



Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, West Triangle, Quezon City  
<http://www.dilg.gov.ph>



May 19, 2016

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR  
NO. 2016-67

TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, THE ARMM GOVERNOR AND DILG ARMM REGIONAL SECRETARY, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS/FIELD OFFICERS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : ADOPTION OF THE PROTOCOL ON THE MONITORING, REPORTING & RESPONSE SYSTEM (MRRS) ON THE GRAVE CHILD RIGHTS VIOLATIONS (GCRVs) IN THE CONTEXT OF ARMED CONFLICT

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The Inter-Agency Committee on Children In Armed Conflict (IAC-CIAC) has issued "*Protocol on the Monitoring, Reporting, and Response System (MRRS) on the Grave Child Rights Violations (GCRVs) in the context of Armed Conflict*", pursuant to Executive Order No. 138 which amended the EO 56 (s. 2001) and adopted the Comprehensive Program Framework for Children in Armed Conflict, Strengthening the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) and for other purposes.

The Protocol aims to protect children affected by armed conflict by enhancing the accountability of perpetrators (whether state or non-state actors), preventing the occurrence of violations and generate response to grave child rights violations through advocacy, policy development and programmatic response.



The said Protocol also aims to account cases of and identify responses to **Grave Child Rights Violation (GRCV)** which includes: (1) killing and maiming of children, (2) recruitment and use of children, (3) attacks on schools and hospitals or health facilities, (4) abduction of children, (5) rape and other gender-based violence and (6) denial of humanitarian access.

Moreover, the Protocol sets the standards in providing a common framework in monitoring, reporting and responding (MRR) to the victims of GCRV and defines the roles between and among agencies involved.

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In this regard, all Local Government Units (LGUs) are enjoined to adopt and utilize the said attached Protocol in monitoring, reporting, and responding to the victims of GCRVs. In addition, all DILG Regional Directors and Field Officers are hereby directed for the widest dissemination of this Issuance.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

  
MEL SENEN S. SARMIENTO  
Secretary 





## **PROTOCOL ON THE MONITORING, REPORTING & RESPONSE SYSTEM (MRRS) on the GRAVE CHILD RIGHTS VIOLATIONS (GCRVs) IN THE CONTEXT OF ARMED CONFLICT (PHILIPPINES)**

### **I. Rationale**

The Monitoring, and Response Mechanism (MRM) is an undertaking of the United Nations focused on the plight of children affected by armed conflict which aims to protect children affected by armed conflict by enhancing the accountability of perpetrators (whether state or non-state actors), preventing the occurrence of violations and generate response to grave child rights violations through advocacy, policy development and programmatic response. MRM includes establishing of response mechanism on grave child rights violations in which periodic report will be gathered to be submitted to the UN Security Council and other MRM focal structures. Also, said information will be used to facilitate policy and program development. The MRM covers six (6) grave child rights violations (GCRV) that are **committed against children in the context of armed conflict**. The six grave child rights violations include: (1) killing and maiming of children, (2) recruitment and use of children, (3) attacks on schools and hospitals or health facilities, (4) abduction of children, (5) rape and other gender-based violence and (6) denial of humanitarian access. It was formally established in 2005 thru the issuance of UN Security Council Resolution Nos. 1539 (2004) and 1612 (2005) that led to the creation of the UN Security Council Working Group on Children Affected by Armed Conflict (SCWG CAAC).

In 2007, Philippines was included in the priority among four countries like Chad, Columbia and Myanmar due to incidents of recruitment of minors by different armed groups. The Report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in the Philippines in 2008, and reiterated in 2011, urged the Philippine Government to continue its work to end grave violations against children, particularly in strengthening its child-protection capacity to prevent any act that might lead to grave violation of children's rights, and to ensure compliance with international and national laws and agreements;

The Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) as the focal agency of the Philippine government on children's concerns thru CWC Council Board Resolution No. 2 Series of 2009 is tasked to operationalize a Monitoring and Response Mechanism (MRM) that will account cases and identify responses of grave child rights violation in the context of armed conflict in the Philippines. The MRM shall likewise generate standard data and information that will serve as a major primary government source on all matters pertaining to such violations. The Government agreed to use Monitoring, Reporting and Response System (MRRS) to differentiate from MRM of the UN.

