

Women



Peace



Security



# GLOSSARY

OF TERMS USED IN RESOLUTION

# 1325

OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY  
COUNCIL AND ITS RELATED  
RESOLUTIONS ON THE WOMEN,  
PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA



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## FOREWORD

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*“Women who know the price of conflict so well, are also often better equipped to prevent or resolve it.” - Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary- General, in the foreword to Resolution 1325(2000).*

In 2020, the Women, Peace and Security Agenda of the United Nations Security Council is entering its twentieth year. Governments and civil society are now assessing twenty years of implementing Security Council Resolution 1325 relative to Women, Peace and Security.

Indeed, the United Nations Security Council recommends that Member States expedite the development of Actions Plans, at the local, national, as well as regional and international levels, for the implementation of Resolution 1325. The main lesson drawn from this resolution’s 20 years of existence is demonstrated by the challenges it faces, both in developing and implementing National Action Plans.

Therefore, through our commitment to the implementation of this resolution, we want to bring our contribution to promoting initiatives that may help Member States fulfill their obligations to develop their respective National Action Plans, but also their duty to implement them. It is a matter of providing recipients with a means to easily and quickly understand Resolution 1325, and become familiar with it.

Collective advocacy efforts surrounding the Women, Peace and Security Agenda and related Agenda on Youth, Peace and Security must become a tangible endeavour, where each and every one of us modestly adds another stone to the building, thereby unifying forces and inspiring general mobilization for peace and sustainable development.

To gendered men, and particularly to women who support this resolution, to those who have known and experienced various abuse, such as daily acts of multiform and multidimensional violence, including those who because of unfair atrocities, lost their lives simply because they are women, to those who

do not have the right to participate, in one way or another, to decision-making, thus being denied adequate protection within society while fighting for their own empowerment, we dedicate this modest contribution to honour their efforts as well as their struggle. In this way, we hope to add value to the collective struggle. Because “It isn’t enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn’t enough to believe in it. One must work at it.” - Eleanor Roosevelt.

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## PREFACE

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In an ideal world, at 20 years old, the future is ahead of us, and we see life as a challenge, open to all possibilities.

Resolution 1325 is 20 years old and yet, it must be noted that it remains widely unknown, and therefore scarcely implemented. National Action Plans set to end violence and guarantee women's security are barely developed. Those who committed to develop these plans frequently lose power in their country and the legislative regulatory framework that should remind everyone of this obligation is either absent or forgotten. And so, it is to Annie Matundu Mbambi's great credit to have created this glossary, marking the forgotten anniversary of a document, which is nevertheless extremely powerful!

She felt the need to inform, to provide knowledge and interpretation tools of a legal text seeking to protect women from multiple forms of violence. She put her contribution in tangible form with this piece of work, addressing mechanisms set forth in Resolution 1325 and its related resolutions in a practical way.

The author of this glossary not only chose terms that she wanted to describe, but also provided her own definition. It is subjective in nature, informed by her practice as a gender consultant and women's' rights defender with the Women's' International League for Peace and Freedom, RDC section (WILPF RDC).

However, this glossary also makes available integral texts of Resolution 1325 and nine other related resolutions about the same issue: the role of women in conflict resolution and peacekeeping. In doing so, this publication is a guide, a comprehensive tool for anyone who is interested in, and wishes to explore, this matter. That a tireless human rights activist such as Annie Matundu Mbambi should take time to write this glossary, conveying her knowledge to others, really bodes well for the future.

Now, the time has come for public servants, parliamentarians, jurists, lawyers or judges to browse through this glossary, consult it and make it their bedside reading.

It is an encouragement for all women – activists, jurists or politicians – to relentlessly take action to end violence and have women recognized for their role in preventing conflicts and maintaining peace!

***Hélène Ryckmans***

*Member of the Parliament of Wallonia – Belgian Senator*

*Woman of Peace*

*Former President of the Women and Development Commission*

*Trainer in Gender and Development at Le Monde selon les femmes*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Our appreciation also extends to the women and men, who in one way or another, brought their knowledge to this glossary. We are particularly reminded of Mavic Cabrera Balleza, Coordinator for Global Network Women Peacebuilders (GNWP), who facilitated contacts with experts from the civil society; Agnieszka Fal-Dutra Santos, Program Coordinator at GNWP; Katrina Leclerc, Program and Communications Coordinator at GNWP. Likewise, we would like to express our gratitude to Dr. El eonore Veillet-Chowdhury, Global Consultant on Women, Peace and Security; Fabrice Ramadan, Advisor, Equality between women and men for the Bernadette Folke Foundation; Dr. Jules Mulimbi, Program Officer UN WOMEN/DRC Annie Kenda, Coordinator, National Secretariat 1325 in RDC; Rose Mutombo, President of CAFCO; Japhet Tekila, Assistant with the International Law Department of the University of Kinshasa, as well as Jean-Baptiste Kapenda Zeka, Consultant. These women and men all deserve our deepest appreciation for their limitless availability and invaluable contribution.

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## INTRODUCTION

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**As Aimé Césaire so appropriately put it, women are:** *“A rock that we must not hit and a boulder that we must not topple.”*

In October 2000, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), principal organ in charge of peacekeeping and international security, unanimously adopted Resolution 1325, the very first one to recognize and specifically examine the impact of war on women, as well as women’s initiatives focused on conflict resolution and building sustainable peace.

Year 2020 marks several important anniversaries, among which the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of Resolution 1325 (2000), the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations (UN), the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the fifth anniversary of the adoption of Resolution 2250 (2015) on Youth, Peace and Security. These milestones are perfect opportunities to request that all Member States commit to promoting and ensuring women and girls’ full participation in peace processes, and intensify national action and international cooperation.

Since 2000, the UN Security Council has been sending a strong message to the international community, supporting the essential role of women in promoting and maintaining peace. Some changes did occur, notably the expansion of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda to take account of broader issues concerning peace and security related to women, including their crucial role in peacekeeping operations, their role as peacebuilders, as well as their role in formal peace and decision-making processes. In that respect, nine other related resolutions were adopted to complement Resolution 1325 (2000): Resolutions 1820 (2009); 1888 (2009); 1889 (2010); 1960 (2011); 2106 (2013); 2122 (2013); 2242 (2015); 2467 (2019); and 2493 (2019). Resolutions on Youth, Peace and Security 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018) supplementing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda by highlighting the dual marginalization faced by young women, because they are women and because they are young, and recognizing their significant role

in preventing conflicts and building peace. And above all, they acknowledge that young women can bring a unique contribution to peacekeeping before, during and after violent conflicts. Although responding to specific concerns, each one of these resolutions puts great emphasis on the four main pillars of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda:

- **Women's participation** – refers to equal participation, in all peace, conflict prevention and management processes, implementation of formal peace agreements and processes, as well as decision-making processes on peace and security;
- **Conflict prevention** – refers to inclusive and gender-sensitive actions to address the root causes of conflicts and prevent all forms of violence;
- **Protection** – refers to the protection of women's rights and the protection of women against all forms of violence, including gender-based and sexual violence;
- **Promoting women and girls** – refers to the recognition and inclusion of women and girls' perspectives and specific needs into all peace processes, including rehabilitation and recovery processes.

Unfortunately, in reality, the adoption of all these resolutions has not ended insecurity; women's participation in peace and decision-making processes is still very limited, and their priorities and needs are often excluded from recovery policies and programs. However, twenty years after the adoption of Resolution 1325, available information reveals that only eighty-four (84) percent of Member States out of one-hundred-and-ninety-three (193), the last one having recently adopted the Resolution in May 2020, have developed National Action Plans and effective implementing strategies regarding Resolution 1325.

In December 2019, an analysis conducted by PeaceWomen, a program led by the WILPF (Women's International League for Peace and Freedom) shows that 83 UN Member States (43% of all UN Member States) have National

Action Plans (NAP) related to the UNSC Resolution 1325, and that only 22% of Member States have adopted National Action Plans for Women, Peace and Security with an actual budget allocated to its implementation.

Yet, this resolution only finds its true purpose when it shifts from a declaration of commitment to an operational act of commitment.

Now then, the question arises as to why, 20 years after the adoption of Resolution 1325, almost half of Member States still have not developed their respective National Action Plans.

One answer to this question resides in the lack of political will. As a result, there is a lack of funding, understanding of this resolution, and a lack of technical competency, awareness, coordination and prioritization of said National Action Plans that hinder their implementation. Consequently, civil society should carry on its work through awareness-raising, outreach, training, as well as advocacy, to increase understanding among both the governing and the governed of our different Member States, of the importance of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and its subsequent implementation.

Indeed, if some progress has been made to various extents, only civil society, through global women's organizations, has largely contributed to promoting the Women, Peace and Security Agenda as regards the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.

Nevertheless, the worldwide study on the implementation of Resolution 1325, conducted to mark its fifteenth anniversary and the adoption of Resolution 2122 (2013), does state that women do not represent a homogeneous group.

Still, Resolution 1325, along with its related resolutions, reminds us that women can play, and do actually play, a role as key stakeholders in negotiations surrounding peace, conflict prevention and sustainable peacebuilding.

# **1. Presentation of the glossary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and its related resolutions on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda**

## ***1.1. What is a glossary?***

A glossary is a list of terms that may not always be understood by the reader.

## ***1.2. Why this glossary?***

This glossary intends to make available to all actors involved in the implementation of relevant resolutions, a tool that simplifies the terminology to use when doing research, awareness-raising and outreach.

Therefore, this glossary's ambition is to outline as simply as possible the terms of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and its related resolutions on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. It was developed for the sole purpose of enhancing understanding.

It also intends to raise key actors' mindfulness of the expected implementation of Resolution 1325.

In addition, it is intended for all peace-loving women and men, taking into account the specific concerns of women and girls regarding their protection and their promotion, through their participation in conflict prevention.

## ***1.3. Are all of the terms of said resolutions included in this glossary?***

This glossary, which in no way purports to be exhaustive, does not address all of the terminologies used in Resolution 1325 and its related resolutions, nor is it a unique model. It gathers concepts and definitions from some documents and glossaries, that are used in or relates to the Women, Peace and Security

Agenda. It simply aims to supplement other similar instruments developed by various organizations, associations, departments, institutions or programs, which also explain the terms used in Resolution 1325.

Accordingly, it does not replace the various tools related to resolutions surrounding the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. It is limited to indicating how a sound grasping of some of the terms used in the targeted resolutions can foster ownership of these resolutions. The content of this glossary results from an appropriation by expert women in the area of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, who took part in selecting terms to be explained, but also in clarifying the understanding of these terms.

#### ***1.4. What does this glossary include?***

This glossary is divided into four sections:

Apart from the Introduction that outlines the general background for Resolutions 1325 and examines the States' responsibilities to implement it:

- The first section presents the glossary.
- The second section describes the objectives of the glossary.
- The third section focuses on selected terms, providing a definition as it relates to the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.
- The fourth and last section is composed of Annexes that replicate the resolutions, as well as bibliographical references.

#### ***1.5. Who is this glossary intended for and who will use it?***

This glossary is intended for key actors of Resolution 1325, including:

- Members of governmental organizations and institutions from the security sector responsible for its evolution;
- Parliamentarians in charge of controlling the security sector;
- Civil society organizations (CSOs) involved in the security sector;

- Members of donor organizations that support the Security Sector Reform;
- Members of regional and international agencies and organizations who can lend a hand in implementing resolutions relating to women, peace and security at the national level;
- National and local actors;
- Humanitarian agencies;
- International development agencies;
- Religious institutions and local leaders;
- Those responsible for the armed forces, police (or gendarmerie) forces and security services.

This glossary can be used by civil society, political decision-makers, at the national, regional and international levels, as well as grassroots communities. Simply put, everyone can use the glossary, including women, men, young girls and youth, educators and national, regional, sub-regional and international facilitators.

#### ***1.6. When and how to use this glossary?***

This glossary is sorted by alphabetical order so the reader can easily find selected terms. This glossary, which is neither a manual nor a reading book, is a reference tool in the context of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, providing a few avenues for reflection and research in order to facilitate understanding of the Agenda and its various terminologies.

#### ***1.7. How is this glossary innovative?***

This glossary is innovative in that it describes several terms, not yet clarified, used in Resolution 1325 and related resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

All terms and definitions should be read in the context of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, to foster a better understanding as much as an appropriation of knowledge.

Thus, this glossary, which is not a condensed reflection of methodological approaches, is limited to providing simplified explanations of terms used in the resolutions, and consequently, it has the benefit of leaving the door opened to criticism and feedback.

## **2. Presentation of the objectives of the glossary for Resolution 1325 and its related resolutions on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda**

This glossary of terms pursues the following objectives:

1. Familiarize local, national and international decision-makers, as well as local communities and other key actors, with the different terms used in Resolution 1325 and its related resolutions on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, with a view to facilitating the appropriation and effective implementation of said resolutions;
2. Serve as a reference tool for training on peace and promoting women's rights, and raise community awareness about these themes;
3. Build up interest among decision-makers toward Women, Peace and Security resolutions, while facilitating and encouraging the development of sound, coordinated and multi-sectoral strategies for the implementation of said resolutions.

### 3. Alphabetical List of Glossary Terms

#### A

- **Additional protocol:** An international agreement or treaty that is added to, or modifies, an existing treaty. For example, the additional Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, guaranteeing the rights of women in Africa.
- **Arria (or "Arria formula"):** The "Arria-formula meetings" are very informal, confidential gatherings between members of the United Nations Security Council and persons or entities who are not part of the Council. These meetings allow Security Council members to have frank and private exchanges of view with representatives of Governments, other international organizations as well as non-State parties, on matters which fall within the purview of responsibility of the Security Council.
- **Assistance to victims of sexual violence:** Assistance and support for medical, psychosocial, legal and other services to be provided to a complainant, a victim or a child born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse as defined under A/RES/62/214 (2007 concerning a comprehensive strategy on assistance and support to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel).

#### B

- **Beneficiary of Assistance:** All persons who receive services and assistance from the United Nations or its funds and programmes, or by any other international, national, regional or local organizations are considered beneficiaries of assistance.
-

- **Bodily integrity:** The right of every person to be free of any interference concerning their physical person from the State or any other person.

## C

- **Case / incident:** Cases reported during the reporting period.
- **Charter:** Under international law, a solemn document intended to record rights or articulate broad principles. In the same way as a treaty, a charter has binding force. A charter also refers to the constituent instrument of an international organization.
- **Civil law:** Set of rules that governs relations of one individual with another and essentially involve the status of persons, family law, rights and obligations.
- **Confidentiality:** The discretionary nature of certain information, where access is limited to persons authorized to be acquainted with said information.
- **Conflict:** Opposition or a difference of opinion and/or interests between two or more individuals, villages, political parties, organizations and/or countries. Solutions can be sought either by peaceful measures (for example under the palaver tree, through negotiations, mediation, solicitation from a third party, appeal to an international court or tribunal) or by violent measures (for example, threats of force or armed conflicts).
- **Conflict-related sexual violence (also sexual violence in conflict):** Term mainly used to underscore the fact that structural, gender-based power inequalities around the world place women and girls at risk for multiple forms of violence. For example, rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated

against women, men, girls or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict.

- **Conflict resolution:** Means and strategies used to settle or put an end to a conflict, whatever its nature.
- **Consolidating peace:** A long-term process aiming to reduce the risk of seeing a society or State lapse or relapse into armed conflict, by creating the necessary conditions for sustainable peace.
- **Convention on the elimination of all forms of violence against women (CEDAW):** Often called the “women’s rights charter”, this Convention recognizes that, despite various instruments guaranteeing fundamental rights and dignity for everyone, extensive discrimination against women continues to exist. CEDAW contains specific provisions aiming to prevent and fight various forms of discrimination against women, including legal, socioeconomic and political discrimination. CEDAW was ratified by 189 Member States and is consequently legally binding for these countries. The Convention is the normative foundation for Resolution 1325. CEDAW’s General Recommendation No. 30 recognizes that women in conflict and post-conflict situations have the same rights as men, but that they face specific challenges that must be addressed.
- **Costing National Action Plans:** Refers to the process of assigning cost to each activity of a National Action Plan.
- **Covenants and conventions:** Refer to legally binding agreements or treaties established under international law.
- **Crimes against humanity:** Offences involving murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and any other human acts committed against any civilian population, before or during the war; or persecutions on political, racial or religious grounds. These crimes are imprescriptible, meaning that there is no statute of limitations. This means that it is

possible to engage legal proceedings against their perpetrators even after a very long period of time.

- **Crimes of genocide:** Series of acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group, as such. These crimes are imprescriptible, meaning that there is no statute of limitations. This means that it is possible to engage legal proceedings against their perpetrators even after a very long period of time. This type of crime is prohibited under domestic law as well as under international law, for instance by the International Criminal Court Statute (also referred to as the Rome Statute).
- **Criminal law:** Body of laws that defines which acts constitute criminal offences, and penalties imposed where these crimes are committed.

## D

- **Date of occurrence / incident:** Date, including periods of several dates, on which the reported breach of the UN Standards of Conduct took place.
- **Decisions of the United Nations Security Council:** Commonly referred to as resolutions.
- **Declaration:** Solemn text proclaiming principles of great importance and long-lasting value. Although not legally binding, it may still exert influence as a unanimously recognized source of law, such as the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. A declaration may also outline standards agreed upon by the parties, without being legally binding.
- **Democracy:** A political system where people where people are free to choose their leaders by way of election and free to stand for office. It also refers to principles and ideals associated with such a political system, for instance freedom of speech and the rule of law.

- **Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR):** A policy taken towards the rehabilitation of ex-combatants in post-conflict societies. The aim is to prevent the recurrence of violence, by disarming and demobilizing combatants and by providing them with an alternative means of income, for example through vocational education programmes.
- **Discrimination:** Treating unjustly or harmfully different categories of persons, particularly on grounds of sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion and/or sex.

