



# THROUGH THE LENS OF CIVIL SOCIETY

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE  
PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS TO THE GLOBAL STUDY  
ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY



**PeaceWomen**

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

In light of the 2015 High Level Review of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda and the Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, the PeaceWomen programme of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) compiled this Summary Report, providing nine strategic recommendations for the Global Study, which have been submitted to the Global Study lead Author, Radhika Coomaraswamy and the Global Study team.

The Summary Report is based on 47 public submissions from various civil society organizations (CSOs), academics and research institutes from around the world, highlighting implementation gaps and good practices and activities of CSOs, Member States and United Nations (UN) Agencies in the effective implementation of the Agenda. As such, it is a civil society contribution and does not necessarily reflect the positions of WILPF or PeaceWomen.

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PEACEWOMEN is a programme of WILPF, the longest-standing women's peace organization in the world. PeaceWomen was founded in 2000 to strengthen women's rights and participation in international peace and security efforts. PeaceWomen monitors, informs, and advocates for women's' rights and participation in conflict situations and promotes gender analysis in conflict prevention. Based in the New York Office of WILPF, PeaceWomen facilitates monitoring of the UN system, with a particular focus on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. The PeaceWomen team is very grateful to all the wonderful WILPF peace leaders and experts for their invaluable contribution and comments on this publication

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# List of Submissions

The following individuals, research institutes and civil society organizations (CSOs) submitted reports and policy briefs for the public submission to the 2015 Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325:

- ⇒ Amnesty International
- ⇒ Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development
- ⇒ Atuhaire Pearl Karuhanga
- ⇒ CARE International
- ⇒ Chittagong Hill Tracts Commission
- ⇒ Conciliation Resources
- ⇒ Erinyes Autonomous Activist Lesbians - Lesbian Feminist Network
- ⇒ Escola de Cultura de Pau
- ⇒ Gender Action for Peace and Security UK (GAPS)
- ⇒ Gender and Development Network (GADN)
- ⇒ Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)
- ⇒ Global Alliance on Armed Violence
- ⇒ Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)
- ⇒ Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)
- ⇒ Hayi Mark Godwin Foundation
- ⇒ Human Rights Watch
- ⇒ IANSA-Women, Small Arms Survey
- ⇒ International Alert
- ⇒ Janet Benschopf
- ⇒ London School of Economics - Department of Law
- ⇒ Meghna Guhathakurta
- ⇒ Oxfam Somalia
- ⇒ Saferworld
- ⇒ The African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)
- ⇒ The Asia-Pacific Women's Alliance on Peace and Security (APWAPS)
- ⇒ The Institute for Inclusive Security
- ⇒ The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (NGOWG WPS)
- ⇒ The Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre (NOREF)
  - Aisling Swaine

- Jacqui True
  - Laura J. Shepherd
  - Nicola Pratt and Sophie Richter-Devroe
- ⇒ The UK Intersex Association (UKIA)
  - ⇒ The UK Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Network
  - ⇒ The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
  - ⇒ WILPF Australia
  - ⇒ WO=MEN Dutch Gender Platform
  - ⇒ Women in Governance – India (WinG-India)
  - ⇒ Women, Peace and Security Network – Canada

To view all submissions, please visit [www.peacewomen.org/security-council/2015-high-level-review/resources](http://www.peacewomen.org/security-council/2015-high-level-review/resources).

# Foreword

*Through the Lens of Civil Society: Summary Report of the Public Submissions to the Global Study on Women, Peace and Security* highlights a range of work being done by civil society to advance the global Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda.

The PeaceWomen programme of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) took on this effort to create a space for public submissions to the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325, in order to promote inclusive participation through engagement, outreach and awareness-raising among civil society and with the aim to strengthen independent progressive voices within WPS processes. The content of this Summary Report is based on the public submissions and does not reflect the positions of WILPF or PeaceWomen per se.

On behalf of WILPF, I would firstly like to acknowledge and thank each of the authors who submitted their work and shared their expertise, knowledge and recommendations. Secondly, special thanks to Shafferan Sonneveld who reviewed and analyzed 47 public submissions from various CSOs, academics and research institutes and compiled this report. We appreciate your thorough and thoughtful work, and your commitment.

PeaceWomen/WILPF is committed to amplifying and sharing peacemakers' voices through our online peacewomen.org Resource Center and at global policy forums. Sharing various perspectives, knowledge and wisdom from different contexts and conflict scenarios increases our shared understanding and the possibility of coherence in WPS strategies and implementation.

To the Global Study lead Author, Radhika Coomaraswamy and the Global Study team, we officially submit this Summary Report along with each of the public submissions for your consideration and to take forward.

In peace,



Maria Butler

Director of WILPF PeaceWomen Programme

# Introduction

Civil society around the world work to build peace and gender equality in communities and are vital implementers, monitors and advocates of the WPS Agenda. Their significant role in the successful implementation of the Agenda must not be underestimated; their humanitarian services to vulnerable communities in conflict and post-conflict situations, their invaluable input in peace processes, their mobilization of grassroots participation and consultation during and after the formation of a National Action Plan (NAP) and their watchful eye holding their governments accountable for failed promises are all key steps in the path to sustainable peace. Nevertheless, the work carried out by civil society should supplement, not replace, the work of Member States in implementing the WPS Agenda as Member States hold the primary responsibility to uphold their obligations under the legal framework.

This publication provides a summary of the 47 public submissions<sup>1</sup> for the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325. As identified by CSOs, academics and research institutes from around the world, the submissions highlight good practices for the implementation of UNSCR 1325, but they also provide critical evaluations of the United Nations (UN), Member States and other actors' use and misuse of the Agenda. One submission critiques the Agenda as having become "a management tool - making war safe rather than questioning the structural causes of wars and armed conflict and [their] long-term impact."<sup>2</sup> Others urgently call for long-term preventative measures to address the root causes of conflict, including the stringent control of arms also critical

to post-war recovery.<sup>3</sup> There have also been CSOs who urgently call for the adoption of a gender-responsive human security strategy through a more comprehensive gender analysis of conflict that in addition to women also takes into account the role and needs of men and sexual and gender minorities in conflict and in post-conflict situations.<sup>4</sup> As a whole, civil society recommendations highlight the need to raise the bar in taking action for preventing conflict, promoting gender justice and peace, and mobilizing the financing, political will, and mechanisms to move from commitments to accomplishments. As Saferworld noted, "...we must not lose sight of commitments to conflict prevention contained in the Beijing Platform for Action and the seven UNSCRs on WPS."<sup>5</sup>

As UNSCR 1325 turns 15 years old in 2015, 15 years have passed with increased attention to involving more women meaningfully in conflict prevention, peace negotiations, peacebuilding and other decision-making processes. Fifteen years have passed in which the international community recognized the dire need to protect women in conflict from vile violations of human rights. In this same time period, 46 NAPs on WPS have emerged to foster implementation of the WPS Agenda at a national level. Yet, as the UN and its Member States commemorate this milestone, lest we forget that the structural root causes enabling violent conflict and war have not ceased to exist. In a world without a single country where a woman is safe from violence, we must collectively reinvest valuable resources into a global culture and reality of peacemaking – not of violence, destruction and militarization.

In a year filled with anniversaries - including WILPF's 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of peacemaking from a woman's perspective and the 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Beijing Platform of Action - and the beginning of a new era with the Sustainable Development Goals in sight, it is high time to turn political commitments on WPS matters into real concerted action toward the full and effective implementation of the WPS Agenda.



Photo: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom / Li Grebäck

# Recommendations

This Summary Report provides the following nine key strategic recommendations on advancing the WPS Agenda and ensuring its full and effective implementation, based on the public submissions:

- 1. Increase** women's meaningful participation and representation in peace operations, peace processes, peacebuilding movements and decision-making processes by appointing more women in decision-making positions and by building women's capacity.
- 2. Prioritize** long-term approaches to address and prevent the root causes of conflict and militarization through a gender analysis by urging Member States to reduce military spending and increase investment of resources in peaceful institutions and initiatives, including disarmament measures and gender equitable social development.
- 3. Strengthen** the UN's capacity to deliver on WPS and urge Member States to effectively implement and finance the WPS Agenda through Local Action Plans (LAPs), National Action Plans (NAPs) and Regional Action Plans (RAPs) and to establish strong public monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.
- 4. Ensure** that the Security Council considers WPS as a cross-cutting issue across all areas of its work and in cooperation with other actors and UN entities.
- 5. Enhance** accountability and combat impunity of UN Peacekeeping, private military and security companies, national security forces and non-state armed groups on violence against women and girls (VAWG) in conflict and post-conflict situations and strengthen capacity development through continuous, specialized and sustained training on issues of gender and women's rights under international humanitarian law and human rights law.
- 6. Enhance** the protection of women and girls and their rights in armed conflict and post-conflict situations by improving humanitarian support, providing thorough capacity-building, enhancing infrastructure and access to support and ensuring accountability.

- 7. Address** grave violations of human rights and humanitarian law against women and girls by holding accountable state and non-state actors, by establishing adequate systems of redress and reparations and by guaranteeing non-repetition for grave violations of human rights and humanitarian law against women and girls.
- 8. Strengthen** the gender perspective in demobilization, disarmament and reintegration (DDR) and security sector reform (SSR) programmes and mainstream gender equality and women's empowerment in post-conflict peacebuilding utilizing an integrated framework for action that addresses institutional and structural barriers to equality.
- 9. Integrate** WPS in addressing critical issues by: a) incorporating a more inclusive and broader approach to the WPS framework, which takes into consideration a gender perspective of the roles of men and sexual and gender minorities, without compromising the increased efforts towards women's full and equal participation, protection and human rights in conflict situations; b) including women in both peace processes and climate change negotiations in order to provide their insight on the different needs of women and girls and to include their unique perspective in mitigating and adapting to conflict; and c) supporting women's leadership, participation and rights in all efforts to prevent, reduce and counter terrorism and violent extremism.



Photo: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom / Li Grebäck

# 1. Women's Right to Participation and Representation

The Participation Pillar of the WPS Agenda focuses on women's equal participation and the promotion of gender equality in peace and security decision-making processes, including at local, national, regional and international levels. Yet, in reality, women continue to face major challenges to engage in formal peace processes, where exclusion is often the norm.<sup>6</sup> There are diverse needs and perspectives among women, given that women themselves are diverse and their role and participation during and after conflict varies, for instance as peacemakers, combatants, sympathizers, human rights defenders, survivors of sexual violence, and others. As such, women's role in WPS is not homogenous either. Yet, women are nevertheless still being regarded as victims as opposed to agents of change.<sup>7</sup> Rather than regarding women primarily as victims, it is essential that women's meaningful participation is prioritized and that they are actively present in all realms of conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding and decision-making processes in government.<sup>8</sup> For instance, in Fiji, women's civil society are actively participating in innovative approaches to prevent conflict, by organizing vigils and rural networks to enable women's participation and interactive dialogues with government officials particularly through the use of community media, including

**“The inclusion of women and girls, and recognition of their experiences, is essential to sustainable peace and ending the cycle of violence.”<sup>286</sup>**

Gender and Development Network (GADN), Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) UK and the UK Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Network

community radio.<sup>9</sup> In the Philippines, the Mindanao peace process is notable for the high level of meaningful participation by women in both the formal negotiations and parallel peacebuilding efforts undertaken at the grassroots level.<sup>10</sup> Ultimately, it was a woman, Miriam Coronel Ferrer, who signed the peace agreement that emerged out of the Mindanao peace process on behalf of the Philippine Government.<sup>11</sup> For other examples of good practices of women's meaningful participation and representation in key decision-making forums, see below.

