

Ms. Picco (Monaco) (*spoke in French*): Celebrating the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000) in the current context means recognizing the indispensable role women play in development and peace. The resolution's unanimous adoption, and the six resolutions that subsequently strengthened it, sent a strong and clear message to the international community: the threats and violations of human rights against women in conflict and post-conflict situations are unacceptable. They are daughters, sisters, wives and mothers. They are women who have been brutalized, raped, exploited, enslaved or forced into prostitution.

The global study and its indicators have highlighted women's vulnerability, which has worsened as conflicts, violent extremism and terrorism have proliferated. The recommendations of the high-level advisory group and the outstanding and untiring efforts of UN-Women are more relevant than ever at a time when we are reviewing peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations as well as celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Beijing Platform of Action.

We must build on the considerable progress that has already been made on the women and peace and security agenda. With their assistance and experience, the United Nations agencies and the organizations in the field, particularly the International Committee of the Red Cross, have made a substantial contribution by implementing our commitments and sharing their expertise. The determination of all these actors, to whom Monaco pays tribute, has helped to mobilize the international community as a whole. That collective effort is crucial if we are to achieve gender equality, empower women and girls and promote effective institutions, peaceful societies and access to justice, all Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To that end, we recognize that educating girls and women and supporting civil society are priorities.

It is therefore essential that we support the participation of women and gender experts in conflict prevention and not merely in peace negotiations and peacebuilding. Similarly, the judicial proceedings of our international tribunals should help to strengthen the fight against impunity and ensure zero tolerance for those who perpetrate sexual and gender-based violence. Justice for victims should help to rebuild not only the victims themselves but also their families and communities and can also contribute to ending stigmatization of victims.

Finally, on behalf of my delegation, I would like to thank the Secretary-General and the Spanish presidency of the Council. Monaco is a sponsor of resolution 2242 (2015), which we adopted today and which breathes new energy into the political commitment of Member States and the United Nations to the agenda on women and peace and security. We will continue to support UN-Women.

