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High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on National Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) in Latin America and the Caribbean

Report of the High-Level Policy Dialogue Santiago, Chile 19 -21 November 2007

Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women

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The views expressed in this document are those of the participants and do not necessarily represent the views of the United Nations

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), unanimously adopted in October 2000, sets out a policy framework for women, peace and security. This resolution is a critical instrument that governments and civil society can utilize to strengthen women's rights in conflict and post-conflict situations, and to address gender issues in peace and security. In keeping with the spirit and objectives of the resolution, the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (DESA/OSAGI), through the sponsorship of Norway, has undertaken a project to strengthen the implementation of the resolution at the regional and national levels through awareness-raising and capacity-building. As part of this project, a High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on the National Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) in Latin America and the Caribbean was organised by OSAGI in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and hosted by ECLAC in Santiago, Chile, from 19 to 21 November 2007. Participants came from Ministries of defense, foreign affairs, justice and women/gender, as well as from parliaments.

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2. The key objectives of the HLPD were to raise awareness among government officials in Latin America and the Caribbean about the importance of national implementation of SCR 1325 (2000), highlight key areas of concern, and build capacity for the development of national action plans/strategies for its implementation. Participants were introduced to the SCR 1325 (2000) through the presentation of the needs assessment report. The discussion of the resolution was organized along three key thematic areas—prevention, participation, and protection.
- 3. This report presents the context of several recent and current peace processes in the region. It addresses several crucial aspects including gender justice, the importance of an inclusive process, and the role of civil society and women's groups. It notes with concern that women's participation in formal peace processes continues to be limited and their contributions to informal peace processes are only now beginning to be recognized. The report examines the opportunity to strengthen women's rights through the constitution-writing processes that are a part of many post-war transitions; reiterates the significance of appropriate gender training; and underlines women's representation in peacekeeping operations. In terms of protection, the report highlights the importance of taking gender considerations into account in disarmament and demobilization processes and in dealing with refugees and internally displaced populations. Gender-based violence whether during conflict and post-conflict situations plagues many countries in the region and requires a regional strategy. A model action plan, which provides specific recommendations and suggestions on how Member States can implement SCR 1325 (2000) is presented.
- 4. At the outset, a needs assessment report was presented to the HLPD, setting out the background against which participants' presented their national experiences regarding women, peace and security, including the current situation and lessons learned. Discussions focused on two topics: (1) Mainstreaming Gender into the Area of Peace and Security National

- 5. In discussing national perspectives and priorities on mainstreaming gender in the area of peace and security, many participants emphasized the *gendered nature of armed conflicts*, including the changed gender composition of armed movements, increased visibility of women's role in peace processes and enhanced awareness of the specific needs of women and men during conflict and post-conflict peace building.
- 6. Participants also discussed women's participation in formal and informal peace processes. It was highlighted that more women than men generally became active in informal processes. Governments could provide a public forum where civil society could contribute to advancing the peace agenda. Usually these informal efforts by women in civil society prepare them for subsequent formal negotiations and serve as entry points into the public and political arenas. In terms of formal peace processes, participants observed that they almost remained closed to women. Negotiating teams rarely included women. This was considered a significant limitation as women's contribution differs from that of men. They often place gender issues on the agenda, set different priorities for peace building and rehabilitation, and have the potential to better bridge political divides. Their participation would therefore enrich the peace process.
- 7. The issues of constitutional and electoral reform, were also discussed highlighting the importance of focusing efforts on the adoption of existing international gender equality instruments and their incorporation into national constitutions. These constitutional principles, they noted, must be implemented through specific laws, especially electoral laws that promote women's political participation. Another area of concern was the gendered needs of refugees. The Central American conflicts in particular had created a flood of refugees. Women were estimated to represent 80 percent of internally displaced persons and refugees. The displaced women faced particular gender-based challenges. The Guatemalan peace accords were considered exemplary in addressing the gendered needs of the returning refugees. Participants observed that disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) processes had demonstrated the high price of neglecting to institutionalize a gender perspective in the process of reintegrating former combatants into society.
- 8. Regarding gender and security priority concerns at the national level, a major area of concern was *gender-based violence*. Participants acknowledged that gender-based violence was present in everyday life, that its intensity increased during conflict and that it tended to be greatly underreported, particularly in conflict situations. Furthermore, elevated levels of gender-based violence often persisted in post-conflict situations. Central America, in particular, was suffering from the transformation of war-related violence into a crime wave that affected both the public and private spheres. There was an alarming rise in the number of women that were murdered. While the administration of justice often suffered when a country was embroiled in conflict, participants underlined that public accounting of gender-based crimes committed during conflict was essential for successful social reconstruction. Participants also reaffirmed the importance of ending impunity through prosecution and imposition of sanctions against perpetrators of those offences.

