

**FOUR YEARS ON:
AN ALTERNATIVE REPORT AND
PROGRESS CHECK ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325**

**FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNITED NATIONS
MEMBER STATES AND UNITED NATIONS ENTITIES
FROM WOMEN'S CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS**



**NGO WORKING GROUP ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY¹
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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides United Nations (UN) Member States, including UN Security Council (UNSC) members, insight into the ways in which women's civil society organizations have been utilizing UN Security Council Resolution 1325¹ (SCR 1325) since its unanimous adoption four years ago. Based on qualitative information collected from civil society, governments and UN organizations and agencies, this report makes five central recommendations to advance the systematic implementation of SCR 1325. Many of these recommendations support existing calls for action on SCR 1325.

First, this report finds that, over the past four years, civil society organizations and networks have developed innovative and varied approaches and tools for using SCR 1325 in their women, peace and security advocacy work. For example, women's groups have developed courses on SCR 1325 in academic institutions as well as community forums. In so doing, women civil society actors in, *inter alia*, Thailand, West Africa and Sweden, have established themselves as experts on SCR 1325. They have become experts relied upon by grassroots organizations, governments and UN agencies both in the field and at headquarters.

- **This report recommends that the international community should support civil society's many innovative approaches and best practices through increasing civil society targeted funding and technical assistance.**

Second, this report finds that while civil society organizations familiar with SCR 1325 use the Resolution to advance their work with women in conflict and post-conflict settings, too few civil society organizations whose work is directly related to SCR 1325 are aware of it. Even NGOs, governments and UN entities which have knowledge of 1325 are not maximizing its potential as a vehicle to promote women's participation, conflict prevention, and the protection of women, men, girls and boys.

- **This report recommends that the UN should raise awareness of SCR 1325 among those most affected through increased publicity, translation and workshops in the field and in peacekeeping missions.**

Third, this report demonstrates that to-date there have been very few national, regional or international mechanisms for the systematic implementation of SCR 1325.

- **This report recommends that the UNSC call on national governments to establish action plans for coordinated implementation of 1325 and that governments should institutionalize programmatic funding in national budgets on women, peace and security.**
- **Furthermore, this report recommends the establishment of a Security Council Working Group to ensure systematic integration of SCR 1325 into the work of the Security Council.**

¹ Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security was unanimously adopted by the UN Security Council on October 31, 2000. [<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/1325.html>.]

Fourth, this report finds that while local women's groups are working with government and UN agencies to advance SCR 1325, their participation is often *ad hoc* and insufficiently supported. It is well-documented that women are not only victims of human rights abuses but also activists who promote protection in their communities, provide essential services, and develop solutions to prevent violent conflict, maintain peace and rebuild war-torn societies. However, local groups are often treated as 'implementing agencies' to administer humanitarian assistance rather than as true partners in project design, implementation and evaluation.

- **This report recommends that approaches to partnership with the UN, regional bodies and governments must *systematically* include grassroots women's participation from the outset of a conflict, so that real change can be achieved and sustained by those most impacted by conflict, civil society.**

Fifth, this report finds that at the country level, the UN must demonstrate its commitment to gender equality and the implementation of SCR 1325 in armed conflict and post-conflict situations in order to encourage the host government to do the same.

- **This report recommends that the UN can best advance gender equality and the implementation of SCR 1325 through its country representatives, including Resident Coordinators, Special Envoys and Special Representatives and their teams, who can set policy directions and agendas and must act as an example for the transitional or existing government.**

In conclusion, four years ago, the Security Council acted decisively in unanimously passing SCR 1325. Having undertaken to address the protection and participation of women in peacebuilding in conflict affected regions, Member States, the Security Council and civil society now share a responsibility to follow up and ensure full implementation of the Resolution.

II. INTRODUCTION

This report synthesizes 44 responses from civil society organizations to an open-ended questionnaire developed and distributed by the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security² (NGOWG), in collaboration with civil society and UN partners.³ This report builds on the principle of the inherent linkage between the ‘**three P’s**’ — the need for **Participation** of women in peace processes; the **Protection** of women, men, boys and girls; and the **Prevention** of violent conflict.⁴ The objectives of the report are to:

- Summarize responses from women’s civil society organizations on the implementation of SCR 1325 since its adoption in 2000;
- Share innovative approaches developed by civil society organizations that are using SCR 1325 to promote peace and security;
- Highlight gaps and challenges in the UN and governments’ implementation of SCR 1325; and
- Recommend concrete actions for the international community to advance SCR 1325 and women, peace and security issues.

The questionnaire was disseminated through the ‘PeaceWomen.org’ website, 1325 PeaceWomen E-News list, and NGOWG members’ partner organizations in different conflict-affected regions. The questionnaire was translated into Arabic, Burmese, French, German and Spanish and emailed to all nine Gender Advisers in UN peacekeeping missions as well as regional, national, international listserves and distributed further by those recipients. The responses are qualitative and in-depth and come from a cross-section of 44 civil society organizations and networks working for peace and security in different regions of the world.⁵ (See Appendix D for the full list of respondents.)

The NGOWG hopes that this report will be used to complement the Secretary-General’s report on implementation of 1325—which did not actively seek input from civil

² The NGOWG formed in 1999 to advocate for the passage of SCR 1325. NGOWG core members are: Femmes Africa Solidarité, Hague Appeal for Peace; International Alert; International Women’s Tribune Center; Women’s Action for New Directions; Women’s Commission for Refugee Women and Children; Women’s Division of the United Methodist Church; and Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom. Affiliate members are Amnesty International and Women’s Environment and Development Organization, though Amnesty International did not join in this report.

³ Preceding this report, the NGOWG published two previous reports on 1325 in October 2001 “One Year On”, and in October 2002, “Two Years On”. These two reports provided anecdotal documentation of what was being done to implement 1325 from a civil society perspective as well as coverage of governmental, NGO, and UN initiatives. See <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ngo/ngopub/NGOWGOneYearOn.pdf>; <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ngo/ngopub/NGOWGTwoYearsOn.pdf>

⁴ The “three P’s” is a conceptual framework developed by the NGOWG in preparation for two Security Council Working Roundtable discussions in January and July 2004.

⁵ Additional responses were received from Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), United States Section; Mano River Women’s Peace Network (MARWOPNET); Swedish Ecumenical Women’s Council (SEWC) and the British Federation of Women Graduates (BFWG), but were not received in time to be included in this report

society— is based on 25 responses from Member States, and is scheduled for release in October 2004. This report is a resource to be used by UN Member States, UN Security Council members and the UN system for furthering implementation of SCR 1325 as a means of effectively preventing and addressing conflict situations.

III. HOW CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND NETWORKS ARE USING 1325

Civil society actors, in particular women's organizations, have developed innovative approaches and tools for using SCR 1325 in their women, peace and security advocacy work. In its questionnaire, the NGOWG asked civil society actors to describe *how* they are using SCR 1325. Responses came from women and men working on 1325 in national, regional and international civil society organizations, in countries whose governments are involved in various ways in conflict situations; as parties to armed conflict, as actors in peace negotiations, or as donors in post-conflict reconstruction processes. (See Appendix D for Respondent Organizations List.)

Out of a total of 44 respondents, 38 indicated they use 1325 in their work on women, peace and security issues.⁶ While using 1325 as a tool for advocacy, education and mobilization, this report finds that civil society organizations generally direct their 1325 work to two audiences: 1) governmental and intergovernmental actors and 2) members of civil society. A number of civil society actors have also developed initiatives that address both of these audiences simultaneously: they have established networks and programs focused on implementation of 1325. The Women's Security Council (Germany), Operation 1325 (Sweden), and Isha l'Isha's Program for the Implementation of SCR 1325 (Israel), are just three examples. (See Appendix B for more information about these networks and programs.)

1325: A TOOL FOR ADVOCACY WITH GOVERNMENTAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ACTORS

In their advocacy efforts directed towards governmental and intergovernmental bodies, respondents described using 1325 for:

- (1) advocating for national legislation on women, peace and security issues;
- (2) providing gender-sensitivity training to personnel for peacekeeping operations; and
- (3) advocating for women's participation in peace negotiations and decision-making bodies in post-conflict interim governments.

Using 1325 in Advocating for National Legislation: Women Waging Peace (USA)

Women Waging Peace recently facilitated meetings between a delegation of Colombian women peace builders and congressional members and staffers from the US House of Representatives and the US Senate. Through these meetings, governmental actors made a commitment to introduce and support a congressional resolution supporting women's efforts in Colombia. This resolution, U.S. House Res. 465: *Commending the efforts of women in the Republic of Colombia to promote peace* (24 June 2004), in which 1325 is specifically referenced, has been referred to the House Committee on International Relations for further action.

⁶ In addition to the respondents, all the members of the NGOWG use 1325 in our work.

