

## **Ensuring Accountability to UNSCR 1325 and 1820 using CEDAW reporting mechanisms**

### **Resolutions 1325 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary events highlight use of CEDAW mechanisms**

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Resolution 1325 in October 2010 highlighted the increasing demand for accountability to UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. Many expressed concern about the fact that only 22 Member States out of 192 have adopted national action plans. Women are still underrepresented if not totally absent in most official peace negotiations and sexual violence in conflict continue to increase.

These realities emphasized the need to use other legal mechanisms to strengthen the implementation of SCR 1325, particularly CEDAW. The well-established mechanisms of CEDAW—the Member States compliance report and the civil society shadow reporting process were cited as powerful instruments to ensure accountability.

Several regional and international meetings including the High Level Seminar "1325 in 2020: Looking Forward...Looking Back," organized by the African Center for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes, and the "Stockholm International Conference 10 years with 1325 - What now?" called for the use of CEDAW to improve 1325 implementation.

### **Intersection between SCR 1325 and CEDAW**

While CEDAW and UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace and Security are important international instruments on their own, there is also an intersection among the three standards that can be used to enhance their implementation and impact.

Resolutions 1325 and 1820 broaden the scope of CEDAW application by clarifying its relevance to all parties in conflict, whereas CEDAW provides concrete strategic guidance for actions to be taken on the broad commitments outlined in the two Resolutions (UNIFEM, 2006. CEDAW and SCR 1325: A Quick Guide).

CEDAW is a global human rights treaty that should be incorporated into national law as the highest standard for women's rights. It requires UN Member States that have ratified it (185 to date) to set in place mechanisms to fully realize women's rights.

Resolution 1325 is an international law unanimously adopted by the Security Council that mandates UN Member States to engage women in all aspects of peace building including ensuring women's participation on all levels of decision-making on peace and security issues.

Resolution 1820 links sexual violence as a tactic of war with the maintenance of international peace and security. It also demands a comprehensive report from the UN

Secretary General on implementation and strategies for improving information flow to the Security Council; and adoption of concrete protection and prevention measures to end sexual violence.

Resolutions 1325 and 1820, and CEDAW share the following agenda on women's human rights and gender equality:

1. Demand women's participation in decision-making at all levels
2. Rejection of violence against women as it impedes the advancement of women and maintains their subordinate status
3. Equality of women and men under the law; protection of women and girls through the rule of law
4. Demand security forces and systems to protect women and girls from gender-based violence
5. Recognition of the fact that distinct experiences and burdens of women and girls come from systemic discrimination
6. Ensure that women's experiences, needs and perspectives are incorporated into the political, legal and social decisions that determine the achievement of just and lasting peace

A General Comment from the CEDAW committee could strengthen women's advocacy for the full implementation of Resolutions 1325 and 1820 at the country and community levels. Conversely, CEDAW's relevance to conflict-affected areas will be underscored further by the two Resolutions. In other words, all three international instruments will reinforce each other and be much more effective if used together in leveraging women's human rights.

REFERENCES TO RESOLUTIONS 1325 AND 1820  
IN CEDAW SESSIONS

<b>CEDAW Session</b>	<b>Summary of Meetings</b>	<b>State Report(s)</b>	<b>Concluding Observation(s)</b>	<b>NGO Shadow Report(s)</b>
47 <sup>th</sup> (2010.10.4-22)		Tunisia	Uganda	Czech Republic, Uganda
46 <sup>th</sup> (2010.7.12-30)	Australia	Fiji	Argentina, Papua New Guinea	Australia
45 <sup>th</sup> (2010.1.18- 2.5)	Netherlands	Netherlands, United Arab Emirates		Netherlands
44 <sup>th</sup> (2009.7.20- 8.7)	Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Spain, Timor-Leste	Guinea- Bissau, Liberia, Spain, Switzerland, Timor-Leste	Liberia, Timor- Leste	Japan, Timor- Leste
43 <sup>rd</sup> (2009.1.19- 2.6)	Germany, Haiti, Rwanda	Armenia	Germany, Rwanda	Germany
42 <sup>nd</sup> session	Myanmar	Canada	Slovenia, Myanmar	
41 <sup>st</sup> session		Tanzania, Finland, United Kingdom	Finland, Nigeria, United Kingdom	Nigeria, United Kingdom
40 <sup>th</sup> session		Sweden	Burundi, Lebanon	Burundi
39 <sup>th</sup> session		New Zealand, Norway	Norway	Singapore, Norway
38 <sup>th</sup> session			Serbia	Serbia
37 <sup>th</sup> session		Austria,	Colombia,	India

		Colombia, Netherlands	Netherlands	
36 <sup>th</sup> session			Denmark	Georgia
35 <sup>th</sup> session		Cyprus	Bosnia and Herzegovina	
34 <sup>th</sup> session				
33 <sup>rd</sup> session				
32 <sup>nd</sup> session				
31 <sup>st</sup> session		Bangladesh		

## REFERENCES TO 1325 AND 1820 IN CEDAW COMMITTEE CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

47th session (4 – 22 October 2010)

Bahamas, Burkina Faso, Czech Republic, India, Malta, Tunisia, Uganda

References to 1325 or 1820:

Czech Republic

NGO shadow reports:

[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/Czech\\_Womens\\_Lobby\\_forthesession.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/Czech_Womens_Lobby_forthesession.pdf)

Czech Women's Lobby SHADOW REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Gender equality is not only an issue of the national policy and therefore the Report introduces a description of the international dimension of the fulfilment of the Convention as well. The Czech Republic is failing to apply the obligations set by the Convention on policies that have an impact beyond the national level. An increased emphasis in regard to international policies and gender mainstreaming should be put especially on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, human rights and transition promotion policy and implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on women, peace and security.

