

**Statement by H.E. Kim Sam-hoon  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations  
at the Security Council Open Debate on  
Implementation of SCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security**

**29 October 2003, New York**

Mr. President,

I thank you for organizing this open debate on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325. Allow me to begin by commending you on the most appropriate manner in which you have chosen to steer the debate to mark the 3rd anniversary of the historic resolution. The focus on implementation, I believe, is both timely and necessary.

Since the adoption of the resolution, this august body has held a number of open debates to reaffirm its commitment to charting a definitive place for gender perspectives on its on-going agenda. Thanks to this commitment, it is now widely accepted that the concerns of women and girls must be actively addressed in matters of conflict resolution and peace building. Marking the 2nd anniversary of the resolution last year, the Secretary General's report offered a comprehensive set of recommendations for doing so, and the Council adopted a Presidential Statement incorporating many of the recommendations into a call for action on the part of the Council, the Secretary-General and Member States. The task now is to ensure their full and continuing implementation.

In this regard, I am grateful for the presentations made by Under-Secretary General, Mr. Guehenno, on the work undertaken by the DPKO to implement SCR 1325, and by Ms. Amy Smythe on her experiences in the field as senior gender advisor to MONUC (UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo). They have clearly outlined the progress made thus far, as well as the challenges that remain in the implementation.

The Republic of Korea welcomes the progress made by the Secretariat at headquarters and in the field. We are encouraged that gender specialists are now assigned to ten UN peacekeeping missions, and backed up and coordinated

by a gender advisor at DPKO headquarters. We also commend the progress made to provide gender perspectives training to staff in peacekeeping operations. We know and appreciate that much of the push for the progress was provided by OSAGI, led by Ms. Angela King. We encourage the Secretariat to keep up the efforts toward the full completion of these measures.

We also see that references to gender issues are included in PKO reports to the Council. We would have liked to see greater detail and elaboration in those references. We hope the substance will be provided in future reports of missions, as well as when the Secretary General presents his next report on the issue to the Council in 2004. In the meantime, we strongly encourage the collection of data related to peace operations disaggregated by gender and age. For policies to be effective, they must accurately reflect the situation on the ground, where the experience of conflict and peace-building remains very different for men and women, and for different age groups.

We also note the lack of progress in other areas. There has been no meaningful increase in the number of women appointments as special representatives and envoys of the Secretary-General.

In any case, the appointment of women to high-profile tasks and gender specialists to peace missions would be just the beginning. SCR 1325 calls for the full integration of gender perspectives and increased participation of women in peace processes, peacekeeping, humanitarian operations, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes, and further in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

The Republic of Korea hopes that the investment of personnel, expertise and training by the United Nations will serve as a catalyst in getting all actors on board, including parties to armed conflict, for materializing the full vision of SCR 1325. In the process, the continuing willingness of the Council to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations will be instrumental, as it complements and reinforces the work of other bodies of the UN in strengthening the role of women as active agents of change, in both times of peace and conflict. Thank you.