Mr. Chávez (Peru) (spoke in Spanish): Peru welcomes the initiative of the Ghanaian presidency to hold an open debate on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and on the role of women in peacebuilding. We also wish to thank the Secretary-General for presenting his report. In addition, we appreciate the statements made by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Ad Interim Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the Coordinator of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security.

The report of the Secretary-General (S/2007/567) is revealing, because it indicates that women and girls continue to be the principal victims of acts of violence in armed conflicts. Peru wishes to associate itself with the rejection of all acts of violence and to express its concern at the information that rape and sexual abuse, primarily against women and girls, are increasingly being used intentionally as tools of war by parties to armed conflict. That is why the international community must continue to use all instruments available to put an end to violations of the human rights of women and girls living in situations of armed conflict. This battle must be fought at the national and international levels, with programmes and policies that promote the prevention of violence through the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in all its aspects.

In that regard, we also want to highlight the role of the International Criminal Court in the fight against impunity, as well as the need for States to make it a priority to shoulder their responsibility to do justice and punish those responsible for crimes, as part of a comprehensive approach to peace, justice, truth and national reconciliation.

Peru notes with satisfaction the Secretary-General’s report and the initiatives and actions undertaken by United Nations entities to implement resolution 1325 (2000). We agree with the Secretary-General that, if we are to promote the implementation of the resolution, we must improve and rework measures adopted by the United Nations and by States that find themselves in conflict situations or reconstruction processes. We appreciate the rethinking of the concept of the 2008-2009 Action Plan to make it a results-based instrument for planning, following up on and presenting results-based reports.

We share the view that the Action Plan’s central objective must be to develop the capacity of United Nations operations to support peace as well as postconflict and reconstruction efforts so that they can assist States in their efforts to strengthen national capacity to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women in the areas of peace and security. In that connection, we support the Secretary-General’s proposal that a system-wide evaluation of the progress achieved in the coordinated implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) be conducted in 2010, followed by the submission of a report to
Peru supports the initiative to hold Security Council consultations on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and its application on the ground. Such consultations would enable States to obtain detailed information about progress, good practices and difficulties related to the implementation of the resolution. Furthermore, we believe it is important that the Secretary-General report on progress made in mainstreaming the gender perspective in peacekeeping operations and that disaggregated information be provided on types of violence — including sexual and gender-based violence — committed by parties to armed conflict. We are already aware of tragic cases that have occurred in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Darfur, among other places.

Finally, we believe it is important that the international community support the national implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) as well as the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan, particularly by providing sufficient financial resources in a timely and sustainable manner.

The work still lies ahead and must be tackled jointly by States, the United Nations system and civil society in order to strengthen follow-up and accountability regarding the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000).