

**Ms. Al-Thani (Qatar)** (*spoke in Arabic*): I would like to thank the French presidency of the Security Council for convening today's important debate.

I would also like to thank Ms. Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti, Chef de Cabinet of the Secretary-General, Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN-Women, Ms. Charo Mina-Rojas, member of the Non-Governmental Organizations Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, and Ms. Michaëlle Jean, Secretary-General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie, for their briefings.

The adoption of resolution 1325 (2000) was indeed a turning point in our approach to the issue of women and their role in the maintenance of peace and security. The international community has recognized the serious impact of conflict on the lives of women. It has also acknowledged the importance of including women in conflict prevention and in post-conflict mediation. The Council addresses this issue quite often. The regular holding of debates on the role of women in the area of peace and security is proof that we are on the right path towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

It is unfortunate to see that women and girls are the primary victims of violent conflicts around the world. Women pay a high price in such conflicts as a result of the fact that State representatives, Governments and the parties to conflict do not respect international law. That is why we must continue to consider the role women play in order to prevent such situations. We also need a long-term strategy aimed at empowering women and at putting an end to the human rights violations of which women and girls are victims.

In that framework, it is important that we facilitate women's access to transitional justice mechanisms, which seek, in particular, to combat crimes that take place in conflicts and in transitional situations. We therefore also attach due importance and interest to the role of women in combating radicalism, which very often leads to terrorism. Women can contribute to creating an atmosphere that is beneficial for fighting such phenomena, in particular so as to protect children.

That is why Qatar has been undertaking initiatives at the national and international levels aimed at strengthening peace and security in our societies. Furthermore, and within the framework of our policy to achieve peace worldwide, we aim to contribute to an international study on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000). That is part of the State of Qatar's efforts to implement its national 2030 vision, which we seek to do at the national, regional and international levels. We are attempting to integrate work on the women and peace and security agenda in all of our development and humanitarian programmes. We are doing that in a number of different regions around the world. Moreover, the international community has time and again hailed those efforts.

Women's participation in decision-making within the United Nations is an extremely important element. It allows us to implement resolution 1325 (2000), and it is the reason why we pay

particular attention to that aspect. We are an active member of the Group of Friends of Gender Equality within the United Nations, and we support various programmes and activities aimed at ensuring that an increasing number of women occupy important posts within the United Nations.

I would therefore like to thank the Secretary General for his efforts to achieve gender equality within the Organization and to end gender-based violence — and to do so not only within the Organization but worldwide. That is one of the flagship measures of his administration, and I hope we will be able to implement it by 2028.

Finally, the State of Qatar remains committed to strengthening women's participation in international peace and security. It supports the various measures to promote an atmosphere that protects women and allows them to contribute to conflict resolution and to postconflict efforts.