

Mrs. Kawar (Jordan) (*spoke in Arabic*): I would like to thank the presidency of Spain for convening today's important meeting. I would also like to thank the Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Executive Director of UN-Women, Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, the Director of Fonds pour les femmes congolaises, Ms. Julienne Lusenge, the President of the Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq, Ms. Yanar Mohammed, and the Founder and President of the Voice of Libyan Women, Ms. Alaa Murabit.

The importance of today's meeting lies in the fact that resolution 1325 (2000), which was adopted 15 years ago, is an important milestone in international efforts aimed at protecting women from violence and enhancing their role in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, as well as in the establishment of fair and stable societies. In the years since its adoption, the resolution has served to increase international awareness of the importance of protecting women and girls, encouraging the participation of women in national, regional and international institutions, particularly in the areas of peacekeeping, conflict management and resolution, and containing risks to humankind. It has also enhanced the legal and normative frameworks with regard to the women and peace and security agenda.

Ninety per cent of the resolutions adopted by the Security Council concerning the establishment or extension of the mandates of peacekeeping operations refer to this agenda. In addition, resolution 1325 (2000) provides a normative framework for many regional organizations and appears in many peace treaties signed in recent years, which make clear references to gender.

However, despite the efforts to ensure the full implementation of the resolution, and despite the time that has gone by since its adoption, many challenges remain. In fact, the concepts of peace and security are now different from what they were 15 years ago. Indeed, some of the threats against women and girls are new. We are also now talking about climate change, the upsurge of religious extremism throughout the world and the unprecedented increase in the number of refugees and internally displaced persons, including women and girls, throughout the world, particularly

in the Middle East. The changing nature and form of conflicts, including civil wars, has also become an important element in the violation of human rights.

When we talk about the rights of women and girls in the context of resolution 1325 (2000), it should be realized that the resolution is not just a means to guarantee the participation of women in negotiations during conflicts but it is also necessary for the protection of women during conflicts. In that regard, I would like to pay tribute to the Arab women in Palestine, Syria and Yemen who are still victims of armed conflicts and

related persecution. It is therefore necessary that more effective measures be taken to implement resolution 1325 (2000).

Jordan welcomes the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General (S/2015/716), such as increasing the participation and representation of women in decision-making posts in the area of peace and security and enhancing gender equality at all levels at the United Nations. We draw attention to the importance of appropriately funding the women and peace and security agenda so that its recommendations can be implemented. That would represent the qualitative and quantitative leap forward needed to implement resolution 1325 (2000) and to meet the changes and new challenges that the women and peace and security agenda is facing.

I would like to highlight some of the measures that we have taken nationally. Jordan signed the political declaration entitled “Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality” just last month, which includes a commitment to adopt a national plan to implement resolution 1325 (2000). For that reason, we are in the process of modifying our plan of action in order to harmonize it with the Sustainable Development Goals (General Assembly resolution 70/1), keeping in mind the current regional context, including the constant flow of Syrian refugees into Jordan. We are doing everything possible to provide protection and basic services for Syrian women refugees in our country, pursuant to the women and peace and security agenda.

The role that women can play in countering extremist thought is also crucial. Women can have a positive influence on their children, encouraging them to preserve peace and security and keeping them from being recruited by extremist groups.

Jordan continues to be committed to the promotion of women in peacekeeping and in decision-making.

In conflict resolution, the Jordanian armed forces, also known as the Arab Army, have supported the enhancement of the role of women in the military, with a view to making the forces more efficient. Jordanian women have taken part in peacekeeping operations and humanitarian missions since 2007.

Furthermore, women play an enhanced role in the Kingdom’s health services through their work in field hospitals outside the country. Women also play an important role in welcoming and providing protection and services for Syrian refugees. In the context of international cooperation, we are studying the gender element in security programmes, with a view to creating a strategy to increase the participation of Jordanian women in our security forces in collaboration with NATO.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that Jordan will continue to enhance and guarantee the protection of and respect for the rights of women and girls in our legislation and to promote women's empowerment so that they may increasingly participate in decision-making. We will also continue to protect the rights of women and girls from all forms of violence, and we will enhance capacities with governmental and non-governmental organizations for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000).