U.N. Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security

Where do we stand? Where do we go from here? An international working conference on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889

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Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice
Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies
University of San Diego

WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PROGRAM
Funded by the Fred J. Hansen Foundation
UNIFEM (part of UN Women) is the women’s fund at the United Nations, dedicated to advancing women’s rights and achieving gender equality. It provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programs and strategies that foster women’s empowerment. UNIFEM works on the premise that it is the fundamental right of every woman to live a life free from discrimination and violence, and that gender equality is essential to achieving development and to building just societies.

**iansa**

The International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) is the global movement against gun violence – a network of 800 civil society organizations working in 120 countries to stop the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons. IANSA seeks to make people safer from gun violence by securing stronger regulation on guns in society and better controls on arms exports. It represents the voices of civil society on the international stage, for example in the U.N. process on small arms, and draws on the practical experience of its members to campaign for policies that will protect human security. IANSA is composed of a wide range of organizations concerned with small arms, including policy development organizations, national gun control groups, women’s groups, research institutes, aid agencies, faith groups, survivors, human rights and community action organizations.

**Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice**

The Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice is an international women’s human rights organization advocating for gender-inclusive justice and working towards an effective and independent International Criminal Court (ICC). Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice is based in The Hague, the Netherlands – the seat of the ICC – in order to advocate for inclusion of gender-based crimes in the investigations and prosecutions of the ICC and to promote the rights of women victims/survivors of armed conflict throughout the justice process, including through the Trust Fund for Victims. Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice advocates for the use of international treaties, specifically the Rome Statute of the ICC, to advance women’s rights and gender equality domestically.

**NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security**

The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (NGOWG) advocates for the equal and full participation of women in all efforts to create and maintain international peace and security. Formed in 2000 to call for a U.N. Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security, the NGOWG now focuses on implementation of all Security Council resolutions that address this issue. The NGOWG serves as a bridge between women’s human rights defenders working in conflict-affected situations and policymakers at U.N. Headquarters.
PRECARIOUS
Progress

U.N. Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security

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The Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ) was honored to convene “Precarious Progress: U.N. Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security” from September 29 through October 1, 2010, through our Women PeaceMakers Program. From its inception in 2000, the IPJ has sought to foster peace with justice through its programming in public education, conflict transformation and peacebuilding here and abroad. Documentation of, and support for, the role of women in peacebuilding is a primary component of our work.

In preparation for this working conference, the IPJ held early and on-going explorations with our co-conveners. We discussed how to elicit the most accurate picture and actionable improvements in gender justice and human security. Given that so many practitioners and activists from around the world, as well as international leaders from both public and private realms, were attending the conference, we agreed to direct our outcomes to both an immediate statement on the resolutions on women, peace and security and this longer report reflecting integrated, inclusive ways to empower and protect women and communities, particularly in conflict situations.

The statement on essential next steps and good practices was intended to inform the reflections by multiple stakeholders and high-level policymakers on the 10th anniversary of U.N. Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325 in October 2010. This report, shared more widely among peacebuilders, advances thinking on preventive approaches as well as accountability platforms that can assure safer, more peaceful societies through gender inclusion and rights as called for in the U.N. resolutions.

Co-conveners sought cross-sector learning that could guide policy recommendations within the United Nations and the newly created UN Women, as well as inspire member states, local communities and individuals. The U.N. Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) called for powerful and clear examples regarding the impact of 1325 that could lead to an enabling environment for the resolution among member states. The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security pressed for reality checks and further crystallization of functioning indicators of change. Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice focused on the shared mandates of 1325 and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. The International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) wanted the 1325 door opened wider to include the control of small arms and light weapons, to focus on the tools of violence and ways to protect women. Collaborating organization International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, as well as speakers from many sectors, asked the conference to highlight women's voices from the ground, where they were successfully confronting the challenges of exclusion and abuse coddled by religion, nationality, traditional law and state and non-state actors.

The report is intended not only to document the conference, but also to encourage real, viable changes to old policies – and to create new ones that join political, military and public dimensions of our communities in genuine human security. The SCRs on women, peace and security are building blocks. But the foundation and structures of peace with justice that overcome violence, ignorance, brutality, patriarchy, greed and conflict – and that inspire human understanding, inclusion, broader alliances and action – have yet to be built.

Dee Aker, Ph.D.
Deputy Director, IPJ
Section I: Distinguished Speakers

Introduction - Distinguished Lecture Series with Monica McWilliams and Luz Méndez

The 2010 Women PeaceMakers Conference opened with the talk, “From Peace Talks to Gender Justice,” presented by Monica McWilliams as part of the Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecture Series.

In 1996 – four years before the passage of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325 and in the midst of the Troubles in Northern Ireland – McWilliams brought an unlikely combination of women together across religious, class, sector and regional divides to form the Northern Ireland Women’s Coalition (NIWC). This party was subsequently elected to the Multi-Party Peace Negotiations, and after two years of talks McWilliams and NIWC co-founder Pearl Sager were among the politicians to sign the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement in 1998.

McWilliams began her lecture by inviting the audience to take a photographic journey through the last 40 years of history in Northern Ireland.

As McWilliams described the country’s history and her evolving journey from “accidental activist” to “human rights activist” (with peace activist, feminist activist and party political activist along the way), one of her key messages was that peace is a process. In articulating this, she likened peace to domestic violence, an issue she has researched extensively in her academic career. McWilliams explained that many people assume a woman is safe as soon as she leaves an abusive relationship, when in fact that is the most dangerous time for a domestic violence survivor. Leaving the violence is an event, but ensuring a woman’s safety is a process.

Likewise, McWilliams asserted that signing a peace agreement is an event, but building peace is a process.

“It is time to turn aspirations into guarantees.”
– Monica McWilliams

From the early days of Northern Ireland’s civil rights movement through to today, women have been both central and front and center in the process of creating social change. However, they have been largely written out of history. McWilliams used a photograph from a 1970s civil rights march – depicting eight women, arms linked, at the frontlines of the march – to illustrate this. These women are largely nameless faces in the struggle, whereas the men standing immediately behind them are widely recognized and often referred to as the heroes of the movement. McWilliams took this opportunity to stress the importance of documenting women’s stories. It is only by doing so that women’s efforts will be recognized and future generations will understand the important role women have played and continue to play.

There is no doubt that McWilliams, together with the NIWC, was instrumental before, during and after the signing of the Northern Ireland peace accords. She explained that had women not been at the table, critical issues such as victim issues, trauma healing, integrated education, housing and health care would have been entirely absent from the final agreement. These are the very same issues that women, with the support of some men, are struggling to address as they build peace today in Northern Ireland.
At the end of her talk, McWilliams was joined on stage by one of the few other women to also be involved in official peace negotiations – Luz Méndez. Méndez, a 2004 IPJ Woman PeaceMaker, took part in the Guatemalan peace negotiations in 1996 and was one of two women signatories to Guatemala’s agreement.

Despite coming from vastly different cultures and conflicts, McWilliams and Méndez shared remarkably similar challenges – among others, having to repeatedly confront the question, “What does peace have to do with gender?” They both acknowledged the global women’s movement as having had an instrumental impact on their own development as peacebuilders as well as on the overall progress of peace and security.

Many of the issues highlighted during McWilliams’ and Méndez’s talk – from the reality of peace as a long-term process to the importance of documenting women’s stories – surfaced as key points of discussion in the conference sessions in the following two days, not least of which was the echoing of McWilliams powerful closing message: “It is time to turn aspirations into guarantees.”

**EXCERPT: From Peace Talks to Gender Justice**

“… political leaders asked us *Where did those women come from?* – as if we’d fallen out of the air. We’d come from somewhere. We started as accidental activists. And what I mean by accidental activists is we accidentally fell into activism. If something awful was happening, we rose up, we took to the streets, we marched, we demanded that the situation change and we responded. And sometimes that was the only way that we could do it …

“Forty years ago, 3,000 women took to the streets. There was a curfew declared by the British army on the Falls Road in Belfast. No bread, no food could get into this particular area. And the women said, *We will break this curfew. We will bring food to our families.* … They came with their prams, not the usual activists, but they rose up and demanded that that curfew be broken, and indeed it was.

“Feminist activism was much smaller then, but rose and grew and became a snowball and made connections with various types of activism. Some of it was welcomed and some of it wasn’t. Eventually this led us to party political activism, and we eventually decided, building on all of what went before, that the time was right to form a party. When we went in [as part of the peace negotiations] and read on the final nights what was in the agreement, we asked ourselves, ‘And how does this speak to the women in the country? Can they see themselves in this agreement?’”
The documentary film “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” vividly illustrates the reality underpinning the mandates in SCR 1325: Women suffer disproportionately in conflict and, in part as a result of this, they are an indispensable resource in conflict prevention and resolution.

The film – a moving portrayal of women banding together to form the Liberian Women Mass Action for Peace and subsequently pressuring violent warlords and Charles Taylor’s regime to negotiate a peace deal in 2003 – demonstrates Liberian women’s indefatigable commitment to peace in the face of brutal violence and uninhibited corruption. The film captures the critical role women played before, during and after peace talks, and provides insight into the unique strategies they employed, including but in no ways limited to a widespread sex strike.

One of the women featured in the film, Vaiba Kebeh Flomo, was instrumental in bringing Christians and Muslims together across strong religious and cultural divides to form the Liberian Women Mass Action for Peace.

Flomo is currently a 2010 Woman PeaceMaker in residence at the IPJ and was present to answer audience questions following the screening of the film during the conference’s opening day.

When addressing the challenges of bringing Christian and Muslim women together in Liberia, Flomo poignantly points to the fact that “a bullet does not choose. When we are running from the violence it doesn’t matter if we are Christian or Muslim. We are all running.”

Capturing Flomo’s story and the stories of countless other women like her in conflicts across the globe – in films like “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” and through programs like the Women PeaceMakers Program (which documents women’s personal stories through writing, video and audio recording) – forms the foundation for progress in women, peace and security. Thorough and vivid documentation of the adverse effects of conflict on women and of women’s profound impact on conflict transformation solidifies their rightful place as vital voices in the processes of building peace.
Section II: Panel Summaries

Introduction

Ten years ago when U.N. Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325 was adopted, it codified what those in the field of women, peace and security have known for years: that the protection of women during war; the inclusion of gender perspectives in peace negotiations, humanitarian planning and peacekeeping operations; and the participation of women in post-conflict peacebuilding and governance are critical to ensuring international security.

SCR 1325 set forth a landmark legal and political framework which recognized the mutually reinforcing factors of protection, prevention and participation. It recognized that the brutal reality of violent conflict is gendered, as must be its prevention.

In the course of the past 10 years, actors from throughout the international community – from U.N. officials to local organizations – have encouraged, coaxed and insisted that the mandates laid out in SCR 1325, and its complementary resolutions (1820, 1888, 1889), be fulfilled. This hard work has had a critical impact. Minds have opened, awareness has increased and action has been taken.

However, there is still much to be done.

Recognizing both the achievements and the continued work that needs to be done, the conference “Precarious Progress: U.N. Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security” provided a forum for experts, practitioners, scholars and activists to share information, brainstorm next steps and form innovative new strategies and partnerships.

During the three-day conference, four panel sessions convened. Throughout the sessions, discussion of the role of women in specific countries – including Peru, the Philippines, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Kingdom – and on specific issues – such as small arms control, reparations and international policing – complemented over-arching global policy recommendations and agendas.

The main objective of each panel presentation was to:

- Distill lessons learned.
- Disseminate expert opinion and analysis.
- Discern necessary next steps.

Simultaneously acknowledging the precarious progress that has been achieved and shedding light on the significant gaps that remain, the panel presentations skillfully articulated issues that are critical to the peace and security agenda.
The panels confirmed that pathways to peaceful human communities are within our reach. In fact, in many cases, both the mechanisms and the expertise exist. However, there is need for meaningful implementation, financing and support. Whether addressing gender justice as defined under the Rome Statute, confronting sexual violence as recognized in international law or delineating national responsibilities for implementation of SCR 1325, the panelists highlighted unfilled mandates. There was a unanimous call by the panelists to press for and beyond the intent and mandate of existing frameworks.

Panelists also presented evidence and anecdotes revealing that women's protection and their peacebuilding power currently relies heavily on allied individuals and institutions. Systematic approaches to gender integration across security and post-conflict reconstruction processes are largely absent or unfulfilled. Examples, like that of Luz Méndez ensuring that a women's agenda was included in the Guatemala peace accord, and that of Agnès Marcaillou working within the U.N. Office for Disarmament Affairs to establish linkages between disarmament and gender equality, abound.

However, as determined and ultimately successful targeted initiatives such as these are, they are not enough. The focus moving forward needs to be on ensuring that gender is systematically integrated into peace and security action plans and agendas.

In the midst of a war on terrorism, on-going government instability and constantly changing perceptions of security, it is not economically feasible to continue to make war in the name of peace, or to overlook 50 percent of the world's population in the process of building and securing that peace. Gender inclusion is not simply a matter of women's rights; universal well-being is at stake. Any investment in peace and security will be both inefficient and insufficient until a gender agenda is fully implemented.

The following pages summarize key remarks and discussion points that emerged during each of the panel presentations. The presentations are intended to be a catalyst for new thinking and forward progress as we face the next decade's peace and security agendas.
Panel One: “Moving Policy into Practice: Indicators of change”

SPEAKERS
Luz Méndez – “Lessons Learned from Guatemala”

Olenka Ochoa – “When, Where and How Civil Societies Influence the Promotion of 1325”


Sarah Taylor – “U.N. Policy and Women’s Realities: NGO perspectives on indicators and implementation”

Charlotte Onslow – “U.K.’s Role Putting Policy into Practice”

MODERATOR
Maryam Elahi

RAPPORTEUR
Laura Taylor

The conference commenced with a panel entitled “Moving Policy into Practice: Indicators of change,” focused on measuring the impact and successes of SCR 1325 to date.

Luz Méndez (National Union of Guatemalan Women) began by sharing two irrefutable examples of how women’s participation in peace negotiations changed the ultimate outcome of a peace accord.

Méndez was one of only two women to participate in the formal negotiations that ended Guatemala’s civil war in 1996. As an official negotiator, she advanced the women’s agenda that emerged from the parallel Assembly for Civil Society. In 2000, Méndez, along with a team of gender experts from Uganda, Eritrea and Zambia, also supported the Burundi peace negotiations. She highlighted the critical contributions that women made to the final peace accord in both of these countries, including, in the case of Guatemala, the creation of a national-level commission on women’s rights, a review of all legislation to remove gender discriminatory laws and the criminalization of sexual harassment.

Méndez went on to remind the conference audience that at a meeting in October 2000, when the U.N. Security Council was considering adopting resolution 1325, she shared these same stories and “it was the first time the council was meeting with women’s organizations to talk about the situation of women who lived in settings of armed conflict.”

Ten years later, the U.N. Security Council has witnessed countless examples of women’s critical contributions to peace and security. However, significant gaps remain in women’s participation. Subsequent panelists highlighted both the progress to date and the shortfalls.
Olenka Ochoa (Latin American and Caribbean Federation of Municipal Women) presented a critical perspective on the current reality of SCR 1325 in Latin America. Very few people in the region know about the resolution. According to Ochoa, even women’s and human rights movements have not fully incorporated SCR 1325 into their programs and advocacy plans.

Ochoa offered several recommendations to address the current lack of awareness and action, including the need for strategic alliances that link gender-based violence, femicide, sexual health rights and inclusion of indigenous women’s rights, with poverty, displacement and war. She stressed that in order for these complex issues to be addressed, civil society actors must map risks and harms both during and after conflict.

According to Malika Bhandarkar (UNIFEM) one of the most significant gaps in the arena of women, peace and security is the lack of official data in the U.N. system. She asserted that a critical factor in the ultimate impact of SCR 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889 will be if and how the Security Council incorporates indicators into its own decision-making structures.

Bhandarkar advocated for the adoption of the Secretary-General’s proposed SCR 1325 indicators as a critical tool to measure the existing gaps in implementation and to illustrate the global efforts to address these gaps.

**Indicators for Monitoring Implementation of 1325**

The indicators for monitoring implementation of SCR 1325 are laid out in the Secretary-General’s Report (S/2010/173).

There are a total of 26 indicators, organized into four Pillars: Prevention, Participation, Protection and Relief and Recovery. These Pillars reflect the 2008-2009 U.N. System-wide Action Plan.

- Prevention: “Reduction in conflict and all forms of structural and physical violence against women, particularly sexual and gender-based violence.”
- Participation: “Inclusion of women and women’s interests in decision-making processes related to the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts.”
- Protection: “Women’s safety, physical and mental health and economic security are assured and their human rights respected.”
- Relief and Recovery: “Women’s specific needs are met in conflict and post-conflict situations.”

The indicators are classified further into six categories (A – F) that reflect how quickly they can be enacted and information can be collected.
UNIFEM is calling for system-wide changes that will address women’s participation in negotiations, elections, post-conflict planning, justice mechanisms, livelihood activities and the security sector. In line with this, they are supporting a global effort to celebrate the Open Day for Women, Peace and Security. Thus far, 25 member states have utilized the opportunity to consult with women about their priorities for peace – and globally, women are calling for the same things: meaningful participation, responsive justice mechanisms and sustainable economic resources.

“These indicators give information about where we are, where we are going and how far we are from the goal. It is a powerful way to make sure people pay attention.” – Malika Bhandarkar

Sarah Taylor (NGO Working Group) built on Bhandarkar’s presentation to emphasize the current disconnect between the U.N.’s increasingly greater access to information about the realities on the ground and the Security Council’s inadequate response to these realities.

According to Taylor, there needs to be recognized leadership and established systems of accountability dedicated to women, peace and security within the United Nations: “We need to know who to talk to and who to hold accountable for implementing 1325.” One suggested strategy is the establishment of a peace and security unit housed within a strong, well-funded UN Women.

In closing, Charlotte Onslow (International Alert) returned the panel to a concrete example, this time of a member state’s precarious process implementing SCR 1325.

In 2006, the U.K. was the 2nd member state to develop a National Action Plan (NAP) for SCR 1325. This initial NAP was backed by very few resources, lacked an established timeline and was not announced publicly – all issues that belied the fact that, at that time, women’s issues were not perceived as a peace and security priority.

Onslow described the advocacy on the part of women’s organizations that has led to the U.K.’s current review and renewal of its existing NAP. Through a closed process of consultation, the government has developed a more meaningful framework for implementation based on a sophisticated plan that will operate in three sections: (1) national implementation, (2) bilateral implementation and (3) multilateral implementation.

