

Promoting and Protecting Children's Rights Worldwide

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS





“ THANKS TO OUR POSITIVE EXPERIENCE WITH THE IBCR, WE HAVE COMPLETELY CHANGED OUR APPROACH TO OUR WORK. TODAY, THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN’S RIGHTS MAKES UP 40 PERCENT OF OUR PROJECTS. ”

Dr. Arwa AL Deram, Executive Director, SOUL for Development, Yemen



FACTS AND FIGURES

For the past 10 years, the Bureau has been active in more than **45 countries** on every continent

Since 2012, nearly

1,000 trainers of various professionals backgrounds (i.e.: police officers, militaries, social workers, judicial authorities, and professionals working in the tourism industry) have been trained by the Bureau in the protection of children's rights

1,350+ children took part in interviews and participatory projects organised by the Bureau

Nearly **110 publications** were produced in English, French, Spanish and/or Arabic

27,000+ downloads of the IBCR's publication "Children and Armed Conflict: A Guide to International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law"

300+ young professionals completed an internship with the IBCR

WHO ARE WE?



Founded in 1994, the International **Bureau for Children's Rights** – the "Bureau" or "IBCR" – is a Montreal-based non-governmental organisation that has **special consultative status** with the Economic and Social Council of the **United Nations** (ECOSOC).

The Bureau is a centre of technical expertise and through its interventions it strengthens and builds the capacity of those who work directly with children, including social workers, representatives of security and defence forces, members of the judiciary, civil society groups, organisations in the formal and informal private sector, and decision-makers in Canada and abroad.

Through its work, the Bureau supports the efforts of its partners to bring about structural reforms leading to professional practices that reflect greater respect for the rights of children.

OUR FIELDS OF ACTIVITY



+ Children in emergency situations

During man-made crises or natural disasters, the Bureau trains peacekeeping personnel, disseminates and popularises applicable standards, supports systems for monitoring and communicating information, and supports the initial application of minimum standards for protecting children.



⊘ The sexual exploitation of children

The IBCR works with its partners to prevent all forms of violence and exploitation, including sexual exploitation, child pornography, child trafficking, child prostitution, child sex tourism, and early and forced marriages.



👧 Empowering girls

The IBCR works to protect girls from danger. In addition it also seeks to build understanding of the central importance of girls' personal development and to raise awareness of their contribution to social progress.



📄 Children and the economy

The Bureau plays a constructive role by encouraging the private sector to be attentive to the rights of children when developing corporate social responsibility strategies and helps governments take their commitments to children's rights into account when planning budgets.