Using 1325 to Conduct Gender-Sensitivity Training:

Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (Sweden)

Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation regularly provides gender-sensitivity training for Swedish military personnel joining peacekeeping operations. This training integrates 1325 by addressing the following types of issues: how to support the women in the Swedish battalion when other countries' high ranked military personnel discredit them or choose not to address them; how to prevent a culture that allows sexual harassment; how to treat women in the local population; going to brothels, having girlfriends from the local civilian population; and how to treat female colleagues.

1325: A TOOL FOR EDUCATING AND MOBILIZING CIVIL SOCIETY

The questionnaire responses illustrate that civil society actors have developed a variety of approaches for using 1325 to educate and mobilize civil society, including: academic courses, trainings, community workshops, conferences, lectures, popular media, newspaper articles, radio programs, films, and magazines.

Women's Studies' Program Training on 1325:

Foundation for Women, Law, and Rural Development (FORWARD)/

Women's Studies Center, Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University (Thailand)

The Women's Studies Program Training on 1325 consists of:

1. Regular special sessions: Students interact with women's NGOs working on issues of armed conflict and violence against women, and displaced women from the neighboring war-torn country (Burma). The students are required to submit reports and term papers on topics addressed by the women, analyzing, theorizing and recommending actions to be taken;
2. Field visits: Students are provided with grants to visit "refugee camps" where women from the troubled areas of Burma reside; and
3. Participation in public campaigns: Students are asked to write statements, join public rallies on violence against women in the situation of armed conflicts.

A Program on Implementation of 1325 in the Israel-Palestine Context:

Isha l'Isha (Israel)

This program is focused on implementation of 1325 in the Israel-Palestine context. Specifically, it (1) distributes the [Hebrew] translation of Resolution 1325; information on the resolution to national, regional and NGO bodies involved in decision making process; (2) campaigns to raise public awareness through public relations work, networking and coalition work, advertisement, and media coverage; and (3) monitors and documents the way the conflict affects the lives of women and girls.

"We decided to use the Resolution and the concepts it introduces as a starting point, as a strategy and not as the goal itself. We decided to take the universal nature of the resolution in order to provide a comprehensive political framework within which women's protection and their role in peace processes can be addressed. During the last year, Isha l'Isha has been working to create an agenda that will enable women to identify their problems and needs, and to demand recognition without feeling they are betraying the national collective. By introducing Resolution 1325, we can help them acknowledge that women, in conflict areas, have special needs and a special voice."

Additional examples worth highlighting include “Taking 1325 to the Village,” an initiative of the Association of War Affected Women (Sri Lanka), and integration of 1325 into a “Community Women’s Peacebuilding Manual,” developed by the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding’s West Africa Peacebuilding Institute. These initiatives are further elaborated in Appendix B.

OTHER OUTREACH TOOLS

- **Radio:** The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) produces a “Voices of Women” Radio Program, with stations in Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Liberia and Senegal. The primary objective of the program is to increase women's awareness of, and promote their participation in, issues of peace and security. The radio program contextualizes the provisions of SCR 1325 to address the local realities of women in their different countries. Women listeners are encouraged to call in and ask questions or contribute to the discussions or debate.
- **Website:** The Women’s Security Council in Germany has created a website devoted to 1325. The website features the Women’s Security Council 1325 postcard campaign, their “Plan of Action for Accelerating Implementation of SCR 1325,” and provides an online discussion forum on 1325. <http://un1325.de/fsr.htm>
- **Magazine:** FemLINKpacific has produced “*fem’TALK 1325: a women and peace community magazine project*”, supported by UNIFEM Pacific. This magazine is intended to enhance the advocacy and action towards the full implementation of 1325 in the Pacific region. It also provides a regular and coordinated approach to the developments and stories surrounding UNIFEM Pacific’s Regional Women, Peace and Security project. While the primary audience is women and peace advocates, in order to support and encourage their work, it is also sent to the military’s media cell, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Women, as well as mainstream media.

Through this combination of approaches and tools, many civil society organizations around the world are working to advance the implementation of SCR 1325.

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

The Trial of 1325; Northern Ireland Women’s European Platform (Belfast), November 2004

The Northern Ireland Women’s European Platform is organizing a mock trial of SCR 1325 for representatives of women’s organizations, government departments, political parties, and peace negotiators, serving as the jury. Through statements delivered by mock barristers and witnesses, participants will hear arguments supporting implementation of 1325 and critiquing the lack of implementation of SCR 1325, with a particular focus on the situation of women in Northern Ireland.

A 1325 Study Day; Isha l’Isha, Israel, November 2004

Isha l’Isha is collaborating with the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) to develop gender-sensitivity training for IDF military personnel. Isha l’Isha will hold a study day in November for IDF officers from the Gender Unit on SCR 1325 and the possibilities for mainstreaming a gender perspective in the army. The study day will include a lecture and a workshop, in which army personnel are invited to brainstorm how to introduce SCR 1325 into the army as a whole.

IV. AWARENESS RAISING

While the above initiatives to implement 1325 are encouraging, "...[w]e clearly have work to do before we can say that Security Council SCR 1325 has been fully implemented," as former-U.S. Ambassador to the UN John D. Negroponte stated in his address to the Security Council on October 30, 2003.

In this report, some civil society respondents, who work on women, peace and security issues said they were not aware of the existence of SCR 1325 or had only recently become aware of it. In addition, potential respondents' ignorance of SCR 1325's connection to the work they are doing in the field, may be one explanation for the low response rate to the questionnaire.⁷

*"The term 'Resolution 1325' is not widely publicized in our program region; however, the issues addressed by the resolution are important."
Lutheran World Federation, Kosovo program*

*"The existence of a quota law, international covenants [and] 1325, are made invisible behind the maintenance of a patriarchal structure..."
WILPF Colombia National Section*

It is fundamental that in order for civil society, UN agencies, and governments to implement SCR 1325, they must first be aware of its existence. However, using questionnaire responses, this report finds evidence that many civil society actors have little and in some cases, no information relating to SCR 1325 and that many governments do not appear to be actively working to distribute, disseminate and implement it. For example, the Secretary-General only received responses from 25 UN Member States in preparation for its report on 1325. Therefore, this report recommends that the first step for enhanced implementation of SCR 1325 must be increasing awareness.

The NGOWG recommends that:

- Governments, civil society, and the UN conduct awareness campaigns and workshops in all field missions for civil society.
- UN agencies, international and national NGOs hold advocacy training workshops. The workshops should, for example, focus on the importance of displaced women's active and meaningful participation in decision-making.
- The UN General Assembly creates a budget line item for funding the monitoring of and communication related to SCR 1325.

It is equally fundamental that, as stated by many respondents, in order for globally affected populations to understand SCR 1325, it must be translated into all languages. Four years after its unanimous adoption, SCR 1325, is still not translated into all the necessary and relevant national languages. Doing so will make it accessible for use by as

⁷ Just 44 responses to the questionnaire were received in time to be incorporated into the report, though over a thousand questionnaires were distributed.

many actors in as many countries and regions as possible. A number of civil society actor-respondents have in fact translated SCR 1325 into their local language(s) as part of their effort to advocate for, and work toward, its implementation.⁸

Available translations of 1325:

Albanian, Arabic, Armenian, Azerbaijani, Bahasa Melayu/Bahasa Indonesia, Belarusian, Bosnian, Burmese, Catalan, Ciluba, Czech, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, Georgian, German, Greek, Haitian Creole, Hebrew, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Kachin, Karen, Karenni, Kikongo, Kiswahili, Korean, Lahu, Lingala, Mandarin, Ndebele, Norwegian, PaO, Persian/Farsi, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Shan, Sinhala, Somali, Spanish, Swedish, Tamil, and Turkish. Translations available at:
<http://www.peacewomen.org/1325inTranslation/index.html>

Upcoming translations:

Amharic, Kirundi, Kurdish, Kinyarwanda, Shona, Punjabi, Swahili, Urdu, Vietnamese, Croatian Dari, Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Nepali, Sierra Leone Creole, Thai, Ukranian and Wolof.

Since February 2003, the WILPF PeaceWomen Project has been compiling existing translations of 1325 online at www.PeaceWomen.org and calling for and seeking new translations. At the time of writing this report, www.PeaceWomen.org has 48 available translations of 1325.

The NGOWG recommends that:

- UN Member States prioritize funding for the translation of 1325 into their relevant national language(s).
- The UN Secretariat provides funds for the distribution of existing translations with user-friendly information and guides to implementation through their field offices and missions.

⁸ Member organizations of the Women's League of Burma, an exiled umbrella women's organization comprising eleven women's organizations of different ethnic backgrounds from Burma, has translated 1325 into a number of the ethnic languages of Burma: Burmese, Kachin, Karen, Karenni, Lahu, PaO and Shan. They are planning on translating 1325 into additional ethnic languages of Burma, pending funding.