The U.K.’s experience of progress, coupled with continued challenges in the implementation of 1325, is not unique – it is emblematic of the over-arching global status on the women, peace and security agenda. It is for precisely this reason that this conference was convened to map a new, more successful way forward.

“The need for responsiveness on women, peace and security issues is as urgent now as it has ever been.” – Sarah Taylor
Panel Two: “Securing Protection During and After Conflict”

SPEAKERS
Agnès Marcaillou – “SCR 1325 and Disarmament and Arms Control”


Bibiane Aningina Tshefu – “Relentless Sexual Violence: Is there a way out?”

Rakhi Sahi – “Strategic Policing: Women as peacekeepers”

MODERATOR
Rebecca Peters

RAPPORTEUR
Chris Groth

The second conference panel, entitled “Securing Protection During and After Conflict,” focused on incorporating gender in the security sector, both in policy and in practice. The panelists, all of whom have direct experience with security issues, highlighted the significance of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation in SCR 1325 implementation; described the impact of weapons, specifically small arms and light weapons, in sustaining conflict in the Philippines and the DRC; and addressed the unparalleled role women peacekeepers play in U.N. missions.

The panel moderator Rebecca Peters (International Action Network on Small Arms – IANSA) began the session by stressing that although small arms are often considered more pedestrian than weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, chemical or biological weapons), the availability, uncontrolled proliferation and misuse of these arms play an equally significant role in sustaining insecurity. To illustrate this, Peters related that approximately 1,000 people are killed every day as a result of gun violence, and international terrorism has killed more people by way of gunshot wounds than explosives.

Next, Agnès Marcaillou (U.N. Office for Disarmament Affairs) drew on her personal experience as a disarmament expert within the male-dominated United Nations, as well as on lessons learned during the U.N. Office for Disarmament Affair’s pioneering efforts to link disarmament and gender equality, to address the fact that “the maintenance of peace and security will not stick if half of the population is not on board. And currently the female 50 percent of populations is excluded.”

According to Marcaillou, a major oversight in SCR 1325 is that disarmament is only addressed in the context of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR). As such, the resolution fails to acknowledge that arms control and non-proliferation play
Section II: Panel Summaries

a critical role in the prevention and reduction of violence, as well as in the maintenance of international peace and security.

Furthermore, Marcaillou emphasized that by not addressing disarmament more broadly, SCR 1325 limits women's capability to prevent and reduce violence as well as to establish themselves as decision makers, policy makers and leaders in the security sector.

“I am a demonstration of the implementation of SCR 1325. I am a woman in peace and security, I am a decision maker, and I have worked on chemical and biological weapons as part of an inspections team following the first Gulf War. I would not be here today if some enlightened men, my former bosses, had not given me the responsibilities that they thought that I could assume. So men and women must work together or the glass ceiling will become a lead ceiling.”

– Agnès Marcaillou

The U.N. Office for Disarmament Affairs, with Marcaillou at the helm of its Regional Disarmament Branch, is committed to mainstreaming gender in all of its activities. The office offers a powerful model for how to incorporate gender and security (see Section III of this report for more details).

Jasmin Nario-Galace (IANSA) shifted the discussion to disarmament in the Philippines, providing concrete evidence for why the issue of small arms cannot be overlooked when addressing peace and security.

Nario-Galace described the Philippines as awash with small arms – roughly 4.2 million nationwide. The guns are imported, locally manufactured (for as cheap as $15), smuggled, stolen or purchased illegally from government or other criminal elements. On average, 26 people are murdered each day in the Philippines, with 78 percent of these homicides occurring due to guns. The proliferation of small arms also enables, intensifies and sustains the two on-goingarmed conflicts in the country – the battle between the government of the Philippines and the Communist Party of the Philippines (New People's Army) and between government forces and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Nario-Galace emphasized that small arms issues should be addressed in National Action Plans (NAPs) under SCR 1325 because, although the primary weapon holders, users and traders are men, women suffer significantly from the lack of controls and the weapons trade. She advocated that national and international entities should take this opportunity to develop laws and policies that address gun ownership, registration, licensing, safe storage and weapons collection and destruction. In addition, security sector personnel should be trained in human rights issues and subsequently penalized for violating women's rights.

Next, Bibiane Aningina Tshefu (Women as Partners for Peace in Africa) gave a moving testimony “in name of my sisters in DRC – the hundreds of thousands of women who have been raped and driven from their homes.”
According to Tshefu, in 2007 a report from the U.N. Security Council regarding the DRC established a link between the proliferation of arms, the extraction of natural resources and rape/sexual violence against young girls, which is being utilized as a weapon of war. Yet little action has been taken to address this.

The U.N. Population Fund states that 8,300 rapes have been reported in the zone of North Kivu in 2009 alone, which is the equivalent of 160 rapes per week.

Tshefu asserted that the sexual violence will only stop when the proliferation of arms, which is at the root of all of these violations, is halted. According to Congolese NGOs and reports published by international organizations, approximately 1 million light arms are in circulation in the Great Lakes region. While data on the transfer of small arms is difficult to obtain, six of the 11 countries that share a common border with the DRC are producers of small arms. An arms embargo adopted by the Security Council in 2003 and extended each year since has been constantly violated – with no punishment of the perpetrators.

Tshefu called for greater vigilance on the part of the international community as well as greater cooperation between the international community and the Congolese government to end the impunity in the DRC.

Rakhi Sahi (U.N. Department of Safety and Security) concluded the panel session with a vivid description of the 2nd Indian Formed Police Unit (FPU) – a hybrid police/military unit – in the U.N. Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). Sahi commanded the Indian FPU in 2008; the unit consisted of 105 women and 20 men, with the men acting in support and logistics roles.

According to Sahi, some of the impacts of the Indian FPU in Liberia include: a decline in prostitution, sexual violence, domestic violence and gender-based violence, and increased levels of confidence and motivation among Liberian women (due to seeing the FPU women soldiers in action). The unit also had a positive impact on public health in Monrovia, as it trained seven women in HIV/AIDS victim counseling and conducted a free medical clinic in the community once a week.

Most important to the FPU’s success was its approachability in the community. The FPU conducted extensive community policing activities which continue to be carried out as part of UNMIL’s mission – and are increasingly mandated for other U.N. missions as well.

“The dynamics of war, with its classical boundaries between battlefield and home front, have now changed. Sexual violence and rape are used with objectives. Forced incest, public rape, deliberate infection of HIV, forced pregnancies, rape with torture and mutilations are used for maximum humiliation to shred the social fabric. Peacekeepers in uniform may be the first responders to react, and women peacekeepers react better.”

– Rakhi Sahi

The panel presentations elucidated that until gender is more fully integrated into the security sector, the tools of violence will continue to contribute to insecurity not only for women but also for entire communities.
A National Action Plan (NAP) is a tool to strengthen the implementation of SCR 1325. The U.N. Security Council mandates a NAP on 1325 for every member nation. Currently, 20 countries have adopted their own plans and 16 more are underway. This panel addressed experiences in the Philippines and Sierra Leone, which both launched NAPs in 2010, and the Western Balkans and Nepal where leaders are in the final stages of approving NAPs.

The process of developing a NAP is rigorous, requiring awareness-raising campaigns, consultations at local, regional and national levels and leadership coordination. Women advocates have been at the forefront of articulating priorities and lobbying and coordinating government agencies, the security sector and civil society organizations.

Jasmin Nario-Galace (Miriam College Center for Peace Education/IANSA) described the arduous three-year process, led by a small group of women seeking to address the violence experienced in the Philippines, that resulted in the first NAP in Asia.

While some women's organizations had been working toward SCR 1325's goals after its adoption, efforts were scattered, uncoordinated and weak. In 2007, the leading women's organizations in the Philippines were invited to attend a national workshop on SCR 1325 to assess progress and challenges toward reaching the resolution's goals. Subsequently, at the request of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process – the governmental peace agency – a preparatory committee comprised of two government agencies and several civil society organizations was formed to create a draft of the NAP. An expanded national network of various stakeholders from the fields of human rights, international humanitarian law, peace and women's rights were included in regional consultations. A series of national validation workshops were followed by a writeshop for the production of the final draft of the NAP.

“We found that even if women did not know the numbers 1325, they were actually already implementing [SCR] 1325.”
– Jasmin Nario-Galace

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed the executive order on women, peace and security in March 2010, making the Philippines the 18th country to launch a NAP. A National Security Council composed of all the cabinet ministers of the security sector is now responsible for the implementation of the NAP.
A strong national network of women NGOs has emerged as a result of the process, along with increased participation of women in peace panels and senior government positions.

Similar to the Philippines, Sierra Leone’s efforts to implement 1325 were scattered until 2008, when attendance at a high-level policy conference on gender and development inspired civil society observers to develop a NAP for their country.

**Nana Pratt (WANMAR 1325 Project)** was one of the representatives from various NGOs that formed a governmental/civil society task force to monitor and coordinate the crafting of a Sierra Leone National Action Plan (SiLNAP). A core task force group developed a working draft NAP which was shared in a series of consultative meetings across four regions of Sierra Leone. The National Consultative Conference in 2009 was the final step to review, refine and validate the final draft.

Up to this point, the NAP’s crafting had been widely inclusive of Sierra Leone’s stakeholders to promote national ownership and ensure effective coordination. UNIFEM was invited to assist only after several revisions to the NAP, which included a total of 35 indicators and five pillars, focusing on the reduction of violence against women, the protection and empowerment of victims (especially women and girls), addressing impunity through increased prosecution, increased participation of women and effective coordination for implementation and resource mobilization.

Launched in June 2010, the SiLNAP is a comprehensive, five-year plan with a $21.3 million budget. The U.N. Population Fund and the government’s Agenda for Change are partially funding the implementation. As a result, the governmental/civil society task force will be transformed into a steering committee to implement and raise further funds.

**Ana Lukatela (Regional Women’s Lobby for Peace, Security and Justice in Southeast Europe)** asserted that the process of creating NAPs has become an important tool for bringing women together to discuss peace and security issues in southeastern Europe. In many cases, the progress that has been achieved is a result of linkages established by women secretly working across deeply divided ethnic communities.

It was only after two years of lobbying governments to consider the implementation of SCR 1325 that advocates identified allies, including UNIFEM, to assist in the adoption of Bosnia’s NAP in July 2010.

In Croatia, members of civil society appealed to the government’s desire to gain European Union (EU) membership by noting the EU’s strong support for NAPs on SCR 1325. Croatia’s government agreed to set up a working group for consultative workshops, while NATO, which had already been appraised of SCR 1325, worked with the Croatian Ministry of Defense.

According to Lukatela, allies within sectors that are often more difficult to persuade can leverage their influence. “It’s really important to identify possible champions who can mainstream the issue within...”
their sector,” shared Lukatela. In the case of Serbia, appeals to the government from a feminist, anti-government civil society sector were ignored until the deputy speaker of Parliament took up the issue. Croatia’s leadership selected a mainstream institution to house the NAP in order to avoid being relegated as solely a women’s issue. Not only do these strategic partnerships garner crucial support from high-level personnel, they also secure sustained financial support.

**Bandana Rana (Saathi Nepal)** shared with the audience that when efforts first began in Nepal, very few people knew about or understood the importance of SCR 1325. In recent years, continual political changes have further delayed the NAP process. Despite the setbacks, Nepal’s Peace and Reconstruction Ministry and the success of Sierra Leone provided inspiration to Nepal’s advocates to move forward and adjust strategy. Momentum to address these issues continues to grow, with former Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal declaring 2010 the Year against Gender-Based Violence, with a focus on the protection of women and girls.

A consortium of U.N. agencies, multilateral donors and district level allies supported the process, which included approximately 4,000 participants and resulted in a draft framework presented in April 2010. The consultation led to 15 action points, followed by revisions and a writeshop.

The final draft of Nepal’s NAP, based on UNIFEM’s global indicators, was recently presented to all the stakeholders, including representatives from the inter-ministerial and secretary levels, for final validation. Although a NAP implementation review is planned for every two years, the committee is looking into the possibility of a shadow reporting mechanism in the case of further political instability.

For each of these four regions, a wide engagement of in-country stakeholders ensure that NAPs increase women’s participation in conflict resolution and conflict transformation as well as advance the nation’s social and economic development. The panelists provided compelling evidence that the process of drafting a NAP can be as important as its adoption, and offers a critical opportunity to move SCR 1325 out of the realm of a strictly “women’s issue” and into a whole-of-government approach.
Panel Three: “Prioritizing Gender Justice”

SPEAKERS
Brigid Inder – “Gender Justice: Holding the United Nations and ICC to account”

Maha Abu-Dayyeh – “In Search of Accountability”

Kristin Kalla – “Hope, Empowerment and the Experience of Justice in Northern Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo”

MODERATOR
Fionnuala Ní Aoláin

RAPPORTEUR
Andrea Frey

Fionnuala Ní Aoláin (Transitional Justice Institute, University of Ulster) set the tone for the third panel, “Prioritizing Gender Justice,” with a compelling statement on women’s historical omission from spheres of influence. According to Ní Aoláin, the pervasive omission of women from justice mechanisms dates back to the original bodies of international law and norms. From as early as World War I, international protocols consider women as mere appendages to men, focusing almost exclusively on impregnated women and women with children. Ní Aoláin identified post-conflict settings as a unique window of opportunity to re-establish and solidify gender justice.

“The history of women’s absence is deeply rooted. The work to undo this absence is monumental and is not just about changing language. It requires changing an entire set of cultural and social assumptions about how we acknowledge women and the status of women.”

– Fionnuala Ní Aoláin

Brigid Inder (Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice) began the panel by examining existing legal frameworks for gender justice, as set forth in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

According to the Rome Statute, the ICC has a global mandate, with a jurisdictional basis, to prosecute gender-based crimes when and where there is evidence of such acts. According to Inder, this, however, is only the starting point of the court’s positive obligation. The real work of gender justice lies in implementation – in turning the international laws and mandates into
tangible outcomes. This work is done, in part, by establishing a court that is gender balanced and includes equitable geographic representation as well as specialized legal expertise on crimes such as violence against women.

Inder stressed that in order for women to claim their rightful place in the implementation of gender justice, the United Nations must fulfill, in both process and outcome, the obligations set forth in its existing mandates.

Maha Abu-Dayyeh (Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, Palestine) buttressed Inder’s analysis with critical insights garnered from her experience working on justice issues in the Middle East. Abu-Dayyeh emphasized that, according to human rights law, states have a responsibility to promote, protect and prosecute. Yet, in her view, the majority of actions taken in the name of SCR 1325, to date, have focused exclusively on promotion.

“You cannot have recovery without justice, and you cannot have justice without prosecution,” said Abu-Dayyeh. She stressed that the only way to ensure global peace is to prosecute perpetrators and both protect and compensate victims. She advocated for redefining violence, to capture not only its physical manifestations but also the psychological wounds it inflicts on victims, and to ensure legal means for criminalizing individuals who inflict both.

Kristin Kalla (Trust Fund for Victims) brought the panel discussion full circle by addressing victim involvement in international judiciary processes, specifically at the ICC.

The Rome Statute pushes the boundaries of international justice by combining a tribunal –the ICC – with a reparatory mechanism – the Trust Fund for Victims. However, similar to the discrepancy between the ICC’s mandate and its outcomes that Inder pointed out in her presentation, Kalla emphasized that the ICC’s victim-oriented framework is falling short in its implementation.

Kalla highlighted in particular the judiciary failures in addressing sexual violence and gender exploitation. In addition to the lack of accountability for gender-based violence there is, as Abu-Dayyeh similarly pointed out, insufficient awareness of the trauma and psychological suffering that women and children experience.

“Justice for victims cannot be achieved without their direct participation in the judiciary process.” – Kristin Kalla

Kalla drew from her experiences in northern Uganda and the DRC to provide recommendations for reconciling elements of retributive and restorative justice, strengthening victim involvement and improving the gender dimensions of reparative packages.

In closing, all of the panel speakers agreed: The failure of judicial processes to adequately address gender justice is magnified over time and undermines all long-term prospects for peace and security.
While previous panels highlighted the successes and challenges of implementation in the first 10 years of SCR 1325, the final panel, “Engendering Peacebuilding for Conflict Prevention and Recovery,” offered recommendations for moving women, peace and security agendas forward. Panelists presented expert insights that suggest a new era of women’s involvement in peacebuilding and more aggressive agitation for gendered approaches to peace and security.

“We’ve been reflecting on the last 10 years of where we’ve come and we’ve demonstrated where we are,” moderator and IPJ Deputy Director Dee Aker said in her introduction. “Panel Four is about moving forward realistically but with expanded thinking.”

Soraya Hoyos (UNIFEM - Colombia) began her panel presentation with a slideshow of images from Colombia’s conflict – “just to give you a feeling of what it is like to live in Colombia … beyond the aura of rational discourse.” The photographs of urban expressions in Bogotá and of women survivors of armed conflict laid the groundwork for Hoyos’ discussion of innovative approaches to building peace in the midst of war.

In highlighting steps that need to be taken to move Colombian society toward greater peace and reconciliation, Hoyos emphasized alternative modes of reconciliation, community healing and remembering. She advocated that artistic practices and cultural initiatives – such as photography, dance, music and weaving – provide a symbolic language through which individual healing and societal rebuilding can take place.

“Words and discourse on peace have been said again and again. It is necessary to look for new forms of expression to tell the truth and to say the words that ordinary communication cannot express.” – Soraya Hoyos
As if in sync, Asmahan Alawaisheh followed by showing a short film that illustrated her experience as a Jordanian peacekeeper in the U.N. Mission in Sudan (UNMIS). Employed as a civil engineer in the Jordanian police force for 20 years, in 2008 Alawaisheh joined the U.N. peacekeeping mission. She described her desire to be part of a global effort of making, building and preserving peace. “I worked very hard to prove to my country that they should not regret their decision,” Alawaisheh said.

Footage of Alawaisheh in her police uniform, complete with her hijab, showed her standing proudly in front of several building projects. Alawaisheh is an accomplished civil engineer who has designed many elaborate building in Jordan, yet nothing has given her more pride than the prison and camp structures she built in Sudan.

Alawaisheh spoke of her experience as “a story of synergy at work” – both organizational synergy within the U.N. and that of men and women working in partnership with each other to achieve greater effectiveness.

