

## **OPAC Annex 1**

### **Declaration Filed by the United States Pursuant to Article 3(2) of the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict**

The United States declaration provides as follows:

- (A) the minimum age at which the United States permits voluntary recruitment into the Armed Forces of the United States is 17 years of age;
- (B) the United States has established safeguards to ensure that such recruitment is not forced or coerced, including a requirement in section 505(a) of title 10, United States Code, that no person under 18 years of age may be originally enlisted in the Armed Forces of the United States without the written consent of the person's parent or guardian, if the parent or guardian is entitled to the person's custody and control;
- (C) each person recruited into the Armed Forces of the United States receives a comprehensive briefing and must sign an enlistment contract that, taken together, specify the duties involved in military service; and
- (D) all persons recruited into the Armed Forces of the United States must provide reliable proof of age before their entry into military service.