### **Legal Bases**

The formulation of these guidelines is anchored on the following international instruments and laws:

#### **A. International Instruments**

- **The United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol on the involvement of Children in Armed Conflict** - The Philippines as a State Party prohibits the recruitment of children in armed conflict and calls for the adoption of feasible measures to ensure the protection and care of children who are affected by an armed conflict
- **The ILO Convention 182** – states the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, as the main priority for national and international action, including international cooperation and assistance for all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;



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○ **UN Security Resolutions**

**1. UN Security Council Resolution No. 1539 (2004)**

Requests parties listed in the annexes of the UN Secretary General's Annual Report to develop and implement Action Plans on the recruitment and use of minors

**2. UN Security Council Resolution No. 1612 (2005)**

Mandated the establishment of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on grave child rights violations; and the creation of the UN Security Council Working Group on Children Affected by Armed Conflict (SCWG CAAC)

**3. UN Security Council Resolution No. 1882 (2009)–**

Requires time-bound Action Plans for parties to the conflict that have committed killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children

**4. UN Security Council Resolution No. 1998 (2011) –**

Requires time-bound Action Plans for parties to the conflict that have committed recurrent attacks or threats on schools and hospitals, and associated personnel

**B. National Laws**

- **1987 Constitution, Article 15, Section 3.** The Constitution provides that the state shall defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation and other conditions prejudicial to their environment.
- **Presidential Decree No. 603 or “The Child and Youth Welfare Code”.** Under its general principles, the Code stipulates that the Child is one of the most important assets of the nation. Every effort should be exerted to promote his welfare and enhance his opportunities for a useful and happy life.
- **Republic Act No. 7160 or the 1991 Local Government Code.** The Code is in cognizance of the primary role of Local Government Units in the development and growth of communities, vested in the latter the exercise of service delivery functions, among them the delivery of health and welfare services and the implementation of programs and projects for children, primary health care, maternal and child care, etc.
- **Republic Act No. 7610, also known as the “Special Protection of Children against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act”.** Article 1 section 2 of the Act states that a comprehensive program shall be formulated to protect children against any form of abuse which endanger child survival and normal development. Further, Article X of the Act declares children as zones of peace, gives priority to children during evacuation as a result of armed conflict, provides for family life and temporary shelter, recognizes the rights of children arrested for reasons related to armed conflict, and provides for the monitoring and reporting of children in situations of armed conflict.
- **Republic Act No. 9208 or the “Anti – Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003”.** The Act defines and penalizes trafficking in persons, including the acts of recruiting, transporting or adopting a child to engage in armed activities in the Philippines or abroad.
- **Republic Act No. 9231 or “An Act Providing for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Affording Stronger Protection for the Working Child Amending for this Purpose Republic Act No. 7610”.** The Act defines and penalizes the worst forms of child labor, which includes all forms of slavery, such as the trafficking of children to engage in armed activities in the Philippines or abroad as defined under RA 9208.