## Other Good Practices:

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- ⇒ The e-platform Base Camp brought together 60 participants from the Asia-Pacific region to share their diverse experiences and insight on conflict resolution and prevention.<sup>12</sup>
- ⇒ After the Rwandan genocide in 1994, the cross-party Forum of Women Parliamentarians proposed Rwanda's first comprehensive law to combat gender-based violence (GBV), which was based on extensive consultations with women citizens.<sup>13</sup>
- ⇒ The Women, Peace and Security Network - Canada (WPSN-C) - a loose network composed of Canadian individuals, NGOs, and scholars - lobbies and advocates members of parliament and the Canadian public about peacebuilding, conflict prevention and the importance of women's participation in these issues.<sup>14</sup>
- ⇒ Oxfam Somalia has worked to build the capacity of local organizations by building local partnerships to raise awareness on the importance of the prevention of VAWG and GBV and has called for more support in services for survivors in south central Somalia.<sup>15</sup>
- ⇒ The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Colombia's advocacy for the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women's (CEDAW) 2013 Review of Colombia to fast-track the inclusion of women in peace processes was supported, which added to the work that resulted in the appointment of two women in the Government delegation conducting peace talks with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and later, the establishment of a Sub-Committee on the negotiations on gender issues in 2014.<sup>16</sup>
- ⇒ WILPF organized the first-ever official meeting of the UN Security Council with Syrian civil society where three Syrian women leaders shared their experiences of conflict and recommendations for peace in the historic January 2014 high-level closed Arria-Formula meeting of the Security Council.<sup>17</sup>
- ⇒ Women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) have successfully advocated for ceasefires, peace agreements, constitutional referendums and gender equitable development in the DRC, which has given rise to DRC's NAP on UNSCR 1325. In 2013, women peace leaders in DRC successfully advocated for the CEDAW Committee to recommend that the DRC ratify and implement the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and control the flow of small arms within the country.<sup>18</sup>
- ⇒ In Bosnia and Herzegovina, civil society has also been proactive in improving women's political participation. Following the 2014 election, a non-governmental organization (NGO) initiative was formed to pressure the Government to apply the Gender Equality Law and ensure that women make up 40% of the membership of the official bodies.<sup>19</sup>

## Recommendations:

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### **Increase women's meaningful participation in peace operations, peace processes, peacebuilding movements and decision-making processes by appointing more women in decision-making positions and by building women's capacity.**

#### **Increase women's meaningful participation in peace operations, peace processes and peacebuilding movements:**

- 1.1. **Support** through financial, technical and political means all efforts, including concrete incentives, to ensure women, including those in rural communities, are included as negotiators, gender experts and stakeholders in negotiating parties' delegations in peace and ceasefire negotiations and in any agreements that may result.<sup>20</sup>
- 1.2. **Support** efforts by Member States and other actors to increase the number of qualified women in the security forces as well as in civilian capacities and broaden opportunities for women police and military deployment to peacekeeping missions while improving their conditions of service.<sup>21</sup>
- 1.3. **Address** the needs of and violations against ex women combatants and draw up strategies to involve them as peacebuilders and peace advocates.<sup>22</sup>
- 1.4. **Provide** political and financial support to women's peace initiatives, and in particular to protect women leaders – especially in conflict-affected countries – to be able to fully participate in a safe environment in decision-making processes on peace and security.<sup>23</sup>
- 1.5. **Establish** formal consultative forums with civil society as well as incentives for conflict parties to include women and gender experts in their negotiation teams.<sup>24</sup>
- 1.6. **Support and fund** the attendance and meaningful participation of CSOs at all international and regional peace and security meetings, including donor conferences.<sup>25</sup>

#### **Appoint more women in decision-making positions<sup>26</sup>:**

- 1.7 **Deploy** more UN Gender Advisors and Women Protection Advisors (WPAs).<sup>27</sup>
- 1.8 **Establish** a joint task force, representing governments and civil society, to elaborate strategies to ensure meaningful participation of women at all decision-making levels.<sup>28</sup>

- 1.9 **Support** the inclusion of more women in policy making and negotiations regarding disarmament, arms control, the arms trade and military spending.<sup>29</sup>
- 1.10 **Support** the increased recruitment, retention and professionalization of women across all justice and security sectors through gender-sensitive reforms, including in the police, armed forces, border services, ministries of defence and justice, the judiciary, traditional and customary justice systems, parliament and executive committees concerned with security matters, and regional and international defence or peacekeeping alliances.<sup>30</sup>

### **Build women's capacity:**

- 1.11 **Promote** women's political representation and women's election to public office in conflict-affected countries and assist in building the capacity of female election candidates and the development of capacity-building initiatives, such as campaign management or leadership training for female candidates.<sup>31</sup>
- 1.12 **Address** the educational and informational needs of marginalized groups of women, including women who live in remote and rural areas, illiterate women, women who do not have access to the Internet, elderly women, and women with disabilities.<sup>32</sup>
- 1.13 **Build** management capacity and technical capacity of women's movements and organizations to engage in international processes.<sup>33</sup>
- 1.14 **Provide** long-term support to local civil society and to women within broader movements: create spaces to listen actively; respond to challenges as defined locally; and provide multi-year support to long-term cooperation and to women's agency in peacebuilding movements.<sup>34</sup>
- 1.15 **Support** access to and capacity-building on communication and technology, enabling women to document their perspectives: through in-country documentation; activist-oriented research in accessible formats; and digital tools for women enhancing their privacy and security.<sup>35</sup>
- 1.16 **Provide** technical training opportunities to facilitate women's substantive involvement in programmes and policies for armed violence reduction and prevention, arms control, gun control, weapons collection schemes and disarmament.<sup>36</sup>

## 2. Prevention

The Prevention Pillar of the WPS Agenda focuses on the prevention of conflict as well as all forms of VAWG in conflict and post-conflict scenarios. Yet, with the current implementation of the WPS Agenda, UNSCR 1325 is deemed by many CSOs as a management tool: “making war safe rather than questioning the structural causes of wars and armed conflict and [their] long-term impact.”<sup>37</sup> CSOs argue that the interpretation of the WPS Agenda by the Security Council remains too narrow, with an exclusive focus on the protection aspect rather than holistic conflict prevention.<sup>38</sup> A holistic approach is therefore needed to prevent conflict and Member States and the UN are called on to address the following areas: the root causes of conflict, the circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW), counter terrorism and violent extremism efforts and the efficiency of UN processes and international instruments.<sup>39</sup> There is also a need to focus on women’s ability to identify early warning signs, the promotion and protection of gender equality and a need for preventative diplomacy and mediation.<sup>40</sup> The security policy decision of Sweden’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, Margot Wallström, to not continue the cooperation on arms deals with Saudi Arabia - where weapons are deemed to foster human rights abuses, specifically VAWG - is a laudable example of gendered conflict prevention in order to deliver equality and justice.<sup>41</sup> For other good practices on the prevention of conflict, see below.

Another threat to sustainable peace and conflict resolution is the world’s military spending and the

distribution of SALW. The world is investing in an economy of war and violence instead of gender justice and peace, spending \$1.7 trillion per year

**“The international community must stop taking a myopic approach that only focuses on symptoms of conflict and should move instead towards an integrated approach that addresses the gendered root causes of conflict for gender justice and sustainable peace.”<sup>287</sup>**

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

on military endeavours, which exceeds amounts spent on poverty alleviation, peacebuilding and gender equality.<sup>42</sup> Yet, militarism reinforces established gender hierarchies and enables the exclusion of women from decision-making roles in the public sphere and in government.<sup>43</sup> For instance, the pervasive culture of militarism in the MENA region affects all corners of daily life for women and promotes a spectrum of state and non-state violence as highlighted by women peace

leaders from Iraq, Tunisia, Yemen and Syria.<sup>44</sup> Moreover, one of the root causes of violent conflict identified by numerous CSOs is the circulation of SALW.<sup>45</sup> Governments, arms companies and arms dealers must be held accountable for the transfer of arms and weapons, particularly in cases when there is a substantial risk that the use of arms and weapons are causing human rights violations.<sup>46</sup> In the last 15 years, international instruments have emerged with several points of convergence highlighting the link

between arms control, SGBV and the importance of women's meaningful participation in decision-making, including UNSCRs 2106 and 2122, CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30, the ATT, UNSCR 2117 and the 2012 and 2014 review conference outcomes of the UN Programme of Action on SALW.<sup>47</sup> The links between the root causes of conflict, the continuum of violence and militarization are apparent; so are the lack of political will and the failure of Member States to act accordingly.

