

IRAQ

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

**FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
UNITED NATION SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325
WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY
2014 - 2018**

FINAL DRAFT

Contents

Contents	1
1. Introduction	3
2. Peace Process in Iraq and Women’s participation	5
3. Impact of armed conflict and invasion on women	6
4. Constitutional, legal and policy provisions on women, peace and security	7
4.1 Constitutional Provisions	7
4.2 Legal Provisions	7
4.3 Policies, strategies and action plans	10
5. National Action Plan.....	11
5.1. Participation of women in decision making processes.....	11
5.2. Protection, Security and Prevention	11
5.3. Promotion of women’s rights	12
5.4. Social and economic empowerment.....	12
5.5. Legislation and law enforcement	13
6. Implementation of the National Action Plan	14
6.1. Overall Objective	14
6.2. Specific Objectives.....	14
6.3. Main Principles and Pillars	15
7. Institutional arrangement for the implementation of the Action Plan	17
8. Resource Mobilization, Monitoring and Evaluation	17
9. Budget.....	18
Annex NAP1325 Logframe with 6 Pillars.....	18

The Federal Government of Iraq and Kurdistan Regional Government have committed themselves to promote all efforts towards strengthening the role of women in the society. The implementation of United Nation Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security is an important part of this commitment. The national action plan (NAP) has been elaborated in order to implement the resolution by responding to the needs and interests of women in Iraq and the Kurdish region. The plan was drawn in cooperation between the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Defense in Baghdad, and Ministry of Interior and Women's High Council in Kurdistan and the Iraqi NAP1325 Initiative (I-NAP1325 Initiative), an initiative of women's rights organizations and networks across Iraq and Kurdistan.

This plan reflects the political will of the two Governments to cooperate with the women's rights civil society organizations for the benefit of all women. It is a part of the governmental effort to contribute to the regional stability and promote peace and justice. The Federal Government in Baghdad and Kurdistan Regional Government are committed to intensify their efforts to increase women's participation in the decision making, to provide protection to women and rehabilitation for abused women and to amend discriminatory for women legislation in pursue of enhancing and promoting gender equality in Iraq, regionally and globally.

1. Introduction

It is our belief that human rights should be respected, reinforced and applied equally to all, without any discrimination based on gender, language, origin or religion, ideology or beliefs. Therefore, any violation of these rights or disregard of; any use of violence against women contradict these principles and human values of equality and endangers the society as a whole as well as its capacity to live in peace and achieve progress and development. Such violations lead to suffering and arbitrary coercion and deprive women of their individual freedoms, fundamental rights and dignity. Thus, societies and governments should condemn and prohibit in every possible way such violations, be it within the family or the community.

The United Nation Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, October 2000, has been issued to put an end to all violations perpetrated against women during and after armed conflicts and wars, in conformity with other international women's rights instruments and treaties and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Women should be protected against any violation of their rights and they shall be enabled to have a full participation in decision making processes that shape their lives.

We believe that modern Iraqi society can reorganize social and family relations and guarantee the protection of women's rights and the participation of women in creating a safe society where all can live decently and in peace, and achieve justice and equality within social and familial environment; can harmonize laws and systems with universal norms and standards and realize the aspirations of the civil society towards reinforcing and promoting women's rights.

Human society cannot achieve its goals in development and progress if half of its members are exposed to discrimination and prejudice. When human beings are deprived of their freedom they lose their legitimacy, dignity freedom and will. The issue of equality between women and men is vital and inseparable from the development of the community and society as a whole. Empowering women and reinforcing their active participation in all fields of social, economic and political life is in itself a noble human goal in our contemporary world. Respecting human rights and achieving equality is an indicator of a society's development, and countries and societies live in a better state of peace and well-being when all their components enjoy equal rights and opportunities.

The Iraqi society and Iraqi women in particular, have suffered difficult conditions and catastrophes after several wars and economic sanctions that had a strong impact on women, and denied them – or at least partly led to denying them – access to their

fundamental rights. Even if door is wide open to women's participation and equality, it cannot become real unless there is a clear strategy and vision, an official apparatus and a legal structure to apply them; the axis being democracy, justice, equality and respect for human rights of women in order to provide an adequate social, educational and health system, ensure the participation of women and promote the peaceful advancement of society within the political and economic system.

