

Civil Society Advisory Group to the UN on Women, Peace, and Security

COMMITMENTS FOR ACTION TO ADVANCE UNSCR 1325

CSAG urges each member state, be it conflict-affected, a traditional donor, or other, to adopt new, time-bound, concrete actions for advancing implementation of UNSCR 1325. The following are suggestions of the types of commitments that can be made to mark the resolution's tenth anniversary this October. The list is illustrative and non-exhaustive. CSAG encourages member states to adopt one or more of the options below or to commit to alternative actions, including providing financial support, dedicating additional personnel, or modifying laws and policies, to further women's rights protections in conflict-affected contexts, and women's participation and leadership in all peacebuilding processes. Joint commitments that combine the efforts of several states, or match the contributions of civil society, the business community, regional organizations, or the UN are particularly welcome.

1. Ensure that at least 50 percent of the names submitted to the UN, or multilateral organizations for the election or nomination of persons to positions of special representatives or special envoys, or other high-level positions relating to peace mediation, peace negotiation, or peace keeping, are of women.
2. Establish a standard operating procedure that funding for peace negotiations will be contingent upon there being at least 30 percent women on each mediation and negotiation team.
3. Mandate that by 2014, the proportion of police and military personnel deployed to peacekeeping missions will be equal to the proportion of women in national police and military forces.
4. Introduce policies to increase the proportion of women in national police and military forces to at least 20 percent by 2015.
5. Contribute to trust funds to support women's participation in peace negotiations and/or to support women's and civil society's participation in donor conferences.
6. Develop and adopt a National Action Plan on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 using a participatory, transparent process that involves the highest level of political leadership, all relevant government agencies, and civil society.
7. Commit to "twinning" with another member state to develop and implement National Action Plans and/or to provide financial and technical resources to support Plan development and implementation.

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CSAG advises the High-Level Steering Committee of the heads of UN agencies to ensure a coherent approach to implementing Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security. October 2010 marks the resolution's tenth anniversary: CSAG calls on the UN and member states to reinforce their commitment to protecting women's rights in the context of armed conflict and empowering women's full participation in all peacebuilding and reconstruction processes.

8. Provide financial and technical resources to support the development and implementation of Regional Action Plans and other regional approaches to dealing with cross-border conflict.
9. Adopt a zero tolerance policy to sexual abuse and exploitation by national security forces and develop and implement mechanisms for investigating and sanctioning perpetrators of sexual abuse and exploitation.
10. Establish sexual violence desks within police forces and equip them with specialized investigatory equipment, such as rape kits, that enable them to gather forensic evidence associated with sexual violence.
11. Provide financial and technical resources to disseminate and train UN officials, implementing agencies, humanitarian non-governmental organizations, host governments, and affected women on the Inter-Agency Standing Committee 2005 *Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings: Focusing on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence in Emergencies*.
12. Support civil society organizations working on the women, peace, and security agenda by providing earmarked funds to these organizations or by establishing a fund that distributes resources to civil society organizations directly instead of channeling them through the UN or national governments.
13. Pledge to support the participation of civil society-led groups and coalitions that demonstrate a commitment to peacemaking in mediating peace processes.
14. Provide financial and technical resources to improve the organizational capacity of women-led non-governmental organizations working on issues of peace and security.
15. Ensure a minimum of 15 percent of funds expended in post-conflict situations is allocated to projects for which advancing gender equality is the principal objective.