V. MONITORING AND REPORTING MECHANISMS

The majority of civil society respondents reported that their governments are not doing enough to implement SCR 1325. Respondents list a number of broad commitments and several *ad hoc* initiatives that their governments are conducting, but indicate two major failings hindering implementation. First, respondents suggested that many government programs on women, peace and security were funded in an *ad hoc* manner that did not fully leverage institutional capabilities. They recommended that such programs should be part of national budgets and action plans on the systematic integration of SCR 1325. Second, respondents highlighted a lack of monitoring and reporting mechanisms to advance the implementation of SCR 1325. A large number of civil society respondents called for the establishment of national and international monitoring mechanisms as a matter of priority.

MONITORING AND REPORTING MECHANISMS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

*“There has to be [a] mechanism for the follow up on the implementation of the resolution.”
Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (Sweden)*

*“Our impression is that the government is in agreement with the goals of 1325, but there
few documented evidences of concrete action so far.”
WILPF Norway National Section*

Many civil society respondents identified the *ad hoc* funding of women, peace and security initiative to be a problem.⁹ Although some governments have initiated actions, to our knowledge, in no case has a government developed and implemented a transparent and holistic *action plan* for systematic implementation of SCR 1325.

Canada and Norway have taken the first steps to implement SCR 1325 in a systematic way. In their responses to the *note verbale* sent by Office of Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI)¹⁰, the governments of Norway and Canada described national level initiatives to centralize and focus efforts to implement 1325, as well as their respective needs for improvement. For example, the Norwegian government reported that it has established a forum on 1325. “[The forum] will meet on a regular basis, comprising of representatives from relevant ministries and members of civil society. Although this is an important step, it has become obvious that there is a large gap between the diplomatic conceptions of prioritized gender perspectives and what occurs on grass-root levels...Implementation continues to be the most challenging part of

⁹ Additional respondents said the following. Northern Ireland Women’s European Platform in Northern Ireland stated, “At the peace negotiation women were present but as time has worn on and the political stability has weakened [and] there is no transparency or encouragement for women to be at the new negotiations ... held behind closed doors. Again parties have been left to send their representatives without gender proofing.” Medica Mondale from Germany reported, “The German Government with other INGOs and NGOs including women’s groups should develop a clear 1325 concept for implementation.”

¹⁰ In preparation for compiling the Secretary-General’s report on 1325, OSAGI sent a *note verbale* to all UN Member States on 6 April 2004.

the work, as women rarely are included or allowed to be a part of decision-making processes in urgent situations.”

The Canadian government states, “A number of Canada’s federal government departments are involved in the implementation of SCR 1325, each with a specific area of responsibility...Key departments are members of the Interdepartmental Working Group on gender and peacebuilding, which is chaired by Foreign Affairs [Canada] and reviews Canadian initiatives currently underway on gender and peacebuilding and discusses possible and anticipated developments on the issue.”

However, despite Canada’s good practices, like most Member States, Canada would still benefit from an action plan for systematic integration of 1325 derived from a comprehensive review of national policy on women, peace and security.

The NGOWG recommends that:

- The UNSC call on governments and regional organizations to develop action plans for coordinated implementation of SCR 1325, together with other supporting instruments such as CEDAW and Beijing Platform for Action. Such action plans should:
 - Be derived from a gender-informed review of domestic and foreign policy;
 - Be public, drafted in consultation with civil society and contain specific and time-bound activities, targets and monitoring and reporting mechanisms; and
 - Address fully the content of the Resolution itself and also the recommendations contained in the 2002 UN Secretary-General’s report *Women, Peace and Security* and the UNIFEM Independent Experts’ Assessment Report, *Women, War, Peace*.

MONITORING AND REPORTING MECHANISMS AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

*“[There is a n]eed to implement 1325 through more consistent follow up, also by the SC.”
Femmes Africa Solidarité (Geneva, Senegal)*

*“[The UN should e]stablish an oversight body which monitors implementation; link implementation of 1325 to donor money, naming and shaming of those failing to implement the resolution.”
Womankind (UK)*

*“[There is a need for b]etter accountability on the part of the UN. Somehow make reporting on 1325 mandatory so those trying to implement it have attention drawn to the resolution.”
Refugees International (USA)*

Respondents suggest two primary mechanisms for coordinated monitoring and implementation of 1325 at the international level:

1. Establish a Security Council working group on 1325 that is equipped to receive systematic contributions from civil society.

2. Negotiate a treaty on Women and Armed Conflict or a protocol to CEDAW on Women and Armed Conflict, in order to require systematic reporting by governments.¹¹

To date, several countries, both UNSC members and Member States, have highlighted the need for the UNSC to develop a mechanism to ensure the systematic integration and implementation of SCR 1325 in its own work. The UK, in particular, has suggested that a member of the UNSC take responsibility for supporting and tracking the implementation of SCR 1325 each year, effectively acting as a focal point on 1325.¹²

The NGOWG believes that appointing a UNSC member as a ‘focal point’ on 1325 could do much to increase integration of gender into the UNSC’s work. Additionally, the work of such a “focal point” would be enhanced by creating an expert level working group on women, peace and security consisting of representatives from all UNSC members. Such an expert level working group could include relevant outside experts, including civil society, as advisors. Such a UNSC working group could ensure full integration of SCR 1325 and its provisions in the future UNSC resolutions and reports. It is disappointing that four years after the adoption of SCR 1325 only 15% of SC resolutions have included a reference to 1325 and gender issues.

The NGOWG recommends that the UNSC should:

- Identify a UNSC Member State to act as a focal point on an annual basis for the full implementation of SCR 1325 throughout the UNSC’s work.
- Establish either an expert level working group of all UNSC members to integrate SCR 1325 into the work of the UNSC and to create supporting documentation. The working group or committee would be chaired by this focal point and would meet and report regularly. The results of the meetings should be made public.

¹¹ Respondents requested that countries report in the same manner required under CEDAW or the Torture Convention. In order to require states to report, a binding treaty would have to be ratified. Discussion of such a wide-reaching reform is beyond the scope of this report.

¹² Speech from H.E. Sir Emyr Jones Parry in Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security, in Security Council on October 29, 2003.

VI. PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY, THE UN AND GOVERNMENTS

Since the core significance of SCR 1325 is that it mandates and recognizes the importance of the participation of women in transforming conflict and post-conflict settings, it is crucial that the Resolution be systematically implemented to support the important peacebuilding work of women in conflict affected regions. The questionnaire responses reveal that a top-down approach will not reach all communities, which are in need of immediate assistance, protection and support. The UN should devote significant resources to developing partnerships with civil society from the beginning of a conflict. It is important for the UN to reach out to local women's groups and networks as soon as agencies begin operations. Early outreach would help agencies to: (1) learn the concerns of women and girls, and (2) identify and assess the capacity of local women's groups. This information would help the UN to adjust policy and programs to support the work of women's groups and enhance sustainability.

In conflict-affected regions, the UN is often unable to reach remote or dangerous areas. In these communities, local women's groups continue to operate, risking their lives to provide basic services and support. The contributions of women's groups as the eyes and ears of the community cannot be understated. For this reason, improvements in partnering between the UN, government and civil society, in particular local women's groups, are critical. Increased collaboration and partnerships would bring the message and initiatives to more people.

It is encouraging that civil society respondents reported that they formed partnerships with many stakeholders, including UN, regional bodies and governments¹³ (*see supra* Section III). As described above, respondents also reported that they are using 1325 as a tool to build networks among civil society organizations, to create solidarity among organizations and stakeholders, and to bring other civil society groups into integrating a gender perspective. However, respondents also indicated that they are frequently neglected or excluded from important decision-making and information sharing.

The NGOWG recommends that:

- Governments, UN and donors fund local groups advocating for 1325 to continue their work and to share information. Funds should also be provided to enable civil society to consult at UN headquarters and field offices.
- UN agencies, governments and donors involve local women's groups in monitoring and evaluation.

¹³ In this regard, Canada's attempts to foster a multidimensional and multilateral approach to implementing SCR 1325, as reported by Canada's government in its response to OSAGI's *note verbale* are illuminating. According to Canada, "One of the mechanisms by which [it] works towards the full implementation of SCR1325 is through the Canadian Committee on Women, Peace and Security. In 2001, F[oreign] A[ffairs] C[anada] assisted in the creation of the Committee which is currently chaired by Senator Mobina Jaffer. The committee is a national coalition comprised of parliamentarians, civil society representatives and government officials whose mission is to work towards the goals established in SCR 1325."

- The UN commission a report to investigate why some governments and UN agencies collaborate with civil society and others do not, who initiates the collaborations and with whom the collaborations occur and what impacts partnering has.