### 9.1. Background Information

In the fourth and the fifth Periodic Reports on the implementation of the Convention, the Czech government fails to mention applying of the obligations of the Convention to national policies and activities which have an impact beyond the national level. In this context, women's/gender organizations are concerned that the overall approach at the governmental level, represented mainly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), in applying gender mainstreaming to national policies has not been managed in a systematic way and has, so far, failed to be

given substantial political attention. Women's/gender organizations stress that an increased emphasis on gender mainstreaming is required especially in the following areas: (i) development cooperation and humanitarian aid, (ii) human rights and transition promotion policy, and (iii) implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on women, peace and security.

#### 9.4. Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325

Significant deficiency persists in the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 on women, peace and security and related commitments (UNSCR no. 1820, 1888, 1889) in the national policies and practices of the Czech Republic. Besides the MFA as the key actor to be held accountable, these commitments involve also the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Interior, and the Gender Equality government entity. Women's/gender organizations are concerned that the Czech Republic has not yet developed 9.5.5. Ensure systematic gender equality training for all government officials working in related areas in the ministries as well as for those sent on foreign missions; a national action plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 or an alternative mechanism. Moreover, the level of the fulfilment of the resolution has not yet been systematically mapped in the Czech context.

#### 9.5 Recommendations to Government Action

9.5.4. Create a strategic document for fulfilling the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 on women, peace and security and related regulations, and ensure coherence with other development and defence related policies;

Tunisia:

State report:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=CEDAW/C/TUN/6&Lang=E>  
137.

In the course of its mandate as a non-permanent member of the Security Council for 2000- 2001, Tunisia voted in favour of resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security. Tunisia in this way associated itself with other members of the council in:

- Calling on the parties involved in armed conflicts due respect, vigorously and fully, international law relating to the status of women in conflicts;
- Calling for better gender balance in all peacekeeping operations and in the planning of policies, strategies and programmes for achieving peace and security in the world.

Uganda:

Concluding observations:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/co/CEDAW-C-UGA-CO-7.pdf>

Internally displaced women in Northern Uganda

25. The Committee notes with satisfaction the adoption of the Uganda Action Plan on UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 and the Goma Declaration, the 2010 International Criminal Court Act categorizing rape, forced marriage and sexual slavery as war crimes chargeable in Uganda's legal system as well as the State party's adoption of the Peace, Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) for 2007-2010 with the objective to reconstruct the conflict affected districts in Northern Uganda and resettle people from the IDP camps into their communities. The Committee also welcomes the reference in the PRDP to the involvement of women in the peace building, reconciliation, rehabilitation and recovery processes. However, the Committee is seriously concerned at information that disadvantaged groups of women, including older women, women with disabilities and girls, are left behind in the IDP camps as they fear for their safety and that they continue to experience sexual and gender-based violence and abuse within these camps. The Committee also reiterates its concern that many women and girls in the conflict areas have been victims of violence, including abduction and sexual slavery.

NGO shadow reports:

[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/AI\\_Ugandall\\_47.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/AI_Ugandall_47.pdf)

Left To Their Own Devices: The Continued Suffering of Victims Of the Conflict in Northern Uganda and The Need for Preparations (Amnesty International)

The DDR Agreement expressly commits the government to, inter alia reintegrate "children associated with the LRA" and make special provisions for children who may require family and community mediation, treatment for war related illnesses and injuries, targeted mental health services and other specialized services.<sup>76</sup> The Agreement also provides that the government and the LRA "shall ensure that the DDR process fully incorporates the special rights and needs of women". It provides that "possible funding for specific measures for women and girls in the reintegration phase of the DDR process shall be earmarked".<sup>77</sup>

<sup>77</sup>Clause 2.14-2.15 of the DDR Agreement (referring to the commitment to comply with provisions of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security).

46 <sup>th</sup> session (12 – 30 July 2010)
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Albania, Argentina, Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Turkey

References to 1325 and 1820:

Argentina:

Concluding observations:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=CEDAW/C/ARG/CO/6&Lang=E>

26.

The Committee recommends that proactive measures be taken to ensure that sexual violence committed during the last dictatorship is publicized, prosecuted and punished in the context of the trials for crimes against humanity, in keeping

with Security Council resolution 1820 (2008), and that reparations be granted to victims.

Australia:

Summary of meetings:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=CEDAW/C/SR.936&Lang=E4>.

Her Government was committed to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), and was looking into introducing a national action plan on the participation of women in peace processes and related decision-making and to ensure the protection of women's rights in conflict situations. However, the focus of the incoming Government in that respect was uncertain.

NGO shadow reports:

[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/YWCA\\_Australia46.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/YWCA_Australia46.pdf)

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THAT the Australian Government be congratulated on its collaborative work with NGOs to design options for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, and is requested to regularly report on implementation of Resolution 1325 (particularly on gender training of troops and peacekeepers).

#### 28. UN Security Council Resolution 1325

28.1. A concern raised at our consultations was the lack of action in Australia to implement Security Council Resolution 1325. This was regarded as a hindrance to Australia's capacity to play its role as a regional peacekeeper. We note that, through a Women's Leadership and Development Program Grant, the Office for Women funded the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Australia) to run eight consultation workshops throughout May 2009 in each State and Territory to collect feedback on the development of a national action plan for Resolution 1325, and to conduct research into possible options for the implementation of Resolution 1325. It is understood that the final report on this consultation process will inform the next phase of the development of the national action plan.

#### Recommendations proposed for Concluding Comments

- THAT the Australian Government's review of the AusAID Family Planning Guidelines be welcomed.
- THAT the Australian Government be congratulated for its revitalised role in international women's policy forums, and their commitment to integrating gender in overseas development assistance.
- THAT the Australian Government be congratulated on its collaborative work with NGOs to design options for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, and is requested to regularly report on implementation of Resolution 1325 (particularly on gender training of troops and peacekeepers).

Fiji:

State report:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=CEDAW/C/SR.929&Lang=E>  
UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security  
159.

The Minister responsible for Women was recently appointed into the National Security Council. By virtue of this appointment; the Director for Women becomes a member of the Intelligence Advisory Committee and other security committees. This is a milestone for the women of Fiji and the move will enhance and accelerate the efforts of women in pursuing the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325, Women, Peace and Security.

