

CASE STUDY

A CALL FOR NUANCED, CONTEXTUALISED
AND COORDINATED RESPONSES
TO COMPLEX MANIFESTATIONS OF
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN
HUMANITARIAN CONTEXTS

KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ



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Table of contents

Introduction	2
Overview	4
Legislation about Child Sexual Exploitation	6
Main Difficulties and Challenges for Communities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq	7
Shifting Expectations on the Roles of Children Due to the Crisis	9
Impact on Children’s Wellbeing	10
The Rise of Sexual Exploitation of Children	11
Which Children are in Particularly Vulnerable Situations to Sexual Exploitation?	12
Who are the Perpetrators and Intermediaries?	14
Support and Coping Services, Networks and Mechanisms for Children and Families	16
Recommendations for Next Steps	18

INTRODUCTION

Globally, children suffer various forms of violence that can have long-term consequences, and data from 2016 estimated that one billion children aged 2-17 years had experienced physical, sexual or emotional violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse in the past year.¹ Sexual violence affects children in all settings around the globe – no matter their gender, ethnicity, class, religion, educational level, or geographic location.² With the advent of information and communication technologies, opportunities to sexually exploit children have been further increased.

The numerous global challenges of armed conflicts,³ mass displacement and migration,⁴ climate change, and the insufficient measures to address their root causes and drivers, such as deepening economic inequalities, structural and systematic discrimination, harmful social norms, and a general lack of impunity for the perpetrators, continue to exacerbate the conditions that further expose children to sexual violence and exploitation.⁵ Children in these crisis contexts with overlapping marginalised identities, such as gender, disability, refugee status, and religious and ethnic minorities face heightened risks and barriers to accessing care.

To gain a deeper understanding of the dynamics and manifestations of child sexual exploitation in humanitarian settings, ECPAT International commissioned a global and multi-country research study. Three country contexts have been selected as case studies to further understand these dynamics: (1) Ethiopia and the internally displaced population from Northern Ethiopia; (2) Kenya and the refugee communities in Nairobi and Kakuma Refugee Camp; and (3) the Kurdistan region of Iraq and the internally displaced people and refugee communities.

1 Hillis et al. (2016, Mar). *Global prevalence of past-year violence against children: a systematic review and minimum estimates*. (This figure is an estimate and continues to be commonly featured in various publications to illustrate the scale of violence against children. For example, this figure is still referred to by the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and INSPIRE Working.)

2 *Ibid.*

3 Defined by the International Committee of the Red Cross (2008): “Resort to armed force between two or more States, or protracted armed confrontations occurring between governmental armed forces and the forces of one or more armed groups, or between such organized groups arising in the territory of a State which reaches a minimum level of intensity.” Cited in United Nations Children’s Fund. (2020). *Action to end child sexual abuse and exploitation: A review of the evidence*. UNICEF, New York.; According to *Global Conflict Tracker*, there are 27 currents as of 15 December 2023.

4 Defined by IOM (2004): “A process of moving, either across an international border or within a State. It is a population movement encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition, and causes; it includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, uprooted people, and economic migrants.” Cited in United Nations Children’s Fund. (2020). *Action to end child sexual abuse and exploitation: A review of the evidence*. UNICEF, New York.

5 United Nations Children’s Fund. (2020). *Action to end child sexual abuse and exploitation: A review of the evidence*. UNICEF, New York.

This case study presents the various manifestations of child sexual exploitation identified in the Kurdistan region of Iraq including the drivers leading to child sexual exploitation and the ways that organisations, communities, and children respond. It should be read in conjunction with the [Sexual Exploitation of Children in Humanitarian Contexts - Global Research](#) which documents the common perceptions, narratives, biases, norms and beliefs associated with child sexual exploitation in the context of a crisis; the current framings and understanding of sexual exploitation of children in the humanitarian sector; and the way that humanitarian aid systems, actors, and structures may impact the identification, response, access to service and prevention of child sexual exploitation.

Overview

This case study is one of the three countries of [Sexual Exploitation of Children in Humanitarian Contexts - Global Research](#). It was developed by ECPAT International in collaboration with ECPAT's member [Jiyan Foundation for Human Rights](#) – a non-profit organisation promoting the mental wellbeing, physical rehabilitation, and social integration of survivors of (sexual) violence, torture, and trauma in the Kurdistan region of Iraq.