## E

- **Ethnic cleansing:** Elimination of an ethnic group or several ethnic groups considered to be undesirable in a society, through genocide or forced displacements.
- **Evaluation:** Refers to the process consisting of determining the results, value or importance of an activity, policy or program.
- **Evolving capacities:** Term referring specifically to a child's capacity to make autonomous decisions regarding their own life. It is also a concept whereby a child's capacity to make decisions evolves along their path from early childhood to childhood, and from childhood to adolescence.
- **Experts on Mission:** Military experts on mission, Civilian Police Officers, members of United Nations Formed Police Units, police advisers and government-provided personnel and all other United Nations personnel having this status.

# F

**Feminism:** Feminism is an analytical tool and a political perspective that both acknowledges that there is a power dynamic that subordinates women in relation to men, and intends to change this in favour of gender equality. Feminism is a critical perspective on social, economic and political life that draws attention to the ways in which human actions and ideas around gender create injustices. These injustices are experienced differently by different groups of women because of the way in which gender norms interplay with race, ethnicity, geography, immigrant status, sexuality, disability, nationality, etc.

- **Feminist peace:** Feminist peace envisions a transformative and permanent global peace where economic, social, cultural, political, racial, environmental, and gender justice is achieved for all. This approach uses feminist intersectional analysis aiming to eliminate gender hierarchies and other structures of oppression and injustice. In doing so, it addresses the root causes of conflict and violence from a feminist perspective, paying attention to power dynamics and challenging patriarchy and traditional gendered roles. Feminist peace is people-centered peace based on equality, justice and demilitarized security. This approach puts feminist advocates and movements at the centre of this work, aiming to achieve gender equality for all people.
- **Formal equality:** Treating everyone the same, regardless of their sex, race, religion or any other circumstances, or treating all States the same, notwithstanding their economic and political status or other factors.

# G

- **Gender:** Concept that refers to the distribution of masculine and feminine roles in a given society, at a given time; this distribution of roles contributes to the social construct of masculinity and femininity under which any human relationship is categorized. The social construct of the role of men and women in a given culture, in a given location. Gender

roles are different from roles related to sex, which are often understood as more biologically determined.

- **Gender advisors:** Staff members of peacekeeping operations or organisations who provide technical guidance to chiefs of operations. They are typically charged with ensuring increased efforts are made to integrate gender perspectives into all functional areas of peacekeeping, and to enhance participation among women leaders and organizations in implementing the operational mandate.
- **Gender approach:** Approach recognizing that relations between women and men are different in terms of roles and cultural norms that apply to each gender, and that this fact impacts their needs and their ability to truly experience particular rights. Such an approach has the benefit of enabling the determination of priorities and appropriate interventions for women and men, in order to ensure their equality. To a certain extent, adopting a gender approach conveys the will to support effective equality between women and men, by systematically mainstreaming women and men's priorities into all policies. It implies that all measures will be taken at the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation stages, so as to recognize the various needs of women and men.
- **Gender audits:** Analyses of receptivity and the extent of gender mainstreaming within a given institution or context; may be defined as an independent, objective activity intended to add value and improve organizational operations based on a gender perspective.
- **Gender awareness:** Commitment to recognize social inequalities between women and men in order to overcome them, by responding to the needs and priorities of women, and by analyzing programs and projects according to their differential impacts on women and men. Such awareness involves recognizing that women as well as men must be engaged in consultations on media practices.

- **Gender-based analysis:** Gender-based analysis refers to a variety of methods used to understand relations between women and men, their access to resources and constraints they face when compared against each other. Gender-based analysis provides information that recognizes sex, as it relates to race, ethnic origin, culture, class, age and disability and/or any other status, is important to understand the diverse models of involvement, behaviour and activities that women and men adopt within economic, social and legal structures, along with the different roles that men and women play in the context of conflicts, as well as differential impacts of conflicts on women and men.
  
- **Gender-based violence:** An umbrella term for violence directed toward or disproportionately affecting someone because of their actual or perceived gender identity. The term 'gender-based violence' is primarily used to underscore the fact that structural, gender-based power differentials around the world place women and girls at risk for multiple forms of violence. Gender-based violence (sexist violence) includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering, including threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life. While women and girls suffer disproportionately from gender-based violence, men and boys can also be targeted. The term is also used by some actors to describe targeted violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex populations, in these cases when referencing violence related to norms of masculinity, femininity and/or gender identity.
  
- **Gender equality:** Equality between women and men refers to equality in terms of rights, responsibilities and opportunities for women and men, girls and boys. In other words, equality for all people regardless of their gender. Gender equality implies that women and men's interests, needs and priorities are taken into account, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men. Equality between women and men is considered to be a human rights issue, as well as a prerequisite and indicator for people-centered sustainable development.

- **Gender Focal Points:** A person or position within an organisation or a temporary organisation that holds the primary responsibility for work on gender and gender perspectives. Often the one that others report to on issues related to gender.
- **Gender identity:** How an individual chooses to self-define/identify in relation to their gender. Gender identity can also be, rightly or wrongly, assigned and perceived by others.
- **Gender mainstreaming:** A method of including a gender perspective into all aspects of an operation. It is aimed at making men and women's concerns and experiences an integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs in all political, economic and societal spheres, so that women and men draw equal benefits from them, and inequality is not perpetuated.
- **Gender responsive budgeting:** It is a process aiming to mainstream the gender perspective into the entire budgetary cycle, with a view to analyzing the differentiated impact of expenditures and revenues in public budgets on women and men, and to ensure that the specific needs of women are addressed. Contributes to progress in matters of gender equality and fulfilling women's rights.
- **Gender specific:** Specific to each sex, in a given society and culture. Different perceptions of women and men's attributions within the same cultural community. Variables and differences between men and women in terms of their roles, responsibilities, assets, needs and constraints.
- **Genocide:** See "Crimes of genocide"
- **Globalization:** Process under which all regions and countries of the world are becoming increasingly interconnected and dependent on events elsewhere in the world.

# H

- **Hegemonic masculinity:** Socially and historically constructed notion of what men should be within a structure that links power to masculinity.
- **Human rights:** Human rights are rights we have simply because we exist as human beings - they are not granted by any state. These universal rights are inherent to us all, regardless of nationality, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language, or any other status. They range from the most fundamental - the right to life - to those that make life worth living, such as the rights to food, education, work, health, and liberty. Human rights are universal, inalienable and indivisible. Inalienable means that no one can renounce their own rights, even though they might want to, since every person is invested with these rights as a human being. It also means that no person or group of persons can deprive another individual of their rights. The indivisibility of human rights means that no right considered to be fundamental is more important than another; they are all interconnected.
- **Human rights violation:** Acts and omissions attributed to a State or other actor, leading to the failure to fulfil legal obligations derived from human rights standards.
- **Human security:** A way of comprehending security that puts human beings rather than States at the core of security considerations, often in contrast to 'national security'. Human security has been described as the opportunity to live without fear and without privation.
- **Human trafficking:** Harboring an individual or individuals through illicit means, such as force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them.
- **Humanitarian law:** A special branch of law that seeks to regulate the conduct of hostilities between combatants and the protection of populations during armed conflict. Also referred to as International

Humanitarian Law (IHL) and regulated primarily through the Geneva Convention and its Additional Protocols.

## I

- **Intersectionality:** A perspective that draws attention to the multiple forms of oppression and how they interplay and reinforce one another. These forms of oppression might be related to gender, race/ethnicity, age, sexuality, social class, dis/ability and many others. Paying attention to these intersecting forms of oppression leads us to consider the complexity of war and conflict and how they affect different women in distinct ways. It is necessary to take this into account in order to create sustainable solutions to armed violence that do not reproduce unequal power relations.
- **Impact indicators:** Factors to look at in order to assess expected and unexpected outcomes, as well as the broader impact of a program or policy; tend to be of a qualitative nature, focusing on opinions and long-term objectives, such as changes in social norms.
- **Implementing partner:** Individual in charge of effective use of resources provided by their affiliate United Nations agency and entrusted with the implementation and management of the planned program, as defined in said agency's work plan. Implementing partners may include – but are not limited to – Government institutions, inter-governmental organizations, eligible civil society organizations, and institutions of the United Nations.
- **Impunity:** Absence of sanction. Impunity may be *de jure*, where jurisdiction is insufficient to sanction certain actions, or *de facto*, where the law is absent in practice, this being the case when a State is scarcely present due to an unstable political context or if perpetrators can bribe their way out of sanctions.
- **Inclusive conflict prevention:** Integration of a gender perspective and women's participation into preventing the emergence, propagation and recurrence of violent conflicts, as well as in fighting its root causes,

including the need for disarmament. Addressing the continuum of violence and adopting a holistic perspective toward peace, based on equality, human rights and human security for all, including the most marginalized, implemented at both national and international levels.

- **Indicator:** Quantitative or qualitative factor or variable that provides simple and reliable means of measuring success, reflecting changes in an intervention, or assisting in the evaluation of a development actor's performance.
- **International governance organizations:** Organizations created through a legal agreement or treaty between two States or more, attempting to resolve issues that affect multiple States, and establish rules expected to be applied worldwide.
- **International law:** Body of rules and customary practices that essentially regulate relations between civilians and States.
- **Interview:** The questioning of a person for the purpose of gathering relevant information, i.e. related to a sexual exploitation or abuse matter.

## J

- **Jurisdiction:** Power or authority to do something, such as making or enforcing laws.

## L

- **Law:** Set of rules adopted by communities and organizations that govern a given situation and/or social relations of individuals in society.
- **Legally binding:** Means that some actions must now be taken or that they are now prohibited under an agreement, and that breaching provisions of the agreement may have enforceable legal implications.

## M

- **Mainstreaming:** See Gender mainstreaming
- **Mandate:** Guideline or authorization to act in a particular fashion regarding the Community-based Complaint Mechanism.
- **Mediation:** Peacemaking, concord and agreement process between two parties in conflict, generally through a method of dialogue.
- **Member States of the United Nations:** Members who have accepted all of the obligations under the United Nations Charter.
- **Militarism and militarisation:** Processes through which war becomes normalised within and across societies and states. Militarisation starts already with the socialisation of children and youth, especially boys and young men, with war toys, video games and a bravado attitude. Militarism is enabled by the drastically unequal distribution of resources and prestige between defence and military spending on the one hand, and peace education and intercultural literacy on the other. These processes continuously prepare societies for fighting wars and constructing threats and enemies. In the context of such militarised societies, the possibilities

for universal **demilitarisation and disarmament** (in the form of all sides putting down their arms and negotiating their differences peacefully) are presented as limited or naïve. The interests and power of elites, defence industries, armed forces and popular culture are aligned against the movements for disarmament – since it would largely put them out of business.

- **Militarized masculinity:** Describes socially-constructed gender norms, which associate masculinity with power, violence and control. These norms are endorsed by institutions that thrive on violence and fund the warfare system.
- **Misconduct:** For UN staff members, sexual exploitation and abuse constitutes serious misconduct and may lead to a disciplinary process and the imposition of disciplinary measures.
- **Missions of the Security Council:** Missions taken on by some or all 15 members of the Security Council related to matters under consideration by the Council.
- **Monitoring:** Ongoing function that seeks to provide managers or stakeholders with regular feedback and quick indications on the progress or gaps regarding the expected achievement of resolutions.

## N

- **National Action Plan:** Formal document adopted by a Government in fulfilment of its obligations under Security Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions on Women, Peace and Security.
- **National law:** Legislation of a State concerning matters of that State. National law typically encompasses rights and obligations of citizens and residents within the State and the obligations and limitations of

government action. Set of prerogatives that define the necessary conditions for ensuring that each individual is respected. These rights are enshrined under national legislations or international conventions.

- **Negotiation:** Discussion aiming to reach a compromise or a mutually acceptable agreement.
- **Non-discrimination:** Principle providing that individuals must not be treated differently based on criteria deriving from their belonging to a certain group. Any discrimination on grounds of race, sex, disability, gender, sexual orientation, geographical location or any other status, is a violation of human rights.
- **Non-governmental actors:** Actors who are active in the international arena, but who are not States. They may be non-governmental organizations, armed groups, international media, criminal groups and religious groups.
- **Non-governmental organizations:** Organisations that are not States and generally referring to organisations within the national or international civil society. Non-governmental organizations seek to influence public policies at the national and international levels.
- **Non-members:** United Nations Member States that are neither permanent members, nor elected members of the Security Council.
- **Non-State actors:** Individuals or groups who, not working under the lawful authority of a State, carry out activities that fall within the purview of Security Council resolutions: for example, non-State armed groups, private sector entities, etc.

# O

- **Official languages:** The UN recognizes six official languages: English, Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Spanish, French and Russian. Representatives from member countries can express themselves in one of these six (6) languages; their speeches are then translated into the five (5) other languages. It is possible to communicate in a language other than these six; however, this can be done only when an interpreter is provided, who then interprets in one of the six official languages and becomes the intermediary for the other five. Official documents must be available in the six official languages.
- **Old cases:** Cases identified and addressed during periods preceding the reporting period.
- **Operative clause:** States the opinion or decision of the organ from which the resolution is derived.
- **Optional protocol:** Optional protocol related to a treaty or multilateral agreement that Governments can ratify or agree to. It seeks to promote a treaty's specific objective or to support the implementation of its provisions.
- **Optional Protocol to CEDAW:** The Optional Protocol to CEDAW is an international treaty containing 21 articles. Parties to the Protocol allow the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to hear complaints from individuals or inquire into violations of women's rights. The Protocol was adopted in 1999, and it currently has 80 signatories and 114 parties.

# P

- **Participation:** Full and equal participation and representation at all levels of decision-making, including discussions and negotiations surrounding peace, electoral processes (candidates and electors), UN positions and the broader socio-political sphere.
- **Party to a treaty:** Country that has signed and ratified a treaty that has entered into force, and agrees to be legally bound by the provisions of the treaty. Often referred to as State Parties.
- **Patriarchy:** Manifestation and institutionalization of the domination of men over women and children within families, and by extension, of men's domination over women in society. Patriarchy is a system within which men hold power in all of a society's institutions (legal, economic, religious, family-related, cultural, etc.). It institutionalizes their privileges in context of these same institutions. Patriarchy is based on controlling women's productive and reproductive capacities. The heterosexual family is the most ancient model of patriarchy, and the space where the most violent forms of dominance are expressed.
- **Peace:** Concept evoking a state of safety and political and social stability, free of hostility, violence, war and conflict. It also represents a social and political ideal. Negative peace refers to the absence of organized direct violence while positive peace refers to the integration of human security and the absence of structural violence and injustices.
- **Peacebuilding:** Action intended to identify and support structures that will reinforce and consolidate peace, in order to prevent a relapse into conflict.
- **Peace education:** Process consisting of promoting a transformation of knowledge, capacities and attitudes via the transmission of values and

principles essential for peacebuilding and non-violent conflict resolution in practice.

- **Peace enforcement:** Use of enforcement measures, including armed forces. These measures, expressly authorized by the Security Council, are used to maintain or restore international peace and security, in situations where the existence of any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression was determined. As needed, the Security Council can call on regional institutions or organizations to impose agreed upon measures, under its authority and compliance with provisions of the United Nations Charter.
- **Peacekeeping:** UN mechanism for collective security deployed in situations of open conflict, in response to a regional crisis where they are not protagonists.
- **Peacekeeping missions or operations:** Created by the Security Council, missions or operations providing support to maintain peace and security, but also to facilitate the political process, protect civilians, assist in the DDR process; support the organization of elections, protect and promote human rights and assist in restoring the rule of law.
- **Peace operations:** Field operations deployed to prevent and/or resolve armed conflicts, or to reduce risks of their resurgence.
- **Permanent Representative:** Leads the permanent mission, as an ambassador. The Deputy Permanent Representative holds the second highest position within a mission.
- **Perpetrator:** A person, or group of persons, who commits a violation, for example an act of sexual exploitation or abuse, or any other type of crime or offence. Under International Human Rights Law, the term “perpetrator” can also refer to State institutions, entities or agents that failed to meet human rights obligations.

- **Practical needs:** Immediate, material needs that do not lead to modifying power and security relations. For example, food.
- **Preamble to a resolution:** States considerations taken into account when making a decision, expressing an opinion or providing guidelines, and often describes or clarifies the intention of a decision.
- **President of the Security Council:** The presidency of the Council is held in turn by the Member States of the Council in English alphabetical order for a one-calendar-month period.
- **Prevention:** Series of measures taken by citizens, communities, States, regional and international institutions intended to prevent conflicts.
- **Principle:** Source of a fundamental law or reasoning, and also its definition.
- **Progress indicators:** A factor to look at to assess whether a specific program or activity is well conducted.
- **Promotion:** Act of promoting women's rights, the inclusion of women in decision-making, peace processes, etc.
- **Protection:** Set of concrete measures intended for persons in danger to benefit from the rights they are entitled to enjoy, by shielding them from threats or harm.
- **Provision:** States the decision of the organ from which the resolution is derived.

# R

- **Rape:** Situation where a person is forced to a sexual act through force, surprise, threats, ruse or any other situation without the individual's consent.
- **Ratification:** Process through which a State officially agrees to being legally bound by a treaty, generally through a parliamentary decision.
- **Recommendation:** Under international law, text devoid, in principle, of binding force for State Parties, which outlines guidelines to follow and measures to be taken.
- **Refugee or displaced:** Persons who are forced to leave their home because of violence or persecution, or threats thereof, and are therefore compelled to move beyond national borders or inside their own country.
- **Relief and recovery:** Focused on satisfying the specific humanitarian needs of women and girls and on women's capacity-building in playing a prominent role in relief and recovery operations.
- **Relief and restoration:** Access to health services, advice in traumatology, including for victims of sexual and gender-based violence.
- **Reparation:** Compensation or remedy for the violation of a right. Its purpose is to correct an injustice.
- **Repatriation:** Process of returning a person to their country of citizenship or residence.

