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# PHILIPPINES

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## STATEMENT

by

**H.E. Ambassador Libran N. Cabactulan,  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of the  
Philippines  
to the United Nations,  
at the Security Council in connection with the  
Agenda Item "Women, Peace and Security-  
Resolution 1325 "**

**26 October 2010, UN Headquarters, New York**

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Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to thank you and the other members of the Council for this opportunity to address this chamber on the agenda item "Peace, Women and Security – Resolution 1325."

At the same time I would like to express my heartfelt congratulation to Madam Michelle Bachelet for her appointment as Undersecretary for UN Women. With her sterling record in public service as former president of Chile and her rich experience in governance, I am confident that the newly established UN Women will be able to expeditiously and effectively perform its mandate. I also thank her for her statement and her presence with us this morning.

Mr. President,

I am pleased to be in the company of everyone here who shares a firm and dedicated commitment to gender equality and empowerment of women, especially in the area of peace and security. As we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Resolution 1325, it is incumbent upon us to take stock of the progress made since its adoption a decade ago and identify concrete actions to reinforce the integration of gender equality perspectives in the framework of peace and security.

The Philippines attaches great importance to the integration of gender equality perspectives in peace and security issues. This is demonstrated by the fact that five years before the adoption of Resolution 1325, the Philippines had already established the Philippine Plan for Gender Responsive Development (PPGRD) 1995-2025, a 30-year plan which gives due recognition to the important role of women in peace-building efforts and peacemaking initiatives. PPGRD empowers women for effective peace work which is crucial to security and stability for national development.

We are also pleased to note the Secretary General's observation in his report on Women, Peace and Security contained in S/2010/498 that the development of national action plans to guide the implementation of Resolution 1325 is a particularly important contribution of Member States and that a total of 19 such plans, among them in post-conflict nations,

have already been adopted. Implementation of national action plans is a key strategy for the achievement of commitments in the area of women, peace and security and we hope to see the adoption of more national action plans by other Member States to ensure the systematic monitoring and evaluation of activities with respect to policy goals.

Mr. President,

I am pleased to say that on 25 March 2010 the Philippines became the first Asian country to adopt a National Action Plan (NAP) on Women Peace and Security: Implementing Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820. Our National Action Plan envisions to enhance sustain and strengthen women's role in peace building processes. It has four major goals namely:

- (a) *Protection and Prevention*: to ensure the protection and prevention of violence of women's human rights in armed conflict and post conflict situations;
- (b) *Empowerment and Participation*: to empower women and ensure their active and meaningful participation in areas of peace building, peacekeeping and conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post conflict reconstruction;
- (c) *Promotion and Mainstreaming*: to promote and mainstream gender perspective in all aspect of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace building; and
- (d) *Capacity Development and Monitoring*: to institutionalize a monitoring and reporting system to monitor, evaluate and report to enhance accountability for the successful implementation of the National Action Plan and the achievement of its goals.

The National Action Plan now serves as a reference point in assessing the Philippine Government's commitment to the implementation of Resolutions 1325, 1820 and other resolutions on women, peace and security.

Significant steps have been taken by my country to enhance participation of women in peacekeeping operations and we are determined to pursue policies and programs that would help ensure full implementation of Resolution 1325 in the international arena. In fact,

in 19 UN peacekeeping missions where the Philippines actively participate, 68 Filipino women are now serving with dedication and effectiveness in UN Missions in Haiti, Darfur, Golan Heights, Liberia, Sudan and Timor-Leste.

Mr. President,

Notwithstanding the advances made in the implementation of Resolution 1325, challenges and obstacles remain. We take note of the Secretary General's conclusion in his report that a major constraint to implementation of Resolution 1325 has been the absence of a single coherent and coordinated approach, guided by a clear framework with concrete and specific goals and targets, and supported by a meaningful set of indicators to track progress.

We agree that there is a need to set up a comprehensive framework to set strategic system-wide priorities and coherence and we support the endorsement of the indicators contained in the annex to the Secretary General's report as guidelines for the overall monitoring of global and national implementation of Resolution 1325. We recognize that there will always be gaps and divergences in the implementation of the resolution but we remain optimistic that these inadequacies would be addressed to accelerate progress in the achievement of women's full and equal participation as active agents in peace and security.

Mr. President,

Once again I wish to express our full confidence and support to UN Women, the new composite gender entity under the effective guidance and leadership of Madame Michelle Bachelet, in strengthening the United Nations' ability to mainstream gender equality and empowerment of women within the UN system, particularly in the area of peace and security.

Lastly, we fully support the Security Council for its continued leadership in all issues encompassed under resolution 1325 and other related resolutions to ensure that they are fully and consistently reflected and integrated in the Council's agenda.

Thank you.