## Other Good Practices:

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- ⇒ The global process “Call to Action on VAWG in Emergencies” offers a significant platform to identify and promote reforms of the emergency system to better prevent and respond to VAWG and address gender issues.<sup>48</sup>
- ⇒ The Common African Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda represented the collective views of 54 African Member States, and refers to the “crucial role of women in conflict prevention and resolution, mediation and peacebuilding efforts.” In addition, the document also highlights that the post-2015 framework should promote a preventative approach to conflict, addressing issues of exclusion and social and economic inequalities, as well as calling for civil society to be involved “to ensure better ownership, implementation and accountability.”<sup>49</sup>
- ⇒ Using the Community Score Card social accountability mechanism, CARE International, in partnership with local CSOs and international NGOs, has carried out projects to increase CSO involvement in decision-making processes at both the local and national level to better manage potential triggers of conflict.<sup>50</sup>
- ⇒ Members of the MenEngage Network run programmes that are used to challenge and rethink masculine identities and norms, which contribute to conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Such programmes challenge the culture of militarized masculinities that lead to human rights abuses on a day-to-day basis and include programmes geared to prevent domestic violence, to improve sexual health and more.<sup>51</sup>
- ⇒ The 2014 WILPF Report, *Voices from Ukraine: Civil Society as a Driver for Peace*, is part of WILPF's gender assessment and engagement, providing an analysis of the root causes of the conflict and their gender dimensions in order to identify risks, as well as entry points for participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. WILPF is using this gender conflict analysis with all key actors to push for more effective conflict responses in Ukraine.<sup>52</sup>

## Recommendations:

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**Prioritize long-term approaches to address and prevent the root causes of conflict and militarization through a gender analysis by urging Member States to reduce military spending and increase investment of resources in peaceful institutions and initiatives, including disarmament measures**

### **Address and Prevent the Root Causes:**

- 2.1 **Address** the root causes of violent conflict through a gendered analysis of conflict and militarization, which include political and economical drivers of conflict, including community level insecurity, the flow and export of arms, the scarcity and exploitation of resources, strategies employed for extremism and for the militarization of societies, the gendered roots of militarism, negative conceptions of masculinities and GBV.<sup>53</sup>
- 2.2 **Employ** effective resource management policies preventing economic and resource insecurity as a result of climate change challenges.<sup>54</sup>
- 2.3 **Assess** the impact of growing militarization on communities affected by conflict with a special focus on indigenous women.<sup>55</sup>
- 2.4 **Document, assess and challenge** the growing nexus between the military and corporations for economic activities in conflict contexts.<sup>56</sup>
- 2.5 **Analyze** how local security threats have regional and global dimensions, such as transnational drivers and connections to markets for the trade of arms, drugs, human trafficking and illicit financial flows that fuel violence.<sup>57</sup>

### **Prioritize Long-Term Approaches:**

- 2.6 **Prioritize**, and actively move towards, a preventive approach to armed conflict at all local, national and international levels of decision-making bodies.<sup>58</sup>
- 2.7 **Promote** gender equality and invest in women's human rights as a way to prevent GBV.<sup>59</sup>

- 2.8 **Include** expertise of civil society, including women, men, youth, religious leaders - both women and men - and the media in gender responsive conflict preventions measures that tackle notions of masculinity/femininity and conflict.<sup>60</sup>
- 2.9 **Invest** in awareness-raising strategies approaching men with alternative approaches to address conflict.<sup>61</sup>
- 2.10 **Support** women-led as well as gender-sensitive initiatives to address root causes, as identified by them, and in structural violence prevention efforts and peacebuilding initiatives that aim to transform key socioeconomic, political and institutional factors that drive conflict.<sup>62</sup>
- 2.11 **Ensure** women's engagement in direct conflict prevention efforts, including negotiations for cessation of hostilities, ceasefire agreements, peace talks, peace agreement monitoring, mediation and dialogue, and other preventative diplomacy efforts.<sup>63</sup>
- 2.12 **Establish** early warning and early response systems at national and local levels and adopt gender-specific security measures to prevent the escalation of SGBVAWG, and other human rights violations. Include human security indicators and monitor the protection of minority groups.<sup>64</sup>
- 2.13 **Urge** Member States to ratify and implement the ATT, while focusing on Article 7(4), which calls on the prevention of GBV.<sup>65</sup>

### **Reduce Military Spending and Increase Investment of Resources in Peaceful Institutions and Initiatives, including Disarmament Measures and Gender Equitable Societal Development:<sup>66</sup>**

- 2.14 **Urge** Member States to include binding provisions in their national export regulations that call for the prevention of GBV, including sexual violence and include open and transparent due diligence investigations.<sup>67</sup>
- 2.15 **Increase** women's representation in bodies such as small arms commissions and mine action authorities.<sup>68</sup>
- 2.16 **Integrate** gender perspectives when implementing and reporting on regional and international small arms control and disarmament instruments.<sup>69</sup>
- 2.17 **Urge** Member States to strengthen small arms controls and prevent GBV through harmonizing firearms laws with laws addressing VAWG and domestic violence laws.<sup>70</sup>
- 2.18 **Prevent** illicit manufacturing or licit arms becoming illicit and urge Member States' implementation of instruments including: the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and its Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition; the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All Its Aspects (2001) and the International Tracing Instrument (2005); UNSCR 2117 SALW (2013); and the International Small Arms Control Standards.<sup>71</sup>

### 3. Monitoring and Accountability

The implementation of the WPS Agenda is a responsibility that is shared by UN bodies, in particular the Security Council, and Member States and it is facilitated by the work of CSOs. Strengthening action and coordination of policy, funding, data collection, and international monitoring among these stakeholders is critical to move from commitments to accomplishments. Currently, there is a lack of political will and failure to adequately and effectively develop and implement NAPs, a lack of sustained funding, a lack of disaggregated data and evidence, a lack of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and a lack of international coherence on WPS integration.

#### Lack of Political Will

NAPs on WPS offer significant opportunities to advance national implementation of the WPS Agenda. For example, in Nepal, the UNSCR 1325 NAP has facilitated the allocation of specific budgetary resources for WPS activities, a partnership between government, civil society, and other development partners, an increased emphasis by the police and military on the implementation of obligations under UNSCR 1325 and the creation of quotas for women's participation.<sup>72</sup> In many countries, the creation of a NAP is often considered to be the end goal and 1325 NAP implementation is weak.<sup>73</sup> Many times, this is due to a combination of a lack of institutional buy-in, a lack of accountability mechanisms and monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and

inadequate budgetary allocation.<sup>74</sup> Although NAPs developed by Member States have some indicators to be used in the monitoring process, they are mostly quite vague and generic.<sup>75</sup> Policy implementation, not just development, is critical.

**“The current patchwork of processes at the UN to monitor states’ progress on achieving their obligations under the legal framework is fragmented, with inadequate financial and human resources.”<sup>288</sup>**

The London School of Economics,  
Department of Law

#### Lack of Sustained Funding

In terms of funding, there is a lack of sufficient, structural and appropriate funding geared at WPS implementation and a lack of mechanisms that track funding allocations.<sup>76</sup> Capacity and financial resources are two key barriers to local women's participation in peace processes.<sup>77</sup> Women's organizations struggle to access humanitarian coordination and funding mechanisms.<sup>78</sup> Donors' preference for short-term projects makes it difficult to sustain long-term relationships, which are crucial to building peace.<sup>79</sup> Donor funding and policy

attention on WPS has been increasingly focused on addressing SGBV in conflict, sidelining other challenging issues, such as increasing political participation and economic empowerment of women and addressing structural gender inequalities.<sup>80</sup> Yet, women's rights organizations are essential in preventing conflict and supporting women who are affected by conflict. Moreover, they are able to hold governments accountable in their commitments to realize women's rights.<sup>81</sup>

As such, CSOs need to have equal access to direct funding, while being equally involved in allocating funding. Member States must provide multi-year, large-scale funding to support WPS efforts by funding CSOs and the UN for core support that is dedicated to WPS efforts, such as gender and WPS experts in UN missions and at the UN Headquarters.<sup>82</sup> As such, the General Assembly Fifth Committee needs to approve the systematic and sustained resourcing and deployment of such experts through the regular budget.<sup>83</sup> Member States and the UN are also called on to reduce military spending and to redirect this expenditure, as outlined in Critical Area E of the Beijing Platform of Action and Article 26 of the UN Charter.<sup>84</sup> To assist them with tracking their spending on peacebuilding, Member States need mechanisms.<sup>85</sup> A "Gender Marker" is a tool that could be used to provide dedicated funding to WPS, tracking whether projects address gender issues at the proposal stage.<sup>86</sup>

### **Lack of Disaggregated Data and Evidence**

It is also argued that the design, implementation and review of WPS policy and programmes often lack solid evidence bases.<sup>87</sup> Systematic data collection and evidence is needed to inform gender analysis, policy development and review processes, incorporating qualitative and quantitative data sets and disaggregated data on gender.<sup>88</sup>

### **Lack of Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms**

A strong monitoring and evaluation system that consists of specific, measurable goals can greatly facilitate the implementation of a NAP by outlining the various responsibilities, timelines and data collection methods.<sup>89</sup> It encourages accountability and it strengthens commitment.<sup>90</sup> For instance, in 2014, CARE International began piloting its Gender Marker within its humanitarian response in the Sahel Region and in Syria. The CARE Gender Marker goes beyond the equivalent UN IASC tool, which is currently limited to proposal stage, by also monitoring gender integration across design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The implementation of CARE's Gender Marker has brought gender to the forefront of CARE's projects.<sup>91</sup> Action plans on WPS still continue to lack strong gender-based monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, however, precluding real insight on accountability.<sup>92</sup>

### **Lack of International Coherence on WPS Integration**

One submission recommends dedicating a "Women, Peace and Security Section" in key outcome documents of the Universal Periodic Review and Commission on the Status of Women processes to ensure that voices and experiences of conflict-affected women and girls are meaningfully incorporated into state and NGO reporting.<sup>93</sup> This would sustain a spotlight on the legal framework, maintaining the political will that is necessary to compel governments, donors, development agencies, civil society and other decision-makers to act to protect the human rights of women and girls.<sup>94</sup> In addition, improving CEDAW's monitoring and reporting processes would also prevent fragmented tracking of progress on the enforcement of UNSCR 1325 obligations.<sup>95</sup>

## Other Good Practices:

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- ⇒ In August 2013, the Nigerian Government launched a NAP on the implementation of UNSCR 1325, committing itself to preventing sexual violence during and after conflict, establishing special courts to prosecute conflict-related sexual violence and taking measures to ensure that women can participate at all levels of peace and security negotiations and discussions.<sup>96</sup>
- ⇒ In the Philippines, the UNSCR 1325 NAP has helped women gain access to peace processes.<sup>97</sup>
- ⇒ In Nepal, the process to develop the UNSCR 1325 NAP was highly participatory from national to district level, including participation by line ministries, civil society, women's organizations and external development partners.<sup>98</sup>
- ⇒ In Somalia, Oxfam worked with women-led community-based organizations and women's regional/district organizations to promote peace and raise issues affecting women and girls.<sup>99</sup>
- ⇒ In 2010, the Secretary General provided a Seven Point Plan on women's participation in peacebuilding, which provides practical ways to implement the WPS resolutions.<sup>100</sup>
- ⇒ The Localization Programme of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) is a people-based, bottom-up approach to policymaking and implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820, emphasizing local ownership and participation. In their Localization Programme in the Philippines, an indigenous woman successfully led community-lobbying efforts that resulted in tribal leaders including women in the all-male, century-old traditional peace and justice council.<sup>101</sup>
- ⇒ Lacking a NAP, participants in the 2012 Localization Workshops in Colombia organized by GNWP drafted Departmental, Municipal Action Plans on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in 16 municipalities and departments and a Sectoral Action Plan for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex (LGBTQI) Community to respond to the violence committed against LGBTQI individuals by armed groups. The Localization Programme has become an alternative mechanism for implementing the resolutions.<sup>102</sup>
- ⇒ In Nepal, the Localization programme organized by GNWP led to the integration of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in school curricula and the inclusion of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 in police and army training. In addition, the Ministries of Peace and Reconstruction and Federal Affairs and Local Development and Nepali CSOs developed NAP Localization Guidelines that serve as a manual to assist local peace committees, Village and District Development Committees in integrating the NAP on 1325 and 1820 in their development plans.<sup>103</sup>
- ⇒ A good practice from Localization Programme organized by GNWP in Nepal demonstrates tools for implementation and local ownership, when the Government of Nepal and CSOs jointly produced radio spots advocating women's meaningful participation in governance and video spots calling for women's 33 percent participation in the Constituent Assembly. These media productions were broadcast nationally and reached over 3 million radio listeners and television viewers.<sup>104</sup>

