

**Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security
October 2014, Security Council Chamber**

Statement by Mr. Boukadoum, Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations

I wish to thank you, Madam President, for organizing this crucial debate, which affords the broader United Nations membership an opportunity to contribute to the women and peace and security agenda. I am also grateful for the concept note that you have circulated (S/2014/731, annex), which we believe will guide our deliberations to a successful conclusion. And I wish to thank the Secretary-General for his personal and steadfast commitment to this issue, as well as the briefers for their insightful presentations.

We underline and insist that all forms of violence against women are unacceptable and should in no way be tolerated. Unfortunately, statistics show that this phenomenon continues to be pervasive in all countries. It is therefore necessary to intensify efforts at all levels, particularly in terms of prevention and awareness. We urge all Member States to strengthen their support to women victims of violence and ensure their access to the justice system in accordance with human rights standards and regardless of their status.

The number of internally displaced persons and refugees continues to rise worldwide to unprecedented levels, and with it the increased risks faced by displaced women and girls. Due to their vulnerability, women in many conflict situations around the world continue to face intolerable hardship, as they become targets of all forms of violence.

We underline the particular vulnerability of women and children refugees and displaced persons, including exposure to discrimination and sexual and physical abuse, violence and exploitation. In that regard, we acknowledge the importance of preventing, responding to and addressing sexual and gender-based issues.

Since the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000), the United Nations has adopted specific policy directives to achieve gender equality in peacekeeping operations. To further contribute to that end, there is a need to consider having the United Nations step up the deployment of women protection advisers and gender advisers in both peacekeeping and political missions, as well as in humanitarian operations.

At the regional level, the African Union has made the protection of women's right across the continent a priority. It is committed to promoting and working to achieve gender equality in line with the gender policy adopted by the African Union in 2009. In that regard, we emphasize that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem, in appropriate cooperation with the international community.

Since the ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1996, Algeria has made great efforts to place the protection and promotion women's rights at the centre of its national policies, strategic objectives and programmes. The situation of women in Algeria has experienced a very positive trend through combined efforts by the Government and civil society.

While we reiterate Algeria's support for the implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolution 1325 (2000), we would like to underline that firm political will and full commitment by Member States on the relevant measures set out in the resolution, which marks this year its fourteenth anniversary, will guarantee the active participation of women in national, regional and international institutions for the prevention, protection and management of conflict situations.

I am happy and proud, Madam President, that your actions eloquently attest to your sober handling of the work of the Security Council this month, including by placing this issue on the Council's agenda. For me, in our troubled world, "women", "peace" and "security" are synonymous.