BACKGROUND

In resolution 2122 (2013) adopted on 18 October 2013, the Security Council reiterated its intention to convene a High-level Review in 2015 to assess progress at the global, regional and national levels in implementing resolution 1325 (2000), renew commitments, and address obstacles and constraints that have emerged in the implementation of the resolution. The Council recognized with concern that without a significant implementation shift, women and women’s perspectives will continue to be underrepresented in conflict prevention, resolution, protection and peacebuilding for the foreseeable future, and as such encouraged Member States to start reviewing existing implementation plans and targets, and assess and accelerate progress, as well as prepare to formulate new targets in time for the 2015 High-level Review.

In the same resolution, the Security Council invited the Secretary-General, in preparation for the High-level Review, to commission a global study on the implementation of resolution 1325, highlighting good practice examples, implementation gaps and challenges, as well as emerging trends and priorities for action. The results of the study will be submitted by the Secretary-General within his annual report to the Security Council in 2015. The overall coordination of the Study and related preparations for the 2015 High-level Review will be managed by a small Secretariat hosted by UN Women and supported by the Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality in close coordination with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General.

The Study presents an invaluable opportunity to take stock of progress, review trends over time, fill knowledge and data gaps, critically examine persistent and emerging challenges and capture lessons learned and good practices across regions. It will build on the findings of the two high-level studies on women, peace and security undertaken in 2002 and lessons learned from the tenth anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000) in 2010. It is a chance to revisit the agenda and its impact by focusing on local, national, and regional level change.

STUDY OVERVIEW

The aim of the Study is to review the achievement of the objectives set out in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions, and presents an opportunity to consult directly with women affected by conflict to bring their experiences to light, review impacts achieved, and set an agenda for policy and implementation going forward.

Consultations have been held within the Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security, chaired by UN Women, to determine collective recommendations on how to carry forward the Global Study. Initial consultations have also been held with Member States on the expectations for the Study, as well as with civil society partners. The guiding principles for the study include that it will be undertaken as independently as possible, be inclusive of a broad range of actors, and that it

Reaffirming that women’s and girls’ empowerment and gender equality are critical to efforts to maintain international peace and security, and emphasizing that persisting barriers to full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women’s empowerment, participation, and human rights, and through concerted leadership, consistent information and action, and support…” S/RES/2122 (2013)

1 The UN Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security include members from over 20 United Nations entities working across the pillars of peace and security, human rights and development civil society organizations participate as observers.

should have a **strong focus on impact and real change** and progress in the lives of women and girls as a result of the women, peace and security agenda since the passage of resolution 1325, rather than a focus on processes.

The Study is being **led by a prominent expert, Radhika Coomaraswamy**, former Special Representative of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict, and former Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, who is bringing visibility and an independent perspective to the research and analysis.

To have a broad impact, ensure high visibility and to increase the credibility of the Study and its findings, the Study and its lead author have the support and backing of a **high-level advisory group** consisting of eminent experts and dignitaries from across the world. The high-level advisory group will provide substantive guidance in the conceptualization, development and finalization of the Study, including feedback on its policy analysis and data aspects, as well as policy recommendations. Members will also function as important advocates for the full implementation of the women, peace and security agenda in the lead up to the High-level Review in 2015.

In addition, UN Women is seeking to commission research and carry out consultations that will capture issues that are particular to the women, peace and security agenda.

**CONSULTATIONS**

Regional consultations and country visits will be held between January and March 2015. UN Women’s Peace and Security thematic section will work with those countries that are identified for the consultations and provide financial and technical support for the convening of regional and national civil society, academia, government and in particular defence stakeholders, key decision makers and actors, senior UN leadership and most importantly those who have been directly impacted by conflict for a series of meetings with the lead author, and/or members of the high-level advisory group.

The consultations, which will be spread over 2-3 days, will be a mixture of bilateral meetings as well as small to mid-scale group interactions. The analysis of the consultations, and relevant recommendations, will be critical inputs into the study.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

The study will articulate a global policy agenda that can inform future women, peace and security efforts. The study will also galvanize UN, civil society and governmental efforts to commemorate the 15 year anniversary of 1325 (2000) and to demand increase attention to women, peace and security at the policy and operational levels.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT**

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