Gloria Atiba-Davies (Gender and Children Unit, Office of the Prosecutor, ICC) followed by reviewing the gender-based crimes being investigated and tried in the ICC from conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; northern Uganda; the Central African Republic; Darfur, Sudan; and Kenya.

Her presentation transitioned from detailing on-going ICC investigations and prosecutions to explaining how support and cooperation from the international community is necessary to assist the ICC in overcoming its challenges. She emphasized that the ICC cannot take on the battle against sexual violence alone and called specifically on NGOs to help with the protection of victims and to aid in providing quality evidence. “We must all be in this together,” she urged.

“Ending impunity for gender crimes signals to the world that here [at the ICC], at least, the deal is off.” - Gloria Atiba-Davies

Joining the panel via a videoconference from the United Nations, Winnie Byanyima (U.N. Development Programme – UNDP) discussed financing women’s peace and security. She presented findings from a UNDP report that seeks to provide evidence and justification for developing gender-responsive budgeting.

“Our objective was to spur reforms in the way the United Nations does its work,” Byanyima said. “We also wanted to influence the way countries emerging from conflict go about rebuilding their countries, giving equal opportunities to boys and girls, men and women.”

The study examines four regions in different stages of conflict – Kosovo, Sierra Leone, south Sudan and East Timor – and indicates that in each of these countries there is a lack of transparency, inclusiveness, alignment and coordination with national priorities in regard to planning, budgeting and financing processes.

In terms of gender mainstreaming – systematic approaches for integrating gender across all the processes – Byanyima and her team found that “where anything was done in respect to gender mainstreaming, it seemed to happen because of an individual or institution that wanted to pay attention to it.”
The panel’s closing words came from Sanam Anderlini, (International Civil Society Action Network), whose zeal and determination sent conference delegates away on a note of challenge, encouragement and inspiration.

Anderlini recommended that peacebuilding advocacy should focus on the financial incentives of conflict prevention, emphasizing that governments will eventually realize that making war in order to bring peace is not economically sustainable. She suggested that SCR 1325 should provide a much-needed framework for connecting the dots between the policy of prevention and existing realities on the ground.

Acknowledging the strides that have been made to date in implementing SCR 1325, Anderlini called for a greater global movement of women to work for prevention of conflict and promotion of 1325 not as a woman’s issue, but a holistic issue of peace and security.

“Where it matters, that transformational piece of getting women in the decision making at the right time, that’s where the door is still shut and where we need to focus.” – Sanam Anderlini
Delegates to the conference – more than 175 women and men from over 47 countries – included U.N. officials, peace mediators, police and security officers, female peacekeepers, government officials, directors of national and international organizations, judges and attorneys, technical advisors, scholars and policy experts. Each brought extensive peace and security experience.

The panel presentations, as described in the previous section, laid the groundwork for in-depth discussions in focused working sessions. Delegates offered a wealth of knowledge on good practices, innovative strategies and existing challenges in the implementation of women, peace and security resolutions. The necessary next steps are for this information to be transmitted and for deeper linkages to be established between governments, international institutions and civil society.

“We have 10 years of research, policy development and what constitutes good practice. We need these best practices to become standard operating procedures.” – Sarah Taylor

With the aim of documenting some good practices, innovative strategies and existing challenges, 12 working sessions were held during the conference. Each session included an opening statement on a focused issue, identification of critical questions to be addressed and a collaborative effort to draft recommendations. Delegates shared first-hand knowledge from a wide spectrum of conflicts, cultures and contexts. Each discussion produced actionable recommendations, which were presented during the conference closing.

Here, you will find a brief description of each working session followed by clearly delineated recommendations.

Conference delegates call on all relevant actors – representatives with U.N. agencies, governments, regional institutions, INGOs and local organizations – to take into account these critical issues as they move forward in implementing SCR 1325. It is necessary that actions to implement 1325 do not reinvent the wheel, but rather learn from, build upon and advance beyond the knowledge and experience that has been gathered to date.
Working Sessions: Summaries and Recommendations

BURDEN OF PROOF:
IS INDICATOR REPORTING REALISTIC FOR COUNTRIES IN CONFLICT?

Jennifer Freeman – Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice

The Secretary-General’s proposed indicators for 1325 aim to create benchmarks and track the impact and progress of member states in achieving the commitment and intent of the resolution. The working group discussion focused on the challenges communities in conflict will face in generating the data needed to track this progress. Session participants offered insight on the common and unique roadblocks to the implementation of the indicators and strategies for how to overcome these challenges.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

United Nations
1. Assess whether indicators should be implemented in pilot phases in non-conflict-affected communities, while building capacity in conflict-affected countries.
2. Ensure indicators take into consideration conditions permissive of violence against women, including cultural, historical, patriarchal cultures and systems that contribute to make violence against women an effective weapon of war.
3. Ensure all categories of women (rural, poor, disabled, linguistic minority, displaced, indigenous, etc.) participate in implementation of indicators.
4. Focus on accessing rural areas for data collection, services, participation and protection.
5. All projected programs, grants and budgets should include a gender marking system (rating 0-3).
6. Strategic planning needs to engage larger donors in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers to facilitate government buy-in.

Donors and Donor Countries
1. Fund meaningful participation of civil society organizations.
2. Increase resources so women have more access to participate, including resources such as financial, creative in-kind, security, child care, etc.
MISSING LINKS: ENGAGING MEN IN 1325

Sarah Akoru Lochodo – Kainuk Sub-Division, Government of Kenya, 2010 IPJ Woman PeaceMaker

Aliker David Martin – BOSCO Uganda Relief Project

Steven Schoofs – International Alert

SCR 1325 cannot be actualized unless policymakers and planners address the missing link of involving young men and men in general – in programs and processes designed for protection and security. This session included a review of successes and challenges involving men in Uganda and Kenya, allowing participants to share similar stories. Several themes emerged, including a need to change the language of SCR to become a human security issue and not a women's security issue. Participants emphasized the importance of creating incentives for men to partake in the implementation process of 1325. The following recommendations emerged as concrete steps to the process of meaningfully engaging men in the women, peace and security agendas.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

All Actors (International, Regional, National and Local)
1. Acknowledge that men, like women, are not a homogeneous category of actors.
2. Motivate and mobilize men to become active partners in the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, exploring how 1325 can speak to and resonate with men.

Civil Society
1. Utilize entry points – such as sport, media and life skills provisions – to work with young men and women.
2. Strategically engage institutions by targeting influential leaders and “grooming champions.”
3. Consider and address the risk of resources being diverted from women’s empowerment.
There are currently 43.3 million displaced individuals in the world, and 80 percent of those are women and girls. If women and girls are to feel the effects of 1325, the international community must address the specific needs that displacement creates. It must be a holistic approach that offers assistance during the peace process until individuals are resettled, and that acknowledges the inter-linkages between protection and participation – if women are not safe and healthy, how can they participate? The recommendations that emerged from this discussion focused on both the protection of displaced women and their participation in policies and processes affecting them.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**United Nations**
1. Listen to displaced women's needs and concerns.
2. Strengthen the role of women peacekeepers in conflict settings (support for an all-female unit).
3. Create displacement-specific indicators for monitoring implementation of SCR 1325 and other resolutions.

**Donors and Donor Countries**
1. Provide increased funding for programs that help mitigate the risk of violence, including empowerment projects, livelihood programs, access to education and comprehensive community strategies.
2. Hold NGOs accountable for implementing transparent programs with integrity.

**Civil Society**
1. Look to technology as a tool for mobilizing and hearing women's voices.
2. Facilitate truth and reconciliation processes to ensure healing and reintegration.
The adoption of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) concept in the Outcome Document of the 2005 World Summit was a historic landmark. Governments transcended the existing concept of sovereignty by agreeing that the international community has a responsibility to protect populations from mass atrocities when individual states fail to do so. Session participants were informed about R2P’s history, current developments and the role of civil society in advancing the agenda. The discussion then addressed the nexus between R2P and women, peace and security; feminist and gendered critiques of the early development of R2P; areas for improvement; and recommendations for a path ahead.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

*All Actors (International, Regional, National and Local)*

1. Encourage the sharing of analysis and information of early warning mechanisms, and ensure gender-sensitive indicators at all levels.

*National Governments*

1. Incorporate the prevention of mass atrocities in National Action Plans for 1325 and its related resolutions.

*Civil Society*

1. Recognize the complementary nature of R2P and women, peace and security.
2. Continue raising awareness of R2P by highlighting the centrality of preventing atrocities, including systematic attacks against women, inherent in its framework.
3. Harmonize advocacy work among civil society groups working on R2P and collaborate with those working on related agendas.
4. Create opportunities for organizations to work together on related agendas and movements (i.e., protection of civilians and women, peace and security).
A Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan launched by the U.N. Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in April 2003 – the first such plan elaborated in the U.N. Secretariat – underscored the office's commitment to addressing the impact of all categories of weapons, including small arms and light weapons, on both men and women. UNODA's plan also put an emphasis on the role that women play in arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, and constituted a framework for UNODA's action in this field. Based on her experience at UNODA, Marcaillou facilitated a discussion on the current status of disarmament and how women have played a role. Recommendations for how to improve the situation were made, in the hopes that one day women's involvement in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control will change the way countries go about international diplomacy and the creation of policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

All Actors (International, Regional, National and Local)
1. Allocate financial, human and technical resources to women's participation and representation at all levels of policy and decision making related to security and disarmament.

United Nations
1. Commit to fully implement disarmament and arms control instruments, in particular in relation to small arms and light weapons.
2. Commit to fully implement gender-related norms and instruments.
3. Strengthen U.N. and civil society partnerships, in particular women's organizations, for a more mutually reinforcing relationship.

National Governments
1. National security policies must promote the participation and representation of women in the security sector.
2. Provide specific training to top-level officials and decision makers in government to explain why the contribution of women will increase institutional effectiveness.
3. Enable women trainers to provide training within the security sector.
4. Regional and national monitoring mechanisms and observatories must include at least 30 percent women.
5. Traditional women-led ministries (health, women's affairs, youth, education) must take part in defense and security policies of countries.

Civil Society
1. Outreach and advocacy campaigns must recognize the necessary contribution of women to peace and security, and must include and focus on women.
WOMEN AND PEACEKEEPING:
LESSONS LEARNED AND NEXT STEPS
Asmahan Alawaish – U.N. Mission in Sudan (UNMIS)
Kristen Cordell – U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
Doreen Malamo – formerly with the U.N. Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)
Shubhra Tiwari – UNMIS

Facilitators shared information on the empirical and cumulative impact that women have had on human security in post-conflict contexts, retention and recruitment of women within the U.N. system (including tips for jobseekers), and what can be done to push forward the agenda of a fully gender-mainstreamed peacekeeping environment.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

**United Nations**
1. Set a quota of uniformed women officers for each member state.
2. Exert more pressure on member states to set policies to recruit more women police and military officers.

**Member States**
1. Implement trainings, focused on women officers, for the test to join U.N. missions (known as SAT).
2. Implement welfare measures – such as logistics and priority in accommodation, separate ablutions, etc. – within missions to encourage uniformed women to join.
3. Produce recruitment materials that target women and describe gender-specific welfare measures.
4. Raise awareness of the comparative advantage that uniformed women officers bring, recognizing that women can be more effective in reaching out to vulnerable populations in conflict-ridden and post-conflict situations.

**Individuals**
1. Uniformed women officers should continue to do work at the grassroots level, outside of their official responsibilities.
DEFINING AND IMPLEMENTING APPROPRIATE MEANS OF REPARATION AND REHABILITATION

Kristin Kalla – Trust Fund for Victims

The Trust Fund for Victims (TFV), supporting the International Criminal Court in The Hague, is engaged in legal and transitional justice fields. The working session discussion focused on how to address the harm suffered in conflict settings in a manner that is gender-sensitive and inclusive. In order to be implemented in a meaningful way, reparations should not be framed as handouts but rather as a “vehicle for public commitment.” Session participants generated the following recommendations to guide the process of implementing reparation principles.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

International and National Justice Institutions
1. Ensure a gender dimension in reparation programs, including recognition of sexual violence and consideration of women’s specific assistance needs.
2. Address the fact that amnesty often benefits perpetrators, not victims/survivors.
3. Ensure reparations account for victims within perpetrator communities (e.g., Hutus victimized during genocide in Rwanda).
4. Institutionalize “survivor” language that recognizes the agency of victims.
5. Support community-level traditional methods of reparation and rehabilitation.
6. Provide symbolic as well as monetary reparations and rehabilitation.
7. Involve civil society organizations in implementation of reparation processes, specifically women’s grassroots organizations.
8. Implement mechanisms to protect individuals and their families after testimonies are provided.
TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE MECHANISMS AND ACCOUNTABILITY:  
THE PERUVIAN TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION  
Julissa Mantilla Falcón – Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

Transitional justice is a response to systematic or widespread violations of human rights. It seeks recognition for victims and promotes possibilities for peace, reconciliation and democracy. The main elements of transitional justice are truth, justice, reparation and reconciliation, and its initiatives include truth commissions and security system reforms. This working session provided a review of the transitional justice experience in Peru and then engaged in discussion about how women get justice when the international and national systems are not competent or not opening the doors to gender justice.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

International and National Justice Institutions
1. Address what sexual violence is and why confronting it is important in pursuing justice.
2. Consult with local communities and victims prior to establishing mandates.
3. Learn from comparative cases in which gender-based violence was prosecuted.
4. Establish reparation programs that balance individual and collective needs, and offer opportunities for symbolic compensation.

Donors and Donor Countries

Civil Society
1. Learn the language of gender-based violence and use it to listen to women.
2. Establish conditions for gender-sensitive truth seeking.
3. Ensure the community is prepared to receive and accept victims.
IPJ Women PeaceMakers from Pakistan and the Philippines shared their experience with violent extremists in their countries. The discussion focused on strategies for confronting the unique challenges in these settings, in particular targeted violence and oppression women face as a result of extremism in Muslim settings.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

**United Nations, Regional Institutions and National Governments**
1. Engage external support systems to influence policies of countries in conflict (e.g., the Organization of the Islamic Conference and Arab women's networks around the world).

**Civil Society**
1. Apply a holistic and integrated peace and development framework in approaching complex situations.
2. Promote indigenous, traditional practices of conflict transformation and advocate for inter-religious program engagements to promote tolerance and respect diversity.
Women in Afghanistan have achieved precarious gains since 2001, and these are now further endangered by rising insecurity, a political backlash in Kabul and growing Taliban influence. A shift from military to political solutions is necessary, but women must have a seat at the table in the reconciliation process, and Western governments must maintain support for economic development and human rights. Discussion topics during the working session included the inadequacies of the current funding system and the militarization of aid; the current amnesty law that grants impunity for all people who committed acts of violence and war crimes in the period prior to the Taliban; and the implications for women of the inclusion of the Taliban in peace negotiations. The following recommendations were made as ways to ensure women's meaningful involvement in the peace process.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**United States and NATO**
1. Provide transitional security protection.
2. Assure women's participation in reconciliation and reintegration programs.
3. Provide ongoing support for women in public life.
4. Maintain support for development and health programs.
5. Provide sanctuary and asylum for threatened women.
In Muslim-majority societies, the common thread when discussing the rule of law, human and women's rights and economic regulations is their compatibility with Islamic law. In the promotion of 1325, the challenge is rooting the logic of the recommendations in the interpretations of Islamic law. Discussion during this session focused on finding the balance between interpretation and law; understanding local context and promoting cultural/religious relativism; top-down and bottom-up approaches to societal change; visible and invisible leadership; and universal and specific approaches to implementing the principles in SCR 1325. The recommendations attempt to shape a “both-and” approach to Islamic law and SCR 1325.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**All Actors (International, Regional, National and Local)**

1. Increase knowledge of Islam and technical expertise in interpretations of Islamic law concerning women's rights.

**National Governments**

1. Establish a National Action Plan for the implementation of SCR 1325 in Afghanistan, Iraq and other Islamic countries.
2. Enable women parliamentarians to unite across party lines and form women caucuses to represent a broad-based, powerful political force to move forward the agenda of women's development and promote SCR 1325.

**Civil Society**

1. Translate SCR 1325 into local languages in Islamic countries.
2. Highlight precedent-setting women in Islam as role models.
3. Provide training to enable Muslim women to advocate for and protect themselves at a household and community level. Simultaneously focus on the public and the private spheres.
4. Engage men in increasing women's rights and women's participation in the public sphere. Men have been and can continue to be powerful allies.
5. Engage with powerful religious councils in order to tackle a variety of challenges to women's human rights.
6. Sensitize mullahs and religious scholars to women's human rights and gender issues so that mentally and spiritually they themselves accept and understand the rights of women. They can then play a role as reformers in helping communities broaden their views and understand the existing differences between traditions and religious beliefs, in the hope of eliminating traditions based on the denial of rights of Muslim women and girls.
Fatima Saeed-Ibrahim spoke of her personal experience, as a native Somali, working in Somaliland to empower marginalized and oppressed women. Her presentation included examples of strategies for empowering police officers, lawyers and other professional women in Somaliland. The discussion went on to review the gender dimensions of the law and policy frameworks that govern and influence women’s participation in peacebuilding in Islamic regions and to identify windows of opportunities in regions where gender disparities exist.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**Civil Society**
1. Build bridges between secular and conservative women’s organizations.
2. When working in Muslim-majority countries, run programs within an Islamic framework.
3. Challenge cultural norms misconstrued as “Islam.”
4. Provide shelter to vulnerable girls and women.
5. Frame gender equality in terms of benefits to men and women.
6. Reach out to liberal men who have decision-making power.

**Donors and Donor Countries**
1. Provide funding for incentives for women to join the security forces.
Section IV: Crosscutting Issues

This section provides an overview of the critical crosscutting topics that emerged during the working sessions. These topics include:

- Peace and Security: Not just a women's issue
- Security Sector
- Engaging Men
- Justice
- Muslim Women: Bridging interpretations and implementations
- Documentation

**Peace and Security: Not just a women's issue**

To date, SCR 1325 has been essential in garnering recognition for the ways war impacts women and men differently, acknowledging that women and girls are specifically targeted and adversely impacted by armed conflict. It has also played a critical role in affirming the long-standing role that women have played in conflict prevention and the fact that their official participation with regard to conflict prevention and resolution must be increased.

Yet from the United Nations to civil society, SCR 1325 and its sister resolutions continue to be sidelined as “women's issues” and relegated to women, women's organizations or traditionally women-led institutions for implementation.