There is a close relationship between the concept of empowering women into becoming autonomous and performing their social roles, and the provision of human security. It is thus necessary to integrate women in the efforts for peace and security in cases of post-armed conflict and crises, on the national and international level. Their participation and contribution to these efforts is a confirmation of their role as actors and not merely as victims of these conflicts.

The objectives of UNSCR 1325, increasing the participation of women in peace preservation and conflict resolution at all levels, incorporating the views of women in peace agreements, dealing with the impact of conflict on women, and protecting women from sexual abuse and criminalizing it –are still crucial and urgent. Despite some progress, a lot remains to be done. Accordingly, there is a need to give a new importance to the implementation of the Resolution through coordinated efforts on international and regional levels.

Recognizing this need, a Cross-Sector Task Force for development of a national action plan was formed by representatives from the executive and legislative authorities from the Federal Government in Baghdad and the Kurdish Regional Government, (KRG), and women's NGOs. National consultations, workshops and meetings were held in order to define the strategic objectives, specific actions, expected results, indicators, implementing agencies and time framework of this plan, reaching a common will to work for the advancement of peace and security in Iraq through enhancing the active participation of women in the process of construction and development of society, women being considered as equal actors in the process of developing the social and cultural environment.

The formulation of an action plan for women, peace and security and to launch it is the first step into putting regional and international decisions into practice.

The national action plan includes programs, projects and activities that were conceived so as to fulfill these strategic goals. The plan also encourages allocating resources, monitoring budgets and mobilizing local, regional and international support. International, regional and national experiences have proven that the role of civil society in the process of empowering women, identifying challenges and designing strategies is crucial, and form a lobbying groups on stakeholders and

monitor their performance, therefore the women's rights organizations are central partner in the promotion and protection of women's rights and the implementation of this national action plan.

2. Peace Process in Iraq and Women's participation

Iraqi Women have played an important part during times of armed conflicts and deterioration of social conditions. They have long struggled to maintain social order and ensure its sustainability. But despite their early involvement in the process of construction and development and the role they have played and are still playing in shaping the future of Iraq and preserving its identity and unity, and despite the sacrifices they have been making daily and willingly, they are still struggling on all levels to preserve the country, society and family while facing challenges that still question the right of women to equal access to leadership positions and consider national issues to be exclusively masculine, without any will to put that into question or reconsider it.

Women have participated very keenly to the political movement towards democracy building and strengthening, in both private and public sector, ever since its beginning in 2003. Iraqi women have also accessed the legislative branch –through international tools – yet there is an ongoing debate on the importance of involving women in negotiations and important meetings. Indicators of women's participation in leadership positions started going down day after day, reflecting the fragility of the democratic process and the extent of its efficiency: women occupied 6 ministerial portfolios out of 36 in the first transitional government, with none of them occupying one of the four sovereign positions. Women representation was of 11% in the Council of Ministers and 32% in the National Assembly, and when the Constitutional Committee was formed, only 9 out of 55 members were women.

The Iraqi House of Representatives was elected with the participation of 74 women in 2005, ie a ratio of 25,8%. But when the committee for modifying the Constitution was selected, women participation was only 2 out of 27, i.e. 7%. The regression of women's representation in the executive power was visible in the government with only 4 ministries headed by women, a figure that was further reduced to 3 with the withdrawal of the Minister of Women's Affairs. In the last elections (2010) women's participation reached 25%, and still they were not represented at all at the head of the legislative instances nor in the committee for peace and national agreements. Women's participation also regressed in executive power, with only one ministry being given to a woman the Ministry of Women's Affairs. There was also a regression

in women representation after a woman was in charge in the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Commerce at different stages. Moreover, there is a lack of gender equality in the position of University Chairs in Iraq and in non-governmental organizations.

In Kurdistan there was an improvement of women's participation in the legislative authority with 30%.

Women participation is an indicator of society's political freedom and democracy, and of social freedom given to women to participate and fulfill their role the way they should.