- **Report of possible misconduct:** Information provided, whether by a complainant or any other person (source), indicating conduct that may be in breach of the UN Standards of Conduct.
- **Reported cases/New cases:** All gender-based violence cases presented for the very first time before supporting structures during the reporting period.
- **Representative of the Secretary-General:** The Secretary-General can appoint representatives. These representatives have various titles, including Special Representative, Special Envoy and Special Advisor, etc. They may serve as heads of peacekeeping missions or assistance missions or political offices, or represent the Secretary-General during negotiations.
- **Resolution:** Encompasses decisions voted on by the United Nations Security Council. Constitutes a solution to a previously stated problem or a means by which a problem is settled. It is neither a law, nor a legal text, where non-compliance results in conviction. Rather, it is a recommendation or a proposed solution brought before all, when facing a problem of major concern. For it to be adopted, a resolution must be approved by at least nine members of the Security Council, without a veto being put forth by one of the five permanent members.
- **Resolution of the United Nations:** Formal expression of an opinion or resolve on the part of UN organs that adopt it. It generally is composed of two distinct sections: the preamble and the provisions. Operative clauses state the opinion or decision of the organ from which the resolution is derived.
- **Resolution of the United Nations Security Council:** Formal expression of an opinion or intention adopted by the United Nations Security Council.
- **Responsibility to protect (R2P):** International norm related to human rights, aiming to prevent and put an end to mass atrocities. The responsibility to protect enables the international community to intervene

when a country fails to fulfill its duty to protect its population against serious danger, thus challenging states' sovereignty in favour of human rights.

- **Restoration of peace:** Peaceful efforts deployed with a view to ending or preventing a conflict or keeping it from spreading, by assisting hostile parties in reaching an agreement. These efforts generally include diplomatic techniques such as negotiation.
- **Right to veto:** The right of veto gives each of the five permanent members of the Security Council (China, the United States, France, the United Kingdom, and Russia) the option of opposing a resolution. Regardless of the number of votes in favor, one veto is enough to ensure that a draft resolution is not adopted. In practice, and despite the Charter of the United Nations which requires an affirmative vote from the five permanent members in order for a resolution to be adopted, if one permanent member abstains, the resolution can still pass.
- **Rule of law:** A State where individuals enjoy the full exercise of their fundamental freedoms and civic rights, and where guarantees required for protecting these rights are ensured.

## S

- **Security:** Set of provisions and services aiming to protect the population so its members may live in peace, which is a definite guarantee for development. Security should not be limited to terms of defence and protection of national sovereignty or territorial integrity; the concept of security also takes account of non-military aspects such as economic, social, environmental, political and diplomatic issues. It involves the absence of threats, wherever they come from (danger, fear, concerns,

privation). Therefore, security organs are not the only guardians of security.

- **Sex:** Term referring to biological characteristics that define humans as feminine or masculine beings. While these biological characteristics are not mutually exclusive, some individuals possessing both (they are then referred to as intersex), they tend to distinguish humans as women or men.
- **Sexism:** Ideology stemming from masculine supremacy. Sexism allows men to consider that they are essential to the very existence of women, to protect women and give them an identity. Sexism is often expressed through sexualization or demeaning of women.
- **Sexist violence:** See Gender-based violence
- **Sexual abuse:** Any physical or verbal intrusion of a sexual nature perpetrated whether by force, or under coercive or unequal conditions, or threat of such an intrusion.
- **Sexual activity:** Physical contact of a sexual nature.
- **Sexual activity with a minor:** Physical or verbal contact of a sexual nature with a person younger than the age of majority (defined under national law). All sexual activity with a minor is prohibited regardless of the age of majority or consent locally and is considered as sexual abuse.
- **Sexual assault:** Sexual activity with another person who does not consent. Sexual assault is a violation of bodily integrity and sexual autonomy and is broader than the narrower conception of “rape”, especially because it may be committed by other means than force or violence, for example through threats or abuse of unequal power between the aggressor and the victim.
- **Sexual exploitation:** Any actual or attempted abuse of position of vulnerability, differential power or trust, for sexual purposes, including,

but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

- **Sexual exploitation and abuse:** A breach of the provisions set forth by the Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13 (Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse), or similar provisions as adopted for military, police and other United Nations personnel.
- **Sexual harassment:** Sexual harassment refers to prohibited conduct in the work context and can be committed against UN staff and related personnel. In context of the United Nations, sexual harassment primarily describes prohibited behaviour against another UN staff or related personnel, which may also include nationals of the host state. It is defined for UN staff by ST/SGB/2008/5 and similar directives for uniformed personnel and involves any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favour, verbal or physical conduct or gesture of a sexual nature, or any other behaviour of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offence or humiliation to another, when such conduct interferes with work.
- **Sexual orientation:** Term referring to what gender, or genders, if any, that a person is sexually attracted to.
- **Sexual rights:** Human rights related to sexual freedom, recognized in national laws, international human rights documents, and other consensus documents. They include the right of any individual to be free of coercion, discrimination and violence, for instance rape, early marriage and forced marriage.
- **Sexual violence:** Can take multiple forms, including rape, attempted rape, forced prostitution, sexual exploitation and abuse, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, child pornography, child prostitution, sexual slavery, forced marriage, forced pregnancy, forced public nudity, forced virginity testing, etc.

- **Sexuality:** Fundamental aspect of human life, involving sex, identities and roles associated with gender, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction. Sexuality is experienced and expressed through thoughts, fantasies, desires, beliefs, attitudes, values, behaviours, practices, roles and relations.
- **Social justice:** Refers to the notion of creating a society based on principles of equality, democracy and solidarity, which understands human rights, values them and recognizes the dignity of each human being.
- **Source:** A person (or group of persons), institution, organization or other entity that provides information on an incident or situation that could constitute sexual exploitation or abuse.
- **Sovereignty:** Exclusive powers and authority of a State on the governance of its territory.
- **State:** Country or nation deemed to be a political community organized under a Government; Member State – State that is a member of the United Nations.
- **State Party:** Country that is party to a treaty.
- **Stereotype:** Vastly widespread but overly simplified belief, image or idea about a person, a group, a gender or a thing.
- **Strategic needs:** Needs, which when satisfied, also lead to addressing power and gender inequality issues. For example, education and training.
- **Substantive equality (Equity):** A situation where laws and policies take into account differential needs, pre-existing inequalities and historical marginalization of particular groups, and include provisions that do not

treat everyone the same, rather enabling any person to equally enjoy all their rights and opportunities, regardless of their sex, race, religion or any other circumstance.

## T

- **Transitional justice:** Relates to the process of finding truth and reconciliation in order to enable peace and reduce risks of perpetuating a conflict through legal proceedings in its aftermath, in addition to bringing perpetrators to justice and providing reparations.
- **Treaty:** Agreement reached between States or others from the international society (e.g. international organizations), which establishes their mutual and legal rights and obligations. Treaties are one of the main sources of international law.

## U

- **Unanimity:** All members of a particular organ responsible for making a decision giving their tacit approval, when everyone approves the decision through a vote.
- **United Nations:** International organization currently bringing together 193 Member States.
- **United Nations civilian personnel:** United Nations officials, including United Nations Volunteers, and civilian personnel with the status of United Nations Experts on Mission.

- **United Nations contingent personnel:** Personnel of military contingents deployed to United Nations field missions under a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations.
- **United Nations military personnel:** Military personnel deployed to United Nations peace operations, including military experts on mission, military staff officers and members of military contingents.
- **United Nations officials and staff members:** Staff members of the United Nations Secretariat, and the United Nations funds and programmes.
- **United Nations personnel:** United Nations officials, including United Nations staff members, United Nations Volunteers, United Nations Experts on Mission, including military experts, Civilian Police Officers, members of United Nations Formed Police Units, and police advisers, Government-Provided Personnel, United Nations military staff officers and members of United Nations military contingents.
- **United Nations police personnel:** Police personnel deployed to United Nations field missions, including Civilian Police Officers, members of United Nations Formed Police Units and police advisers.
- **United Nations Security Council:** Principal organ of the United Nations, mainly responsible for peacekeeping and international security. The only United Nations organ with a veto function. The Security Council has 15 seats of which five are permanently occupied by China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States, and the other ten are elected for periods of two years.
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000):** (S/RES/1325) is a historic resolution. It was the first resolution to recognize the differential and disproportionate impacts of conflicts on women and girls, and to emphasize the importance of women's active participation in peace and security processes. The resolution introduced

four priority areas that are the pillars of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008):** (S/RES/1820) recognizes that sexual violence is a tactic of war and that it may impede the restoration of international peace and security, and as such requires security-related action.
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 1888 (2009):** (S/RES/1888) calls for redoubling efforts to end sexual violence in conflict, by creating a position of Special Representative of the Secretary-General and a team of experts in the rule of law, and by improving coordination between stakeholders on sexual violence in conflict.
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 1889 (2009):** (S/RES/1889) emphasizes the need to reinforce the implementation of Resolution 1325, and calls for the development of indicators to monitor its implementation. It also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Security Council on addressing women's participation and inclusion in peacebuilding.
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 1960 (2010):** (S/RES/1960) establishes monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence.
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 2106 (2013):** (S/RES/2106) asserts the importance of upholding accountability for perpetrators of acts of sexual violence in conflict, and insists on the political and economic empowerment of women.
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 2122 (2013):** (S/RES/2122) addresses persistent gaps in the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security program. It states that women and girls'

empowerment and gender equality are critical to efforts invested in maintaining international peace and security, that violations committed in armed conflict have differentiated impacts on women and girls, and that the Women, Peace and Security Agenda needs to be consistently implemented in the Security Council's own work.

- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015):** (S/RES/2242) creates an Informal Experts Group on Women, Peace and Security. It also addresses persistent obstacles to the implementation of Resolution 1325, including funding and institutional reforms, emphasizes the need to increase consideration of issues related to women, peace and security in countering terrorism and violent extremism, and calls for an improvement in the Security Council's work methods with regards to Women, Peace and Security.
  
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 2467 (2019):** (S/RES/2467) underscores justice and accountability, the need to support women's associations from civil society and to assess gaps, as well as bring forth recommendations regarding support to local, national, and regional efforts addressing the needs of survivors of sexual violence in conflict.
  
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 2493 (2019):** (S/RES/2493) calls on full implementation of the nine preceding resolutions and incorporates the commitment to women, peace and security within the framework of the Secretary-General's Initiative on Action for Peacekeeping.
  
- **UN Standards of Conduct:** Norms of conduct adopted by the United Nations for the conduct of its personnel, as defined in United Nations regulations, rules or other administrative issuances for its staff members, as well as other documents adopted by the United Nations to regulate the conduct of other categories of personnel than its staff members.

# V

- **Veto:** Power of United Nations Security Council permanent members to prevent the adoption of Security Council resolutions, even when the resolution has received the required number of affirmative votes. It is also referred to as the principle of “great power unanimity”.
- **Victim:** Person who is, or has been, sexually exploited, abused or harassed.
- **Violence against women:** Encompasses, but is not limited to, the following forms of violence: physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household; verbal violence, economic violence, symbolic violence, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women; non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation; physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere; trafficking in women and forced prostitution; physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.

# W

- **War:** Situation of armed conflict between several political groups established as States.
- **War crimes:** War crimes are those violations of international humanitarian law (treaty or customary law) that incur individual criminal responsibility under international law. As a result, and in contrast to the crimes of genocide and crimes against humanity, war crimes must always take place in the context of an armed conflict, either international or non-international.
- **Whistle-blower (or complainant):** A person (for example a United Nations staff or related personnel) who reports an occurrence of sexual exploitation or abuse internally or to people (for example journalists) outside of that organisation.
- **Women-inclusive participation:** Participation of women in peace negotiation teams and inclusion of gendered issues in peace agreements at the local level.
- **Women's rights:** Recognition of the fact that women's rights are also human rights and that women face prejudice solely because of their sex.
- **Working languages:** The working languages used by the United Nations Secretariat are English and French.

# Z

- **Zero-tolerance policy:** The United Nations policy establishing that sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations personnel is prohibited and that every transgression will be acted upon.

## 4. Annexes

### Text of resolutions

#### 1. Resolution 1325 (2000)

**Recalling** its resolutions 1261 (1999) of 25 August 1999, 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999, 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and 1314 (2000) of 11 August 2000, as well as relevant statements of its President and recalling also the statement of its President, to the press on the occasion of the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace of 8 March 2000 (SC/6816).

**Recalling** also the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the twenty-first century" (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict.

**Bearing in mind** the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

**Expressing** concern that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and increasingly are targeted by combatants and armed elements, and *recognizing* the consequent impact this has on durable peace and reconciliation,

**Reaffirming** the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and *stressing* the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

**Reaffirming also** the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts,

**Emphasizing** the need for all parties to ensure that mine clearance and mine awareness programmes take into account the special needs of women and girls,

**Recognizing** the urgent need to mainstream a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and in this regard *noting* the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of Action on Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective in Multidimensional Peace Support Operations (S/2000/693),

**Recognizing also** the importance of the recommendation contained in the statement of its President to the press of 8 March 2000 for specialized training for all peacekeeping personnel on the protection, special needs and human rights of women and children in conflict situations,

**Recognizing** that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

**Noting.** the need to consolidate data on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls,

1. *Urges* Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to implement his strategic plan of action (A/49/587) calling for an increase in the participation of women at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, and in this regard *calls on* Member States to provide candidates to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in a regularly updated centralized roster;

4. *Further urges* the Secretary-General to seek to expand the role and contribution of women in United Nations field-based operations, and especially among military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel;

5. *Expresses* its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and *urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that, where appropriate, field operations include a gender component;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide to Member States training guidelines and materials on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women, as well as on the importance of involving women in all peacekeeping and peace-building measures, *invites* Member States to incorporate these elements as well as HIV/AIDS awareness training into their national training programmes for military and civilian police personnel in preparation for deployment, and *further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that civilian personnel of peacekeeping operations receive similar training;

7. *Urges* Member States to increase their voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for gender-sensitive training efforts, including those undertaken by relevant funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Fund for Women and United Nations Children's Fund, and by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant bodies;

8. *Calls on* all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia:

(a) The special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction;

(b) Measures that support local women's peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution, and that involve women in all of the implementation mechanisms of the peace agreements;

(c) Measures that ensure the protection of and respect for human rights of women and girls, particularly as they relate to the constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judiciary;

9. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians, in particular the obligations applicable to them under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977, the Refugee Convention of 1951 and the Protocol thereto of 1967, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 and the Optional Protocol thereto of 1999 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 and the two Optional Protocols

thereto of 25 May 2000, and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

10. *Calls on* all parties to armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict;

11. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes including those relating to sexual and other violence against women and girls, and in this regard *stresses* the need to exclude these crimes, where feasible from amnesty provisions;

12. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and to take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including in their design, and recalls its resolutions 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000;

13. *Encourages* all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to consider the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and to take into account the needs of their dependants;

14. *Reaffirms* its readiness, whenever measures are adopted under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to give consideration to their potential impact on the civilian population, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls, in order to consider appropriate humanitarian exemptions;

15. *Expresses* its willingness to ensure that Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women, including through consultation with local and international women's groups;

16. *Invites* the Secretary-General to carry out a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peace-building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution, and *further invites* him to submit a report to the Security Council on the results of this study and to make this available to all Member States of the United Nations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to include in his reporting to the Security Council progress on gender mainstreaming

throughout peacekeeping missions and all other aspects relating to women and girls;

18. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

## **2. Resolution 1820 (2008)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 5916th meeting, on June 19, 2008**

**"The Security Council,**

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005) and 1674 (2006) and recalling the Statements of its president of 31 October 2001 (Security Council/PRST/2001/31), 31 October 2002 (Security Council/PRST/2002/32), 28 October 2004 (Security Council/PRST/2004/40), 27 October 2005 (Security Council/PRST/2005/52), 8 November 2006 (Security Council/PRST/2006/42), 7 March 2007 (Security Council/PRST/2007/5), and 24 October 2007 (Security Council/PRST/2007/40); Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

**Reaffirming** also the resolve expressed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including by ending impunity and by ensuring the protection of civilians, in particular women and girls, during and after armed conflicts, in accordance with the obligations States have undertaken under international humanitarian law and international human rights law;

**Recalling** the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-first Century" (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning sexual violence and women in situations of armed conflict;

**Reaffirming** also the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

**Noting** that civilians account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict; that women and girls are particularly targeted by the use of sexual violence, including as a tactic of war to humiliate, dominate, instill fear in, disperse and/or forcibly relocate civilian members of a community or ethnic group; and that sexual violence perpetrated in this manner may in some instances persist after the cessation of hostilities;

**Recalling** its condemnation in the strongest terms of all sexual and other forms of violence committed against civilians in armed conflict, in particular women and children;

**Reiterating** deep concern that, despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children in situations of armed conflict, including sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic and widespread, reaching appalling levels of brutality,

**Recalling** the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offenses in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

**Reaffirming** the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

**Deeply concerned** also about the persistent obstacles and challenges to women's participation and full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts as a result of violence, intimidation and discrimination, which erode women's capacity and legitimacy to participate in post-conflict public life, and acknowledging the negative impact this has on durable peace, security and reconciliation, including post-conflict peacebuilding,

**Recognizing** that States bear primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law,

**Reaffirming** that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians,

**Welcoming** the ongoing coordination of efforts within the United Nations system, marked by the inter-agency initiative “United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict,” to create awareness about sexual violence in armed conflicts and post-conflict situations and, ultimately, to put an end to it,

1. Stresses that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security, affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to, where necessary, adopt appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence;

2. Demands the immediate and complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence against civilians with immediate effect;

3. Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence, which could include, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence, vetting armed and security forces to take into account past actions of rape and other forms of sexual violence, and evacuation of women and children under imminent threat of sexual violence to safety; and requests the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to encourage dialogue to address this issue in the context of broader discussions of conflict resolution between appropriate UN officials and the parties to the conflict, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by women of affected local communities;

4. Notes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes, and calls upon Member States to comply with their obligations for prosecuting persons responsible for such acts, to ensure that all victims of sexual violence, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and stresses the importance of ending impunity for such acts

as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking sustainable peace, justice, truth, and national reconciliation;

