

UK NATIONAL ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT UNSCR1325



**Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office**



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, was adopted unanimously by the Security Council in October 2000. The Resolution recognised the disproportionate effect of conflict on women and underlined the essential role of women in the prevention of conflict and as full participants in post-conflict peacebuilding and reconstruction efforts. UNSCR 1325 tasks the UN system and its Member States to ensure that gender considerations are thoroughly integrated into all aspects of its security work, from conflict prevention to post-conflict reconstruction. The UN Secretary-General's report of 13 October 2004, on implementation of UNSCR 1325, requested that Member States develop their own National Action Plans to implement UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

On International Women's Day on 8 March, UK Ministers launched the UK Action Plan. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ministry of Defence (MOD) and Department for International Development (DFID), along with other Government departments are all equal stakeholders in the development of this Plan. It demonstrates the commitment of the UK government as a whole to this important work. The Action Plan links humanitarian, conflict, defence and diplomacy work, all-important to conflict resolution and peacebuilding and covers amongst other action points:

- ensuring gender perspectives are included in all Security Council mandates for peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations;
- ensuring planning for UN Peace Support Operations includes gender components;
- continuing to deploy UK female military and police personnel in peace support operations;
- auditing of UK armed forces PSO training to ensure it deals adequately with the areas covered by UNSCR 1325; and
- including programming on women's issues in strategies under the Africa and Global Conflict Prevention Pools e.g. in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the UK supports the electoral commission and women's organisations in developing a shared strategy and action plans to ensure women's full participation in the elections as voters, potential leaders, civic educators and election observers.

Attached is an unclassified copy of the UK Low Level Action Plan, setting out in detail how the UK intends to implement UN Security Resolution 1325. This is a living document which will be evaluated regularly. These evaluations will provide an opportunity for revisions to be made, if necessary.

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UK SUPPORT TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Action Point - 1 :		
<p>HMG to ensure that gender elements are incorporated in the objectives of Security Council missions and make recommendations relating to women and girls in any follow-up reports.</p>		
Comments / Detail:		
<p>i) HMG to ensure that all stakeholders in developing/negotiating/discussing SC mission objectives, and any subsequent reports, are aware of the importance of gender in reference to SCR1325.</p> <p>ii) HMG to actively lobby UN Member States for support in including gender concerns.</p> <p>iii) Lobby Member States and Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) to ensure that they support HMG's position to reflect gender perspectives in all reports submitted to the Council.</p> <p>iv) HMG to lobby the UN Secretariat and Member States to ensure that gender perspectives are reflected in reports submitted to the Council.</p>		
Key Outcomes		
<p>i) UN Member States include gender concerns in SC missions.</p> <p>ii) Support given by Member States and/or TCCs to in support of UK's position to reflect gender in SCR.</p> <p>iii) All SC Missions actively include SCR1325 when drawing up objectives.</p>		

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Action Point - 2 :
HMG to ensure that gender perspectives continue to be reflected in all Security Council mandates for peacekeeping/support operations, and to include gender perspectives when negotiating UN peace agreements, ensuring that they are subsequently adopted.
Comments / Detail:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Desk Officers within HMG briefed on the importance of gender perspectives in all peacekeeping/support mandates.ii) Member States lobbied to ensure support for HMG's position to reflect gender perspectives in SCRs etc.iii) HMG to take into consideration SCR1325 and other gender perspectives when assessing UN Peace Agreementsiv) UKMis to lobby Member States to ensure they take into account the importance of gender perspectives
Key Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Member States and/or TCCs support of UK's position to reflect gender in SCRs.ii) Gender perspectives taken into account in all peacekeeping/support mandates.iii) Gender perspectives are routinely considered in all UN peace agreements.iv) UN Member States react positively to lobbying and actively ensure gender perspectives are considered.

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Action Point - 3 :
HMG to continue to incorporate gender perspectives into Peacekeeping operations; support the requirement to finance gender units; and support gender units/specialists requirement for access to senior level decision-makers; to ensure that gender perspectives are incorporated in all Peace Building Strategies.
Comments / Detail:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Lobby UN Member States and UN Departments to ensure gender perspectives are maintained in PKO and PBCii) Lobby Member States for sustained funding of gender units within PeaceKeeping Operations (PKOs).iii) Support gender adviser deployment to UN Missions.iv) Continue to support the work of DPKO's Department of Peace Keeping Operations (DPKO) gender adviser.
Key Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Gender perspectives incorporated into PKOs

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- ii) Gender Units are placed within all new PKOs.
- iii) DPKO Gender Adviser welcomes ongoing UK support.
- iv) Gender perspectives incorporated into Peace Building Commission Strategies.