3. Impact of armed conflict and invasion on women

Women are very vulnerable during wartimes. In addition to the risk of being direct war casualties, they have to assume additional responsibilities. Caring for their household in such extremely difficult circumstances is sometimes aggravated by the death of the spouse or family members and the emotional and financial toll it takes. Because of the Iraqi patriarchal system, in the absence of a male relative, a woman lacks economic, physical and social protection and support. Already suffering from rapidly decreasing socioeconomic rights, "women and gender relations have been particularly hard-hit by economic sanctions (1990-2003), as well as by the recent war in 2003 and its ongoing violent aftermath." (Al-Ali: 2005).

Like many wars that have occurred in the second part of the 20th century, the Iraqi war did not take place on a distant war front: it was rather associated with the breakdown of order, livelihood systems and social norms, having a particular impact on women, both in their persons and in their socially constructed roles. Long-lasting wars have transformed the Iraqi society in diverse ways, not the least so economically.

Sexual assaults are part of the dangers faced by women in time of armed conflicts. Moreover, in a traditional society of Iraq, the victim suffers a double trauma: the assault itself, and the social stigma and shame associated with the assault.

Researchers have also found that domestic violence increases in the aftermath of military conflicts, making women war victims in yet another way. Violence against women is today on the rise due to various factors, engendered directly or indirectly by war.

4. Constitutional, legal and policy provisions on women, peace and security

4.1 Constitutional Provisions

The Iraqi constitution from 2005 refers in its preamble to the care for women and their rights, children and their issues and to spreading the culture of diversity. It stipulates in Article 14 equality before the law without discrimination on the basis of sex, and considers of Iraqi nationality everyone born to an Iraqi father or to an Iraqi mother (Article 18/2). Article 20 stipulates that the citizens, men and women have the right to participate in the public political affairs and to enjoy the political rights including the right to vote, elect and run for election. Article 29/2 has ensured the protection of motherhood, childhood and old age, and clause fourth has prohibited all forms of violence and oppression in the family, school and society. Article 30/1 has guaranteed for the individual, the family and namely the child and the woman, social security, health insurance and the basic requirements for living a free decent life that would provide for them a suitable income and housing. Article 37/3 has prohibited slavery, trading in slaves, women, children and sex.

Article 49/4 has stipulated that the electoral law shall aim at having women's representation of not less than the quarter of the number of parliamentarians.

However, Article 41 has stipulated that "Iraqis are free to adhere to their personal status according to their religion, sects, beliefs or choices. This entails the dispersion of the legal provisions that are applicable to the Iraqis in their personal status, and the application of the rules and religious rulings of every sect, doctrine or religion to its followers.

The constitution has stipulated the necessity of issuing laws to complement it and to regulate important matters it referred to, such as the freedom of expression, the freedom of the press, of assembly, of peaceful demonstration and the freedom to establish associations and political parties. It also stipulates the prohibition of violence, oppression at home, work and school. However, these laws have not been issued till now, despite the considerable importance to pass them in the current phase, namely the law of political parties, and the necessity to include in it a meaningful and appropriate representation of women in the formed parties.

4.2 Legal Provisions

Several legal actions towards strengthening women's participation have been approved by the government. An anti-trafficking law was approved together with the formation of the Federal Committee of several ministries to implement the 2012 adoption of law on "compensation for victims of terrorism and the martyrs of the

army and police". A law allowing women to work in the security services (Ministry of the Interior and the Intelligence) has been adopted. Furthermore an action plan has been implemented, leading to the Ministry of Environment removal the mines in the territory of previous wars. Under discussion is the change of the prison system and the establishment of modern prisons for women and men and many local initiatives take place to raise awareness of the contents of Resolution 1325.

However discrimination in law still exists. The Iraqi ordinary legal system has included several discriminatory provisions against women, namely in the punitive aspect. The Iraqi valid penal code has considered that the husband's disciplining his wife is a form of using his right, as it considered it to be a reason for allowing it. Article 41 has stipulated "shall not be considered a crime, if the deed has occurred while using a right stipulated by law, and is considered a use of that right: - #1) "the husband disciplining his wife, and the disciplining by the parents, the teachers, and similar people of minor children within the limits stipulated by the Sharia, the law or the customs". This has allowed the husbands to attack their wives using all forms of beating and insults with the pretext of discipline, within the limits of what is permissible by the Sharia and the customs too, except in Kurdistan where this article was amended in 2001.

