



STATEMENT BY H.E. PETER THOMSON, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 ON 26 OCTOBER 2010

Mr. President,

At the outset, the Fiji delegation wishes to convey its salutations to you personally and your Government, and to convey our gratitude for your convening this important event. At the same time, we thank the Secretary-General for his most comprehensive report.

Fiji associates itself with the statement to be delivered today by the Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS).

Mr. President,

For the purpose of this event, firstly we wish to reiterate on the pronouncement highlighted in the Secretary-General's Report that in the last ten years since the adoption of Resolution 1325, its overall implementation has been slow. Undoubtedly there has been progress made, but much work remains to be done in implementing the resolution and in assessing the progress made by individual countries.

On a more positive note, we welcome with appreciation the initiative of the Security Council and the work carried out by the Secretary-General in establishing the set of indicators, which will not only track the implementation of the resolution, but also serve as a guide for all Member States in their efforts to achieve the desired goals of the resolution. We believe such universal indicators can only gain their utmost advantage if national implementing framework and policies are put in place to implement the various thematic areas of the

resolution. This belief is based on the fact that the slow rates of overall implementation of the resolution derive from the difficulties faced by many countries in linking and incorporating its relevant principles into practical government policies.

Mr. President,

It is for this reason that the PSIDS are of the view that the first important step for us to develop is a regional framework that incorporates the principles of the resolution, with clear policy guidelines on its application to our unique national and regional characteristics. We believe this will provide the impetus to accelerate the implementation process in the Pacific. Consequently, my delegation reiterates the PSIDS's request for the United Nations to support the convening of a Regional High Level Meeting to develop and adopt a Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security to support the implementation of the resolution at a regional and country level. In addition, with the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Regional Advisory Group on Women, Peace and Security by ESCAP, we are hopeful that it will also play an active role in providing the expertise and advice required by the region.

Mr. President,

Fiji is fully committed to the implementation of Resolution 1325. This commitment is exemplified in our continuous efforts to meet the goals set out in the four broad thematic areas of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan. In the area of participation, our policies strongly encourage the recruitment of women in our security forces and their deployment, with equal opportunities, to peacekeeping missions. We support the global effort to increase the participation of women in UN police peacekeeping roles to 20 per cent by 2014.

Furthermore, we support the participation and representation of women at all levels of decision-making. We encourage the provision of pre and post deployment training of our peacekeepers and welcome further assistance and expertise in this aspect of training.

In our consultations and interactions with civil society and the public, we are fortunate to have FemLINKPACIFIC, a Fiji-based NGO that specifically deals with Resolution 1325. We also welcome the appointment of its Coordinator to the UN Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG). The Fiji Government promotes the enhancement of efforts to collaborate with the expertise and experience of women's civil society, with a view to enhancing the implementation of 1325 at our national level,

Mr. President,

We consider this event to be an important opportunity to take stock of achievements, best practices and lessons learned. It is an important step toward achieving the intent of the resolution. To this end, we look forward to further exchanges of best practices from other countries and regions on 1325, and call on the support of the UN system in assisting Fiji and PSIDS in the implementation of this resolution.

I thank you for your attention.