

## INVITE: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF YOUTH BRIEFING SESSION

Thursday, 23 June 1:15 - 2:45 p.m.

The Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations, 871 United Nations Plaza

## Youth and Armed Conflict

The UN Programme on Youth (UNPY) is hosting a briefing session on Youth and Armed Conflict in cooperation with the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations and the Office of the Special Representative to the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC). The session is being held in the context of the International Year of Youth. A panel discussion, moderated by Ms Chantale Walker, the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations, will see young people, member states and UN experts (see below) discuss violations and abuses of young people in conflict zones, including attacks on schools and hospitals.

- Ms. Susanne Fries-Gaier, the Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN
- Ms. Rosalie Azar, Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
- Ms. Grace Akallo, former child soldier and founder of United Africans for Women and Children Rights
- Mr. Mahmud Johnson, Straight from the Heart

The Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict monitors and takes action on what are known as the six grave violations against children in armed conflict. These violations are: the recruitment and use of children; the killing and maiming of children; the use of sexual violence against children, abductions of children, attacks on schools and hospitals, and the denial of humanitarian access for children. The briefing session will look at the international response to these violations and at how young people involved in conflict can be better protected by the UN and international community. The event will also include testimonies of former child soldiers and the work being carried out to rehabilitate young people affected by conflict.

The UN Programme on Youth has organized this session as one of a series held to celebrate the International Year of Youth (2010-2011) under the theme "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding".

PLEASE NOTE: REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Please email nilande@un.org by Tuesday 21 June to register.