- 9. Participants also emphasized the importance of *security sector reform* as a means to mainstream a gender perspective into the work of the military and the police. More women were required for deployment to peacekeeping operations. Proper pre-deployment gender-sensitive training of all being thus deployed was critical to the success of the missions. It was noted that, in Latin America as elsewhere, women were greatly underrepresented in the security forces even in countries where gender equality was well articulated. Significantly, however, out of the 12 Latin American nations, three (25 percent) currently had female Ministers of Defense, who were seen as more likely to effect change toward greater gender equality in the armed forces than males.
- 10. Finally, during the discussion of national gender and security priority concerns highlighted the importance of *women in peacekeeping*. Participants observed that women were either entirely absent or grossly underrepresented in peacekeeping contingents from the region. Moreover, very few countries had taken even the most basic steps towards a more gender-responsive peacekeeping strategy, such as incorporating a gender perspective into training modules for military personnel or actively encouraging women to serve in peace missions.
- 11. Following the discussions of national experiences, a presentation and demonstration of the draft of an online training course on national implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) was made. The feedback from the participants was to inform revisions to the course prior to its online distribution.
- 12. At the conclusion, HLPD adopted policy recommendations to guide the implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) at both the national and regional levels. Furthermore, positive actions were recommended to ensure women's equal participation in the areas of peace and security, and to enhance awareness, capacity-building and training of government officials, members of the defense and security forces and members of parliament. Finally, the HLPD emphasized the importance of collaboration with the United Nations to enhance the implementation of the resolution.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13. The main challenge to be overcome in implementing SCR 1325 (2000) continued to be the pervasive lack of knowledge about its existence and content. Argentina noted that the concepts of defence and security, especially human security, continued to be dealt with separately. Barbados acknowledged that no significant attention had been paid to the area of peace and security from a gender perspective and that SCR 1325 (2000) was not seriously considered by the country's high-level officials. Similarly, Haiti deplored the general lack of knowledge concerning the resolution, particularly at the level of civil society. These sentiments were representative of a regional reality that included both the primary actors responsible for the implementation of the resolution and society at large.
- 14. Nevertheless, it was agreed that the resolution was a useful tool to improve current government actions and to mainstream a gender perspective into the area of peace and security. It was also recognized that the resolution was not only relevant to countries having experienced traditional forms of armed conflict, but also to those facing the critical challenges of internal

violence within and among communities, and violence against women in general. The lack of explicit emphasis on ethnic and multicultural considerations in the resolution was signalled as a potential weakness.

- 15. The absence of monitoring and reporting requirements attached to the resolution reinforced the lack of political commitment by many Member States to focus attention on issues of women and security. Scarce resources were unlikely to be allocated to those issues under such circumstances. Moreover, the lack of expertise meant that countries did not have the capacity to effectively implement the resolution. Against this background, the development of the online training course on SCR 1325 (2000) was considered extremely useful as it would facilitate national capacity-building towards the development of national action plans for the implementation of the resolution.
- 16. In conclusion, the participants emphasized that the 2007 High-level Policy-Dialogue was the first time that SCR 1325 (2000) was discussed at a regional level and concurred on the importance of follow-up meetings at the national and regional levels. The participants urged continued technical cooperation from the United Nations. The participants made the following recommendations for the acceleration of the implementation of the resolution.

A National Level

- o Generate political will and commitment at the highest level of governmental level regarding the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000);
- o Establish a unit within the Office of the President/Prime Minister that would be responsible for the coordination of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) at the national level;
- o Create an inter-ministerial task force with an advisory council in which members of parliament and civil society representatives would be included;
- o Recommend the establishment of a parliamentary committee/commission to follow-up on implementation of the resolution;
- o Support the creation of the Gender Equality Observatory mandated by the Quito consensus¹ with a particular focus on three priority themes: resolution 1325, (2000) the Rome Statute, and CEDAW;
- Use existing platforms, networks and institutions to disseminate resolution 1325 (2000) at the national level;
- o Organise national awareness campaigns about resolution 1325 (2000), its objectives and methods of implementation, involving key stakeholders from government, parliament and civil society;
- Develop national action plans for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) based on the needs, priorities and capacity of individual countries;

¹ The Quito Consensus, which was adopted by the 10th session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, 6-9 August 2007 requests "the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, together with organizations in the United Nations system, to collaborate with the member states that request them to do so in following up on the fulfillment of the agreements that have been adopted through the creation of an equality observatory that will help to strengthen national gender machineries."