Papua New Guinea:

Concluding observations:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=CEDAW/C/PNG/CO/3&Lang=E>  
52.

The Committee calls on the State party to take the necessary measures to ensure women's involvement in the establishment of peace and reconciliation in Bougainville, including through their equal opportunity and participation in the decision-making processes in all spheres of development. It also calls on the State party to ensure that both women and men war veterans benefit from equal recognition and rehabilitation, including general and mental medical care. The Committee further calls on the State party to ensure that the Autonomous Bougainville Government adopts measures that take due account of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security.

45<sup>th</sup> session (18 January – 5 February 2010)

Botswana, Egypt, Malawi, Netherlands, Panama, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan

References to 1325 and 1820:

Netherlands

Summary of meetings:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/CEDAW.C.SR.916.pdf>

72.

Ms. Hayashi welcomed the formulation of National Action Plan 1325 to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), on women and peace and security, and wondered if similar steps had been or would be taken to implement Security Council resolutions 1888 (2009), on sexual violence against women and children in situations of armed conflict, and 1889 (2010), on women and peace and security.

77. Mr. Dijksterhuis (Netherlands) said that his Government fully supported Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1888 (2009) and 1889 (2000) and was particularly active in combating violence against women and children, including sexual violence, and promoting the role of women in peace and security in

Afghanistan, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Sudan. In cooperation with NGOs, it had recently organized a conference on women and the peace process in Afghanistan, and the Netherlands would also be an active participant in the international conference beginning the next day in London on the conflict in Afghanistan, at which women would be well represented.

78. In December 2009 the Netherlands Government had organized a conference on women in war zones and sexual violence as an instrument of war, which had led to the production of well-received documentaries. The Netherlands provided training to the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo on the need to eliminate rape and prosecute perpetrators. To commemorate the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) his Government planned to organize a working-level conference of peacekeeping troop-contributing countries on how to help fragile States and promote gender issues in the armed forces. A mid-term review of National Action Plan 1325 had been carried out in 2007.

State report:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=CEDAW/C/NLD/5&Lang=E>

Violence against women

The Netherlands has successfully ensured that the combating of violence against women was put on the agenda by the UN General Assembly (UNGA). In 2006 the Netherlands and France submitted a resolution to the UNGA on the stepping-up of the combating of all forms of violence against women (A/RES/61/143). The resolution was accepted with consensus and calls on governments to take action with respect to violence against women and to develop and implement an integrated policy to combat this phenomenon. The UN is also called upon to expand and especially to improve the coordination of efforts in this area. At the initiative of the Netherlands and France, the UNGA adopted a further resolution (A/RES/62/) on the UN's follow-up of resolution A/RES/61/143 in 2007. The Netherlands has also made a substantial contribution to the 'United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women', which is managed by UNIFEM. The Netherlands works closely with UN organisations such as UNFPA and UNDP and a number of NGOs active in the area of UNSC resolution 1325, such as FAS, IWTC, WIGJ, to make gender-related violence a criminal offence at local and international level and support active prosecution and victim aid. The Netherlands also contributes to the establishment of a UN databank containing information and 'best practices' with regard to violence against women, by means of a financial contribution to the UN Division for the Advancement of Women.

Women, peace and safety

In the past period the Netherlands has made active efforts to implement UNSC resolution 1325, by means of the formulation of a National Action Plan 1325. This plan was launched by the Ministers of Development Cooperation, Defence and Foreign Affairs, together with a large number of representatives from Dutch

development organisations and knowledge institutes, on 4 December 2007. The Action Plan is a joint product and can therefore count on broad social support. As a result of this Action Plan the already good collaboration in this area between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Emancipation department and community-based organisations is expanded further, both in countries where the Netherlands itself is active and through actions in international forums. Action points have been defined on the basis of 5 themes:

- The (international) legal framework
- Prevention, mediation and reconstruction
- International collaboration
- Peace missions
- Harmonisation and coordination

Among other things, for instance, military personnel who participate in peace missions in Afghanistan receive context-specific training on the roles and position of women in peace processes, the Ministry of Internal Affairs aims to include more female police officers in reconstruction missions, the Netherlands advises NATO on the integration of UNSC resolution 1325 within NATO operations and policy coordination meetings are held between the government and local active development organisations.

NGO shadow reports:

[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/DutchNetwork\\_Netherlands45.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/DutchNetwork_Netherlands45.pdf)

Benchmarks and resources required for National Action Plan 1325

The Dutch government has been very active at the international level to promote the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1820 addressing sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls in conflict zones. The NGOs commend this. The government has committed itself to the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, in recognition of the crucial role that women play in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction. A National Action Plan 1325 has been adopted. In the view of the NGOs, however, the description in the government's report (p. 28, p. 53/54 in CEDAW/C/NLD/5) is not accurate enough in the light of CEDAW's reporting guidelines. The actual implementation of this Action Plan and its monitoring still requires the adoption of benchmarks to enable measurement of results. Till now, insufficient human and financial resources have been made available for implementation and monitoring of the National Action Plan 1325. Moreover, an update of the National Action Plan, adding the implementation of SCR 1820 in tandem with 1325 seems desirable. The Assessment Framework to prepare peacekeeping missions does not yet incorporate gender perspectives and does not guarantee the protection of women's rights as laid down in UN Resolution 1325 and 1820.

The NGOs suggest the Committee addresses the issue of benchmarks, resources and incorporation of gender perspectives in the National Action Plan 1325 during constructive dialogue.

United Arab Emirates:  
State report:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=CEDAW/C/ARE/1&Lang=E>

The right to obtain loans, mortgages and financial credit

Banking institutions in the United Arab Emirates do not discriminate between men and women in their financial dealings. The laws established by the Central Bank lay down general conditions to guarantee loans. For example, a women is granted loans guaranteed by her salary and no further guarantees are demanded of her. Women have the right to obtain credit cards, just as they have the right to engage in a commercial activity, The official statistics for 2002 show that the number of women managers in the commercial sector in Dubai was no less than 3223, as compared with 1325 in Abu Dhabi and Al-`Ayn during the same year. With regard to participation in business activities, the 2003 statistics reveal the existence of 10,409 commercial licences granted to women. The statistics also give the percentages for women employers (40.5 per cent), business partners (48.1 per cent) and general managers (11.45 per cent) and indicate that 48 per cent of working women work in the field of trade and 42 per cent in various professional jobs, while 9.6 per cent provide specialized services and 0.3 per cent are employed in industry.