VII. THE UN'S SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION OF 1325 AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL

Most of the civil society respondents stated that they do not know if or how the UN works on women, peace and security issues at the country level. Those that did respond positively in regard to the work of UN entities on women, peace and security issues noted the activities of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights (UNHCHR), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). Two organizations noted the positive, although limited impact, of two peacekeeping missions, UN Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), on the advancement of gender equality. This report finds that due to the lack of systematic information flow and logistical support from UN headquarters to field operations, the integration of a gender perspective and consultation with women and girls often depends on the initiatives of individual UN staff in the field.

Whether a transitional or newly-established government prioritizes gender equality or not, the UN can assist the government in creating just and equitable societies by setting direction and setting an example for the government on how to pursue gender equality and gender mainstreaming in its national and local work. The UN, equipped with SCR 1325 and the ECOSOC Agreed Conclusions 1997/2,¹⁴ has been mandated by governments to actively pursue and promote gender equality within the UN. Therefore, it is logical that the UN must similarly pursue and promote gender equality in its field missions.

As was illustrated in the review of Agreed Conclusions 1997/2 during the ECOSOC Coordination Segment in 2004, UN entities have made some progress toward the integration of a gender perspective. However, most agencies, departments and programs have executed their work on gender issues in an *ad hoc* manner, rather than systematically and through collaborative and public processes.

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Kosovo Program highlights how UNMIK succeeded in setting direction for the national and local governments:

“[A]t the request of UNMIK, the provisional Kosovo constitution requires all political parties to have candidate slates including at least 30 percent women.”

“The UN Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), currently the ultimate legal authority in Kosovo, has outlined eight standards, which should be met before a decision would be taken about Kosovo’s status. The standards include protecting the rights of minority communities as well as expanded participation of women in civil society structures. The Kosovo Provisional Institutions of Self-Government (PISG) agreed to those principles and worked together with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) to outline a Kosovo Standards Implementation Plan. A considerable number of actions have been agreed upon to protect minority rights and to empower women.”

¹⁴ UN Economic and Social Council Agreed Conclusions (1997/2) on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system. In July 2004, UN Member States held a review and appraisal of the implementation of 1997/2 during the ECOSOC Coordination Segment.

The NGOWG recommends that the UNSC, UN Secretariat, *inter alia*, the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the UN Development Programme:

- Develop incentives for governments to integrate gender perspectives into their work in all sectors.
- Place contingencies on funding for governments, based on the government's demonstrated gender-sensitive behavior.

SETTING AN EXAMPLE FOR GOVERNMENTS

UN entities also have a responsibility to set an example on how to operationalize work towards gender equality for the newly-forming or reconstituted government. The UN can do so by:

1. Seeking repatriation and prosecution of UN military and civilian personnel who violate those rules that they have been placed in a country to protect.
 - Peacekeepers, military observers and civilian police, as well as other civilian personnel, must model adherence to the code of conduct and human rights standards for the countries' security bodies, such as the national and local police forces. When the UN personnel do commit violations, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations or the respective lead UN entity must follow the directives and seek repatriation.
2. Ensuring gender-sensitive composition and structure of the UN country-teams.
 - The UN should not only seek gender balanced teams in the field, but also incorporate gender-related quantitative tasks in the Terms of Reference (TORs) for the UN Country Representatives, Resident Coordinators, Special Envoys and Special Representatives.
3. Integrating a gender perspective in all the work of peacekeeping missions, so as to protect civilians, and particularly women and girls, from exploitation from the actors to the armed conflict, as well as from the UN military and civilian personnel.

The NGOWG recommends that the UN Secretariat, and in particular, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations:

- Ensure that all heads of country missions and teams have gender-related provisions in their TORs, which would ensure effective monitoring and reporting to the UN and the government on the gender dimensions of the armed conflict/post-conflict situation and peacebuilding.
- Reinforce pre-deployment training by ensuring comprehensive in-mission gender-awareness training for all levels and categories of national and international staff, including senior management. The training should include explicit training on standards of conduct for military, civilian police and civilian peacekeeping staff with regard to sexual exploitation, abuse, and disciplinary responses. Further, the training should incorporate the participation and expertise of stakeholders from

- civil society, in particular women's organizations on the ground, and UN entities that specialize in gender issues, such as UNIFEM.
- Ensure that every peacekeeping mission establishes public complaint processes, reporting and follow-up procedures for peacekeepers that commit violations against and exploit local citizens, including refugees and internally displaced women and girls and other beneficiaries of assistance, while ensuring the confidentiality and protection of the complainant.

VIII. CONCLUDING REMARKS

*“Peace processes ignoring women are inherently unstable and predestined to fail.”
Norwegian government in response to note verbale from OSAGI, 2004*

In conclusion, while the above examples demonstrate that many civil society organizations and networks use SCR 1325 as an advocacy tool for action, the Resolution will not be fully implemented until all civil society organizations, governmental and intergovernmental actors work together. UN agencies and governments could further advance 1325 by drawing on the experience of civil society actors as credible experts and support civil society participation in women, peace and security work through consultations, partnerships and other forms of collaboration.

APPENDIX A.

COMPILATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1: Best Practices

- **This report recommends that the international community should support civil society's many innovative approaches and best practices through increasing civil society targeted funding and technical assistance.**
 - For a compilation of Best Practices, see Appendix B.

Recommendation 2: Awareness Raising

- **This report recommends that the UN should raise awareness of SCR 1325 among those most affected through increased publicity, translation and workshops in the field and in peacekeeping missions.**

The NGOWG recommends that:

- Governments, civil society, and the UN conduct awareness campaigns and workshops in all field missions for civil society.
- UN agencies, international and national NGOs hold advocacy training workshops. The workshops should, for example, that include men and focus on the importance of displaced women's active and meaningful participation in decision-making in all aspects of refugee life.
- The UN General Assembly creates a budget line item for funding the monitoring of and communication related to SCR 1325.
- UN Member States prioritize funding for the translation of 1325 into their relevant national language(s).
- The UN Secretariat provides funds for the distribution of existing translations with user-friendly information and guides to implementation through their field offices and missions.

Recommendation 3: Monitoring and Reporting Mechanisms

- **This report recommends that the UNSC call on national governments to establish action plans for coordinated implementation of 1325 and that governments should institutionalize programmatic funding in national budgets on women, peace and security.**
- **Furthermore, this report recommends the establishment of a Security Council Working Group to ensure systematic integration of SCR 1325 into the work of the Security Council.**

The NGOWG recommends that the UNSC should:

- Call on governments and regional organizations to develop action plans for coordinated implementation of SCR 1325, together with other supporting instruments such as CEDAW and Beijing +5. Such action plans should:

COMPILATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS (CONT'D)

- Be derived from a gender-informed review of domestic and foreign policy;
 - Be public, drafted in consultation with civil society and contain specific and time-bound activities, targets and monitoring and reporting mechanisms; and
 - Address fully the content of 1325 and also the recommendations contained in the 2002 UN Secretary-General's report *Women, Peace and Security* and the UNIFEM Independent Experts' Assessment Report, *Women, War, Peace*.
- Identify a UNSC Member State to act as a focal point for the full implementation of SCR 1325 throughout the UNSC's work.
 - Establish an expert level working group of all UNSC members to integrate SCR 1325 into the work of the UNSC and to create supporting documentation. The working group would be chaired by this focal point and would meet and report regularly. The results of the meetings should be made public.

Recommendation 4: Partnerships Between Civil Society, the UN and Governments

- **This report recommends that approaches to partnership with the UN, regional bodies and governments must *systematically* include grassroots women's participation from the outset of a conflict, so that real change can be achieved and sustained by those most impacted by conflict, civil society.**

The NGOWG recommends that:

- Governments, UN and donors fund local groups advocating for 1325 to continue their work and to share information. Funds should also be provided to enable civil society to consult at UN headquarters and field offices.
- UN agencies, governments and donors should involve local women's groups in monitoring and evaluation
- The UN commissions a report to investigate why some governments and UN agencies collaborate with civil society and others do not, who initiates the collaborations, with whom the collaborations occur and what impacts partnering has.

COMPILATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS (CONT'D)

Recommendation 5: The UN's Support for Governmental Implementation of 1325 at the Country Level

- **This report recommends that the UN can best advance gender equality and the implementation of SCR 1325 through its country representatives, including Resident Coordinators, Special Envoys and Special Representatives and their teams, who can set policy directions and agendas and must act as an example for the transitional or existing government.**

The NGOWG recommends that the UNSC, UN Secretariat, the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the UN Development Programme, *inter alia*:

- Develop incentives for governments to integrate gender perspectives into their work in all sectors.
- Place contingencies on funding for governments, based on the government's demonstrated gender-sensitive behavior.
- Set an example for governments by:
 - Seeking repatriation and prosecution of UN military and civilian personnel who violate those rules that they have been placed in a country to protect.
 - Peacekeepers, military observers and civilian police, as well as other civilian personnel, must model adherence to the code of conduct and human rights standards for the countries' security bodies, such as the national and local police forces. When the UN personnel do commit violations the Department of Peacekeeping Operations or the respective lead UN entity must follow local directives and seek repatriation.
 - Ensuring gender-sensitive composition and structure of UN country teams.
 - The UN should not only seek gender balanced teams in the field, but also incorporate gender related quantitative tasks in the Terms of Reference (TORs) for the UN Country Representatives, Resident Coordinators, Special Envoys and Special Representatives.
 - Integrating a gender perspective in all the work of peacekeeping missions, so as to protect civilians, and particularly women and girls, from exploitation from the actors to the armed conflict, as well as from the UN military and civilian personnel.

COMPILATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS (CONT'D)

The NGOWG recommends that the UN Secretariat, *inter alia*, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations:

- Ensure that all heads of country missions and teams have gender-related provisions in their TORs, which would ensure effective monitoring and reporting to the UN and the government on the gender dimensions of the armed conflict/post-conflict situation and peacebuilding.
- Reinforce pre-deployment training by ensuring comprehensive in-mission gender-awareness training for all levels and categories of national and international staff, including senior management. The training should include explicit standards of conduct for military, civilian police and civilian peacekeeping staff with regard to sexual exploitation, abuse, and disciplinary responses. Further, the training should incorporate the participation and expertise of stakeholders from civil society, in particular women's organizations on the ground, and UN entities that specialize in gender issues, such as UNIFEM.
- Ensure that every peacekeeping mission establishes public complaint processes, reporting and follow-up procedures for peacekeepers that commit violations against and exploit local citizens, including refugees, internally displaced women and girls and other beneficiaries of assistance, while ensuring the confidentiality and protection of the complainant.

Appendix B.

1325 IN ACTION: HOW CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS ARE USING 1325

The information featured below is taken from responses to the questionnaire. For more information regarding civil society efforts to promote SCR 1325, visit PeaceWomen's "1325 in Action" list at: <http://www.peacewomen.org/1325inaction/index.html>.

A D V O C A C Y

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATION

• ISRAEL-PALESTINE: Advocating for Parliamentary Legislation

Isha l'Isha (Israel)

Isha l'Isha has contributed documents and information to the Israeli Parliament's research center, which is developing recommendations for legal action/options regarding the implementation of 1325 in Israel.

• US-COLOMBIA: Advocating for US Congressional Legislation

Women Waging Peace, (USA)

US House of Representatives Resolution 465: *Commending the efforts of women in the Republic of Colombia to promote peace* (24 June 2004)

Waging facilitated meetings between a delegation of Colombian women peace builders and congressional members and staffers from the US House of Representatives and the US Senate. Through these meetings, a commitment was made to introduce and support a congressional resolution supporting women's efforts in Colombia. This resolution (see title above), in which 1325 is specifically referenced, has been referred to the House Committee on International Relations for further action.

TRAINING PEACEKEEPERS

• SWEDEN: Training Swedish Peacekeepers

Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (KTK)

KTK trainings for Swedish military personnel integrate 1325 by addressing the following types of issues: how to support the women in the Swedish battalion when other countries' high ranked military personnel discredit them or chose not to address them; how to prevent a culture that allows sexual harassment; how to treat women in the local population; going to brothels, having girlfriends from the local civilian population; and how to treat female colleagues.

NGO NETWORK: FOCUS ON NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

• GERMANY: Women's Security Council Network

Women's Security Council, founded in March 2003

The Women's Security Council is a network of approximately 50 women peace activists, peace researchers, and representatives of political institutions and NGOs, founded after Germany began its two-year term on the UN Security Council. Organizations represented in the Women's Security Council include the Bonn International Center for Conversion, the WILPF German National Section, Women's Network for Peace, and the German Committee of UNIFEM. The network advocates for national implementation of 1325, and incorporation of a gender perspective in the national foreign policy and security agenda, and it works to monitor the activities of the German government, as a member of the UN Security Council (Jan. 2003-Dec. 2004).

ADVOCACY TOOLS

- **FRANCE: Petition on 1325**

WILPF France

This petition, encourages French citizens to mobilize for implementation of 1325. WILPF France is circulating the petition in France and Geneva, Switzerland, for eventual submission to the French government.

- **GERMANY: Plan of Action for Accelerating Implementation of Resolution 1325**

Women's Security Council, 2003

In this action plan the Women's Security Council suggests that the German government focus on a few specific issues in the short and medium-term to speed up the implementation of 1325. This action plan was sent to the German government and Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN in New York in preparation for the Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security in October 2003.

- **Postcard Campaign: "There are 1325 reasons to implement UN-resolution 1325"**

The Women's Security Council is organizing to send "1325 reasons" to the German government to push for the implementation of 1325, and to increase the awareness of 1325. During the campaign, well-known intellectuals and artists are invited to present their reasons for the need to implement 1325. The Women's Security Council will send these postcards to the Germany government once 1325 reasons have been received.

MEDIA

• **BURMA- MYANMAR: Sensitizing Male Democracy Activists Via the Media on 1325**

Women’s League of Burma (WLB), 2004

In a statement on current political developments in Burma, WLB included a call to all parties involved in the Burmese peace-making process "to follow UN Security Council Resolution 1325". The statement was sent to Burmese media, encouraging them (mostly male) to interview the male activists and leaders, with a particular focus on 1325.

• **PACIFIC: fem’TALK 1325: A Women and Peace Community Magazine Project**

femLINKpacific

femLINKpacific in Fiji produce a quarterly regional women and peace magazine, supported by UNIFEM Pacific, intended to enhance the advocacy and action towards the full implementation of 1325, and to provide a regular and coordinated approach to the developments and stories surrounding UNIFEM Pacific’s regional Women, Peace and Security project. The primary audience is women and peace advocates, in order to support and encourage their work.

• **Mobile Women’s Community Radio Project**

femLINKpacific’s Radio Project has focused on 1325 during their ‘women and peace hour,’ which is based on the concept of “taking the radio to the women – ‘women speaking to women for peace.’ The aim of the Project is to create a space for women in the Pacific region to share their stories of peace, and provide opportunities for women from community groups to facilitate the discussions on peace issues.

• **SRI LANKA: Film “Raise As Fire: Women in the Sri Lankan Conflict”**

International Center for Ethnic Studies

ICES collaborated with women’s organizations in the eastern conflict zone to produce a film, documenting the impact of the conflict on women, in order to advocate for women’s participation in the peace process. The film includes discussion of relevant sections of 1325 and ideas for how to use 1325 in advocacy efforts on this issue. The target audience included government negotiators in the Sri Lanka peace process. Since its release, many organizations have used the video as a tool to demonstrate the impact of the conflict on women.

• **WEST AFRICA: Voices of Women Radio**

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

WANEP’s radio program has national stations in Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, and Senegal. The primary objective of the program is to increase women’s awareness of, and promote their participation in, issues of peace and security. The radio program contextualizes the provisions of 1325 to address the local realities of women in their different countries. Women listeners are encouraged to call-in and ask questions or contribute to the discussions, debate or drama.

PROGRAM

• **ISRAEL-PALESTINE: The Program for the Implementation of Resolution 1325**

Isha l’Isha (Israel)

Isha l’Isha’s program, works towards the inclusion of women of different backgrounds and sectors of society in formal and informal negotiations and discussions on the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The program’s foci include: distributing the Hebrew translation of 1325; distributing and disseminating information on the resolution to national, regional and NGO bodies involved in decision-making process; campaigning to raise public awareness through public relations work, networking and coalition work, advertisement, and media coverage; and monitoring and documenting the impact of the conflict on women and girls.

WORKSHOP

• SRI LANKA: Taking 1325 to the Village

Association of War Affected Women

AWAW is currently holding one-day workshops in all 25 districts of the country for women leaders of organizations/clubs, junior administrative officers, women police and army officers, and school principals. Following a briefing on 1325 and the UN, participants are asked to brainstorm ideas for implementing 1325 in the context of the Sri Lanka peace process and the obstacles for implementing 1325. AWAW will be expanding the workshop participants to include women and men parliamentarians, secretaries of Ministries, women officers of diplomatic missions in Sri Lanka, and women combatants from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

COURSES

• THAILAND-BURMA: Training on 1325, Masters Program in Women's Studies

Foundation for Women, Law, and Rural Development (FORWARD)/Women's Studies Center, Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

The 1325 Training, for Thai and Lao students, consists of: 1) Regular special sessions: Students interact with women's NGOs working on issues of armed conflict and violence against women, and displaced women from the neighboring war-torn country (Burma). The students are required to submit reports and term papers on topics addressed by the women, analyzing, theorizing and recommending actions to be taken; 2) Field visits: Students are provided with grants to visit "refugee camps" where women from the troubled areas of Burma reside; and 3) Participation in public campaigns: Students are asked to write statements, join public rallies on violence against women in the situation of armed conflicts.

