; and Varied Programs, Shared Challenges.
[English] www.rhrc.org/pdf/gbv_vann.pdf
[Français] www.rhrc.org/pdf/gbv_v_fr.doc
[Português] www.rhrc.org/resources/gbv/vann_pt.html

Guidelines for Prevention and Response: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (May 2003), UNHCR.
These Guidelines offer practical advice on how to design strategies and carry out activities aimed at preventing

and responding to sexual and gender-based violence. They also contain information on basic health, legal, security and human rights issues relevant to those strategies and activities. The Guidelines were developed in consultation with UNHCR's partners in refugee protection: governments, inter-governmental agencies and NGOs. They are intended for use by UNHCR staff and its operational partners.
www.unhcr.bg/events_records/2003/guidelines_en.pdf

Gender-Based Violence Tools Manual: For Assessment and Programme Design, Monitoring and Evaluation in Conflict-Affected Settings (February 2004), Reproductive Health Response in Conflict (RHRC) Consortium.
This manual is one of several outcomes of a three-year global Gender-Based Violence (GBV) initiative spearheaded by the RHRC Consortium and aimed at improving international and local capacity to address GBV in refugee, internally displaced, and post-conflict settings. The manual addresses humanitarian professionals committed to GBV prevention and response.
www.rhrc.org/pdf/GBVsingles.pdf

EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES

Minimum Standards for Education in Emergencies, Chronic Crises and Early Reconstruction (December 2004) Inter-Agency Network on Education in Emergencies (INEE).
This minimum standards handbook provides a universal framework for ensuring the right to education for people affected by crisis. It will help education providers improve the design, implementation, development and administration of education programmes. The standards focus on building local capacity and more effective co-ordination with local and international partners, education authorities and host communities. The handbook also links education programmes to psychosocial aid, shelter, health, water supply, sanitation, nutrition and security. It is a tool for improving the accountability of the humanitarian actors who provide it, and it will give government and humanitarian workers the means that they need to address the Education For All and UN Millennium Development Goals.
www.ineesite.org/standards/MSEE_report.pdf

The Role of Education in Protecting Children in Armed Conflict (March 2003) by Susan Nicolai and Carl Triplehorn, ODI, Humanitarian Practice Network.
This paper argues for a reappraisal of the position of education in emergency programming. It explores the links between education and the wider protection needs of the children it assists. It suggests that, as protection in conflict emerges more clearly as a legitimate humanitarian concern, so the role of education as a tool of protection must be more clearly understood.
www.odihpn.org/pdfbin/networkpaper042.pdf

Global Survey on Education in Emergencies (February 2004) Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.
This report is an attempt to gather information on how many refugee, displaced and returnee children and youth have access to education and the nature of the education they receive. Information was collected on a broad range of over 500 education projects with a focus on formal education activities. The survey points to the grave need for education in emergency situations, as it finds that more than 27 million children and youth affected by armed conflict are not in school.
www.womenscommission.org/pdf/Ed_Emerg.pdf

SMALL ARMS

Putting Children First: Building a Framework for International Action to Address the Impact of Small Arms on Children (July 2001) BASIC/International Alert/Saferworld (Biting the Bullet Series).
This report examines how the presence, proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons affects the lives of children. The briefing draws on primary research from three countries – Mozambique, Colombia and Cambodia. It identifies current initiatives to protect children and control small arms and offers recommendations for a Framework of Action with measures to be taken at national, regional and international levels, including priorities for the UN Small Arms Conference.
www.international-alert.org/pdf/pubsec/btb_brf11.pdf

Landmine Survivors: An Inclusive Approach to Policy and Practice (2000) International Save the Children Alliance.
This document, the second working paper from the Working Group on Children Affected by Armed Conflict and Displacement, addresses the situation of children who are affected by landmines. It explains the major injuries caused by landmines, the psychological effect, the vulnerability of injured children, the international legislation concerning landmines and the importance of community-based programmes for the rehabilitation of affected children.
www.savethechildren.net/alliance/resources/landmines.pdf