5. Affirms its intention, when establishing and renewing state-specific sanctions regimes, to take into consideration the appropriateness of targeted and graduated measures against parties to situations of armed conflict who commit rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in situations of armed conflict;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group and relevant States, as appropriate, to develop and implement appropriate training programs for all peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed by the United Nations in the context of missions as mandated by the Council to help them better prevent, recognize and respond to sexual violence and other forms of violence against civilians;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations; and urges troop and police contributing countries to take appropriate preventative action, including pre-deployment and in-theater awareness training, and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

8. Encourages troop and police contributing countries, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to consider steps they could take to heighten awareness and the responsiveness of their personnel participating in UN peacekeeping operations to protect civilians, including women and children, and prevent sexual violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including wherever possible the deployment of a higher percentage of women peacekeepers or police;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to develop effective guidelines and strategies to enhance the ability of relevant UN peacekeeping operations, consistent with their mandates, to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence and to systematically include in his written reports to the Council on conflict situations his observations concerning the protection of women and girls and recommendations in this regard;

10. Requests the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations agencies, inter alia, through consultation with women and women-led organizations as appropriate, to develop effective mechanisms for providing protection from

violence, including in particular sexual violence, to women and girls in and around UN managed refugee and internally displaced persons camps, as well as in all disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes, and in justice and security sector reform efforts assisted by the United Nations;

11. Stresses the important role the Peacebuilding Commission can play by including in its advice and recommendations for post-conflict peacebuilding strategies, where appropriate, ways to address sexual violence committed during and in the aftermath of armed conflict, and in ensuring consultation and effective representation of women's civil society in its country-specific configurations, as part of its wider approach to gender issues;

12. Urges the Secretary-General and his Special Envoys to invite women to participate in discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding, and encourages all parties to such talks to facilitate the equal and full participation of women at decision-making levels;

13. Urges all parties concerned, including Member States, United Nations entities and financial institutions, to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular of judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to victims of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

14. Urges appropriate regional and sub-regional bodies in particular to consider developing and implementing policies, activities, and advocacy for the benefit of women and girls affected by sexual violence in armed conflict;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council by 30 June 2009 on the implementation of this resolution in the context of situations which are on the agenda of the Council, utilizing information from available United Nations sources, including country teams, peacekeeping operations, and other United Nations personnel, which would include, inter alia, information on situations of armed conflict in which sexual violence has been widely or systematically employed against civilians; analysis of the prevalence and trends of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict; proposals for strategies to minimize the susceptibility of women and girls to such violence; benchmarks for measuring progress in preventing and addressing sexual violence; appropriate input from United Nations implementing partners in the field; information on his plans for facilitating the collection of timely, objective, accurate, and reliable information on the use of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, including through improved

coordination of UN activities on the ground and at Headquarters; and information on actions taken by parties to armed conflict to implement their responsibilities as described in this resolution, in particular by immediately and completely ceasing all acts of sexual violence and in taking appropriate measures to protect women and girls from all forms of sexual violence;

16. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter."

### **3. Resolution 1888 (2009)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 6195th meeting, on September 30 2009**

**The Security Council,**

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008) and 1882 (2009) and all relevant statements of its President,

**Welcoming** the report of the Secretary-General of 16 July 2009 (S/2009/362), but remaining deeply concerned over the lack of progress on the issue of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict in particular against women and children, notably against girls, and noting as documented in the Secretary-General's report that sexual violence occurs in armed conflicts throughout the world,

**Reiterating** deep concern that, despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children including all forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic or widespread,

**Recalling** the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century" (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict,

**Reaffirming** the obligations of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

**Recalling** that international humanitarian law affords general protection to women and children as part of the civilian population during armed conflicts and special protection due to the fact that they can be placed particularly at risk,

**Recalling** the responsibilities of States to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other egregious crimes perpetrated against civilians, and in this regard, noting with concern that only limited numbers of perpetrators of sexual violence have been brought to justice, while recognizing that in conflict and in post conflict situations national justice systems may be significantly weakened,

**Reaffirming** that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent future such abuses, drawing attention to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms to be considered, including national, international and “mixed” criminal courts and tribunals and truth and reconciliation commissions, and noting that such mechanisms can promote not only individual responsibility for serious crimes, but also peace, truth, reconciliation and the rights of the victims,

**Recalling** the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offences in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

**Stressing** the necessity for all States and non-State parties to conflicts to comply fully with their obligations under applicable international law, including the prohibition on all forms of sexual violence,

**Recognizing** the need for civilian and military leaders, consistent with the principle of command responsibility, to demonstrate commitment and political will to prevent sexual violence and to combat impunity and enforce accountability, and that inaction can send a message that the incidence of sexual violence in conflicts is tolerated,

**Emphasizing** the importance of addressing sexual violence issues from the outset of peace processes and mediation efforts, in order to protect populations at risk and promote full stability, in particular in the areas of pre-ceasefire humanitarian access and human rights agreements, ceasefires and ceasefire monitoring, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), security sector reform (SSR) arrangements, justice and reparations, post-conflict recovery and development,

**Noting** with concern the underrepresentation of women in formal peace processes, the lack of mediators and ceasefire monitors with proper training in dealing with sexual violence, and the lack of women as Chief or Lead peace mediators in United Nations-sponsored peace talks,

**Recognizing** that the promotion and empowerment of women and that support for women's organizations and networks are essential in the consolidation of peace to promote the equal and full participation of women and encouraging Member States, donors, and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide support in this respect,

**Welcoming** the inclusion of women in peacekeeping missions in civil, military and police functions, and recognizing that women and children affected by armed conflict may feel more secure working with and reporting abuse to women in peacekeeping missions, and that the presence of women peacekeepers may encourage local women to participate in the national armed and security forces, thereby helping to build a security sector that is accessible and responsive to all, especially women,

**Welcoming** the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to develop gender guidelines for military personnel in peacekeeping operations to facilitate the implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), and operational guidance to assist civilian, military and police components of peacekeeping missions to effectively implement resolution 1820 (2008),

Having **considered** the report of the Secretary-General of 16 July 2009 (S/2009/362) and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General's report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudge the legal status of the non-State parties involved in these situations,

**Recalling** the Council's decision in resolution 1882 of 4 August 2009 (S/RES/1882) to expand the Annexed list in the Secretary General's annual report on Children and Armed Conflict of parties in situations of armed

conflict engaged in the recruitment or use of children in violation of international law to also include those parties to armed conflict that engage, in contravention of applicable international law, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, in situations of armed conflict,

**Noting** the role currently assigned to the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues to monitor implementation of resolution 1325 and to promote gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, women's empowerment and gender equality, and expressing the importance of effective coordination within the United Nations system in these areas,

**Recognizing** that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law,

**Reaffirming** that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians,

**Reiterating** its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this connection, its commitment to continue to address the widespread impact of armed conflict on civilians, including with regard to sexual violence,

1. Reaffirms that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security; affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security; and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to take, where necessary, appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence in situations of armed conflict;
2. Reiterates its demand for the complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence with immediate effect;
3. Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and children, from all forms of sexual violence, including measures such as, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all

forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence and vetting candidates for national armies and security forces to ensure the exclusion of those associated with serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including sexual violence;

4. Requests that the United Nations Secretary-General appoint a Special Representative to provide coherent and strategic leadership, to work effectively to strengthen existing United Nations coordination mechanisms, and to engage in advocacy efforts, inter alia with Governments, including military and judicial representatives, as well as with all parties to armed conflict and civil society, in order to address, at both headquarters and country level, sexual violence in armed conflict, while promoting cooperation and coordination of efforts among all relevant stakeholders, primarily through the inter-agency initiative “United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict”;

5. Encourages the entities comprising UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to support the work of the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General and to continue and enhance cooperation and information sharing among all relevant stakeholders in order to reinforce coordination and avoid overlap at the headquarters and country levels and improve system-wide response;

6. Urges States to undertake comprehensive legal and judicial reforms, as appropriate, in conformity with international law, without delay and with a view to bringing perpetrators of sexual violence in conflicts to justice and to ensuring that survivors have access to justice, are treated with dignity throughout the justice process and are protected and receive redress for their suffering;

7. Urges all parties to a conflict to ensure that all reports of sexual violence committed by civilians or by military personnel are thoroughly investigated and the alleged perpetrators brought to justice, and that civilian superiors and military commanders, in accordance with international humanitarian law, use their authority and powers to prevent sexual violence, including by combating impunity;

8. Calls upon the Secretary-General to identify and take the appropriate measures to deploy rapidly a team of experts to situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict, working through the United Nations presence on the ground and with the consent of the host

Government, to assist national authorities to strengthen the rule of law, and recommends making

use of existing human resources within the United Nations system and voluntary contributions, drawing upon requisite expertise, as appropriate, in the rule of law, civilian and military judicial systems, mediation, criminal investigation, security sector reform, witness protection, fair trial standards, and public outreach; to, inter alia:

(a) Work closely with national legal and judicial officials and other personnel in the relevant Governments' civilian and military justice systems to address impunity, including by the strengthening of national capacity, and drawing attention to the full range of justice mechanisms to be considered;

(b) Identify gaps in national response and encourage a holistic national approach to address sexual violence in armed conflict, including by enhancing criminal accountability, responsiveness to victims, and judicial capacity;

(c) Make recommendations to coordinate domestic and international efforts and resources to reinforce the Government's ability to address sexual violence in armed conflict;

(d) Work with the United Nations Mission, Country Team, and the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General as appropriate towards the full implementation of the measures called for by resolution 1820 (2008);

9. Encourages States, relevant United Nations entities and civil society, as appropriate, to provide assistance in close cooperation with national authorities to build national capacity in the judicial and law enforcement systems in situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict;

10. Reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including, where appropriate, designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence; and calls upon all peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions and United Nations bodies, in particular the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, to share with relevant United Nations Security Council sanctions committees, including through relevant United Nations Security Council Sanction Committees' monitoring groups and groups of experts, all pertinent information about sexual violence;

11. Expresses its intention to ensure that resolutions to establish or renew peacekeeping mandates contain provisions, as appropriate, on the prevention of, and response to, sexual violence, with corresponding reporting requirements to the Council;
12. Decides to include specific provisions, as appropriate, for the protection of women and children from rape and other sexual violence in the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping operations, including, on a case-by-case basis, the identification of women's protection advisers (WPAs) among gender advisers and human rights protection units, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the need for, and the number and roles of WPAs are systematically assessed during the preparation of each United Nations peacekeeping operation;
13. Encourages States, with the support of the international community, to increase access to health care, psychosocial support, legal assistance and socio economic reintegration services for victims of sexual violence, in particular in rural areas;
14. Expresses its intention to make better usage of periodical field visits to conflict areas, through the organization of interactive meetings with the local women and women's organizations in the field about the concerns and needs of women in areas of armed conflict;
15. Encourages leaders at the national and local level, including traditional leaders where they exist and religious leaders, to play a more active role in sensitizing communities on sexual violence to avoid marginalization and stigmatization of victims, to assist with their social reintegration, and to combat a culture of impunity for these crimes;
16. Urges the Secretary-General, Member States and the heads of regional organizations to take measures to increase the representation of women in mediation processes and decision-making processes with regard to conflict resolution and peacebuilding;
17. Urges that issues of sexual violence be included in all United Nations-sponsored peace negotiation agendas, and also urges inclusion of sexual violence issues from the outset of peace processes in such situations, in particular in the areas of pre-ceasefires, humanitarian access and human rights agreements, ceasefires and ceasefire monitoring, DDR and SSR arrangements, vetting of armed and security forces, justice, reparations, and recovery/development;

18. Reaffirms the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in promoting inclusive gender-based approaches to reducing instability in post-conflict situations, noting the important role of women in rebuilding society, and urges the Peacebuilding Commission to encourage all parties in the countries on its agenda to incorporate and implement measures to reduce sexual violence in post-conflict strategies;

19. Encourages Member States to deploy greater numbers of female military and police personnel to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training to carry out their responsibilities;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that technical support is provided to troop and police contributing countries, in order to include guidance for military and police personnel on addressing sexual violence in predeployment and induction training;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations; and urges troop- and police-contributing countries to take appropriate preventative action, including predeployment and in-theatre awareness training, and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

22. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to direct all relevant United Nations entities to take specific measures to ensure systematic mainstreaming of gender issues within their respective institutions, including by ensuring allocation of adequate financial and human resources within all relevant offices and departments and on the ground, as well as to strengthen, within their respective mandates, their cooperation and coordination when addressing the issue of sexual violence in armed conflict;

23. Urges relevant Special Representatives and the Emergency Relief Coordinator of the Secretary-General, with strategic and technical support from the UN Action network, to work with Member States to develop joint Government-United Nations Comprehensive Strategies to Combat Sexual Violence, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, and to regularly provide updates on this in their standard reporting to Headquarters;

24. Requests that the Secretary-General ensure more systematic reporting on incidents of trends, emerging patterns of attack, and early warning indicators of the use of sexual violence in armed conflict in all relevant reports to the Council, and encourages the Special Representatives of the Secretary-

General, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, and the Chairperson(s) of UN Action to provide, in coordination with the aforementioned Special Representative, additional briefings and documentation on sexual violence in armed conflict to the Council;

25. Requests the Secretary-General to include, where appropriate, in his regular reports on individual peacekeeping operations, information on steps taken to implement measures to protect civilians, particularly women and children, against sexual violence;

26. Requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the proposals contained in his report as well as any other relevant elements, to devise urgently and preferably within three months, specific proposals on ways to ensure monitoring and reporting in a more effective and efficient way within the existing United Nations system on the protection of women and children from rape and other sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, utilizing expertise from the United Nations system and the contributions of national Governments, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations in their advisory capacity and various civil society actors, in order to provide timely, objective, accurate and reliable information on gaps in United Nations entities response, for consideration in taking appropriate action;

27. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of resolution 1820 (2008) and to submit his next report by September of 2010 on the implementation of this resolution and resolution 1820 (2008) to include, inter alia:

(a) a detailed coordination and strategy plan on the timely and ethical collection of information;

(b) updates on efforts by United Nations Mission focal points on sexual violence to work closely with the Resident Coordination/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), the United Nations Country Team, and, where appropriate, the aforementioned Special Representative and/or the Team of Experts, to address sexual violence;

(c) information regarding parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing patterns of rape or other forms of sexual violence, in situations that are on the Council's agenda;

28. Decides to review, taking into account the process established by General Assembly resolution 63/311 regarding a United Nations composite gender entity, the mandates of the Special Representative requested in operative paragraph 4 and the Team of Experts in operative paragraph 8 within two years, and as appropriate thereafter;

29. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

#### **4. Resolution 1889 (2009)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 6196th meeting, on October 5, 2009**

**“The Security Council,**

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009) and all relevant statements of its Presidents,

**Guided** by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and bearing in mind the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

**Recalling** the resolve expressed in the 2005 United Nations General Assembly World Summit Outcome Document (A/RES/60/1) to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, recalling also the commitments contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century” (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict,

**Having considered** the report of the Secretary General (S/2009/465) of 16 September 2009 and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General’s report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor

does it prejudice the legal status of the non-State parties involved in these situations,

**Welcoming** the efforts of Member States in implementing its resolution 1325 (2000) at the national level, including the development of national action plans, and encouraging Member States to continue to pursue such implementation,

**Reiterating** the need for the full, equal and effective participation of women at all stages of peace processes given their vital role in the prevention and resolution of conflict and peacebuilding, reaffirming the key role women can play in re-establishing the fabric of recovering society and stressing the need for their involvement in the development and implementation of post-conflict strategies in order to take into account their perspectives and needs,

**Expressing** deep concern about the under-representation of women at all stages of peace processes, particularly the very low numbers of women in formal roles in mediation processes and stressing the need to ensure that women are appropriately appointed at decision-making levels, as high level mediators, and within the composition of the mediators' teams,

**Remaining deeply concerned** about the persistent obstacles to women's full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and participation in post-conflict public life, as a result of violence and intimidation, lack of security and lack of rule of law, cultural discrimination and stigmatization, including the rise of extremist or fanatical views on women, and socio-economic factors including the lack of access to education, and in this respect, recognizing that the marginalization of women can delay or undermine the achievement of durable peace, security and reconciliation,

**Recognizing** the particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including, inter alia, physical security, health services including reproductive and mental health, ways to ensure their livelihoods, land and property rights, employment, as well as their participation in decision-making and post-conflict planning, particularly at early stages of post-conflict peacebuilding,

**Noting** that despite progress, obstacles to strengthening women's participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding remain, expressing concern that women's capacity to engage in public decision making and economic recovery often does not receive adequate recognition or financing in post-conflict situations, and underlining that

funding for women's early recovery needs is vital to increase women's empowerment, which can contribute to effective post-conflict peacebuilding,

**Noting** that women in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict situations continue to be often considered as victims and not as actors in addressing and resolving situations of armed conflict and stressing the need to focus not only on protection of women but also on their empowerment in peacebuilding,

**Recognizing** that an understanding of the impact of situations of armed conflict on women and girls, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, adequate and rapid response to their particular needs, and effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process, particularly at early stages of post-conflict peacebuilding, can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

**Welcoming** the United Nations initiative to develop a system similar to that pioneered by the United Nations Development Programme to allow decision-makers to track gender-related allocations in United Nations Development Group Multi-Donor Trust Funds,

**Welcoming** the efforts of the Secretary-General to appoint more women to senior United Nations positions, particularly in field missions, as a tangible step towards providing United Nations leadership on implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000),

**Welcoming** the upcoming establishment of a United Nations Steering Committee to enhance visibility and strengthen coordination within the United Nations system regarding the preparations for the 10th anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000),

**Encouraging** relevant actors to organize events during 2009-2010 at the global, regional and national levels to increase awareness about resolution 1325 (2000), including ministerial events, to renew commitments to "Women and peace and security", and to identify ways to address remaining and new challenges in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) in the future,