• SWEDEN: Women Building Peace with 1325

WILPF Sweden

This new course from the WILPF Sweden National Section is aimed primarily at immigrant women in Sweden. Students discuss how 1325 can and should be used, and 1325 and women's rights issues in relation to humanitarian law, conflict management values and attitudes. The course structure includes lectures, seminars and group discussions.

• WEST AFRICA: Community Women's Peacebuilding Manual – Women in Peacebuilding Course

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI)

WANEP has developed a Community Women's Peacebuilding Manual which is used in their 'Women in Peacebuilding' course at WAPI. One key component of this manual is 1325. To make 1325 interesting, comprehensive and relevant, participants are encouraged to act out role plays on the different thematic areas of the resolution, including women and conflict, women and violence, role of women and DDDR processes, refugee women, and women in decision and policy-making."

NGO NETWORK: FOCUS ON EDUCATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

• SWEDEN: Operation 1325

Founded in 2003

Operation 1325 is a network of six women's organizations based in Sweden: the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Swedish nation section, Women for Peace, the Swedish UNIFEM Committee, the National Organization for the Organizations for Immigrant Women, the Swedish Ecumenical Women's Council and the Swedish Women's Lobby. The principal aim of Operation 1325 is to assist in the implementation of 1325, with a particular focus on the prevention of conflict and armed conflict in Sweden and internationally. The principal focus is on education and capacity-building.

Appendix C.

NGO AND CIVIL SOCIETY RESOURCES ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF UNSC RESOLUTION 1325

1325 PeaceWomen E-Newsletter

PeaceWomen Project, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/1325News/1325ENewsindex.html>

fem'TALK 1325 - A Women and Peace Community Magazine Project

femLINKpacific, Fiji
femlinkpac@connect.com.fj

Fact Sheets on Resolution 1325

Gender and Peacebuilding Working Group, Canadian Peacebuilding Coordinating Committee (CPCC)
<http://www.peacebuild.ca/working/?load=gender>

Brochure on Operation 1325: Swedish NGO Network

<http://www.peacewomen.org/1325inaction/Europe/SwedenOperation1325.pdf>

Alternative Report on Germany's Implementation of Resolution 1325

Women's Security Council, Germany, October 2004
<http://un1325.de/fsr.htm>

Alternative Report on Canada's Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325

Gender and Peacebuilding Working Group, CPCC, October 2004
<http://www.peacebuild.ca/working/?load=gender>

Canadian Civil Society Response to Canada's Report on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

Gender and Peacebuilding Working Group, CPCC, October 2004
<http://www.peacebuild.ca/working/?load=gender>

Women – Essential to Peace: Resolution on 1325

International Federation of University Women (IFUW), August 2004
<http://www.ifuw.org/ifuw2004/28thresolutions.htm#2004res09>

1325 On Trial: A Tribunal Investigating the Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325

Women's National Commission, UK, March 2004
<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ecosoc/CSW/CSW481325ontrial.pdf>

Rethink! A Handbook for Sustainable Peace

Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, Sweden, March 2004
<http://www.iktk.se/publikationer/rapporter/pdf/Rethink.pdf>

Feminist peacemaking: In Resolution 1325, the United Nations requires the inclusion of women in all peace planning and negotiation

Carol Cohn, Women's Review of Books Special Issue on Women, War, and Peace, February 2004
<http://www.wellesley.edu/WomensReview/backiss.html#feb04>

Implementing Resolution 1325, an NGO Perspective: Lessons Learned and Realities from the Field

Isabelle Solon-Helal, Rights and Democracy, February 2004

<http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/1325/SolonHelal1325.html>

Women, Peace and Security: A Feminist Analysis of Security Council Resolution 1325

Merav Datan, LLM Research Paper, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, 2004

<http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/1325/DatanWPSRes1325I-P.doc>

Plan of Action for Accelerating the Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325

Frauensicherheitsrat [Women's Security Council], Germany, September 2003

<http://un1325.de/fsr.htm#engl>

UNSC Resolution 1325: South Asian Women's Perspectives

International Alert (IA), June 2003

<http://www.international-alert.org/publications.htm#gen>

Report on WILPF Australia's Activities Related to Security Council Resolution 1325

WILPF Australia, June 2003

<http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/1325/WILPFAus1325.html>

Resolution 1325 – Use It or Lose It

Michele Landsberg, Ms. Magazine Commentary, Summer 2003 Issue

<http://www.peacewomen.org/1325inaction/LandsbergMsMagazine03.html>

Where Are All the Women? UN Security Council Resolution 1325: Gender Perspectives of the Israeli Palestinian Conflict

Sarai Aharoni and Rula Deeb (Eds.), Isha l'Isha and Kayan, April 2003

<http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/OPT/IshallIsha1325Report2003.pdf>

Women Peacebuilders Commemorate Resolution 1325 in Fiji

Sharon Bhagwan, Women from the National Council of Women Fiji, 31 October 2002

<http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/1325/NCWF2002.html>

Declaration of Coalition 1325, Azerbaijan

6 September 2002

<http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/1325/Coalition1325Azerbaijan.html>

Global Policy on Women, Peace and Security in Practice: National and Regional Consultations on Resolution 1325

IA, May 2002

<http://www.international-alert.org/women/publications/KnowHowPaper.pdf>

A Policy Audit: From the Beijing Platform for Action to UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and Beyond- Achievements and Emerging Challenges

Sanam B Naraghi-Anderlini, IA, June 2001

<http://www.international-alert.org/women/publications/POLAUDIT.PDF>

Women Advocating for Resolution 1325 in the Democratic Republic of Congo

<http://www.peacewomen.org/1325inaction/Africa/DRC1325list.html>

All of the above resources are compiled online on PeaceWomen's 1325 Resources Index at:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/1325/1325index.html>

Appendix D.

CIVIL SOCIETY RESPONDENTS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE HEADQUARTERS

- 1. Amnesty International, Dutch Section**
Netherlands
- 2. Association Congolaise d’Aide a la Reinsertion des Victimes des Conflits Armes [Congolese Aid Association for the Reintegration of Victims of Armed Conflicts]**
Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 3. Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa Justice and Peace Desk**
Kenya
- 4. Association of War Affected Women**
Sri Lanka
- 5. Colectivo Maria Maria**
Colombia
- 6. Corporacion Sisma Mujer**
Colombia
- 7. Dauphin Adult Learning Centre**
Canada
- 8. Diaconia para la Justicia y la Paz, Arzobispado de Piura y Tumbes [Office for Justice and Peace in the Archbishopric of Piura and Tumbes]**
Peru
- 9. Equality Now**
United States of America (USA)
- 10. Ereima Gender Empowerment & Resource Centre**
India
- 11. femLINKpacific: Media Initiatives for Women**
Fiji Islands/Pacific Region
- 12. Femmes Africa Solidarité**
Switzerland, Senegal
- 13. Foundation for Women, Law, and Rural Development/Women’s Studies Center, Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University**
Thailand
- 14. Frauensicherheitsrat [Women’s Security Council]**
Germany

**CIVIL SOCIETY RESPONDENTS AND
THEIR RESPECTIVE HEADQUARTERS (CONT'D)**

- 15. IKFFF Internationella Kvinnoförbundet för Fred och Frihet [Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Sweden National Section]**
Sweden
- 16. Internasjonal Kvinneliga for Fred og Frihet [WILPF Norway National Section]**
Norway
- 17. International Center for Ethnic Studies**
Sri Lanka
- 18. International Volunteer Organization for Women, Education, Development**
Belgium
- 19. Isha l'Isha - Haifa Feminist Center**
Israel
- 20. Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation**
Sweden
- 21. Liga Internacional de Mujeres por la Paz y la Libertad [WILPF Colombia National Section]**
Colombia
- 22. Ligue internationale de femmes pour la paix et la liberte [WILPF France National Section]**
France
- 23. Lutheran World Federation, Kosovo program**
Kosovo
- 24. MADRE**
USA
- 25. Medica Mondiale e.V.**
Germany
- 26. Northern Ireland Women's Coalition**
Northern Ireland
- 27. Northern Ireland Women's European Platform**
Northern Ireland
- 28. Organizacion para el desarrollo de las mujeres inmigrantes haitianas y sus familiares (ODEMIHF), Inc [Organization for the Development of Haitian immigrant women and their families/dependents]**
Dominican Republic
- 29. Red Mujer, Poder y Paz**
Colombia

**CIVIL SOCIETY RESPONDENTS AND
THEIR RESPECTIVE HEADQUARTERS (CONT'D)**

- 30. Refugees International**
USA
- 31. Rural Initiatives in Sustainability and Empowerment**
Pakistan
- 32. Tiye International**
The Netherlands
- 33. Trans Canada**
Canada
- 34. Vision et Action des Femmes Africaines contre les Guerres [Vision and Action of African Women Against Wars]**
Cote d'Ivoire
- 35. West Africa Network for Peacebuilding**
Ghana
- 36. Women in Black-Gulf Coast and Green Party of Florida, Women's Caucus**
USA
- 37. Woman's Problems Research Union (Women's Institute)**
Azerbaijan
- 38. Women Waging Peace**
USA
- 39. WILPF Netherlands National Section**
The Netherlands
- 40. WILPF UK National Section**
United Kingdom
- 41. WILPF US National Section**
USA
- 42. Women's League of Burma**
Thailand

Two organizations contributed under condition of anonymity.