- o Promote capacity-building, including through training, of government officials in the Ministries of Defense, Interior and Justice, as well as among members of parliament regarding the implementation of national action plans for resolution 1325 (2000);
- o Allocate a budget for elaboration of a national action plan for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000);
- o Establish an ombudsperson for gender discrimination in the military and police forces;
- o Assign gender advisors to military and police forces;
- o Engender capacity-building programmes for military and police, especially for those that are sent to peacekeeping missions;
- o Provide gender training, including on human rights and resolution 1325 (2000), to all officials involved in peace negotiations, conflict resolutions and peace reconstruction efforts, as well as to peacekeeping personnel;
- o Create gender-sensitive system of early-warning indicators;
- o Intensify efforts to eradicate all forms of impunity for gender-based violence, especially against women and children;
- Promote positive action mechanisms to increase women's participation in decisionmaking in the area of peace and security as well as their presence in military and police forces:
- o Create new mechanisms and/or enhance the existing ones to confront new security threats in trafficking in women and children;

B. Coordination and Regional Co-operation

- o Create national and regional websites on resolution 1325 (2000) to exchange information on good practices and lessons learned regarding its implementation;
- o Utilize existing regional and national networks to disseminate resolution 1325 (2000)
- o Coordinate with international and regional bodies the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), including the development of national and regional strategies and action plans;
- Consider the preparation of an in-depth comparative research study on gender dimensions of peace and security, with a particular focus on issues of human security and conflict prevention;
- o Initiate discussions of current doctrines of security and defense and of how to address new challenges and sources of conflict;
- o Work closely with relevant organizations of the UN system on the elaboration of national action plans for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000);
- o Request sustainable technical assistance from the United Nations, including capacitybuilding for national implementation of the resolution;
- 17. The participants therefore committed themselves to promote the implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) within their respective countries and the region.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. Attendance

18. The meeting was attended by 21 high-level representatives from 13 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and by 3 observers and 2 consultants.

B. Programme of Work

19. At its opening session on 19 November 2007, the meeting adopted the programme of work (see Annex II). The meeting was organised in three parts: plenary discussions, at which presentations were made by participants and experts; a training workshop on development of national action plans for the implementation of SCR 1325 (2000); and discussions in two working groups on concrete actions towards the national implementation of Council Resolution 1325 (2000) and the role of UN in that respect.

C. Opening of the HLPD

- 20. The HLPD was opened by Mr. José Luis Machinea, the Executive Secretary of ECLAC. In his statement, Mr. Machinea commended Ms. Rachel Mayanja, Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, for her initiative and readiness to co-organise this HLPD with ECLAC. In welcoming the participants, he underlined that as Secretary-General Ban Kimoon had stressed, peace is an indispensable requisite for development and as such must be the responsibility of everyone. He explained that within this framework, governments, international organizations and civil societies had much to do as gender equality is directly related to sustainable peace.
- 21. The Executive Secretary pointed out that women are subject to multiple forms of violence, both at home and in public, but even more so in situations of armed conflict. He therefore emphasized the importance of resolution 1325 (2000) in the protection of women and girls from human rights abuses in conflict situations, especially from sexual violence and other forms of gender-based violence. He noted that the collective response by the international community was inadequate given the magnitude and persistence of violence against women. He called for an end to the violations of women and girls' human rights and to impunity for those responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. In this respect, the role of the international tribunals, in particular the International Criminal Court (ICC) was cited as critical. The Executive Secretary stressed that, in order to end impunity, States must assume their full responsibility and hold accountable those who commit crimes against women.
- 22. The Executive Secretary noted encouraging developments such as the continuing mobilization of women for the protection and exercise of their human rights, the denunciation of violations of these rights, resistance to violence, and enhanced participation of women in mediation, peace negotiations, and reconciliation. He emphasized that resolution 1325 (2000) had become one of the most effective instruments for the protection of women and children in conflict and post-conflict situations and for the encouragement of women's participation in the peace processes. However, he observed that SCR 1325 (2000) did not exist in isolation but was

part of the regional and global legal instruments for the protection of rights, such as the Convention Bélem do Pará, CEDAW and its optional protocol, the Rome Statute, and the Geneva Conventions, among others. All of these were cited as useful tools to attain a more just, democratic, and equal society. However, they must be backed by action and political will. Mr. Machinea reaffirmed the conclusions and recommendations of the Quito Consensus adopted by the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held at Quito, Ecuador from 6 to 9 August 2007. The Consensus underlines the persisting underrepresentation of women in peace processes and calls for the augmentation of women's representation in all national and international processes in the areas of peace and security.