The case study is a summary of the key findings from in-country qualitative research, which includes key informant interviews. The case study is a summary of the key findings from in-country qualitative research, which includes key informant interviews. This case study is not an exhaustive country overview and analysis.

The Kurdistan region of Iraq case study focused on learning about the refugees and internally displaced people and their experiences with sexual exploitation of children. The conflict in north and central Iraq, from late 2013 to 2017, resulted in large-scale displacement within the Kurdistan region of Iraq. The needs of some 1.2 million internally displaced people and 4.9 million internally displaced people returnees remained high;⁶ including the Yazidis who were subjected to countless forms of violence when the Islamic State (ISIS) captured Sinjar (Shingal).⁷ Around one million internally displaced people lack at least one type of civil documentation, impeding them from exercising their rights and accessing basic services.⁸ Iraq also hosts close to 300,000 refugees and asylum seekers from Syria (majority), Iran, Türkiye, the State of Palestine, and other countries; over 90% of whom live in the Kurdistan region of Iraq.⁹ There are 15 camps for refugees and internally displaced people across the Kurdistan region's provinces which host 650,000 internally displaced people and 248,000 refugees - six in Erbil, four in Sulaymaniyah, and five in Duhok.¹⁰

6 UNHCR. [Iraq situation](#).

7 Bechocha, Julian (2023, September). [Iraq, UN Cooperating to Shut Down IDP Camps in Kurdistan Region](#).

8 UNHCR. [Iraq situation](#).

9 UNHCR. [Iraq operation](#). Operation Data Portal.

10 [Statistics from the Kurdistan Regional Government's \(KRG\) Joint Crisis Coordination Center](#). (2023, Sep),, referenced in Bechocha.

The research covered three geographic focus areas – Kirkuk,¹¹ Duhok, and Sulaymaniyah:

- 1.** **Kirkuk** is a city 160 miles north of Iraq's capital, Baghdad, and just 60 miles from Erbil, the capital of the Kurdistan region of Iraq and has a diverse and mixed population with a variety of ethnic and religious groups. Kirkuk governorate hosts the third largest displaced population (12% or 362,256 individuals). Internally displaced people in Kirkuk are mainly from Salah al-Din (22%), Anbar (14%), and from within Kirkuk governorate (52%). While there are no longer internally displaced people camps in Kirkuk, the city is home to many returned internally displaced people.¹²
- 2.** **Duhok** is the capital of the Duhok Governorate in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, at the crossroads of Iraq, Turkey, and Syria. The majority of the Yazidis live in Duhok.¹³
- 3.** **Sulaymaniyah**, also spelled Slemani or Sulaimani, is a city in the northeast of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, which is not far from the Iran–Iraq border.

The research team interviewed a total of 19 key informants and conducted two focus group discussions in Kirkuk and in Sulaymaniyah. The key informants included representatives from local non-government organisations, international non-governmental organisations, UN agencies (e.g. IOM), child centres, and government offices (e.g., Directorate of Social Affairs and Child Protection Department, and the Women and Juvenile Prison). The full interview transcripts were translated from Arabic and Kurdish to English and analysed by the consultant, and the ECPAT research team with the in-country researchers.

11 According to Article 140 of the Iraqi Constitution, Kirkuk is part of the disputed area between the Iraqi Federal Government and the Kurdish Region of Iraq.

12 Hussein, H. S., and Saeed, K. M. (2022, March). *The Child, Early, and Forced Marriage Online Sexual Exploitation of Children and the Impact of COVID-19 on Early Marriage and Online Sexual Exploitation of Children in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region*. Jiyani Foundation for Human Rights.