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- **Republic Act No. 9344 or The Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006**". The Act sets the minimum age of criminal responsibility at above 15 years old and establishes a system dealing with children at risk and children in conflict with the law, which provides child-appropriate proceedings, including programs and services for prevention, diversion, rehabilitation, re-integration and aftercare to ensure their normal growth and development. The Act defines "Child at Risk" as a child who is vulnerable to and at the risk of committing criminal offenses because of personal, family and social circumstances, such as living in situations of armed conflict.
- Memorandum of Agreement on Handling CIAC in 2000 – signed in March 21, 2000 by different national agencies namely Department of National Defense (DND), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Philippine National Police, Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), Commission on Human Rights (CHR), Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) and the National Program for Unification and Development Council (NPUDC).
- Executive Order 56 of 2001 was signed by then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo adopting the **Comprehensive Program Framework for Children in Armed Conflict and Directing National Government Agencies and Local Government Units to Implement the Same** which outlines and promotes rescue, recovery and reintegration of children involved in armed conflict

**II. Definition of Terms – for the purposes of this protocol, the following terms shall be defined as follows:**

- a. **Abduction of children** - refers to the seizure, apprehension, taking in custody, detention or capture of one or more children either temporarily or permanently by force, threat of force or coercion, or deception for the purpose of any form of exploitation of such children in the situation of armed conflict.
- b. **Armed conflict** – refers to armed confrontations occurring between governmental armed forces and one or more armed groups, or between such groups arising in the Philippine territory. These shall include combat and non-combat activities which may lead to armed confrontation or armed violence that put children's lives at risk and their rights violated.
- c. **Armed group** - refers to an armed non-state actor engaged in armed confrontation against government forces or engaged in armed violence that put children's lives at risk and their rights violated;
- d. **Attacks on schools, hospitals, places of worship, evacuation centers and public places where children are usually found** - refers to the occupation, shelling, targeting for propaganda of schools, hospitals or places of worship; causing damage to such places, or harm or injury to their personnel; or causing the total or partial physical destruction of such facilities; or disruption of educational activities and health services. It also refers to attacks of such places, which have been temporarily abandoned by the community as a result of armed conflict, unless these places have been declared a "no man's land".
- e. **Child** – refers to persons below eighteen years of age or those over but are unable to fully take care of themselves or protect themselves from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or discrimination because of physical or mental disability or condition (*Source: Special Protection of Children Against Child, Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act (RA No, 7610).*)



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- f. **Children Affected by Armed Conflict (CAAC)** - refers to all children population experiencing or have experienced armed conflict.
- g. **Children Involved in Armed Conflict (CIAC)** - refers to children who are either forcibly, compulsorily recruited or voluntarily join in any armed force or group in any capacity to participate directly in armed hostilities as combatants or as fighters, or take support roles such as but not limited to scouting, spying, sabotaging, acting as decoys, assisting in military check-points, being couriers, messengers, porters, cooks and being used for sexual purposes.
- h. **Denial of humanitarian access to children** - refers to the intentional barring by physical force or administrative barriers of the unhindered and safe movement of personnel and humanitarian aid, service and material into and out of the affected area to enable the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to children in need;
- i. **Government forces** - refers to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the Philippine National Police (PNP), paramilitary forces and other armed or security forces or groups supporting the government forces.
- j. **Grave child rights violations** - refers to the crimes committed against children in the context of armed conflict that constitute flagrant violations of their human rights and have severe consequences in their lives. These crimes include those but not limited to, killing or maiming of children, recruitment or use of children in armed conflict, rape and other forms of sexual violence against children, abduction of children, attacks against schools or hospitals, denial of humanitarian access to children.
- k. **Hospitals or health facilities** - refers to places where the sick and wounded are provided with medical and/ or health care services.
- l. **Humanitarian access** - refers to the right of vulnerable populations to receive international protection and assistance from an impartial humanitarian relief operation where protection is not available from national authorities or controlling non-state actors. Such action is subject to the consent of the State or parties concerned and does not prescribe coercive measures in the event of refusal, however unwarranted.
- m. **Killing of children** - refers to acts of all kinds in the context of armed conflict that result in the death of one or more children. Among others, they include the death of children as a result of direct targeting and indirect actions, such as cross-fire, use of landmines, cluster munitions, explosive remnants of war (ERW), other improvised explosive device (IED); or in the context of military operations, house demolitions, search and arrest campaigns, suicide attacks and torture; they also include murder, homicide and such other similar crimes as defined in the Revised Penal Code, as amended.
- n. **Maiming of children** - refers to acts of all kinds in the context of armed conflict that result in serious or permanent or disabling injury, scarring and/or defacing, or mutilation to one or more children. It shall cover *intentional maiming* of children where they are directly targeted, and *causal maiming* of children which results from indirect actions, such as cross-fire, use of landmines, cluster munitions, explosive remnants of war (ERW), other improvised explosive device (IED); or in the context of military operations, house demolitions, search and arrest campaigns, suicide attacks and torture.
- o. **Protocol** – is a legally binding or otherwise authoritative document that provides directions for the actions of a group or groups so that all can work together for the benefit of the whole. (Source: WHO/ISPCAN Intersectional Approach to Child Maltreatment)



