

The Child Soldier Coalition will launch its Global Report 2004 on Wed 17 Nov. See below

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

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Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers

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The Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers unites national, regional and international organisations and Coalitions in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Its founding organisations are Amnesty International, Defence for Children International, Human Rights Watch, International Federation Terre des Hommes, International Save the Children Alliance, Jesuit Refugee Service, the Quaker United Nations Office-Geneva and World Vision International.

COALITION TO STOP THE USE OF CHILD SOLDIERS:

CHILD SOLDIERS GLOBAL REPORT 2004

On Wednesday 17 November 2004 (in proximity to International Children's Day on 20 November), the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers will publish the second edition of its **Child Soldiers Global Report**. First published in 2001, the 450-page report was the first of its kind and continues to be the main report that monitors the recruitment and use of children as soldiers worldwide.

The Global Report 2004 will be released at an international launch in **London**, with a press conference at the Foreign Press Association at 10:00 hours GMT. This launch will be accompanied by regional launches in **Colombia; Lebanon; Nepal; Thailand** and **Kenya**. National launches will also be held in many countries around the world.

The Global Report will assess children and armed conflict issues in almost 200 countries in every region of the world, bringing together the most current information on the issue. It will be a major tool in the Coalition's work to reduce and ultimately to end the recruitment and use of children as soldiers, and promote their demobilization and reintegration into society. It represents current information collected by the Coalition's grassroots NGO members around the world, as well as information from researchers and country offices of its eight Steering Committee members: Amnesty International, Defence for Children International, Human Rights Watch, Jesuit Refugee Service, Save the Children, Quaker United Nations Offices, Terres des Hommes and World Vision; and from observer organisations in the Coalition, including the ICRC and UNICEF.

Related press materials that will be circulated include an **international press release** that can be tailored to specific country and regional angles, **quotations from child soldiers, an opinion piece** for submit to newspapers and a **Questions & Answers** document about the report and general child soldiering issues.

Please forward on this note to all your country offices, representatives and national sections to inform them about the launch. We can send copies of launch materials to those country offices and groups that are interested to participate.

For further information, please contact Coordinator Casey Kelso at coord@child-soldiers.org or by telephone at +44-207-713-2777 or +44-7900-892-552.

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