

Reference: C.N.504.2013.TREATIES-IV.11.b (Depositary Notification)

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE
CHILD ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT

NEW YORK, 25 MAY 2000

ZIMBABWE: ACCESSION

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary,
communicates the following:

The above action was effected on 22 May 2013, with:

Declaration (Original: English)

“Pursuant to Article 3, paragraph [2] of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict the Republic of Zimbabwe do hereby declare that:

In terms of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces Standing Orders, recruitment of members into the Defence Forces is voluntary but restricted to the ages of between 18 and 22 years. However, Zimbabwe contemplates to include this provision in its statutory law for certainty and consistency despite the fact that no problems have been encountered.

To ensure that every recruit is 18 years of age, every potential recruit must be in possession of his/her National Identity Card, Birth Certificate and school and professional certificates before he is recruited into the Defence Forces.

He/she also undergoes thorough medical and physical examinations in order to ascertain his/her fitness and age.

Recruitment commences at District Centres to ensure that there is equal representation of all members who join the Defence Forces, throughout the country.

In fact, all recruitments into the Zimbabwe Defence Forces are voluntary and is strictly for those who are of the age of 18 years.”

Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations concerned. Depositary notifications are issued in electronic format only. Depositary notifications are made available to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet at <http://treaties.un.org>, under "Depositary Notifications (CNs)". In addition, the Permanent Missions, as well as other interested individuals, can subscribe to receive depositary notifications by e-mail through the Treaty Section's "Automated Subscription Services", which is also available at <http://treaties.un.org>.

The Protocol entered into force for Zimbabwe on 22 June 2013 in accordance with its article 10 (2) which reads as follows:

"For each State ratifying the present Protocol or acceding to it after its entry into force, the present Protocol shall enter into force one month after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or accession."

24 July 2013

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. G. W.', is written below the date.

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