

**Mr. Selim** (Egypt) (*spoke in Arabic*): I would like to thank the Kingdom of Spain and the President of the Government of Spain for taking the initiative to convene today's meeting on women and peace and security on the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000), and for inviting us to participate.

I would also like to thank the Secretary-General for his efforts to highlight this important issue, including in his most recent report on the resolution's implementation (S/2015/716), which particularly emphasizes the problem of resolving the crises facing us of the lack of financing and inequitable selectivity in allocating financial resources, as well as the direct links that the report highlights among development issues, including the importance of supporting countries' efforts to help their peoples achieve their aspirations and of protecting women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations. Egypt supports the Secretary-General's call to promote the role of women in its peacekeeping operations and its mediation and conflict-resolution efforts.

Our discussion of the issues related to resolution 1325 (2000) has touched on the lack of adequate attention to some of the chief problems it is aimed at, in particular the degree to which women suffer under foreign occupation, as well as the effects that can result from an overemphasis on the connection between international human rights law and international humanitarian law, which can weaken the systems available for providing protection in both peace and war through the politicization of positions on the various issues linked to the two types of law. Another is insufficient attention to the priorities of national sovereignty and respect for national legislation, along with a reliance on unofficial studies that may not be as precise in evaluating the progress made in achieving goals for women and peace and security.

Terrorism is a threat to peace and security, along with the armed conflicts that afflict many States and regions around the world. In most cases, in fact, it forms an integral part of every conflict. That is a threat our communities face, and the threat level has increased of late. It has affected States' abilities to carry out their aspirations in terms of development and prosperity. Although terrorism threatens the whole of society, women are the most vulnerable. That is a cause to which we will accord great interest as a non-permanent member of the Security Council.

Egypt accords great interest to issues of women and their role as a pivotal element in building and maintaining peace. That interest is based on Egypt's efforts in promoting the position of women in different areas. It goes hand in hand with Egypt's broader vision of the empowerment of women at all levels. Egypt has supported the goals and rationale of resolution 1325 (2000) since its adoption, back in 2000, given the importance of this and subsequent resolutions with respect to the cause of women in conflict and post-conflict

situations. In that regard, Egypt's support has taken many forms at both the regional and international levels.

The National Council for Women of Egypt has worked out a national plan for follow-up and implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in the framework of the active role played by women in the area of international conflict resolution. Egypt has become one of 17 African States to develop that kind of national plan. Over the last 15 years, since the adoption of the resolution, Egypt has held a number of activities on that issue. Two regional workshops were organized, jointly with the United Nations and the League of Arab States. Egypt has accorded special attention to issues of training and capacity-building. From 2013 to 2015, the Cairo Regional Centre for Training on Conflict-Resolution and Peacekeeping in Africa has held seven training courses, two courses for the training of trainers and a workshop, all dedicated to habilitating staff and to exchanging expertise on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), under the theme "Inclusion of gender in peacekeeping and peace building", to be complemented by the holding of five additional training courses in the same vein up to June 2016.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate my appreciation for the call to convene this important meeting, in which we have been eager to participate in the framework of Egypt's support for the efforts of the United Nations, and the Security Council in particular, to promote the role and status of women. Egypt will also be sure to follow up on these issues regionally and internationally in the context of its efforts to achieve peace and security.