44<sup>th</sup> session (20 July – 7 August 2009)

Argentina (postponed until 46th session), Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Denmark, Guinea-Bissau, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Spain, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu

References to 1325 or 1820:

Guinea-Bissau

Summary of meetings

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/SR/CEDAW-C-SR-903.pdf>

49. Ms. Popescu requested additional information on the national mechanism for reviewing domestic laws, some of which dated from the colonial period. Bearing in mind that one of the priorities of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau was to consolidate the rule of law, she would also like to know whether discriminatory legislation was being reviewed under that Framework, with the assistance of UNOGBIS. Lastly, she would welcome more information on the current situation regarding the women in peacebuilding programmes carried out by UNOGBIS and the measures being taken in that regard to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

54. Gender issues were a very important component of the Peacebuilding Commission's work in Guinea-Bissau, as well as an integral part of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau. As mentioned in the report,

information on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) had been widely disseminated at several workshops held in Guinea-Bissau, in order to ensure that women were aware of the Government's obligations under the resolution and were able to participate in the process of implementing it.

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/SR/CEDAW-C-SR-904.pdf>

25. Ms. Ameline, while noting the difficulties engendered by the political instability in Guinea-Bissau, said that in addition to political will, clear regulations and adequate resources were required to bring about true democratic governance, which decision-making. She wondered, in that connection, whether the establishment of 40 per cent quotas for women in decision-making bodies had been incorporated into a draft law and, if so, whether it would apply to the civil service. It would also be interesting to learn whether any steps had been taken to encourage women to run in the upcoming local elections. Lastly, she asked what plans Guinea-Bissau had to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women in peace and security.

#### State report

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/CEDAW.C.GNB.6.pdf>

8. As for the question of an integrated approach to gender (equality and equity), important steps have been taken:

- Regional and national mutual consultation workshops to identify the key questions relating to gender, with an eye to integrating women and men into the process of defining the strategic framework for the consolidation of peace in Guinea-Bissau; in this connection the CEDAW Convention and resolution 1325 have been widely distributed at these workshops;

#### Japan

##### NGO Shadow report

[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/ComfortWomen\\_Japan\\_cedaw44.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/ComfortWomen_Japan_cedaw44.pdf)

Whereas the Government of Japan did sign the 1921 International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children and supported the 2000 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security which recognized the unique impact on women of armed conflict;

Whereas the House of Representatives commends Japan's efforts to promote human security, human rights, democratic values, and rule of law, as well as for being a supporter of Security Council Resolution 1325;

The European Parliament,

- having regard to United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women and Peace and Security,

Liberia

Summary of meetings

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/SR/CEDAW-C-SR-901.pdf>

7. The Government was committed to full implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and had developed a National Action Plan to achieve it. A Secretariat was being set up at the Ministry of Gender and Development to coordinate the implementation of the Action Plan. In addition, a task force was to be set up to ensure the dissemination of information about the Action Plan.

17. Ms. Ameline expressed appreciation for the frankness of the report, with its honest detailing of the many problems facing Liberian women. The implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) was very important to the Committee, because it was essential that the rule of law be established as rapidly as possible, particularly with a view to providing protection for women. The determination of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to make equality a reality was well known, but the duality of the legal system was a crucial issue, because it created a real discrimination between persons before the law and a double discrimination with regard to women, based on their geographical origin and their ethnicity. Since the Constitution did not specifically address discrimination, and there was not yet a specific law on equality, the dualistic system meant that the legal instruments that could be called on to enforce equality were very weak, and entailed a risk of preserving possibilities for violence against women and impunity for perpetrators. While it appeared that there was a willingness to legislate to improve that situation, and also to enhance the training of the judiciary and the police, it was essential to anchor the development of the country in the rule of law.

25. Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) was regarded as a landmark, and the Government intended to use it as a tool to challenge policymakers and achieve accountability for what needed to be done in the interests of women. Women were excited at the possibilities: they were no longer sitting at the back of the room and watching the men take the decisions. Like the President, they were not interested in token representation: they wanted to be fully involved.

State report:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/548/54/PDF/N0854854.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/548/54/PDF/N0854854.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/548/54/PDF/N0854854.pdf?OpenElement)

5.22. The Ministry with technical and financial support from key partners has developed a framework for developing a national action plan for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. Tangible efforts have

been made in Liberia in respect of the incremental implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 passed on 31 October, 2000 in general respects. For instance, the Ministry of Gender and Development is charged with the responsibility of developing policies for the protection and advancement of women. The Ministry has taken a proactive role in mainstreaming gender and the placement of women in key decision making positions and bodies. Additionally Government has adopted several initiatives, such as the various scholarships schemes, and the literacy and skills training programs, all of which are intended to address in part, the special needs of women. These initiatives are pioneering programs, and thus, it is hoped that when the National Action Plan is developed, programs would be designed to ensure that women's peace, security, and protection are adequately addressed.

Concluding observations:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/460/50/PDF/N0946050.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/460/50/PDF/N0946050.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/460/50/PDF/N0946050.pdf?OpenElement)

8. The Committee notes with appreciation the State party's recent efforts to revise existing legislation that discriminates against women and enact new laws, including the 2006 Rape Law which amends chapter 14, sections 14.70 and 14.71, of the new Penal Code, the 2003 Inheritance Law, and the Fairness Bill/Bill for the Equal Participation and Representation of Women in the Political Process, which is pending in Parliament. It also appreciates the State party's efforts to put in place plans, policies and programmes aimed at promoting gender equality, including the National Gender-based Violence Plan of Action (2006), the National Health Policy (2007), the National Policy on Girls' Education (2006), the HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan of Action (2006), the Poverty Reduction Strategy (2008-2011), the National Rural Women's Program (2008), and the national action plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). It notes that implementation of some of these plans and policies remains at the initial stages.

