

Committee: United Nations Security Council
Topic: Situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo
Country: Canada

The past century of the Democratic Republic of Congo's (DRC) history has been a lurid tale of imperialistic corruption. Beginning in the late 1800's with King Leopold the Second's rubber regime, the Congo has battled with rebuilding its society and creating a democratic government free of European abuse and one that most justly represents the will of the people. Canada recognizes that the rebel groups and bloody civil war are a major crisis that needs to be addressed, but Canada would like to increase involvement in humanitarian efforts improving the life of Congolese, especially in the lives of children.

Canada has been diligently working towards improving the life of displaced, and impoverished children in the DRC. An estimated 250,000 people have been displaced from the homes in the past 4 months by the fighting in the North Kivo Province, making the total number of people displaced in the province at an estimated 1,000,000. This has left hundreds of thousands of children in dangerous, and insecure positions. Many children are not getting enough food, and fatal diseases are spreading due to the lack of clean water, and sanitary facilities. Abductions, and sexual abuse, have exponentially increased, as unprotected children become easy targets for predators.

Through UNICEF, Canada has made significant strides to improving the lives of the Congolese citizens. By providing therapeutic food to stop malnutrition, clean water and basic purification supplies, families can regulate their diets to create healthy lifestyles. Canada also works to release child soldiers and child sex slaves from armed groups, and provides counseling for traumatized children.

The DRC has been deemed one of the world's most dangerous places to live as a child. Canada has invested more time, money, and efforts to the DRC than any other country in the world. Though Canada has achieved high levels of success in the Congo, we request that further support and assistance be provided. Peace is an important goal, but the safety and well-being of the DRC's people should be the main concern of the U.N. Peace cannot be made until the lives of the Congo's people, and the future of the Congo, the children, are in secure situations of which they can learn, and prosper.