

**UN Inter-Agency Network on
Women and Gender Equality
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Women, Peace and Security

Task Manager: OSAGI

**Report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security
for the
Meeting of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality
New York, 22-25 February 2005**

OVERVIEW/HISTORY OF THE TASK FORCE

The Inter-Agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security was initiated in February 2001 to follow-up on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 adopted on 31 October 2000. It is chaired by the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and OSAGI acts as its Secretariat. Throughout 2001 to 2002, the main work of the Task Force was the implementation and finalization of the Secretary-General's Study on Women, Peace and Security issued in October 2002. As the Study was completed, the IANWGE, in its 2003 report, recommended a number of activities for the Task Force to undertake. From March 2003 to December 2004, a full-time staff person worked in OSAGI on the follow-up of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, and supported the work of the Task Force. As a result the Task Force met eight times in 2003 and seven times in 2004. In addition to New York-based meetings, the Task Force routinely exchanged information via e-mail. This report provides a summary of achievements of the Task Force in 2004.

INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE WORK PLAN – MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

The status of the implementation of the Task Force's work plan is attached as Annex 1. The main achievements of the Task Force were:

1. **2004 Secretary-General's report and the fourth anniversary of S/RES/1325 (2000)**: The Task Force collaborated on the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on the implementation of resolution 1325 on women, peace and security (S/2004/814). The NGO working group participating in the Task Force issued an alternative report on the implementation of resolution 1325. Throughout October, the Task Force organized a variety of events to mark the fourth anniversary of resolution 1325, including a Market Place where Task Force members and other UN entities displayed and disseminated resource materials on women, peace and security. These resources are inventoried in the Task Force publication "United Nations resources on Women, Peace and Security."
2. **2004 ECOSOC gender mainstreaming**: The Task Force prepared a conference room paper for the ECOSOC discussion on gender mainstreaming (E/CN.6/2004/CRP.7), which describes in detail the achievements and gaps in mainstreaming gender perspectives in peace and security.
3. **Follow-up to Expert Group Meetings**: As a follow-up to the Expert Group Meeting on women and elections, the Task Force contributed to the preparation of a handbook on women and elections to guide field staff on ways to ensure the full

participation of women in all aspects of the electoral process in post-conflict countries. It was agreed that more work is needed to operationalize the outcome of the Expert Group Meeting on peace agreements as a means for promoting gender equality and ensuring participation of women – a framework of model provisions.

4. **Roster of gender experts in peace and security:** It was agreed that the need for a roster of experts in the various fields of peace and security remain. In the area of women and elections, a roster was prepared by OSAGI in collaboration with the Task Force and used to provide consultants to DPKO missions in DRC and Haiti. Limited financial and human resources hindered the collection of experts for other areas of women, peace and security.
5. **Mapping of gender contacts:** The Task Force compiled a list of women's groups and networks in countries on the Security Council agenda. This list was vetted by UN gender contacts at the country-level. The list also includes contact information on the government ministry responsible for women/gender issues and country-level UN gender advisers/focal points.
6. **Gender perspectives integrated in the work of the executive committees:** The Special Adviser continued to bring issues of women, peace and security to the attention of the ECPS.
7. **Strengthening partnerships:** Task Force members participated in a variety of allied Task Forces/Working Groups and provided technical support and guidance on mainstreaming gender perspectives.
8. **Analysis of the gender content of Secretary-General's reports to the Security Council:** In July 2004, OSAGI in collaboration with the Task Force updated the analysis of Secretary-General's reports for the period of January 2000 - June 2004. 322 reports of the Secretary-General were reviewed. 65.5 per cent make no or only one reference to gender issues, while 17.4 per cent make minimal reference and 17.1 per cent make multiple reference to gender concerns. Overall there was no substantial change from the previous analysis. However, when analyzing the first six months of 2004 alone, there is a trend towards improved reporting with 24 per cent of reports having multiple references to gender issues.

A similar analysis was conducted on the gender content in Security Council resolutions for the period January 2000 - September 2003. 33 out of 225 resolutions or 14.7 per cent included language on gender issues. In July 2004, the updated analysis revealed 41 out of the 266 resolutions or 15.7 per cent had gender language. Looking closer at the first six months of 2004, eight out of 29 resolutions or 28 per cent mentioned women or gender issues. This is an improvement from the gender content in resolutions during 2003.

PLANS FOR 2005

The main goal of the Task Force in 2005 will be to actively contribute to work related to the system-wide action plan on the implementation of resolution 1325 as per S/PRST/2004/40 “In order to further consolidate this progress, the Council requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Security Council in October 2005 an action plan, with time lines, for implementing resolution 1325 (2000) across the United Nations system, with a view to strengthening commitment and accountability at the highest levels, as well as to allow for improved accountability, monitoring and reporting on progress on implementation within the United Nations system.” The Task Force met in December 2004 to review a draft action plan. Members were asked to provide comments on the draft action. These comments were incorporated into a revised draft action plan. The revised action plan will be discussed with relevant departments before being submitted to the Secretary-General in February 2005.

