



**THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (IOLDCs)
L'ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE POUR LES PAYS LES MOINS AVANCÉS (OIPMA)**

Mr. President,

Madam Special Representative,

Thank you for your report and for the progress you have made in protecting children in conflict zones.

As you are aware the six grave violations against children are one of the main concerns of the Security Council. Unfortunately, figures confirmed that tenths of thousands under 18 years old are still being recruited by armed and terrorist groups and states, across the crisis LDCs, mostly in Yemen, Mali, Somalia, Congo, Liberia, South Sudan, Uganda, and CAR.

As an example, in Yemen, the Houthi senior leader admitted in 2018 to the Associated Press that 18,000 children have been recruited. However, the total number of children being recruited in the conflict by the Houthis and the Muslim brotherhood Militia is estimated to be over 35,000 child soldiers by today.

Madam Special Representative, as you are focused to ensure the protection of children, could you please inform us about the mechanisms to follow up on the implementation of your agreements with the concerned actors mentioned in your report?

Thank you, Mr. President,