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- p. **Other acts of gender based violence** - refers to violent act or acts of sexual nature that cause mental or physical suffering to one or more children. This include, among others, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced marriage, forced pregnancy, or forced sterilization.
- q. **Rape** - refers to the crime of rape as defined under Article 266-A of the Revised Penal Code, as amended by Republic Act 8353 or the Anti-Rape Law.
- r. **Recruitment and use of child soldiers** - refers to compulsory, forced and voluntary conscription or enlistment of children into any kind of armed force or armed group.
- s. **School** - refers to recognizable education facilities and learning sites recognized and known by the community as a learning space and marked by visible boundaries.
- t. **Zone of Peace** - refers to a site with sacred, religious, historic, educational, cultural, geographical and/or environmental importance protected and preserved by its own community and officially recognized by a governmental authority. It is not merely a "Demilitarized Zone", but a sanctuary that operates within ethical principles of non-violence, free from weapons, acts of violence, injustice and environmental degradation. The recognition of the Zone of Peace expresses commitments on the part of its community, governmental authority and, if appropriate, religious leadership to preserve the peaceful integrity of the designated site. Its custodians, members, participants and visitors exemplify mutual respect and non-violent behavior while on the site, and share their resources for furthering peace and cooperation.

**III. Objectives**

**a. General Objective**

This protocol is to set standards and provide a common framework in monitoring, reporting and responding (MRR) to the victims of grave child rights violations in the context of armed conflict.

**b. Specific Objectives**

- To provide common definitions and terminologies.
- To provide a guide in MRR to the needs of the victims of the different GCRVs.
- To define and delineate roles between and among agencies involved

**IV. Intended Users**

This protocol is intended to be used by agencies involved in MRR to the victims of grave child rights violations. These include, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
- b. Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- c. Department of Health (DOH)
- d. Department of Education (DepEd)
- e. Department of Justice (DOJ)
- f. Department of National Defense - Armed Force of the Philippines (DND-AFP)
- g. Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP)
- h. Philippine Human Rights Committee (PHRC)
- i. Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)



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- j. Philippine National Police (PNP)
- k. National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)
- l. National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF)
- m. Local Social Welfare and Development Offices (LSWDO)
- n. Local Councils for the Protection of Children (LCPC)
- o. City/ Municipal Health Offices (C/MHO)
- p. Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Faith-based Organizations (FBOs), People's Organizations (POs) operating in the area.

**V. MONITORING, REPORTING AND RESPONDING (MRR) TO THE VICTIM/S OF GRAVE CHILD RIGHTS VIOLATIONS (GCRVs) (Please see attached Flow Chart)**

**A. Monitoring**

- 1. Monitoring the implementation of the Protocol;
- 2. Reported incidents of violations and ensure appropriate response and
- 3. Utilization of data generated for policy and program development

**B. Reporting –**

- 1. The reporting party **should report any** incident of grave child rights violations to CWC MRRS Hotline **+63915-7225993/+639274361436** (email: [mrrs@cw.gov.ph](mailto:mrrs@cw.gov.ph)) **within twenty four (24) hours** from the time the incident happened/occurred. Information shall indicate the following: Source of Data:

*Name of reporting party*

*Agency*

*Event Information:*

*Source of Information*

*Date and time of Incident*

*Location*

*No. of Children Affected – indicate # of boys; # of girls*

*Name/s and Age of Affected Children*

*Name of armed group or forces involved*

*Short Description of the incident*

- 2. Upon receipt of the report, the MRRS staff shall accomplish the Monitoring Event form within 24 hrs. Screening, validation and initial assessment of the information received must be done within 5 days after the report has been made. CWC must immediately coordinate with appropriate agency at all levels the reported incident for other possible interventions to the victims and to others affected;
  - 3. The recipient of CWC's referral should act on the request and provide CWC with feedback within 72 hours after receipt;
  - 4. CWC and the concerned agency/ies should continuously provide feedback and update on the progress of the interventions; feedback from the source of information should also be undertaken as necessary;
  - 5. The CWC Secretariat should provide report on actions taken  
TMG and CWC Board – Quarterly
  - 6. Reports to be publicized should be subjected for CWC Board approval provided that confidentiality, respect for human dignity and security of victim/s are not at stake.
- C. Response –** appropriate, immediate and long term interventions to victims of grave of child rights violations, including but not limited to:



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1. Medical assistance
2. Counseling,
3. Psychosocial services;
4. Protective custody,
5. Emergency or temporary shelter,
6. Residential care and other alternative parental care
7. Educational assistance;
8. Family tracing and reunification services
9. Livelihood and skills training; and
10. Free legal assistance.

**VI. Composition and Functions of the Monitoring and Response Team**

The MRRS-GCRVSAC Team will be composed of permanent and alternate representatives from the CWC Secretariat (Chair), Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) (co-chair), Department of Social Welfare and development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of National Defense (DND), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Presidential Human Rights Committee (PHRC) and Presidential Management Staff (PMS).

The team will function as follows:

1. Gather, validate and monitor reports of incidences of grave child rights violations (GCRVs) from national government agencies (NGAs), non-government organizations (NGOs), Local Government Units (LGUs), peoples' organizations (POs) and faith-based organizations (FBOs);
2. Ensure provision of appropriate and timely inter-agency response to grave child rights violations, through coordination and efficient referral system;
3. Provide reports/updates on the incidence of GCRVs to the CWC Board through the TMG for policy issuances and program development; and,
4. Provide relevant inputs to the CWC data-base on GCRVs.
5. Prepare periodic MRRS reports for submission to appropriate agencies (the Office of the President through the Presidential Human Rights Committee (PHRC)).

**VII. Institutional Arrangements:**

**A. COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN Secretariat**

1. The CWC shall convene an inter-agency MRRS-GCRVSAC Team
2. Receive conduct initial verification and collate data on incidences of GCRVs;
3. Lead in the development and implementation of an inter-agency action and communication plan on the prevention and response to grave child rights violation.
4. Initiate Preparation of periodic MRRS reports for submission to the Presidential Human Rights Committee (PHRC) and may the share the same to the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) of the United Nations (UN); and
5. Maintain database on GCRVs

**B. OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON THE PEACE PROCESS (OPAPP)**

1. Provide the overall peace perspective in the formulation of policies and development of programs for Children in Situations of Armed Conflict (CSAC) towards their implementation;
2. Integrate child rights promotion and protection of rights of CSAC into the peace negotiations and other peace-building programs and processes;



