

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

Statement by Mr. Hmoud, Permanent Mission of the Jordan to the United Nations.

At the outset, allow me to thank you, Madam President, for your tireless efforts during your presidency of the Security Council this month. We would also like to thank all the speakers for their important briefings and welcome the adoption of the presidential statement (S/PRST/2014/21) earlier today.

I would like to stress the importance of today's discussion with regard to displaced refugee women and girls, particularly in the light of the progress achieved in developing the standards and legal frameworks of the women and peace and security agenda since the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000), which was further developed by the Council through the adoption of the subsequent resolutions 2106 (2013) and 2122 (2013).

In spite of all the efforts carried out to implement the agenda, we continue to see an unprecedented increase in the numbers of displaced and refugee women and girls around the world, in particular in the Middle East. Recently, due to conflicts and wars, which violate the most basic rights of women and girls — and which are mostly unconventional conflicts, in which at least one party is a non-State actor — the intensity of violations and the impunity of the perpetrators have increased.

The report of the Secretary-General (S/2014/693) and the recommendations contained therein indicate that much work needs to be done to implement the women and peace and security agenda and, most important, to hold accountable the perpetrators of crimes against women and girls and ensure that they do not enjoy impunity. In that regard, we would like to stress the importance for the Security Council to step up its cooperation with the International Criminal Court in the referral of all situations in which horrible crimes are committed against refugees and displaced women and girls. The necessary measures should be taken to identify perpetrators of such crimes among the ranks of those working to protect displaced and refugee women and girls. Jordan believes that the time has come to finalize a draft convention on the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on United Nations missions, with a view to implementing a zero-tolerance policy against perpetrators of such crimes.

Due to the crisis in Syria, Jordan has been hosting 1.5 million Syrian nationals, 51 per cent of which are women and girls. Jordan is doing its utmost to provide high levels of protection and services for Syrian women refugees on its territory, in accordance with the women and peace and security agenda and the relevant Security Council resolutions. We are doing so in spite of the great economic, social and security burden that we shoulder due to the refugee crisis, as well as a chronic scarcity of energy and water resources. Jordan has opened both its public and private schools to refugee Syrian children — it is our duty to do so. The number

of Syrian pupils has reached 120,000, both inside and outside the camps, 94 per cent of them being girls. As a result, on average, classrooms are overcrowded by 41 per cent. That has prompted 80 per cent of our schools to adopt a dual school day. Jordan also recently established special care centres for refugee children, as well as a centre to foster a protective educational environment for girls, in addition to enabling adolescents to obtain necessary psychological and social support, in cooperation with UNICEF.

In coordination with specialized United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) active in the Kingdom, Jordan continues its systematic efforts to organize educational symposiums for Syrian refugee girls and women, with a special focus on reproductive and health care services. That includes workshops to train the staff of NGOs active in the camps on how to deal with women and girls who have been subjected to violence and domestic abuse, in coordination with the family unit of the Jordanian police. We also provide material support to microprojects run by women, and particularly in families headed by women, which are among the most poor and marginalized families inside and outside the camps.

Jordan welcomes the promotion of women in peacekeeping operations, particularly their involvement in decision-making on issues arising in conflict settings. The Jordanian armed forces have been actively favouring the promotion of women's role in the military with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the military in peacekeeping operations and special humanitarian missions, in addition to promoting the role of women in the Royal Medical Services in field hospitals in conflict zones. Jordan's military women have played an important role in the reception, protection and care of Syrian refugees. In that regard, we support the proposal to dedicate a special budget within the United Nations peacekeeping budget to dispatching specialized women's protection advisers to all missions and not only a few, as is the current practice.

In conclusion, I stress that Jordan attaches great importance to the high-level review on women and peace and security that is to take place on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the comprehensive review of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) 15 years after its adoption. That will require the support of all in promoting the women and peace and security agenda in a manner commensurate with the challenges faced and with a view to creating a better future for the millions of refugee and internally displaced women and girls.