- ⇒ The development of the Sierra Leonean NAP involved workshops that resulted in enhanced awareness of and engagement with the implementation of the WPS resolutions nationally.<sup>105</sup>

## Recommendations:

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**Strengthen the UN's capacity to deliver on WPS and urge Member States to effectively implement and finance the WPS Agenda through Local Action Plans (LAPs), National Action Plans (NAPs) and Regional Action Plans (RAPs) and to establish strong public monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.**

### **Strengthen to UN's Capacity to Deliver on WPS:<sup>106</sup>**

- 3.1. **Appoint** more women - aiming toward parity - to High-Level Reviews and as Special and Personal Representatives, Envoys and Advisors of the Secretary General, and ensure all those that are entrusted with high offices, including the Under Secretary-Generals, Special Envoys, Special Representatives and Senior Mediators, have a responsibility in their respective fields to advance a gender perspective and women's participation.<sup>107</sup>
- 3.2. **Evaluate** the effectiveness of strategies being implemented to appoint more women to senior roles across the entire UN system.<sup>108</sup>
- 3.3. **Ensure** all review processes integrate a gender perspective and that briefings from senior UN officials, including Special Envoys and Special Representatives, include analyses and recommendations on women's security concerns and engagement in key political processes and decision-making forums, women's access to services and protection, and that they ensure gaps of information on women's participation are filled.<sup>109</sup>
- 3.4. **Integrate** WPS language in reports by encouraging the inclusion of "Women, Peace and Security" sections in national reports, summaries of stakeholders' information and working group reports for the Universal Periodic Review and the Agreed Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women.<sup>110</sup>
- 3.5. **Integrate** WPS recommendations in all multilateral review processes, including the Peace Operations Review, the Peacebuilding Architecture Review, the development of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, and the World Humanitarian Summit.<sup>111</sup>
- 3.6. **Ensure** closer and more cohesive operational linkages between legal structures like the International Criminal Court (ICC) and CEDAW to the WPS architecture.<sup>112</sup>

- 3.7. **Strengthen** coordination efforts with the CSOs and regional organizations for reporting and information sharing on gender mainstreaming activities in peace operations.<sup>113</sup>
- 3.8. **Support** efforts by appropriate regional organizations to engage in dialogue with State and non-state parties to elicit commitments, including engagement, as appropriate, with the business community, diaspora, religious and traditional leaders - women and men - or others who may exert influence on issues of WPS.<sup>114</sup>
- 3.9. **Strengthen** political, technical, and financial support for women's movements and civil society including the use of dedicated financing mechanisms and support civil society to conduct a gender-oriented budget analysis of humanitarian assistance and post-conflict reconstruction to ensure that women benefit directly from resources mobilized through multilateral and bilateral donors.<sup>115</sup>
- 3.10. **Hold** aid agencies accountable for addressing gender across the humanitarian programming cycle in line with the UN target to allocate 15 percent of funding in conflict contexts to gender-related efforts.<sup>116</sup>
- 3.11. **Reinforce, apply and monitor** the implementation of the UN indicators on WPS (2010) and ensure that sex-disaggregated data is reflected in the reporting and in the benchmarking of the Global Indicators on WPS, accompanied by an analysis of the data.<sup>117</sup>
- 3.12. **Pledge** holding WPS-dedicated policy committee meetings at least every six months.<sup>118</sup>
- 3.13. **Support** the Global Acceleration Instrument on WPS to be launched in October 2015.<sup>119</sup>
- 3.14. **Increase** information dissemination by increasing advocacy and sensitization of WPS, by including gender experts and expertise in all levels and aspects of peace operations to integrate the WPS Agenda during preparations for the missions, in the Terms of Reference of the field missions, and throughout the missions themselves by meeting with women directly affected by conflict in their settings, and by ensuring that peacekeeping missions build on good practices to facilitate increased participation of women in peace processes at all levels.<sup>120</sup>
- 3.15. **Mandate** an institution such as UN Women to consolidate national and international data sets. This should involve systematizing data collection with UN Missions and across the UN system to monitor the internalization of the WPS Agenda in its institutions and operations to advance women's empowerment, human rights, peace and security.<sup>121</sup> Open source data should be made available for monitoring by civil society.<sup>122</sup> Guidance on standards and best practices for collecting, managing and analyzing data should be made available to national and local stakeholders.<sup>123</sup>
- 3.16. **Develop** mechanisms for following up on the recommendations on strengthening gender issues in peace operations after the 2015 High Level Review, inclusive of all the relevant actors in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and strengthened at the regional and national level.<sup>124</sup>

### **Urge Member States to Effectively Implement and Finance the WPS Agenda through LAPs, NAPs and RAPs and to Establish Strong Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms:**

- 3.17. **Utilize** a multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral cross-government approach involving grassroots, women and CSOs (including diaspora), local authorities including indigenous and traditional leaders and networks, and various government bodies for the development, implementation, monitoring and review of the NAPs and Roadmaps.<sup>125</sup>
- 3.18. **Adopt** Localization strategies, including capacity-building, knowledge and awareness-raising and cross-sectoral dialogues as a strategy to decentralize the implementation of NAPs and to involve local governance structures in implementation, such as provincial and district leadership and traditional leaders.<sup>126</sup>

- 3.19 **Align** the content of the NAPs, Roadmaps and other WPS strategies with and integrate them into domestic and foreign policy objectives, such as a national security, development and trade strategies, and other relevant policies, through cross-ministry and/or departmental coordination toward gender equality and peace.<sup>127</sup>
- 3.20 **Fully finance, develop and implement** Local, National, and Regional Action Plans on UNSCR 1325 and integrate the budget for the NAPs in national budgets and overseas development assistance.<sup>128</sup>
- 3.21 **Dedicate** a 15 percent minimum target of official development assistance, free from donor restrictions for women's empowerment, gender equality and WPS especially in conflict and post-conflict settings, as committed to by the UN Strategic Results Framework on WPS with a goal of 50% parity.<sup>129</sup>
- 3.22 **Increase** the political, technical and financial support for implementation by increasing multi-year government-wide gender budgeting and funding to local actors, women's movements and civil society implementing UNSCR 1325, including the use of dedicated financing mechanisms and by identifying and dedicating sufficient and long-term resources from the regular budget for implementing activities and consultations and support for civil society on WPS.<sup>130</sup>
- 3.23 **Strengthen** monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the WPS Agenda by establishing strong, results-based monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that offer clear indicators and outline specific timeframes for all activities which are regularly reviewed, by providing political space and support for civil society monitoring and shadow reporting, and by making reports of NAP evaluations publicly available, enhancing public accountability regarding implementation and lessons learnt.<sup>131</sup>
- 3.24 **Mandate** a national institution, such as a statistics office, to collect and manage data on gender equality (political, social and economic) and violence. Gender equality indicators should complement the monitoring of outputs and outcomes of NAPs on WPS and other related agendas advancing gender equality and cover: economic structures and access to resources, education, health and related services, public life and decision-making, and human rights of women and girls.<sup>132</sup>
- 3.25 **Ensure** full compliance with international human rights norms and humanitarian law standards.<sup>133</sup> Member States must ratify CEDAW without reservations and remove any existing reservations, while ensuring the diligent periodic reporting and effective implementation of Recommendation No. 30.<sup>134</sup> Moreover, Member States must address women's rights issues in the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review to ensure that gender equality is advanced and issues pertaining to conflict prevention, arms transfers and GBV are addressed.<sup>135</sup>
- 3.26 **Review** policies and action plans on WPS and strengthen them with the outcomes and recommendations of the Global Study on WPS, developing a 5-year action-oriented and budgeted roadmap alongside civil society stakeholders to accelerate implementation and setting a monitoring mechanism to measure its time-bound implementation.<sup>136</sup>

## 4. The Security Council

While CSOs acknowledge that the Security Council recognizes the importance of the WPS Agenda, as evidenced by the unanimous adoption of Resolution 2106 and Resolution 2122,<sup>137</sup> many CSOs feel that the Security Council needs to challenge itself to overcome the political and implementation hurdles it faces in regards to the WPS Agenda, and on its obligations on international peace and security as a whole.<sup>138</sup>

**“It is equally important that the Security Council, as the highest UN body entrusted with peace and security matters, leads by example in fully implementing the WPS agenda.”<sup>289</sup>**

The NGO Working Group on WPS

Recommendations:

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**Ensure that the Security Council considers WPS a cross-cutting issue across all areas of its work and in cooperation with other actors and UN entities**

## **Consider WPS a Cross-Cutting Issue Across All Areas of the Security Council's Work:**

- 4.1 **Include** specific provisions related to women's rights and women's participation in all mandates, embed WPS provisions in all UNSCRs on post-conflict countries', donor, and country post-conflict strategy and planning and request information and recommendations on issues related to WPS from missions in reports and briefings.<sup>139</sup>
- 4.2 **Call** for gender-sensitive conflict analyses, which identify not only the differentiated impact of conflict on women, girls, men and boys, but also barriers to women's participation in political, electoral and transitional justice processes, security sectors, and DDR, to be at the basis of planning and reporting in all missions both internally and externally.<sup>140</sup>
- 4.3 **Institutionalize** briefings by civil society, the Executive Director of UN Women and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict during meetings on both country-specific and thematic agenda items.<sup>141</sup>
- 4.4 **Integrate** WPS concerns when considering crisis situations and emerging threats and incorporate WPS elements into terms of references of Commissions of Inquiry and designation criteria in sanctions regimes.<sup>142</sup>
- 4.5 **Ensure** all field missions incorporate WPS components within their terms of reference as per UNSCR 2122.<sup>143</sup>
- 4.6 **Conduct** Arria-Formula Meetings on WPS, focused on implementation and accountability.<sup>144</sup>
- 4.7 **Advance** the implementation of Article 7(4) of the ATT within arms embargoes and implementation monitoring.<sup>145</sup>