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3. Coordinate with concerned agencies on the identification of priority conflict areas for purposes of program/service interventions;
  4. Facilitate the development of a child-specific demobilization program in coordination with concerned agencies. This program would not require the show or surrender of firearms by CIAC who have assumed non-combatant roles;
  5. Facilitate the implementation of programs and projects in the rehabilitation and reintegration of CSAC in coordination with concerned agencies.
- C. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (NATIONAL TO REGIONAL)**
1. Monitoring and provision of technical assistance to DSWD Field Offices and other intermediaries;
  2. Provision of temporary shelter/residential care, alternative parental care (if needed), and other protective services;
  3. Strengthen networking with LGUs, NGOs and other intermediaries in response to the needs of CSAC.
- D. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**
1. Adopt this protocol and execute a Memorandum Circular to the Local Government Units for further implementation of this protocol and other related issuances and undertake monitoring of the same.
  2. Provide technical assistance to the LGUs in organizing the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC) and making them functional.
  3. Issue Memo on the requirement re. multiplier forces
- E. PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE**
1. Report GCRV cases to CWC within 24 hours
  2. When the situation does not warrant within the prescribed period of 24 hours, the CIAC should be turn-over to the nearest Social Welfare and Development Office within seventy-two (72) hours;
  3. Give the CSAC immediate appropriate physical, I and medical examination;
  4. Document cases of CSAC transferred from AFP and ensure the immediate transfer of CSAC to DSWD;
  5. Whenever applicable, rescue/handle CIAC surrendered from armed groups and refer the case of to the nearest public or private agency which provides free legal assistance;
  6. Ensure that the CSAC are handled with respect and are protected from further harm at all times;
- F. THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) (NATIONAL AND FIELD OFFICE)**
1. Formulate and Implement policies and guidelines on the prevention and responding to grave child rights violations;
  2. Develop and institutionalize programs, projects and activities to prevent and address grave child rights violations;
  3. Report within twenty four (24) hours the surrendered/rescued/recovered CSAC to the CWC, DSWD Field Office, PNP and/or Local Chief Executive of the Municipality, City or Province covering the area;
  4. Report cases of recruitment, killing and maiming, abduction, attacks on schools and hospitals and denial of humanitarian access committed by armed groups



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5. Provide first aid treatment to children wounded during engagement, and transport them to the nearest medical facility for treatment;
6. Transfer the surrendered/rescued/recovered CIAC for protective custody to the nearest DSWD Field Office, PNP or local Chief Executive of the Municipality, City or Province immediately but no more than twenty four (24) hours upon the surrender/rescue/recovery of CSAC. In cases where turnover is not possible within the prescribed 24 hour period due to valid reasons and without the fault of the person having the custody of the child, the turnover shall be done no more than within the next seventy two (72) hours;
7. Protect the CSAC from exposure to the media.
8. Inform the CSAC of their rights and ensure that such rights are protected as provided for in this Protocol, the Constitution and other existing laws;
9. Document the cases of CSAC while protecting their privacy, confidentiality of the case, their security and safety;
10. Integrate children's rights in the training of its officers

**G. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) (NATIONAL)**

1. Formulate policies and guidelines on appropriate health related programs, projects and activities for children in situations of armed conflict
2. Coordinate with concerned LGUs, NGOs, private health sector and hospitals in the delivery of related health services.
3. Ensure that the victims of GCRVs are provided with free medical treatment/hospitalization in DOH health facilities.
4. Assist the PNP, DSWD, LGUs in ensuring that the child is provided with medical treatment, hospitalization and medicines in accordance with existing programs and policies.

**H. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DedEd)**

1. Formulate and implement policies and guidelines on appropriate education related programs, projects and activities for children in situations of armed conflict
2. Report cases of attacks on schools and their personnel, rape, recruitment and abduction of children and other GCRV as encountered or they know of (including reports from the District Offices)
3. Ensure access and availability of education for all children, especially in conflict-affected areas;
4. Ensure educational opportunities for all children, including indigenous peoples (IPs);
5. Ensure access and availability of education even during conflict situations – i.e. in evacuation centers

**I. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ)**

1. Ensure child sensitive handling of cases of children involved in armed conflict;
2. Extend legal assistance to children in situations of armed conflict; and
3. Prosecute violators of grave child rights violations.