13 *Ibid.*

Legislation about Child Sexual Exploitation

In accordance with Article 399 of the Iraqi Penal Code, as endorsed by the Kurdish Parliament, the incitement of children to engage in prostitution or fornication, as well as assisting minors in such activities, constitute criminal offences punished with imprisonment not exceeding 10 years.¹⁴ These provisions extend protection to both boys and girls. The Criminal Code delineates stricter penalties, such as the additional measure of detention, under certain circumstances.¹⁵ If the offender has a familial relationship with the victim (within three generations), acts as a guardian, protector, or custodian of the victim, or if the victim serves as the offender's servant.¹⁶ Similarly, individuals wielding authority over the victim, such as public officials, religious leaders, or doctors, who exploit their positions of trust for personal gain in committing such offences, may face similar penalties.¹⁷

However, the legislation faces limitations, particularly in its failure to define the exploitation of children in prostitution explicitly. Moreover, while it criminalises incitement and assistance to prostitution, there are not articles specifying offences for engaging in prostitution with a child, if not a vague reference to "every user [...] making use of persons engaged in prostitution for the purpose of exploiting them" in the Law on Combating Prostitution No. 8 of 1988.¹⁸

Article 394 of the Penal Code addresses sexual activity outside of marriage with individuals under 18 years old, even with their consent, imposing heightened penalties when the child is under 15 years old.¹⁹ However, a strict interpretation of this article suggests that protection for boys only refers to cases involving same-sex offenders i.e. not in the cases when a boy has been abused by a woman.

Additionally, Article 398 of the Penal Code presents offenders with the option to evade investigation and judicial proceedings by marrying their victims, a provision that extends to cases of sexual intercourse without consent.²⁰

14 Republic of Iraq. (1969). *Penal Code No. 111 of 1969 (Amended in March 2010)*. Article 399.

15 *Ibid.*

16 *Ibid.* Article 393(2).

17 *Ibid.*

18 Republic of Iraq. (1969). *Law On Combating Prostitution No. 8 of 1988*, Article 3.

19 Republic of Iraq. (1969). *Penal Code No. 111 of 1969 (Amended in March 2010)*. Article 394.

20 *Ibid.* Article 398.

Main Difficulties and Challenges for Communities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

All key informants noted that due to the conflict in north and central Iraq (2013-2017) which has resulted in migration and displacement, an ongoing humanitarian crisis, economic crisis, and continued political unrest, communities in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, in particular internally displaced people and refugees, are experiencing high levels of insecurity, including:

- Overall insecurity – lack of peace, safety, and continued violence; uncertainty on their future;
- Political insecurity (and violence);
- Economic and job insecurity;
- Basic needs and access to public services insecurity (overall harsh living conditions);
- Mental health insecurity (due to crisis, displacement, and violence);
- Shelter insecurity (particularly internally displaced people and refugees);
- Social and familial insecurity (rise of separation and divorce; female-headed households; parental drug addiction; father's imprisonment; parental neglect).

The crisis and displacement have resulted in the decline in the quality of education and overall an insufficient number of schools, resulting in higher levels of school dropout. The internally displaced people and refugee children are in even more vulnerable situation to poorer educational outcomes since they live far from the schools, unable to afford school fees, or face language barriers.

“In normal situations, parents are worried about their child’s education, but during a crisis, they are worried about their health, so all the matters that follow a plan are disrupted, such as worrying about a child finishing their education.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

The ascent of technology, the Internet, and the use of social media platforms have also greatly impacted the way families raise children and their exposure to inappropriate, potentially harmful, and sexually explicit content, as several key informants reflected on:

- ✦ *“Leads children in the wrong direction.”*
- ✦ *“In normal situations, we can benefit from technology, but during a crisis, its negative effects will surface. For example, you always hear the news of death, killing and exploitation.”*
- ✦ *“Social media is one of the main reasons that children are affected because parents cannot control their children... monitor social media.”*
- ✦ *“Kids watching war, violence, and sexual acts on YouTube.”*

Overall, refugees and internally displaced people families face more challenges than the host communities due to loss of family resources, assets, and home; increased lack of basic needs (food, shelter, clothing); the death and imprisonment of heads of household; and lack of documentation/identity cards (e.g. difficult to go to school, work, re-marrying).