28. While noting efforts made to ensure women's participation in public and political life at all levels, including within the framework of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, the Committee is concerned about the low level of participation of women at the highest levels of decisionmaking and the lack of concrete steps to address the underlying causes, including prevailing social and cultural attitudes.

Spain

Summary of meetings:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/SR/CEDAW-C-SR-888A.pdf>

8. In the international sphere, Spain was committed to fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals as a way to improve conditions for women throughout the world. The Spanish Government's international cooperation plan for 2005-2008 had included gender equality as one of its cross-cutting principles, and that

approach was continued in the plan for 2009-2012. Under the new plan, 9 per cent of Spain's official development assistance would be earmarked for gender issues and 6 per cent for health, with special emphasis on sexual and reproductive health. In 2007, Spain had adopted a plan of action on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, which would be supplemented with provisions relating to Security Council resolution 1820 (2008).

State report:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/320/24/PDF/N0832024.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/320/24/PDF/N0832024.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/320/24/PDF/N0832024.pdf?OpenElement)

127. In November 2007, Spain approved a national plan for the application of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, covering the following objectives:

- To increase the presence of women in peacekeeping operations and in their decision-making bodies.
- To encourage inclusion of a gender perspective in all phases of peacekeeping operations, from planning through to conclusion, including the reconstruction process.
- To ensure specific training in gender equity matters and the various aspects of Resolution 1325 for personnel engaged in peacekeeping operations.
- To guarantee full enjoyment of human rights for women and girls in conflict and post-conflict zones and to encourage women's participation in the negotiation and enforcement of peace agreements.
- To mainstream the gender equality principle in the planning and execution of Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) activities.
- To encourage participation by Spanish civil society.

Switzerland

State report:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/316/54/PDF/N0831654.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/316/54/PDF/N0831654.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/316/54/PDF/N0831654.pdf?OpenElement)

161. In 2005, the annual conference of Swiss ambassadors devoted a half-day programme to the topic of promoting equality between women and men in foreign policy. Particular attention was given to resolution 1325 of the United Nations Security Council and its implications for civilian peace-building activities by Switzerland.

197. As part of its commitment to support civilian peace-building and human rights, Switzerland takes its cue to a large extent from the goals defined in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, "Women, peace and security" and therefore takes into account the needs and rights of women in armed conflicts. On 8 March 2007 Switzerland published a national plan of action adopted by the Federal Council for the implementation of the resolution. The national plan of

action provides for specific measures aimed at strengthening participation by women in peace-building, in preventing sexist violence, and in ensuring greater respect for the needs and rights of women and girls during and after armed conflicts, as well as integrating the gender perspective into all peace-building projects and programmes. Most of the measures provided for in the national plan of action, which is the product of interdepartmental cooperation, will be implemented by the services of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and by the Federal Department of Defence, Protection of the Population and Sports.

198. Switzerland is a member of the “Friends of resolution 1325 group” which comprises 27 States. The aim of this group is to advocate the implementation of the resolution in practice. It takes measures to encourage its members to adopt the requirements of the resolution as the framework for their endeavours and works with other UN organs, as well as other inter- governmental organizations, to elicit their support for the requirements of the resolution.

199. In accordance with the priorities set in the National 1325 plan of action and in light of the objectives it was already pursuing in regard to gender, Switzerland supports political participation by women in other countries through programmes of civilian peace-building and promotion of human rights. In the framework of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, for example, Switzerland financially supported the Gender Task Force (GTF) until 2003. The GTF encourages the establishment of national mechanisms and institutions to promote equality for women. In the occupied Palestinian territory, Switzerland has since 2002 supported the activities of the non-governmental organization MIFTAH (Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy). One of the projects supported aims at improving the chances of success of women candidates in local elections as well as parliamentary elections. Another project supported by Switzerland aims at increasing women’s participation in the peace negotiations. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Switzerland supported the inter-Congolese dialogue (DIC) which led in December 2002 to the signature of the Global and All-Inclusive Agreement, by which the parties undertook to bring an end to the conflict and create a dynamic of national reunification and reconciliation. Swiss experts have actively advanced the principle that the parliament should comprise at least 30% women. That rule has been enshrined in the transitional constitution. In Burundi, Switzerland helped women’s organizations to improve their networking with local decision-makers in order to have their interests represented in the political process. In 2004, Switzerland supported a project to promote participation by women politicians in Mozambique’s elections. Another goal of that project was to unite women politicians around an overarching theme that cut across political lines - in this case, violence against women - in order to lead them to play a mediating role in cases of conflicts between parties. In 2005, Switzerland also supported a project of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights aimed at strengthening women’s participation in democratization in the Caucasus and Central Asia.

212. In the sphere of peace policy, Switzerland attaches special importance to the role of women. In keeping with the objectives of its national plan of action for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, it is provided, for example, that the proportion of women in the Swiss pool of experts for civilian peace-building should be increased to 40% and that this percentage should also be observed with regard to delegations of experts sent into the field. In mid-2007, 31% of the members of the Swiss pool of experts for civilian peace-building and 41% of persons actually engaged on the ground were women.

#### Timor-Leste

##### Summary of meetings:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/SR/CEDAW-C-SR-899.pdf>

40. She expressed concern at the idea of keeping women in their traditional, domestic role, a role that had its importance but that should not preclude their playing other roles, particularly in a post-conflict society. In that connection, with the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) approaching, Timor-Leste should strive to serve as an example of the positive role that women could play in promoting peace and security.

43. With regard to Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), various programmes were being carried out that contributed directly to its implementation. The question of educational curriculum was a priority, but the Government currently lacked the human resources to develop a gender-sensitive curriculum.