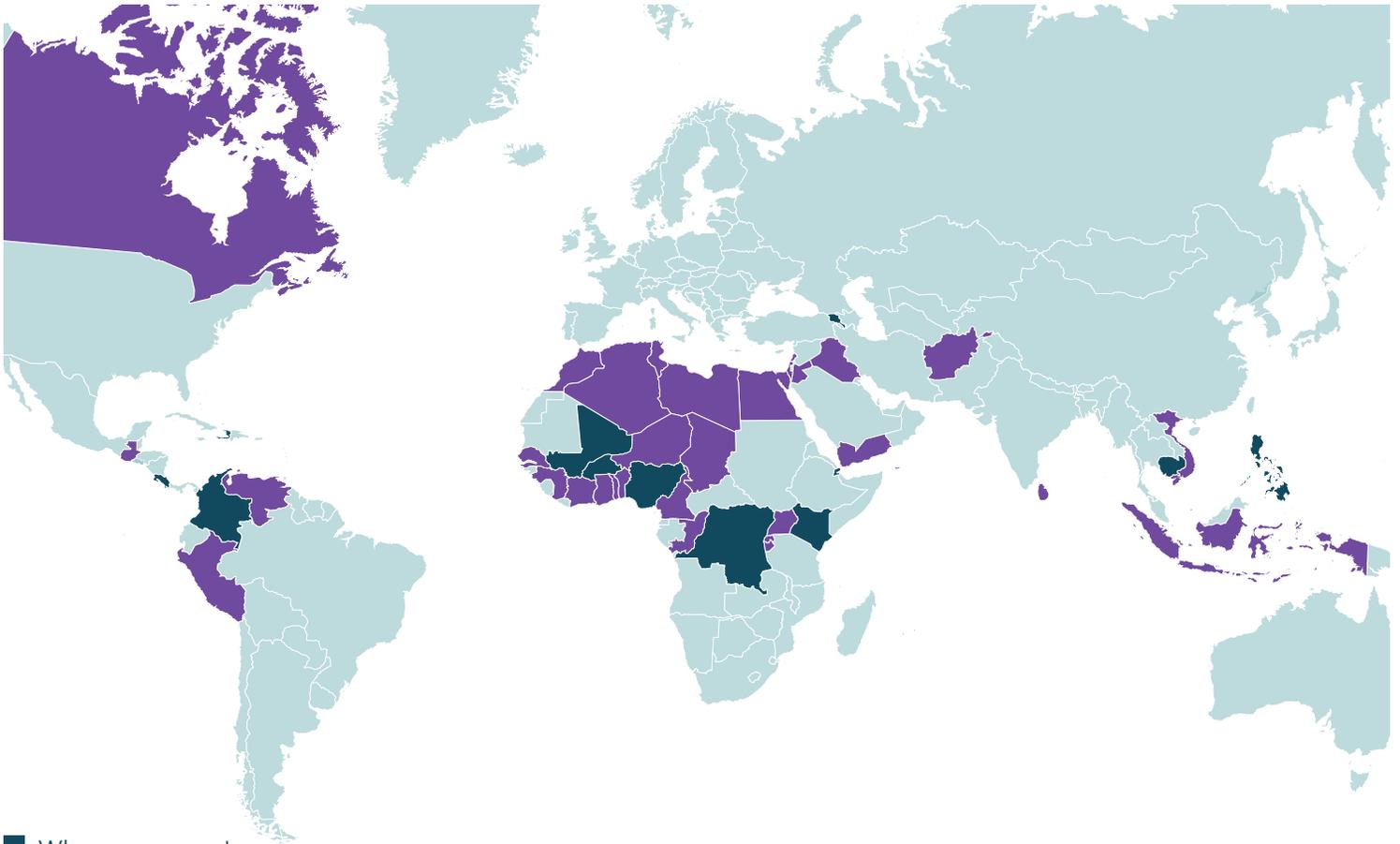
⚖️ Children and Justice

Through its programme for the defence of the rights of children in the criminal and civil justice systems, the IBCR conducts in-depth multidisciplinary analyses of the juvenile justice system in addition to building capacity and frameworks conducive to protecting children's rights repetitive.

OUR TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- **Capacity-building** focused on the effective and lasting integration of knowledge, attitudes and skills by people involved in the child protection system
- **Applied research** in the form of assessments, situational analyses and comparative analyses, all aimed at tracking progress and taking action
- **Advocacy and institutional support** in the form of technical assistance with the reform process and an ongoing constructive dialogue with the parties responsible for promoting and protecting children's rights
- **Tools, reference guides and standards development** using monitoring and reporting tools
- **Training of trainers workshops**, including in-depth courses, delivered to trainers seeking certification