SEPARATED CHILDREN

Working with Separated Children: A Field Guide, Training Manual and Training Exercises (January 1999) Sarah Uppard and Celia Petty, Save the Children UK.
This publication forms the complete guide for NGOs on how to help children who become separated, working with other NGOs, local authorities and the community. The Field Guide gives a concise overview of the subject, targeted particularly at staff who will have to set up and co-ordinate family tracing programmes. The Training Exercises are designed to be used in conjunction with

the Learning Materials to stimulate group work and discussion and to help trainers assess the effectiveness of their sessions and their future training needs. (Priced publication)
www.savethechildren.org.uk/scuk/jsp/resources/details.jsp?id=6 13

Whose Children? Separated Children's Protection and Participation in Emergencies (2003) David Tolfree, Save the Children Sweden.
This book analyses issues of fostering, group care and other types of care arrangements for children and adolescents separated in situations of large-scale emergencies. The main focus is on fostering, in its many manifestations. It discusses what it really means to be separated from the family and what is urgent to put on the agenda to better fulfil separated children's rights. (Priced publication)
www1.rb.se/Shop/Products/Product.aspx?ItemId=352

Inter-Agency Guiding Principles on Unaccompanied and Separated Children (January 2004) ICRC/UNHCR/UNICEF/World Vision International/Save the Children UK/International Rescue Committee.
This set of comprehensive guidelines outlines a framework and set of principles intended to ensure that the rights and needs of separated children are effectively addressed. Created through close inter-agency collaboration, the guidelines aim to promote and support preparedness, co-ordination and good practice based on lessons learnt. The document addresses all aspects of an emergency from preventing separations, to family tracing and reunification through to long-term solutions and encourages the pooling of complementary skills and expertise.
www.unicef.org/protection/files/english_guiding_principles.pdf

REFUGEE PROTECTION

Refugee Children: Guidelines on Protection and Care (January 1994) UNHCR.
Each chapter discusses a specific subject (e.g. Legal Status, Psychosocial Well-being) from the point of view of children's needs and rights. Generalists working in the field will be able to gain an overview of a subject as well as guidance for addressing specific problems. There is a checklist at the end of each main chapter, which can be used as a quick means of evaluating whether a field office has taken appropriate measures to ensure that the protection needs of children are met. This book is primarily for UNHCR's staff, but it also addresses staff of its operational partners (voluntary organisations, UN agencies or Governments).
www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.pdf?tbl=PROTECTION&id=3b84c6 c67

Growing the Sheltering Tree - Protecting Rights Through Humanitarian Action (September 2002) Inter-Agency Standing Committee, published by UNICEF.
The aim of this book is to share the methods that humanitarian workers have developed to help people – including children - under threat survive, for instance, civilians living in zones of conflict or under oppressive regimes. It will be especially useful for field practitioners as it describes practical methods developed to promote respect for fundamental rights and human dignity. It is intended to provide a way to exchange, test and create new information on the promotion and protection of rights through humanitarian work.
www.icva.ch/files/gstree.pdf

TRAUMA AND HEALING

Promoting Psychosocial Well-being Among Children Affected by Armed Conflict: Principles and Approaches (November 1996) International Save the Children Alliance, Working Group on Children Affected by Armed Conflict and Displacement.
In May 1995, the Working Group brought together several of the Alliance's most experienced child psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers to discuss their work in different parts of the world, draw out common factors and lessons learned and to prepare a joint Alliance contribution to Graça Machel Study. The resulting paper is a working document whose purpose is to stimulate debate on different approaches to psychosocial assistance to war-affected children.
www.ineesite.org/edcon/promoting.asp

Rethinking the Trauma of War (January 1998), Patrick J. Bracken and Celia Petty, Save the Children UK.
This book examines emerging concerns about the export of trauma experts and counsellors to war-torn areas of the world. The contributors are all professionals who have been involved in helping adults and children rebuild their lives after witnessing the destruction of their families and communities. Based on their own experience of working internationally, this book presents both an analysis of current, misconceived attempts to give help, but also an agenda for future, more appropriate ways of responding to those affected by wars and conflicts.
www.savethechildren.org.uk/scuk/jsp/resources/details.jsp?id=5 79