**Annual Report – Status of Implementation
Inter-Agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security
2004 Work planⁱ**

OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p>1. Collect information, analyse and prepare the 2004 Secretary-General's report to the Security Council on women, peace and security for 31 October 2004</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send questionnaire to Member States and UN entities • In June compile responses from MS and UN sharing inputs with Taskforce • Draft report by end July 2004 • Submit final report by end August 2004 • Organize events (panel etc) for 4th Anniversary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security (S/2004/814) was presented to the Security Council on 28 October with a full-day open debate culminating in the issuance of a Statement by the President of the Council (PRST/2004/40) • The Task Force organized a number of events to celebrate the 4th anniversary of SCR 1325. A calendar of events was managed by the Task Force which broadcasted events ranging from the Arria Formula meeting and the Market Place. • An inventory of UN WPS resources was prepared and can be found on un.org/womenwatch/osagi/resources/wps/.
<p>2. Ensure close links with and contribute to the review and appraisal of the Beijing Platform for Action (March 2005) and the ECOSOC substantive session (July 2004) where the implementation of the ECOSOC agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming will be considered.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the OSAGI/DAW ECOSOC report and prepare CRP with inputs from members. • Prepare documentation for BPfA review and appraisal. • Organize panel on WPS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Taskforce prepared a conference room paper for the ECOSOC discussion on gender mainstreaming (E/CN.6/2004/CRP.7) • Taskforce members participated and contributed to panel presentations/events. • In preparation for March 2005, the Taskforce will organize a calendar of events specific to the critical area of women and armed conflict.
<p>3. Review the Expert Group Meeting reports on women's participation in peace agreements (Ottawa meeting) and electoral processes in post-conflict countries (Glen Cove meeting) and select recommendations on which the task force could work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports reviewed • Plan made for follow up of key issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EGM reports were widely circulated in DPA and DPKO. • DPA/EAD and OSAGI prepared a handbook on women and elections which will be published and translated in early 2005. • A proceedings publication of the Women and Elections EGM was prepared by OSAGI. All information on the women and elections work can be found on the OSAGI website. • Follow-up on the Ottawa meeting was initiated with DPA but more work needed to operationalize the model provisions.

<p>4. Review and discuss with members their needs for gender expertise in gender and women, peace and security issues. Following this discussion review the mechanisms for quick retrieval of names of experts for possible short and long term assignments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members contribute criteria for gender expertise needed in various aspects of peace operations • Names of possible experts collected with CVs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DDA and OSAGI prepared a proposal for a roster/database to collect names of technical experts in various areas of women, peace and security. This proposal was not fully implemented due to a lack of resources (human and financial). • Experts for the technical area of women and elections were entered into the roster and used to assist peace operations (DRC and Haiti) in finding qualified consultants to assist in planning for gender-sensitive elections. Experts from other areas of WPS are needed.
<p>5. Relaunch NGO fact sheets to collect information on women's groups in key priority countries where UN has peacekeeping or peace building missions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of countries of concern to the Security Council listed • Names of focal points for each country selected • Fact sheets distributed • Fact sheets received and inputted to database 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mapping of gender contacts in countries with peace support operations was prepared by the Task Force and validated by UN contacts in countries. This is a document for internal use, specifically when providing names of local women's groups when the Security Council goes on mission.
<p>6. Support the work of the Special Adviser to ensure that gender perspectives are integrated in the work of the Executive Committees (ECPS, ECHA, and EC-ESA).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide inputs to the Special Adviser as needed • Members of the TF lobby with respective head of agency to support gender issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefings and kits made available to Executive Committees and SRSGs.
<p>7. Strengthen partnerships: Prioritize the groups to work with in 2004 including UN Development Group Office, Committee on Small Arms (CASA), The Watchlist on Children in Armed Conflict, and the IASC Taskforce on Gender.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make contacts with select groups • Invite them to present to the TF • Develop plan for each group on how to complement each others work • Update web site on the Taskforce and to share information to all groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the Taskforce participated in and ensured mainstreaming of women, peace and security issues with the following groups: The Gender Taskforce of the UN Mine Action Services, the IASC Taskforce on Gender and Humanitarian Response, the Framework Team on Conflict Prevention, the Children in Armed Conflict working group, the Protection of Civilians working group, Friend of 1325 and various working groups on Iraq and Sudan. • Work on the WPS Taskforce website was hindered by a lack of human and financial resources.
<p>8. Continue to review the gender content of Security Council reports and resolutions and provide support to DPKO/DPA to improve gender content in reporting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matrix of reports and resolutions reviewed and language on gender and women's issues collated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The analysis of SG reports and resolutions was updated in July 2004. There was an encouraging improvement in the percentage of reports with gender content.

ⁱ As agreed upon at the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality Meeting – February 2004