

## **Recommendations from the Civil Society Advisory Group on Women, Peace and Security on Events and Action to Commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SCR 1325**

Concept Note - 16 April 2010

The 10th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 on women, peace and security in October 2010 offers a significant opportunity for Member States, the United Nations, and civil society to work together to ensure that concrete, measurable, and positive action is taken to empower and protect women in conflict situations. Under the Presidency of Uganda in October 2010, the Security Council has the opportunity to give new momentum to this effort and to lay out clear systems for monitoring and accountability on its women, peace and security obligations.

The Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG) to the UN on Women, Peace and Security (membership list attached) is tasked with advising the High-Level Steering Committee for the 10th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, the Deputy Secretary-General and, ultimately, the Secretary-General, on ensuring a coherent and coordinated approach by the UN system to implementing UNSCR 1325. The CSAG is co-chaired by Mary Robinson, President of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative, former President of Ireland and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Bineta Diop, Executive Director, Femmes Africa Solidarité. The CSAG Secretariat is the Women Leaders Intercultural Forum of Realizing Rights, The Institute for Inclusive Security and the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security.

The following is a suggested agenda of events on 28 and 29 October 2010 to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that will ensure all relevant actors are translating policy into results for the second decade of UNSCR 1325.

**28 October 2010 Events:  
Ministerial Level Meeting on “Commitments to Action on Women, Peace  
and Security” and Arria Formula Meeting**

UNSCR 1325 of 31 October 2000 called on all Member States to enhance their contributions – financial, technical, logistical and political – to empower and protect women in the context of armed conflict. In 2008, more than forty women leaders from government, business, and civil society asked UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to convene a ministerial-level meeting in 2010 to mark this anniversary. Events on 28 October could include an Arria Formula meeting providing an opportunity for Member States to be briefed by women’s civil society actors, followed by a ministerial-level meeting convened by the Secretary-General on “Commitments to Action on Women, Peace and Security.” This ministerial meeting would occur just in advance of the UN Security Council session marking the 10th anniversary, and would provide a forum for Member States to make commitments to specific actions which they will take on women, peace and security over the next 3-5 years.

Each Member State – be it conflict-affected, a traditional donor, or other – would be challenged to make a new and additive commitment at the conference to results-based, time-bound and measurable actions. Such commitments could be to expand financial resources by a stated amount over a specific timeframe to address a concrete aspect of the UNSCR 1325 agenda, including financial support to the pilot project on global indicators; to dedicate additional personnel assigned to this challenge; and/or to change policies, laws, regulations and practices so as to enhance participation and protection of women and create an enabling environment for new efforts. Joint commitments combining the efforts of several Member States would be encouraged, matching not only donors and war-affected countries, but also the contributions of charitable foundations, the business community, civil society, regional organizations, and UN agencies.

The UN itself may wish to institutionalize the High-Level Steering Committee created for the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 into a permanent High-Level Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security with civil society participation.

The commitments made at this conference would be cataloged and progress made toward their achievement would be monitored in a transparent manner under the UNSCR 1325 indicators framework. Member States will commit to reporting on progress on their commitments at the 11th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 in 2011 and at subsequent 1325 anniversaries. These anniversaries would also serve as opportunities to evaluate and revise past commitments and/or to make new commitments.

The agenda for the Arria Formula meeting could include:

- Briefings by representatives of women’s civil society organizations, especially those from war-affected countries, on the urgency of strong new action on women, peace and security issues.

The agenda for the ministerial meeting on “Commitments to Action on Women, Peace and Security” could include:

- Opening statement by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, including his commitment to establish a permanent High-Level Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security and his support for results-based, time-bound, measurable actions on women, peace and security.
- Statements by a Civil Society representative on key challenges and innovative action on women, peace and security.
- Statements by Member States and UN entities outlining commitments to action to achieve specific goals in the women, peace and security agenda. Consistent with the UNSCR 1325 indicators framework, these commitments would generally fall into one of four categories:
  - **Participation:** Promoting the full engagement of women in peace processes and post-conflict reconstruction and governance structures
  - **Prevention:** Taking actions to prevent the outbreak of conflict by addressing the root causes, including political and socio-economic concerns that disproportionately impact on women
  - **Protection:** Mitigating the impact of armed conflict on women in the form of sexual violence, displacement, and other hardships, including through a rights-based approach consistent with international humanitarian and human rights law
  - **Relief and recovery programs:** Ensuring that emergency relief and post-conflict efforts are appropriately targeted to programs that exclusively or primarily benefit women and girls, such as girls’ education, micro-enterprise, anti-trafficking in persons, and mother-child health care