“More challenging for refugees, two or three times more... Host community not as affected since they have peace and security and safety and have schools, family, home and source of income.”
- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Shifting Expectations on the Roles of Children Due to the Crisis

The above-mentioned challenges and difficulties have a direct impact on children and youth and change their role in their families and the wider community. The social roles of children are quite gendered. Children (especially boys) are taking on more economic responsibilities to support their families by performing incoming-generating activities, such as working in shops, mechanics, agriculture, and in the street, resulting in school dropouts. Communities are also seeing a rise in early marriage, particularly of girls, but some boys as well, both in terms of “*the need for their Mahr (dowry) or other material benefits*”, and to alleviate economic pressure on families, but also to protect girls from violence and exploitation. According to one key informant, “*when I was working at the refugee camps, every day there were about 10 weddings. We would see a child coming to play at the playground, but after some time we would find out she had gotten married. This exists in different cultures that during a crisis, they marry off their children at an earlier age to build tighter connections.*”

“Yes, their roles change but not a 100% change. Sometimes because of crises, disasters, and problems, the roles of children change, especially in the case of IDPs and refugees, who must leave their places of origin.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“Any crisis will affect families and the way they view their children. For instance, they make them work, leave school, or marry them off at an early age.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“Crisis led to disintegration of families and lost childhood.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“Children are the first victims of crisis and difficult life events.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Impact on Children's Wellbeing

The conflict and continued humanitarian crisis and ensuing insecurities are having a direct adverse impact on children's overall wellbeing and resulting in them engaging in dangerous, exploitative activities. Accordingly, across these communities, there has been a marked increase in school dropouts, early marriage, child labour, accident-induced disabilities, living and working on the streets, recruitment by armed groups/forces, drug abuse and addiction, petty crime, post-traumatic stress disorder and psychological problems, youth unemployment, and child sexual abuse, violence, and exploitation.

"Children are deprived of a childhood."

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

"The experience of seeing violence and displacement resulting in children not feeling safe."

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

"The youth and children have dreams and aspirations, but the crisis hinders them. For example, we have thousands of young people who completed their education and are unemployed and this leads to problems that grow even more serious during crises."

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

The Rise of Sexual Exploitation of Children

Key informants all reflected on the fact that the humanitarian crisis and resulting economic, political, and social insecurities are key driving factors in the rise of economic and sexual exploitation of children. The fact that families are struggling to survive and to meet their basic needs as well as the breakdown of the social fabric is resulting in a rise of economic and sexual exploitative practices that were not common before the crisis. The key informants reflected on the following ways that children are being exploited:

- ➔ Sexual exploitation through prostitution;
- ➔ Online child sexual exploitation (cases of videos being recorded of children's bodies or performing sexual acts which are circulated and used to threaten children; or via social media platforms where children (mostly girls) are lured into thinking that the person will provide protection and shelter in exchange for sexual favours);
- ➔ Sexual exploitation imposed by service providers (including those in refugee/internally displaced people camps);²¹
- ➔ Sexual abuse due to the camp infrastructure (e.g. shared toilets);
- ➔ Sexual exploitation through trafficking although this is reported to be mitigated (*"lower rate since people are informed"*);
- ➔ Child labour (*"harsh labour, child neglect – not treating them with respect and not giving them their rights adequately"*) putting children in vulnerable positions and exposed to sexual exploitation;
- ➔ Girls working in boutiques or coffee shops experiencing sexual or financial exploitation;
- ➔ Abduction and sexual exploitation by armed groups (boys and girls).

"Services providers exploit people. For example, a woman asks a (male) service provider for a ration card and he forces her to have sex before he gives it to her."

"When boys go to work outside the camp, they are sexually abused. They are not paid for the work they do, work overtime and receive a small wage."

"In camps, boys face molestation (groping) and girls face exploitation."

"Photos and videos of children are posted on social media and causes distress for families."

"Those in no position of power and no ID. There are cases of sex in exchange for services in camps. Because the children have no IDs, they cannot leave camps for services."

"Exploitation happens everywhere!"

²¹ Please note it was not possible to distinguish from adult women and children who were victims of such practices.

Which Children are in Particularly Vulnerable Situations to Sexual Exploitation?

