

FRANCE

Conseil de Sécurité

Débat public sur la mise en œuvre de la résolution 1325

« Les femmes, la paix et la sécurité »

Intervention prononcée par M. Michel Duclos
Représentant permanent adjoint de la France auprès des Nations Unies

New York, le jeudi 27 octobre 2005

(vérifier au prononcé)

Security Council

Open Debate on the Implementation of Resolution 1325

« Women and Peace and Security »

Statement by Mr. Michel Duclos
Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

New York, Thursday, October 27, 2005

(check against delivery)

(UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION)

Security Council Public Debate on the Implementation of Resolution 1325

“Women, Peace and Security”

New York, 27 October 2005

I am pleased, Mr. President, that you took the initiative for holding this public debate on women, peace and security and focusing it on the issue of women’s participation in peace processes. Today, my country has a special thought for Aung San Suu Kyi who has been prevented for far too long from playing the role that should be hers in contributing to peace, reconciliation and democratization in her country.

Mr. President,

France fully supports the statement that will be made shortly by the presidency of the European Union.

An anniversary is a celebration but it is also an opportunity to take stock. Five years after resolution 1325 was adopted, what are the **results**?

- first, the resolution changed how the Council looks at this question: women are no longer perceived exclusively as victims. The Council recognizes in its activities the essential contribution they make as voters, legislators and mediators. They are often the only “compass” in societies that have lost all structure;
- then the resolution changed the work of the Council from one day to the next: specific provisions in mandates, reports to the Council, the establishment of gender advisers in PKOs and DPKOs, etc.;
- lastly, the resolution is now a well-known “label,” even recognized by our Heads of state and government in September in paragraph 116 of the outcome document of the summit.

However, much remains to be done. Too many promises have not been kept as the report of the Secretary-General last year showed. The Council has still not achieved what I would call a “1325 reflex.” We are all, Council members and others, partly responsible. We can remedy it together. How?

I see **four lines of action** that we will have to follow simultaneously:

- *one*: implementation of the resolution in each of our countries whether or not there is armed conflict. Some States have already taken the initiative for national action plans. I suggest the launch of regional action plans, on the European Union model. France for its part has developed a national plan of action for gender equality: “la Charte pour l’égalité”. Resolution 1325 is one aspect of it. We pledge to make of the implementation of resolution 1325 a specific and detailed chapter for action by the Government when the Charter is updated in 2007.
- *two*: supporting the Secretary-General’s efforts to implement the resolution throughout the UN system. I congratulate Ms Mayanja for the action plan she has drawn up and assure her of France’s support for her action. This plan is a starting point. The actions and commitments that are listed in it will have to be followed up regularly at all levels, especially in the Council, in a year’s time as stipulated in the presidential statement we are to adopt after this debate.
- *three*: greater vigilance throughout the Council’s agenda. The proposals I made last year are still current. The idea is to have the “1325 reflex” in the Council’s day-to-day work. A mission from the Council under the leadership of France will go to the Great Lakes from November 4 to 11: we will ensure that it allows

Council members to engage in dialogue with local NGOs that are participating in the follow-up of resolution 1325 in the field. We will also be particularly attentive to the way in which the directives to combat sexual abuse in the PKOs are implemented.

- *four: profiting from the current institutional reform to advance the "Agenda 1325."*

* Most speakers have mentioned and will mention under this heading the Peace-Building Commission. I agree with them: this body will have a crucial role to play in accelerating the implementation of resolution 1325. The speech by the European Union develops our ideas on this point.

* However, let us not forget that another body will have a key role in this regard: the Human Rights Council.

Indeed, the Human Rights Council should be able to take up for consideration any situation in which, for example, women are particularly targeted. It will be able to do so throughout the year. So it will be able to react to emergencies and ensure regular follow-up of its decisions, including making recommendations to other UN bodies if necessary.

The Human Rights Council will also be able to guide technical assistance operations carried out by the High Commissioner for Human Rights. It will then be able to ensure that they do not neglect the specific needs of women and that they take into consideration the skills the specialized NGOs provide in the field.

* Lastly, it is important also to emphasize that the endorsement at the summit in September of the concept of the responsibility to protect is a major development in the implementation of resolution 1325.

Mr. President,

I listened with great attention to the speeches by Mr. Guéhenno, Ms Mayanja, Ms Heyze, Ms Noori and Ms Dandi. We also bear in mind what the NGOs told us at the Arria-format meeting the day before yesterday. I thank them for their contributions.

To all I wish to say that you can count on France to develop a "1325 reflex" in all the bodies, existing or to come, in which we are present.

Thank you./.