##### State report:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/617/64/PDF/N0861764.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/617/64/PDF/N0861764.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/617/64/PDF/N0861764.pdf?OpenElement)

Recognising the contribution of Timorese women during periods of occupation and considering the importance of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) as a crucial step forward in the achievement of women's empowerment for peace and security, an additional section on 'Women in the Conflict' is included in this Initial State Party Report to CEDAW.

##### NGO Shadow report:

[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/NGO\\_alternaitve\\_report\\_TimorLeste\\_CEDAW44.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/NGO_alternaitve_report_TimorLeste_CEDAW44.pdf)

5. The State must incorporate the provisions in the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, and UNSCR 1820 on Ending Sexual Violence against Women in Conflict into the Timor-Leste National Action Plan.

3. Rede Feto has conducted trainings for police, the Timor-Leste Defense Force (FFDTL), teachers and local leaders on issues of women's rights, gender issues, transformative leadership, the CEDAW and the UN Security Council Resolution 1325.

6. The State must ensure that National Action Plan of Timor-Leste incorporates the principles of the UNSCR 1820 on Ending Sexual Violence against Women in Conflict and the UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, with particular attention to point 11 which calls for an end to impunity.

Concluding observations:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/460/86/PDF/N0946086.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/460/86/PDF/N0946086.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/460/86/PDF/N0946086.pdf?OpenElement)

14. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that the promotion and protection of women's human rights and gender equality are central goals of all aspects of the transition process and to raise the legislature's awareness of those important goals. It further urges the State party to devote serious attention to the specific needs of women in the post-conflict period and ensure women's equal participation in decision-making, in conformity with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security. The Committee recommends that the State party put in place an action plan for the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), taking into account paragraph 1 of article 4, and articles 7 and 8 of the Convention.

44. The Committee requests the State party to pay particular attention to the needs of women returnees through the adoption of a national policy in line with Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008) and the formulation and implementation of gender-sensitive plans and programmes for social reintegration, capacity-building and the training of women returnees. The Committee requests the State party to ensure that women returnees who have been victims of violence, including sexual violence, have access to immediate means of redress.

43rd session (19 January – 6 February 2009)

Armenia, Cameroon, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Rwanda, Dominica (consideration of the implementation of the Convention in the absence of a report)

References to 1325 or 1820:

Armenia

State report:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/203/08/PDF/N0820308.pdf?OpenElement>

239. The Ministry of Labour and Social Issues and the United Nations Development Fund for Women in May 2006 signed a protocol of intent according to which the parties were obliged to develop a system for monitoring mechanisms at the national level that would facilitate the enforcement of the provisions of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the Programme to Improve the Status of Women and to Enhance Their Role in Society in the Republic of Armenia for the Period 2004–2010 and the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, as well as the Beijing Platform for Action, the Millennium Development Goals and UN Security Council Resolution 1325. Created for that purpose was an interdepartmental working group that was to develop gender-based indicators and a strategy for meeting the commitments to establish gender equality. UNIFEM committed to providing the technical support for the group's work.

Germany

Summary of meetings:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/275/23/PDF/N0927523.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/275/23/PDF/N0927523.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/275/23/PDF/N0927523.pdf?OpenElement)

62. The Committee attached great importance to Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on the role of women in the context of armed conflict and post-conflict situations. He asked why Germany did not have an action plan to implement that resolution.

63. Ms. Welskop-Deffaa (Germany) said that the Federal Government strongly supported implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and was currently in contact with the Netherlands, a State which had been very active in that area, in order to learn from its experience. A recent high-level discussion between her Ministry and the Federal Ministry of Defence had focused on that issue and action would be taken in 2009, although it might not be called an action plan.

NGO Shadow reports:

[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/AGWO\\_Germany43\\_en.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/AGWO_Germany43_en.pdf)

The UN zero tolerance policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and UN Security Council Resolution 1325 are not being implemented on a sustainable basis. Among other things, sensitivity training and a specific action plan for S/Res/1325 are lacking.

23. How will the government ensure that the UN zero tolerance policy (SEA) is put into practice, and that German soldiers are educated about human rights-related, gender-specific, and intercultural standards as part of their preparation

for foreign deployment? How will the government put UN S/Res/1325 into practice on a sustainable basis?

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/AGWOGermany43.pdf>

## Germany

Both the German Foreign Office and Chancellor Merkel have told medical professionals several times that they are not prepared to establish a National Action Plan to implement UN SC Res 1325. The reason given is that there are already two action plans which can be used to introduce appropriate measures.<sup>149</sup> Although there have been preliminary efforts to do this, the measures are often unsustainable because support for them is short term. Besides, they are divided up between very different state mechanisms and instruments as well as across various ministries and players in the fields of conflict prevention, human rights, health, humanitarian aid and development – without managing to demonstrate any clear, intersectoral, coordinated strategies to support women in armed conflicts, notably survivors of violence with sexualised violence. In this respect, UN SC Res 1325 is urgently needed as a common thread to pull all these actions together. The German approach also fails to take account of the fact that the original meaning of gender mainstreaming, whether at national or international level, implied a dual approach in which gender mainstreaming must be combined with additional measures aimed exclusively at women. Only this dual strategy can guarantee progress towards equality of the sexes, ending violence against women and empowering women in war-torn and post-war countries. It is vital, therefore, that in addition to the mechanisms described<sup>150</sup> the federal government draws up an integrated strategy in the form of a 1325 Action Plan, from which other instruments can take their bearings. This will prevent measures geared solely to the needs, circumstances and rights of women/girls in armed conflicts being ruled out by the very practice of gender mainstreaming.

Our recommendations to the federal government:

- instruct that German soldiers are given awareness training about forced prostitution as a violation of human rights based on the NATO training manual on combating trafficking in human beings for military forces;
- establish a strict Code of Conduct and a monitoring system attached to a high-ranking office in the armed forces, especially for operations abroad;
- soldiers on operations as home or abroad who violate human or women's rights must always be prosecuted under criminal law and not transferred to other operations;
- launch an National Action Plan to implement UN SC Res 1325 with binding and sustainable targets and an intersectoral, coordinated strategy to support women in armed conflicts, especially those who have survived sexualised violence;

- implement gender mainstreaming, including gender budgeting, as the guiding horizontal principle underlying all dimensions of operations abroad and all aspects of foreign, military and security policy related to UN SC Res 1325.

