

**Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security**  
**October 28 2011, Security Council Chamber**

*Statement by H.E. Mr. Chuquibuará, Representative of Peru*

My delegation thanks you, Madam President, for the initiative of holding an open debate on the role of women and the theme of peace and security. I would also like to thank the Secretary-General for his report (S/2011/598\*), as well as to note the importance of the statements made throughout the day.

Resolution 1325 (2000), adopted 11 years ago, represents a fundamental milestone, because ever since its adoption the issue of the role of women in peace and security has occupied an important place on the agenda of the Security Council. As a result, it has taken on an important and essential role in the achievement of international peace and security. The resolution has served as the point of departure for subsequent developments on this issue in the Security Council when it comes to ensuring the participation of women in peacekeeping and peacebuilding and, most especially, with regard to combating sexual violence against women and girls. For that reason, along with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, resolution 1325 (2000) and resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1960 (2010) provide the international community with a normative framework for considering the needs of women in conflict and post-conflict situations.

As we all clearly acknowledge today, women are decisive actors in every stage of long-term peacebuilding processes, which is why we concur with the Secretary-General on the need to encourage women's participation as an integral part of efforts to establish, maintain and build peace.

In that context, my delegation would like to point out that my country is a contributor of military observers. I am pleased to announce that, this November, Peru will deploy women on the ground in peacekeeping operations. We have already said repeatedly that we should never allow sexual violence to be seen as the inevitable consequence of armed conflict. We therefore welcome the zero-tolerance policy on sexual violence and abuse that the Secretary-General has been introducing into peacekeeping operations. We also believe that training and consciousness raising for military personnel deployed on the ground are fundamental to enable them to respond in a timely and appropriate fashion when faced with situations of sexual violence.

Because combating the impunity of gender violence is fundamental to peacekeeping processes, States need to strengthen their judicial systems so that such cases can be brought to trial. In that regard, it will continue to be equally important to pursue the ratification of the Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Women are decisive actors in the three pillars of achieving lasting peace, namely, economic recovery, social cohesion and political legitimacy. In that respect, it is essential that emphasis be placed in all post conflict phases on strengthening the rule of law as well as the economic and political empowerment of women in order to guarantee their full insertion in the community.

My country resolutely supports the work currently being carried out by UN-Women and encourages it to continue its decisive contribution to the implementation of resolutions relating to peace and security, as well as to follow-up with regard to the indicators that the Secretary-General presented in October 2010. Similarly, my country values the work of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict and the Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflict on aspects related to women, peace and security, in particular with respect to the prevention of sexual violence.

Peru believes that the high-level review of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) proposed for 2015 will be an opportunity to comprehensively review the progress made by the United Nations system and by Member States in the priority areas of prevention, participation, protection, relief and recovery, as well as on the recommendations put forward by the Secretary-General or by a working group established to implement the resolution.

We have moved forward in recognizing the importance of women's participation in peace and security. However, we still face many challenges. What is most important is to join forces so that women and girls are able to exercise their right to live without fear, without violence and with respect and equality of opportunity.