Post Traumatic Stress in Former Ugandan Child Soldiers (May 2004) Susan McKay and Michael G. Wessells, Lancet, Vol. 363, May 15 2004, 1646.
This letter to the medical journal *The Lancet*, argues that the use of a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder is problematic, because it pathologises children, imposes categories formulated by westerners, and limits the conceptualisation of the kinds of support that are

needed. The authors argue that trauma is a small part of a much larger set of psychosocial, economic, ethnic, and political stresses which are continuous and challenge the term 'post-traumatic'.
www.essex.ac.uk/armedcon/story_id/000178.pdf

4. Policy and Advocacy Instruments / Monitoring and Reporting Tools

Children and Armed Conflict: International Standards for Action (April 2003) Human Security Network/Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.
This compendium brings together relevant treaties and instruments on the protection of children affected by armed conflict providing the reference point for a more systematic monitoring and reporting.
www.un.org/special-rep/children-armed-conflict/Download/HSNBook.pdf

Guide to the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
(December 2003) UNICEF/Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers.
This guide to the Optional Protocol on children in armed conflict describes the context surrounding its adoption, efforts supporting its objectives, key provisions and the legislative processes involved for signature and ratification or accession. It aims to support child rights advocates - government officials, child protection agencies, humanitarian workers and those involved in national coalitions - in their work to generate momentum for ratification and implementation of the Optional Protocol.
www.unicef.org/publications/files/option_protocol_conflict.pdf

Protecting Children in Armed Conflict: Blueprints for Compliance (January 2004) Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict.
This paper is a call to action urging UN Security Council members, the UN, regional bodies, civil society, and national governments to respond with the resources and remedies proportionate to the state of affairs for children in armed conflicts around the globe. It outlines three essential Action Areas where progress must be made to begin to put international commitments to protect children into practice.
www.watchlist.org/advocacy/policystatements/blueprints_for_compliance.pdf

Violations Against Children in Armed Conflicts: an Action Plan for Monitoring, Reporting and Response (October 2004) Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflicts.
This paper presents a practical and detailed Action Plan for a system that would enable the Security Council, the Secretary-General, the UN General Assembly, UN member states, UN agencies and NGOs, to monitor, document and respond to violations against children in armed conflict. This Action Plan addresses various activities that must be carried out at the local, country, regional and international levels and the actors that will carry out this work.
www.watchlist.org/advocacy/policystatements/vacdac.pdf

5. Training or Educational Material

Humanitarian Principles Training: A Child Rights Protection Approach to Complex Emergencies
(1999) UNICEF.
This manual crafts practical strategies for protecting the rights of children in complex emergencies. The training focuses on: protection in complex emergencies; humanitarian principles; international law; international humanitarian law; human rights framework; humanitarian access and working with non-State entities; protecting children in situations of armed conflict; and developing strategies.
coe-dmha.org/unicef/unicef2fs.htm

Action for the Rights of Children (ARC) Project - child rights based training and capacity building initiative (October 2002) UNHCR/International Save the Children Alliance/UNICEF/OHCHR.
The project provides materials to assist practitioners in providing protection and care for refugee and displaced children. The series of 14 resource packs covers the following issues: Separated Children - Child Soldiers – Disability – Education - Landmine Awareness - Sexual and Reproductive Health - Abuse and Exploitation. In addition, a Facilitator's Toolkit suggests ideas about participatory training approaches. The materials are available on the website or in CD-ROM format.
www.savethechildren.net/arc/files/main.html

Children in Armed Conflict: A Guide to International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law (June 2003) Rachel Harvey, International Bureau for Children's Rights (IBCR).
This publication is an outcome of the training sessions organised by the IBCR for the members of the International Tribunal for Children's Rights (ITCR) in September 2001 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The training materials compiled and presented by Rachel Harvey from the Children and Armed Conflict Unit, University of Essex, were updated later on to reflect upon major aspects of international humanitarian law and human rights law relating to children affected by armed conflict. This will act as a quick reference manual for those involved in researching, promoting and protecting the rights of children affected by armed conflict.
www.ibcr.org/ChildrenandArmedConflictGuide.pdf

6. Youth Friendly Resources

The Youth Companion to the Machel Review,
Department of Foreign Affairs and International
Trade of Canada (web resource).
The Machel Review is the 2000 follow-up to the 1996
Machel Report entitled *The Impact of Armed Conflict on
Children*. The youth companion to the Machel Review is
a youth-friendly version of the report; it includes
chapter summaries from the study and includes
discussion topics for young people and their teachers.
www.waraffectedchildren.gc.ca/machel_review-en.asp