**Ministerial Meeting in the Security Council on  
Women, Peace and Security  
29 October 2010**

The Security Council will have the opportunity on 29 October to demonstrate its commitment on women, peace and security by addressing the systemic challenges that have impeded full implementation of UNSCR 1325. A potential schedule for the Security Council's action, under the leadership of Uganda's Security Council Presidency, could include:

- Briefing by the Secretary-General on the outcome of the commitments conference on 28 October, including the goals set for the UN actions, and the commitments and goals set by Member States.
- Reporting from UN Secretariat actors – including OSAGI, DPKO, DPA, UNIFEM – on advancements and challenges still remaining on women, peace and security, including their own agency commitments to action and results.
- Reporting from UN SRSGs on the situation of women in their area of responsibility, underscoring the importance of listening directly to women on the ground in conflict situations and translating that learning into concrete actions for the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, particularly action that reflects the specific rights and concerns of women.
- Reporting from women's civil society organizations on the need for the Security Council and the broader international community to provide concrete support to women, peace and security commitments.
- Open Debate among Security Council members and Member States on systematic accountability and action by the Security Council to ensure it meets the obligations set out in UNSCR 1325.
- A Security Council outcome document that reflects Security Council commitment to implementing its obligations on women, peace and security.

## **Members of the Civil Society Advisory Group to the UN on Women, Peace and Security**

**Mary Robinson, Co-chair (Ireland)** Mary Robinson is the President of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative. She served as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights from 1997 to 2002 and as President of Ireland from 1990-1997. She is a member of the Elders. She serves as Honorary President of Oxfam International, chair of the GAVI Alliance Board and President of the International Commission of Jurists. She is a former chair of the Council of Women World Leaders and a member of the Club of Madrid. The recipient of numerous honours and awards throughout the world including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama, she serves on several boards including the Mo Ibrahim Foundation and the Global Compact.

**Bineta Diop, Co-chair (Senegal)** Bineta Diop is the Executive Director and founder of Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS), pan-African civil society organization working on issues of women, peace and security. Ms. Diop has led Femmes Africa Solidarité in numerous peace-building programmes, including the creation of a strong West African women's movement, the Mano River Women's Peace Network (MARWOPNET). She serves as Vice-President of the African Union Women's Committee, and chairs the United Nations Working Group on Peace in Geneva, which is part of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women monitoring the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325.

**Salim Ahmed Salim (Tanzania)** Salim Ahmed Salim served three terms as Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity. Dr. Salim served as Prime Minister of Tanzania from 1984 to 1985 and then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and National Service. At the United Nations, Dr. Salim was elected President of the UN Security Council in January 1976 and went on to serve as President of the Thirty-Fourth Session of the UN General Assembly in September 1979. Dr. Salim was Chairman of the UN Security Council Committee on Sanctions Against Rhodesia; President of the International Conference on Sanctions against South Africa, as well as the Paris International Conference Against Apartheid. Dr. Salim has also served as the African Union Special Envoy for Darfur.

**Hina Jilani (Pakistan)** Hina Jilani is an advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, an activist for peace, human rights and women's rights in Pakistan for the last three decades, and co-founder, with her sister Asma Jahanghir, of Pakistan's first all-female legal practice in 1980. She is also one of the founders of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan and the Women's Action Forum, as well as having founded Pakistan's first legal aid center in 1986. She served as UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and on the UN International Fact-Finding Commission on Darfur.

**Elisabeth Rehn (Finland)** Elisabeth Rehn is a human rights expert who has previously served as a Member of the Finnish Parliament, Minister of Defence, Minister of Equality Affairs, a Member of the European Parliament, as UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights, and as Under Secretary-General and Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in the former Yugoslavia. In recent years, she has dedicated herself to the impact of war on women and their role in peace-building. She co-authored with President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a landmark study entitled, *Women War Peace*. She currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims within the International Criminal Court.