OUR GLOBAL OUTREACH OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS



■ Where we operate
■ Where we operate and build capacity

Afghanistan	● + 🏠	Ghana	● 🏠	Philippines	🏠
Algeria	●	Guatemala	● 🏠	Quebec - Canada	● 🚫 🏠
Benin	● 🏠	Guinea	● + 🚫 🏠	Regional projects in the Middle East and North Africa	● 🚫 🏠
Burkina Faso	🏠	Haiti	+ 🚫 🏠	Regional projects in West, Central and East Africa	● +
Burundi	● 🚫 🏠	Indonesia	● 🚫	Republic of the Congo	● 🚫 🏠
Cambodia	🚫	Iraq	● + 🏠	Rwanda	●
Cameroon	● 🏠	Jordan	● 🏠	Senegal	● + 🏠
Chad	● + 🏠	Kenya	+ 🏠	Sri Lanka	●
Colombia	+ 🚫	Lebanon	● + 🚫 🏠	Togo	● 🏠
Costa Rica	🚫 🏠	Libya	● 🏠	Tunisia	● 🏠
Côte d'Ivoire	● + 🏠	Mali	+ 🏠	Uganda	● +
Democratic Republic of the Congo	+ 🏠	Morocco	● 🚫 🏠	Venezuela	●
Djibouti	🏠	Niger	● 🏠	Vietnam	●
East Timor	●	Nigeria	🏠	Yemen	● + 🏠
Egypt	● 🏠	Palestine	● + 🏠		
Georgia	🏠	Peru	● 🚫 🏠		

THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS' FIVE FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

+ Children in emergency situations

Building child-protection capacity among peacekeeping forces in East, Central, and West Africa



The Bureau works with Save the Children to ensure that pre-deployment training of peacekeeping forces prepares personnel to take action to protect the rights of children in emergency and conflict situations.

Participating in training development with the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)

In partnership with the DPKO, the Bureau reviewed **more than 300 tools** for training peacekeeping personnel in child protection, in addition to cataloguing child protection training programmes in more than 75 peacekeeping training centres throughout the world. The Bureau organised two international consultations with United Nations Member States and other international agencies to approve new training guidelines.

Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:



- Publication of "**Children and Armed Conflict: A Guide to International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law**" (in English and French).

- Organisation of a **forum and workshop on the situation of children in Haiti**, with the aim of making child protection a priority in reconstruction efforts.



Since then, the Bureau has continued to work with the DPKO and United Nations Police to produce **training kits** on child protection for police and military personnel who take part in peacekeeping missions.

⊘ Sexual exploitation of children



Preventing and combating child sex tourism

The Bureau works with the Costa Rican foundation Paniamor and World Vision to fight **child sex tourism** in Costa Rica by involving children, surfers, and informal sector entrepreneurs in these efforts.

Three forums on the "Protection of Children and Adolescents in Travel and Tourism" were organised in Canada, along with a national media campaign on social media, radio, television, and in airports. More than **9,000 fliers** were distributed and **three million passengers** received information about the issue.

Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:

- Production of an action strategy and training kit on protecting the rights of **child victims of trafficking in Quebec**.

- Assessment of the commercial sexual exploitation of **girls and boys in Burundi** in cooperation with UNICEF and the Burundi government.

- Provision of training on the issue of human trafficking for **police forces and social workers in the Republic of the Congo**.

- Security forces in Guinea adopted a **Code of Conduct Against Sexual Violence**.



- The Bureau is the Canadian representative of **The Code** to promote this tool for the prevention of child sex tourism in Canada and around the world.





Empowering girls

Violence against children in schools: a comparative analysis of Lebanon, Morocco, and Yemen

As part of the plan to establish the Manara Network (a civil society children's rights organisation in the Middle East and North Africa), the IBCR and Save the Children worked with local partners to document efforts to **comb** violence against children in schools in Lebanon, Morocco, and Yemen. Focusing on the role of girls in these initiatives, field research was conducted involving a series of interviews with concerned parties. The partners subsequently launched a national advocacy strategy to promote promising practices and encourage the countries involved to emulate them as a means of addressing the issue.

Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:

- Organisation of a **roundtable** in cooperation with Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development to discuss the issue of **early and forced child marriages**.



- Organisation of consultation workshops for girls in **Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, and Guinea** as part of an assessment of the current state of affairs.

- Hosting **workshops on the reintegration of children** associated with armed forces and groups as well as on the situation of girls in Spain and Canada.

Children and justice

Analysing the juvenile justice system in Djibouti



In order to bring the **juvenile justice system in Djibouti in line with international standards**, the Bureau worked with the Ministry of Justice and UNICEF to carry out a detailed analysis of the obstacles to the proper functioning of the system and recommended concrete measures to improve it.