***The Online Youth Companion to the Machel
Review: Discussion Series on War-Affected
Children***, ePALS
This discussion series, is aimed at students aged 12 and
older. ePALS and its team of partners including teachers
and students familiar with the issues, and leaders in
organisations from around the world, have created this
resource to endeavour to educate both adults and
students about the plight of war-affected children.
www.epals.com/tools/forum/forum.e?bo=78

7. Website Links

Children and Armed Conflict Working Group of the Canadian Peacebuilding Co-ordinating Committee (CACWG)

The CACWG is a Canadian network of international
development agencies, human rights organisations,
academics, youth groups and concerned individuals who
share and analyse information regarding children in
conflict zones, with a view to improve protection for
the security and rights of children threatened and
affected by armed conflict. Users of the CACWG
website will find useful resources on war-affected
children, including links to international organisations
working to protect the security and rights of children in
armed conflict, and a children and armed conflict
listserv.
www.peacebuild.ca/working/?load=children

Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers (CSC)

This website allows users to view information by region
and country using a world map, as well as accessing the
annual Child Soldiers Global Report. It has special
sections on international standards on children and
armed conflict; information for journalists and for
schools and a section on DDR. Visitors can sign up for
email alerts and for electronic versions of the
newsletter, which can also be downloaded from the site.
There is a comprehensive Links section to other
organisations from around the world working on the
issue of children and armed conflict.
www.child-soldiers.org

Human Rights Watch (Campaign to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers)

This site contains news releases, facts, testimonies and
Human Rights Watch reports on issues relating to child
soldiers. It also offers information on the Child Soldiers
Protocol and how to get involved in the campaign.
www.hrw.org/campaigns/crp/index.htm

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

In 1997 the UN Secretary-General appointed Mr. Olara
A. Otunnu appointed as his Special Representative for
children and armed conflict for a period of three years.
The Office does not operate programmes directly but
works with UN agencies and NGOs that do have
programmes in conflict areas. The website features
information on the work of the Special Representative
by topic and by country, international law instruments
and the Secretary-General's reports to the Security
Council and the General Assembly.
www.un.org/special-rep/children-armed-
conflict/English/index.html

UNICEF's Children and Armed Conflict Website

These pages gather UNICEF information on children
and armed conflict. They provide information on "the
past decade", explain "what is being done", and
announce "new challenges". The website also contains
key publications and resources, and links to the official
site of the Winnipeg conference and others that contain
valuable related information.
www.unicef.org/children_conflict

University of Essex Children and Armed Conflict Unit (CACU)

This site is updated daily with world headlines on
current conflicts, humanitarian issues, and how they
affect children. It provides country-specific information
on conflict areas and theme-specific information. The
site also provides a comprehensive database of all
relevant international and regional law, reports and
documents and information on international and
regional organisations.
www.essex.ac.uk/armedcon

War Affected Children (Government of Canada)

This site provides background information, helpful
resources, and documents about Canada's policies and
projects to promote security for children and youth
everywhere. Designed for youth, members of civil
society, governments and non-governmental
organisations, the website also features real stories of
children affected by conflict as well as all research
papers and documents from the Winnipeg Conference,
hosted by Canada in September 2000.
www.waraffectedchildren.gc.ca

War Child

War Child is a network of independent organisations working across the world to help children affected by war. This website provides general information about War Child's mission and activities worldwide and links to individual country websites for more information on War Child's programmes.

www.warchild.org

Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict

The Watchlist website contains all Watchlist country specific reports. These reports provide a holisitc picture of the impact of armed conflict on children's lives in specific conflict situations and cover the broad spectrum of violations against children's rights during armed conflict. The website also provides information on other Watchlist activities, it displays all advocacy letters, letters-to-the editor, and policy statements related to the annual UN Security Council debate on children and armed conflict. The site finally includes a comprehensive links and resources section for additional information.

www.watchlist.org

This reader can be downloaded from: http://www.crin.org/docs/resources/publications/crin-reader-3.pdf

Ref. 2005/03