1. Urges Member States, international and regional organisations to take further measures to improve women's participation during all stages of peace processes, particularly in conflict resolution, post-conflict planning and peacebuilding, including by enhancing their engagement in political and economic decision-making at early stages of recovery processes, through inter alia promoting women's leadership and capacity to engage in aid

management and planning, supporting women's organizations, and countering negative societal attitudes about women's capacity to participate equally;

2. Reiterates its call for all parties in armed conflicts to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls;

3. Strongly condemns all violations of applicable international law committed against women and girls in situations of armed conflicts and post-conflict situations, demands all parties to conflicts to cease such acts with immediate effect, and emphasizes the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for all forms of violence committed against women and girls in armed conflicts, including rape and other sexual violence;

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to develop a strategy, including through appropriate training, to increase the number of women appointed to pursue good offices on his behalf, particularly as Special Representatives and Special Envoys, and to take measures to increase women's participation in United Nations political, peacebuilding and peacekeeping missions;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all country reports to the Security Council provide information on the impact of situations of armed conflict on women and girls, their particular needs in post-conflict situations and obstacles to attaining those needs;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that relevant United Nations bodies, in cooperation with Member States and civil society, collect data on, analyze and systematically assess particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including, inter alia, information on their needs for physical security and participation in decision-making and post-conflict planning, in order to improve system-wide response to those needs;

7. Expresses its intention, when establishing and renewing the mandates of United Nations missions, to include provisions on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in post-conflict situations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue, as appropriate, to appoint gender advisors and/or women-protection advisors to United Nations missions and asks them, in cooperation with United Nations Country Teams, to render technical assistance and improved coordination efforts to address recovery needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations;

8. Urges Member States to ensure gender mainstreaming in all post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery processes and sectors;
9. Urges Member States, United Nations bodies, donors and civil society to ensure that women's empowerment is taken into account during post-conflict needs assessments and planning, and factored into subsequent funding disbursements and programme activities, including through developing transparent analysis and tracking of funds allocated for addressing women's needs in the post-conflict phase;
10. Encourages Member States in post-conflict situations, in consultation with civil society, including women's organizations, to specify in detail women and girls' needs and priorities and design concrete strategies, in accordance with their legal systems, to address those needs and priorities, which cover inter alia support for greater physical security and better socio-economic conditions, through education, income generating activities, access to basic services, in particular health services, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights and mental health, gender-responsive law enforcement and access to justice, as well as enhancing capacity to engage in public decision-making at all levels;
11. Urges Member States, United Nations bodies and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to take all feasible measures to ensure women and girls' equal access to education in post-conflict situations, given the vital role of education in the promotion of women's participation in post-conflict decision-making;
12. Calls upon all parties to armed conflicts to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and ensure the protection of all civilians inhabiting such camps, in particular women and girls, from all forms of violence, including rape and other sexual violence, and to ensure full, unimpeded and secure humanitarian access to them;
13. Calls upon all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to take into account particular needs of women and girls associated with armed forces and armed groups and their children, and provide for their full access to these programmes;
14. Encourages the Peacebuilding Commission and Peacebuilding Support Office to continue to ensure systematic attention to and mobilisation of resources for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment as an integral part of post-conflict peacebuilding, and to encourage the full participation of women in this process;

15. Request the Secretary-General, in his agenda for action to improve the United Nations' peacebuilding efforts, to take account of the need to improve the participation of women in political and economic decision-making from the earliest stages of the peacebuilding process;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure full transparency, cooperation and coordination of efforts between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on sexual violence and armed conflict whose appointment has been requested by its resolution 1888 (2009);

17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Security Council 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;

18. Requests the Secretary-General, within the report requested in S/PRST/2007/40, to also include a review of progress in the implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000), an assessment of the processes by which the Security Council receives, analyses and takes action on information pertinent to resolution 1325 (2000), recommendations on further measures to improve coordination across the United Nations system, and with Member States and civil society to deliver implementation, and data on women's participation in United Nations missions;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Security Council within 12 months on addressing women's participation and inclusion in peacebuilding and planning in the aftermath of conflict, taking into consideration the views of the Peacebuilding Commission and to include, *inter alia*:

a. Analysis on the particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations,

b. Challenges to women's participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding and gender mainstreaming in all early post-conflict planning, financing and recovery processes,

c. Measures to support national capacity in planning for and financing responses to the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations,

d. Recommendations for improving international and national responses to the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including the development of effective financial and institutional arrangements to guarantee women's full and equal participation in the peacebuilding process,

20. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

## 5. Resolution 1960 (2010)

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 6453rd meeting, on December 16, 2010**

**“The Security Council,**

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1894 (2009), and all relevant statements of its President,

**Welcoming** the report of the Secretary-General of 24 November 2010 (S/2010/604), but remaining deeply concerned over the slow progress on the issue of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict in particular against women and children, and noting as documented in the Secretary-General's report that sexual violence occurs in armed conflicts throughout the world,

**Reiterating** deep concern that despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children in situations of armed conflict, including sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic and widespread, reaching appalling levels of brutality,

**Reiterating** the necessity for all States and non-State parties to conflicts to comply fully with their obligations under applicable international law, including the prohibition on all forms of sexual violence,

**Reiterating** the need for civilian and military leaders, consistent with the principle of command responsibility, to demonstrate commitment and political will to prevent sexual violence and to combat impunity and enforce accountability, and that inaction can send a message that the incidence of sexual violence in conflicts is tolerated,

**Recalling** the responsibilities of States to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and other egregious crimes perpetrated against civilians and, in this regard, noting with concern that only limited numbers of perpetrators of sexual violence have been brought to justice, while recognizing that in conflict and in post-conflict situations national justice systems may be significantly weakened,

**Welcoming** the progress made in rendering operational the team of experts to assist national authorities to strengthen the rule of law in accordance with resolution 1888 (2009); reaffirming the importance of deploying it rapidly to situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict, working through the United Nations presence on the ground and with the consent of the host Government and in this regard, appreciating the voluntary contributions to support its work,

**Recognizing** that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law,

**Reaffirming** that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of civilians,

**Recalling** that international humanitarian law affords general protection to women and children as part of the civilian population during armed conflicts and special protection due to the fact that they can be placed particularly at risk,

**Reaffirming** that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent future such abuses, drawing attention to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms to be considered, including national, international and 'mixed' criminal courts and tribunals and truth and reconciliation commissions, and noting that such mechanisms can promote not only individual responsibility for serious crimes, but also peace, truth, reconciliation and the rights of the victims,

**Recalling** the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offences in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

**Reaffirming** the importance for States, with the support of the international community, to increase access to health care, psychosocial support, legal

assistance, and socio-economic reintegration services for victims of sexual violence, in particular in rural areas, and taking into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities,

**Welcoming** the proposals, conclusions and recommendations included in the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/64/19) on the need for adequate capabilities and clear and appropriate guidelines to enable peacekeeping missions to carry out all their mandated tasks, including prevention of and response to sexual violence; stressing the importance of ensuring engagement by senior mission leadership on protection of civilians, including the prevention of and response to instances of sexual violence in armed conflict, with a view to ensuring that all mission components and all levels of the chain of command are properly informed of and involved in the mission's mandate and their relevant responsibilities; welcoming progress made by the Secretary-General in developing operational tools for the implementation of protection of civilians mandates; and encouraging troop- and police-contributing countries to make full use of and provide feedback on these important materials,

**Recognizing** the efforts of the Secretary-General to address the underrepresentation of women in formal peace processes, the lack of mediators and ceasefire monitors with proper training in dealing with sexual violence, and the lack of women as Chief or Lead peace mediators in United Nations-sponsored peace talks; and encouraging further such efforts,

**Welcoming** the inclusion of women in peacekeeping missions in civil, military and police functions, recognizing that their presence may encourage women from local communities to report acts of sexual violence,

**Having considered** the report of the Secretary-General of 24 November 2010 (S/2010/604) and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General's report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudge the legal status of non-State parties involved in these situations,

1. Reaffirms that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate and prolong situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security; affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security; and expresses its readiness, when

considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to take, where necessary, appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence in situations of armed conflict;

2. Reiterates its demand for the complete cessation with immediate effect by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence;

3. Encourages the Secretary-General to include in his annual reports submitted pursuant to resolutions 1820 (2008) and 1888 (2009) detailed information on parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for acts of rape or other forms of sexual violence, and to list in an annex to these annual reports the parties that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for patterns of rape and other forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict on the Security Council agenda; expresses its intention to use this list as a basis for more focused United Nations engagement with those parties, including, as appropriate, measures in accordance with the procedures of the relevant sanctions committees;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with the present resolution and taking into account its specificity, to apply the listing and de-listing criteria for parties listed in his annual report on sexual violence in armed conflict consistent with paragraphs 175, 176, 178, and 180 of his report A/64/742-S/2010/181;

5. Calls upon parties to armed conflict to make and implement specific and time-bound commitments to combat sexual violence, which should include, inter alia, issuance of clear orders through chains of command prohibiting sexual violence and the prohibition of sexual violence in Codes of Conduct, military field manuals, or equivalent; and further calls upon those parties to make and implement specific commitments on timely investigation of alleged abuses in order to hold perpetrators accountable;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to track and monitor implementation of these commitments by parties to armed conflict on the Security Council's agenda that engage in patterns of rape and other sexual violence, and regularly update the Council in relevant reports and briefings;

7. Reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including, where appropriate, designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence; and calls upon all peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions and United Nations entities, in particular the Working Group on

Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, to share with relevant United Nations Security Council Sanctions Committees, including through relevant United Nations Security Council Sanction Committees' monitoring groups and groups of experts, all pertinent information about sexual violence;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to establish monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence, including rape in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict and other situations relevant to the implementation of resolution 1888 (2009), as appropriate, and taking into account the specificity of each country, that ensure a coherent and coordinated approach at the field-level, and encourages the Secretary-General to engage with United Nations actors, national institutions, civil society organizations, health-care service providers, and women's groups to enhance data collection and analysis of incidents, trends, and patterns of rape and other forms of sexual violence to assist the Council's consideration of appropriate actions, including targeted and graduated measures, while respecting fully the integrity and specificity of the monitoring and reporting mechanism implemented under Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009) on children and armed conflict;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure full transparency, cooperation and coordination of efforts between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict;

10. Welcomes the work of gender advisers; looks forward to the appointment of more women protection advisers to peacekeeping missions, in accordance with resolution 1888 (2009); notes their potential contribution in the framework of the monitoring, analysis, and reporting arrangements to be established pursuant to operative paragraph 8 of the present resolution;

11. Welcomes the elaboration by the Secretary-General of scenario-based training materials on combating sexual violence for peacekeepers and encourages Member States to use them as a reference for the preparation and deployment of United Nations peacekeeping operations;

12. Underlines that, in order to carry out their mandate, missions must communicate effectively with local communities; and encourages the Secretary-General to improve their capacity to do so;

13. Expresses its intention to give due consideration to sexual violence in mandate authorizations and renewals and to request the Secretary-General to include, as appropriate, gender expertise in technical assessment missions;

14. Encourages the entities comprising United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to continue to support the work of the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and to enhance cooperation and information-sharing among all relevant stakeholders in order to reinforce coordination and avoid overlap at the headquarters and country levels and improve system-wide response;

15. Encourages Member States to deploy greater numbers of female military and police personnel to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training on sexual and gender-based violence, inter alia, to carry out their responsibilities;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance on sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel, and further requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide and deploy guidance on addressing sexual violence for predeployment and inductive training of military and police personnel, and to assist missions in developing situation-specific procedures to address sexual violence at the field level and to ensure that technical support is provided to troop- and police-contributing countries in order to include guidance for military and police personnel on addressing sexual violence in predeployment and induction training;

17. Invites the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict to continue to provide briefings on sexual violence, in accordance with resolution 1888 (2009);

18. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of resolutions 1820 (2008) and 1888 (2009) and to submit his next report by December 2011 on the implementation of resolutions 1820 (2008) and 1888 (2009) and the present resolution to include, inter alia:

(a) a detailed coordination and strategy plan on the timely and ethical collection of information;

(b) information on progress made in the implementation of the monitoring, analysis, and reporting arrangements mentioned in paragraph 8;

(c) detailed information on parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for acts of rape or other forms of sexual violence, and an annex with a list of parties that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for patterns of rape and other forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict on the Security Council agenda;

(d) updates on efforts by United Nations Mission focal points on sexual violence to work closely with Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), the United Nations Country Team, and, where appropriate, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and/or the Team of Experts, to address sexual violence;

19. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

## **6. Resolution 2106 (2013)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 6984th meeting, on 24 June 2013**

**The Security Council,**

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1265 (1999), 1296 (2000), 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1894 (2009), 1960 (2010), 1998 (2011) and 2068 (2012), and all relevant statements of its President,

**Thanking** the Secretary-General for the report of 12 March 2013 (S/2013/149) and taking note of the analysis and recommendations contained therein, but remaining deeply concerned over the slow implementation of important aspects of resolution 1960 (2010) to prevent sexual violence in armed conflict and post- conflict situations and noting as documented in the Secretary-General’s report that sexual violence occurs in such situations throughout the world,

**Recognizing** the Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict adopted by G8 foreign ministers in London on 11 April 2013, and the commitments it makes in this regard,

**Recognizing** that consistent and rigorous prosecution of sexual violence crimes as well as national ownership and responsibility in addressing the root causes of sexual violence in armed conflict are central to deterrence and prevention as is challenging the myths that sexual violence in armed conflict is a cultural phenomenon or an inevitable consequence of war or a lesser crime,

**Affirming** that women's political, social and economic empowerment, gender equality and the enlistment of men and boys in the effort to combat all forms of violence against women are central to long-term efforts to prevent sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations; and emphasizing the importance of the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) while noting the ongoing work on a set of indicators for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on women and peace and security, and recognizing UN-Women's efforts in this area,

**Noting** with concern that sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations disproportionately affects women and girls, as well as groups that are particularly vulnerable or may be specifically targeted, while also affecting men and boys and those secondarily traumatized as forced witnesses of sexual violence against family members; and emphasizing that acts of sexual violence in such situations not only severely impede the critical contributions of women to society, but also impede durable peace and security as well as sustainable development,

**Recognizing** that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law; and reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians,

**Reaffirming** its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States in accordance with the Charter,

**Recalling** the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offenses in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

**Noting** the provision in the Arms Trade Treaty that exporting States Parties shall take into account the risk of covered conventional arms or items being used to commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children,

**Further** recalling that international humanitarian law prohibits rape and other forms of sexual violence,

**Recalling** the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations Support to non-United Nations Security Forces as a tool to enhance compliance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, including to address sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations,

**Having considered** the report of the Secretary-General and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General's report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudge the legal status of non-State parties involved in these situations,

1. Affirms that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a method or tactic of war or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate and prolong situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security; emphasizes in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security; and stresses women's participation as essential to any prevention and protection response;

2. Notes that sexual violence can constitute a crime against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide; further recalls that rape and other forms of serious sexual violence in armed conflict are war crimes; calls upon Member States to comply with their relevant obligations to continue to fight impunity by investigating and prosecuting those subject to their jurisdiction who are responsible for such crimes; encourages Member States to include the full range of crimes of sexual violence in national penal legislation to enable prosecutions for such acts; recognizes that effective investigation and documentation of sexual violence in armed conflict is instrumental both in bringing perpetrators to justice and ensuring access to justice for survivors;

3. Notes that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern committed against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of the ICC, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals; reiterates its intention to continue forcefully to fight impunity and uphold accountability with appropriate means;

4. Draws attention to the importance of a comprehensive approach to transitional justice in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, encompassing the full range of judicial and non-judicial measures, as appropriate;
5. Recognizes the need for more systematic monitoring of and attention to sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and other women and peace and security commitments in its own work and, in this regard, expresses its intent to employ, as appropriate, all means at its disposal to ensure women's participation in all aspects of mediation, post-conflict recovery and peacebuilding and to address sexual violence in conflict, including, inter alia, in the establishment and review of peacekeeping and political mandates, public statements, country visits, fact-finding missions, international commissions of inquiry, consultations with regional bodies and in the work of relevant Security Council sanctions committees;
6. Recognizes the need for more timely, objective, accurate and reliable information as a basis for prevention and response and requests the Secretary General and relevant United Nations entities to accelerate the establishment and implementation of monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence, including rape in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict and other situations relevant to the implementation of resolution 1888 (2009), as appropriate, and taking into account the specificity of each country;
7. Calls for the further deployment of Women Protection Advisors (WPA) in accordance with resolution 1888 to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolutions on women and peace and security and calls upon the Secretary General to ensure that the need for, and the number and roles of WPAs are systematically assessed during the planning and review of each United Nations peacekeeping and political mission, and to ensure that these experts are adequately trained and deployed in a timely manner; and recognizes the role of UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict in facilitating coordinated responses of relevant peacekeeping, humanitarian, human rights, political and security actors and emphasizes the need for enhanced coordination, information sharing, analysis, response planning and implementation across these sectors;
8. Recognizes the distinct role of Gender Advisors in ensuring that gender perspectives are mainstreamed in policies, planning and implementation by all mission elements; calls upon the Secretary General to continue to deploy Gender Advisors to the relevant United Nations peacekeeping and political

missions as well as humanitarian operations and to ensure comprehensive gender training of all relevant peacekeeping and civilian personnel;

9. Acknowledges the efforts of United Nations entities in ensuring United Nations Commissions of Inquiry in armed conflict and post-conflict situations have, where necessary, sexual and gender-based crimes expertise to accurately document such crimes and encourages all Member States to support these efforts;

10. Reiterates its demand for the complete cessation with immediate effect by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence and its call for these parties to make and implement specific time-bound commitments to combat sexual violence, which should include, inter alia, issuance of clear orders through chains of command prohibiting sexual violence and accountability for breaching these orders, the prohibition of sexual violence in Codes of Conduct, military and police field manuals or equivalent and to make and implement specific commitments on timely investigation of alleged abuses; and further calls upon all relevant parties to armed conflict to cooperate in the framework of such commitments, with appropriate United Nations mission personnel who monitor their implementation, and calls upon the parties to designate, as appropriate, a high-level representative responsible for ensuring implementation of such commitments;