## **Cooperate with Other Actors and UN Entities:**

- 4.8 **Work** more closely with the UN Peacebuilding Commission to allow for better coordination in the management of peace and security, given that the UN Peacebuilding Commission houses the expertise of facilitating peacebuilding-related activities to enhance gender equality and women's empowerment.<sup>146</sup>
- 4.9 **Strengthen** leadership on WPS such as by creating a second WPS Special Representative of the Secretary General, to complement the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, who would head the office of a Special Representative of the Secretary General on women's participation in peace and security governance and would support and be supported by the work of UN Women.<sup>147</sup> Alternatively, establish the position of an Assistant Secretary General or a D2 level senior official position at UN Women whose portfolio includes fast-tracking women's participation in peacemaking and peacebuilding efforts.<sup>148</sup>
- 4.10 **Establish** an informal mechanism or group that would evaluate the practical ways of integrating the full WPS Agenda across the entire work of the Security Council.<sup>149</sup>
- 4.11 **Promote** women's participation in all levels of decision-making and support women's role in conflict prevention in collaboration with regional organizations.<sup>150</sup>
- 4.12 **Enhance** participation by grassroots women in UN Security Council decision-making on peace and security by establishing new annual Open Briefing Sessions on UNSCR 1325 participation efforts relating to countries on the Security Council agenda, by bringing grassroots women to New York to contribute to Security Council deliberations for each political or military mission mandate renewal and/or emergency Security Council meetings on country-specific mandates, and by authorizing groups of Security Council experts to visit selected countries under Security Council mandate to assess progress on participation.<sup>151</sup>

## 5. Protection of the Human Rights of Women in Conflict Areas and Their Humanitarian Needs

The Protection Pillar of the WPS Agenda focuses on women's human rights, safety, physical and economic security. This section of the Summary Report and the subsequent section provide recommendations addressing the specific needs and human rights of women in conflict areas and the urgency to uphold justice and accountability for grave violations of human rights of women and girls. During and after conflict, women and men - young and old - suffer tremendously from the lack of basic needs like water, lack of health care centres, hospitals, proper housing, community infrastructures, schools, food and harsh environmental conditions.<sup>152</sup> There is a need to provide adequate social support services to victims and their families, including legal aid, translation services and child protection.<sup>153</sup> One good practice is Oxfam Somalia's efforts to ensure that women are not worrying about basic needs for their families, including food, medicine, housing and education, by working with vulnerable women and training them on vocational skills that they are then able to use to generate income.<sup>154</sup> In this way, Oxfam Somalia is addressing women's humanitarian needs to ultimately enhance women's access to participation in peace processes and security efforts. There is also a need to protect women who may fall between the cracks of traditional protection, such as women human rights defenders who work to advance the rights of women on the ground, ex-combatants who may be ostracized by civil society and the state after

conflict and cases of forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings.<sup>155</sup>

**"Resources need to be prioritized to operationalize the protection of women and girls and to support gender training, sensitizing and capacity-building for police, judiciary and social services professionals to enforce the law."<sup>290</sup>**

Jacqui True, NOREF Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre

Furthermore, there is a lack of accountability for the violations of women's human rights. Even when armed conflict has ceased, VAWG continues to occur especially when root causes of the conflict have not been resolved, including land disputes and illegal settlements and when a culture of impunity continues.<sup>156</sup> In addition to the stigma and the shame that many victims face, security risks prevent women from reporting cases of sexual violence and if they are able to circumvent the security risks, often time, the legal processes fail them.<sup>157</sup> In an effort to prevent VAWG, local NGOs in Iraq have led successful campaigns in Kirkuk

based on UNSCR 1325 to empower illiterate women. Additionally, they have organized non-violent campaigns by collecting signatures and

organizing sit-ins. The work of these NGOs has in turn influenced the Government to adopt the concepts of gender and GBV.<sup>158</sup>

## Other Good Practices:

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- ⇒ In Myanmar, development agencies and international and local NGOs, especially women's organizations, are promoting women's rights. Despite the absence of a NAP, these actors are drawing on an integrated understanding of UNSCR 1325 and the legal framework that reflects Myanmar's obligations under international law. In addition, development agencies and Myanmar-based NGOs are building government and community support for women's participation in peacebuilding, in line with the WPS Agenda.<sup>159</sup>
- ⇒ In many Iraqi provinces, NGOs are providing social, psychological and legal consulting services through family counselling centres that are free for victims of domestic and community violence. Not only breaking the silence on VAWG, these centres have also monitored and documented the violations that women experience. In addition, these centres also raise awareness and provide education among women in communities as well as official institutions about violence and discrimination against women in the context of CEDAW and UNSCR 1325.<sup>160</sup>

## Recommendations:

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**Enhance the protection of women and girls and their rights in armed conflict and post-conflict situations by improving humanitarian support, providing thorough capacity-building, enhancing infrastructure and access to support, and ensuring accountability.**

## **Improve Humanitarian Support:**

- 5.1 **Promote** gender equality and invest in women's human rights, economic empowerment, property ownership and inheritance and continue support for women's access to basic services, such as healthcare and education.<sup>161</sup>
- 5.2 **Ensure** that humanitarian aid and funding provides for the full range of medical, legal, psychosocial and livelihood services to victims of SGBV, including access to services for safe termination of pregnancies resulting from rape without discrimination and in accordance with international human rights and humanitarian law.<sup>162</sup>
- 5.3 **Ensure** that victims of SGBV and any other forms of violence during armed conflict have the right to reparations for damages incurred.<sup>163</sup>
- 5.4 **Ensure** that the specific needs of persons with disabilities are accounted for through a gender lens during crises, in recovery programmes and in broader policy frameworks to facilitate support to all survivors.<sup>164</sup>

## **Provide Thorough Capacity-Building:**

- 5.5 **Provide** political and financial support to protect women human rights defenders, especially in conflict-affected countries.<sup>165</sup>
- 5.6 **Strengthen** the capacity of national authorities in ensuring protection for women and girls, including from conflict-related sexual violence.<sup>166</sup>
- 5.7 **Include** in all UN peace operations a human rights monitoring component, with an explicit mandate and sufficient resources to investigate, document and report human rights violations against civilians and more particularly against women.<sup>167</sup>

## **Enhance Infrastructure and Access to Support:**

- 5.8 **Support** community infrastructure for the protection of women and support processes and coordination systems that ensure the inclusion of local authorities, including indigenous and traditional men and women leaders, in development, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategies to guarantee ownership and inclusive participation.<sup>168</sup>
- 5.9 **Ensure** the non-discriminatory access to public information and adequate medical and mental health services for victims of abduction and other violence, developing confidential referral systems and health posts in high-risk areas, such as large or isolated internally displaced persons' camps, which can facilitate referrals and access to emergency treatment for women who are victims of sexual violence.<sup>169</sup>
- 5.10 **Ensure** that hospitals and clinics treating civilian victims are equipped with medical supplies to treat post-rape care in accordance with World Health Organization (WHO) standards and ensure that all facilities have procedures in place to respond to sexual violence, including Post-Exposure Prophylaxis kits.<sup>170</sup>

## **Ensure Accountability:**

- 5.11 **Ensure** accountability of international actors to uphold women's human rights, including by ensuring that private military companies, national militaries, international monetary institutions, and transnational corporations uphold women's equal human rights.<sup>171</sup>

## 6. Justice and Accountability for Grave Violations of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law against Women

Grave violations of human rights and humanitarian law, including SGBVAWG, continue to exist during conflict and in post-conflict periods at alarming levels.<sup>172</sup> In addition, there is growing evidence that demonstrates that men and boys are also direct victims of sexual violence in numerous conflicts.<sup>173</sup> The high level of impunity is considered a major contributing factor to widespread incidents of VAWG in general and rape specifically.<sup>174</sup> Yet, any woman who reports a rape often risks further victimization, including criminal prosecution because of extra-marital sexual intercourse.<sup>175</sup> Another major gap is that international laws and policies or customs lack a structure to hold non-state actors accountable and end the impunity enjoyed by them.<sup>176</sup> In addition, in many contexts, security forces are perpetrators of SGBV.

Yet when women are fully participating in peace processes and peacebuilding efforts, it is more probable that grave violations against women and girls are addressed with recourse to justice. For instance, when women were represented at the table and negotiated the 2008 Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation between the

**“When conflicts end and yield to peacebuilding and reconstruction efforts, States must hold human rights violators to account, put an end to impunity, restore the rule of law, and address the needs of survivors with the provision of justice accompanied by reparations.”<sup>291</sup>**

Amnesty International

Government of Uganda and the Lord’s Resistance Army, the discussions included measures to prevent ongoing sexual violence, halt impunity and access to justice.<sup>177</sup> The need for improving legal accountability and prosecutions is thus crucial for the legitimacy of post-conflict institutions.<sup>178</sup>

## Other Good Practices:

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- ⇒ The UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC developed an innovative approach to set up Joint Protection Teams, which engage more thoroughly with the civilian community, leading to better information sharing and enhanced security for women, particularly to address sexual violence.<sup>179</sup>
- ⇒ In Jammu and Kashmir, Conciliation Resources supported a civil society initiative that brought together Islamic scholars, civil society representatives, and representatives of the Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons to discuss the situation of women whose husbands disappeared during conflict.<sup>180</sup>
- ⇒ In Timor-Leste, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission framed reparations and its recommendations in broad recovery terms with key measures for women. For instance, it included support for single mothers and victims of sexual violence. It also allocated scholarships for their children, support for individuals with disabilities, widows and torture victims, and support for the communities most affected by conflict.<sup>181</sup>
- ⇒ As a result of the work carried out by CSOs from the Asia-Pacific region, the rampant impunity of enjoyed by non-state actors was brought to light as a major issue in addressing VAWG.<sup>182</sup>

## Recommendations:

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**Address grave violations of human rights and humanitarian law against women and girls by holding accountable state and non-state actors, by establishing adequate systems of redress and reparations and by guaranteeing non-repetition for grave violations of human rights and humanitarian law against women and girls.**

## **Hold Accountable State and Non-State Actors for Grave Violations of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law against Women:**

- 6.1 **Address** and monitor grave human rights violations through a gender lens, including disappearances (enforced or otherwise) by state and non-state actors and advocate for accountability.<sup>183</sup>
- 6.2 **Ensure** the investigation and prosecution, based on international fair trial standards, of individuals who commit serious crimes in violation of international law, including women's human rights, during the conflict.<sup>184</sup>
- 6.3 **Establish** an independent commission of inquiry to investigate general allegations of violations of human rights and humanitarian law, including women's human rights, by government security forces and recommend measures to ensure they do not recur.<sup>185</sup>
- 6.4 **Integrate** the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict in all relevant UN agencies and national agencies responding to international crisis.<sup>186</sup>