Appendix E.

| Geographic Locations and Areas of Focus of Respondents' Projects | |
|--|--|
| Respondent's Country Headquarters <i>(# of responses from country)</i> | Geographic Areas of Program Focus <i>(If different from respondents' location and if so indicated in questionnaire)</i> |
| Azerbaijan | -- |
| Belgium, Italy | Asia: India, Philippines, Cambodia, Myanmar, Vietnam, Timor-Leste. Thailand Africa: Angola, Mozambique, Sudan. Rwanda, Lesotho, Cameroon Latin America: Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil |
| Canada (2) | -- |
| Colombia (4) | South America |
| Cote d'Ivoire | -- |
| Democratic Republic of Congo | -- |
| Dominican Republic | Haiti |
| Fiji | Fiji Islands/Pacific Region |
| France | -- |
| Germany (2) | Afghanistan, Albania, Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq |
| Ghana (regional headquarters) | 12 West African countries |
| India | -- |
| Israel | Israel-Palestine |
| Kenya | East Africa |
| Kosovo | -- |
| Nepal | -- |
| Netherlands (2) | Middle East |
| Northern Ireland (2) | -- |
| Norway | Sri Lanka, Sudan |
| Pakistan | -- |
| Peru | -- |
| Sri Lanka (2) | -- |
| Sweden (2) | Balkans, Southern Caucasus, Middle East |
| Switzerland, Senegal | West Africa |
| Thailand (2) | Burma |
| United Kingdom (2) | Afghanistan, Albania, Ghana, India, Pakistan, South & Central America, Southern & East Africa |
| United States of America (6) | Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Middle East: Afghanistan, Colombia, Haiti. Iraq, Latin America, Southern Africa, Sudan, Southeast Asia, and West Africa |
| Total Number of Responses incorporated into report: | 44 |

*Four responses from Guinea, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and United States, were received too late to incorporate as data for this report.

Appendix F.

QUESTIONNAIRE ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY UNSC RESOLUTION 1325: FOUR YEARS ON

[This questionnaire was translated into Arabic, French, German, Burmese and Spanish.]

The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security¹⁵ in New York invites you to complete this questionnaire on women, peace, and security.

In this questionnaire you will find:

- Questions on your work to advance implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security (Resolution 1325) and to address women, peace, and security issues generally.
- Questions on your observations of governmental implementation of Resolution 1325.
- Questions on your observations of the United Nations' implementation of Resolution 1325.

We will compile the all responses received into a civil society alternative report that will be released at the same time as the UN Secretary-General's report on the implementation of Resolution 1325 in October 2004.

We expect that the alternative civil society report will:

- Examine the implementation of Resolution 1325 since its adoption in 2000, and address women, peace and security issues generally.
- Provide an opportunity for women and men, boys and girls working on women, peace, and security related issues to share their experiences with each other.
- Highlight gaps and challenges in the UN and government's implementation of Resolution 1325.
- Serve as a tool for advocacy and moving forward on women, peace and security issues.

Depending on the detail of your input, this questionnaire may take one hour or more to complete. If you are not able to give this amount of time to the questionnaire, please complete the questions in bold.

YOUR WORK ON WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

This section includes questions about your organization/network/group and the work you do to advance the implementation of Resolution 1325. If you do not use Resolution 1325 in your work, please answer the following questions about your work as it relates to women, peace, and

¹⁵ The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (NGOWG), came together in June 2000 with a focused campaign on the development of a UN Security Council resolution on women, peace and security. With the unanimous adoption of Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security on 31 October 2000, the NGO Working Group shifted its focus to the support and monitoring of the implementation of Resolution 1325. Members of the Working Group: *Amnesty International, Femmes Africa Solidarite (FAS), Hague Appeal for Peace, International Alert, International Women's Tribune Centre (IWTC), Women's Actions for New Directions (WAND), Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church, Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).* For information on the NGOWG WPS go to <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ngo/wg.html>

security issues, generally.

1. Name of organization/network/group:

2. Country/region where you are working:

3. If you use Resolution 1325 in your work, how did you first learn about the resolution?

4. What are the issues that you are working on that are related to women, peace and security?

5. What issue(s) addressed in Resolution 1325 is (are) most important for the work that you do in your country/region?

6. If you are using Resolution 1325, how are you using it in your work on women, peace, and security?

7. In your work on women, peace and security, have you taken actions to:

educate women/men/girls/boys or NGO/civil society groups on 1325?

contact governmental/intergovernmental officials regarding 1325?

ensure that women are actively involved in formal peace negotiations?

build networks in your area/country/region with women working on women, peace and security?

other?

Please explain.

8. Which international, regional or national instruments do you use to promote the protection of women, women's participation and gender equality?

Security Council Resolution 1325

Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA)

Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Other international, regional law or national law

9. In your work to implement 1325, have you collaborated with:

other non-governmental or civil society organizations

governmental or inter-governmental bodies

United Nations

international financial institutions

Please give examples.

10. Do you receive funding for your work on women, peace and security issues?

Yes No If yes, from what sources?

11. If you had more human or financial resources what would you do to advance the implementation of 1325/issues relating to women, peace and security?

12. What are your recommendations for how to advance implementation of Resolution 1325 and improve women's involvement in peace, and security issues?

CIVIL SOCIETY INPUT ON GOVERNMENTAL EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT RES 1325

October 2000-October 2004

Where applicable, please note whether governmental actions have been taken at the local, provincial or national levels, as well as at regional and international levels.

1. Has the government taken steps to increase women's representation at all decision-making levels?

Yes No Somewhat Please explain.

2. Does the government support local and particularly women's peacebuilding initiatives?

Yes No Somewhat Please explain.

3. What, if anything, does the government- as a party to armed conflict, donor, mediator or Security Council member- do to ensure women's involvement and the integration of a gender perspective in peace negotiations and implementation of the agreement?

4. If your government contributes troops, police or other personnel to peacekeeping operations, does it:

carry out pre-deployment gender-sensitivity training?

have a strategy for recruiting women to participate in peacekeeping?

prosecute those nationals responsible for sexual and gender-based violence while on mission, thus seeking to end impunity?

Please explain.

5. If your government has ratified international treaties, such as the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), have its commitments been reflected in its work related to women, peace and security?

Yes No Somewhat Please explain.

6. Does the government actively seek to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for sexual and gender-based violence in the context of armed conflict?

Yes No

7. Does your government actively work towards disarmament and/or reallocation of resources away from military expenditures?

Yes No Somewhat Please explain.

8. Is there anything else your government is doing related to 1325?

9. Which of these best describe your government's (or the government of the country in which you work) implementation of Resolution 1325? Please choose only one.

The government is implementing programs or plans that address *all* (relevant) aspects of Resolution 1325.

The government is implementing programs or plans that address *some* (relevant) aspects of Resolution 1325.

The government is developing programs or plans that address *all* (relevant) aspects of Resolution 1325.

The government is developing programs or plans that address *some* (relevant) aspects of Resolution 1325.

The government talks about *all* parts of Resolution 1325 as part of its rhetoric on women,

peace, and security.

The government talks about *some* parts of Resolution 1325 as part of its rhetoric on women, peace, and security.

The government only talks generally about women, peace, and security, without following through with any specific programs or plans.

The government has no specific initiatives relating to women, peace, and security.

CIVIL SOCIETY INPUT ON THE UNITED NATIONS' EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT RES 1325 *October 2000-October 2004*

1. Is the UN, or any of its specialized agencies, addressing women, peace and security issues in your country? Which UN entities? If no, go to #7.

2. Have any of the UN entities based in your country promoted local women's equal and active participation in the design and delivery of their programs?

Yes No Somewhat Please explain.

3. Have the UN entities informed you or others about 1325? If yes, which UN entities?

4. Have any of the UN entities contacted your organization/network about your work on women, peace and security issues?

5. Have the UN entities hosted trainings on 1325 for NGOs/civil society?

6. Do you know if the UN has held trainings on 1325 for the UN staff working in your country?

7. Do you know of ways the UN has worked to implement 1325?

Where there is a UN peacekeeping operation...

1. Have the UN military and civilian personnel received gender training from the UN while participating in the operation?

2. Has there been an increase in violence against and/or exploitation of women and girls because of the UN's presence?

3. Are there sufficient reporting and policing mechanisms to address both the threat and the occurrence of sexual and physical violence associated with peacekeepers and those charged with protecting areas? Please explain.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME and COMMITMENT TO THESE ISSUES!