The key informants noted that while most children can be in vulnerable situations to sexual exploitation practices, the following are the most vulnerable: girls and boys (between 9-19 years of age) – while most said that girls were more vulnerable, some mentioned boys as well; children from underprivileged families; children of refugees and displaced families; children with disabilities or special needs (particular those under the age of 8); children from “broken homes” (divorced mothers; orphans; or those raised by step-parents); children living and working on the streets; and children (and families) associated with ISIS.

“Boys are more vulnerable to these threats, especially when they are heavy built, have light complexion and are from deprived families, broken homes, or refugee families. They also confirmed that due to constant crises, these cases have increased.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“... it is more likely for girls since they have fewer adaptation mechanisms than boys (they are in a more vulnerable position).”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“Families and their children affiliated with ISIS are outcasts and looked at with contempt. These children are more vulnerable to physical, financial, verbal, and sexual exploitation.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

The children who have been subjected to sexual exploitation and violence face heavy stigma, marginalisation, humiliation, trauma, discrimination, social rejection, deteriorating mental health, and isolation from families and friends. The children are not necessarily believed and supported; and boys often find it more difficult to speak out about it. Children (and at times their families too) are often blamed by their families and community – “when it happens, family is cut off and people stop talking to them.” - Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI.

“Society (and families’) perceptions of the children affected by sexual exploitation vary, some see them as victims while others look down on them, and they accuse the family and the victim.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“The community looks at these children in a very bad manner, looks down on them and views them as criminals. Additionally, the family shames the child.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“Most of the time they are blamed and no longer seen as human but rather as a machine. They also lose trust in themselves and others.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“They do not talk about it so as not to have their reputation damaged.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Who are the Perpetrators and Intermediaries?

Key informants noted that the perpetrators are *“anyone with power and money.”* This includes relatives of children, but also the employers of the children (e.g., shop owners), private sector employees, government officials (residence officer), non-governmental organisation staff who provide services to refugees/displaced community, teachers, janitors in schools, football coaches, taxi and non-taxi drivers, gangs, builders, auto mechanics, Bazaar workers, Mukhtar (village chief) or employees in security agencies, doctors (if patients), ISIS fighters and military officers, or *“powerful people from political parties.”*

“The matter is very sensitive and there is no data. It can happen in any social group or class and by people with influence or money, or it can be by teachers or by employers.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Sexual exploitation of children is facilitated by intermediaries or middlepersons, who are again anyone with power and authority, including those mentioned above -- *“Those who facilitate it can be the place or party that offers services.”* - Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI.

“He was an 11th grade student. When I noticed that he has been coming to school late, on multiple occasions [...] there is a taxi stop near my house, and the taxi driver didn't charge anything. [...] So, I told him “Come sit down with me, and tell me what's up?” [...] he was telling me, it became clear to me that the taxi driver was exploiting the child (who was a male)” – Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

“We had a case in the camp, in which a girl was speaking to a person on the phone through video call. So, this person asked the girl to show him naked parts of her body, which is what she did. After which, this person sent these pictures to a close friend of his, and this friend sent it to a group of other friends and the problem became worse. It reached the point where the family members of the girl were no longer able to leave their home, they couldn't even go to work [...] because people (the community) were talking about them [...] her father stated that he will not stop until he retrieves all his daughter's rights (through law) from the person who abused her. It also turned out that the perpetrator was an older person who was living abroad.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Social media platforms and the Internet are also increasingly playing a facilitative role.

"I think cyber sexual violence and abuse are more common because they are more available and easier to access. Besides, some of it is done in secret and the perpetrators cannot be identified, so there are fewer chances of being discovered than direct sexual abuse."

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Support and Coping Services, Networks and Mechanisms for Children and Families

Key informants noted that there are some medical, psychological, child protection (via case management), and support and hotline counselling services provided by non-government and government entities for victims of sexual exploitation. However, *“since we are talking about a crisis and we are in a crisis, it is hard to provide 100% of the services... as much as the organisation’s capacities allowed us, we helped the case until they could be reintegrated into society.”* Key informants highlighted that these available services are at times ineffective and stretched since they are unable to meet the growing needs and demands; and the frontline workers and providers from non-governmental organisations, and government entities, do not have the skills and capacities to respond to all cases of sexual exploitation of children and the evolving landscape and risks faced by children and families. The lack of coordination and silos between agencies can also cause more challenges.