## **Establish Adequate Systems of Redress and Reparations:**

- 6.5 **Create** alternate justice processes to support women survivors of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict scenarios where necessary.<sup>187</sup>
- 6.6 **Strengthen** humanitarian leadership and coordination for gender equality, women's empowerment and GBV prevention and response efforts through enhanced and regularized cooperation and alignment of effort across the UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Gender Reference Group, the GBV Area of Responsibility and the Global Call to Action on VAWG in Emergencies.<sup>188</sup>
- 6.7 **Provide** special legal and social support and security for all victims reporting sexual violence during and after conflict, including women, girls, men, boys and sexual minorities.<sup>189</sup>
- 6.8 **Ensure** that reparations are awarded through judicial or administrative mechanisms and available to victims of sexual violence in conflict.<sup>190</sup>
- 6.9 **Strengthen** multi-sectoral approaches to the provision of reparations as part of post-conflict transition initiatives and reparations programmes.<sup>191</sup>
- 6.10 **Push** for governance and justice systems in countries in transition to be reconstructed to ensure access to fair, gender equitable and unbiased systems for victims seeking redress.<sup>192</sup>

## **Guarantee Non-Repetition for Grave Violations of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law against Women:**

- 6.1 **Tackle** the fundamental root causes of SGBV, such as pre-existing gender relations in war-affected contexts, sociocultural norms that condone violence, and norms that have been learned or reinforced through high exposure to violent conflict or insecurity.<sup>193</sup>
- 6.2 **Ensure** stronger actions through the Security Council's powers under Chapter VII from Member States and UN bodies to secure the rights of women victims under international humanitarian law, to stop the use of sexual violence as a tactic of war and to set the proper standard for Member States and UN entities to accord women victims of conflict their rights under the international humanitarian law regime.<sup>194</sup>
- 6.3 **Increase** women's direct and meaningful participation in formal peace negotiations to increase the probability that sexual violence is addressed in ceasefire arrangements and peace agreements.<sup>195</sup>

## 7. Militarized Responses to Conflict: Peacekeeping and Security Forces

Peacekeeping forces continue to exploit their position of power to coerce vulnerable women and girls into sexual activity.<sup>196</sup> Armed groups, security forces, including UN-mandated troops, and contractors must be held accountable for atrocities, including SGBV and civilian casualties.<sup>197</sup> Addressing the culture of impunity and holding accountable perpetrators of grave human rights violations is one of the ways conflict may be prevented.<sup>198</sup> There is also a need to strengthen capacity development to equip military, police and civilian personnel with practical skills and contextual knowledge to interact with local women and men in the environment they operate.<sup>199</sup> For example, in 2011, the Sierra Leone Police undertook an institutional gender self-assessment to measure their achievements and gaps in promoting gender equality and responsiveness since the police reform process began in 1997. As a direct result of the assessment process, the Sierra Leone Police created a Gender Unit in 2012 with the mandate to ensure a more gender-responsive police service.<sup>200</sup>

Another issue that needs to be addressed is the recent rise of private military and security companies. There is a lack of coherent and comprehensive regulation in national and international law to hold perpetrators in this category accountable, which has had major implications for victims of human rights violations and which needs to be addressed.<sup>201</sup>

**“Only when women are fully integrated into decision-making related to peace and security will we see a substantial shift against the widespread use of rape as a weapon of war.”<sup>292</sup>**

Institute for Inclusive Security

### Other Good Practices:

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- ⇒ In Liberia, women’s representation in formal positions in the security sector involved in protecting human rights has had an impact on the social and economic empowerment of all women across Liberian society.<sup>202</sup>
- ⇒ In Serbia, with the reform of the security sector, more women are joining the security structures, which were previously and traditionally more male-dominated.<sup>203</sup>

- ⇒ Sweden's Gender Coach programme involved assigning a personal coach – usually a senior gender expert from an NGO – to high-level members of Swedish security and humanitarian agencies. The programme was successful in raising the visibility of gender equality considerations in the Swedish Armed Forces.<sup>204</sup>

## Recommendations:

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**Enhance accountability and combat impunity of UN Peacekeeping, private military and security companies, national security forces and non-state armed groups on violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations and strengthen capacity development through continuous, specialized and sustained training on issues of gender and women's rights under international humanitarian law and human rights law.**

### **Enhance Accountability and Combat Impunity of UN Peacekeeping, Private Military and Security Companies, National Security Forces and Non-State Armed Groups on VAWG in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations:**

- 7.1 **Prohibit** exemptions for peacekeepers from prosecution by international tribunals, the ICC and national courts in the host country for any crimes committed, including those against women.<sup>205</sup>
- 7.2 **Carry out** all investigations and prosecutions in accordance to international law standards, ensuring that no immunity is granted for international personnel.<sup>206</sup> This includes halting the use of transfers out of the host state of peacekeepers to evade accountability for allegations of human rights violations and ensuring that the principle of no amnesty for perpetrators of grave human rights violations, including sexual violence crimes, is adhered to by Member States, while ensuring that the Member States that do not take action on such misconduct are held accountable to the acts of their officers.<sup>207</sup>
- 7.3 **Ensure** that internal accountability, oversight and control mechanisms are equipped, trained and mandated to uphold laws and policies aimed at maintaining a non-discriminatory work environment free

of harassment and violence as well as ensuring professional service provision to all women, men, girls, boys, sexual and gender minorities.<sup>208</sup>

- 7.4 **Demand** the Security Council establish a permanent and adequately resourced independent investigative body, staffed by professional and independent investigators, to investigate allegations of misconduct and abuses, including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), in peace support operations; the body should investigate abuses by military, police, and civilian personnel.<sup>209</sup> This body should regularly monitor and report on compliance with the principles set forth in the UN IASC Task Force on the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises.<sup>210</sup>
- 7.5 **Urge** Member States to take legislative and administrative measures that ensure that private military and security companies and their personnel are held to account for violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law and there is no recourse to immunity agreements.<sup>211</sup>
- 7.6 **Urge** Member States to advance the adoption and enforcement of gender responsive codes of conduct for private military and security companies in line with international norms and that they develop monitoring and reporting mechanisms to address the threat and the occurrence of sexual and physical violence associated with private security personnel.<sup>212</sup>

### **Strengthen Capacity Development through Continuous, Specialized and Sustained Training on Issues of Gender and Women's Rights under International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law:<sup>213</sup>**

- 7.7 **Provide** mandatory pre-deployment training and Member State certification as a way to tackle SEA and to strengthen accountability for misconduct carried out by UN personnel.<sup>214</sup>
- 7.8 **Leverage** the capacity of institutions outside of the UN system to build constructive partnerships with other actors on generating and developing capacities.<sup>215</sup>
- 7.9 **Provide** mandatory gender-sensitive training for all UN Staff, including security sector personnel and formalize training and modes of operation for WPAs.<sup>216</sup>
- 7.10 **Expedite** the recruitment of WPAs through the Department for Peacekeeping Operations.<sup>217</sup>
- 7.11 **Assist** with local capacity-building to sensitize post-conflict security, police, and judicial institutions and personnel to gender issues in the application and enforcement of the law.<sup>218</sup>
- 7.12 **Build** the capacity of and engage with overlooked actors in the security sector, including customary and religious leaders, local women's organizations, private military and security companies, security sector oversight actors and the penal system, in order to strengthen gender equality, including through prevention and response to human rights violations such as sexual violence.<sup>219</sup>
- 7.13 **Incorporate** a gender perspective, WPS and Protection of Civilians into all recruitment and retention (for example in job descriptions, evaluations and performance assessments), education, training and exercises policies and practices of security forces.<sup>220</sup>

## 8. Peacebuilding and Recovery

**“In order to construct peaceful and just societies it is necessary to address sources of inequality that include, but are not limited to, women’s access to decision-making institutions and processes of peacebuilding and conflict resolution.”<sup>293</sup>**

Nicole Pratt and Sophie Richter Devroe,  
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The Relief and Recovery Pillar of the WPS Agenda focuses on gender-specific needs during conflict post-conflict periods, including DDR programmes and transitional justice processes. Over the last 15 years, there has hardly been any progress in including women as peacebuilders.<sup>221</sup> Yet, investing in women’s meaningful inclusion in the transition process is ensuring that the country will remain stable.<sup>222</sup> Moreover, CSOs have highlighted that

women’s inclusion in DDR programmes is a key to a successful transition into peace.<sup>223</sup> For instance, it is essential to include former women combatants in DDR programmes and to include women living in the community as leaders in reintegration programmes.<sup>224</sup> One of the reasons is that women and men experience conflict and post-conflict life in different ways and these experiences need to be taken into account.<sup>225</sup> As a result, it is imperative that DDR planning is gender-informed, as it is more effective to lead to sustainable peace.<sup>226</sup> For instance, in Rwanda, a gender perspective was operationalized in post-conflict institutions and peacebuilding processes in order to bring about lasting and gender-equal peace.<sup>227</sup> DDR planning is gender-informed when data is disaggregated by sex, when reintegration sites offer specialized facilities, such as health care facilities and separate latrines, for men and women to ensure security, when reintegration programmes provide consideration for special needs, such as childcare. Reintegration programmes are also gender-informed when they offer a strong peer network, jobs that foster gender equality and justice and when reintegration campaigns carefully target women.<sup>228</sup>

### Other Good Practices:

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- ⇒ The Indian Government has established more than 400 police stations with solely women police officers. The all-women police stations have resulted in a 23% increase in reporting of cases of VAWG and a higher conviction rate, according to a 2004 study.<sup>229</sup>

- ⇒ In Azerbaijan, small, local-level activist groups are contributing to building a sense of community, reaching the most vulnerable groups and representing community interests with authorities.<sup>230</sup>
- ⇒ International Alert in partnership with the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies has carried out a project that included a gendered analysis of the data. The project demonstrated that a broader and more people-centred approach that takes into account security perceptions disaggregated along various parameters, including gender and geographical location, could lead to a more nuanced understanding of security needs.<sup>231</sup>
- ⇒ In Myanmar, UN Women is building the capacity of local women and men to access the peace table, with international partners Swiss Peace and ATHENA and national NGOs including Shalom Foundation and the Gender Equality Network. Negotiators from Chin, Kachin, Kayah, Karen, Mon, Shan and Rakhine States have been trained since October 2012 to be part of a group of gender-responsive peacebuilders who are able to influence the peace negotiations.<sup>232</sup>
- ⇒ The Inter-American Court of Human Rights has issued important guidance on the need for reparations in cases concerning WPS in the case Gonzalez et al ('Cotton Field') v Mexico on the disappearances and deaths of a number of women and girls in a cotton field in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico.<sup>233</sup>
- ⇒ Following the conflict in Sierra Leone, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission has recommended a number of measures to improve the livelihoods of women and girls, including the provision of free healthcare, educational support, provision of skills and training, provision of housing, symbolic reparations and urgent reparations for those in greatest need of an effective outcome (for example, victims of sexual violence or widows).<sup>234</sup>

## Recommendations:

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**Strengthen the gender perspective in demobilization, disarmament and reintegration (DDR) and security sector reform (SSR) programmes and mainstream gender equality and women's empowerment in post-conflict peacebuilding utilizing an integrated framework for action that addresses institutional and structural barriers to equality.**

