

President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of this section.

**(d) Effective Date**

This section shall take effect 60 days after May 11, 2005, and shall apply to funds obligated after such date for fiscal year 2005 and any subsequent fiscal year.

(Pub. L. 109-13, div. A, title II, §2110, May 11, 2005, 119 Stat. 268.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, 2005, and not as part of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which comprises this chapter.

ASSIGNMENT OF FUNCTIONS RELATING TO THE REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE CODE OF CONDUCT

Memorandum of President of the United States, May 12, 2006, 71 F.R. 30549, provided:

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, the functions of the President under section 2110(c) of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, 2005 (title II of Public Law 109-13) (22 U.S.C. 2370b), are assigned to the Secretary of State.

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

**§ 2370c. Definitions**

In sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title:

**(1) Appropriate congressional committees**

The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

- (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;
- (B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;
- (C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and
- (D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

**(2) Child soldier**

Consistent with the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child, the term “child soldier”—

(A) means—

- (i) any person under 18 years of age who takes a direct part in hostilities as a member of governmental armed forces;
- (ii) any person under 18 years of age who has been compulsorily recruited into governmental armed forces;
- (iii) any person under 15 years of age who has been voluntarily recruited into governmental armed forces; or
- (iv) any person under 18 years of age who has been recruited or used in hostilities by armed forces distinct from the armed forces of a state; and

(B) includes any person described in clauses<sup>1</sup> (ii), (iii), or (iv) of subparagraph (A)

who is serving in any capacity, including in a support role such as a cook, porter, messenger, medic, guard, or sex slave.

(Pub. L. 110-457, title IV, § 402, Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5088.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title, referred to in text, was in the original “this title”, meaning title IV of Pub. L. 110-457, Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5087, known as the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008, which is classified principally to sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title. For complete classification of title IV to the Code, see Short Title of 2008 Amendment note set out under section 2151 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008, and also as part of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, and not as part of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which comprises this chapter.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 110-457, title IV, § 407, Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5091, provided that: “This title [enacting this section and sections 2370c-1 and 2370c-2 of this title, amending section 4028 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 2151 of this title], and the amendments made by this title, shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2008].”

**§ 2370c-1. Prohibition**

**(a) In general**

Subject to subsections (b) through (f), the authorities contained in sections 2321j, 2347, and 2348 of this title or section 2763 of this title may not be used to provide assistance to, and no licenses for direct commercial sales of military equipment may be issued to, the government of a country that is clearly identified, pursuant to subsection (b), for the most recent year preceding the fiscal year in which the authorities or license would have been used or issued in the absence of a violation of sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title, as having governmental armed forces or government-supported armed groups, including paramilitaries, militias, or civil defense forces, that recruit and use child soldiers.

**(b) Identification and notification to countries in violation of standards**

**(1) Publication of list of foreign governments**

The Secretary of State shall include a list of the foreign governments that have violated the standards under sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title and are subject to the prohibition in subsection (a) in the report required under section 7107(b) of this title.

**(2) Notification of foreign countries**

The Secretary of State shall formally notify any government identified pursuant to subsection (a).

**(c) National interest waiver**

**(1) Waiver**

The President may waive the application to a country of the prohibition in subsection (a) if the President determines that such waiver is in the national interest of the United States.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “clause”.

**(2) Publication and notification**

Not later than 45 days after each waiver is granted under paragraph (1), the President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of the waiver and the justification for granting such waiver.

**(d) Reinstatement of assistance**

The President may provide to a country assistance otherwise prohibited under subsection (a) upon certifying to the appropriate congressional committees that the government of such country—

(1) has implemented measures that include an action plan and actual steps to come into compliance with the standards outlined in subsection (b); and

(2) has implemented policies and mechanisms to prohibit and prevent future government or government-supported use of child soldiers and to ensure that no children are recruited, conscripted, or otherwise compelled to serve as child soldiers.

**(e) Exception for programs directly related to addressing the problem of child soldiers or professionalization of the military****(1) In general**

The President may provide assistance to a country for international military education, training, and nonlethal supplies (as defined in section 2557(d)(1)(B) of title 10) otherwise prohibited under subsection (a) upon certifying to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(A) the government of such country is taking reasonable steps to implement effective measures to demobilize child soldiers in its forces or in government-supported paramilitaries and is taking reasonable steps within the context of its national resources to provide demobilization, rehabilitation, and reintegration assistance to those former child soldiers; and

(B) the assistance provided by the United States Government to the government of such country will go to programs that will directly support professionalization of the military.

**(2) Limitation**

The exception under paragraph (1) may not remain in effect for a country for more than 5 years.

**(f) Exception for peacekeeping operations**

The limitation set forth in subsection (a) that relates to section 2348 of this title shall not apply to programs that support military professionalization, security sector reform, heightened respect for human rights, peacekeeping preparation, or the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers.

(Pub. L. 110-457, title IV, §404, Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5089; Pub. L. 113-4, title XII, §1208, Mar. 7, 2013, 127 Stat. 142.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b)(1), was in the original “this title”, meaning title IV of Pub. L. 110-457, Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5087, known as the Child Soldiers Prevention Act

of 2008, which is classified principally to sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title. For complete classification of title IV to the Code, see Short Title of 2008 Amendment note set out under section 2151 of this title and Tables.

## CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008, and also as part of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, and not as part of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which comprises this chapter.

## AMENDMENTS

2013—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113-4, §1208(1), substituted “(b) through (f), the authorities contained in sections 2321j, 2347, and 2348 of this title” for “(b), (c), and (d), the authorities contained in section 2321j or 2347 of this title”.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 113-4, §1208(2), added subsec. (f).

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 180 days after Dec. 23, 2008, see section 407 of Pub. L. 110-457, set out as a note under section 2370c of this title.

**§ 2370c-2. Reports****(a) Investigation of allegations regarding child soldiers**

United States missions abroad shall thoroughly investigate reports of the use of child soldiers.

**(b) Information for annual Human Rights Reports**

In preparing those portions of the annual Human Rights Report that relate to child soldiers under sections 2151n and 2304 of this title, the Secretary of State shall ensure that such reports include a description of the use of child soldiers in each foreign country, including—

(1) trends toward improvement in such country of the status of child soldiers or the continued or increased tolerance of such practices; and

(2) the role of the government of such country in engaging in or tolerating the use of child soldiers.

**(c) Annual report to Congress**

If, during any of the 5 years following December 23, 2008, a country is notified pursuant to section 2370c-1(b)(2) of this title, or a waiver<sup>1</sup> is granted pursuant to section 2370c-1(c)(1) of this title, the President shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees not later than June 15 of the following year. The report shall include—

(1) a list of the countries receiving notification that they are in violation of the standards under sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title;

(2) a list of any waivers or exceptions exercised under sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title;

(3) justification for any such waivers and exceptions; and

(4) a description of any assistance provided under sections 2370c to 2370c-2 of this title pursuant to the issuance of such waiver.

(Pub. L. 110-457, title IV, §405, Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5090.)

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “waiver”.