Conference speakers and delegates pressed for a more assertive paradigm shift that recognizes the essential inter-linkages between global security and broader gender perspectives.

The spirit and mandate of SCR 1325 apply to broad social justice and security agendas, and are essential – from both an efficiency and efficacy stance – to the promotion of universal global security. In moving SCR 1325 – and peace and security issues in general – forward, it is possible, and necessary, to frame these issues in ways that extend beyond women's right to protection, participation and prevention.

One example of the broader impact of women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention and resolution can be seen through the essential services that female peacekeepers provide in post-conflict settings.

As commander of the all-female Indian Formed Police Unit in Liberia, Rakhi Sahi (U.N. Department of Safety and Security) documented women's comparative advantage as peacekeepers.

According to Sahi and others, the 105 women in the unit provided unique skills and essential abilities that were otherwise unavailable within the peacekeeping mission in Liberia.

Sahi included the following as the specific benefits of women peacekeepers:

- Women peacekeepers have strong communication skills and put them to use to defuse potentially violent situations.
- Women peacekeepers are better able to win the trust of citizens.
- Men peacekeepers are less inclined to act aggressively in the presence of women soldiers.
- Women do not have the stigma – for excessive drinking and sexual exploitation – that men peacekeepers have. This enhances the acceptability of U.N. missions.
The presence of uniformed women officers in conflict-ridden and post-conflict settings is just one among many examples of how women’s participation in decision making related to conflict prevention and resolution is a critical value-added resource that should not be overlooked.

Ultimately, the comparative advantage that women offer lies in their skills and capabilities. Women’s participation in peace is essential, not simply because it is their right or because they are peaceful by nature; women have tangible talents and areas of expertise that are indispensible in the task of building peace.

However, in advocating for women’s participation it is critical not to focus exclusively on gender identity and gender roles. Ultimately, our goal must be to both increase the number of women participating and broaden the scope of gender competence and gender expertise.

Conference speaker Brigid Inder (Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice) illustrated the importance of gender competence specifically in the context of justice. In order for the International Criminal Court (ICC) to be a mechanism for gender-inclusive justice, the Rome Statute requires that states take certain measures into account in the election of judges, including fair representation of women and men and legal expertise on violence against women.

The Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice provides an exemplary mechanism for putting this policy into practice. The organization reviews judges, the chief prosecutor and deputy prosecutors to assess their gender competence prior to election. This approach should be modeled across all peace and security sectors to ensure gender expertise is present in all leadership positions and is integrated into the training, hiring and retention practices in relevant national, regional and international institutions.

In addition to the practical implications of a broader gender agenda, there are also significant financial aspects. Simply put, to exclude 50 percent of the population in addressing global concerns which impact 100 percent of the population amounts to an inefficient and untenable investment.

Agnès Marcaillou (U.N. Office for Disarmament Affairs) persuasively addressed this by stating: “This is not about feminism. This is about business. When someone gives me $100,000 to conduct a project that affects the entire population of a country, if my work only covers 50 percent of the population, I have betrayed my government. I have cheated. We are in a culture of accountability, auditors and monitoring of the budgets. Whether you like it or not, if you take money and only spend it on half the village, something is wrong.”

Whether it’s framed in terms of skills and capabilities, competence and expertise or financial incentives, the underlying and essential message is the same: women, peace and security agendas must not be considered a footnote to current global security concerns, but rather as an essential means to address them. The way forward rests in more comprehensive strategies, with broader appeal. SCR 1325 is an issue of peace and security, not simply a women’s issue.
Security Sector

The prevention and reduction of violence, as well as the maintenance of international peace and security, depend on a shift in the culture of arms, the non-proliferation of certain categories of arms (including illicit small arms, light weapons and nuclear weapons), and the total eradication of weapons of mass destruction, land mines and cluster munitions. These tools of violence, as well as the actors and ideologies that sustain them, must be confronted.

Conference speakers and delegates – some who were experts in disarmament, legal specialists or survivors of gun violence – all agreed on the need for a more comprehensive approach to security tools and actors within women, peace and security agendas.

A number of systematic oversights regarding security issues were highlighted during the conference. These include:

- Lack of mention of arms control and non-proliferation in SCR 1325.
- Exclusive focus on traditional concepts of combatants in Demobilization, Disarmament and Reintegration (DDR) and Security Sector Reform (SSR) policies and processes.
- Lack of indicators to monitor arms control issues and security sector processes.
- Under-representation of women in decision-making positions within the security sector (uniformed officials, disarmament experts, etc.).

Each of these oversights is discussed in more detail below, along with strategies that conference speakers and delegates made for addressing them.

Lack of mention of arms control and non-proliferation in SCR 1325

SCR 1325 is thorough in both its recognition of the adverse effects of armed conflict on women and of the important role women have to play in the prevention, management and resolution of conflict. Yet, it completely ignores the issue of how violence is inflicted. There is no mention of arms control or non-proliferation in the mandates laid out within SCR 1325. In addition, disarmament is only mentioned in the context of DDR, ignoring categories of weapons such as weapons of mass destruction, land mines and cluster munitions.

In the absence of a framework in SCR 1325, the U.N. Department for Disarmament Affairs (UNDDA), now known as the U.N. Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), developed its own policies and pioneered the recognition of linkages between disarmament and gender equality.
Section IV: Crosscutting Issues

In 2001, the UNDDA issued six briefing notes that highlighted linkages between gender and weapons of mass destruction, women's advocacy for peace and disarmament, small arms and light weapons, DDR, land mines and disarmament and development. In 2003, the department took an additional step to develop a Gender Action Plan (GAP) – the first ever written in the U.N. Secretariat – with the overall objective of furthering progress in disarmament. The GAP is articulated around four sub-goals: explore the linkages between the promotion of greater gender equality and disarmament; strengthen UNDDA’s internal capacity to ensure the ongoing incorporation of gender perspectives into its work; undertake outreach and advocacy on the importance of including gender perspectives in disarmament discussions; and support equitable participation in disarmament discussions.

Despite the fact that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are inadequately addressed in the letter of SCR 1325, they are captured in the spirit of the resolution and therefore must be considered as critical in its implementation. The work of UNDDA establishes an exemplary model for how these issues can, and should, be addressed.

**Exclusive focus on traditional concepts of combatants in DDR and SSR policies and processes**

The oversight in linking arms control issues and gender extends beyond the policy realm to impact programming and reform. Among the proposed reasons for this is the misconception that simply because women do not carry guns, and are under-represented in defense institutions, they are not involved in war.

A recent study conducted by the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), “The Price of Peace: Financing Gender Equality in Post-Conflict Recovery and Reconstruction,” provides evidence from four post-conflict regions – Kosovo, Sierra Leone, south Sudan and East Timor – that DDR and SSR policies and processes have a significant impact on women’s security and resettlement, yet are undertaken as though women are irrelevant.

As Winnie Byanyima (UNDP) stated during her panel presentation, “I have been in a conflict. I participated in the different roles that you think of in a war – from being a cook, to being a driver, to being a community mobilizer, to being a diplomat, to being a negotiator, to sitting at a peace table and signing an agreement. … And so many women have played various roles: bringing food, nursing, caring, spying, concealing combatants. There are so many roles that women play in conflict, but they are completely ignored in DDR and SSR because women are not carrying guns.”

**Lack of indicators to monitor arms control issues and security sector processes**

In order to make progress in this arena, it is critical to provide evidence of the widespread and systematic gap in gender perspectives. However, this is currently impossible due to the lack of consistent indicators to monitor how sensitive (or insensitive) DDR and SSR processes are to gender concerns.

Despite the lack of universal indicators, IANSA and national/regional/local organizations have been pushing for the inclusion of arms control in SCR 1325 implementation and monitoring. The Philippines has established several indicators to monitor arms issues, including: arms treaties ratified and local
legislation passed; small arms legislation drafted and enacted; the number of loose arms confiscated, surrendered and destroyed; the number of individuals legally possessing small arms apprehended, prosecuted and penalized; and a system for registration of arms which includes legitimate neurological exams and seminars on human rights and women’s rights for gun owners.

Endorsement of the Secretary-General’s proposed indicators on SCR 1325 are important because they will establish a much-needed, universal information-gathering mechanism, thereby supplying the necessary evidence to push forward wider reform on gender and disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation.

Under-representation of women in decision-making positions within the security sector

Several conference delegates and speakers emphasized the fact that, although not a panacea, women’s involvement as decision makers in the security sector will positively impact the creation and implementation of policy in this arena. For this reason, the current under-representation of women involved in security operations – including as civilian police, peacekeepers and disarmament experts – must be remedied. Several women leaders in the security sector provided thorough evidence of the unique impact they, and other women, are having as well as described the existing challenges and strategies for addressing these challenges.

As mentioned earlier, Rakhi Sahi (U.N. Department of Safety and Security) illustrated for conference attendees the unique skills, capabilities and impact of women peacekeepers, specifically the all-female Indian Formed Police Unit, in Liberia. Doreen Malambo (formerly with the U.N. Mission in Liberia), Shubhra Tiwari (U.N. Mission in Sudan), and Asmahan Alawaishheh (U.N. Mission in Sudan) substantiated this information with descriptions of their own experiences in Liberia and Sudan. Examples of the positive impact of women’s involvement in peacekeeping missions extended from Alawaishheh’s role as a civil engineer implementing gender-sensitive building projects to the establishment of self-defense courses for girls in Liberia.

In addition to tangible impacts, there are the additional benefits of the positive role-modeling these women provide in the local community and beyond. In the context of diverse settings – from displaced populations to Muslim-majority countries – conference delegates and speakers pointed to the significant role women’s presence plays in building trust and confidence.

Speaking in reference to women’s involvement as decision makers in disarmament policies and programming, Agnès Marcaillou (U.N. Office for Disarmament Affairs) stated, “Women’s involvement will ultimately change the way countries go about international diplomacy and the creation of policy.”

In order for women to be involved in all aspects of the security sector’s policies and programming, structural changes must be implemented to facilitate participation. This includes educating women about weaponry as well as training top-level officials about the comparative advantage women offer; producing recruitment materials that are women-friendly; and restructuring welfare policies to address women’s unique accommodation needs and familial obligations. In addition, strong quota systems need to be enforced, thereby pressuring member states to include uniformed women in peacekeeping missions as well as in regional and national arms monitoring mechanisms.

For additional recommendations see “Women and Peacekeeping: Lessons Learned and Next Steps”
and “Agenda 2010 and Beyond for 1325 and Disarmament” in the Workshop Summaries and Recommendations section above.

Further progress depends on confronting the ideologies, as well as the policies and practices, which work against gender inclusion in security processes. The next phase of attention and activism rests in shifting defense and security sector institutions from unlikely partners to integral counterparts in implementing women, peace and security agendas.

### Engaging Men

SCR 1325’s mandate for the incorporation of gender perspectives in international peace and security cannot be actualized without men’s involvement. This includes acknowledging men’s unique gender experiences; addressing the construction of masculinity, particularly as it impacts the use of arms; and engaging men as important allies.

Conference delegates and speakers stressed the necessity to push beyond an exclusive focus on women and addressed not only the why of men’s involvement but also explored strategies of how to engage men and boys at various levels of influence, from grassroots actors to top-level officials.

One of the key recommendations that emerged during various conference discussions was the need to modify women, peace and security messaging in ways that emphasize its universal benefits and the opportunity SCR 1325 offers for mutual gains for both women and men.

Re-framing the women, peace and security agenda as a human security issue broadens its scope, appealing not only to the fulfillment of women’s rights but also to men’s unique wants and needs in conflict and post-conflict settings. As discussed in a previous section of this report, there is strong evidence to support the assertion that, when successfully implemented, the mandates of SCR 1325 positively impact entire communities, including women, men, girls and boys.

Men, like women, are not a homogeneous category. Engaging men in meaningful and sustainable ways requires acknowledging the multiplicity of their identities – for example across socio-economic, ethnic and religious categories – and recognizing that men, too, are adversely impacted by violence and at times suffer displacement, disempowerment and oppression.

Fostering men’s substantive involvement also requires challenging constructions of masculinity. This is particularly important in the process of confronting security concerns. The reality, particularly in
conflict and post-conflict settings, is that men’s sense of identity and societal worth is often hinged on violent behavior and destructive attitudes. In order to successfully address issues such as disarmament and arms control, it is critical to attend to both the demand for arms, which rests in part in the construction of masculinist identity, as well as the supply of arms.

Across varied cultural and conflict settings, good practices exist for how to engage men and how to articulate SCR 1325 in ways that speak to men and men’s concerns.

Among the many practical examples that emerged during the conference were:

- **“Grooming of Gender Champions”:** Build acceptance for gender policies by nurturing strong partnerships with individual men in leadership positions. These men can in turn act as powerful gender allies. For example, as was done in Kosovo, identify a senior level police officer and engage in individual dialogue with him on gender issues. Eventually, the officer in Kosovo became the chief of police and subsequently mandated gender training for the entire police force.

- **Youth Engagement:** Involve young people in positive activities, such as sports, that provide a forum for sensitizing youth on gender equality, decision making, leadership and the negative impacts of violence. Youth initiatives in Kenya and Uganda have been successful at convincing young people to refrain from violence and providing them with positive alternatives.

- **Media:** Target the local, national and regional media outlets to advance images of alternative masculinities, changing the image of what it means to be masculine, particularly in conflict and post-conflict settings.

- **Religious Leaders:** In societies where a significant reference point is religion, religious scholars and leaders, who are often primarily men, should be sensitized to women’s rights and gender issues. They can in turn play a significant role as reformers in the community. For example, mullahs can explain the Quran-based rights of women and girls with an emphasis on the religious obligation to respect these rights.

The challenges that exist in engaging men cannot be overlooked or minimized. For men to be successfully involved in peace and security agendas, it is critical to address the challenging issue of gender power imbalances as well as the, real and perceived, risk of resource diversion in gender approaches.

Ultimately, the onus rests on both women and men to develop the competency to meaningfully integrate gender perspectives into peace and security agendas.

**Justice**

Post-conflict and conflict settings present a unique opportunity to systemically prioritize gender justice. It is a chance to address widespread gender-based violence, sexual abuse and crimes against women and girls; hold individuals and governments accountable for such crimes and abuses; and formalize measures to incorporate the specific needs and rights of women and children in justice mechanisms.

In order for this to occur, women must be equal actors and beneficiaries in the process. The conference provided a forum for experts and

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A news board in Monrovia gives updates of Charles Taylor’s trial at the Special Court for Sierra Leone (Photo courtesy of AFRICOM)
practitioners to share insights and strategies on how best to do this, and what new approaches are needed to push gender justice forward.

At the highest levels of justice, the Rome Statute establishes a framework which ensures that institutional competence exists to implement the mandates laid out in SCR 1325, as well as in resolutions 1820, 1888 and 1889. The statute codifies sexual violence – rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, sterilization and trafficking – as war crimes, crimes against humanity and, in some cases, genocide. It also includes mechanisms to ensure that the International Criminal Court (ICC) is gender competent, including fair representation of men and women judges, legal expertise in violence against women and a gender legal advisor. As Brigid Inder (Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice) stated, “The framework provides a constant goal and benchmark to aspire to and to assess the court’s ability to deliver gender justice.”

The challenge rests in transforming this framework and its mandates into tangible outcomes.

According to conference speakers and delegates, among the critical issues that remain to be addressed in prioritizing gender justice are:

- Ending impunity for gender-based violence.
- Strengthening links between civil society and international justice mechanisms.
- Promoting reparation processes that are both victim-centered and gender-sensitive.

Each of these issues is elaborated upon below.

**Ending impunity for gender-based violence**

The victims expert for the Office of the Prosecutor at the ICC, Gloria Atiba-Davies, provided an in-depth look at the progress made by the office in regard to gender-based crimes since its inception, in 2003, as the first permanent international criminal court. Atiba-Davies explained that the “mandate of the ICC is to go up the chain of command to those most responsible – those who ordered or financed the commission of violence.” The current prosecutor, Luis Moreno-Ocampo, has initiated investigations related to sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), northern Uganda, Central African Republic, Darfur in Sudan and, most recently, Kenya.

Although this represents significant progress, widespread impunity for gender-based crimes at local, national and international levels continues to be pervasive. Based on data collected across various conflicts, UNIFEM asserts that sexual violence is the least condemned war crime. A powerful example of this is in Sierra Leone where combatants sexually assaulted 50,000 to 64,000 internally displaced women. Yet, in the Special Court for Sierra Leone only six decisions resulting in convictions were related to sexual violence.

As Maha Abu-Dayyeh (Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, Palestine) highlighted, “Justice does not exist until perpetrators are prosecuted and victims are compensated.”

**Strengthening links between civil society and international justice mechanisms**

One of the key recommendations for how to address this pervasive impunity is through more robust cooperation between civil society actors (international, national and community) and justice institutions. Atiba-Davies stressed this by explaining, “Cooperation from INGOs and NGOs that operate on the ground and interact with victims can help the Office of the Prosecutor transform the stories of victims into evidence. Without this kind of quality evidence, the Office of the Prosecutor cannot prove its case. And without convictions and strict punishment, the cycle of impunity for sexual violence will continue.”
An essential role civil society has played, and must continue to play, is in establishing the conditions for gender-inclusive truth telling. This includes building trust in war-torn communities, combating underreporting of sexual violence due to shame and guilt, and maintaining pressure so that sexual violence is not overshadowed by other human rights violations that are considered more significant.

The Rome Statute mandates not only that women have a legal right to be protected from sexual violence but also that victims have a right to reparations. By combining a tribunal – the ICC – with a reparatory mechanism – the Trust Fund for Victims – the Rome Statute establishes a significant role for victims in the judiciary process.

However, in this area as well, the hard work remains in aligning the principles of reparatory justice with its practices.

**Promoting reparation processes that are both victim-centered and gender-sensitive**

There is growing international consensus that justice for victims cannot be achieved without their direct involvement in the judiciary process. The question is how to go about effectively achieving this. Some of the persistent concerns include: how to include voices of victims in a court that is located in The Hague; how to provide reparations that are appropriate to social relations and sources of violence; how to protect the victims, and their families, who have testified; should reparations target victims individually or at a community level; and how can reparation systems meaningfully involve hundreds of thousands of victims.