11. Emphasizes the important role that can be played by women, civil society, including women's organizations, and formal and informal community leaders in exerting influence over parties to armed conflict with respect to addressing sexual violence;

12. Reiterates the importance of addressing sexual violence in armed conflict whenever relevant, in mediation efforts, ceasefires and peace agreements; requests the Secretary-General, Member States and regional organizations, where appropriate, to ensure that mediators and envoys, in situations where it is used as a method or tactic of war, or as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, engage on sexual violence issues, including with women, civil society, including women's organizations and survivors of sexual violence, and ensure that such concerns are reflected in specific provisions of peace agreements, including those related to security arrangements and transitional justice mechanisms; urges the inclusion of sexual violence in the definition of acts prohibited by ceasefires and in provisions for ceasefire monitoring; stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes;

13. Urges existing sanctions committees, where within the scope of the relevant criteria for designation, and consistent with resolution 1960 (2010) to apply targeted sanctions against those who perpetrate and direct sexual violence in conflict; and reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including, where appropriate, designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of serious sexual violence;

14. Recognizes the role of United Nations peacekeeping contingents in preventing sexual violence, and, in this respect, calls for all pre-deployment and in-mission training of troop- and police-contributing country contingents to include training on sexual and gender-based violence, which also takes into account the distinct needs of children; further encourages troop- and police-contributing countries to increase the number of women recruited and deployed in peace operations;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance on sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations personnel and urges concerned Member States to ensure full accountability, including prosecutions, in cases of such conduct involving their nationals;

16. Requests the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations entities to assist national authorities, with the effective participation of women, in addressing sexual violence concerns explicitly in:

(a) disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes, including, inter alia, by establishing protection mechanisms for women and children in cantonment sites, as well as for civilians in close proximity of cantonment sites and in communities of return, and by offering trauma and reintegration support to women and children formerly associated with armed groups, as well as ex-combatants;

(b) security sector reform processes and arrangements, including through the provision of adequate training for security personnel, encouraging the inclusion of more women in the security sector and effective vetting processes in order to exclude from the security sector those who have perpetrated or are responsible for acts of sexual violence;

(c) justice sector reform initiatives, including through legislative and policy reforms that address sexual violence; training in sexual and gender-based violence of justice and security sector professionals and the inclusion of more women at professional levels in these sectors; and judicial proceedings that

take into account the distinct needs and protection of witnesses as well as survivors of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and their family members;

17. Recognizes that women who have been forcefully abducted into armed groups and armed forces, as well as children, are especially vulnerable to sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and as such demands that parties to armed conflict immediately identify and release such persons from their ranks;

18. Encourages concerned Member States to draw upon the expertise of the United Nations Team of Experts established pursuant to resolution 1888 (2009) as appropriate to strengthen the rule of law and the capacity of civilian and military justice systems to address sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations as part of broader efforts to strengthen institutional safeguards against impunity;

19. Recognizing the importance of providing timely assistance to survivors of sexual violence, urges United Nations entities and donors to provide non-discriminatory and comprehensive health services, including sexual and reproductive health, psychosocial, legal, and livelihood support and other multi-sectoral services for survivors of sexual violence, taking into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities; calls for support to national institutions and local civil society networks in increasing resources and strengthening capacities to provide the above mentioned services to survivors of sexual violence; encourages Member States and donors to support national and international programs that assist victims of sexual violence such as the Trust Fund for Victims established by the Rome Statute and its implementing partners; and requests the relevant United Nations entities to increase allocation of resources for the coordination of gender- based violence response and service provision;

20. Notes the link between sexual violence in armed conflict and post- conflict situations and HIV infection, and the disproportionate burden of HIV and AIDS on women and girls as a persistent obstacle and challenge to gender equality; and urges United Nations entities, Member States and donors to support the development and strengthening of capacities of national health systems and civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to women and girls living with or affected by HIV and AIDS in armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

21. Underlines the important roles that civil society organizations, including women's organizations, and networks can play in enhancing community-

level protection against sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and supporting survivors in accessing justice and reparations;

22. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of women and peace and security resolutions and the present resolution, and to submit his next report by March 2014;

23. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter."

## **7. Resolution 2122 (2013)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 7044th meeting, on October 18 2013**

**The Security Council,**

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010) and 2106 (2013) and all relevant statements of its President,

**Recalling** the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and reaffirming the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, and urging States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

**Bearing in mind** the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security, and noting the focus of this resolution is, in this regard, the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda,

**Reaffirming** that women's and girls' empowerment and gender equality are critical to efforts to maintain international peace and security, and emphasizing that persisting barriers to full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women's empowerment, participation, and human rights, and through concerted

leadership, consistent information and action, and support, to build women's engagement in all levels of decision-making,

**Taking note** with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General of 4 September 2013 and the progress and emergence of good practice across several areas, including in prevention and protection, and the significant heightening of policy and operational focus on the monitoring, prevention and prosecution of violence against women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, but remaining deeply concerned about persistent implementation deficits in the women, peace and security agenda, including in: protection from human rights abuses and violations; opportunities for women to exercise leadership; resources provided to address their needs and which will help them exercise their rights; and the capacities and commitment of all actors involved in the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions to advance women's participation and protection,

**Expressing concern** at women's exacerbated vulnerability in armed conflict and post-conflict situations particularly in relation to forced displacement, as a result of unequal citizenship rights, gender biased application of asylum laws, and obstacles to registering and accessing identity documents which occur in many situations,

**Expressing deep concern** at the full range of threats and human rights violations and abuses experienced by women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, recognizing that those women and girls who are particularly vulnerable or disadvantaged may be specifically targeted or at increased risk of violence, and recognizing in this regard that more must be done to ensure that transitional justice measures address the full range of violations and abuses of women's human rights, and the differentiated impacts on women and girls of these violations and abuses as well as forced displacement, enforced disappearances, and destruction of civilian infrastructure,

**Recognizing** the importance of Member States and United Nations entities seeking to ensure humanitarian aid and funding includes provision for the full range of medical, legal, psychosocial and livelihood services to women affected by armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and noting the need for access to the full range of sexual and reproductive health services, including regarding pregnancies resulting from rape, without discrimination,

**Reiterating** its strong condemnation of all violations of international law committed against and/or directly affecting civilians, including women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, including those involving

rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, killing and maiming, obstructions to humanitarian aid, and mass forced displacement,

**Recognizing** that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law, and reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians,

**Reaffirming** that sustainable peace requires an integrated approach based on coherence between political, security, development, human rights, including gender equality, and rule of law and justice activities, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of the rule of law as one of the key elements of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and peacebuilding,

**Recognizing** the need for more systematic attention to the implementation of women, peace and security commitments in its own work, particularly to ensure the enhancement of women's engagement in conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding, and noting in this regard the need for timely and systematic reporting on women, peace and security,

**Taking note** of the critical contributions of civil society, including women's organizations to conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding and in this regard the importance of sustained consultation and dialogue between women and national and international decision makers,

**Recognizing** the need to address the gaps and strengthen links between the United Nations peace and security in the field, human rights and development work as a means to address root causes of armed conflict and threats to the security of women and girls in the pursuit of international peace and security,

**Recognizing** that the economic empowerment of women greatly contributes to the stabilization of societies emerging from armed conflict, and welcoming the Peacebuilding Commission's declaration on women's economic empowerment for peacebuilding of 26 September 2013 (PBC/7/OC/L.1),

**Acknowledging** the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty and noting the provisions in Article 7(4) of the Treaty that exporting States Parties shall take into account the risk of covered conventional arms or items being used to commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children,

**Looking forward** to the important contribution that implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty can make to reducing violence perpetrated against women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict situations,

**Welcoming** the efforts of Member States, and recognizing the efforts of regional and subregional organizations, in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent women, peace and security resolutions at the regional, national and local levels, including the development of action plans and implementation frameworks, and encouraging Member States to continue to pursue such implementation, including through strengthened monitoring, evaluation and coordination,

1. Recognizes the need for consistent implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in its own work and intends to focus more attention on women's leadership and participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding, including by monitoring progress in implementation, and addressing challenges linked to the lack and quality of information and analysis on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peacebuilding and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution;

2. Recognizes the need for timely information and analysis on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peacebuilding and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution for situations on the Council's agenda, and therefore:

(a) Welcomes more regular briefings by the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women and the Under-Secretary-General/Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict on issues of relevance to women, peace and security;

(b) Requests DPKO, DPA and relevant senior officials, as part of their regular briefings, to update the Security Council on issues relevant to women, peace and security, including implementation;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General and his Special Envoys and Special Representatives to United Nations missions, as part of their regular briefings, to update the Council on progress in inviting women to participate, including through consultations with civil society, including women's organizations, in discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of peace and security and post-conflict peacebuilding;

(d) Requests DPKO and DPA to systematically include information and related recommendations on issues of relevance to women, peace and security, in their reports to the Council;

(e) Invites all United Nations-established Commissions of Inquiry investigating situations on the Council's agenda to include in their briefings information on the differentiated impacts of armed conflict on women and girls, especially emphasizing recommendations to advance accountability, justice and protection for victims, during armed conflict and in post-conflict and transitional contexts;

3. Expresses its intention to increase its attention to women, peace and security issues in all relevant thematic areas of work on its agenda, including in particular Protection of civilians in armed conflict, Post-conflict peacebuilding, The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security, Peace and Security in Africa, Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, and Maintenance of international peace and security;

4. Reiterates its intention when establishing and renewing the mandates of United Nations missions, to include provisions on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through the appointment of gender advisers as appropriate, and further expresses its intention to include provisions to facilitate women's full participation and protection in: election preparation and political processes, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs, security sector and judicial reforms, and wider post-conflict reconstruction processes where these are mandated tasks within the mission;

5. Requests United Nations peacekeeping mission leadership to assess the human rights violations and abuses of women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and requests peacekeeping missions, in keeping with their mandates, to address the security threats and protection challenges faced by women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict settings;

6. Recognizes the importance of interactions of civil society, including women's organizations, with members of the Council at headquarters and during Council field missions and commits to ensuring that its periodic field visits to conflict areas include interactive meetings with local women and women's organizations in the field;

7. Recognizes the continuing need to increase women's participation and the consideration of gender-related issues in all discussions pertinent to the

prevention and resolution of armed conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding, and in this regard, the Council:

(a) Requests the Secretary-General's Special Envoys and Special Representatives to United Nations missions, from early on in their deployment, to regularly consult with women's organizations and women leaders, including socially and/or economically excluded groups of women;

(b) Encourages concerned Member States to develop dedicated funding mechanisms to support the work and enhance capacities of organizations that support women's leadership development and full participation in all levels of decision-making, regarding the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), inter alia through increasing contributions to local civil society;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the knowledge of negotiating delegations to peace talks, and members of mediation support teams, on the gender dimensions of peacebuilding, by making gender expertise and gender experts available to all United Nations mediation teams; further requests the Secretary-General to support the appointments of women at senior levels as United Nations mediators and within the composition of United Nations mediation teams; and calls on all parties to such peace talks to facilitate the equal and full participation of women at decision-making levels;

8. Stresses the importance of those Member States conducting post-conflict electoral processes and constitutional reform continuing their efforts, with support from United Nations entities, to ensure women's full and equal participation in all phases of electoral processes, noting that specific attention must be paid to women's safety prior to, and during, elections;

9. Encourages troop- and police-contributing countries to increase the percentage of women military and police in deployments to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and further encourages troop- and police-contributing countries to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training to carry out their responsibilities, and relevant United Nations entities to make available appropriate guidance or training modules, including in particular the United Nations predeployment scenario-based training on prevention of sexual and gender-based violence;

10. Stresses the need for continued efforts to address obstacles in women's access to justice in conflict and post-conflict settings, including through gender-responsive legal, judicial and security sector reform and other mechanisms;

11. Urges all parties concerned, including Member States, United Nations entities and financial institutions, to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular of judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to women and girls affected by armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

12. Calls upon Member States to comply with their relevant obligations to end to impunity and to thoroughly investigate and prosecute persons responsible for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity or other serious violations of international humanitarian law; and further notes that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of the International Criminal Court, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals;

13. Recalls in this regard applicable provisions of international law on the right to reparations for violations of individual rights;

14. Urges Member States and United Nations entities, to ensure women's full and meaningful participation in efforts to combat and eradicate the illicit transfer and misuse of small arms and light weapons;

15. Reiterates its intention to convene a High-level Review in 2015 to assess progress at the global, regional and national levels in implementing resolution 1325 (2000), renew commitments, and address obstacles and constraints that have emerged in the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000); further recognizes with concern that without a significant implementation shift, women and women's perspectives will continue to be underrepresented in conflict prevention, resolution, protection and peacebuilding for the foreseeable future, and as such encourages those Member States, regional organizations as appropriate, and United Nations entities who have developed frameworks and plans to support the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) to start reviewing existing implementation plans and targets, and for Member States to assess and accelerate progress and prepare to formulate new targets, in time for the 2015 High-level Review;

16. Invites the Secretary-General, in preparation for the High-level Review to commission a global study on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), highlighting good practice examples, implementation gaps and challenges, as well as emerging trends and priorities for action, and further invites the Secretary-General to submit, within his annual report to the Security Council

in 2015, on the results of this study and to make this available to all Member States of the United Nations;

17. Expresses its intention to make the implementation of the Council's women, peace and security mandate a focus of one of its periodic field visits in advance of the 2015 High-level Review;

18. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council providing a progress update on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and to submit his next report by October 2014 and to include in that report an update of progress across all areas of the women, peace and security agenda, highlighting gaps and challenges;

19. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

## **8. Resolution 2242 (2015)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 7533rd meeting, on October 13, 2015**

**The Security Council,**

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013) and 2122 (2013), and all relevant statements of its President,

**Bearing** in mind the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

**Affirming** the primary role of Member States to implement fully the relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security, and the important complementary role of United Nations entities and regional organizations,

**Recalling** the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and their twentieth anniversary, welcoming the Global Leaders Meeting on Gender Equality and Empowerment held on 27 September 2015 and commending the concrete national commitments made by national leaders in connection to this meeting,

**Reaffirming** the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto and urging States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to it, further noting General Recommendation 30 of the Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on Women and Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Situations,

**Welcoming** the report of the Secretary-General of 17 September 2015 (S/2015/716) submitting the results of the Global Study on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), recognizing with appreciation all the work undertaken for the Global Study and encouraging close examination of its recommendations,

**Noting** the substantial link between women's meaningful involvement in efforts to prevent, resolve and rebuild from conflict and those efforts' effectiveness and long-term sustainability, as well as the need for greater resourcing, accountability, political will and attitudinal change,

**Taking note** of the Report of the Secretary-General on The Future of United Nations peace operations: implementation of the recommendations of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (S/2015/682) and the Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (S/2015/490), and welcoming the recommendations contained therein relating to Women, Peace and Security, and further urging all actors to consider their implementation,

**Reaffirming** the obligations of States and all parties to armed conflict to comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as applicable, and the need to end all violations of international humanitarian law and all violations and abuses of human rights,

**Reaffirming** that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a method or tactic of war or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate and prolong situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security,

**Welcoming** the emphasis placed on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the recent adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, reaffirming that women's and girls' empowerment and gender equality are critical to conflict prevention and broader efforts to maintain international peace and security, noting in this regard the emphasis of the Report of the Independent High-Level Panel on

Peace Operations (S/2015/446), the Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (S/2015/490), and the Global Study on the need, inter alia, to invest more in conflict prevention and women's empowerment, and further emphasizing that persisting barriers to the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women's participation and human rights, and through concerted leadership, consistent information and action, and support to build women's engagement in all levels of decision-making,

**Reiterating** the important engagement by men and boys as partners in promoting women's participation in the prevention and resolution of armed conflict, peacebuilding and post-conflict situations,

**Noting** the changing global context of peace and security, in particular relating to rising violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, the increased numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons, the impacts of climate change and the global nature of health pandemics, and in this regard reiterating its intention to increase attention to women, peace and security as a cross-cutting subject in all relevant thematic areas of work on its agenda, including threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

**Recognizing** the differential impact on the human rights of women and girls of terrorism and violent extremism, including in the context of their health, education, and participation in public life, and that they are often directly targeted by terrorist groups, and expressing deep concern that acts of sexual and gender-based violence are known to be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of certain terrorist groups, used as a tactic of terrorism and an instrument to increase their power through supporting financing, recruitment and the destruction of communities, as described in the Secretary-General's Report on Sexual Violence in Conflict of 23 March 2015 (S/2015/203), and further noting the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum's good practices on Women and Countering Violent Extremism,

**Recognizing** the significance of the 15-year anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000), the progress made, as well as the opportunity and need for far greater implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, remaining deeply concerned by the frequent underrepresentation of women in many formal processes and bodies related to the maintenance of international peace and security, the relatively low number of women in senior positions in political, peace and security-related national, regional and international institutions, the lack of adequate gender-sensitive humanitarian

responses and support for women's leadership roles in these settings, insufficient financing for women, peace and security, and the resulting detrimental impact on the maintenance of international peace and security,

**Recognizing** the important contribution of civil society, including women's organizations, during the last 15 years in the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000),

**Recognizing** the new Global Acceleration Instrument on women's engagement in peace and security and humanitarian affairs, in addition to existing complementary mechanisms, as one avenue to attract resources, coordinate responses and accelerate implementation,

1. Urges Member States, in light of the High-Level Review, to assess strategies and resourcing in the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, reiterates its call for Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflict, encourages those supporting peace processes to facilitate women's meaningful inclusion in negotiating parties' delegations to peace talks, calls upon donor countries to provide financial and technical assistance to women involved in peace processes, including training in mediation, advocacy and technical areas of negotiation, as well as providing support and training to mediators and technical teams on the impact of women's participation and strategies for women's effective inclusion, further encourages the meaningful participation of civil society organizations at international and regional peace and security meetings, as appropriate, including donor conferences to help ensure gender considerations are integrated in the development, prioritization, coordination and implementation of policies and programmes, and encourages the hosts of such meetings to give due consideration to facilitating a cross representation of civil society participants;

