



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM - Strictly confidential

A TO: Mr. Zeid Ra'ad Al-Hussain,
High Commissioner for Human Rights

DATE: 19 March 2015

S.C DE: Mr. Mohammad Ali Alnsour,
THROUGH: Senior Legal Policy Adviser ad interim

REFERENCE:

DE: [REDACTED]
FROM: Human Rights Officer

OBJET: Strictly confidential -
SUBJECT:

1. From 1st of March till 15th of July 2014, I was sent in TDY to Central African Republic (CAR) to support the Human Rights section of the Peace Mission there (MINUSCA). One of my assignments was to investigate human rights violations and assess the protection situation of civilians.
2. One of my investigations dealt with alleged cases of sexual abuse to minors by militaries of the international forces, mainly the French forces (SANGARIS).
3. Following my investigation, I drafted a confidential report, including the names of the alleged victims, precise descriptions of the alleged perpetrators as well as the names of the interviewers (my name and my UNICEF's colleagues' names), for my colleagues' follow-up. I transmitted this report to my hierarchy in Bangui and Geneva before leaving the country.
4. Early August, after I had left CAR, I received a phone call on my personal mobile from a French police officer who wanted to interview me concerning the report I had written in Bangui. When I asked him how he got my report, the police officer told me that an official letter had been sent by OHCHR to the Permanent Mission of France to the UN in Geneva, signed by Mr. Kompass, with my report in attachment. To my knowledge, no changes had been done to my report, leaving the names of the victims and interviewers unchanged. I however personally never saw this letter.
5. I believe this lack of respect for the confidentiality of the sources endangered both the alleged victims and interviewers (I am thinking in particular about my national UNICEF colleagues) and caused a severe loss of credibility to the human rights section of the MINUSCA in the country.
6. I answered to the police officer that any formal request for information should be sent to my Office. A list of questions was sent to me by the French judicial system at the beginning of this month, through our Office of Legal Affairs. I answered these questions in written under OLA's supervision.

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