Similar research was conducted in other countries, including Morocco and Canada.

Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:

- Assessment of **intervention and rehabilitation programmes** in residential institutions and court diversion programmes for children in conflict with the law in the **Philippines**.

- From 2015, more than a **hundred volunteers** appointed by the Bureau and Lawyers without Borders Canada to support the efforts of some 15 partners in **Latin America** and **Africa** to strengthen juvenile justice systems.

- Contribution to the policy orientation of a **report on torture and mistreatment of children** deprived of liberty tabled by Special Rapporteur Juan E. Mendez.

TRAINING OF THE POLICE AND JUDICIAL OFFICIALS IN CAMEROON



The IBCR partnered with the Government of Cameroon to develop **tools and courses** that are now used to train members of security forces and the judiciary in Cameroon.

The Bureau has been particularly active in this field in more than 20 countries since 2012.

The six core competencies adopted in Niamey in 2011:

- 1) Knowledge, promotion, and implementation of children's rights
- 2) Knowledge and application of ethical and deontological standards
- 3) Knowledge of children
- 4) Practical communication skills for interactions with children and relevant family and community members
- 5) Cooperation with all official and informal stakeholders to improve the coordination of activities
- 6) Effective use of working tools suited to children



Children and the economy

Corporate social responsibility and children's rights



Together with a number of institutional and civil society partners in Quebec, the Bureau conducted innovative research to determine the extent to which organisations consider the **impact of their activities** on children's rights.

The Bureau advises businesses about concrete and positive ways they can become more accountable to children in light of existing international standards.

Producing a status report on the integration of children's rights in Burkina Faso's budget planning process

In partnership with the German Cooperation, the Bureau conducted research on **children's rights and budget planning** in Burkina Faso with the intention of identifying strategic measures to help ensure that political commitments to children's rights are reflected in the country's budget process.

Following the initial report, investigation and interviews, the results of preliminary research and the field mission laid the groundwork for the development of a **strategic approach** to integrating the rights of children and youth into the operations of Burkina Faso's Ministry of Economy and Finance.



THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS' FIVE FIELDS OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

● Capacity-building

Mapping the child protection system in Chad



In partnership with UNICEF and Chad's Ministry of Social Action, the IBCR initiated a project to support the development of a **national child protection policy** in Chad.

To map and evaluate the child protection system, more than 200 documents were reviewed, a Steering Committee was created, and interviews were conducted with some 60 children and civil servants. Work on the project is continuing with **ongoing training** in police and military academies, judiciary training institutes, and schools of social work. This type of expertise is now sought after in dozens of countries in the Middle East and Africa.

Providing support and capacity-building for civil society organisations and creating the Manara network

For over three years, the Bureau has **provided training to more than 10 civil society partners** in **nine countries** in the **Middle East and North Africa**, thereby helping build their research capabilities and their understanding of children's rights.

These partnerships have given rise to the joint publication of studies and research findings on promising practices in various countries and workshops on regional advocacy contributing to recognising and realising the rights of children.



Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:

- Support for public defenders responsible for providing legal aid to **victims of human trafficking in Peru.**



- Training and capacity-building for security forces in **Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Tunisia, and Yemen.**

● Applied research

Applying minimum standards for protecting children in humanitarian crisis



The Bureau was enlisted by the global Child Protection Working Group to study how the **relationship between children and justice** changes in emergency situations.

To that end, the Bureau held a number of consultations, including a knowledge-sharing workshop in Geneva, to discuss possible applications of Standard 14 of the Minimum Standards for Protecting Children in Humanitarian Action, which deals with “justice for children.” The Bureau’s innovative research in this area will serve to strengthen the **guide to implementing the standards** currently being developed by the Child Protection Working Group.

Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:

- Research on the rights of the child in the **African Great Lakes** region and publication of **country profiles** on the experiences of applying the rights of the child in Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Rwanda.
- Publication of the guide “**Connaitre les droits des enfants**” (**Knowing Children’s Rights, available in French only**) for parents, social workers, teachers, lawyers, and everyone responsible for protecting or promoting the rights of the child in Quebec.
- Ongoing development of a reference guide on the rights of **aboriginal children** in Quebec.
- Evaluation of Morocco’s **juvenile justice system**.
- Research on the **judicial trajectory** of child victims and witnesses of crime in Quebec.



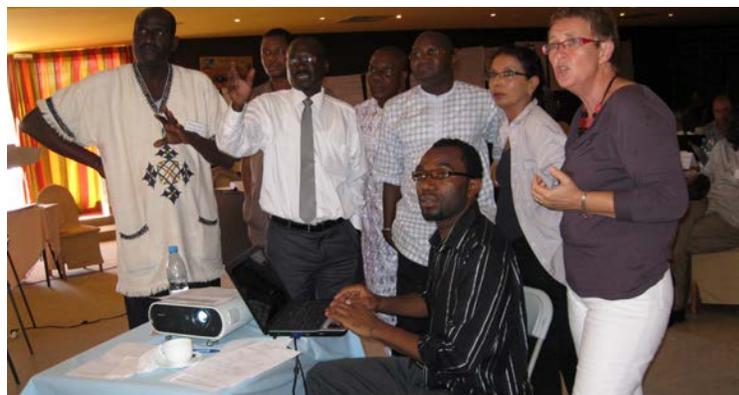
● Advocacy and institutional support

Expanding the operating territory of Benin’s Central Office for the protection of minors, family and for the suppression of human trafficking

Having helped incorporate child protection training for security forces in the curriculum of police academies, the Bureau is now working in partnership with UNICEF on plans to extend the services of the Central Office beyond the city of Cotonou and surrounding areas and to **standardise the Office’s operating procedures**.

Promoting regional justice for minors in the Middle East and North Africa

At the invitation of the IBCR and UNICEF’s Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), nine regional delegations took part in a regional workshop on justice for minors. The goal was to look at the role of special units assigned to work with children and assess the work accomplished to date. The discussions culminated in a report containing a **comprehensive analysis** of the main trends within the **juvenile justice system in the MENA region**.



Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:

- Consultation with the Ministry of Justice of the **Republic of Georgia** to support the development of a **national capacity-building strategy** with a view to introducing a new child protection code.
- Participation in **multilateral discussions** on the activities of the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from **Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism** in Canada and abroad.

● Tools, reference guides and standards development

Drafting status reports, standard operating procedures, and providing training in Ghana

In partnership with UNICEF, the Bureau contributes to building capacity of police officers in Ghana. The project's aims are to **map** the state of children's rights and police practices, provide **technical support** to police schools and academies by means of a training programme, and design training tools based on the development of **standard operating procedures** (SOP) to facilitate the management of information and databases pertaining to child victims and witnesses as well as children in conflict with the law.



Developing guidelines on justice in matters involving child victims and witnesses of crime

In 2003, the Bureau submitted its own **Guidelines on Justice in matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime** and was actively involved in promoting their adoption by ECOSOC in 2005.



In 2007, the Bureau, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and UNICEF published a **child-friendly version** of these guidelines available in six languages.

Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:

- Preparation of 14 status reports on systems for protecting the rights of the child and the role of security forces, social workers, and/or judges, followed by the development of more than **25 kits for basic and specialised training**.
- Publication of an **expert report** on the training of security forces on children's rights in **French-speaking Africa**.



● Training delivery

Course on the rights of the child given to the personnel of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada

The Bureau offers several practical courses on children's rights within the department. Officials who attend learn how to **integrate the rights and protection of children** into international development policies and programmes.

Training Mali's military forces in the protection of children in situations of armed conflict

With the support of UNICEF in Mali, the IBCR produced a **training kit for the Malian army** on the protection of children in situations of armed conflict. The Bureau then trained the national UNICEF staff to enable them to teach the course to the Malian armed forces.