Action Point - 4 :	
<p>HMG to provide financial support to; the UNDP / Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) in support of mainstreaming gender and; UNHCR's work with Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) and reduction of gender based violence against refugees.</p>	
Comments / Detail:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) DFID, through its institutional strategy (2004-2007) and core funding to support UNDP's efforts, to mainstream gender throughout their activities. ii) Specifically through our support to UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) we will maintain engagement to support follow-through of the recommendations of a recent gender review. iii) DFID to continue to support UNHCR in this field. Emphasis is on UNHCR and partner staff listening to and acting on women refugees' views as well as mens'. 	
Key Outcomes	
<p>UNDP/BCPR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i). more effective integration of women's concerns and priorities into its programming and activities. 	

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UNHCR

- i) Promote gender equality and respect for the rights, vies and priorities of refugee women and children
- ii) Operationalise age and gender analysis across UNHCR’s activities.
- iii) Operationalise policies relating to the protection of refugee women and children.

TRAINING AND POLICY WITHIN HMG

Action Point - 5 :

HMG to raise awareness amongst key programme/project stakeholders of the importance of taking into consideration gender issues in all conflict/security programme/project activity.

Comments / Detail:

- i) Circulate SCR1325 to programmes throughout Whitehall such as Global and Africa Conflict Prevention Pool, Global Opportunities Fund, programme Office and similar programmes in MOD, FCO and DFID.
- ii) Through relevant desk-top training - circulate tipsheet on conflict and security gender and conflict to desk officers.
- iii) Possible GCPP/ACPP to fund gender/conflict consultant to advise on gender.
- iv) Post Conflict Reconstruction Unit to recruit a conflict/social development adviser to assist – possible wider HMG use?
- v) Encourage the use of background studies on gender to inform DFID’s Strategic Conflict Assessment methodology.

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Key Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) HMG programmes informed and gender consideration mainstreamed within project/programme proposals. ii) Telegram to all posts highlighting the importance of SCR1325 to raise awareness to all key stakeholders. iii) Ongoing development of conflict and security gender programme activity database across government, especially SCR1325 related activity.

Action Point - 6 :
<p>UK Ministry of Defence Armed Forces to undertake audit of gender content of Pre-Deployment Training. Where necessary, develop gender awareness training, and raise awareness of the UN Code of Conduct on personal behaviour. Where appropriate, incorporate gender perspective related training into other military and conflict related personnel doctrines.</p>
Comments / Detail:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) MOD to audit gender content of pre-deployment training. ii) MOD to identify possible gender training for inclusion in pre-deployment training, including awareness about UN Code of Conduct training on personal behaviour. iii) MOD to periodically review the gender content of pre-deployment training to ensure that gender considerations continue to be taken into account. iv) MOD to consider using specialist trainers to deliver gender-related training. v) MOD will investigate the feasibility of including specific guidance on gender in operational planning and training.

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Key Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) UK Armed Forces Training shows that gender content of pre-deployment training has evolved ii) Further gender related training for inclusion in pre-deployment training identified. iii) Gender training mainstreamed into all pre-deployment training. iv) Gender perspectives included in military doctrine and planning for PKOs.

Action Point - 7 :
<p>Encourage UK and international institutions, civil society, and UN Member States to identify suitably qualified female candidates for positions within their own countries/establishments in an attempt to increase the number of women at senior decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace-building.</p>
Comments / Detail:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Lobby through the UN and UK Missions overseas, to encourage Member States to identify suitable female candidates. ii) Send e-gram with instructions to all diplomatic posts and HMG desk officer stakeholders to increase awareness of the importance of increasing the numbers of women involved in conflict resolution /peace-building. iii) HMG to consider what training is available to offer potential candidates, to develop their knowledge and understanding of key issues required for senior UN field based operations. iv) Establish a virtual network of key female personnel to disseminate vacancies quickly and widely.
Key Outcomes

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- i) E-Gram issued.
- ii) UN Member States approached and lobbied, raising awareness of the importance of increasing the number of women involved in peace initiatives.
- iii) Actions to raise awareness of SCR1325 carried out (such as egram, researchers paper, continued UN lobbying)
- iv) Information network established across HMG and NGO community to disseminate information quickly.
- v) More senior positions within international for a are held by women, taking into account equal opportunities to those applying.