It punishes the wife for committing adultery wherever the crime has taken place, and it punishes the husband for adultery, only if it occurs in the marital home, in accordance with Article (377) of the penal code.

The penal code does not criminalize the husband's incitement of his wife to commit adultery, unless she really does commit adultery, thus placing her under the mercy of his pressures until she commits adultery. It omits to criminalize the man's incitement of females close to him other than his wife to commit adultery, and does not accompany the freedom restricting punishment with a financial penalty in a crime that has an economic objective rather than anything else.

Article 398 necessitates dismissing the claim or dropping the lawsuit in the crimes of rape, forced homosexuality and molestation and the halting of the investigation therein, and all the other proceedings against the accused, if a correct marriage is concluded between the perpetrator and the victim. If a verdict has been rendered, the execution is halted, and the lawsuit shall not resume its proceedings nor its implementation, unless the marriage contract ended with a divorce initiated by the accused husband without a legitimate reasons, or with a divorce ruled by the court for reasons related to the husband's mistake or misbehavior, before three years have elapsed following the halting of the proceedings. This means that the law gives the raped and assaulted women as a present to the perpetrator, and it rewards him

rather than punishes him, which would encourage the spreading of crimes and the violation of the rule of law, and wastes the wisdom of the punitive laws in realizing the public and private deterrence, and is unfair to the victims of rape and harassment as it throws them into the houses of their tormentors in highly complicated and dangerous social conditions, instead of providing them with protection and reintegrating them into the society.

The penal code has reduced the punishment in an exaggerated manner to imprisonment between (24hours - 3hours) only, in a form of honor crimes, if the husband were to surprise his wife or of his female relatives in a state of adultery or while in bed with her partner, and killed them instantly, or either of them, or assaulted them or either of them in a manner that led to his death or caused him permanent disability. The law in this provision shall be a tool for encouraging the commitment of such ugly crimes, and for the continuation of women killing for social reasons or to adhere to outdated customs and traditions, while the law is expected to stand against them and to work to change them instead of condoning them and encouraging their keeping.

The Iraqi judiciary has long resorted to jurisprudence to consider murder, attempted murder, or assault, to “wash away the disgrace”, a mitigating legal excuse, as being an honest motive for committing the crime, and has reduced the punishments of the crimes that were committed to “wash away the disgrace” in accordance with Articles 128, 130 and 131 of the penal law to exaggerated limits, which enhanced the escalation of these crimes, and cemented and stabilized the permanent nature of the customs and the outdated social values related thereto.

Clause 2 of Article 4 of the anti-terrorism law no. 13 for the year 2005 has punished by life imprisonment, everyone who intentionally conceals any terrorist action or harbors a terrorist with the aim of covering up for him. The provision has treated on an equal footing, in criminalization and punishment, the people that are closely connected to the accused, such as his wife, mother or sister and others, differently from the approach that the penal law has followed in excluding the people close to him from criminalization and punishment in such cases.

The penal law did not criminalize sexual harassment except through public provisions that do not absorb all its forms. Moreover, the valid law no. 71 for the year 1987 has neglected to deal with sexual harassment in the workplace, and did not impose any measures to prohibit it or deal with it.

The personal status law no 188 for the year 1959, even though it is considered an advanced law, compared to the laws of the Arab region, does still consider marriage by coercion to be a true marriage if consummated (Article 9/1), and allows for

polygamy against concessional terms (Article 3/5,6,7), and still permits the marriage of minor girls under eighteen years, and does not grant the wife the right to use al-Kulu' divorce against her husband, if she no longer tolerates living with him, such as the laws of several other countries of the regions do, and establishes the right of the husband – in the event that he has divorced his wife a revocable divorce – to take her back as a wife, against her will (Article 30, 8/1). Even though the said law grants the custody of the child to the mother (Article 57), the Iraqi law does not give her any role in the upbringing, in the event of the existence of the father. The father solely and exclusively has custody of the little one, whether the custody was related to the person, such as enabling his marriage or to money, such as administering the properties of the little one (Article 27 of the law of minors' care number 78 for the year 1980 amended)

The Kurdistan region of Iraq has remedied with regional laws many discriminatory loopholes against women from what has been previously mentioned. However federal laws are valid throughout the remaining parts of Iraq and they remain unchanged.

