



**SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

866 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA  
SUITE 435  
NEW YORK, NY 10017

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**STATEMENT  
BY H.E. AMBASSADOR BUI THE GIANG  
CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF VIET NAM  
AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL HIGH-LEVEL MEETING  
ON WOMEN AND PEACE AND SECURITY  
(New York, 26 October 2010)**

Mr. President,

I thank you and the Delegation of Uganda for convening this important high-level meeting to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of historic Resolution 1325. We thank the Secretary-General for his report contained in document S/2010/498 on women and peace and security as well as his report contained in document S/2010/466 on women's participation in peace-building that he presented to the Council a few days ago.

Mr. President,

Following the adoption of Resolution 1325, we have noted with appreciation the Security Council's increased commitment to women's role in peace and security which has been illustrated not only in its active participation but also in its role as both a leader and driver in the UN system in advancing the agenda "Women and Peace and Security". We are heartened to see at both national and international levels greater awareness, resulting in an unprecedented number of activities carried out in highly diverse forms and in a wide range of areas by all stakeholders to promote women's role and rights in relation to peace and security. Most visible at the international level is the better coordinated work within the United Nations system, particularly among OSAGI, DESA, DPKO, UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNDP and OCHA, in mainstreaming gender in peace and security, and in addressing issues which may impact women's participation in peace processes, including humanitarian and socio-economic issues. We particularly commend the adoption early this year of the three-year Joint Strategy on Gender and Mediation initiated by DPA and UNIFEM, and the proposed 7-point Action Plan which contains actions needed to enhance

women's participation in peace-building, a fundamental factor to prevent war and empower women. In this connection, we sincerely hope that the newly established UN WOMEN, once completing its transitional arrangements, will become a stronger entity, taking the lead in the agenda "Women and Peace and Security". At the national level, among other things, National Action Plans being designed, adopted and put in place represent a meaningful contribution. We hope that adequate resources will be made available to ensure full implementation of these Plans.

Mr. President,

Against such a backdrop, it's worrisome to learn from the Secretary-General's report that "*ten years after the adoption of [Resolution 1325], significant achievements are difficult to identify or quantify. The conditions and opportunities that women and girls face in situations of armed conflict continue to be abhorrent and effective methods for monitoring impact are lacking.*" My Delegation is of the view that much more remains to be done to better protect women and girls from all forms of violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, further empower them and increase their participation in all stages of peace processes. The fact that women constituted less than 8% of negotiators in UN-mediated peace processes and less than 3% of peace agreement signatories, that only 16% of peace agreements between 1990-2010 contained references to women, and that less than 3% of post-conflict spending is dedicated to women is unacceptable. Themselves being not merely victims, but rather, agents of change, women should be able to involve more in peace talks to better reflect their priorities in the text of peace agreements. Moreover, emerging from many destructive wars, we are convinced that women can play an active role in peace building and reconstruction if and when they are empowered economically, financially, politically, and institutionally, and their special needs, including health and education, are properly addressed. With this in mind, we hope that the seven commitments listed in the Secretary-General's report S/2010/466 can be fully honored so as to ensure women's equal involvement as participants and beneficiaries in local development, employment creation, income generation, front-line service delivery, and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs in post-conflict situations.

Mr. President,

My Delegation appreciates the monumental work done by the UN entities, in consultation with Member States and civil societies, in building

the set of indicators as annexed to the Secretary-General's report. We share the view that the indicators can provide a helpful toolkit for the UN system and those countries that wish to use them on a voluntary basis. We, at the same time, believe that certain indicators need more careful consideration in order for the whole set to be balanced and contain "encouraging" rather than "imposing" character, hence effectiveness.

Mr. President,

As a nation deeply committed to women's emancipation and empowerment, Viet Nam has always supported full implementation of Resolution 1325, and our contribution to the drafting and adoption of Resolution 1889 by the Security Council in October 2009 is just an example of this. In the same vein, we seriously take this review of the ten-year implementation of Resolution 1325 as a chance to reinforce our determination to work harder with the international community, the UN system in the first place, towards a world of genuine equity and equality for women.

I thank you, Mr. President.