

**Statement  
by**

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at the  
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Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Members of the Council,

It is an honour for me to introduce the Report of the Secretary-General on Women and Peace and Security (S/2010/173). May I begin by expressing my deep gratitude to you, Mr. President, for giving me this opportunity to address the Council on the report before you, which presents to the Council for consideration, a set of indicators for use at the global level to track the implementation of the council's resolution 1325(2000). Your Presidency of the Council during this month has been instrumental in allowing us to conclude, in a timely manner, the preparations needed to convene this session of the Council.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Permanent Mission of Austria for its relentless support of the indicator development process and for working closely with the Technical Working Group on Indicators, including funding parts of the long process of consultation that resulted in the report before you today.

Mr. President,

I also join you to warmly welcome Ms. Margot Waldstrom, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict. The Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality which I Chair, and I personally, look forward to working closely towards advancing the rights of women and their contribution to peace and security.

The report before you (S/2010/173) responds to the Security Council's request in October 2009, for the Secretary-General to submit within 6 months, for consideration, a set of indicators for use at the global level to track implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000), which could serve as a common basis for reporting by relevant United Nations entities, other

international and regional organizations, and Member States, on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in 2010 and beyond.

Before I introduce the indicators presented in the report, allow me to talk about the process that led to the preparation of the report before you. This process is significant because it is an indication of the commitment of a broad range of stakeholders to find a way to better monitor progress in implementing Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Mr. President,

The report before you is the culmination of a long and comprehensive process involving a broad range of stakeholders, including Member States, United Nations entities, Civil Society and technical and substantive specialists. In response to the Security Council's request, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Women and Peace and Security, established a Technical Working Group on Indicators to define and outline the requested set of indicators. This working group which was made up of representatives of United Nations entities, and which was led and coordinated by UNIFEM, initiated a comprehensive process of information gathering on indicators that were in use across the United Nations system and by national Governments and other organizations.

The results of the mapping exercise yielded more than 2,500 indicators. These 2,500 indicators were those that were reported to be in use or that were referenced in various documents that the Working Group examined. They constitute the "raw material" for generating the indicators that are contained in the report before you today. They were subjected to a collaborative review process including with representatives of civil society, technical experts, United Nations entities and Member States, with a view to reducing them to the most SMART – that is Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound. The result was a shortlist which was reviewed further through consultations with Members of this Council, Civil Society, United Nations entities at the principal level and other stakeholders. The final list of indicators included in the report before you reflect the outcome of these extensive consultations.

Mr. President,

Despite the breadth and scope of the consultations, I am pleased that the Secretariat has succeeded in meeting the short deadline for the production of the report. This is itself a sign of the commitment of the Secretary-General to move ahead with more effective monitoring of resolution 1325(2000) especially as we approach its 10th anniversary in October this year.

Now let me turn to the indicators presented in the report before you.

The selected indicators - - 26 in all -- are presented in tables 1 through 4 of the report, and they are briefly explained in the text. The indicators cover a broad range of substantive issues relating to women and peace and security. They are organized along four main groups – coinciding with the areas covered in the System-wide Action Plan for measuring progress

in implementing resolution 1325(2000). These four areas are prevention, participation, protection and relief and recovery. Within these groups indicators range from those that aim to assess the situation of women and girls, to those that assess the degree to which gender considerations are mainstreamed in peace processes, to those that seek to determine resource availability and institutional capacity for addressing peace and security issues.

Mr. President,

The report acknowledges that the 26 indicators that have been selected are at different stages of availability and technical development. This is recognized in the report through the assignment of feasibility indicators - A through F, with A requiring the shortest and least effort to assemble and use, and F requiring the greatest. A testing and piloting phase would therefore be required for most of the indicators before they can become fully operational.

What is the purpose of the pilot and testing? It would allow the proposed indicators to be assessed for feasibility and effectiveness of data collection and also permit the establishment of a baseline for those indicators for which no data are currently available. The pilot phase would also be an opportunity to work with Member States, United Nations country teams, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to cement ownership of the process and the outcomes. It is expected that the length of the pilot phase would vary for each group of indicators, extending in some cases from two to five years.

Mr. President,

In terms of applicability of the indicators, the report before you notes that while most of the indicators have been proposed for countries or areas affected by conflict, in applying the indicators it would be important to be guided by the specific nature of each conflict situation. It is also important to note that the issues addressed in resolution 1325 (2000) are relevant for contexts that have not experienced armed conflict, as well. Applicable indicators among those presented in this report can be used in those contexts as well, to serve as early warning indicators.

In its conclusions, the report recommends that the Council urges the United Nations system to engage relevant organizations and parties that have technical expertise in data collection and analysis to populate these indicators in the shortest possible time, so that the data would be available for use by all stakeholders, including Member States. United Nations country teams, One United Nations pilots, and integrated missions, would be instrumental in testing and piloting indicators at the national levels. In this regard, the Council may wish to urge Member States, in parallel with United Nations efforts, to volunteer to pilot the indicators in order to ensure that they are relevant to specific country situations and to establish best practices in data collection and analysis.

The report also recommends that the Council uses the indicators presented in this report as the basis for establishing a system for monitoring its own progress in monitoring the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000).

For his part, the Secretary-General reaffirms his commitment to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325(2000) and to the related resolutions 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1894 (2009). Through the appointment of his Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict, he has demonstrated his determination to address the persistent scourge of violence against women including sexual violence, to lead by example and to strive to empower women and girls to play a meaningful role in peace and security including in situations of armed conflict.

The Secretary-General remains committed to strengthening the United Nations capacity to fully implement resolution 1325(2000). He himself has witnessed and been deeply troubled by the effects of violence, abuse and blatant violations of the rights of women and girls in conflict affected countries and he remains unflinchingly committed to this cause.

We all look forward to accelerating the implementation of resolution 1325(2000) in the hope that 10 years from now we can talk about full implementation with real, measurable changes on the ground.

Thank you, Mr. President.