

Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security
November 30th 2012, Security Council Chamber

Statement by Mr. Errázuriz Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations.

Chile congratulates India on its presidency and thanks it for having convened this important open debate in the Security Council on women and peace and security.

My delegation thanks the Deputy Secretary-General for having introduced the report (S/2012/732), as well as the Executive Director of UN-Women Michelle Bachelet for her statement, and Mr. Hervé Ladsous and Ms. Bineta Diop.

The present debate is without a doubt an opportunity to strengthen action in the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda. This year's theme reflects the central role played by women's groups in the implementation of this agenda and the work they carry out in favour of peace and the empowerment of women.

Twelve years after the adoption of the historic resolution 1325 (2000), the Council has continued to make progress in providing guidance for the greater protection of women in armed conflict situations. Nevertheless, it can be seen that the situation of women in conflict and post-conflict situations has not improved. Likewise, many women's organizations around the world face particular risks and challenges, especially those in violent situations.

The international community bore witness to the case of Malala Yousafzai. In that regard, we view women human rights defenders are often targets of attack in conflict situations, which is greater protection and support are need for the participation of women and girls in peace processes and reconstruction.

The report of the Secretary-General presents the progress made since last year relating to the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in four areas of action: prevention, participation, protection, and relief and recovery. It also covers the steps announced with a view to improving monitoring and evaluation systems aimed at fulfilling commitments relating to women and peace and security.

It should be underscored that in 2008 my country established a working group, composed of representatives of the Ministries for Foreign Affairs and of National Defence, the National Service for Women and civil society organizations, with the aim of developing a national action plan in keeping with the requirements of resolution 1325 (2000). In that regard, we have sought to create an action plan through an inclusive process of open and participatory discussions to faithfully represent the interests of our society.

The Chilean national action plan covers a range of actions aimed at promoting the inclusion of gender perspective in the understanding of and approach to conflict-prevention and post-conflict processes; respecting, guaranteeing and protecting the rights of women and girls; and generating conditions for the equitable participation of women in peace processes and decision-making with regard to international peace and security.

In our view, it is important to promote the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) through the exchange of experiences and international cooperation, both bilaterally and within the regional peacekeeping mechanisms in which Chile participates, in particular the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti. We also believe it is important to join forces and pool resources to collect data and provide technical support so as to improve indicators for the adequate monitoring and evaluation of national action plans.

The universal promotion of fundamental human rights is one of the basic principles of Chile's foreign policy. In that regard, we will continue to join ongoing efforts to ensure women's participation in and contribution to conflict prevention and mediation.