Even though Iraq has ratified the CEDAW agreement and the CRC agreement, it did not take the full steps towards fulfilling its obligations under them and lifting the reservations.

4.3 Policies, strategies and action plans

In Iraq there are two strategies that have been discussed for some years now:

1. Anti-violence against Women Strategy(Adopted and Approved)
2. Advancement of Women Strategy (Adopted but doesn't Approved till now).

The Strategy on Anti-Violence against Women was adopted in 2013, while the strategy on the Advancement of Women is still pending. However, both strategies are lacking budget for their implementation.

The KRG has adopted an anti-violence strategy and is also working on a strategy for the advancement of women. No budget implies here either.

The domestic violence law in KRG deals in its many articles with violence against women, among them Article 128, 141, 377 from the Penal Code and Article 125 from the Personal Status Law N188 /year 1959.

In this sense the NAP1325 is a complimentary action plan to the already existing efforts by the government.

5. National Action Plan

5.1. Participation of women in decision making processes

The NAP1325 complements the other strategies in Iraq and Kurdistan in order to provide concrete measures for ensuring women's proportional representation. There is a quota of 25% for women, but women continue to suffer social injustice by being grossly under-represented and even completely absent in all decision making bodies and authorities that make decisions related to their lives in the legislative, executive, judicial spheres.

Women are absent in security, media, business. In addition women have been absent from all the reconciliation committees on local level. At the level of civil peace the role of women is limited to the civil society organizations and/or non-formal groups. Even if women hold some positions in formal institutions, their loyalties to their parties or religious groups restrain them from contributing fully and meaningfully to peace. It is still difficult for them to make their voices heard when it comes to women's rights. Political parties are lacking gender equality policies to ensure women's participation in their parties, including on high decision making level. There is a general lack of understanding of the importance of women's participation in formulating legislation, policies and political decision making.

A proportional representation will enable women's increased performance and participation in political and public life, thus paving the way in the long run for raising of women's rights on the political agendas and enabling women's full participation in all resolutions of conflict, increasing the possibility of searching for non-violent ways of solving them and taking women's rightful place in all peace negotiations.

5.2. Protection, Security and Prevention

Violence against women, including sexualized violence, the silence around it, together with the taboos and social perceptions of women as objects have been raised as some important barriers to providing security for women and girls from gender based violence. The impunity for crimes committed against women's rights during peace and armed conflict needs to be seriously addressed. Women live in constant fear of violence and abuse of their dignity and do not have access to justice.

Even if Iraq and Kurdistan have adopted strategies and plans to combat violence against women, there is a long way to go to abolish discriminative laws that legitimize it. The institutions with which women victims of violence come into a direct contact after being abused – police, hospitals, courts, are lacking knowledge and awareness on the problem and therefore the victims are often accused for being violated. As

social silence and acceptance is still surrounding the problem, there is no gender segregated statistics and no available State statistics demonstrating the real proportion of the problem. After the war, millions of women have remained widows, subject to sexual abuse and rape, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, without access to justice.

The existence of few safe houses is not enough to provide services for the victims. In addition, the staff working there is often lacking knowledge on the roots of gender based violence and therefore the provided services are not always of best quality for victims.

5.3. Promotion of women's rights

Promotion of women's rights in Iraq and Kurdistan involves diverse actors and sectors and requires a transversal approach, channels of communication among the ministries and institutions, and a sustainable dialogue and partnership between them and the women's rights organizations, who dedicate themselves to put an end to the discrimination of women. It is necessary to conduct women's rights promotion programs in order to ensure the enjoyment of equal access of women and men to resources and opportunities during the transitional period of recovery. The NAP proposes programs directed towards improving representation and participation of women in all fields of life, addressing and reducing violence against women and ending impunity for perpetrators. An important work also includes raising awareness, empowering women and enhancing their capacities through rights based approach, as well as combatting gender discrimination in the media.

