However, at the last meeting of the Working Group, it was impossible to achieve a consensus and it appeared that the text would have to be considerably weakened to accommodate the domestic situation of every countries.

Since then, an strong NGO Coalition was formed with the objective of getting together a group of counties to support the development of a protocol setting the age of 18 for both participation and recruitment.

While Canada is very interested in participating in this process, we will first have to review our current domestic situation. We are currently examining the legal framework related to recruitment with a view to adopting the measures necessary to be in a position to support actively the objectives of the Coalition.