**J. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (NCIP)**

1. Documents and validates IP-CIAC cases and addresses sensitivity and other situational and peculiarity of case/s as basis for referral and monitoring to the CWC within 24 hours upon receipts of information;
2. Renders legal assistance and facilitates release of child under Section 25 of RA 7610 to a responsible member of the IP community to which the child belongs to;



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3. Ensures security, confidentiality of child/s identity;
4. Monitors and documents IP children during evacuation operations and provides assistance;
5. In consultation with ICC/IPs the declaration of domain areas as peace zones;
6. Strengthens coordination with other agencies and local government units to ensure beneficial care for IP-CIAC.

**K. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MUSLIM FILIPINOS (NCMF)**

**L. NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS (NGO) - child-focused NGOs are urged to further strengthen their programs on child protection, specifically to:**

1. Report, monitor and document cases of grave child rights violations;
2. Integrate child protection in emergencies in their awareness-raising activities;
3. Coordinate with concerned government agencies to deepen cooperation;
4. Complement their technical expertise, as may be necessary, with that of the government agencies on programs and activities concerning children;
5. Align their responses to the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

**M. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

**1. Office of the Governor/Mayor (LGUs)**

- Issue an Executive Order to form MRRS Team and direct Local Government Offices to ensure that victims of GCRVs are properly documented, reported and immediately responded to
- Ensure and strictly observe the age requirement for entering to multiplier forces.

**2. Provincial/City/Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office**

- Report within twenty four (24) hours the victims of GCRVs to CWC copy furnish DSWD (Regional and National)
- Provide immediate and appropriate assistance including but not limited to protective custody to victims of GCRVs;
- Ensure availability of appropriate facilities.
- Ensure proper documentation of the cases of the victims and their family.
- Protect the CSAC from exposure to the media
- Open communication between and among LGUs for referral to facilitate parental/relative assessment, monitoring the reintegration of the child to his/ her place of origin, after-care services for the children who were reintegrated to their families/ relatives, and provision of other needs as necessary.