## **Strengthen the Gender Perspective in DDR and SSR Programmes:**

- 8.1 **Advance and involve** women's groups in civilian disarmament, the removal of harmful weapons, arms controls, including efforts to maintain physical security and manage stockpiles, the development of national export and import control systems and demilitarization efforts by supporting community-based weapons collection, such as gun buyback schemes, and institutionalizing regulatory frameworks to control small arms that remain in circulation.<sup>235</sup>
- 8.2 **Involve** women in all stages of post-conflict DDR and SSR programmes, from design to implementation and evaluation, to adequately mainstream gender concerns and ensure that women's economic and social rights are upheld.<sup>236</sup>
- 8.3 **Urge** Member States, UN bodies, donors and civil society to ensure that DDR and SSR processes and initiatives promote gender equality, including within the broader mission and mandate of security sector institutions as well as within their institutional culture.<sup>237</sup>
- 8.4 **Ensure** that donors and designers of DDR and SSR programmes pay particular attention to the reintegration needs of former female combatants.<sup>238</sup>
- 8.5 **Support** gender training, sensitising and capacity building for police, judiciary and social services professionals to enforce the law.<sup>239</sup>
- 8.6 **Include** women as experts, informants and observers in gun control and related small arms control policymaking, including planning and reviewing firearms laws and NAPs on SALW.<sup>240</sup>

## **Mainstream Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Post-Conflict Peacebuilding Utilizing an Integrated Framework for Action that Addresses Institutional and Structural Barriers to Equality:<sup>241</sup>**

- 8.7 **Ensure** that all post-conflict reconstruction and reintegration endeavours incorporate the CEDAW principles of substantive equality and non-discrimination.<sup>242</sup>
- 8.8 **Ensure** the gender mainstreaming and gender-budgeting of post-conflict financing and needs assessments so that resources on the ground benefit women and men equally. Regular audits of post-conflict financing should be utilized to hold governments (donor and recipient) accountable.<sup>243</sup>
- 8.9 **Provide** direct technical and capacity-building support to women members of parliament and civil society leaders to facilitate their meaningful involvement in peacebuilding processes.<sup>244</sup>
- 8.10 **Ensure** that reparations targeted at women survivors – widows and family members of deceased combatants, as well as combatants themselves and victims of conflict-related sexual and GBV – are designed for the long-term economic development and empowerment of women and their families.<sup>245</sup>
- 8.11 **Urge** Member States to ratify and implement international instruments banning certain harmful weapons, including the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (1983); Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (1997); and Convention on Cluster Munitions (2008) while mainstreaming gender in all review, implementation and reporting processes through NAPs on WPS.<sup>246</sup>

## 9. Critical Issues for Women, Peace and Security

There are a few global issues and trends that have emerged since UNSCR 1325 was passed in 2000 that have an impact on the implementation of the WPS Agenda, including the increased awareness to address issues of sexual orientation and gender identities in conflict, increased urge for a gendered analysis of conflict, heightened concern for climate change and its impact on conflict prevention and resolution, and an increased need to address violent extremism and acts of terror. These issues will continue to affect the future implementation of the WPS Agenda and require more comprehensive research and attention.

### Inclusive Framework

Current approaches implementing the WPS Agenda often ignore the variations and hierarchies within and across women and men, as well as those who do not subscribe to these binary identities.<sup>247</sup> For instance, it has been noted that the particular needs, vulnerabilities and agencies of sexual and gender minorities in peacebuilding processes are often not taken into account.<sup>248</sup> While there has been increased attention to women's specific needs in conflicts, there is a lack of integration of a gender perspective in peace and security efforts – despite explicit calls for this in UNSCR 1325.<sup>249</sup> In an effort to test the relevance of human security in conflict prevention and peacebuilding work, the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) worked with local CSOs in six different countries and

regions, including Afghanistan, Ukraine, Palestine, The Philippines, Zimbabwe and Mexico to develop “Stories of Human Security”.<sup>250</sup> The practical

**“...it [is] important to view UNSCR 1325 in the present context as much has changed in the world since UNSCR 1325 was adopted in 2000 and these changes deeply impact the WPS Agenda.”<sup>294</sup>**

WinG-India and APWAPS

engagement with CSOs through a people-centred approach has highlighted locally identified security concerns and gender perspectives.<sup>251</sup> Despite such good practices by CSOs, the overall absence of incorporating a gender analysis to conflict around the world has led to a failure to adequately address the full drivers of conflict, threatening the sustainability of peace agreements and causing women and people of diverse sexual and gender identities to have to fight even harder for representation and justice.<sup>252</sup>

### Climate Change

Climate change is a growing human security threat that needs to be researched and integrated into the

WPS Agenda.<sup>253</sup> Climate change entails droughts, floods and extreme weather events, which impact, among others, the agricultural sector and thus food and water security and access to natural resources.<sup>254</sup> Climate change challenges have a disproportionate impact on women, with the poorest being the most vulnerable, in areas of physical and psychological health and the security of livelihoods.<sup>255</sup> In addition, climate change often leads to widespread displacement, leaving women in particular vulnerable to sexual violence.<sup>256</sup> Moreover, environmental degradation and issues of access to resources can exacerbate the impact of climate change and fuel as well as result from violent conflict.<sup>257</sup> As the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development notes, “climate change is not gender neutral and as extreme weather patterns increase global competition and tensions over land and resources, the disproportionate burden of climate change already borne by women can only be augmented as climate change induced conflict further threatens their lives, livelihoods, peace, and security.”<sup>258</sup> In an effort to strengthen gender equality, development and peace, Indian peace activists have taken action to demand investment in gender equitable social and environmental institutions.<sup>259</sup> More good practices are needed to direct attention and resources to address the devastating impact of climate change and environmental destruction, as well as its gendered causes and impacts.

## **Violent Extremism**

The increased trend towards global militarization is a consequence and contributor to violent extremism and terrorism, as well as initiatives to counter violent extremism.<sup>260</sup> With the current increase in violent extremism and acts of terror, it is fundamental that WPS norms and relevant policy frameworks take into account the full gendered spectrum of these security threats. While continuums of violence can be a consequence of war, they can also rapidly lead to full-scale conflict.<sup>261</sup> In an effort to improve the operational effectiveness of Pakistani forces in countering violent extremism and terrorism, the Institute for Inclusive Security asserts that it is essential to recruit, retain and professionalize women in police forces, noting that women can collect vital intelligence not always available to men, and that women can improve the operational effectiveness of these forces through building trust with local communities.<sup>262</sup> Nevertheless, donor funding has not prioritized the recruitment and retention of women in Pakistan’s police forces and there remains a substantial absence of policewomen.<sup>263</sup> In addition to the lack of women’s participation and representation in security forces, women and girls are often a direct target of the violent acts of extremism against civilians, as is demonstrated by the violent abductions of women and girls by Boko Haram in Nigeria.<sup>264</sup> As such, it is essential that women meaningfully participate in efforts to prevent, reduce and counter violent extremism and terrorism and that all such initiatives are oriented around strengthening women’s participation, protection, and rights.<sup>265</sup>

## Recommendations:

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**Integrate WPS in addressing critical issues by a) incorporating a more inclusive and broader approach to the WPS framework, which takes into consideration a gender perspective of the roles of men and sexual and gender minorities, without compromising the increased efforts towards women's full and equal participation, protection and human rights in conflict situations; b) including women in both peace processes and climate change negotiations in order to provide their insight on the different needs of women and girls and to include their unique perspective in mitigating and adapting to conflict; and c) supporting women's leadership, participation, and rights in all efforts to prevent, reduce and counter terrorism and violent extremism.**

## **Incorporate a More Inclusive and Broader Approach to the WPS framework, which Takes into Consideration a Gender Perspective of the Roles of Men and Sexual and Gender Minorities, Without Compromising the Increased Efforts Towards Women's Full and Equal Participation, Protection and Human Rights in Conflict Situations:<sup>266</sup>**

- 9.1 **Invest** in longer-term research and programming aimed at developing approaches that not only focus on women, but on gender in a holistic manner using a gender analysis and by adopting a Gender, Peace and Human Security strategy that addresses but goes beyond women, including how gender intersects with other identity factors such as age, social class, sexuality, disability, ethnic or religious background, marital status or urban/rural setting, and that analyzes the gender dimensions of the drivers of conflict as well as different impacts of conflict on women, men, boys and girls.<sup>267</sup>
- 9.2 **Consider** the needs of LGBTQI individuals, including combatants, in DDR and SSR programmes.<sup>268</sup>
- 9.3 **Tackle** gender norms that drive or enable violence and promote gender equality by also engaging men, boys, youth, religious leaders and the media to promote women's political, social and economic empowerment and advancing efforts to tackle harmful expressions of masculinity through machismo, violence and militarism.<sup>269</sup>
- 9.4 **Leverage** the important role of men and boys as agents for peace and the example of men and boys who embody non-violence in contexts affected by armed violence or militarization.<sup>270</sup>

## **Include Women in Both Peace Processes and Climate Change Negotiations in order to Provide their Insight on the Different Needs of Women and Girls and to Include their Unique Perspective in Mitigating and Adapting to Conflict:<sup>271</sup>**

- 9.5 **Ensure** that climate change as a human security issue is researched and integrated into WPS Agenda.<sup>272</sup>
- 9.6 **Ensure** the participation of climate change-affected communities, particularly women, in peace and security policy dialogues and negotiations.<sup>273</sup>
- 9.7 **Ensure** that all responses to natural disasters and climate change, including mitigation and adaptation strategies, are consistent with the needs and rights of women and girls.<sup>274</sup>
- 9.8 **Promote** women's participation in formal and informal decision-making structures and governance processes related to natural resource management in peacebuilding.<sup>275</sup>
- 9.9 **Support** research on how the impacts of climate change could increase vulnerability to conflict especially for women and at-risk communities and how gender-sensitive early warning and adaptation projects could address this issue.<sup>276</sup>
- 9.10 **Mandate** peacekeeping operations, where appropriate, to monitor natural resources or environmental matters that have the potential to trigger or finance conflict from a gender perspective.<sup>277</sup>

## **Support Women's Leadership and Participation in all Efforts to Prevent, Reduce and Counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism:<sup>278</sup>**