5.4. Social and economic empowerment

The collapse of the social security network in Iraq, due to sanctions, war, conflicts and the decline of the rule of law has impacted the social and economic status of women. Iraqi Constitution states that women enjoy equal rights to employment without discrimination, but Iraqi legislation itself contains discriminative laws, which limits women's economic choices. Female heads of households and other vulnerable groups as the poor, the unemployed, the widows, and the internally displaced, lack access to financial resources and social benefits like social security, pensions, and food distributed through the Iraqi government's system. This NAP will enable the revision and actualization of the support policy to these most vulnerable segments of the society.

Some laws (Personal Status Law and Penal Code) perpetuate gender stereotypical roles of women and men hindering women's inclusion in the Iraqi economy. Various reports show that the numbers of impoverished female heads of households is on the

rise. Iraqi women still lack equal access to resources which make the face of poverty predominantly female.

5.5. Legislation and law enforcement

A lift-off the discriminatory provisions against women is needed in order to ensure in the long run women's participation in public and political life, grant them an appropriate and meaningful role in the decision making processes and positions, promote their equal rights, and reinstate their socio-economic role. The following suitable solutions should be adopted to remedy the defect in the Iraqi legal system:

- Abrogating Article 41 of the constitution from the framework of the constitutional amendments that are to be introduced to the valid Iraqi constitutions for the year 2005.
- Expediting the enactment of laws that complement the constitution, such as the law of political parties, social security and protection from domestic violence, subject to ensuring the full participation of women in public and political life, empowering them and promoting their rights.
- Introducing of Quota of not less than 30% of women representation in all decision making positions.
- Abrogating Article 41/1 of the Penal Code.
- Introducing a provision whereby courts will be prohibited from considering the washing-off of the shame, known as "honor crimes" an honorable motivation to commit the crimes, as being a mitigating legal excuse.
- Abrogating Article 377 of the Penal Code
- Amending Article 380 to ensure the criminalization of incitement to adultery without waiting for the occurrence of adultery, and expanding its scope, to include the incitement of Mahram relatives (sister, daughter, mother, ant, wife) to commit adultery, and imposing a more strict freedom-restricting-punishment, and adding financial punishment to it.
- Abrogating Article (398) of the Penal Code.
- Abrogating Article (409) of the Penal Code
- Excluding the people close to the accused from the criminalization of the act of not disclosing information about the accused of terrorism and covering-up for him, especially the mother, wife, sister and grandmother.

- Criminalizing of sexual harassment in the work place, and forcing the employers to take measures to prevent it and deal with it.
- Stipulating that marriage by coercion is invalid even if consummated.
- Total prohibition of polygamy.
- Prohibiting the marriage of young girls below eighteen, and imposing strict punishments for their marriage outside court before they are eighteen years.
- Granting the wife the right of Khulu' even if it's against her will.
- Preventing the return of the revocable divorced wife to her husband against her will.
- Making the custody of the child, regardless the person or the money, jointly shared by both parents.
- Reviewing the Iraqi laws pertaining to women in the light of Iraq's commitments under the international conventions it ratified, and identifying the gap between them, as well as taking the necessary procedures to legislate national laws that respond to these commitments.

6. Implementation of the National Action Plan

6.1. Overall Objective

This national action plan for the implementation of the UNSCR1325 strives to contribute to building and sustaining peace and security in Iraq through enhancing partnerships with civil society and judiciary towards achieving equality between women and men and social justice in all spheres of life to allow women to play their equal role.

6.2. Specific Objectives

- Increase of the effective and proportional participation of women in decision-making positions on local and national level, in all reconciliation committees and peace-building negotiations.
- Increase quota by not less than 30% on all levels: executive, legislative and judiciary and in the local communities as an affirmative action to allow women to play their role in decision making.
- Harmonization of national legislation with international standards and mechanisms for women's human rights, including UNSCR1325, annulling or

amending laws which violate women rights and promulgating/enacting legislations that protects and promotes them.