In discussing victim-centered justice, the importance of justice as a process, not simply an outcome, repeatedly emerged. The Trust Fund for Victims’ experience in northern Uganda and the DRC has revealed that individuals who are treated with respect in procedural handlings are restored with a sense of dignity and are affirmed that their rightful place in society has been re-established. Oftentimes, symbolic reparations – in the form of a well-structured process, a sincere investment in relationship building or a representative acknowledgement of the loss incurred – are felt to be more meaningful than monetary compensation.

Integral to victim-centered processes are gender-sensitive mechanisms which acknowledge that violence impacts men and boys differently than it does women and girls, and therefore they often have different viewpoints on reparations and justice.

Input from justice experts in several conflict and post-conflict settings emphasized that a critical component of gender-sensitive approaches to procedural systems entails re-assessing the legal definition of sexual violence to capture the psychological as well as physical devastation it causes for women. In addition, both the
long-term trauma and the short-term wounds of sexual violence must be acknowledged. Reparation mechanisms should also take into account that redressing socioeconomic inequities empowers and protects women from exposure to further violence.

The work to be done in establishing gender justice is at an overwhelming scale and there are various elements that pose significant challenges. However, at the end of the day gender justice rests in guaranteeing a court of conscience – a justice system that integrates women’s voices, adheres to victim needs and holds perpetrators accountable. It is only through such justice that the unacceptability of gender-based violence and crimes against humanity will ultimately be solidified.

**Muslim Women: Bridging interpretations and implementation**

In the current global context, when discussing international law as it relates to women, peace and security, it is imperative to address the relevance and compatibility of SCR 1325 with Islamic laws.

Conference speakers and delegates strongly asserted that the laws said to be Islamic vary from one context to another and derive from diverse sources: religious, customary, colonial and secular. There is not one “Islamic” law. Furthermore, the compatibility of SCR 1325 with principles of Islam is a matter of interpretation.

Alternative – more progressive – interpretations of Islam have been used in various nation-states to achieve compatibility between shari’a law and constitutional systems. A similar strategy must be utilized to counter the conservative interpretations that appear to contradict the principles of SCR 1325.

Women in various Muslim-majority societies are making strides in a broader reform movement for social change. Some of their strategies include:

- Building relationships between secular and conservative organizations, establishing common cause on the basis of shared concerns that relate to women, peace and security.
- Drawing attention to precedent-setting Muslim women who are having significant impact on the well being of their community and nation.
- Engaging men, particularly religious leaders and community leaders, as important allies.
- Using the media as a tool for building awareness about the negative effects of gender bias on women and society as a whole.

Neither the spirit nor the logic of the recommendations laid out in SCR 1325 is fundamentally incompatible with Islamic law. The resolution – and women, peace and security agendas more broadly – needs to be contextualized to Islamic contexts, thereby bridging the secular and religious and highlighting the universality of its principles.
All of the recommendations and insights compiled in this report rely on on-going documentation of the unique experiences, valuable lessons learned and innovative solutions that are encompassed in a gender-inclusive approach to peace and security.

Documentation needs to be both qualitative and quantitative, capturing and conveying the full picture of what progress has been achieved and where additional pressure needs to be exerted. Both the process and outcomes of collecting data and capturing individuals’ stories form the backbone of change.

Among the key tools needed to ensure substantive information gathering is a universal set of indicators with benchmarks and corrective actions for each of the four pillars of 1325 – participation, prevention, protection and relief and recovery.

If adopted, the Secretary-General’s proposed indicators on SCR 1325 will facilitate a systematic collection of information about where we are, where we are going and how far we are from the goal. As Malika Bhandarkar (UNIFEM) explained, “It’s a powerful way to make sure people pay attention.”

### 1325 Indicators: Telling the Story of Women’s Participation

Indicators are important because they make it possible to tell a story of how each country is progressing toward full participation of women in peace and security processes.

- First, indicators can be used to count the participation of women in peace agreements.
- Second, they can assess if women are being heard, thereby providing the means to evaluate the gender impact of the articles and language in the agreement itself.
- Third, indicators make it possible to consider if a special measure that addresses women’s concerns is included in the accord and supported by sufficient budget allocations.
- Fourth, indicators can track if that money is actually spent on women’s protection and development, such as in temporary employment or reparations programs.
- Fifth, it is possible to discern if all of these efforts actually have an impact of women’s lives by using an index of physical security that is adapted for each country context and asks: Do women feel safer on the ground?

Conference speakers and delegates call for the endorsement of the Secretary-General’s proposed indicators on SCR 1325 in addition to a guarantee of the financial and technical resources necessary to ensure their full implementation. In putting these indicators into practice, it is critical that they are connected with existing mechanisms – such as human rights machinery and early warning systems – to ensure information yielded by the indicators is acted upon.

In addition to providing information that can propel progress on women, peace and security forward, documentation also ensures that other women, as well as the broader peace and security community, have applicable lessons to learn from. It cement women's rightful place in history as critical actors in conflict prevention and resolution, something that was not the case in the past – not because women were not involved but because their involvement was not adequately documented. As Julissa Mantilla Falcón (Pontifical Catholic University of Peru) said, “Without women’s truth the story is not complete.”

Experts and practitioners working in Muslim-majority countries stressed a specific need to assert a new narrative of women in Islam, one that counters interpretations of the Quran that permit men to
marginalize and oppress women. One way to do this is to provide both women and men with evidence of precedent-setting women in history and in current-day Islamic societies. Exploring the Quran's teaching – and lifting up representations of women associated with the Prophet who were intelligent, strong and in control – as well as documenting and highlighting the work of modern-day Muslim women who are having a critical influence in their own societies and internationally are essential tools to assist Muslim women in re-defining Islamic knowledge.

The process of collecting women's experiences and insights can be as important as the outcome. For women in conflict and post-conflict settings it can be the catalyst for transformative healing when they recount their stories and recognize that others care about their experiences. It assures women that the injustices they suffer as well as the resilience they display does not go unheeded.

**Women PeaceMakers Program – Documenting Women’s Stories and Best Practices**

For the realization of peace with justice, the voices of women – those severely affected by violent conflict and struggling courageously and creatively to build community from the devastation – must be recorded, disseminated and spotlighted.

Four peacemakers are selected each year to participate in an eight-week residency at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ), located on the University of San Diego campus in San Diego, California. The program pairs each peacemaker with a peace writer and a documentary film team to document her story and best practices.

In addition to narrative stories the following additional information is captured for each of the peacemakers, providing a deep understanding of the conflict and one person’s journey within it:

- Brief biography of the peacemakers.
- Historical summary of the conflict.
- Timeline integrating political developments in the country with personal history of the peacemakers.
- Question-and-answer transcript of select interviews.
- Table of best practices in peacebuilding as demonstrated and reflected on by the peacemakers during their time at the IPJ.

All narratives are available for download on the website of the Institute for Peace & Justice at www.sandiego.edu/peacestudies/ipj/programs/women_peace_makers/publications/narratives/

In the documentation process, it is not only written words that matter. Cultural initiatives, artistic practices and “symbolic language” – such as photography, dance, music and weaving – represent equally as valid and important means of building a repository of information.

It is said that observing a phenomenon changes the phenomenon. By not only systematically observing but also diligently recording the unique experiences, valuable lessons learned and innovative solutions that are encompassed in a gender-inclusive approach to peace and security, we will establish the much-needed inventory of where we have come from and where we have yet to go.
Conclusion

After 10 years of advocacy and programming on the participation of women at all levels of decision making; the protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence; the prevention of violence against women through the promotion of women's rights, accountability and law enforcement; and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives in peace operations, it should be a given that international peace and security is inextricably linked with gender.

However, as this conference title indicates, there has only been precarious progress in achieving this. The conference working sessions elucidated the reality that, over the past 10 years, the responsibility to transform women, peace and security policies into practice has rested primarily on civil society actors, and more specifically on women civil society actors. Civil society is an indispensable resource – and one that requires additional and more robust financing and support. However, it is critical to ensure a more integrated and inclusive approach to empowering and protecting women in conflict situations, as well as to advancing preventive approaches and accountability platforms. The responsibility of protection, participation and prevention must be shared.

“Ten years ago, women breached the walls of the Security Council. In the last 10 years, the United Nations has thrown things back into our space. Now we want to push it back into the middle where we can deal with these issues together.” – Sanam Anderlini

In order to effectively hold governments, institutions and international actors accountable to their mandates under SCR 1325, it is necessary to strengthen cross-sector and cross-agency collaboration. In addition to building a stronger partnership between civil society, government and U.N. structures, it is also important to leverage complementary frameworks.

One of the most effectual ways to achieve a comprehensive women, peace and security agenda is to establish a robust, fully integrated peace and security unit within UN Women. This will facilitate the monitoring of mandates and initiatives impacting women across sectors and institutions; streamline the process of requiring gender-responsive budgeting, thereby addressing the persistent shortfall in the financing of women's needs in post-conflict recovery plans and post-conflict DDR programs; and create a framework within which “traditionally women-led” institutions (those focused on youth, health, etc.) can be linked with broader security policies and mechanisms.

In addition, the complementary nature of various existing mechanisms – including the Responsibility to Protect – with women, peace and security agendas must be leveraged in moving forward. The strength of each of these frameworks, and their ability to achieve their stated goals, all of which aim to prevent and halt the adverse impacts of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, rests in collaborative action.

Advocates at all levels, inside and outside of the United Nations, must take visible action to build on the essential work that has been done in the past 10 years to chart a new, more comprehensive way forward, promoting and reinforcing the strategies that have proven effective, while at the same time broadening the scope of SCR 1325, and its complementary resolutions, to maintain and promote international peace and security. At the core of this must be a paradigm shift that recognizes the essential inter-linkages between global security and broader gender perspectives.
Section V: Conference Statement


Agreeing that there must be a more integrated and inclusive approach to manifesting concrete, measurable and positive action to empower and protect women in conflict situations, as well as to advance preventive approaches and accountability platforms, representatives from within U.N. agencies, INGOs, local organizations, institutions and governments convened to bring their experience, good practices and challenges forward to propose more comprehensive approaches to fulfill the U.N. Security Council Resolutions on women, peace and security.

More than 175 women and men with extensive peace and security experience from over 47 countries – including U.N. officials, peace mediators, police and security officers, female peacekeepers, government officials, directors of national and international organizations, judges and attorneys, technical advisors, scholars and policy experts – were in attendance. The convening was an extraordinary indication of the depth of gender expertise available to advance global security in the midst of the current increasing acts of terrorism, on-going government instability and changing perceptions of security.

On the basis of the forthright input gathered during this conference on progress achieved and systematic gaps to be addressed, and in recognition of the 10th anniversary of Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325, conveners call on all relevant actors to heed the following actionable recommendations, recognizing that unless and until these points are taken into account and expanded upon, any investment in peace and security will be both inefficient and insufficient.

**Essential Next Steps**

- Robust support for the establishment of a peace and security unit within a strong, well-funded UN Women.
- Guarantee of more effective prosecutions and accountability for gender-based violence domestically and through regional bodies and the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- Assurance of U.N. appointment of a woman as chief mediator to peace talks within the next 18 months.

The groundwork for the above-stated essential next steps has been laid. Thanks to the committed work of individuals, organizations and institutions, model frameworks, approaches and tools exist. However, these good practices need promotion and reinforcement. Advocates both inside and outside of the United Nations must take visible action for results.
Advancing Model Approaches and Frameworks

- Re-commit to women’s greater participation in peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding activities.
  
  • Good practice: The all-female Indian Formed Police Unit (FPU) peacekeeping unit in Liberia displayed unique and essential competencies, including exemplary communication skills and accountable policing, which provide strong empirical evidence for the importance of women’s presence within the civilian, military and police components of U.N. peacekeeping missions.

- Endorse the Secretary-General’s proposed indicators on SCR 1325, a guarantee of financial and technical resources necessary for their full implementation and the establishment of linkages with existing mechanisms, such as human rights machinery and early warning systems, to ensure information yielded by these indicators is acted upon.
  
  • Good practice: We endorse the approach outlined by the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security in its “Comprehensive and Transparent System of Implementation for the United Nations’ Obligations on Women, Peace and Security.”

- Create criteria to ensure gender competence and expertise in decision-making bodies on security issues.
  
  • Good practice: The Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice provides an exemplary mechanism that reviews the election of judges, the chief prosecutor and deputy prosecutors to the ICC, to assess their gender competence and thereby advance gender-inclusive justice.

- Strengthen cross-sector and cross-agency collaboration, recognizing the inter-linkages and complementary nature between protection, participation and prevention frameworks.
  
  • Good practice: The International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect advocates for the inclusion of gender-based violence in existing frameworks to prevent and halt genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

- Provide robust funding for ground-level civil society actors, acknowledging the essential roles of community-based, gender-focused initiatives.
  
  • Good practice: Acknowledging the challenge of mobilizing financing for women’s rights work, the Open Society Foundation supported several funds around the world in an effort to increase resources for programs benefiting women and girls.

- Assure a gender dimension in reparations, including addressing the social relations and sources of violence in a gender-sensitive and gender-inclusive manner.
  
  • Good practice: The Trust Fund for Victims (TFV) implements ICC-ordered reparations utilizing a holistic approach, which addresses individual and collective needs and recognizes that victim involvement constitutes a valuable component of reparatory packages.

- Recognize the need to control the tools of violence, specifically small arms and light weapons, in order to guarantee peace and security.
• Good practice: Recognizing that circulation, proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons sustain conflict and prohibit peace, the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) addresses the multi-dimensional issues of arms control, including its gender implications.

- Systematically challenge behaviors and cultural norms that oppress women and violate international law.

• Good practice: Women in Muslim-majority societies are bridging interpretations and implementations of laws and customs said to derive from Islam with SCR 1325, thereby opening new opportunities for women, specifically in the security sector.

- Establish mechanisms for engaging men, in particular articulating how SCR 1325 speaks to men and men’s concerns.

• Good practice: Organizations in Kenya and Uganda model a “grooming of gender champions” approach, ensuring accountability to gender policies and strategies by nurturing strong partnerships with men in leadership positions.

On behalf of collaborating organizations and delegates, we, as co-conveners, affirm and demand that all relevant actors charged with turning SCR 1325 and sister resolutions 1820, 1888 and 1889 into policies take account of these essential next steps, and existing good practices, in their deliberations, planning and promotion of a new decade and vision for engendered peacebuilding and peacekeeping.

Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice
UNIFEM
IANSA
Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice
NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security
RESOLUTION 1325

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4213th meeting, on 31 October 2000

The Security Council,


Recalling also the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the twenty-first century” (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Expressing concern that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and increasingly are targeted by combatants and armed elements, and recognizing the consequent impact this has on durable peace and reconciliation,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

Reaffirming also the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts,

Emphasizing the need for all parties to ensure that mine clearance and mine awareness programmes take into account the special needs of women and girls,

Recognizing the urgent need to mainstream a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and in this regard noting the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of Action on Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective in Multidimensional Peace Support Operations (S/2000/693),

Recognizing also the importance of the recommendation contained in the statement of its President to the press of 8 March 2000 for specialized training for all peacekeeping personnel on the protection, special needs and human rights of women and children in conflict situations,

Recognizing that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

Noting the need to consolidate data on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls,

1. Urges Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict;

2. Encourages the Secretary-General to implement his strategic plan of action (A/49/587) calling for an increase in the participation of women at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes;

3. Urges the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, and in this regard calls on Member States to provide candidates to the
Secretary-General, for inclusion in a regularly updated centralized roster;

4. *Further urges* the Secretary-General to seek to expand the role and contribution of women in United Nations field-based operations, and especially among military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel;

5. *Expresses* its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that, where appropriate, field operations include a gender component;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide to Member States training guidelines and materials on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women, as well as on the importance of involving women in all peacekeeping and peace-building measures, *invites* Member States to incorporate these elements as well as HIV/AIDS awareness training into their national training programmes for military and civilian police personnel in preparation for deployment and further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that civilian personnel of peacekeeping operations receive similar training;

7. *Urges* Member States to increase their voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for gender-sensitive training efforts, including those undertaken by relevant funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Fund for Women and United Nations Children’s Fund, and by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant bodies;

8. *Calls on* all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia: (a) The special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction; (b) Measures that support local women’s peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution, and that involve women in all of the implementation mechanisms of the peace agreements; (c) Measures that ensure the protection of and respect for human rights of women and girls, particularly as they relate to the constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judiciary;


10. *Calls on* all parties to armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict;

11. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes including those relating to sexual violence against women and girls, and in this regard, *stresses* the need to exclude these crimes, where feasible from amnesty provisions;

12. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and to take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including in their design, and *recalls* its resolution 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998;

13. *Encourages* all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to consider the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and to *take into account* the needs of their dependants;

14. *Reaffirms* its readiness, whenever measures are adopted under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to give consideration to their potential impact on the civilian population, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls, in order to *consider* appropriate humanitarian exemptions;

15. *Expresses* its willingness to ensure that Security Council missions take into account gender
considerations and the rights of women, including through consultation with local and international women’s groups;

16. *Invites* the Secretary-General to carry out a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peace-building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution, and further *invites* him to submit a report to the Security Council on the results of this study and to make this available to all Member States of the United Nations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to include in his reporting to the Security Council, progress on gender mainstreaming throughout peacekeeping missions and all other aspects relating to women and girls;

18. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.
Adopted by the Security Council at its 5916th meeting, on 19 June 2008

RESOLUTION 1820

The Security Council,


Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including by ending impunity and by ensuring the protection of civilians, in particular women and girls, during and after armed conflicts, in accordance with the obligations States have undertaken under international humanitarian law and international human rights law;


Reaffirming also the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

Noting that civilians account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict; that women and girls are particularly targeted by the use of sexual violence, including as a tactic of war to humiliate, dominate, instill fear in, disperse and/or forcibly relocate civilian members of a community or ethnic group; and that sexual violence perpetrated in this manner may in some instances persist after the cessation of hostilities;

Recalling its condemnation in the strongest terms of all sexual and other forms of violence committed against civilians in armed conflict, in particular women and children;

Reiterating deep concern that, despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children in situations of armed conflict, including sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic and widespread, reaching appalling levels of brutality,

Recalling the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offences in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

Deeply concerned also about the persistent obstacles and challenges to women’s participation and full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts as a result of violence, intimidation and discrimination, which erode women’s capacity and legitimacy to participate in post-conflict public life,
and acknowledging the negative impact this has on durable peace, security and reconciliation, including post-conflict peacebuilding,