Concluding observations:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/236/50/PDF/N0923650.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/236/50/PDF/N0923650.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/236/50/PDF/N0923650.pdf?OpenElement)

51. The Committee expresses concern that the scandal that came to light in 2004 of German soldiers serving in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Kosovo Force taking part in forced prostitution resulted neither in charges brought nor sanctions taken against the perpetrators nor in greater gender-awareness training for German troops. Taking note of the information provided by the delegation that a project for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security is scheduled for 2009, the Committee wishes to draw the State party's attention to its commitment to include information on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women in national training programmes for military and civilian police personnel in preparation for deployment.

52. The Committee recommends that the State party take all appropriate measures to ensure that complaints lodged against its troops abroad are resolved expeditiously, in order to avoid any possible inference of impunity. The Committee calls upon the State party to provide awareness-raising training for military forces and civilian police personnel on forced prostitution and to establish a strict code of conduct, together with a strict monitoring system. The Committee further recommends that the State party envisage launching a national action plan to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Haiti

Summary of meetings:

[http://daccess-dds-](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/265/45/PDF/N0926545.pdf?OpenElement)

[ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/265/45/PDF/N0926545.pdf?OpenElement](http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/265/45/PDF/N0926545.pdf?OpenElement)

54. Ms. Šimonović suggested that Haiti could ratify the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1 of the Convention concerning meeting time at the same time it ratified the Optional Protocol. She asked for more details on the proposed equality act, including its title and scope. Ideally, prohibition of discrimination and equality of men and women should be enshrined in the Constitution. It would also be interesting to hear more about the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security and the delegation's reflections on the contributions of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH).

Rwanda

Summary of meetings:

[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/SR885\\_Rwanda.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/SR885_Rwanda.pdf)

29. Ms. Šimonovič asked if a time frame had been established for dealing with the review of discriminatory legislation and if there was a specific plan for implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security.

30. Ms. Mujawamariya (Rwanda) said that there were three types of marital property regimes: community property, marital property and separation of property. The provisions of the Family Code giving the husband the right to determine the family residence and the right to register the birth of children had been changed to give equal responsibility to both spouses. Marriages must be registered, an action which fell under the competence of the local government. Informal unions were being formalized collectively in many communities in order to avoid problems with succession. The revised Family Code had reached the Office of the Prime Minister for consideration. Rwanda had already implemented many of the recommendations contained in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and was acting as quickly as possible to implement the rest.

Concluding observations:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/236/44/PDF/N0923644.pdf?OpenElement>

24. The Committee calls upon the State party to take all necessary measures, as emphasized in United Nations Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), and in conformity with the Convention and the Beijing Platform for Action, in order to ensure women's equal participation and full involvement in the reconstruction and socio-economic development of the country. The Committee also urges the State party to continue to ensure appropriate protection, support and equal access to justice for the women victims of sexual violence during the genocide.

40. The Committee requests the State party to pay particular attention to the needs of refugee women and women returnees, including those with disabilities, through the adoption of a national policy in line with Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), and the formulation and implementation of gender-sensitive plans and programmes for social reintegration, capacity-building and training of refugee women and women returnees. The Committee requests the State party to ensure the protection of refugee women and women returnees from violence and their access to immediate means of redress.

42nd session (2008)
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Bahrain, Belgium, Canada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Mongolia, Myanmar, Portugal, Slovenia and Uruguay

References to 1325 or 1820:

## Myanmar

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/603/49/PDF/N0860349.pdf?OpenElement>

25. The Committee urges the State party to take immediate steps to put an end to those violations, to prosecute and punish the perpetrators, including military personnel, and to carry out human rights education and gender sensitization training for all law-enforcement and military personnel. The Committee urges the State party to document cases of rape and sexual assault, including all complaints filed, investigations, prosecutions and convictions. Such information, especially when it involves military and senior officials, would facilitate a better understanding of the situation. The State party should take due account of Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security and 1820 (2008) on sexual violence in armed conflict and is encouraged to put in place an action plan for the full implementation of those resolutions, taking into account article 2, article 4, paragraph 1, articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Convention. The Committee requests the State party to include CEDAW/C/MMR/CO/3 information on the steps taken to eliminate sexual violence, including the results achieved, in the next periodic report.

### 41st session (2008)

Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Nigeria, Slovakia, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen

References to 1325 or 1820:

#### Finland

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/CEDAW.C.FIN.CO.6.pdf>

7. The Committee congratulates the State party for its international assistance and bilateral cooperation programmes designed to promote and protect women's rights. The Committee also congratulates the State party on its efforts, nationally and internationally, to enhance implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security.

#### Nigeria

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/CEDAW.C.NGA.CO.6.pdf>

38. The Committee requests the State party to pay particular attention to the needs of internally-displaced women, including women with disabilities, through the adoption of a national policy on displacement in line with Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820, and the formulation and implementation of gender-sensitive plans and programmes for social re-integration, capacity-building and training of internally-displaced persons. It also recommends that the Inter-Ministerial Task Force on Gender and Peacekeeping pay particular attention to the situation of internally-displaced women. The Committee also requests the State party to ensure the protection of internally-displaced women from violence and their access to immediate means of redress.

## United Kingdom

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/CEDAW.C.GBR.CO.6.pdf>

37. While noting the efforts made to increase the number of women in both elective and appointed positions in public office, in the diplomatic service and in international organizations, the Committee is concerned that women continue to be underrepresented in political and public life, especially in leadership and decision-making positions. The Committee notes that women's representation currently stands at 19.6 per cent in the House of Commons and 19.1 per cent in the House of Lords. It notes that the figures are higher, however, in Scotland (33.3 per cent) and Wales (46.7 per cent). The Committee is also concerned at the low representation of women in the judiciary in Northern Ireland. In view of its particular relevance to Northern Ireland, the Committee notes with regret the lack of information provided on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. It also notes the underrepresentation of women in public office, standing at 16.7 per cent in the Assembly, and in key institutions established directly as a result of the peace process.

