

on Peacekeeping and the
Prevention of the Recruitment
and Use of Child Soldiers

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Vancouver Principles on peacekeeping and the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers

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Prevention

Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR)

12. To ensure that child soldiers are included as a priority in the planning and execution of all United Nations supported disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, and, where appropriate, repatriation efforts, taking into account their specific needs, including those based on gender, age, and other identity factors, to assist in their successful transition to normal life, and to prevent their re-recruitment,

Mental health

13. To actively promote and support research on the trauma experienced by personnel confronting child soldiers and interacting with children affected by armed conflict, and to provide appropriate pre-deployment preparation, as well as mental health support during and post-deployment,

Sanctions

15. To support the inclusion of child recruitment and use as a designation criterion in United Nations sanctions regimes aimed at supporting the political settlement of conflicts in the context of peace operations,

Best practices

16. To share with other Member States and the United Nations best practices and lessons learned on the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers in the context of peacekeeping,

Further guidance

17. And in this regard look forward to the development, in consultation with Member States, the United Nations, and child protection actors, of operational guidance for the implementation of these Principles.