“Organisations cannot keep up with rising demand and provide all the needs and physical, psychological, social and economic services.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

While host communities struggle to access adequate services, refugee and internally displaced people communities have less access to services due to their marginalised and more vulnerable conditions and status.

There are no systems to identify victims or the provision of outreach services and there are very few specialised support services for the sexual exploitation of children.

Typically, children report to friends, peers, and families (*“someone who has already gained the child’s trust”*). Considering children rarely interact directly with existing government and non-government humanitarian and child protection services and do not necessarily feel safe engaging with them, they do not go directly to these services. Additionally, it is difficult for children to access humanitarian or non-humanitarian services, since parents need to access them on their behalf as there is *“no place for children to report when they have problems and parents have to play a role in children reporting or accessing services.”*

“Children have no trust in the organisations, and they are afraid their anonymity and privacy will not be protected... Media publishes an image of a child and victims are not safe.”

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Families primarily seek services or report via tribal, religious, and social reconciliation mechanisms; rather than formal legal services which have too many processes and laws are also reported to be rarely implemented. Due to stigma, shame, and fear associated with sexual exploitation of children as well as lack of trust in the system, children and families are not officially reporting and many 'cover up' cases. The legal system also places more weight on a 'man's word than woman's word' and children often confide with their mothers.

"The child's family does not accept to disclose such issues to a certain service provider/ department, because they don't want to be shamed (stigma)"

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

"They have absolute distrust in speaking about it with other parties"

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

"There is less reliance on the law, but it has also settled some issues. However, relying on tribal or social reconciliation and agreements is another way to settle matters. The reason is that it is faster than the law."

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Due to stigma associated with sexual exploitation of children, many parents (particularly refugees) are forced to immigrate abroad illegally. Child marriage is viewed as a coping mechanism both to reduce to the risk of sexual exploitation and violence ("*marry girls young to keep them safe from violence, especially ISIS*") as well as a response to it.

"Prostitution, yes it happens. But most organisations don't work with these cases because they are going to affect the organisation's reputation or safety."

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Interestingly, many informants reported training on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in their organisation or partners. There are also reports of training police for identification but "*but they do not apply it because they are not convinced with it.*" - Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI.

"A child was sexually exploited by a relative and we offered psychosocial and medical support to the child and referred her to Al-Nasr Hospital for Obstetrics and Gynaecology. We also offered legal support through legal counselling. The family then reported the case to the authorities, but the procedures were discontinued because the family withdrew the case due to fear for the family's reputation since the culprit was one of their relatives."

- Kurdistan region of Iraq, KI

Recommendations for Next Steps

Key informants outlined several recommendations of key actions that humanitarian and non-humanitarian stakeholders can do to prevent and respond to the growing sexual exploitation of children in the Kurdistan region of Iraq: peacebuilding; awareness raising and education about child sexual exploitation risks, its consequences, including by *mullahs* (Muslim religious leaders); challenging harmful societal perceptions on victims; livelihood and economic opportunities for families and children to reduce the economic drivers; legal measures; stronger collaboration mechanisms between organisations; improving schools and education; monitoring of bazaar and workplaces of children; community engagement; training in sexual exploitation of children for government and non-governmental service providers; increased support services (safe spaces/shelter, legal assistance, counselling, and survivor-centred support services for children who have been exploited); gender-specific services, including for boys; and sexual reproductive health and sex education for children as soon as they reach puberty; prosecution of perpetrators.

UN Special Representative of Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict Concludes Official Visit to Iraq

Thursday, 11 January 2024

"She encouraged the Government to build on the significant progress made to further institutionalize child protection by developing preventative frameworks, including by adopting of the draft child law, prioritizing demining and explosive risk education, ensuring legal documentation for all children in Iraq, including foreign children, strengthening long-term, community-based reintegration, and addressing the challenges faced by children detained for their or their families' actual or alleged association with armed groups.

*In her meeting with the Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government, H.E. Masrour Barzani, in Erbil SRSG Gamba emphasized **the importance of raising awareness on child protection issues.***

UN Special Representative of Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict Concludes Official Visit to Iraq – Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict



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