Recognizing that States bear primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law,

Reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians,

Welcoming the ongoing coordination of efforts within the United Nations system, marked by the inter-agency initiative “United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict,” to create awareness about sexual violence in armed conflicts and post-conflict situations and, ultimately, to put an end to it,

1. Stresses that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security, affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to, where necessary, adopt appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence;

2. Demands the immediate and complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence against civilians with immediate effect;

3. Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence, which could include, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence, vetting armed and security forces to take into account past actions of rape and other forms of sexual violence, and evacuation of women and children under imminent threat of sexual violence to safety; and requests the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to encourage dialogue to address this issue in the context of broader discussions of conflict resolution between appropriate UN officials and the parties to the conflict, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by women of affected local communities;

4. Notes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes, and calls upon Member States to comply with their obligations for prosecuting persons responsible for such acts, to ensure that all victims of sexual violence, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and stresses the importance of ending impunity for such acts as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking sustainable peace, justice, truth, and national reconciliation;

5. Affirms its intention, when establishing and renewing state-specific sanctions regimes, to take into consideration the appropriateness of targeted and graduated measures against parties to situations of armed conflict who commit rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in situations of armed conflict;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group and relevant States, as appropriate, to develop and implement appropriate training programs for all peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed by the United Nations in the context of missions as mandated by the Council to help them better prevent, recognize and respond to sexual violence and other forms of violence against civilians;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and urges troop and police contributing countries to take appropriate preventative action, including pre-deployment and in-theater awareness training, and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

8. Encourages troop and police contributing countries, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to
consider steps they could take to heighten awareness and the responsiveness of their personnel participating in UN peacekeeping operations to protect civilians, including women and children, and prevent sexual violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including wherever possible the deployment of a higher percentage of women peacekeepers or police;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to develop effective guidelines and strategies to enhance the ability of relevant UN peacekeeping operations, consistent with their mandates, to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence and to systematically include in his written reports to the Council on conflict situations his observations concerning the protection of women and girls and recommendations in this regard;

10. Requests the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations agencies, inter alia, through consultation with women and women-led organizations as appropriate, to develop effective mechanisms for providing protection from violence, including in particular sexual violence, to women and girls in and around UN managed refugee and internally displaced persons camps, as well as in all disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes, and in justice and security sector reform efforts assisted by the United Nations;

11. Stresses the important role the Peacebuilding Commission can play by including in its advice and recommendations for post-conflict peacebuilding strategies, where appropriate, ways to address sexual violence committed during and in the aftermath of armed conflict, and in ensuring consultation and effective representation of women’s civil society in its country-specific configurations, as part of its wider approach to gender issues;

12. Urges the Secretary-General and his Special Envoys to invite women to participate in discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding, and encourages all parties to such talks to facilitate the equal and full participation of women at decision-making levels;

13. Urges all parties concerned, including Member States, United Nations entities and financial institutions, to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular of judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to victims of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

14. Urges appropriate regional and sub-regional bodies in particular to consider developing and implementing policies, activities, and advocacy for the benefit of women and girls affected by sexual violence in armed conflict;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council by 30 June 2009 on the implementation of this resolution in the context of situations which are on the agenda of the Council, utilizing information from available United Nations sources, including country teams, peacekeeping operations, and other United Nations personnel, which would include, inter alia, information on situations of armed conflict in which sexual violence has been widely or systematically employed against civilians; analysis of the prevalence and trends of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict; proposals for strategies to minimize the susceptibility of women and girls to such violence; benchmarks for measuring progress in preventing and addressing sexual violence; appropriate input from United Nations implementing partners in the field; information on his plans for facilitating the collection of timely, objective, accurate, and reliable information on the use of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, including through improved coordination of UN activities on the ground and at Headquarters; and information on actions taken by parties to armed conflict to implement their responsibilities as described in this resolution, in particular by immediately and completely ceasing all acts of sexual violence and in taking appropriate measures to protect women and girls from all forms of sexual violence;

16. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
Adopted by the Security Council at its 6195th meeting, on 30 September 2009*

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008) and 1882 (2009) and all relevant statements of its President,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 16 July 2009 (S/2009/362), but remaining deeply concerned over the lack of progress on the issue of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict in particular against women and children, notably against girls, and noting as documented in the Secretary-General’s report that sexual violence occurs in armed conflicts throughout the world,

Reiterating deep concern that, despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children including all forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic or widespread,


Reaffirming the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

Recalling that international humanitarian law affords general protection to women and children as part of the civilian population during armed conflicts and special protection due to the fact that they can be placed particularly at risk,

Recalling the responsibilities of States to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other egregious crimes perpetrated against civilians, and in this regard, noting with concern that only limited numbers of perpetrators of sexual violence have been brought to justice, while recognizing that in conflict and in post conflict situations national justice systems may be significantly weakened,

Reaffirming that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent future such abuses, drawing attention to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms to be considered, including national, international and “mixed” criminal courts and tribunals and truth and reconciliation commissions, and noting that such mechanisms can promote not only individual responsibility for serious crimes, but also peace, truth, reconciliation and the rights of the victims,

Recalling the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offences in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

Stressing the necessity for all States and non-State parties to conflicts to comply fully with their obligations under applicable international law, including the prohibition on all forms of sexual violence,

Recognizing the need for civilian and military leaders, consistent with the principle of command responsibility, to demonstrate commitment and political will to prevent sexual violence and to combat impunity and enforce accountability, and that inaction can send a message that the incidence of sexual violence in conflicts is tolerated,

Emphasizing the importance of addressing sexual violence issues from the outset of peace processes and mediation efforts, in order to protect populations at risk and promote full stability, in particular in

*Reissued for technical reasons on 22 June 2010.
the areas of pre-ceasefire humanitarian access and human rights agreements, ceasefires and ceasefire monitoring, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), Security Sector Reform (SSR) arrangements, justice and reparations, post-conflict recovery and development,

Noting with concern the underrepresentation of women in formal peace processes, the lack of mediators and ceasefire monitors with proper training in dealing with sexual violence, and the lack of women as Chief or Lead peace mediators in United Nations-sponsored peace talks,

Recognizing that the promotion and empowerment of women and that support for women’s organizations and networks are essential in the consolidation of peace to promote the equal and full participation of women and encouraging Member States, donors, and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide support in this respect,

Welcoming the inclusion of women in peacekeeping missions in civil, military and police functions, and recognizing that women and children affected by armed conflict may feel more secure working with and reporting abuse to women in peacekeeping missions, and that the presence of women peacekeepers may encourage local women to participate in the national armed and security forces, thereby helping to build a security sector that is accessible and responsive to all, especially women,

Welcoming the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to develop gender guidelines for military personnel in peacekeeping operations to facilitate the implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), and operational guidance to assist civilian, military and police components of peacekeeping missions to effectively implement resolution 1820 (2008),

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 16 July 2009 (S/2009/362) and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General’s report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudge the legal status of the non-State parties involved in these situations,

Recalling the Council’s decision in resolution 1882 of 4 August 2009 (S/RES/1882) to expand the Annexed list in the Secretary General’s annual report on Children and Armed Conflict of parties in situations of armed conflict engaged in the recruitment or use of children in violation of international law to also include those parties to armed conflict that engage, in contravention of applicable international law, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, in situations of armed conflict,

Noting the role currently assigned to the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues to monitor implementation of resolution 1325 and to promote gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, women’s empowerment and gender equality, and expressing the importance of effective coordination within the United Nations system in these areas,

Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law,

Reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians,

Reiterating its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this connection, its commitment to continue to address the widespread impact of armed conflict on civilians, including with regard to sexual violence,

1. Reaffirms that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security; affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security; and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to take, where necessary, appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence in situations of armed conflict;
2. **Reiterates** its demand for the complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence with immediate effect;

3. **Demands** that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and children, from all forms of sexual violence, including measures such as, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence and vetting candidates for national armies and security forces to ensure the exclusion of those associated with serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including sexual violence;

4. **Requests** that the United Nations Secretary-General appoint a Special Representative to provide coherent and strategic leadership, to work effectively to strengthen existing United Nations coordination mechanisms, and to engage in advocacy efforts, inter alia with governments, including military and judicial representatives, as well as with all parties to armed conflict and civil society, in order to address, at both headquarters and country level, sexual violence in armed conflict, while promoting cooperation and coordination of efforts among all relevant stakeholders, primarily through the inter-agency initiative “United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict”;

5. **Encourages** the entities comprising UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to support the work of the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General and to continue and enhance cooperation and information sharing among all relevant stakeholders in order to reinforce coordination and avoid overlap at the headquarters and country levels and improve system-wide response;

6. **Urges** States to undertake comprehensive legal and judicial reforms, as appropriate, in conformity with international law, without delay and with a view to bringing perpetrators of sexual violence in conflicts to justice and to ensuring that survivors have access to justice, are treated with dignity throughout the justice process and are protected and receive redress for their suffering;

7. **Urges** all parties to a conflict to ensure that all reports of sexual violence committed by civilians or by military personnel are thoroughly investigated and the alleged perpetrators brought to justice, and that civilian superiors and military commanders, in accordance with international humanitarian law, use their authority and powers to prevent sexual violence, including by combating impunity;

8. **Calls upon** the Secretary-General to identify and take the appropriate measures to deploy rapidly a team of experts to situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict, working through the United Nations presence on the ground and with the consent of the host government, to assist national authorities to strengthen the rule of law, and recommends making use of existing human resources within the United Nations system and voluntary contributions, drawing upon requisite expertise, as appropriate, in the rule of law, civilian and military judicial systems, mediation, criminal investigation, security sector reform, witness protection, fair trial standards, and public outreach; to, inter alia:

   (a) Work closely with national legal and judicial officials and other personnel in the relevant governments’ civilian and military justice systems to address impunity, including by the strengthening of national capacity, and drawing attention to the full range of justice mechanisms to be considered;

   (b) Identify gaps in national response and encourage a holistic national approach to address sexual violence in armed conflict, including by enhancing criminal accountability, responsiveness to victims, and judicial capacity;

   (c) Make recommendations to coordinate domestic and international efforts and resources to reinforce the government’s ability to address sexual violence in armed conflict;

   (d) Work with the United Nations Mission, Country Team, and the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General as appropriate towards the full implementation of the measures called for by resolution 1820 (2008);

9. **Encourages** States, relevant United Nations entities and civil society, as appropriate, to provide
assistance in close cooperation with national authorities to build national capacity in the judicial and law enforcement systems in situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict;

10. Reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including, where appropriate, designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence; and calls upon all peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions and United Nations bodies, in particular the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, to share with relevant United Nations Security Council sanctions committees, including through relevant United Nations Security Council Sanction Committees’ monitoring groups and groups of experts, all pertinent information about sexual violence;

11. Expresses its intention to ensure that resolutions to establish or renew peacekeeping mandates contain provisions, as appropriate, on the prevention of, and response to, sexual violence, with corresponding reporting requirements to the Council;

12. Decides to include specific provisions, as appropriate, for the protection of women and children from rape and other sexual violence in the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping operations, including, on a case-by-case basis, the identification of women’s protection advisers (WPAs) among gender advisers and human rights protection units, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the need for, and the number and roles of WPAs are systematically assessed during the preparation of each United Nations peacekeeping operation;

13. Encourages States, with the support of the international community, to increase access to health care, psychosocial support, legal assistance and socio economic reintegration services for victims of sexual violence, in particular in rural areas;

14. Expresses its intention to make better usage of periodical field visits to conflict areas, through the organization of interactive meetings with the local women and women’s organizations in the field about the concerns and needs of women in areas of armed conflict;

15. Encourages leaders at the national and local level, including traditional leaders where they exist and religious leaders, to play a more active role in sensitizing communities on sexual violence to avoid marginalization and stigmatization of victims, to assist with their social reintegration, and to combat a culture of impunity for these crimes;

16. Urges the Secretary General, Member States and the heads of regional organizations to take measures to increase the representation of women in mediation processes and decision-making processes with regard to conflict resolution and peacebuilding;

17. Urges that issues of sexual violence be included in all United Nations-sponsored peace negotiation agendas, and also urges inclusion of sexual violence issues from the outset of peace processes in such situations, in particular in the areas of pre-ceasefires, humanitarian access and human rights agreements, ceasefires and ceasefire monitoring, DDR and SSR arrangements, vetting of armed and security forces, justice, reparations, and recovery/development;

18. Reaffirms the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in promoting inclusive gender-based approaches to reducing instability in post-conflict situations, noting the important role of women in rebuilding society, and urges the Peacebuilding Commission to encourage all parties in the countries on its agenda to incorporate and implement measures to reduce sexual violence in post-conflict strategies;

19. Encourages Member States to deploy greater numbers of female military and police personnel to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training to carry out their responsibilities;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that technical support is provided to troop and police contributing countries, in order to include guidance for military and police personnel on addressing sexual violence in predeployment and induction training;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations; and urges troop and police contributing countries to take appropriate preventative action, including predeployment and
in-theater awareness training, and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

22. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to direct all relevant United Nations entities to take specific measures to ensure systematic mainstreaming of gender issues within their respective institutions, including by ensuring allocation of adequate financial and human resources within all relevant offices and departments and on the ground, as well as to strengthen, within their respective mandates, their cooperation and coordination when addressing the issue of sexual violence in armed conflict;

23. Urges relevant Special Representatives and the Emergency Relief Coordinator of the Secretary-General, with strategic and technical support from the UN Action network, to work with Member States to develop joint Government-United Nations Comprehensive Strategies to Combat Sexual Violence, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, and to regularly provide updates on this in their standard reporting to Headquarters;

24. Requests that the Secretary-General ensure more systematic reporting on incidents of trends, emerging patterns of attack, and early warning indicators of the use of sexual violence in armed conflict in all relevant reports to the Council, and encourages the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, and the Chairperson(s) of UN Action to provide, in coordination with the aforementioned Special Representative, additional briefings and documentation on sexual violence in armed conflict to the Council;

25. Requests the Secretary-General to include, where appropriate, in his regular reports on individual peacekeeping operations, information on steps taken to implement measures to protect civilians, particularly women and children, against sexual violence;

26. Requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the proposals contained in his report as well as any other relevant elements, to devise urgently and preferably within three months, specific proposals on ways to ensure monitoring and reporting in a more effective and efficient way within the existing United Nations system on the protection of women and children from rape and other sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, utilizing expertise from the United Nations system and the contributions of national Governments, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations in their advisory capacity and various civil society actors, in order to provide timely, objective, accurate and reliable information on gaps in United Nations entities response, for consideration in taking appropriate action;

27. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of Resolution 1820 (2008) and to submit his next report by September of 2010 on the implementation of this resolution and Resolution 1820 (2008) to include, inter alia:

(a) a detailed coordination and strategy plan on the timely and ethical collection of information;

(b) updates on efforts by United Nations Mission focal points on sexual violence to work closely with the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), the United Nations Country Team, and, where appropriate, the aforementioned Special Representative and/or the Team of Experts, to address sexual violence;

(c) information regarding parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing patterns of rape or other forms of sexual violence, in situations that are on the Council’s agenda;

28. Decides to review, taking into account the process established by General Assembly resolution 63/311 regarding a United Nations composite gender entity, the mandates of the Special Representative requested in operative paragraph 4 and the Team of Experts in operative paragraph 8 within two years, and as appropriate thereafter;

29. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009) and all relevant Statements of its Presidents,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and bearing in mind the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,


Having considered the report of the Secretary General (S/2009/465) of 16 September 2009 and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General’s report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudice the legal status of the non-State parties involved in these situations,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States in implementing its resolution 1325 (2000) at the national level, including the development of national action plans, and encouraging Member States to continue to pursue such implementation,

Reiterating the need for the full, equal and effective participation of women at all stages of peace processes given their vital role in the prevention and resolution of conflict and peacebuilding, reaffirming the key role women can play in re-establishing the fabric of recovering society and stressing the need for their involvement in the development and implementation of post-conflict strategies in order to take into account their perspectives and needs,

Expressing deep concern about the under-representation of women at all stages of peace processes, particularly the very low numbers of women in formal roles in mediation processes and stressing the need to ensure that women are appropriately appointed at decision-making levels, as high level mediators, and within the composition of the mediators’ teams,

Remaining deeply concerned about the persistent obstacles to women’s full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and participation in postconflict public life, as a result of violence and intimidation, lack of security and lack of rule of law, cultural discrimination and stigmatization, including the rise of extremist or fanatical views on women, and socio-economic factors including the lack of access to education, and in this respect, recognizing that the marginalization of women can delay or undermine the achievement of durable peace, security and reconciliation,

Recognizing the particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including, inter alia, physical security, health services including reproductive and mental health, ways to ensure their livelihoods, land and property rights, employment, as well as their participation in decision-making and postconflict planning, particularly at early stages of post-conflict peacebuilding,

Noting that despite progress, obstacles to strengthening women’s participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding remain, expressing concern that women’s capacity to engage in
public decision making and economic recovery often does not receive adequate recognition or financing in post-conflict situations, and underlining that funding for women's early recovery needs is vital to increase women's empowerment, which can contribute to effective post-conflict peacebuilding.

