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STATEMENT BY THE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHILE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

AMBASSADOR HERALDO MUÑOZ

ON OCCASION OF THE OPEN DEBATE ON

“WOMEN AND PEACE AND SECURITY”

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL

INTERVENCIÓN DEL
REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE CHILE ANTE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS

EMBAJADOR SR. HERALDO MUÑOZ

CON OCASIÓN DEL DEBATE ABIERTO SOBRE

“MUJERES, PAZ Y SEGURIDAD”

CONSEJO DE SEGURIDAD
NACIONES UNIDAS

NUEVA YORK, 29 DE OCTUBRE DE 2008

Mr. President,

Thank you, Mr. Chairman for having convened this important meeting on “Women, Peace and Security”.

Chile fully supports the statement made by the Permanent Representative of Ireland on behalf of the Member States of the Human Security Network.

Eight years after the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000), this year this Council adopted resolution 1820 (2008), which reveals that atrocities against women in armed conflicts are continuing. This is an unacceptable situation at this stage of the twenty-first century, and we must put a stop to it immediately.

In addition, we welcome the Secretary-General’s report on the item. While noting some progress towards implementation of resolution 1325, it also points out that the situation of women in conflict and post-conflict situations has not improved.

In this connection, and as the Chairman of the Human Security Network has pointed out, the implementation of resolution 1325 concerns not only the Security Council or the United Nations system but the international community as a whole. In this context, the creation and implementation of a National Action Plan is crucial in this respect.

Chile has started work on a National Action Plan, which at this initial stage reflects the priority assigned by the Government of Chile to gender mainstreaming in government policies.

Last March, a working group was created of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the National Women’s Service and civil society, tasked with submitting on 8 March 2009, International Women’s Day, a final draft of a National Action Plan meeting the requirements of resolution 1325.

On 23 October this year, a first draft of this National Action Plan was presented to the public sector and to civil society to allow an open and participatory discussion leading to a final draft that will be a faithful reflection of the interests of our society.

As recommended by the Secretary-General in his report, the draft action plan is a comprehensive design for the best possible involvement of bodies concerned with the prevention, management and solution of existing conflicts. And with comprehensive inclusion of the gender perspective.

The main thrust of the National Action Plan submitted for discussion is:

- To adopt a gender approach with respect for and promotion of human rights, both in Chile and outside our frontiers;

- To promote the equitable participation of women in peacekeeping operations and in the relevant decision-making bodies;
- To mainstream gender in its broadest sense in the design, implementation and execution of our international cooperation policies;
- To enhance the technical capacity both of government officials and of civil society in relation to the gender perspective, security and conflict;
- To promote implementation of resolution 1325 in the region, through the exchange of experience and international cooperation both on a bilateral basis and in regional mechanisms for peacekeeping operations in which Chile is involved, particularly in the context of MINUSTAH.

With the adoption of a National Action Plan in the context of Security Council resolution 1325, Chile will be following one of the fundamental principles of our foreign policy, which is promotion of the fundamental rights of the human person at the universal level, including gender perspective in its widest sense, which should be a crucial element of a modern people-oriented foreign policy.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.