- 23. In her opening statement, Ms. Mayanja expressed gratitude to Mr. Machinea for his support and for co-organizing the High-Level Dialogue, and to the Government of Norway for providing the funding without which the HLPD would not have been possible.
- 24. The Special Adviser noted the critical role of Member States in the implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) at the national and local levels. She stressed the importance of governments, international organizations and civil society working together in order to identify and develop practical approaches for the implementation of strategies on women, peace and security at the national level. She acknowledged that support for the development of national action plans and strategies by all partners had to be aligned with national priorities.
- 25. Ms. Mayanja emphasized the fact that given the breadth of SCR 1325 (2000), no actor was excluded. Accordingly, it was imperative that all ministries, civil servants, parliamentarians, law enforcement and government officials became conversant with the resolution. She noted that the resolution sought to eliminate discrimination against women and to link the respect for women's rights to the security of individuals, the community, the nation and the world. She reaffirmed the UN's commitment to the full implementation of the resolution and urged everyone present to dedicate themselves to the dissemination and implementation of the resolution.
- 26. Ms. Laura Albornoz, Minister-Director of the National Women's Service of Chile (SERNAM), welcomed the participants on behalf of the President of Chile, H.E. Ms. Michelle Bachelet, and reiterated Chile's commitment and support of building a more just, prosperous, sustainable and peaceful world. She stated that cooperation was an indispensable component of a durable and sustainable peace. Situations of poverty, exclusion, discrimination, lack of access to land, lack of political representation, and lack of opportunities to enjoy the benefits of development were therefore incompatible with peace. In that regard, she looked forward to the experts gathered at this meeting sharing their visions for peace in the region and discussing ways to enhance and make effective regional and international cooperation. She concurred that gender-based violence was a serious form of violation of human rights, and that efforts should be made to combat all forms of violence against women and children. She agreed with the analysis and conclusions of the Secretary-General's study on violence against women.
- 27. The Minister-Director spelled out the current priorities for the National Women's Service of Chile that included, *inter alia*, conflict prevention and early warning; the consolidation of peace processes; prevention of gender based violence in armed conflicts; combating all forms of

violence, including prevention of acts of exploitation and sexual abuses committed by UN personnel of peacekeeping missions; and the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. She emphasized that particular attention was being given to increasing women's political participation, and in that regard, a project to promote women's political participation was being undertaken under the leadership of H.E. President Bachelet.

- 28. Ms. Ximena Abarca, President of the Board of Directors of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and Executive Director of the National Council of Women in Ecuador (CONAMU), noted that Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) was practically unknown in the national institutions of the region. Consequently, it was difficult to find current information on SCR 1325 (2000). Therefore, this meeting was of particular importance and very timely. Ms. Abarca outlined the security doctrine in the region and consequent regional developments. She noted that after 2002, human security was included in the concept of security, linking the defense of a state or nation with such issues as health, education, work, gender-based violence, access to justice, land ownership, the exploitation of natural resources, migration, drug trafficking, sexual exploitation, etc. However, issues of women, peace and security were not addressed as resolution 1325 (2000) remained largely unknown in the region.
- 29. Ms. Abarca also briefly described the situation in her own country, Ecuador, particularly in the Red Zone of the Northern Frontier where the situation remained unstable and where citizens facing regular injustices and abuses were not being assisted by the military or the police. She observed that, in general, Ecuadorian women were trapped in the stereotypical view that relegated their role to that of victims, and denied them the opportunity to contribute positively to the peaceful resolution of conflict and reconciliation of the community. Their analyses of the origins of the conflict were disregarded, their definitions of public policies were negated, and their ideas of how to distribute resources in an effort to improve access to services and justice were denied. Finally, she pointed out that in times of conflict, the idea of the "other" tended to predominate. These outsiders or "others," rather than the contradictions generated by the societies themselves or the hegemonic economic model, were often blamed for the country's conflicts and problems. Ms. Abarca emphasized that in addition to recognizing the patriarchal support of violence, the fact that conflicts gain their support from the fight for the exploitation and appropriation of the resources and bodies of the poorest women must also be acknowledged.
- 30. Ms. Abarca further suggested that development plans and legal frameworks must be redefined in order to prevent peace from becoming in itself an instrument of domination and to ensure that women do not accept the patriarchal roles automatically assigned to them. She pointed out that there were opportunities to redefine gender roles and establish new relationships between men and women, and that gender equality was a necessary condition for achieving peace and security. She thanked OSAGI and ECLAC for organizing the High Level Policy Dialogue.