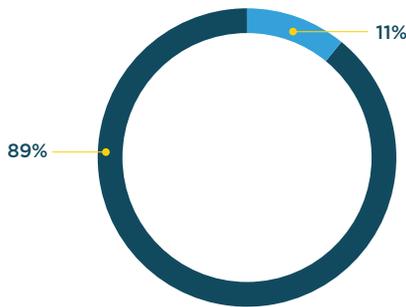
Amongst the many achievements of the IBCR:

- **Training of trainers** in Canada to persons involved in the fight against human trafficking.
- Provision of training to more than **200 employees** of national and international NGOs on methods for monitoring children's rights violations, particularly in **Colombia, Jordan, Iraq, and Côte d'Ivoire**.
- Organisation of more than 20 training of trainers workshops on the use of training kits for **defence and security personnel, judges, and social workers**.

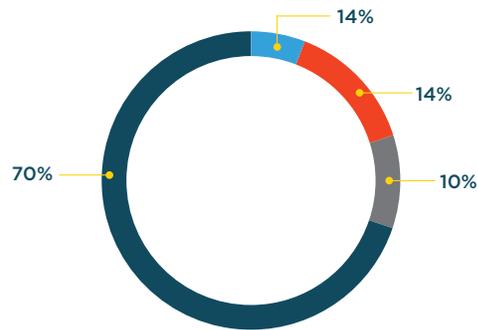


FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Results-oriented financial management aimed at minimising administrative costs to maximise efforts on behalf of the rights of the child



- Governance and administration
- Implementation and development



- Private sector
- Contributions in services
- Government contributions
- Contributions from international organisations

* The financial information presented here is for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The International Bureau for Children's Rights' budget for this period was CA\$2,732,342 (an increase of 101% over the previous year).

OUR MAIN TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS

Government of Canada (Status of Women Canada, Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, Department of Justice), Government of Quebec (Ministry of Justice), Government of Sweden (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), International Organisation of la Francophonie, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, UNICEF, United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, United States State Department, Universalis, World Bank, World Vision, and dozens of Canadian civil society organisations.



The IBCR's publications

Available on the IBCR website at www.ibcr.org

- Status report on the child protection system within security forces and the judiciary in Burundi and Chad
- Assessing changes in the attitudes, understanding, and behaviour of defence and security forces – Experiences and lessons learned from East, West, and Central Africa
- Regional plan to support justice for minors in the Middle East and North Africa, particularly at police units specialising in the protection of families and children
- Fifth workshop on the integration of core competencies on the rights of the child in the training and practices of the police and the gendarmeries in Africa
- Status report on training security forces on children's rights in Côte d'Ivoire
- Manual for public defenders and other justice system officials in Peru

THE BUREAU ACCORDING TO OUR PARTNERS

“Professional”

Sergio Pasin
Officer in Charge of Behavioural Sciences and
International Operations, RCMP, Canada

“Trustworthy”

Nieves Alvarez
Head of GIZ Sectoral Project, Germany

“A new approach to children”

Bayoudh Raoudha
Head of the Department of Youth Protection,
Judicial Police Administration, Tunisia

“Flexible”

Darine El Hajj
Executive Director, Lebanese Association
for Education and Training, Lebanon

“A methodical approach”

Nzigamasabo Léa-Pascalie
Member of the High Judicial Council, Burundi

“Voice”

Kathleen Dufour
Director of CAVAC Outaouais, Canada

“Defenders of the rights of children”

Jean Lieby
Head of Child Protection, UNICEF, Afghanistan

“The best interests of the child”

Mathurin Zapa
Police officer, Cameroon

“Supportive”

Bakary Sogoba
Head of Child Protection, UNICEF, Chad

“Strategic”

Milena Grillo
Founder and Executive Director,
Paniamor Foundation, Costa Rica

“Efficient”

Emmanuel Bayeni
Centre des droits de l'homme
et du développement, Congo

“Cooperation”

Ann Makome
Child Protection Focal Point, Department
of Peacekeeping Operations, UN



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OFICINA
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LOS DERECHOS DEL NIÑO

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