2. Welcomes the efforts of Member States to implement resolution 1325 (2000), including the development of national action plans, further welcomes the increase in national action plans in recent years, and calls upon Member States to further integrate the women, peace and security agenda into their strategic plans such as national actions plans and other planning frameworks, with sufficient resources, including implementation of relevant obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law, through broad consultation, including with civil society, in particular women's organizations, calls upon countries with national action plans to provide an update on the progress made in their

implementation and review during the annual Security Council open debates on women, peace and security, further welcomes the efforts of regional organizations to implement resolution 1325 (2000), including through the adoption of regional frameworks, and encourages them to pursue further implementation;

3. Encourages Member States to increase their funding on women, peace and security, including through more aid in conflict and post-conflict situations for programmes that further gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as through support to civil society, and to support countries in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, including through capacity-building, in their implementation of women, peace and security resolutions, calls for increased international development cooperation related to women's empowerment and gender equality and invites aid providers to track the gender focus of aid contributions;

4. Urges the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations entities, including but not limited to the Department for Peacekeeping Operations, the Department for Political Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office to redouble their efforts to integrate women's needs and gender perspectives into their work, including in all policy and planning processes and assessment missions, and in relation to requests made in resolution 2122 (2013), and to address deficits in accountability including through the addition by the Secretary-General of gender targets as an indicator of individual performance in all compacts with senior managers at United Nations Headquarters and in the field, including Special Envoys, Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators, to be used for monitoring and to inform decision-making by the Secretary-General, including for recruiting for future posts, and further encourages closer working relationships within the United Nations among all those responsible for implementing the women, peace and security agenda, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), taking into account their role on women, peace and security coordination and accountability, and the Secretary-General's Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict;

5. Recognizes the ongoing need for greater integration of resolution 1325 (2000) in its own work in alignment with resolution 2122 (2013), including the need to address challenges linked to the provision of specific information and recommendations on the gender dimensions of situations on the Council's agenda, to inform and help strengthen the Council's decisions, and therefore, in addition to elements set

out in resolution 2122 (2013), and in accordance with established practice and procedure:

(a) Expresses its intention to convene meetings of relevant Security Council experts as part of an Informal Experts Group on Women, Peace and Security to facilitate a more systematic approach to Women, Peace and Security within its own work and enable greater oversight and coordination of implementation efforts;

(b) Decides to integrate women, peace and security concerns across all country specific situations on the Security Council's agenda, taking into account the specific context of each country, expresses its intention to dedicate periodic Security Council consultations on country situations, as necessary, to the topic of Women, Peace and Security implementation, progress and challenges, and reiterates its intention to ensure Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women, including through consultation with local and international women's groups;

(c) Expresses its intention to invite civil society, including women's organizations, to brief the Council in country-specific considerations and relevant thematic areas, as well as the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women and the Under-Secretary-General/Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict to brief more regularly on country situations and relevant thematic areas of work on its agenda including on matters of urgency for women and girls in conflict and crisis;

6. Expresses its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider designating, as appropriate, those actors, including those in terrorist groups, engaged in violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including sexual and gender-based violence, forced disappearances and forced displacement, and commits to ensuring that the relevant expert groups for sanctions committees have the necessary gender expertise;

7. Urges the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Political Affairs to ensure the necessary gender analysis and technical gender expertise is included throughout all stages of mission planning, mandate development, implementation, review and mission drawdown, ensuring the needs and participation of women are integrated in all sequenced stages of mission mandates, welcomes the commitment of the Secretary-General that Senior Gender Advisers will be located in the offices of his Special

Representatives, calls for senior gender advisers and other gender officer posts to be budgeted for and speedily recruited where appointed in special political missions and multidimensional peacekeeping operations, and encourages greater cooperation between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Department of Political Affairs and UN-Women to enable more gender-responsive United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions, including through providing field-based gender advisers and other missions' sectors with full access to the policy, substantive and technical support of these entities on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and successive resolutions, making full use of respective comparative advantages;

8. Welcomes the Secretary-General's commitment to prioritize the appointment of more women in senior United Nations leadership positions, bearing in mind a cross-geographical representation and in accordance with existing relevant rules and regulations governing administrative and budgetary issues, and encourages him to review the obstacles preventing women's recruitment and professional advancement, further welcomes efforts to incentivize greater numbers of women in militaries and police deployed to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and calls upon the Secretary-General to initiate, in collaboration with Member States, a revised strategy, within existing resources, to double the numbers of women in military and police contingents of UN peacekeeping operations over the next five years;

9. Expresses deep concern over continuing allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeepers and non-United Nations forces, including military, civilian and police personnel, urges police- and troop-contributing countries to provide robust predeployment training on sexual exploitation and abuse and vetting of their peacekeeping personnel, to conduct swift and thorough investigations of their uniformed personnel, and if appropriate, to prosecute, and to inform the United Nations in a timely manner of the status and outcome of investigations, calls upon the United Nations to cooperate as appropriate and in a timely manner with national authorities, including courts responsible for investigating such allegations, when requested for that purpose, and requests United Nations troop- and police-contributing country meetings to address sexual exploitation and abuse whenever relevant and the United Nations Military Staff Committee to discuss these issues as part of its regular programme;

10. Welcomes the Secretary-General's continued efforts at implementing his policy of zero tolerance of misconduct, in particular the wide-ranging proposals on prevention, enforcement and remedial action which promote

greater accountability, including his commitment to bring to public light misconduct by United Nations personnel, as well as his proposal to keep the Security Council informed of developments regarding implementation of his zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse, and his decision that all countries repeatedly listed in the annexes of his reports on Children and Armed Conflict and Sexual Violence in Conflict are prohibited from participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and urges those troop- and police-contributing countries that are currently listed to cease such violations and implement actions plans expeditiously, thereby avoiding suspension from peace operations, further requests the Secretary-General to include a section on conduct and discipline including, whenever relevant, adherence to his zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse, in all his reports on country-specific situations to the Security Council;

11. Calls for the greater integration by Member States and the United Nations of their agendas on women, peace and security, counter-terrorism and countering-violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, requests the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate to integrate gender as a cross-cutting issue throughout the activities within their respective mandates, including within country-specific assessments and reports, recommendations made to Member States, facilitating technical assistance to Member States and briefings to the Council, encourages the Counter-Terrorism Committee and Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate to hold further consultations with women and women's organizations to help inform their work, and further encourages the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to take the same approach in activities within its mandate;

12. Urges Member States and requests relevant United Nations entities, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, within its existing mandate, and in collaboration with UN-Women, to conduct and gather gender-sensitive research and data collection on the drivers of radicalization for women, and the impacts of counter-terrorism strategies on women's human rights and women's organizations, in order to develop targeted and evidence-based policy and programming responses, and to ensure United Nations monitoring and assessment mechanisms and processes mandated to prevent and respond to violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, have the necessary gender expertise to fulfil their mandates, including relevant sanctions experts groups and bodies established to conduct fact finding and criminal investigations;

13. Urges Member States and the United Nations system to ensure the participation and leadership of women and women's organizations in developing strategies to counter terrorism and violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, including through countering incitement to commit terrorist acts, creating counter narratives and other appropriate interventions, and building their capacity to do so effectively, and further to address, including by the empowerment of women, youth, religious and cultural leaders, the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, consistent with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288), welcomes the increasing focus on inclusive upstream prevention efforts and encourages the forthcoming Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism to integrate women's participation, leadership and empowerment as core to the United Nation's strategy and responses, calls for adequate financing in this regard and for an increased amount, within the funding of the UN for counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, to be committed to projects which address gender dimensions including women's empowerment;

14. Urges Member States to strengthen access to justice for women in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through the prompt investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of sexual and gender based violence, as well as reparation for victims as appropriate, notes that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern committed against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of the International Criminal Court, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals and reiterates its intention to continue forcefully to fight impunity and uphold accountability with appropriate means;

15. Encourages empowering women, including through capacity-building efforts, as appropriate, to participate in the design and implementation of efforts related to the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit transfer, and the destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, and calls upon Member States, United Nations entities, intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations to take into consideration the specific impact of conflict and post-conflict environments on women's and girls' security, mobility, education, economic activity and opportunities, to mitigate the risk of women from becoming active players in the illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons;

16. Calls upon Member States, the United Nations, and other relevant actors to ensure due consideration is given to the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the process and outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2016, further recognizes the importance of integrating gender considerations across humanitarian programming by seeking to ensure the provision of access to protection and the full range of medical, legal and psychosocial and livelihood services, without discrimination, and through ensuring women and women's groups can participate meaningfully and are supported to be leaders in humanitarian action, and urges the Secretary-General to strengthen leadership and political will at all levels on this issue and ensure accountability to existing humanitarian frameworks related to women's empowerment and gender equality which contribute to the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda;

17. Invites the Secretary-General in his next annual report on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) to submit information on progress made to follow up on the High-Level Review including the recommendations highlighted in the Secretary-General's report on the Global Study and new commitments made as part of the High-Level Review, as well as appropriate monitoring and evaluation arrangements for the UN system, and to make this available to all Member States;

18. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

## **9. Resolution 2467 (2019)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 8514th meeting, on 23 April 2019**

**The Security Council,**

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), and 2242 (2015) on women, peace and security, and relevant statements of its Presidents, and *further emphasizing* that persistent barriers to their implementation will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women's participation and protection and promotion of human rights, and consistent support to building women's engagement at all levels of decision-making,

**Recalling** the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and reaffirming the obligations of State Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

**Further recalling** the obligations applicable to parties to armed conflict under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,

**Noting** General Recommendation 30 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post- Conflict Situations,

**Bearing in mind** the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

**Recognizing** that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law, *and reaffirming* that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians,

**Affirming** the primary role of Member States to implement fully the relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security, and the important complementary role of United Nations entities and regional organizations,

**Taking note of** the report of the Secretary-General of 29 March 2019 (S/2019/280), and remaining deeply concerned over the slow progress in addressing and eliminating sexual violence in situations of armed conflict in particular against women and children, and *noting* as documented in the Secretary-General's report that sexual violence occurs during and after armed conflicts throughout the world,

**Recognizing** the significance of the twenty-year anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000), the progress made as well as the opportunity and need for far greater implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, **remaining deeply concerned** by the frequent under-representation of women in many formal processes and bodies related to the maintenance of international peace and security, the relatively low number of women in senior positions in political, peace and security- related national, regional and international

institutions, the lack of adequate gender- sensitive humanitarian responses and support for women's leadership roles in these settings, insufficient financing for women, peace and security, and the resulting detrimental impact on the maintenance of international peace and security,

**Expressing deep concern** at the full range of threats and human rights violations and abuses experienced by women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and **recognising** that women and girls are particularly at risk and are often specifically targeted and at an increased risk of violence in conflict and post-conflict situations,

**Emphasizing** that advancing gender equality and women's political, social, and economic empowerment is critical to the prevention of and response to sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, and that the safety and empowerment of women and girls is important for their meaningful participation in peace processes, preventing conflicts and rebuilding societies, and that therefore women's protection and participation are inextricably linked and mutually-reinforcing as reflected by all previous resolutions on women, peace and security,

**Recognizing** that the disproportionate impact of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations on women and girls is exacerbated by discrimination against women and girls and by the under-representation of women in decision-making and leadership roles, the impact of discriminatory laws, the gender- biased enforcement and application of existing laws, harmful social norms and practices, structural inequalities, and discriminatory views on women or gender roles in society, and lack of availability of services for survivors, and *further affirming* the importance of promoting gender equality by addressing these and other root causes of sexual violence against all women and girls as part of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding,

**Recognizing** that sexual violence in conflict occurs on a continuum of interrelated and recurring forms of violence against women and girls, and *recognizing* that conflict also exacerbates the frequency and brutality of other forms of gender- based violence,

**Recognizing** national ownership and responsibility in addressing the root causes of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and **further recognizing that** the consistent and rigorous prosecution of sexual violence crimes is central to deterrence and prevention, as is challenging the perceptions that sexual violence in armed conflict is a cultural phenomenon or an inevitable consequence of war or a lesser crime,

**Reiterating** the need for civilian and military leaders, to demonstrate commitment and political will to prevent sexual violence and enforce accountability, and that inaction and impunity for sexual violence crimes in conflict and post-conflict situation can send a message that the incidence of such crimes is tolerated,

**Recalling** the responsibilities of States to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, perpetrated against civilians and, in this regard, **noting with concern** that only very limited numbers of perpetrators of sexual violence have been brought to justice, while **recognizing** that in conflict and in post-conflict situations national justice systems may be significantly weakened,

**Noting** United Nations commissions of inquiry and United Nations fact-finding missions, as appropriate and where relevant, as mechanisms to verify and investigate allegations of violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, and in accordance with their respective mandates to make recommendations to advance accountability and justice and protection for survivors, and, in accordance with their respective mandates and within existing resources, to partner with Funds and Agencies in the provision of specialised multi-sectoral services,

**Recognizing** the need for a survivor-centered approach in preventing and responding to sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, **further recognizing** the need for survivors of sexual violence to receive non-discriminatory access to services such as medical and psychosocial care to the fullest extent practicable and need to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and that violations of the obligations on the treatment of victims can amount to serious violations of international law,

**Reiterating its deep regret** that civilians continue to account for the vast majority of casualties in situations of armed conflict and **recalling with grave concern** that the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons fuel armed conflicts and have a wide range of negative human rights, humanitarian, development and socioeconomic consequences, in particular on the security of civilians in armed conflict, including the disproportionate impact on violence perpetrated against women and girls and exacerbating sexual and gender-based violence in conflict,

**Acknowledging** the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty and **noting** the provisions in Article 7(4) of the Treaty that exporting States Parties shall take into account the risk of covered conventional arms or items being used to

commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children,

**Recognizing** the link between sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations and the illicit trade in natural resources, including so-called “conflict-minerals” and **further recognizing the need** for private sector actors to ensure that proceeds from materials acquired for their production processes do not fund armed groups that perpetuate conflict and sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations,

**Recalling** the important contribution of civil society, including women leaders and women’s organizations, to conflict prevention, resolution, and peacebuilding, including preventing and responding to sexual violence in conflict, affirming the importance of their sustained engagement and meaningful participation in all peace processes and **remaining deeply concerned about** threats, attacks and restrictions on the work of civil society organizations that inhibit their ability to contribute to international peace and security,

**Reaffirming** its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States in accordance with the Charter,

**Welcoming** the efforts of Member States, and **recognizing** the efforts of regional and subregional organizations, in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on Women, Peace and Security at the regional, national and local levels, including the development of action plans and other planning frameworks, with sufficient resources, and encouraging Member States to continue to pursue such implementation, including through strengthened monitoring, evaluation and coordination,

1. *Reiterates* its demand for the complete cessation with immediate effect by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence and its call for these parties to make and implement specific time-bound commitments to combat sexual violence, which should include, inter alia, issuance of clear orders through chains of command and development of codes of conduct prohibiting sexual violence and establishment of related enforcement procedures to ensure accountability for breaching these orders, commitments by individual commanders, investigation of all credible allegations including on the basis of information reported by relevant UN entities and accountability for those responsible, unimpeded access for monitoring and provision of services and humanitarian assistance in areas under their control;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General, his Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, Women Protection Advisers, and other relevant United Nations entities in seeking time-bound commitments and implementation plans by all parties to conflict to prevent and address all acts and forms of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, *encourages* designation of high-level civilian, military and police focal points, as appropriate, who will be responsible for the implementation of such commitments, *notes further* that the Secretary-General should give due consideration to the ongoing implementation of commitments as outlined above in its annual report on sexual violence in conflict, *encourages* a more systematic approach and the acceleration of such efforts and *welcomes* the regular briefings to the Security Council by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict in this regard;

3. *Encourages* national authorities in this context to strengthen legislation to foster accountability for sexual violence, *stresses* the critical role of the domestic investigation and judicial systems of member states to prevent and eliminate sexual violence in conflict and to ensure accountability for those responsible, and *requests* relevant United Nations entities including the Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence established pursuant to resolution 1888 to support national authorities in their efforts in this regard;

4. *Recognizes* the work of the of the Informal Experts Group on Women, Peace and Security, as expressed in resolution 2242, and *expresses its intention* to consider its information, analysis, and recommendations, acknowledging UN Women's important role in this regard, and *emphasizes* that sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and all other aspects of the Women, Peace and Security agenda should continue to be addressed in this forum;

5. *Reiterating deep concern* that despite its repeated condemnation of violence, including sexual violence, against women and children in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, often with impunity, and in some situations have become systematic and widespread, reaching appalling levels of brutality, and in this respect; *requests* the Secretary-General, in his next annual report to the Council on the implementation of Resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013) and the present resolution, to include a gap assessment and recommendations, within existing resources and in close consultation, with all applicable UN entities, as well as Member States, and other relevant

experts, on how the Security Council can strengthen and monitor implementation of relevant commitments by parties to conflict as well as on how the UN can better support local, national, and regional efforts to address the needs of survivors of sexual violence in conflict; 6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant UN entities to further strengthen, the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence established pursuant to resolution 1960 (2010), including rape in situations of armed conflict, post-conflict and other situations relevant to the implementation of resolution 1888 (2009), and to consider ensuring, as appropriate, that these arrangements address sexual violence used as a tactic of war and as a tactic of terrorism, with a view to providing, within existing resources, information on the implementation of paragraph 1 of this resolution by parties to conflict;

7. *Reiterates* that the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements need to respect fully the integrity and specificity of the monitoring and reporting mechanism implemented under Security Council resolutions on children and armed conflict and *reiterates its request* to the Secretary General to continue to ensure full transparency, cooperation and coordination of efforts between the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and armed conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in conflict;

