

Reference: C.N.416.2020.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

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND: OBJECTION TO THE
DECLARATION MADE BY MYANMAR UPON RATIFICATION ¹

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

The above action was effected on 25 September 2020.

(Original: English)

“The Government of the United Kingdom has examined the declaration made by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, [upon] its [ratification of] the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, which reads:

Declaration

‘With reference to article 4 of the optional protocol, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar considers that any responsibility deriving from recruitment of children under 18 years of age or their use in hostilities by non-state armed groups lies solely with such groups. In the prevention of underage military recruitment, the government would collaborate with the ethnic armed groups which have signed the NCA (Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement). The latter shall also have a duty to apply at all times the principles governing international humanitarian law’.

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland considers that this declaration seeks to restrict Myanmar’s obligations under Article 4(2) of the Optional Protocol and amounts to a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty. The Government of the United Kingdom therefore objects to the aforesaid reservation.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Optional Protocol between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.”

28 September 2020



¹ Refer to depositary notification C.N.471.2019.TREATIES-IV.11.b of 27 September 2019 (Ratification: Myanmar).