



THE PERMANENT MISSION  
OF MALTA TO THE UN GENEVA

## HRC 52 – Item 3 - Interactive Dialogue with the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on CAAC 16 March 2023

Statement by H.E. Christopher Grima, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malta to the UN and Other International Organisations in Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President,

Malta aligns itself with the statement of the European Union.

We thank Special Representative Gamba for her detailed report. Malta highly values your engagement with the HRC and its Universal Periodic Review, Special Procedures and mechanisms.

Malta remains deeply concerned at the increase in grave violations against children. We join the SR's call to take all available measures to prevent such violations from occurring.

As mentioned in your report, training of all stakeholders involved in child protection is of vital importance. Malta is proud to have joined SRSG Gamba's Office in organising a virtual summer school on child protection in armed conflict.

The various recommendations in your report provide important benchmarks which, if implemented, will significantly strengthen protections for children. Actions can also be taken at the national and local levels too, and in this connection, Malta has recently embarked on a project with a national NGO to establish what are the needs of children who arrive in Malta from conflict zones.

To conclude, we would like to ask SR Gamba – how can one best reach out to children with disabilities in marginalised communities, to ensure that their views and needs are taken into account?

Thank you.