Please indicate whether we can provide your organization/network/group as the source for this information in an official report or whether you prefer to be anonymous:

I/We give permission to accredit my/our response

I/We prefer anonymity

APPENDIX G.

NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security

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CORE MEMBERS

FEMMES AFRICA SOLIDARITE (FAS)

Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS), created in 1996, seeks to foster, strengthen and promote the leadership role of women in conflict prevention, management and resolution on the African continent. FAS's work in this regard is set in the context of a wider campaign to protect and promote women's human rights in Africa. For FAS, engendering the peace process is vital to achieving the lasting absence of conflict on the African continent. Efforts to resolve conflict and address its root causes will not succeed unless we empower all those who have suffered from it – including and especially women, who suffer its impact disproportionately. Only if women play a full and equal part can we build the foundations for enduring peace: development, good governance, human rights and justice. Its International Secretariat, based in Geneva, Switzerland, coordinates programmes in Africa and serves as a contact point for international organisations, NGOs and donor agencies. FAS established its International Secretariat in Geneva in order to facilitate its resource mobilisation efforts and to maximise the visibility of African women's initiatives at the international level. To consolidate its presence at the international level, FAS has a permanent representative stationed in New York.

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International
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HAGUE APPEAL FOR PEACE

In May 1999 the Hague Appeal for Peace held the largest civil society conference for peace in modern history. The conference called for the recognition of peace as a fundamental human right, the abolition of war and the right of women to take part in resolving and preventing conflict. Conference delegates approved the Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice for the 21st Century, which stresses the need to include women from all areas of society at all stages in any peace negotiating process. Thousands of local organizations launched their own campaigns as a result of the conference. The Hague Appeal for Peace has launched its campaign for Global Peace Education, which promotes women's rights and needs as an integral part of any peace process.

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INTERNATIONAL ALERT (IA)

International Alert (IA) was established as a conflict transformation organization in 1992. The IA international campaign 'Women Building Peace: From the Village Council to the Negotiating Table' was launched with the support of over 100 organisations in May 1999. Since this time it has played an important role in raising awareness of women's experiences and perspectives of peace and security, in promoting and increasing support and resources for women in peacebuilding, and in creating new spaces for women's voices in peace negotiations at all levels and stages. The campaign launched the first ever Millennium Peace Prize for Women, which was sponsored by International Alert and UNIFEM. Through the joint efforts of members of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, UNIFEM, and supporting member states, the first phase of the campaign succeeded in pushing for the adoption of UNSC Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in October 2000. Phase two of the IA Campaign includes a Peace Audit in four case study regions (West Africa,

the Southern Caucasus, South Asia and Latin America); monitoring the implementation of Resolution 1325 and possibilities for local, national and regional organisations using the resolution as an advocacy tool to support their peacebuilding work and security needs. Phase two, with the organic development of the Gender and Peacebuilding Programme, also involves documenting women's peacebuilding 'know how' and developing an advocacy 'tool kit' of examples of processes that have worked. The Gender and Peacebuilding Programme includes a global policy component that develops policy and practice briefings relating to the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 that develops policy and practice briefings relating to the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325. The areas of focus for 2004/2005 include: Gender and Peace Support Operations; Gender and Conflict Early Warning; Gender and Security Sector Transformation; Gender, HIV/AIDS and Conflict; and Gender and Reconstruction.

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S TRIBUNE CENTER (IWTC)

The International Women's Tribune Centre (IWTC) is dedicated to achieving women's full participation in shaping a development process that is just, peaceful and sustainable. IWTC was established in 1976 following the UN International Women's Year World Conference in Mexico City. With a philosophical commitment to empowering people and building communities, IWTC provides communication, information, education, and organizing support services to women's organizations and community groups working to improve the lives of women, particularly low-income women in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and Western Asia.

IWTC's work is grounded on the premise that access to information and the ability to communicate are basic to the process of women's empowerment, to women's ability to re-defining development paradigms, to women's participation in the public policy arena and to the building of democratic societies.

IWTC's four major programme areas cover: Women Using Information Communication Technologies for Basic Needs; Using Global Policy for Transformative Action; Human Rights, Human Security, Women in the Peacebuilding Process; and Using Information and Knowledge-Sharing for Empowerment – Access and Management.

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WOMEN'S ACTION FOR NEW DIRECTIONS (WAND)

The mission of Women's Action for New Directions (WAND) is to empower women to act politically to reduce violence and militarism, and redirect excessive military resources toward unmet human and environmental needs. Since 1982, WAND has worked to: rewrite national budget priorities from the perspective of women; end the culture of violence in our society and prevent violence against women; empower women to act politically, encourage women's leadership and bring more women into the public policy arena to further WAND's goals; eliminate the testing, production, sale and use of weapons of mass destruction; clean up the environmental effects of nuclear weapons production. WAND is a membership organization with offices in Arlington, MA, Washington, DC, and Atlanta, GA, a national network of women state legislators known as The Women Legislators' Lobby (WiLL), and a Political Action Committee (PAC) which helps elect women to Congress that will work for WAND's goals. WAND encourages its members and partners to support U.S. participation in international treaties and institutions that work for peace globally.

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WOMEN'S COMMISSION FOR REFUGEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN

For fifteen years, the Women's Commission has been working to improve the lives and defend the rights of refugee and internally displaced women, children and adolescents around the world through fact-finding missions and advocacy. Advancing sustainable peace through drawing the attention of policy-makers, donors and international community to the needs and contributions of displaced women, children and adolescents has been a cornerstone of the Commission's work. This includes highlighting the need for gender balance in all areas of peace-building and reconstruction through field-based reports, supporting local advocacy partners in Sierra Leone, Colombia, Afghanistan and Pakistan and hosting panels on the contributions of refugee and displaced women, children and adolescents at international events, including UN Beijing Plus Five (2000) and UN Commission on the Status of

Women. The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children is an independent affiliate of the International Rescue Committee.

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WOMEN'S DIVISION, GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Women's Division represents United Methodist Women, a one-million member organization whose purpose is to develop women leaders and advocate for peace and justice. United Methodist Women (UMW) raise around \$20 million a year for programs and projects related to women, children and youth in the United States and in more than 100 countries around the world. For the past 135 years, guided by the principles of human rights for all persons, UMW have been working to better the lives of women, children and youth through advocacy, education, development and humanitarian relief work. In 1960 the Woman's Division established the United Methodist Office for the United Nations and built the Church Center for the United Nations. During the 2001-2004, UMW priorities have been: advocacy for debt relief for the poorest countries, public education reform, monitoring hate crimes and violence in society; and action to ban the recruitment and training of children as soldiers and the targeting of children, especially girls, for sexual abuse and gender-based violence.

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM (WILPF)

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) established in 1915, is the oldest women's international peace organization. WILPF brings together women from all over the world who oppose war, violence, exploitation and all forms of discrimination and oppression, and who wish to unite in establishing peace by non-violent means based on political, economic and social justice for all. The WILPF-UN Office in New York hosts two projects, PeaceWomen and Reaching Critical Will.

The PeaceWomen Project monitors and works toward rapid and full implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. To these ends: PeaceWomen hosts Peacewomen.org, a website that provides accurate and timely information on women, peace and security issues and women's peace-building initiatives in areas of armed conflict; PeaceWomen works to facilitate communication among and mobilization of advocates and supporters in civil society, the UN system and governments working on women, peace and security issues; and PeaceWomen advocates for the integration of gender analysis in the governance, peace and security work of civil society actors, the UN system, and governmental bodies.

Reaching Critical Will (RCW) - <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org> - is a disarmament initiative of WILPF that seeks to increase the quality and quantity of non-governmental organization preparation for and participation in various international disarmament fora.

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AFFILIATE MEMBERS

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (AI)

Amnesty International (AI) is a worldwide movement of people who campaign for internationally recognized human rights to be respected and protected. AI's vision is of a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards. In pursuit of this vision, AI's mission is to undertake research and action focused on preventing and ending grave abuses of the rights to physical and mental integrity, freedom of conscience and expression, and freedom from discrimination, within the context of its work to promote all human rights. AI has a varied network of members and supporters around the world. Although they come from many different backgrounds and have widely different political and religious beliefs, they are united by a determination to work for a world where everyone enjoys human rights.

In March 2004, Amnesty International launched a global campaign, **Stop Violence against Women**, a multifaceted campaign demanding change at the international, national and local levels through diverse actors and actions.

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WOMEN'S ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (WEDO)

The Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) is an international advocacy organization that seeks to increase the power of women worldwide as policymakers at all levels of governments, institutions and forums to achieve economic and social justice, a healthy and peaceful planet, and human rights for all. WEDO brings together women of diverse backgrounds from all regions of the world to share experiences and expertise and to take action on common agendas in the United Nations and other international policymaking forums.

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