



**Permanent Mission of Germany  
to the United Nations**

**Open Debate of the UN Security Council**

**23 October 2007**

**Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security**

**(S/2007/567)**

**Statement by H. E. Thomas Matussek**

**Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations**

**- check against delivery -**

Mr. President,

Germany welcomes this year's Security Council debate on women, peace and security, marking the seventh anniversary of Resolution 1325. Germany associates itself with the Statement just made by the Presidency of the European Union and would like to add the following remarks:

Violence against women is one of the most widespread violations of human rights; Germany believes that it is imperative to eradicate violence against women and girls in all its forms. We are deeply concerned about the pervasive and sometimes systematic use of sexual violence against women, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuses, especially in conflict situations. We have to increase all our efforts on the national and on the international level to find adequate responses to this problem - for the victims and for the perpetrators. In this context, Germany welcomes the initiative "Stop rape now: UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict" which was launched in the beginning of 2007.

One month ago, the German Federal Government presented its second "Action Plan to Combat Violence against Women". The Action Plan is not only setting goals and targets to combat violence against women on a national basis, but addresses the issue also in the context of international cooperation within the European Union, the Council of Europe, and the United Nations. The Action Plan contains various references to Resolution 1325.

Mr. President,

Germany welcomes the initiative by several countries, including Security Council Members, to develop a mechanism to ensure the systematic integration and

implementation of Resolution 1325 in the work of this council, including resolutions, reporting requests, and field missions. In this context, we welcome that the Peacebuilding Commission, Peacebuilding Support Office and Peacebuilding Fund have integrated a gender perspective into their work. Gender equality was identified as a critical cross-cutting issue for peace consolidation in both countries on the PBC's agenda: Burundi and Sierra Leone. Now, dedicated effort is needed to implement it: in the field as well as in New York.

Mr. President,

The promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment – be it in the context of conflict resolution or in attaining the internationally agreed development goals – is an essential part of the UN mandate. A coherent and effective implementation of this mandate, including Security Council Resolution 1325, needs a coherent and effective gender architecture. Germany supports the respective concept paper prepared by the DSG, Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro.

Mr. President,

Let me re-emphasize that Germany, as a "friend of the Resolution 1325", is deeply committed to the vision of this "landmark" resolution and undertakes various efforts to realize this vision. The German Government will account for its efforts and present, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25, a detailed report to our Parliament on the German contributions to implement the Resolution. The report will document a variety of measures contributing to the implementation of the resolution both at

**national and global level – ranging from efforts to increase representation of women at all decision-making mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict, to concrete projects aiming at ending violence against women all over the world.**

**Many of these projects have been conducted in cooperation with non-governmental organizations. Civil Society plays a crucial role in the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 - I wish to emphasize how greatly we welcome NGO's participation in and contribution to our common efforts to work for women's equal participation and full involvement in the maintenance and promotion of peace and security.**

**Thank you, Mr. President.**