

### **Scenario 3: Sudan (Darfur) — Demobilization and Reintegration of Child Soldiers**

**Background:** In Darfur, Sudan, children have been used as soldiers by various armed factions. With the prospect of a peace process, there is now an opportunity to demobilize and reintegrate these children, but challenges arise around funding, community acceptance, and support systems.

**Mediation Focus:** The mediation involves negotiating demobilization logistics, funding for reintegration programs, and addressing community fears of former combatants returning to civilian life.

#### **Roles:**

- **Mediator:** Ensures that all voices are heard and works to build common ground.
- **UN Peacekeeping Representative:** Advocates for clear demobilization logistics and security protocols.
- **Local Government Official:** Concerned about the reintegration impact on community stability and available resources.
- **Community Representative:** Represents civilians' apprehensions about potential conflicts if former child soldiers are reintegrated without adequate support.
- **NGO Representative for Child Welfare:** Focuses on securing resources and programs for former child soldiers, including counseling, education, and job training.

**Goal:** To develop a sustainable reintegration plan that meets logistical needs, addresses community concerns, and provides former child soldiers with pathways to a stable civilian life.

#### **Process Overview**

1. **Clarifying Objectives:** The mediator encourages each party to clearly state its primary objectives, such as logistical details for demobilization, resource allocation, and community reassurance.
2. **Assessing Resources and Feasibility:** Parties collaboratively assess the availability of resources for reintegration programs and address any funding gaps. This could involve discussing commitments from international bodies.
3. **Addressing Community Concerns:** The mediator fosters dialogue between community representatives and advocates for child welfare to address fears of potential disruption or violence if former soldiers reintegrate.

4. **Agreeing on Transitional Measures:** Parties finalize a plan for phased demobilization, with transitional programs in place that include education, trauma counseling, and vocational training to support reintegration.

#### **Final Outcome**

- **Agreement:** A phased demobilization plan is agreed upon, with initial funding for a pilot program. The community is engaged in awareness campaigns to reduce stigma, and international organizations commit to fund ongoing vocational training and counseling for former child soldiers.
- **Success Indicators:** Community acceptance grows, demobilized children are enrolled in programs, and periodic assessments show progress in reintegration.

#### **Feedback Focus:**

- **Resourcefulness:** Did students consider realistic resource constraints and propose viable funding solutions?
- **Community Engagement:** Assess the students' handling of community concerns and their sensitivity to cultural and social dynamics.
- **Sustainable Solutions:** How well did the students balance immediate demobilization needs with long-term support for child soldiers?