**3. Provincial/City/ Municipal Health Office**

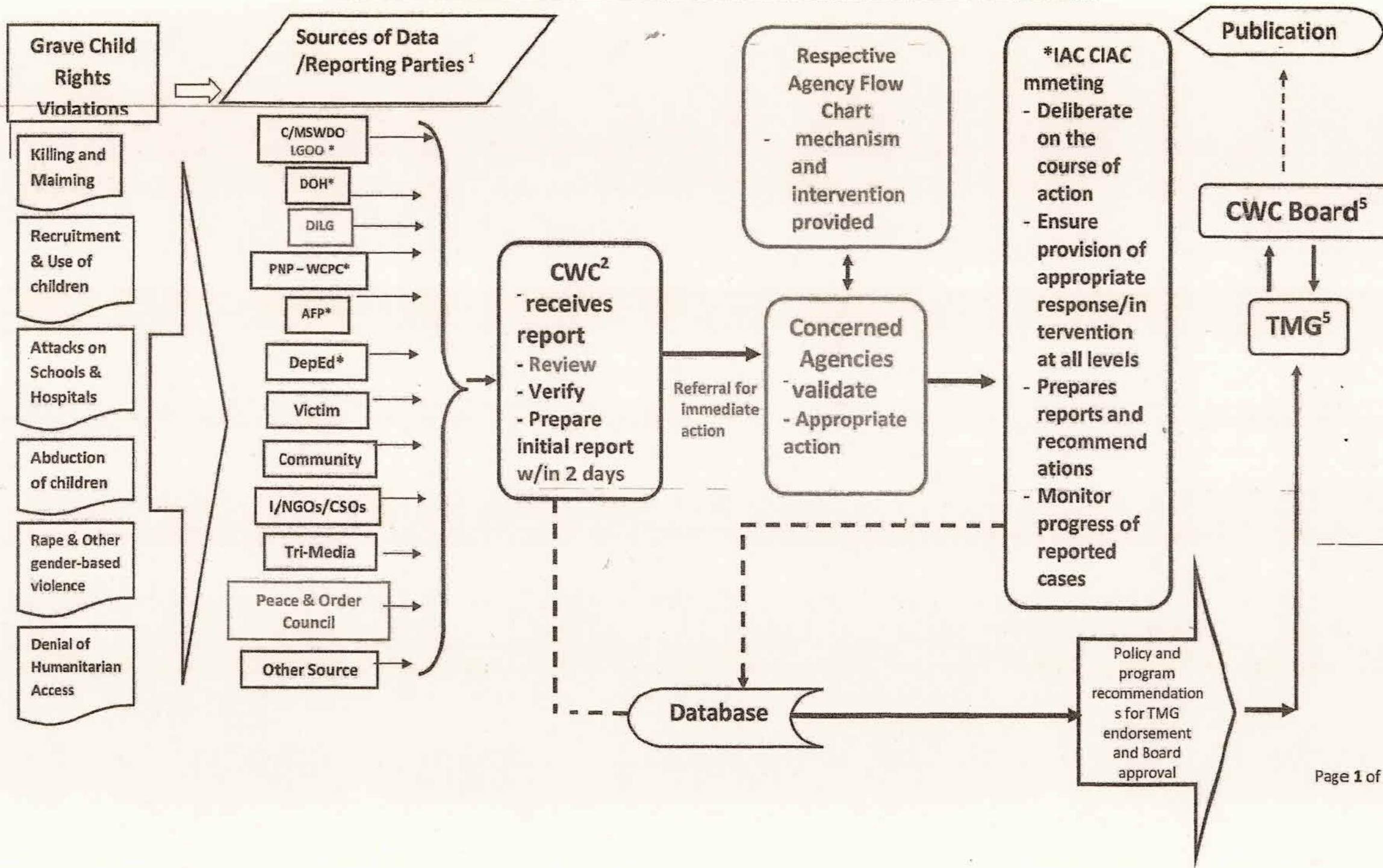
- Report cases of GCRVs they encountered or they know of
- Ensure that victims of GCRVs are provided with medical treatment and/or hospitalization in accordance with existing programs and policies.

**VIII. Effectivity**

This protocol takes effect immediately and revokes other issuances contrary to this.



**FLOW CHART ON CWC's MONITORING, REPORTING AND RESPONSE SYSTEM (MRRS)**





#### FOOTNOTE FOR THE FLOW CHART

1 - The reporting party **should report any** incident of grave child rights violations **within twenty four (24) hours** from the time the incident happened/occurred. Information shall indicate the following:

Source of Data:

Name of reporting party

Agency/Contact Details:

Event Information:

Source of Information

Date and time of Incident

Location

No. of Children Affected – indicate # of boys; # of girls

Name/s and Age of Affected Children

Name of armed group or forces involved

Short Description of the incident

The reporting party/ies does not stop from providing appropriate immediate intervention to the victims before and even after the report has made.

2 – When the Council for the Welfare of Children receives the report, the MRS staff must accomplish the MRS form within 24 hrs. Screening, validation and initial assessment of the information received must be done within 2 days after the report has made. CWC must immediately coordinate to appropriate agency at all levels the reported incident for other possible interventions to the victims and to other affected;

3 – The concerned agency upon receiving CWC's referral should validate and provide appropriate action. The referral will be acted upon by the concerned agency through their internal mechanism. Responses will be forwarded back to CWC and will be subjected into deliberation by the IAC CIAC.

4 – CWC and the concerned agency/ies should continuously provide feedback and update on the progress of the interventions;

5 – The CWC Secretariat should provide report on actions taken  
TMG and CWC Board – Quarterly

6 – Reports to be publicized should be subjected for CWC Board approval provided that confidentiality, respect for human dignity and security of victim/s are not at stake.