40 <sup>th</sup> session (2008)
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Bolivia, Burundi, Saudi Arabia, France, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Morocco and Sweden

References to 1325 or 1820:

## Burundi

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/298/43/PDF/N0829843.pdf?OpenElement>

7. The Committee congratulates the State party on the imminent establishment of the steering committee responsible for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

16. The Committee calls on the State party to intensify its efforts to raise awareness about the Convention, its Optional Protocol and the Committee's general recommendations and to implement training programmes on the Convention for prosecutors, judges and lawyers so as to establish a legal culture supportive of gender equality and non-discrimination. In addition, the Committee urges the State party to provide legal aid services and recommends that awareness-raising and information campaigns be undertaken, targeting women and non-governmental organizations working on women's issues and human rights, to encourage them to make use of the available procedures and remedies for violations of their rights. It requests the State party to remove the impediments that women may face in gaining access to justice and invites it to seek aid from the international community for the implementation of concrete measures to this effect. The Committee takes this opportunity to remind the State party to ensure that the truth and reconciliation process is conducted in compliance with the provisions of the Convention and that women are involved in

the process on an equal footing with men, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Lebanon

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/298/32/PDF/N0829832.pdf?OpenElement>

7. The Committee commends the State party's post conflict efforts to mainstream the role of women in peace building, decision-making, development and rehabilitation process in ten villages which were heavily affected by the conflict in Lebanon in July and August 2006. It also welcomes the implementation of a project entitled "WEPASS" aimed at empowering women in the conflict-affected regions with a view to capacity building in the main areas of concern covered by Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

13. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that the promotion and protection of women's human rights and gender equality is a central goal of all aspects of the transition process and to raise the legislature's awareness of that important goal. It further urges the State party to devote serious attention to the specific needs of women in the post-conflict period and ensure women's equal participation in decision-making, in conformity with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security. The Committee recommends that the State party put in place an action plan for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), taking into account paragraph 1 of article 4, and articles 7 and 8 of the Convention.

39<sup>th</sup> session (2007)

Cook Islands, Belize, Brazil, Estonia, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea and Singapore

References to 1325 or 1820:

Norway

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/459/71/PDF/N0745971.pdf?OpenElement>

8. The Committee welcomes the State party's launch in 2006 of its Plan of Action for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), on women and peace and security.

38<sup>th</sup> session (2007)

Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Pakistan, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic and Vanuatu

References to 1325 or 1820:

Serbia

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/375/72/PDF/N0737572.pdf?OpenElement>

28. The Committee urges the State party to strengthen and implement measures to increase the representation of women in appointed bodies and in government structures through, inter alia, effective application of temporary special measures, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention and the Committee's general recommendation 25, in order to realize women's right to equal participation in all areas of public life and, in particular, at high levels of decision-making. The Committee recommends that the State party fully utilize general recommendation 23. It also recommends that the State party increase its efforts in offering or supporting capacity-building programmes for current and future women leaders and carry out awareness raising campaigns regarding the importance of women's equal participation in political and public decision-making. The Committee recommends that the State party put in place an action plan for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), taking into account paragraph 1 of article 4, and articles 7 and 8 of the Convention.

37<sup>th</sup> session (2007)

Tajikistan, Austria, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Greece, India, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Peru, Poland, Suriname, Tajikistan and Vietnam

References to 1325 or 1820:

Colombia

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/244/22/PDF/N0724422.pdf?OpenElement>

8. The Committee commends the important progress made by the State party to create and strengthen policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms to address the pervasive violence in the country, including all forms of violence against women, and to provide increased attention to internally displaced persons, especially women and children. The Committee also congratulates the State party on its efforts, nationally and internationally, to enhance implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security.

Netherlands

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/243/92/PDF/N0724392.pdf?OpenElement>

6. The Committee congratulates the State party for its international assistance and bilateral cooperation programmes designed to promote and protect women's rights. The Committee also congratulates the State party on its efforts, nationally and internationally, to enhance implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security.

36<sup>th</sup> session (2006)

Cape Verde, Chile, China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Georgia, Ghana, Jamaica, Mauritius, Mexico, Philippines, Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan

References to 1325 or 1820:

Denmark

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/478/22/PDF/N0647822.pdf?OpenElement>

6. The Committee commends the State party for being among the first countries in the world to elaborate an action plan in 2005 on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security, with direct relevance to article 3, article 4, paragraph 1, and article 7 of the Convention.

35<sup>th</sup> session (2006)

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Malaysia, Saint Lucia, Turkmenistan, Guatemala, Malawi and Romania

References to 1325 or 1820:

Cyprus

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/384/61/PDF/N0638461.pdf?OpenElement>

34. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that women continue to fully participate in the peace process, in line with United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

34<sup>th</sup> session (2006)

Cambodia, Eritrea, the Former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Togo, Australia, Mali, Thailand and Venezuela

33<sup>th</sup> session (2005)

Benin, Korea, Gambia, Lebanon, Burkina Faso, Guyana, Ireland and Israel

32<sup>nd</sup> session (2005)

Lao People's Democratic Republic, Samoa, Algeria, Croatia, Gabon, Italy, Paraguay and Turkey

31<sup>st</sup> session (2004)

Angola, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Latvia (page could not be displayed), Malta, Spain, Argentina and Bangladesh

References to 1325 or 1820:

Bangladesh

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/co/BangladeshCO31.pdf>

227. In conclusion, another representative illustrated the Government's efforts at the international level in support of gender equality, including joint/main sponsorship of a resolution on gender mainstreaming in the Commission on the Status of Women, a lead role in the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, and adherence to almost all international instruments concerning the rights of women. The representative said that more than in most societies of comparable milieu, and despite its many and varied constraints, Bangladesh was forging ahead with the correct mindset, and progress on all socio-economic fronts, including women's empowerment, was palpable.

30<sup>th</sup> session (2004)

Belarus, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Germany, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Nigeria