V. Summary of Presentations and Discussions

A. Background

- 31. Over the past decade, women's participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction has received much-deserved attention. The introduction of a gender perspective at the international and national levels has led to better understanding and appreciation of women's participation in armed conflict and subsequent peace negotiations, as well as their central role in the reconstruction of post-conflict societies. Several international conferences and resulting documents have recognized women's role and their contributions to matters of peace and security. Yet "the role of women in peace processes generally continues to be viewed as a side issue rather than as fundamental to the development of viable democratic institutions and the establishment of sustainable peace." It is this reality that needs to be addressed.
- 32. In 1975, Latin America became the site of the United Nation's First World Conference on Women. The meeting was held in Mexico and resulted in a "Declaration on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace." Thus, the region has led the way for a series of international meetings that focused on women's rights and their many contributions to peace and development. The Conference in Mexico was followed by world conferences in Copenhagen (1980) and Nairobi (1985). When the Fourth World Conference on Women was convened in Beijing in 1995, international awareness of the importance of addressing issues of gender and women's rights had become mainstream. This awareness was translated into the Beijing Platform for Action.
- 33. The Platform's central provisions require Member States and the international community to recognize the gendered impact of armed conflict and to take action. It advocates women's inclusion in peace negotiations and post-conflict decision-making processes. The Platform specifically mandates the relevant actors, including governments, to "increase the participation of women in conflict resolution and decision-making levels and protect women living in situations of armed conflicts or under foreign occupation."²
- 34. Five years later, on October 31, 2000, the Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace, and Security. The resolution legally binding for all Member States adopted an inclusive concept of security by calling on Member States to ensure the full and equal participation of women in all peace and security matters. Specifically, the resolution urges all Member States to promote gender equality "at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict." It calls on "all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia: a) the special needs of

² United Nations, "Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action," *Fourth World Conference on Women*, Beijing, 4 – 15 September 1995, p. 85.

³ United Nations, "UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security (S/RES/1325/2000)" (New York: UN, 31 October 2000), http://www.un.org/docs/scres/2000/SC2000/htm.

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." Importantly, the Security Council asked "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."

- 35. Finally, in addition to the specific mandates for Member States, the resolution focuses on United Nations peacekeeping. Building on the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of Action, the resolution directs the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations to incorporate a gender perspective into all peacekeeping operations.
- 36. In summary, resolution 1325 (2000) has to be seen as part of an ongoing process. It, together with subsequent resolutions, in particular 1366 (2001) on the Role of the Security Council in the Prevention of Armed Conflict, and 1460 (2003) on Children in Armed Conflict, entails a commitment by the Council to the prevention of conflict, the protection of all civilians, and the participation of women in peace processes. Further, the United Nations has recently enlarged the thematic focus of resolution 1325 (2000) to include the area of *relief and recovery*. This thematic area highlights initiatives that promote women's equal access to aid distribution in recognition of the fact that the different needs of women and girls have to be taken into account for effective relief efforts in the wake of disasters.
- 37. The Swedish action plan on resolution 1325 (2000) succinctly captures how the pursuit of these normative goals forms the basis of sustainable democracy and development: "The implementation of the resolution is both a goal in itself and a way of achieving the objectives for security, development, defense and gender equality policies. The full and equal participation of women in conflict prevention, crisis management, conflict resolution, peace-building and management of humanitarian disasters, will contribute to democracy, increased respect for human rights and development." The United Nations, together with civil society groups, has been working on effective ways to implement resolution 1325 (2000). Applying a three-dimensional framework consisting of the "principles of conflict prevention, participation of women in peace and security, and protection of civilians with consideration to the specific needs of women, men, girls and boys" as the structure of reading resolution 1325 (2000), facilitates the development of strategies for advancing its effective implementation.
- 38. The United Nations itself has developed a system-wide action plan. This plan constitutes an initial attempt to develop a holistic and coherent UN strategy for the implementation of the resolution. Seeking to facilitate the development of action plans at the national level, the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

⁵ "The Swedish Government's action plan to implement Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security," 2. http://www.osce.org/documents/odihr/2006/10/20979 en.pdf

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⁴ United Nations, "UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security (S/RES/1325/2000)" (New York: UN, 31 October 2000), http://www.un.org/docs/scres/2000/SC2000/htm.