**Lakhdar Brahimi (Algeria)** Lakhdar Brahimi served as Foreign Minister for Algeria until 1993, and has led numerous UN missions, including the United Nations Observer Mission that preceded the

1994 democratic elections in South Africa. As Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, he was entrusted with overall authority for the political, human rights, relief, recovery and reconstruction activities. Mr. Brahimi also served as the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Afghanistan from July 1997 until October 1999. In between his Afghanistan assignments, Brahimi chaired an independent panel established by Secretary-General Annan to review United Nations peace operations. The report, released by the panel in 2000 and known as the Brahimi Report, assessed the shortcomings of the existing system of peacekeeping and made specific recommendations for change, focusing on politics, strategy and operational and organizational areas of need. Since 2001, Mr. Brahimi has also served as UN special envoy in Iraq.

**Swanee Hunt (United States)** Ambassador Swanee Hunt founded the Women and Public Policy Program, a research center concerned with domestic and foreign policy, at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. As President of Hunt Alternatives Fund, she also chairs The Institute for Inclusive Security, which advocated for the full participation of all stakeholders, particularly women, in conflict prevention and resolution.

**Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda (Zimbabwe)** Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda serves as General Secretary of the World YWCA, a civil society organization representing over 2.5 million women and girl members worldwide. She served as Regional Director for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) in Eastern and Horn of Africa covering 13 countries. She had previously worked as a human rights officer with UNICEF in Liberia and Zimbabwe.

**Donald Steinberg (United States)** Donald Steinberg is deputy president for policy at International Crisis Group, and is responsible for advocacy, policy formulation and reporting for this non-governmental organization charged with preventing and ending armed conflict. During three decades with the U.S. diplomatic service, he served as Ambassador to Angola, Director of the State Department's Joint Policy Council, Special Representative of the President for Humanitarian Demining, Special Haiti Coordinator, Deputy White House Press Secretary, and Special Assistant for African Affairs to President Bill Clinton. He is a member of the board of the Women's Refugee Commission and previously served on the advisory panel to the executive director of UNIFEM.

**Zainab Salbi (Iraq/United States)** Zainab Salbi is co-founder and CEO of Women for Women International, a grassroots international humanitarian and development organization helping women survivors of war rebuild their lives, families and communities. Ms. Salbi grew up in Iraq and is a survivor of war herself. Women for Women International has spurred a global movement to help women survivors of war and civil strife to rebuild their lives and has distributed more than \$79 million in direct aid, micro credit loans, and other program services.

**Thelma Awori (Liberia/Uganda)** Thelma Awori is a consultant on gender and development and a board member of a number of prominent African civil society organizations such as the Sirleaf Market Women's Fund and Isis-WICCE. She served as Assistant Secretary General and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa at UNDP, New York between 1997 and 1999. Prior to that, she was Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP, New York and UN Resident Coordinator & Resident Representative, UNDP in Zimbabwe. Ms Awori was Deputy Director, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and prior to that, Chief of its Africa Section.

**Sanam Anderlini (Iran/UK)** Sanam Anderlini served as senior policy advisor to International Alert, where she advocated for and drafted United Nations Security Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. As director of the Women Waging Peace Policy Commission, Ms. Anderlini led groundbreaking field research on women's contributions to conflict prevention, peace processes, governance, transitional justice, and post-conflict disarmament and reintegration issues in twelve

countries. She served as lead consultant for the UN Development Programme's global initiative on "Gendered Dimensions of Violence in Crisis Contexts." She has taught at Georgetown University and is a research affiliate at the MIT Center for International Studies. Her latest book is *Women Building Peace: What They Do, Why It Matters*.

**Sharon Bhagwan-Rolls (Fiji)** Sharon Bhagwan-Rolls gained national prominence in Fiji by organizing, through the National Council of Women, a daily prayer vigil when government leaders were held hostage for 56 days during the 2000 coup. She now produces the monthly e-news bulletin "FemLINKpacific," originally to give voice to women affected by the coup and a quarterly magazine "femTALK 1325" covering women's peace initiatives and post-conflict needs in the region and advocating for UN Security Council Resolution 1325 implementation.

**Susana Villarán de la Puente (Peru)** Susana Villarán de la Puente is an educator, journalist and politician. She was Concertación Descentralista's presidential candidate for the 2006 national election. She has served as a member of the OAS's Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. She was a member of Lima's Metropolitan Municipality from 1983 to 1985. She became Minister of Women's Promotion and Social Development during Valentín Paniagua's transitory government. In 2002 she assumed the role of Ombudsperson for the Police.