8. *Encourages* relevant United Nations mandating bodies, as appropriate, in the establishment inter alia of commissions of inquiry and independent investigative entities to ensure that considerations to address sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations are included in their mandates and terms of reference, where relevant, and the Secretary-General to ensure that they are established and operationalized with the capacity and relevant expertise to address such considerations, and in this regard encourages the use of existing rosters of investigators with relevant expertise; *emphasizes further* that all efforts to document and investigate sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations should take into account the specific needs of survivors, be well-coordinated, and respect safety, confidentiality and informed consent of survivors as well as independence and impartiality, and that monitoring and investigation strategies are connected to specialized multi-sectoral referral pathways to services for survivors;

9. *Encourages* the continued strengthening of efforts to monitor and document sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and, as an integral part of these efforts, calls for a more systematic, reliable and rigorous approach to gathering accurate, reliable timely and sex-disaggregated

information on sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, in such a way that will not put at risk survivors;

10. *Urges* existing Sanctions Committees, where within the scope of the relevant criteria for designation, and consistent with the present and other relevant resolutions to apply targeted sanctions against those who perpetrate and direct sexual violence in conflict; and *reiterates* its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence;

11. *Encourages* the Secretary General to ensure that expert groups and monitoring teams and panels for sanctions committees include members with dedicated sexual violence and gender expertise, and include information on incidents, patterns, trends and perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations in their reports and recommendations to committees, where mandated;

12. *Calls upon* all peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions and United Nations entities, in particular the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, to share with relevant United Nations Security Council Sanctions Committees, including through their monitoring groups and groups of experts, all pertinent information about sexual violence, and further calls upon them to strengthen their cooperation and exchange of information in this regard;

13. *Recognizes* the need to integrate the prevention, response and elimination of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations and addressing its root causes in all relevant resolutions, including in relevant authorizations and renewals of the mandates of peace missions through the inclusion of operational provisions,; *expresses its intention* to make better usage of periodical field visits to conflict areas, through the organization of interactive meetings with the local women and women's organizations in the field about the concerns and needs of women in areas of armed conflict;, and to engage with national authorities, as appropriate, on the prevention and response to sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations and engage with victims, affected communities and civil society, including women's organizations;

14. *Calls upon* Member States in the context of justice sector reform efforts, to strengthen legislation and enhance investigation and prosecution of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations consistent with fair trial

guarantees under international law, which could include enacting, if not yet established, victim and witness protection laws and providing, where appropriate, legal aid for survivors, and establishing, where appropriate, specialized police units and courts to address such crimes, removing procedural impediments to justice for victims such as restrictive limitation periods for filing claims, corroboration requirements that discriminate against victims as witnesses and complainants, exclusion or discrediting of victims' testimony by law enforcement officials and within judicial and other proceedings, and lack of facilities for closed hearings; and *encourages* concerned Member States to draw upon the expertise of the United Nations Team of Experts established pursuant to resolution 1888 (2009) under the strategic leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict as appropriate to strengthen the rule of law and the capacity of civilian and military justice systems to address sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations as part of broader efforts to strengthen institutional safeguards against impunity;

15. *Urges* Member States to strengthen access to justice for victims of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, including women and girls, who are particularly targeted, including through the prompt investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as reparations for victims as appropriate, *acknowledges* the inclusion of sexual and gender-related crimes among the most serious crimes of international concern in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which entered into force on 1 July 2002, *notes* that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern committed against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of international and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals and reiterates its intention to continue forcefully to fight impunity and uphold accountability with appropriate means;

16. *Encourages* Member States to adopt a survivor-centered approach in preventing and responding to sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, ensuring that prevention and response are non-discriminatory and specific, and respect the rights and prioritize needs of survivors, including groups that are particularly vulnerable or may be specifically targeted, and notably in the context of their health, education, and participation, and in this regard the Council:

a. *Calls upon* all Member States to ensure that survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict in the respective countries receive the care required by their specific needs and without any discrimination; b. *Notes* the link

between sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and HIV infection, and the disproportionate burden of HIV and AIDS on women and girls as a persistent obstacle and challenge to gender equality;

c. *Encourages* leaders at the national and local level, including community, religious and traditional leaders, as appropriate and where they exist, to play a more active role in advocating within communities against sexual violence in conflict to avoid marginalization and stigmatization of survivors and their families, as well as, to assist with their social and economic reintegration and that of their children, and to address impunity for these crimes;

d. *Encourages* concerned Member States to ensure the opportunity for the full and meaningful participation of survivors of sexual and gender-based violence at all stages of transitional justice processes, including in decision-making roles, *recognizes* that women's leadership and participation will increase the likelihood that transitional justice outcomes will constitute effective redress as defined by victims and will respond to important contextual factors;

17. *Recalls* the applicable provisions of international law on the right to an effective remedy for violations of human rights, *calls upon* Member States to make such effective remedy and assistance available to victims of sexual violence in conflict, and post-conflict situations, and *encourages* Member States and other relevant actors to give due consideration to the establishment of a survivors' fund;

18. *Recognizes* that women and girls who become pregnant as a result of sexual violence in armed conflict, including those who choose to become mothers, may have different and specific needs, and *noting* the connected, distinct, sometimes life threatening and enduring risks and harms often faced by those women, girls and their children born as result of sexual violence in conflict, including economic and social marginalization, physical and psychological injury, statelessness, discrimination and lack of access to reparations; and *urging* states to recognize the equal rights of all individuals affected by sexual violence in armed conflict, including women, girls and children born of sexual violence in armed conflict, in national legislation, consistent with their obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as applicable, *further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on these issues within two years and no later than the end of 2021 and *requests* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict to cooperate with the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict and other relevant UN entities on that matter;

19. *Recognizes* the importance of supporting, and promoting civil society, especially local, grassroots, women-led organizations, and religious and community leaders, girls- and youth-led organizations, for all prevention and response efforts; while supporting community mobilization campaigns to help shift the stigma of sexual violence from the victims to the perpetrators, and to promote cohesion among community members where state security presence is weak;

20. *Encourages* concerned Member States and relevant United Nations entities to support capacity building for women-led and survivor-led organizations and build the capacity of civil society groups to enhance informal community-level protection mechanisms against sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, to increase their support of women's active and meaningful engagement in peace processes to strengthen gender equality, women's empowerment and protection as a means of conflict prevention;

21. *Welcomes* the regular briefings by women from civil society, particularly in country-specific meetings, which has enlightened the Council on conditions in conflict countries including in relation to sexual violence, and *calls upon* States to condemn acts of discrimination, harassment and violence against civil society, and journalists who report on sexual violence in conflict and who are important to changing norms on roots causes, namely structural gender inequality and discrimination, and develop and put in place measures to protect them and enable them to do their work;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the timely deployment of Women Protection Advisers to relevant UN peace operations particularly at a senior level, ensuring that they have direct access to senior leadership of such peace operations, and offices of UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators in all relevant situations of concern, to advise UN senior leadership on the implementation of the operational provisions of this resolution and other Security Council resolutions on sexual violence in conflict, including engagement with parties to conflict for time-bound commitments and establishment and functioning of the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence, and *takes note with appreciation* of the Secretary-General's gender parity strategy;

23. *Reiterates* its intention when establishing and renewing the mandates of United Nations missions, to include provisions on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through the appointment of gender advisers as appropriate, and *further expresses its intention* to include provisions to facilitate

women's full and effective participation and protection in: election preparation and political processes, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs, security sector and judicial reforms, and wider post-conflict reconstruction processes where these are mandated tasks within the mission;

24. *Recognizes* the role of United Nations peacekeeping contingents in preventing sexual violence, and, in this respect, *calls for* pre-deployment and in-mission training of troop- and police-contributing country contingents to include training on sexual and gender-based violence and *encourages* integration of this competence into the performance and operational readiness standards against which troops and police are assessed;

25. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's decision that all state actors repeatedly listed in the annexes of his reports on Sexual Violence in Conflict and Children and Armed Conflict are prohibited from participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and urges those troop- and police-contributing countries that are currently listed to cease such violations and abuses, and expeditiously implement action plans in accordance with paragraph 1 of this resolution, thereby avoiding suspension from peace operations;

26. *Calls upon* Member States and the United Nations to support affected countries to address sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations in the context of security sector reform processes including to enhance the capacity of military structures to address and prevent sexual violence related crimes, and put in place safeguards through vetting to prevent individuals credibly suspected of committing sexual violence related crimes from being recruited, retained or promoted within the security forces; *encourages* Member States to promote the equal opportunity of women at all levels of national police service positions and other security positions; *encourage* UN entities where mandated to address security sector reform to include sexual violence expertise in their field operations and ensure that these considerations are reflected in operational guidance and resourcing of their programmatic activities;

27. *Encourages* Member States, with the assistance of the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations entities, to ensure the integration of gender analysis and training into national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes, including ensuring that women formerly associated with armed groups, as well as ex-combatants, are able to access trauma services, resocialization and reintegration initiatives; *reiterates* in this regard

the need to establish protection mechanisms for women in cantonment sites, as well as for civilians in close proximity of cantonment sites and in communities of return;

28. *Stresses* that acts of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict can be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of, and used as a tactic by certain parties to armed conflict, including non-state armed groups, designated as terrorist groups and therefore *affirms* that victims of sexual violence, committed by certain parties to armed conflict, including non-state armed groups designated as terrorist groups, should have access to national relief and reparations programmes, as well as health care, psychosocial care, safe shelter, livelihood support and legal aid and that services should include provisions for women with children born as a result of sexual violence in conflict, as well as men and boys who may have been victims of sexual violence in conflict including in detention settings; contribute to lifting the sociocultural stigma attached to this category of crime and facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration efforts;

29. *Requests* the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), within its existing mandate, under the policy guidance of the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC), and in close cooperation with UNODC, the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, UN Women in line with resolution 2242 (2015), and other relevant entities, to continue to include in CTED's country assessments, as appropriate, information regarding Member States efforts to address the issue of trafficking in persons and its link with sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations committed by terrorist groups as part of their strategic objectives and ideology, and used as a tactic by certain parties to armed conflict, including non-state armed groups designated as terrorist groups;

30. *Calls upon* parties to conflict to ensure that ceasefire and peace agreements contain provisions that stipulate sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations as a prohibited act, particularly in provisions relating to disengagement, ensure further that women are present and meaningfully participate in political pre- negotiation and negotiation processes; and *stresses the need* for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty and immunity provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes;

31. *Recognizes* that displaced persons face specific, heightened risks of sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual violence in armed conflict, as well as barriers to support services, and in accordance with international refugee law and international human rights law, as applicable, sexual violence

in armed conflict and post-conflict situations may constitute a gender related form of persecution for the purposes of determining eligibility asylum or refugee status; *encourages* Member States to consider resettlement or local integration support for survivors, to adopt measures to mitigate the risk of sexual violence, to make services available to survivors, and to provide the option of documenting their cases for future accountability processes;

32. *Notes* that sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations disproportionately affects woman and girls, *recognizes* also that men and boys are also targets of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict settings, including in the context of detention settings and those associated with armed groups; *urges* Member States to protect victims who are men and boys through the strengthening of policies that offer appropriate responses to male survivors and challenge cultural assumptions about male invulnerability to such violence; *requests further* that the monitoring,

analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence focus more consistently on the gender specific nature of sexual violence in conflict and post- conflict situations against all affected populations in all situations of concern, including men and boys;

33. *Welcomes* the efforts of regional and sub-regional organizations to address and eliminate sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict settings and to support Member States in this regard, and *encourages* them to continue those efforts;

34. *Recognizes* the role of United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict as the interagency coordination forum chaired by the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict to address this problem, and *encourages* the revision and continued development of innovative operational tools and guidance by United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict;

35. *Calls upon* Member States, United Nations entities, and civil society actors to make commitments in order to implement the Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security ahead of the 20th anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1325, and to ensure that such commitments make a meaningful impact to implement the women, peace and security agenda and allow for a strengthened follow-up of its implementation, in addition, *encourages* Member States to adopt, and regularly refresh, fully funded national action plans to progress the Women, Peace and Security agenda;

36. *Requests* that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of Resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013) and the present resolution, *further requests* the Secretary-General, as mandated, to include gender-sensitive analysis in his conflict analysis and to continue to include information and related recommendations on issues of relevance to women, peace and security, including on sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations in his reports to the Council;

37. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

## **10. Résolution 2493 (2019)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 8649th meeting, on 29 October 2019**

**The Security Council,**

*Reaffirming* its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), and 2467 (2019) on Women, Peace and Security, and relevant statements of its Presidents,

*Bearing* in mind the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Reaffirming* in this regard the importance to achieve sustainable peace and security by dialogue, mediation, consultations and political negotiations to bridge differences and to end conflicts,

*Recognizing* the progress made as well as the opportunity and need for far greater implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, *remaining deeply concerned* by persisting barriers to the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and the frequent under-representation of women in many formal processes and bodies related to the maintenance of international peace and security, the relatively low number of women in senior positions in political, peace and security-related national, regional and international institutions, the lack of adequate gender-sensitive humanitarian responses and support for

women's leadership roles in these settings, insufficient financing for Women, Peace and Security, and the resulting detrimental impact on the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Recognizing* that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

*Recalling* the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and reaffirming the obligations of State Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them, *noting* General Recommendation 30 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post Conflict Situations,

*Reaffirming* the primary role of Member States to implement fully all Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security, and the important complementary role of United Nations entities and regional organizations, *further recognizing* that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law, and reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians,

*Recognizing* the important role and contribution of civil society, including women's organizations, in the full implementation of Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General of 9 October 2019 and its operational recommendations for the UN and Member States in the lead up to the 20th anniversary of Resolution 1325 and, *recalling* the report of the Secretary-General of 17 September 2015 (S/2015/716) which submitted the recommendations of the Global Study on the implementation of resolution 1325,

*Welcoming* the efforts of Member States, and regional and subregional organizations, in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on Women, Peace and Security at the regional, national and local levels, including the development of action plans and other complementary implementation planning frameworks, with sufficient resources, and

*encouraging* Member States to continue to pursue such implementation, including through strengthened monitoring, evaluation and coordination,

*Recognizing* the opportunity presented by the number of significant anniversaries in 2020 notably the 20th anniversary of Resolution 1325, the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and *calling on* all Member States to commit to the promotion of women and girls' empowerment in peace and security processes and to use these anniversaries to intensify their national efforts and international co-operation,

1. *Urges* Member States to fully implement the provisions of all previous Security Council Resolutions pertaining to the Women, Peace and Security agenda and to reinforce their efforts in this regard;

2. *Further urges* Member States to commit to implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda and its priorities by ensuring and promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in all stages of peace processes, including through mainstreaming a gender perspective, and remain committed to increasing the number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping at all levels and in key positions;

3. *Urges* Member States supporting peace processes to facilitate women's full, equal and meaningful inclusion and participation in peace talks from the outset, both in negotiating parties' delegations and in the mechanisms set up to implement and monitor agreements, *encourages* Member States to support efforts, including timely support to women to enhance their participation and capacity building in peace processes, in order to address the unequal representation and participation of women in the peace and security agenda;

4. *Noting* the Peacebuilding Commission mandate pursuant to resolution 1645 (2005) and its gender strategy and *calls* for its full implementation to *further* promote women's participation in peacebuilding efforts, and in the prevention of conflict, and *encourages* the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to support the participation of women-led peacebuilding organizations, in planning and stabilization efforts in post-conflict reconstruction and recovery;

5. *Calls on* Member States to promote all the rights of women, including civil, political and economic rights, *urges* them to increase their funding on women, peace and security including through more aid in conflict and post-conflict situations for programmes that further gender equality and women's economic empowerment and security, as well as through support to civil society, and to support countries in armed conflict and post-conflict

situations, including through access to education, training and capacity-building, in their implementation of women, peace and security resolutions, further calls for increased international development cooperation related to women's empowerment and gender equality and invites aid providers to continue to track the gender focus of aid contributions and provide further information and assessment on this progress;

6. *Strongly* encourages Member States to create safe and enabling environments for civil society, including formal and informal community women leaders, women peacebuilders, political actors, and those who protect and promote human rights, to carry out their work independently and without undue interference, including in situations of armed conflict, and to address threats, harassment, violence and hate speech against them;

7. *Takes note* of the work of the Informal Experts Group on Women, Peace and Security as expressed in resolution 2242 (2015) to facilitate a more systematic approach to Women, Peace and Security within its own work and enable greater oversight and coordination of implementation efforts; and *acknowledges* UN Women's important role in this regard;

8. *Encourages* regional organizations to consider convening meetings in the lead up to the 20th commemoration of resolution 1325 with the participation of governments, relevant stakeholders and civil society to review the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in their respective regions, and *further encourages* them to identify practical and measurable steps for fully implementing the agenda, and *invites* them to report on this progress, during the annual open debate of the Security Council;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, *requests* that all Heads of UN Entities, lend all possible support to the Secretary-General in this matter to:

(a) develop context-specific approaches for women's participation in all UN-supported peace talks, including country specific situations, in order to contribute to full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peace and security, to ensure more inclusive participation;

(b) to continue to make use of the UN's annual consultations with regional organizations to encourage the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda as it relates to their specific contexts, further encourages cooperation and sharing of best practices as it relates to implementation of the agenda, as requested by regional and subregional organizations;

(c) continue mainstreaming a gender perspective in the Secretariat and United Nations agencies, including through the system-wide gender parity strategy;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include the following in his next annual report on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and its subsequent resolutions:

(a) further information on, progress made and the remaining challenges in the Women, Peace and Security agenda as well as recommendations to address new and emerging challenges;

(b) the implementation of the appointment of gender advisers and/or women protection advisers, provisions to facilitate women's full and effective participation and protection in: the election preparation and political processes, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs, security sector and judicial reforms, and wider post-conflict reconstruction processes where these are mandated tasks within the UN mission;

(c) an assessment of the progress and commitments made on dedicated gender expertise in expert groups and monitoring teams in UN Security Council Sanctions Committees and how this commitment is met, as articulated in previous resolutions;

11. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.



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**Annie Matundu Mbambi**

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She is the author of several articles on disarmament, climate change, women's political participation, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, and gender-based violence,

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