Noting that women in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict situations continue to be often considered as victims and not as actors in addressing and resolving situations of armed conflict and stressing the need to focus not only on protection of women but also on their empowerment in peacebuilding,

Recognizing that an understanding of the impact of situations of armed conflict on women and girls, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, adequate and rapid response to their particular needs, and effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process, particularly at early stages of post-conflict peacebuilding, can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

Welcoming the United Nations initiative to develop a system similar to that pioneered by the United Nations Development Programme to allow decision-makers to track gender-related allocations in United Nations Development Group Multi-Donor Trust Funds,

Welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to appoint more women to senior United Nations positions, particularly in field missions, as a tangible step towards providing United Nations leadership on implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000),

Welcoming the upcoming establishment of a United Nations Steering Committee to enhance visibility and strengthen coordination within the United Nations system regarding the preparations for the 10th anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000),

Encouraging relevant actors to organize events during 2009-2010 at the global, regional and national levels to increase awareness about resolution 1325 (2000), including ministerial events, to renew commitments to “Women and peace and security”, and to identify ways to address remaining and new challenges in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) in the future,

1. Urges Member States, international and regional organisations to take further measures to improve women's participation during all stages of peace processes, particularly in conflict resolution, post-conflict planning and peacebuilding, including by enhancing their engagement in political and economic decision-making at early stages of recovery processes, through inter alia promoting women's leadership and capacity to engage in aid management and planning, supporting women's organizations, and countering negative societal attitudes about women's capacity to participate equally;

2. Reiterates its call for all parties in armed conflicts to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls;

3. Strongly condemns all violations of applicable international law committed against women and girls in situations of armed conflicts and post-conflict situations, demands all parties to conflicts to cease such acts with immediate effect, and emphasizes the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for all forms of violence committed against women and girls in armed conflicts, including rape and other sexual violence;

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to develop a strategy, including through appropriate training, to increase the number of women appointed to pursue good offices on his behalf, particularly as Special Representatives and Special Envoys, and to take measures to increase women's participation in United Nations political, peacebuilding and peacekeeping missions;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all country reports to the Security Council provide information on the impact of situations of armed conflict on women and girls, their particular needs in post-conflict situations and obstacles to attaining those needs;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that relevant United Nations bodies, in cooperation with Member States and civil society, collect data on, analyze and systematically assess particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including, inter alia, information on their needs for physical security and participation in decision-making and post-conflict planning, in order to improve system-wide response to those needs;
7. Expresses its intention, when establishing and renewing the mandates of United Nations missions, to include provisions on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in post-conflict situations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue, as appropriate, to appoint gender advisors and/or women-protection advisors to United Nations missions and asks them, in cooperation with United Nations Country Teams, to render technical assistance and improved coordination efforts to address recovery needs of women and girls in postconflict situations;

8. Urges Member States to ensure gender mainstreaming in all post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery processes and sectors;

9. Urges Member States, United Nations bodies, donors and civil society to ensure that women’s empowerment is taken into account during post-conflict needs assessments and planning, and factored into subsequent funding disbursements and programme activities, including through developing transparent analysis and tracking of funds allocated for addressing women’s needs in the post-conflict phase;

10. Encourages Member States in post-conflict situations, in consultation with civil society, including women’s organizations, to specify in detail women and girls’ needs and priorities and design concrete strategies, in accordance with their legal systems, to address those needs and priorities, which cover inter alia support for greater physical security and better socio-economic conditions, through education, income generating activities, access to basic services, in particular health services, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights and mental health, gender-responsive law enforcement and access to justice, as well as enhancing capacity to engage in public decision-making at all levels;

11. Urges Member States, United Nations bodies and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to take all feasible measures to ensure women and girls’ equal access to education in post-conflict situations, given the vital role of education in the promotion of women’s participation in post-conflict decision-making;

12. Calls upon all parties to armed conflicts to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and ensure the protection of all civilians inhabiting such camps, in particular women and girls, from all forms of violence, including rape and other sexual violence, and to ensure full, unimpeded and secure humanitarian access to them;

13. Calls upon all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to take into account particular needs of women and girls associated with armed forces and armed groups and their children, and provide for their full access to these programmes;

14. Encourages the Peacebuilding Commission and Peacebuilding Support Office to continue to ensure systematic attention to and mobilisation of resources for advancing gender equality and women’s empowerment as an integral part of postconflict peacebuilding, and to encourage the full participation of women in this process;

15. Request the Secretary-General, in his agenda for action to improve the United Nations’ peacebuilding efforts, to take account of the need to improve the participation of women in political and economic decision-making from the earliest stages of the peacebuilding process;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure full transparency, cooperation and coordination of efforts between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on sexual violence and armed conflict whose appointment has been requested by its resolution 1888 (2009);

17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Security Council within 6 months, for consideration, a set of indicators for use at the global level to track implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000), which could serve as a common basis for reporting by relevant United Nations entities, other international and regional organizations, and Member States, on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in 2010 and beyond;

18. Requests the Secretary-General, within the report requested in S/PRST/2007/40, to also include a review of progress in the implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000), an assessment of the processes by which the Security Council receives, analyses and takes action on information pertinent to resolution
1325 (2000), recommendations on further measures to improve coordination across the United Nations system, and with Member States and civil society to deliver implementation, and data on women’s participation in United Nations missions;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Security Council within 12 months on addressing women’s participation and inclusion in peacebuilding and planning in the aftermath of conflict, taking into consideration the views of the Peacebuilding Commission and to include, inter alia:
   a. Analysis on the particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations,
   b. Challenges to women’s participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding and gender mainstreaming in all early post-conflict planning, financing and recovery processes,
   c. Measures to support national capacity in planning for and financing responses to the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations,
   d. Recommendations for improving international and national responses to the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including the development of effective financial and institutional arrangements to guarantee women’s full and equal participation in the peacebuilding process,

20. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS, MODERATORS AND RAPPORTEURS

**Maha Abu-Dayyeh**, a longtime Palestinian feminist activist and thinker, is the co-founder and general director of the Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, located in Jerusalem and operating throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). She works locally in the OPT to address the complex political, legal, social and cultural needs of Palestinian women. Born and raised in Jerusalem, Abu-Dayyeh is a recipient of the French Republic Human Rights Award and the 2002 Ms. Woman of the Year Award. She served on the International Jury of the Body Shop Human Rights Award for two consecutive cycles and is acting president of Equality Now, an international human rights organization dedicated to the civil, political, economic and social rights of girls and women.

**Dee Aker**, deputy director of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ), is a psychological anthropologist and conflict resolution professional with 30 years of experience working with international communities and individuals in transition. At the IPJ, Aker created and directs the Women PeaceMakers Program, WorldLink Program and the Nepal Peacebuilding Initiative. She is the former director of United States International University in Kenya and past president of the University of Humanistic Studies. She worked as a regular TV host, columnist and freelance journalist covering women leaders, pioneers and survivors for 10 years and produced 234, 30-minute interview programs with women from around the world. She has facilitated training, communications and negotiations for groups and individuals in conflict in Europe, Africa, Central America and South Asia. Currently her work in Nepal specializes in programs for youth, women, nongovernmental organizations and leaders assuming their rights as stakeholders and responsible actors in the creation of the new republic.

**Karla Alvarez** is program officer for the WorldLink Program at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice. As the institute’s youth liaison, she works with dozens of middle schools and high schools in the greater San Diego region and Baja Mexico to provide opportunities for youth to discuss and take action on global issues. Alvarez collaborates with multiple youth organizations around the world, including on a recent visit to Mindanao, Philippines to document youth efforts on conflict transformation. She was awarded a fellowship in 2009 by the Washington Ireland Program and the U.S. Department of State to study Northern Ireland’s peace process, and in 2008 was selected as one of 200 global youth leaders for the CIVICUS Youth and World Assemblies in Scotland. Alvarez is a member of Young Professionals for International Cooperation – San Diego and serves on the Board of Directors for Voices of Women, a San Diego-based organization that advocates for human rights and the equal participation of women and men in advancing human security. Originally from Port Chester, N.Y., Alvarez has also lived in Mexico and France. She received her B.A. in international relations from the University of San Diego.

**Sanam Naraghi Anderlini** is co-founder of the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN), a U.S.-based nongovernmental organization (NGO) dedicated to supporting civil society activism on peace and security in conflict-affected countries. For over a decade she has been a leading international advocate, researcher, trainer and writer on conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Anderlini was one of the civil society drafters of U.N. Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325 and a contributor to SCR 1820. Between 2002 and 2005 she served as director of the Women Waging Peace Policy Commission, and since then has provided strategic guidance and training to key U.N. agencies, the U.K. government and NGOs worldwide. In 2008 Anderlini was appointed lead consultant for a new global initiative of the U.N. Development Programme on “Men and the Gendered Dimensions of Violence in Crisis Contexts.” The following year she was appointed personal representative of the U.N. Secretary-General to the Advisory Board of the U.N. Democracy Fund, and this year was appointed to the Civil Society Advisory Group on Resolution 1325, chaired by Mary Robinson. Anderlini is a research affiliate at the MIT Center for International Studies. Her latest book is *Women Building Peace: What they do, why it matters.*
Marion Arnaud is the senior outreach officer at the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. Arnaud holds a master's degree in conflict, security and development from the University of Leeds in England, and a bachelor's degree in political science from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. Her master's thesis focused on the Responsibility to Protect in Darfur, a project she researched when she first worked at the World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy in 2006. Arnaud has worked on various educational and humanitarian projects in France, Canada, Nicaragua and Peru.

Gloria Atiba-Davies, originally from Sierra Leone, is the victims expert for the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court (ICC) and heads the Gender and Children's Unit set up to focus on sexual and gender-based crimes against women and children. She has a law degree from the University of London and previously worked in the Division of Public Prosecution in the Government Law Officers Department of Sierra Leone, eventually becoming principal state counsel. While in exile during the armed conflict in the 1990s, she worked as the deputy director of public prosecutions and later acting director of public prosecutions in the Attorney General's Chambers in Gambia.

Kaitlin Barker is assistant editor at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ), where she was initially a peace writer for the Women PeaceMakers Program in 2009, documenting the life and work of Rubina Feroze Bhatti of Pakistan. Before arriving at the IPJ, Barker interned as an editorial assistant for Sojourners, a faith-based social justice magazine in Washington, D.C., while living in an intentional community. She received her B.A. in literature and English education from Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU) in San Diego. As an undergraduate, Barker traveled to Kenya to teach AIDS awareness and to Ethiopia to build homes for orphan caregivers, bringing her face-to-face with both gender and economic disparities. In 2010, she led a group of college students to the Democratic Republic of the Congo through the same service program at PLNU. Barker has also worked with women and orphans in Thailand, India and Turkey and tutored a refugee family from Burma in San Diego, all of which cemented her desire to tell the stories of forgotten people and places – and specifically, to lift up the powerful though often-muffled voices of women.

Malika Bhandarkar works for the Government, Peace and Security unit of the U.N. Development Fund for Women, where she manages a multi-agency partnership to develop national, regional and global sets of indicators to monitor the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions on women, peace and security. After graduating from Yale University with a master’s degree in international and development economics, she joined President Bill Clinton's Tsunami Recovery Office at the United Nations and worked on public-private partnerships “to build back better” in seven countries. Bhandarkar has also worked on sustainable development and accountability projects with the U.N.'s Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Her work at the United Nations is centered on accountability, be it financial, corporate or political.

Rubina Feroze Bhatti is a founding member and general secretary of Taangh Wasaib Organization (TWO), a rights-based development group working for communal harmony and equality through its many programs addressing issues of violence against women, religious intolerance and sectarianism and discriminatory laws and policies against women and minorities. With TWO, Bhatti works to abolish separate electorates which prevent non-Muslims from voting. In 2000 and 2001, the organization launched a massive campaign for religious minorities to boycott local elections. The campaign was successful and the government restored the joint electorate system. Bhatti also has established educational and healthcare facilities for children working in Pakistan's carpet-weaving industry, written scripts for theater productions on human rights and peace issues that were performed throughout the Punjab and North West Frontier Provinces, and been selected as one of the 1,000 women nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005. Bhatti was a Woman PeaceMaker at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice in 2009.
Winnie Byanyima is the director of the Gender Team at the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP). She joined UNDP from the African Union Commission where she was the first director of women, gender and development and established the new Directorate. While at the African Union, Byanyima led an international inquiry into the conduct of African Union peacekeepers in Darfur and submitted a report proposing a wide range of reforms to strengthen protection of women and girls in African peacekeeping missions. She has served three terms as a Member of Parliament in her country, founding and leading the Women's Caucus in parliament which introduced landmark provisions in Uganda’s 1995 constitution. A champion of women's rights in Africa, Byanyima founded the Forum for Women in Democracy in 1994, a national nongovernmental organization that pioneered gender budgeting in Uganda and other African countries. Byanyima's expertise is in the area of gender and democratic governance and she has worked extensively in conflict and post-conflict contexts. She facilitated the participation of women and integration of women's rights issues in peace processes in Burundi and Sudan, and she was one of two women who participated in the Ugandan peace process in 1985 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Kristen A. Cordell has served the United Nations in missions to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon and Liberia, advising on issues related to sexual and gender-based violence, security sector reform, policy interventions for improved national capacities and empowerment strategies for women in post-conflict contexts. Cordell has authored several books and reports on the role of gender in post-conflict reconstruction, including *Women and Nation-Building* and *Best Practices in Gender and Peacekeeping*. She has also worked on gender evaluation for the World Bank and was involved in the advocacy and passage of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1820. She currently serves as the gender adviser for the North Management Unit of the Lebanon Field Office of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

David Cortright is the director of Policy Studies at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame and chair of the Board of the Fourth Freedom Forum in Goshen, Ind. The author or editor of 15 books, most recently *Peace: A History of Movements and Ideas*, he is also the editor of *Peace Policy*, Kroc’s online journal. Other recent works by Cortright include *Gandhi and Beyond: Nonviolence for a New Political Age* and *Uniting Against Terror: Cooperative Nonmilitary Responses to the Global Terrorist Threat*, co-edited with George A. Lopez. Cortright has a long history of public advocacy for disarmament and the prevention of war. In 1978 he was named executive director of SANE, the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, which under his leadership grew from 4,000 to 150,000 members and became the largest disarmament organization in the United States. In November 2002, Cortright helped to create Win Without War, a coalition of national organizations opposing the invasion and occupation of Iraq.

Maryam Elahi joined the Open Society Institute (OSI) in June 2007 as director of the International Women’s Program. Prior to OSI, Elahi was the founding director of the Human Rights Program at Trinity College – the first undergraduate human rights program in the United States. She taught courses on international human rights law at Trinity and Oxford University’s Summer International Human Rights Program. During her 10 years at Trinity, Elahi traveled extensively to set up international programs with a human rights focus, including in Cape Town, South Africa; Santiago, Chile; Trinidad and Hong Kong. She served as the advocacy director on the Middle East, North Africa and Europe for Amnesty International in Washington, D.C., from 1990 to 1997. She has also worked at the Lawyer’s Committee for Human Rights and is currently the chair of the International Human Rights Committee of the American Bar Association.

Julissa Mantilla Falcón is a justice and gender specialist and consultant for the Women, Peace and Security Program of the U.N. Development Fund for Women in Colombia. She obtained her master’s degree in international human rights law from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences at the University of London and is a practicing lawyer. Falcón headed the Gender Division of the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission and was responsible for the investigation of cases of sexual violence against women. She is a professor at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú and Universidad del Rosario de Colombia, and has previously been a New Century Fulbright Scholar based in Washington, D.C.
Vaiba Kebeh Flomo has worked since 1998 to heal both her nation and its women from the 14-year civil war between rebel groups and the Liberian army. As the women’s desk officer for the Lutheran Church in Liberia – Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Program (LCL-THRP), Flomo supervises psychosocial services to war-affected women and girls and empowers them to build peace and promote nonviolence in their communities. During the civil war, she and a colleague from LCL-THRP formed the Christian Women Peace Initiative (CWPI), mobilizing women from all denominations in and around Monrovia to protest the war. CWPI inspired the creation of Muslim Women for Peace, and the two groups quickly merged to become Liberian Women Mass Action for Peace. She joined the delegation of women who traveled to Accra to pressure the warring factions to continue talking until a peace agreement emerged. Flomo’s role in the Liberian women’s peace movement was documented in the 2008 film “Pray the Devil Back to Hell.” She is a 2010 Woman PeaceMaker at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice.

Jennifer Freeman is program officer for the Women PeaceMakers (WPM) Program at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice. She has a B.A. in political science, German and European studies from the University of Victoria, and an M.A. in peace and conflict studies from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland. Freeman has worked with various nongovernmental organizations in Ghana, Northern Ireland, Canada and in Ugandan refugee settlements on issues of women’s rights and peacebuilding through sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response, supporting people living with HIV/AIDS and conducting psychosocial programs for war-affected youth. Freeman has conducted research in Kyaka II refugee settlement in Uganda on gendered security. In the WPM Program, she has served as peace writer for Sylvie Maunga Mbanga of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zeinab Mohamed Blandia of Sudan, and coordinated the 2009 conference “Bearing Exquisite Witness,” which explored the role of arts in peacebuilding.

Andrea Frey spent the last year in Madrid, Spain working with the Club of Madrid on the project “Women’s Leadership for Peace and Security in the Greater Horn of Africa,” focusing on increasing effective participation of women in peace and security processes and enhancing respect of human rights in conflict and post-conflict situations. She holds a B.A. in international relations and economics from Tufts University.

Chris Groth is a program assistant at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ), where he provides support for the Nepal Peacebuilding Initiative and the 2010 Women PeaceMakers Conference “Precarious Progress.” He was the graduate intern at the IPJ from 2008 to 2009, during which time he traveled with an IPJ team to Nepal to conduct participatory seminars on negotiation training and security issues. Groth received an M.A. in international relations from the University of San Diego (USD) and graduated cum laude from the University of California, Irvine, with degrees in social science and sociology. While at USD, he also authored the chapter, “In the Trenches: Fighting Mexico’s War without End,” in the book Comparative Politics and the War on Terror.

Soraya Hoyos, a Colombian sociologist and photographer, currently lives and works in her home country as programme specialist for the Women, Peace and Security Programme of the U.N. Development Fund for Women. As an activist for women’s rights, she founded and coordinated the Permanent Working Group on Women and Armed Conflict in Colombia in 2000, a network of women’s organizations that has documented the situation of women victims of the armed violence in Colombia during the last decade. Hoyos then served in international and nongovernmental organizations as a defender and advocate of women and children’s rights throughout Latin America and more recently in Angola. Her academic background is in the areas of social policy, human rights, arts and culture – all of which have pointed to new ways of resolving conflict through non-violent actions.
Brigid Inder is the founding executive director of the Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice. She has 25 years of experience as an activist for women’s human rights and gender equality. Inder is recognized for her work as a strategic adviser and advocate at numerous U.N. conferences and global negotiations, including the Earth Summit, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Special Session on Rights of the Child and the Fourth World Conference on Women. She has worked in the Asia-Pacific region and in Africa – particularly Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan and the Central African Republic. She was formerly executive director of the YWCA of Aotearoa-New Zealand and manager of HIV/AIDS Services and Programmes at the AIDS Council of New South Wales, the largest HIV center in Australia. As executive director of Community Legal Centres, Inder led a network of 49 centers providing legal services to marginalized communities. She is president of the Board of the Association for Women’s Rights in Development and has written numerous publications, most recently Making a Statement and Gender Report Card on the ICC, and was editor of In Pursuit of Peace – A la poursuite de la paix and Women’s Voices.