(INSTRAW) recently released "A Guide to Policy and Planning on Women, Peace and Security" that provides helpful information for the development of such plans. This guide seeks to facilitate the development of implementation plans in response to the fact that seven years following its adoption "the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) has been inconsistent, with varying results. It is only relatively recent that efforts have been made to draft action plans for the effective implementation of the resolution."

- 39. As of March 2007, a small group of Member States had acted on the commitments from 2000 and developed national action plans for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000). As tends to be the case on issues concerning gender equality, the Nordic countries are leading the way, with Denmark, Norway and Sweden having fully developed plans. Austria, Canada, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom complete this select group of countries that have taken the mandate to the implementation stage. Several other countries, including the Netherlands, Iceland and Sierra Leone, are in the process of developing plans. In addition, a number of U.N. agencies are supporting projects that share the goal of facilitating the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000).
- In the Latin American region, Guatemala's Ministry for Women's Affairs has received 40. technical assistance from UNFPA and government officials have been in discussion with INSTRAW on how to develop a plan of action. Furthermore, several awareness-raising In September 2002, WILPF El Salvador (LIMPAL) and activities have taken place. collaborative partners held a training workshop on resolution 1325 (2000) to address the necessity for women's participation in all dimensions and in all levels of peace efforts and processes and to brainstorm on ways to implement the resolution in El Salvador. Participants included representatives from the judicial system, women's groups and feminist organizations, universities, programmes of the European Union, media and human rights groups. According to LIMPAL, it was a very important meeting, for most of the participants knew little or nothing about SCR 1325 (2000). In Colombia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Governmental Machinery for the Advancement of Women, and UNIFEM, convened a panel discussion during October 2004 in Bogotá, aimed at deepening the understanding and implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) by the Colombian Government. With the support of UNIFEM, the resolution itself has been distributed to public officials and women's organizations.

B. Gender Dimension of War and Peace in Latin America and the Caribbean: Needs Assessment Report

41. The needs assessment report calls attention to the importance of implementing resolution 1325 (2000). It highlights key areas of concern with a primary focus on a small sample of Latin American and Caribbean countries, including Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Haiti, and Nicaragua. The report was prepared to complement a training course on the resolution being developed by OSAGI/ECLAC in collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research – Programme of Correspondence Instruction (UNITAR-POCI).

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⁶ INSTRAW, Securing Equality, Engendering Peace,

- 42. The report identifies the key gender dimensions of war and peace-making in the areas addressed by the resolution. It illustrates the benefits of implementing the resolution and identifies the primary actors responsible for implementation. These include government and oversight bodies (parliament/legislature and its relevant legislative committees, and government/the executive, including ministries of the interior and defense, foreign affairs, and family/women's ministries); core security actors (armed forces, police, gendarmeries, and paramilitary forces); justice and rule of law institutions (justice ministries, courts and tribunals, other customary and traditional justice systems and truth and reconciliation commissions); and non-statutory security forces (liberation and guerrilla armies).
- 43. In accordance with the emerging implementation paradigm, the report groups the thematic areas under three key dimensions prevention, participation, and protection. Although a number of the areas discussed in the report share several dimensions and defy attempts at neat categorization, this analytical framework brings into focus the issues that require attention.
- 44. The substantive discussion of the report begins with a look at conflict prevention. Ideally, governments and civil society play a positive role in conflict prevention. Once conflict has broken out, however, governments need to focus on peace negotiations and subsequent peace agreements. It is in this area where women's participation becomes a central concern. The report presents the context of several recent and current peace processes in the region and emphasizes that peace negotiations constitute a crucial entry point for considerations of gender justice. It is essential, therefore, that the process be inclusive. However, women's participation in formal peace processes continues to be limited and their contributions to informal peace processes are only now beginning to be recognized.
- 45. The report proceeds with an examination of the possibility of strengthening women's rights as part of constitution-writing processes that are a part of many post-war transitions. Peace accords and subsequent constitution-building present important opportunities for countries emerging from conflict to transform their political systems toward greater gender equality. Several Latin American countries have advanced in the political reconstruction of their respective societies by instituting constitutional and electoral reforms in the wake of conflict. The section on women's participation concludes with a discussion of gender and peacekeeping. As mandated by resolution 1325, (2000), a gender perspective has to be taken into account in the training and composition of the personnel that a member state commits to peacekeeping operations.
- 46. The last section on the gender dimensions of war and peace-making focuses on protection. During and after conflict, the issue of protection is paramount. The discussion commences with a look at disarmament and demobilization processes in the region and highlights the importance of taking gender considerations into account. Similarly, the gendered needs of refugees and internally displaced populations require attention. The central topic of gender-based violence is also addressed in this section. In addition to dealing with violent acts committed during war, governments need to address the security environment that emerges in the wake of conflict. Post-war violence, whether committed in the public or private sphere, plagues many countries in the region.

