

**31<sup>st</sup> Session of the HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**Clustered Interactive Dialogue with  
the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General  
on violence against children and  
on children and armed conflict  
8 March 2016**

**Intervention by H.E. Mr. Peter Matt  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein**

Mr. President, distinguished Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, Strengthening and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in particular children's rights is a key priority within Liechtenstein's foreign policy. We thank both Special Representatives of the Secretary-General for their comprehensive reports and assure both of them our support.

Mr. President

It is simply unacceptable that violence against children remains a prevalent plague throughout society. We fully agree with the Special Representative on violence against children that it is high time to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against children everywhere. It is highly commendable that member states unanimously agreed in the 2030 Agenda to define the elimination of all forms of violence against children as a distinct priority. To achieve this most important objective, international and regional cooperation is key. In this regard, we commend the Special Representative for cooperating actively with regional organizations and encourage her to do so in the future. How does the Special Representative intend to make international and regional cooperation even more efficient in order to end all forms of violence against children by 2030?

Mr. President

We are alarmed by the latest report by the Special Representative for children and armed conflict. We are very concerned that children in conflict zones continue to be disproportionately affected by violence and are often targets of brutal acts of violence intended to cause maximum civilian harm. In this regard the list of perpetrators in the annexes to the Secretary-General's report can be a very powerful tool to influence the behaviour of conflict parties. For this to be the case, the listing and delisting process needs to be fair. We would welcome if the Special Representative for children and armed conflict could elaborate briefly on the question what can be done to make the delisting process fair and impartial.

I thank you!