
CONCLUSION:

DOS AND DON'TS FOR UN POLICE

OVERVIEW

This section of the training aims at summarizing the training material by focusing on best practices for UN Police Officers working with children.

LEARNING OUTCOME

- Be able to identify and apply key messages from each of the modules.
- Be able to act in the best interests of the child.

ACTIVITIES

- PowerPoint presentation.
- Group work.

LEARNING HANDOUT

Does and Don'ts cut out statements.

FACILITATION TIME

60 minutes

TRAINER'S NOTES

 This section of the training will serve as a reminder of the positive behaviors expected of UN Police Officers in regards to child protection. It takes the form of a series of “dos and don’ts” in line with the content presented in modules 3 to 6.

 For each module, draw four tables of this type on a flipchart:

Dos	Don'ts

 Divide the learners into four groups.

 Distribute the cut out statements to all groups and provide each group with 4 flipcharts (one per module).

 Ask groups to put the statements in the “do” or “don’t” column of the module corresponding to their statements. Give the groups 15 minutes to complete the exercise.

 Then, ask each group to present its answers and justify its choices. To avoid repetitions, ask the first group to present Module 3, the second group Module 4, the third group Module 5 and the fourth group Module 6. Encourage all learners to compare the presented answers with their own findings. The important aspect is not where the group placed the statements but the justifications.

 After each presentation, ask other learners to comment.

 Use the PowerPoint presentation with the following correct answers and the explanations below to complete the discussion:

CORRECT ANSWERS:

SLIDE 1: Module 3: Dos and Don'ts in the safeguarding of children

Dos	Don'ts
Organize outreach activities on children's rights, for example with local communities.	Use child labor, employ children for small tasks, (shining shoes, washing car, cleaning house).

<p>Always take the child's opinion into consideration.</p> <p>Report violations of children's rights by UN peacekeepers and by host state police.</p> <p>Always act in a child-friendly way and respect the dignity and rights of children in all interactions.</p> <p>Consider the best interests of the child and do no harm principles in all interactions with children.</p>	<p>Take pictures of children without the consent of their parents or guardians.</p> <p>Be discouraged if you cannot immediately help a child. If you report cases to the child protection adviser and the police child protection focal points responsible agencies will follow-up appropriately.</p> <p>Casually spend your free time with local children.</p> <p>Undertake tasks for which you are not trained or authorized to do, based on good intentions.</p>
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 As seen in Module 3, UN Police Officers can interact positively with children in organized and planned contexts, for example by participating in crime prevention activities in schools or by holding awareness raising sessions on child rights with local communities. However, UN Police Officers should refrain from spending their free time interacting with local children in an unorganized and unsupervised manner, for example by sitting in public places chatting with children. While these interactions may not be inappropriate as such, the public perception in many peacekeeping contexts can be different.

SLIDE 2: Module 4: Dos and Don'ts in the coordination with other actors

Dos	Don'ts
<p>Involve communities when dealing with child protection issues.</p> <p>Establish working relationships with other mission components and external actors that have roles and responsibilities around child protection.</p> <p>Report all violations of children's rights to the Child Protection Advisor in a timely manner Look for opportunities for joint activities with local police, such as capacity-building, sensitization and patrolling.</p>	<p>Have direct discussions with local communities without involving the host State police.</p> <p>Provide direct assistance to children Ignore the host State institutions in your child protection actions.</p> <p>Negotiate with armed groups or armed forces for the release of child soldiers.</p>

 The important message of Module 4 is that UN Police Officers must work in collaboration with other actors, within and outside the UN system. This includes establishing good and effective working relationships with the host State police and other host State government institutions, based on mutual

respect. UN Police Officers must also understand and follow designated reporting mechanisms within the peacekeeping mission to ensure that they are not jeopardizing the work of senior management and other component within the mission.

SLIDE 3: Module 5: Dos and Don'ts in monitoring and reporting

Dos	Don'ts
<p>Contribute to the monitoring and reporting of grave violations against children.</p> <p>When reporting a violation of children's rights, always prioritize confidentiality and the child's safety.</p> <p>Promptly report all incidents involving violations of children's rights to the child protection advisers.</p>	<p>Ignore violations of children's rights that are not directly linked to armed conflict.</p> <p>When witnessing a child right violation, collect information as a priority and attend to the child's needs after.</p> <p>interview a child who was victim of a grave violation for reporting to the MRM.</p>



The main message of Module 5 is that all violations against children are important and must be reported. However, UN Police Officers should always prioritize the safety of the child.

SLIDE 4: Module 6-7-8: Dos and Don'ts in your roles and responsibilities

Dos	Don'ts
<p>Support crime prevention actions of the host State police.</p> <p>Advocate for detention as last resort to the host State police.</p> <p>Promote child-friendly techniques when host State police interview children, and the best interests of the child.</p> <p>Promote international standards when national law is in contravention of international law.</p>	<p>Tell host State police what to do, as you know better.</p> <p>Ignore international standards for juvenile justice principles while mentoring host State police.</p> <p>Ignore international standards when host State police detain children together with adults.</p> <p>Ignore international standards when host State police does not allow for a parent or social worker to be present during the interview.</p> <p>Take a picture of a child.</p> <p>Ignore signs of distress in a child.</p>

 UN Police Officers are deployed to mentor, train and work in collaboration with the host State police. As such, their role is an advisory one and they should aim at establishing strong working relationships with the host State police based on mutual respect.

 The host State police will apply national laws. UN Police Officers must advise them on international standards of child-friendly policing and on how to change their procedures to bring them more in line with international child protection standards. This concerns all the steps of children's interactions with the police, from the time of arrest through interviews and possible next judicial proceedings.