- 47. The transformation of conflict into sustainable peace requires that consideration be given to the social sphere. In order to repair the torn social fabric of a country, attention must be focused on issues of justice and reconciliation. Governments create fact-finding bodies such as truth commissions that establish a record of crimes committed during conflict. They also participate in the creation of special courts to prosecute offenders. This section emphasizes that the composition of these bodies must be representative and thus must include women, and that a gender perspective has to inform their proceedings. A public accounting of crimes committed during conflict, including those that are gender-based, is essential for social reconstruction to succeed.
- 48. The report addresses two key challenges in implementing resolution 1325 (2000): how to strengthen women's participation in decision-making and in security sector reform. Governments can pass electoral laws that strengthen women's participation as voters, candidates, and office-holders and can institutionalize quotas or other measures of positive discrimination favouring women. Women are also particularly underrepresented in the security sector. Thus, bringing a gender perspective to military and police forces is essential for the attainment of inclusive security. Finally, the report concludes by presenting a model action plan, which provides specific recommendations and suggestions on how member states can implement resolution 1325 (2000) (See Box 1 below).

Box 1

KEY PRINCIPLES OF A MODEL ACTION PLAN

1. Conflict Prevention

Article 1 of resolution 1325 (2000) "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."

The significant role women play in the prevention of conflict suggest the government take the following actions:

- provide support to the work of non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations that are active in conflict prevention;
- direct the security forces to look for and act on early warning signs of conflict, for example, a rise in gender-based violence.

2. Peace Negotiations and Peace Agreements

Article 2 of resolution 1325 (2000) "Encourages the Secretary-General to implement his strategic plan of action calling for an increase in the participation of women at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes."

Article 8 of resolution 1325 (2000) "Calls on all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia: (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."

In order to ensure women's equal participation in formal peace negotiations - in the drafting and implementation of an accord - and to recognize their contributions to informal peace processes governments should:

- include women in any negotiating team of formal peace negotiations;
- insist that all parties at the peace table include women in their negotiating delegations;
- use parliament and other relevant government and non-government bodies to highlight the importance of bringing a gender perspective into the peace process;
- give public attention to informal peace initiatives emanating from civil society;
- give support to indigenous efforts on conflict resolution; and
- monitor the implementation of peace agreements to ensure that gender provisions are fully implemented. For example, parliament should hold debates on the accords and discuss them in the appropriate committees.

3. Constitutional and Electoral Reform

Article 8 of resolution 1325 (2000) "Calls on all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia: (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."

Post-conflict peace processes often provide opportunities for constitutional and electoral reform, therefore:

- Women should be fully included in any constitution-writing process;
- The incorporation of international treaties and conventions that protect women's rights, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), should be considered in a constitution-drafting process.
- The potential benefit of electoral gender quotas to strengthen the equal participation of women and men should receive attention during constitution-writing processes and quotas should be considered when electoral laws are being reformed.

4. Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration of Combatants

Article 1325 of resolution 1325 (2000) "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."

Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes need to consider the gendered needs of the combatant forces, as such:

- women and girls who are part of the irregular forces should receive special attention during a demobilization process, for example; female fighters should be allowed to be demobilized as regular combatants and the needs of all women that are associated with combatant forces, regardless of their "official status," should be recognized; and
- government agencies responsible for the implementation of reintegration programmes should focus on the gendered needs of the excombatants and ensure that women are not being discriminated against. For example, female ex-combatants should receive the same benefits as their male counterparts.

5. Humanitarian Response – Protecting Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

Article 12 of SCR 1325 (2000) "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."

In this regard:

- government agencies involved in relief efforts should be directed to mainstream gender into their assistance efforts;
- government agencies should be directed to involve refugee and displaced women in the planning and implementation of assistance programmes; and
- security forces should pay special attention to the protection and assistance needs of women and girls.

6. Preventing and Responding to Gender-based Violence

Article 10 of SCR 1325 (2000) "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."

Security institutions and personnel play a central role in combating gender-based violence, they need to be trained appropriately and be held accountable, in this regard:

- the implementation of international, regional and national commitments concerning the elimination of gender-based violence should receive priority;
- clear legislation and codes of conduct on the responsibility of security sector personnel for human rights violations should be established:
- security officials should closely monitor complaints, investigate and seek punishment for human rights violations by security sector personnel, with a view to ending impunity for gender-based violence; and
- training should be offered for officials in the police force and the judicial system to help them to better recognize the implications of gender-based violence and to more effectively combat it.