- 9.11 **Advance** non-violent efforts to counter violent extremism by empowering women to respond to ideological shifts or radicalization in private and public spheres.<sup>279</sup>
- 9.12 **Monitor** mass media and social media trends through a gender lens to track rhetoric that incites prejudice and violence, including harmful portrayals of women that could prevent their participation in public and political life.<sup>280</sup>
- 9.13 **Partner** with religious leaders - women and men - to publicly promote tolerance and cultures of peace and to counter radicalized interpretations of religious teachings.<sup>281</sup>
- 9.14 **Train** women in their roles as mothers, sisters or wives to recognize and respond to the early warning signals of radicalization or violent tendencies and train men in their roles as fathers, brothers, and husbands to choose non-violent over violent masculinities and roles.<sup>282</sup>
- 9.15 **Analyze** recruitment strategies that target young men and women and monitor and provide counselling for vulnerable youth.<sup>283</sup>
- 9.16 **Strengthen** the existing language in the Fourth Biennial Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to call on Member States, UN Agencies and international, regional and sub-regional organizations to fully engage women and promote their rights in the processes.<sup>284</sup>
- 9.17 **Establish** an ongoing consultative mechanism with WPS-related civil society groups on violent extremism.<sup>285</sup>
- 9.18 **Include** the participation of UN Women and the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate in the Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force meetings with civil society groups.<sup>286</sup>

# Annex 1: List of Abbreviations

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| ATT    | Arms Trade Treaty  |
| CEDAW  | Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women |
| CSO    | Civil Society Organization   |
| DDR    | Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration                              |
| DRC    | Democratic Republic of the Congo   |
| FARC   | Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia                                     |
| GADN   | Gender and Development Network   |
| GBV    | Gender-Based Violence  |
| GNWP   | Global Network of Women Peacebuilders                                      |
| GPPAC  | Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict                    |
| ICC    | International Criminal Court   |
| LAP    | Local Action Plan  |
| LGBTQI | Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex           |
| NAP    | National Action Plan   |
| NGO    | Non-Governmental Organization  |
| RAP    | Regional Action Plan   |
| SEA    | Sexual Exploitation and Abuse  |
| SALW   | Small Arms and Light Weapons   |



# Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> See Annex 1.

<sup>2</sup> WinG-India and APWAPS. *A Spectrum of Perspectives: Review and Analysis of UNSCR 1325 in Asia-Pacific Region*. March 30, 2015. P. 16 (Referred to as WinG-India and APWAPS).

<sup>3</sup> Global Alliance on Armed Violence. *Implementing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda and Reducing Armed Violence*. April 15, 2015. P. 24. (Referred to as GAAV).

<sup>4</sup> Saferworld. *Reviving Conflict Prevention in 1325*. March 9, 2015. P. 2 (Referred to as Saferworld) and Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict. *Strengthening Peace and Security Approaches through Long-Term Prevention of Conflict, Human Security Strategies and Documentation of Local Women's Voices*. April 14, 2015. P. 5 (Referred to as GPPAC)

<sup>5</sup> Saferworld. P. 5.

<sup>6</sup> International Alert, Saferworld and Conciliation Resources. *Peacebuilders' Reflections on Gender, Peace and Security*. April 14, 2015. P. 4 (referred to as International Alert, Saferworld and Conciliation Resources).

<sup>7</sup> WinG-India and APWAPS. P. 18; WO=MEN Dutch Gender Platform. *2015 The Netherlands - Civil Society Input Global Study on Women, Peace and Security*. April 1, 2015. P. 2. (Referred to as WO=MEN); GPPAC. P. 2.; Small Arms Survey. *Reaching Gender Equality, Peace and Security Through Small Arms Control*. April 15, 2015. P. 38. (Referred to as Small Arms Control b); Conciliation Resources. *Women's Participation and Inclusive Peace Processes: Lessons Learned from Mindanao and Beyond*. April 15, 2015. P. 2. (Referred to as Conciliation Resources).

<sup>8</sup> Institute for Inclusive Security. *Why Women's Leadership is Key to Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict*. October 6, 2010. P. 2. (Referred to as Institute for Inclusive Security); WO=MEN, P. 2.; 29. GPPAC. P. 2; Escola de Cultura de Pau. *Enhancing Women's Participation in Peace Processes. Submission to the Global Study on Women, Peace and Security*. April 15, 2015. P. 4 (Referred to as Escola de Cultura de Pau); 3. Gender and Development Network (GADN), Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) UK and the UK Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Network Turning Promises into Progress. March 1, 2015. P. 8 and P. 7. (Referred to as GAPS); and 6. NGO Working Group on WPS. *Open Letter Ahead of the High Level Review*. March 27, 2015. P. 1. (Referred to as NGOWG WPS Open Letter).

<sup>9</sup> GPPAC. P. 7.

<sup>10</sup> Conciliation Resources. P. 6.; Escola de Cultura de Pau. P. 2.

<sup>11</sup> Escola de Cultura de Pau. P. 2.

<sup>12</sup> WinG-India and APWAPS. P. 14

<sup>13</sup> Institute for Inclusive Security a. P. 2

<sup>14</sup> GPPAC. P. 8.

<sup>15</sup> Oxfam Somalia. *Global Study on UNSCR 1325. Recommendations and Supporting Evidence for Themes*. April 15, 2015. P. 1.

<sup>16</sup> The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). *The Pieces of Peace: Realizing Peace Through Gendered Conflict Prevention*. April 15, 2015. P. 5 (Referred to as WILPF); Escola de Cultura de Pau. P. 2.

<sup>17</sup> WILPF. P. 21; Escola de Cultura de Pau. P. 2.

<sup>18</sup> WILPF. P. 16.

<sup>19</sup> London School of Economics, Department of Law. *Making the Normative Case: Implementing Security Council Resolution 1325 as Part of a Legal Framework on Women, Peace and Security*. April 15, 2015. P. 65 (Referred to as LSE Department of Law).

<sup>20</sup> Hayi Godwin Foundation. *Security, Women and Peace*. April 13, 2015, P. 2 (Referred to as the Hayi Godwin Foundation); International Alert, Saferworld and Conciliation Resources. P. 4; Escola de Cultura de Pau. P. 4; WILPF. P. 6.; WO=MEN. P. 3; GAAV. P. 14.

<sup>21</sup> ACCORD. *Strengthening Gender Mainstreaming in Africa's Peace Operations*. April 14, 2015. P. 4 (Referred to as ACCORD).

<sup>22</sup> WinG-India and APWAPS. P. 22

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- 23 WO=MEN, P. 2.
- 24 NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1.
- 25 Ibid.
- 26 Escola de Pau. P. 5; ACCORD. P. 5.
- 27 ACCORD. P. 4.
- 28 WO=MEN, P. 2.
- 29 NGO Working Group on WPS. *2015 Civil Society Women, Peace and Security Roadmap*. March 24, 2015. P. 5 (Referred to as NGOWG WPS Roadmap); GAAV. P. 8.
- 30 NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1.; GAAV. P. 13.
- 31 Human Rights Watch. *A Revolution for All: Women's Rights in the New Libya*. May 27, 2013. P. 32 (Referred to as Human Rights Watch a); Institute for Inclusive Security a. P. 1
- 32 Human Rights Watch a. P. 32
- 33 Oxfam Somalia. P. 1.
- 34 GPPAC. P. 1.
- 35 GPPAC. P. 1.
- 36 GAAV. P. 15.
- 37 WinG-India and APWAPS. P. 16
- 38 WILPF. P. 21.
- 39 NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 5; NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1 and P. 18; WO=Men, P. 2.
- 40 APWAPS. P. 7.
- 41 Jacqui True. *Gender Mainstreaming in Peace and Security Policymaking*. April 9, 2015. P. 2 (Referred to as Jacqui True); WILPF. P. 11.
- 42 WILPF. P. 9; GAAV P. 24.
- 43 WILPF. P. 9
- 44 Ibid. P. 9.
- 45 NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 4; NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1; APWAPS. P. 7.
- 46 NGOWG WPS Roadmap P. 5; NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1
- 47 GAAV. P. 17.
- 48 CARE International. *Beyond 2015 for Women, Peace and Security CARE International Position on the 15th Anniversary of 1325*. April 15, 2015. P. 7 (Referred to as CARE International).
- 49 Ibid. P. 9.
- 50 Ibid. P. 11.
- 51 Saferworld. P. 4.
- 52 WILPF. P. 8.
- 53 NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 5; APWAPS. P. 7; Saferworld. P. 2.; Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development. *Climate Change and Natural Disasters Affecting Women, Peace and Security*. March 17, 2015. P. 3 (Referred to as Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development); WO=Men; WILPF. P. 7; GAAV. P. 8 and P. 17; WinG-India and APWAPS.
- 54 Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development. P. 3
- 55 WinG-India and APWAPS. P. 18
- 56 Ibid.
- 57 GAAV. P. 17.
- 58 WO=Men, P. 3; International Alert, Saferworld, Conciliation Resources, P. 3; GAAV. P. 7.
- 59 NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 5; NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1; GAAV. P. 8.
- 60 WO=Men. P. 3.
- 61 Ibid.
- 62 GPPAC. P. 6; GAAV. P. 16.
- 63 GAAV. P. 16.
- 64 Ibid. P. 17.
- 65 NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 5; NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1; GAAV. P. 8.
- 66 WILPF. P. 10.
- 67 NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 5.
- 68 GAAV. P. 15.
- 69 Ibid. P. 15.
- 70 Ibid. P. 19.
- 71 Ibid.
- 72 Small Arms b. P. 48.

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- <sup>73</sup> NOREF, Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre, Aisling Swaine. *National Implementation of the UN Security Council's Women, Peace and Security Resolutions*. March 14, 2013. P. 4. (Referred to as NOREF, Aisling Swaine).
- <sup>74</sup> Small Arms Survey b. P. 48.
- <sup>75</sup> ACCORD. P. 7.
- <sup>76</sup> WO=Men, P. 4.; GAPS. P. 9; NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 3; NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1.
- <sup>77</sup> WILPF Australia. P. 3.
- <sup>78</sup> CARE International. P. 7.
- <sup>79</sup> GPPAC. P. 2.
- <sup>80</sup> International Alert, Saferworld and Conciliation Resources. P. 2.
- <sup>81</sup> GAPS. P. 9.
- <sup>82</sup> NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 3; NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1.
- <sup>83</sup> NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 4.
- <sup>84</sup> NGOWG WPS Roadmap. P. 3. NGOWG WPS Open Letter. P. 1.
- <sup>85</sup> GAPS. P. 9.
- <sup>86</sup> GAPS. P. 10; 33. CARE International. P. 8.
- <sup>87</sup> GAAV. P. 11.
- <sup>88</sup> Ibid.
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The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) with National Sections covering every continent, an International Secretariat based in Geneva, and a New York office focused on the work of the United Nations.

Since our establishment in 1915, we have brought together women from around the world who are united in working for peace by non-violent means and promoting political, economic and social justice for all.

Our approach is always non-violent, and we use existing international legal and political frameworks to achieve fundamental change in the way states conceptualize and address issues of gender, militarism, peace and security.

PeaceWomen is a programme of WILPF working to promote a progressive gender-perspective in preventing conflict and creating peace through women's full and equal participation and bridging global and local efforts to implement a holistic and transformative Women, Peace and Security Agenda.



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