Action Point - 8:

HMG to continue to deploy, where appropriate, female personnel on operations.

Comments / Detail:

- i) Ensure that gender representation at military and UN based operations continues.
- ii) Ensure appropriate female representation among core PCRU staff in the rosters of civilian experts, developed by PCRU and Conflict Issues Group (CIG), for deployment or secondment to field missions.

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Key Outcomes

- i) UK Female military personnel continue to be deployed on operations, where appropriate.
- ii) In the context of the findings of the 2002 “Women in the Armed Forces” report, MoD will keep under review the operational posts from which women are currently excluded on the grounds that deploying them in to such posts this might offend local sensibilities

GENDER JUSTICE INCLUDING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Action Point - 9 :

HMG to promote justice for women and tackle gender-based violence in post-conflict situations.

Comments / Detail:

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- i) To advocate for gender-based violence to be included in the mandates of transitional justice mechanisms, including tribunals, reparations, vetting and truth commissions;
- ii) To ensure that gender issues are properly incorporated into guidelines being produced by FCO and PCRU on rule of law and transitional justice, so as to encourage HMG personnel to fully include gender perspectives in their work on this subject;
- iii) To encourage, to the extent possible, gender issues to be incorporated into policy tools being developed on rule of law and transitional justice issues by UN agencies, including with UK funding.
- iv) To encourage rule of law and policing components in UN and EU peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions to give appropriate priority to women's involvement and access to justice, and to issues of particular importance to women – such as housing, land and property issues and gender-based violence.
- v) To continue to include tackling gender-based violence and access to justice for women as a priority in DFID-supported Security, Safety and Access to Justice programmes in conflict related countries.

Key Outcomes

- i) Gender-based violence routinely included as a priority for internationally-supported transitional justice institutions and for UN/EU peacekeeping operations.
- ii) Higher priority given to women's concerns in UK and UN work on rule of law and transitional justice in post-conflict situations.
- iii) Enhanced involvement of women in UN or UK-supported training and projects on the rule of law and transitional justice in post-conflict situations.
- iv) Increased number of qualified women available for post-conflict work, and increased number of personnel trained in gender issues.
- v) Funding of Safety Security and Access to Justice programmes continues and includes work on gender based violence and access to justice..

Action Point - 10 :

HMG to continue to implement its Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) Strategy, which provides a key tool to mapping out the concrete actions needed to tackle this issue and to assess progress made.

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Comments / Detail:
i) Regular monitoring and evaluation of the SEA strategy to ensure effective implementation of the Resolution by the UK, TCCs and the UN.
Key Outcomes
i) SEA strategy continues to be implemented, revised and updated.
ii) Transparency on success of implementation.

DISARMAMENT DEMOBILISATION AND REINTEGRATION

Action Point - 11 :
Address gender issues in UK supported disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) programmes in countries emerging from conflict.

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Comments / Detail:	
i)	Those involved in DDR programmes to mainstream gender issues.
ii)	Guidelines for UK officials on DDR to incorporate gender aspects
iii)	HMG guidance on DDR addresses gender issues and establishes clear guidance on when and how women and girls should be included in DDR programmes. Guidance will take into account UN Integrated DDR Standards gender guidelines
iv)	UK work to promote DDR guidelines in international organisations (EU, NATO, UN) to include gender aspects.
Key Outcomes	
i)	Gender issues and the specific needs of women and girls are taken into consideration when DDR programmes are considered and set-up.

WORKING WITH NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

Action Point - 12 :	
HMG to liaise with NGOs, civil society and Parliamentarians on the implementation of SCR1325, continuing regular dialogue on gender related issues.	

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Comments / Detail:

- i) HMG to build, where practical, on ideas from the NGO community for implementing SCR1325.
- ii) NGO leverage used to influence UN Member States.
- iii) Use NGO community to assist in the implementation of SCR1325.
- iv) Encourage wide participation at Wilton Park conference in May/June 2006 in order to further the implementation of UN SCR 1325

Key Outcomes

- i) NGOs to have regular discussions and share information with HMG on conflict and security gender issues.
- ii) Virtual SCR1325 network of key interested NGO/HMG/Member States established and used effectively.