

Forum: Disarmament and International Security

Question: Militancy in Sahel: Preventing Jihadist groups from recruiting children in terrorist-controlled regions.

Main Submitter: Tunisia

Co-Submitted by: Gabon, Tunisia, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Niger

Signatories: Bangladesh, Niger, Tunisia, Azerbaijan, Senegal, Egypt, Argentina, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Mexico, Russia, Bosnia, Algeria, Gabon, China, Brazil, India, Afghanistan, DPRK, Israel

DISC,

Fully aware of the extremist groups in the Sahel, which take advantage of poverty, famine, and corruption to gain power over politically weak countries with internal political tensions,

Aware that Al Qaeda aims to expand to the Gulf of Guinea and take control of Cote d'Ivoire and Benin, and overall, the West coast, which enhances overall CHILD involvement in drug and weapon trafficking as well as kidnapping,

Noting with deep concern that Boko Haram is a ruthless militant group that has major control over Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon, and Niger,

Remembering the 300,000 killed by Boko Haram since 2009 and the 2.3 million people displaced from their homes as a result of their violent conduct,

Fully aware that ISIS is separated into two subdivisions: Islamic state West African Province and Islamic state in Greater Sahara,

Keeping in mind that the gradual loss of influence of ISIS on the Islamic State in the Middle East hints to the Sahel as their next target,

Recognizing that these extremist groups want power to instil a more grounded form of Islam to Sahel countries but remembering that they use brutal violence against anyone to reach this goal,

Deeply concerned that these groups target children since they are cheaper to pay and feed and can be physically and emotionally manipulated and indoctrinated with ease,

Deeply disturbed by the use of propaganda videos and posters by extremist groups, and their allusions that joining the group is 'honorable and an opportunity for power and revenge against enemies,

Reminding that they also take control over education and video games, modifying textbooks that show weapons and tanks, normalizing radical behavior,

Taking note that France and the UN have both deployed troops in the Sahel to try and halt the spread in militant Jihadists but have resulted largely unsuccessful,

Acknowledging that the majority of countries in the Sahel region have a population composed of approximately 50-60% children, making them one of the easiest targets for recruitment,

Emphasizing the importance of the UN SDG 16, specifically 16.2 which aims to, “End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children”,

1. *Calls for* African countries and countries affiliated with the UN that are financially able to grant refugee and asylum to all child soldiers, such as but not limited to;
 - a. Algeria,
 - b. Azerbaijan,
 - c. Democratic Republic of Congo,
 - d. Chad,
 - e. Libya, and
 - f. Nigeria;
2. *Strongly encourages* the collaboration of all delegations to help raise local awareness of dangerous jihadist terrorism in the Sahel region, to be achieved through but not limited to:
 - a. PSAs published by local governments both in physical locations and through media, and
 - b. Modified advertisements on popular internet websites, especially for children and young adults;
 - i. These websites will be selected based on statistics of their usage in the specific area, and
 - ii. Funding for said advertisements will be mainly obtained from MDCs;
3. *Recommending* that the UN to grant INTERPOL 5% more than the average amount of the last 20 years and urging the French Government to assist legal agreements between Sahel nations and INTERPOL, in which:
 - a. More money will be allocated to investigation into rise of terrorist power and the identification of terrorist leaders, and
 - b. An increase of aid will be allocated to perform special operations to stop the rise of terrorist powers;
4. *Urges* all countries to fund existing communities and international organizations for peacekeeping operations in the Sahel region, requesting that:
 - a. LEDCs to donate 0.01% of their GDP for the organizations, and
 - b. MEDCs to donate 0.05% of their GDP for peacekeeping in the Sahel region;
5. *Requests* all countries to aid the existing governments in the Sahel region to stop child recruitment to the Jihadist groups:
 - a. LEDCs donate 0.01% of their annual GDP, and
 - b. MEDCs donate 0.05% of their yearly GDP,

6. *Calls upon* African governments to take appropriate action against any armed opposition such as by the following practices:
 - a. The formation of a special operation to end the Jihadist group, and
 - b. The alliance of multiple governments to perform a large scale operation in the case of big terrorist groups;
7. *Reminds* all countries in the Sahel region to manage the funds provided by other countries correctly, and if used for causes other than the previously stated clauses, there will be consequences, such as peacekeeping troops integrated permanently in these regions;
8. *Suggests* members of the Assembly invest into the ‘Green wall’ project across the Sahel and fast track its realization, as it provides the following benefits:
 - a. It will reduce desertification and reintroduce vital nutrients in the soil, providing more farming jobs and reducing poverty and famine, and
 - b. Children will be urged to work on farms rather than Join Jihadist Groups;
9. *Recommends* for the Burkina Faso and Mali government to create a political change and shift from a semi presidential state to a presidential state. This will be financially aided by members of the UN, issuing a stronger form of government with less internal conflicts and allowing these governments to better negotiate with these extremist groups and limit damage;
10. *Requests* the creation of specific committees assigned to a specific country in the Sahel which will hold a degree of responsibility for them, including, but not limited to:
 - a. The assurance that goals are being met and progress is being made regarding the issue at hand, and
 - b. The reporting of any abnormally important or devastating occurrences to all other committees through formal meetings.
11. *Strongly urges* governments of affected nations to negotiate with supporting countries government’s to arrange monthly migration programmes, in these programs:
 - a. Willing countries would host families from Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso, reducing unemployment in Gabon and overpopulation,
 - b. The protection of families and children will be ensured, and
 - c. Children will be provided with a valid education;
12. *Emphasizes* the need for border reinforcements and security improvements between nations in the Sahel region;
 - a. These improvements will be targeted at preventing the flow and transport of illegal arms and weaponry, specifically, but not limited to:

- i. Arms that are considered “improvised”, which are not professionally manufactured, including the M-60 heavy machine gun and the AK-47 Kalashnikov assault rifle,
 - ii. Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), and
- b. Any extra funding or resources needed to create stable and secure borders will be done by both MDCs and nations that are heavily involved in halting the progress of these organizations; and

13. *Decides* to remain actively seized on the matter.

** Subclause was removed from clause 7 because it involved the military invasion of other countries