

**Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security
October 2014, Security Council Chamber**

Statement by Mr. Barros Melet, Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations.

Fourteen years after the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000), Chile thanks the presidency of Argentina for having convened this debate on this topic, in particular, the situation of internally displaced women and girls. We thank the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of UN-Women, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons and, especially, Ms. Suaad Allami, whose words encourage us to continue implementing the resolution. Chile will continue to contribute to such implementation through its second national action plan, which we hope to launch soon. My delegation associates itself with the statement to be delivered by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Human Security Network.

The idea that the empowerment of women and girls and gender equality are central to the task to maintaining international peace and security is increasingly gaining support. National action plans, the emerging development of indicators and the developments in legislation, such as the Arms Trade Treaty and Recommendation No.30 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, are evidence of that. The appointments of Bineta Diop as first Special Envoy for Women, Peace and Security of the African Union, and of Major General Kristin Lund as first Force Commander in the history of the United Nations, urge us to continue to advocate for a larger number of women in positions of responsibility.

However, aspirations still do not reflect the reality and there is still a large gap between legislation and implementation. In fact, discrimination and violence, in addition to the lack of access for women to decision-making bodies, mean that they continue to be underrepresented in peace processes and State-building. The continuing sexual and gender-based violence and targeted attacks on women and girls, including students and human rights defenders, are alarming. We recall with regret those who have been murdered for defending their rights, as is the case of those living in the Middle East and North Africa.

It is therefore urgent to develop and implement mechanisms to ensure the prevention and protection of women, as well as their full participation on an equal footing with men, in ceasefire agreements, peacebuilding processes, the establishment of the rule of law and justice and security sector reform. That is a necessary requirement for achieving peaceful, just and inclusive societies. Peacekeeping missions, sanctions committees and other subsidiary organs of the Council, commissions of inquiry, the Peacebuilding Commission and other related mechanisms must consider a gender approach in their work and train and include advisers in that area.

Obstacles to the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions will be overcome only through an effective commitment to empowerment, women's participation and human rights, a resolute leadership, gender and age-disaggregated data and consistent and adequately funded multisectoral measures. Such efforts must go hand in hand with accountability and the fight against impunity. The International Criminal Court is an important complementary tool.

Talking about her visit to South Sudan, Special Representative Zainab Hawa Bangura reported with dismay the insecurity and unimaginable living conditions that displaced women face in Bentiu. Together with Australia and with the support of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Chile organized an Arria Formula meeting on the protection of the internally displaced on 30 May, where we noted the increase of that phenomenon and its devastating impact on women and girls. That is why the situation of the internally displaced and refugees, who are particularly vulnerable to forced marriages, sexual slavery and other forms of sexual violence, often used as a tactic to induce displacement, must be at the core of the Council's decisions.

We must prevent, protect against and alleviate such situations, ensuring adequate access for women to health-care services and justice, as well as accountability. Displaced women must be protagonists in early warning, mediation and prevention initiatives and their participation must be ensured in efforts to address the root causes of conflict. The system must also continue its support to countries that host refugees. We highlight the importance of deepening information exchange among all actors in the field, strengthening the training of peacekeeping personnel and providing innovative multisectoral responses that include the special needs of displaced women and girls. Encouraging and promoting the role of civil society in that area is vital. Women must be provided with the necessary tools and the training to be able to lead such resilience.

The year 2015 will be crucial for that agenda. We hope that the development of the post-2015 development agenda, in which gender equality and the empowerment of women must be a separate goal, the twentieth-anniversary review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the strategic reviews of United Nations sanctions and peacekeeping in 2015 ensure that they include commitments and priorities in the context of resolution 1325 (2000). The commemoration of the fifteenth anniversary and the independent global study on resolution 1325 (2000) will provide a road map to accelerate implementation and ensure the role of women in developing solutions.

In conclusion, President Michelle Bachelet has agreed with the Executive Director of UN-Women to convene a high-level event, to be held in Santiago in February 2015, to contribute to the debate on women's participation in decision-taking. We conclude with the words of Caddy Adzuba, a prominent African activist: Women, who until now have been victims,

must be at the negotiating table because they know what they have suffered and what they must demand.