- Empowerment of women and strengthening of their capacity through right-based approach.
- Integration and mainstream gender in in all policies and processes related to conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace-building in Iraq.
- Contributing to the elimination of violence against women and to the providing of safe houses for the victims.

6.3. Main Principles and Pillars

In order to achieve the above objectives the plan is structured around six pillars Participation, Protection and Prevention, Promotion, Social and Economic Empowerment, Legislation and Law Enforcement and Resource Mobilization. Each pillar has its objective and strategic objectives with corresponding specific actions, expected results and indicators as well as the responsible actors and a timeframe. The plan has also developed a budget for each action. This plan tackles the following principles and pillars:

Pillar 1 – Participation

The overall objective of this pillar is: Increase influence of women and women's right approach in negotiation, civil peace and in political decision making. It has two strategic objectives:

- Develop mechanisms to ensure sustainable effective and proportional participation of women in decision making positions (legislative, executive, judicial) on local and national level and
- Ensure sustainable effective and proportional participation of women in all reconciliation committees and peace building negotiations

These objectives will be achieved by six major specific actions.

Pillar 2 – Protection and Prevention

The overall objective of this pillar is: Improve the living conditions of women and ensure their rights and services and access to them therewith. Its strategic objectives are:

- Integrating women's rights in the justice and security system to address and reduce violence against women and end impunity for perpetrators;

- Protection of women from GBV and providing the victims and survivors of violence means for their rehabilitation and reintegration into the society during and after the post-conflict transitional period.

These objectives will be reached through ten major actions.

Pillar 3 – Promotion

This pillar has an overall objective: Integration of UNSCR1325 on a national level. The strategic objectives are:

- Gender integration and mainstreaming in all policies and processes related to conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace-building in Iraq;
- Raising awareness, empowering women and enhancing their capacities through rights based approach.

These objectives will be reached through six major actions

Pillar 4 – Social and Economic Empowerment

This pillar's overall objective is: Women in Iraq have better economic conditions and are more independent. This pillar has one strategic objective:

- Ensure the enjoyment of equal access of women and men to resources and opportunities during the transitional period.

It will be achieved through eight actions.

Pillar 5 – Legislation and Law Enforcement

The overall objective of this pillar is: Harmonization national legislation with international standards and mechanisms for women's rights, including UNSCR1325, annulling articles which violate women rights and promulgating/enacting legislation that protects and promotes them.

The strategic objectives of this pillar are:

- Adopting legislation that respects the basic universal human rights for all women and men;
- Ending impunity for perpetrators and enhancing legislation.

These objectives will be achieved by implementing six major actions.

Pillar 6 – Resource mobilization, Monitoring and Evaluation

The overall objective is: Implementation of NAP1325 has the support of all actors and I-NAP1325 Initiative supports effectively its monitoring. This pillar has two strategic objectives:

- Enabling result oriented and transparent reporting and allocation of fund nationally and internationally
- Enabling tracking of concrete funds for NAP.

Seven major actions will enable the reaching of the objectives of this pillar.

7. Institutional arrangement for the implementation of the Action Plan

The Task Force NAP1325 is responsible to enact the mechanism envisioned in the NAP and its budget to coordinate the implementation of the NAP through adopting an internal structure with clear responsibilities and duties. It is responsible for the coordination and cross sector cooperation for the implementation of NAP.

8. Resource Mobilization, Monitoring and Evaluation

The continuous conflicts and violence have affected the national economy and have economically weakened the management of resources that in itself has emerged as a big challenge in the course of transformation of conflicts. Economic resources have to be allocated for the compensation and reparation for addressing the impact of the armed conflict. Therefore, it is necessary to mobilize and generate resources for the purpose of conflict management, transformation and social reintegration. The NAP 1325 has a budget that facilitates this mobilization on national and international level as it allocates concrete estimated amounts for each activity under pillar and for each year. These resources have to be managed and mobilized; they have to be monitored through a thoroughly elaborated M&E plan to be elaborated by the internal structure (see above).

The pillars propose activities and programs addressing concrete needs of women that shall be implemented through their direct involvement, through change of legislation and through proactive approach on behalf of the Federal government and the KRG.

9. Budget

Annex NAP1325 Logframe with 6 Pillars