Kristin Kalla is senior programme officer at the Trust Fund for Victims, which supports the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague to ensure justice and restore dignity for survivors of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. She oversees the technical responses, programs and reparation implementation strategies for victims under the jurisdiction of the ICC. Kalla is a trained public health specialist focusing on maternal and child health and reproductive health issues, and has been a technical adviser on numerous issues related to health care. As technical adviser in Rwanda after the genocide, Kalla helped rebuild the capacity of the Ministry of Health. She has also established health programs in post-conflict settings in Lebanon, Kosovo and Tajikistan, and provided leadership for the $50 million global public health and development project by CARE International called the CORE Initiative.

Sarah Akoru Lochodo, 2010 Woman PeaceMaker at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, is the only woman negotiating among the semi-nomadic and pastoralist communities in her native Turkana District of northwestern Kenya. She was appointed assistant chief of Kainuk Sub-Division by the Kenyan government in 2002, at a time when gun violence had become inherent to the banditry and cattle rustling common between the community’s Turkana and Pokot tribes. Within one month of becoming assistant chief, Lochodo averted a massive revenge killing after a Pokot herdsboy was killed by a Turkana warrior from her own community. Lochodo is a founding member of Rural Women Peace Link, which played a major role in stabilizing communities after Kenya’s violent 2008 election riots. In addition to her official governmental duties, Lochodo is now working to combat female genital mutilation and discourage early marriages in rural communities.

Ana Lukatela is the U.N. Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325 programme consultant for the U.N. Development Fund for Women’s (UNIFEM) regional project “Women Building Peace in the Western Balkans.” She also coordinates the Regional Women’s Lobby of Southeast Europe, a group of prominent women politicians and experts advocating for implementation of SCR 1325 in their post-conflict countries. Prior to this, Lukatela was with the project office of UNIFEM Kosovo. She is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of British Columbia, nearing completion of her doctoral dissertation on U.N. development agencies and their policymaking processes related to gender issues.

Doreen Malambo, a Zambian police officer, was until August 2010 the police gender adviser and an inspector for the Victim Support Unit for the U.N. Mission in Liberia. In these capacities she was also adviser and mentor for the Liberia National Police, attached to the Women and Children Protection Section.
Agnès Marcaillou, a French national, has had a distinguished career in the United Nations, with over 20 years of experience in disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as in political affairs, in New York, Geneva, The Hague, Iraq and Cambodia. She currently directs the Regional Disarmament Branch of the U.N. Office for Disarmament Affairs and oversees the activities and operations of U.N. regional centers for peace and disarmament in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Marcaillou is also known for her work on security sector matters. Her most recent achievement was the negotiation and adoption by ministers of Central African countries of the Kinshasha Convention, or the “Central Africa Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, their Ammunition, Parts and Components that can be used for their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly.” Marcaillou initiated the Gender Action Plan of the Department for Disarmament Affairs, the first gender action plan in the U.N. Secretariat.

Aliker David Martin works for BOSCO Uganda Relief Project and is a M.A. student in peace and justice studies at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies (KSPS). Martin attained a bachelor’s degree in education from Makerere University in Kampala. He has postgraduate diplomas in human resources and project planning and management from the Uganda Management Institute and Gulu University, respectively. Martin has taught at St. Lawrence Citizens’ High School and served as education officer at Invisible Children, coordinating their teachers exchange program. At BOSCO-Uganda, he serves as project coordinator, connecting villages through the Internet and training vulnerable youth to use the Internet to facilitate socioeconomic change. Aliker has also worked as a consultant to the educational program of Children Up. His research interest at KSPS is in the role of interreligious organizations in resolving conflict.

Monica McWilliams has been chief commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission since September 2005. Co-founder of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition political party, McWilliams was elected to a seat at the Multi-Party Peace Negotiations, which led to the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement in 1998. She was one of only two women to sign the agreement. She served as a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly for five years until her appointment as chief commissioner. As a professor of women's studies, currently on leave from the University of Ulster, McWilliams' published works focus on domestic violence, human security and the role of political conflict on women's lives. Her work has been recognized by a special Profile in Courage Award from the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, the Frank Coussin's Peace Award and several honorary doctorates. McWilliams is a graduate of Queen's University Belfast and the University of Michigan.

Luz Méndez is vice-president of the Executive Board of the National Union of Guatemalan Women (UNAMG), which works for gender equality, social justice and peacebuilding. She participated in the table of peace negotiations as part of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity’s delegation, where she dedicated special attention to the incorporation of gender equality commitments in the accords. After the end of the war, she was a member of the National Council for the Implementation of the Peace Accords. She was also the coordinator of the Women Agents for Change Consortium, an alliance of women's and human right’s organizations working for the empowerment of women survivors of sexual violence during the armed conflict, seeking justice and reparations. In the international sphere, Méndez was a speaker at the first meeting that the U.N. Security Council held with women’s organizations leading up to the passage of resolution 1325. She was a Woman PeaceMaker at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice in 2004.
Merlie “Milet” B. Mendoza, 2010 Woman PeaceMaker at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, has over two decades of peacebuilding experience in the Philippines. Mendoza served for a decade in various presidential departments, including the Peace Commission and the National Unification Commission. She then assisted the official Government Peace Negotiating Panel for Talks with the Communist Party of the Philippines, organizing consultations to understand the issues facing those in conflict areas. She transitioned from the government to the grassroots in 1999, becoming executive coordinator of Tabang Mindanaw (“Help Mindanao”), a national coalition for peace, development, humanitarian assistance and human security in Mindanao. Mendoza coordinated emergency humanitarian assistance for the 1 million civilians displaced by the war between government forces and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. She is a founding member of the Asian Disaster Response and Reduction Network – an alliance of more than 30 national and local humanitarian and social development organizations in 16 countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

Doris Mpoumou is a human rights and social justice advocate with over 12 years of experience in policy analysis, advocacy and coalition building on issues such as peace and security, women's participation in decision making, global governance, violence against women (VAW) and transparency in national natural resource revenues. She is currently the director of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. As the deputy manager of the International Rescue Committee's program to end VAW in her native Congo-Brazzaville, Mpoumou initiated a reform of the penal code and advocated for the establishment of comprehensive services for survivors of VAW and a nationwide violence prevention program in the aftermath of the 1997 armed conflict. She also coordinated the global 50/50 Campaign to increase women's participation in decision making and co-led advocacy efforts on U.N. reform at the Women's Environment and Development Organization.

Jasmin Nario-Galace is the associate director of the Center for Peace Education and a professor at the College of International, Humanitarian and Development Studies and the College of Education – all at Miriam College in the Philippines. Nario-Galace is also a member of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders and IANSA-Women. She serves on the board of the Philippine Action Network to Control Arms and of Sulong CARHRIHL, a third-party network that monitors the compliance of the government and the National Democratic Front to their substantive agreement to respect human rights and international humanitarian law. She coordinated the civil society group that led to the formulation of the Philippine National Action Plan to implement U.N. Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820. Nario-Galace is the author or co-author of Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation, Peace Education Initiatives in the Philippines, Voices to Silence Guns, Peace Education: A Pathway to Peace and “Tungo sa Mapayapang Mundo”: Towards a Peaceful World.

Fionnuala D. Ní Aoláin is concurrently the Dorsey and Whitney Chair in Law at the University of Minnesota Law School and a professor of law at the University of Ulster’s Transitional Justice Institute in Belfast, Northern Ireland, where she is co-founder and associate director. Her teaching and research interests are in the fields of international law, human rights law, national security law and feminist legal theory. She has a forthcoming book entitled On the Frontlines: Gender, War and the Post-Conflict Process. At domestic war crimes trials in Bosnia, she was a representative of the prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. In 2003 she was appointed by the secretary-general of the United Nations as special expert on promoting gender equality in times of conflict and peacemaking. She has been nominated twice to the European Court of Human Rights in 2004 and 2007, the first woman and first academic lawyer to be thus nominated. Ní Aoláin was appointed to the Irish Human Rights Commission in 2000, and served until 2005.
Olenka Ochoa has been an activist for women’s rights for more than 20 years in her native Peru and around the world. She is a board member of the Federation of Municipal Women of Latin America and the Caribbean and of the Huairou Commission, a global network of community development organizations. From 1999 to 2002, she served as an elected member of the Metropolitan Lima Municipal Council, developing alternative security strategies to protect women and founding the first Commission of Women in the municipality. Ochoa previously worked with the Research and Training Institute for Family and Women. After the Fujimori administration, she participated in the National Accord for Governance, which created new policies for democratization in Peru. She later contributed to the design of an equal opportunity law, which was signed into national law in March 2007. She was recently part of a Club of Madrid delegation to Bolivia to advocate for the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325. Ochoa was a Woman PeaceMaker at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice in 2008.

Manal Omar serves as director of Iraq Programs at the U.S. Institute of Peace. Omar worked with UNESCO in Iraq from 1997 to 1998, and with Women for Women International as regional coordinator for Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan. She has carried out training programs in Yemen, Bahrain, Afghanistan, Sudan, Lebanon, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Kenya and elsewhere. Omar’s activities have been profiled in the mainstream media, such as the Washington Times, BBC and NPR. Her own pieces have appeared in the Guardian, Washington Post, Azizah Magazine and Islamica Magazine, and she has authored a memoir, Barefoot in Baghdad, chronicling her work with women in Iraq. Omar is an active member of the American Muslim community. In 2007, Islamica Magazine named her one of 10 young visionaries shaping Islam in America. She holds an M.A. in Arab studies from Georgetown University and a B.A. in international relations from George Mason University.

Sarah Smiles Persinger is a research associate at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. She has a master’s degree in Middle Eastern studies from the American University of Beirut and has reported extensively across the Arab world as a journalist. She previously worked as a reporter for the Melbourne Age newspaper. Persinger’s research interests are in war and gender in the Middle East and Afghanistan, and she has published on the impact of war on Iraqi women under the regime of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein.

Rebecca Peters has been the director of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA), the global movement against gun violence, for eight years. IANSA is a network of over 900 civil society organizations working in 120 countries against the proliferation and misuse of guns. IANSA is the official coordinator of civil society participation in the U.N. small arms process, and one of the core members of the campaign for an Arms Trade Treaty. An Australian lawyer and journalist, Peters has been working against armed violence for nearly 20 years, beginning with work to prevent the murder of women by their partners.

Nana Pratt is a founding member of the Mano River Women’s Peace Network (MARWOPNET) and is currently the focal point person for its Sierra Leone chapter. She is also the secretary-general of the National Organization for Women in Sierra Leone. Through MARWOPNET, she is actively engaged in civil society efforts to work with the Peacebuilding Commission and other stakeholders to consolidate peace in Sierra Leone. MARWOPNET is one of two civil society organizations represented on the steering committee of the Peacebuilding Fund. As a member of the Sierra Leone Women’s Forum, Pratt was one of the civil society observers during the Lomé peace negotiations in 1999. Prior to her retirement in 2003, she was the head of the chemistry department at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone. She is also a member of the African Union Women’s Committee, which was set up to advise the chairperson of the African Union on gender and women’s issues.
Ada Williams Prince is a senior advocacy officer for the Women's Refugee Commission. She leads advocacy efforts with the United Nations, government missions and the nongovernmental organization (NGO) community, advocating for global systemic change that will protect the rights of displaced women, children and young people. Prince previously served as the project and advocacy manager for the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Survivors. She has worked with refugees since 1994, when she was with a local NGO in Nepal serving Bhutanese refugees. She has also been the tsunami emergencies adviser and humanitarian advocacy adviser for Save the Children U.K.; a training specialist at the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance in the U.S. Agency for International Development; and a humanitarian affairs advocate for Refugees International in Washington, D.C.

Bandana Rana has spent more than two decades promoting women's rights and gender equality in Nepal. She has experience in the field of media and gender equality with a focus on enhancing participatory communication in development programs. She is currently the executive president of Saathi, an NGO working on violence against women and children in Nepal, and has led numerous national and regional research and advocacy programs for policy reforms related to women's rights. She is currently a member of the technical working group for developing the National Action Plan on 1325 and 1820, which is being formulated under the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction. Rana is one of the founding members of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders and the regional coordinator of the South Asian Campaign for Gender Equality. She was the founder and first elected president of Sancharika Samuha (Forum of Women in Media), and has served as chairperson of the National Commission for Women of Nepal.

Fatima K. Saeed-Ibrahim was born in the nomadic area of Somaliland and moved to the United Kingdom in 1963. She returned in 1998 to work on peacebuilding and the reconstruction of her country, primarily with the U.N. Development Programme and various women's organizations. She is currently the Somaliland country director of the Office for Development and Humanitarian Affairs. Saeed-Ibrahim established the first National Human Rights Commission as well as a street children's village and a safe house for children victims of trafficking. She is founder and council chairperson of the Berbera College for Fisheries and Maritime Studies, serves on the board of the Somaliland Academy for Women Empowerment and is a senior adviser to the parliamentary upper house, known as the Gurti. Saeed-Ibrahim continues to champion the inclusion and protection of women in the police and custodial corps through trainings for the Somaliland Ministries of Interior and Justice.

Rakhi Sahi was commander of the second all-women Formed Police Unit that was part of the U.N. Mission in Liberia. She is now with the U.N. Department of Safety and Security, deployed in North Darfur with the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Sudan. Sahi was in the first group of women commissioned officers in the Indian Paramilitary Force's Central Reserve Police Force, and later trained the second all-women battalion of the force, consisting of 976 personnel. She has worked with India's Rapid Action Force and in various welfare and community policing programs, and served as a police adviser to the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Haiti. In May 2008 Sahi presented at the Wilton Park Conference that helped lead to the passage of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1820.

Steven Schoofs works for International Alert, managing the gender team in the Peacebuilding Issues Programme. Schoofs was trained as a social scientist with a strong background in development, security and international relations. Prior to International Alert, he was a research fellow at the Conflict Research Unit of the Netherlands Institute for International Relations, or “Clingendael.” At Clingendael he conducted policy-oriented research on gender and conflict as well as the security aspects of HIV/AIDS. He is also a founding member of the Men and Gender Justice Working Group of WOW-MEN, the Dutch Gender Platform.
Alicia Simoni, the primary rapporteur for the 2010 Women PeaceMakers Conference “Precarious Progress,” is editor and community manager at Peace X Peace, an e-network for women peacebuilders around the world. Prior to this she was regional desk officer for the Pakistan and Afghanistan programs of the International Medical Corps. She has an M.A. in international peace studies from the University of Notre Dame’s Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and a bachelor’s degree in anthropology from Johns Hopkins University. She has worked for The AIDS Support Organization in Uganda and for Women for Women International, where she designed, implemented and monitored programs in several post-conflict and conflict contexts. Simoni served as a peace writer in the Women PeaceMakers Program at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice in 2008 and 2009, working with Zandile Nhlengetwa of South Africa and Bae Liza Llesis Saway of the Philippines.

Nora Chengeto Tapiwa, 2010 Woman PeaceMaker at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, works to protect and procure the peace and human rights of her fellow Zimbabweans – in both Zimbabwe and South Africa. Currently in exile, Tapiwa is the founder and secretary of the Zimbabwe Diaspora Development Chamber, where she strives to create cohesion and unity among the Zimbabwean diaspora and within South Africa’s migrant communities at large. Because of her activism and position as organizing secretary for the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions, she was a target of President Robert Mugabe’s clampdown on political opposition. In 2003 Tapiwa left Zimbabwe to seek refuge in neighboring South Africa, where she organized a group of more than 2,000 refugees and activists to form the Global Zimbabwe Forum, now composed of 40 Zimbabwean organizations in exile.

Laura Taylor is pursuing her doctorate in peace studies and psychology at the University of Notre Dame. She is currently conducting research in Colombia, Croatia and Northern Ireland with a focus on the relationship between national and local conflict and the impact on communities, families and children. Previously, she was a senior program officer at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice and worked on the Nepal and Guatemala Peacebuilding Initiatives and the Women PeaceMakers Program. Taylor also was project coordinator for an indigenous women’s community mental health project in Guatemala, and the director of development for the Guatemala Human Rights Commission in Washington, D.C. She earned an M.A. in peace and justice studies from the University of San Diego and B.A. degrees in psychology and Spanish from Haverford College.

Sarah Taylor, executive coordinator of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, researches and writes on women, peace and security. She has worked and conducted research in Mexico, Guatemala and El Salvador, and has taught on gender, violence and education. She received her M.A. in political science, with a focus on nationalism and gender in Eastern Europe, from the University of Canterbury in New Zealand, and is a Ph.D. candidate in political science at the New School University in New York, where she is conducting a comparative analysis of high-level women negotiators.

Sarah Teitt is the outreach director at the Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, where she is responsible for designing and implementing strategies to foster dialogue among various government and civil society stakeholders in the region, facilitating country-based programs for the prevention of mass atrocities, and encouraging the adoption of measures to implement the responsibility to protect in the Asia-Pacific region. Teitt also serves as the coordinator for the centre’s China Program and is working toward completing a Ph.D. at the University of Queensland on China’s role in preventing and responding to genocide and mass atrocities. She has an M.A. in peace and conflict resolution from the University of Queensland and a B.A. in international relations with a concentration in East Asian studies from Roanoke College. Her research focuses on China’s foreign policy in relation to conflict and humanitarian crises in the Asia-Pacific region and Africa, U.N. peacekeeping, and the relationship between the responsibility to protect and the protection of women and children in armed conflict.
Shubhra Tiwari, additional superintendent of police in India, is currently the coordinator of the Gender, Child and Vulnerable Persons Protection team for the police unit in the U.N. Mission in Sudan. As such, she is responsible for community policing activities, including establishing and training special protection units, in both north and south Sudan.

Bibiane Aningina Tshefu is an activist on women’s rights with a specific focus on U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325 and sexual violence in Africa. She is co-founder of Réseau Action Femmes Kinshasa; Caucus des Femmes; and Dynamique des Femmes Politiques. From 2002 to 2007, Tshefu was a consultant to the U.N. Gender Office in Congo and in 2003 led a team from the U.N. Development Programme evaluating the implementation of 1325 in the Mano River and Great Lakes regions. She has been an adviser to various government ministers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Tshefu is a member of the International Action Network on Small Arms and its Women’s Network, the Coalition for Women’s Human Rights in Conflict Situations, and various Congolese women’s organizations in New York. She is also the focal point person for the DRC section of Women as Partners for Peace in Africa.
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