7. Post-conflict Rehabilitation – Truth and Reconciliation Commissions

Article 11 of resolution 1325 (2000) "Emphasizes the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes including those relating to sexual violence against women and girls, and in this regard, stresses the need to exclude these crimes, where feasible from amnesty provisions."

Successful post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation require the full accounting of all crimes committed during conflict, therefore it is important to:

- ensure that the composition of truth commissions and special courts is gender-balanced and should monitor their operations. In this regard, parliament should pass enabling legislations for the creation of such bodies which should demand a gender-sensitive process;
- ensure that a gender perspective inform all proceedings.

8. Peacekeeping Operations

Article 6 of resolution 1325 (2000) "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."

Peacekeeping missions are more effective when their members have received gender training and the force itself includes women in the command structure as well as in the actual force, therefore:

- the armed forces should be directed to provide women equal access to service in peace missions;
- all personnel should receive training on the rights and protection of women, including on issues related to HIV/AIDS, before going
 on mission.

9. Security Sector Reform

The full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) requires the reform of the security sector. A gender perspective has to inform the work of the security services, including police, armed forces and the intelligence services. A gender lens is essential in helping the various forces and services to develop inclusive, needs-based policies that take into account the different security needs of women and men, boys and girls. To this end:

- oversight of the human resource and recruitment, policies, training and management of security sector institutions should be strengthened in order to ensure that security sector institutions promote the full and equal participation of women and men, operate effectively, are non-discriminatory and address gender-based insecurities;
- mechanisms for civil society oversight of the security sector, such as public hearings should be encouraged to give voice to women and other groups that tend to be excluded from security discussions;
- · all security sector personnel should have access to training on gender issues;
- gender training for policy makers in the security sector should be emphasized, including for parliamentarians and their staff who serve on defense and security committees;
- · a gender audit of proposed and existing security policies should be conducted with the help of gender experts; and
- the benefits of an Ombudsperson, with special powers to oversee the integration of gender issues within defense and other security sector institutions should be considered.

10. Gender Balance – Involving Women in Decision-Making

Article 1 of resolution 1325(2000) "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."

A necessary but not sufficient condition for successful implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) is the achievement of a more equal representation of women and men in decision-making:

- increased emphasis should therefore be given to the implementation of international, regional and national commitments in regard to the full and equal participation of women;
- an evaluation of the gender implications of the electoral system should be conducted;
- the benefits of the adoption of voluntary gender quotas by political parties should be considered; and
- measures (including quotas) should be considered to make committees dealing with security issues more gender-balanced.

In conclusion, the success of any National Action Plan on Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) depends on the support it has among the primary actors responsible for implementation and the grassroots support it receives. The media, academia, as well as non-governmental organizations play a central supportive advocacy role. Thus, the elaboration of any plan has to be based on an inclusive consultation process. A plan that is not derived from broad consensus will likely fail to be implemented. Therefore, the guiding principles outlined here only serve as a discussion basis for decision-makers and civil society groups. They are offered in order to facilitate the formulation of a potential plan not to substitute for it. Further, the many practical issues that need to be given consideration in the formulation of any plan, including the crucial areas of resource mobilization and monitoring and evaluation, are highlighted in INSTRAW's "Securing Equality: Engendering Peace. A guide to policy and planning on women, peace and security."

C. Topic I: Mainstreaming Gender into the Area of Peace and Security—National Perspectives and Priorities

49. The presentations and discussions on Topic I evolved around the following issues: the gendered nature of armed movements, women's participation in peace processes, constitutional and electoral reform, the gendered needs of refugees, and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants.

⁷ Some elements of this plan build on the following sources: the 2006 "Report of the Secretary General on women, peace and security;" the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, "Women's Participation and Gender Perspectives in Security Council Resolutions;" Luciak, "Conflict and a Gendered Parliamentary Response;" and Luciak, "Parliamentary Oversight and Gender."

The Gendered Nature of Armed Movements

- 50. The participants acknowledged women's significant role in armed conflict. The changed gender composition of armed movements across the world and the increased visibility of women's role in peace processes contributed to a reconceptualization of gender relations, as well as of men's and women's roles during conflict. There was increased awareness of women's and men's gender-specific needs that required consideration during war and post-conflict peace building.
- 51. It was noted that the gender composition of irregular military forces had changed remarkably over recent decades. In **Latin America**, female participation during the first wave of revolutions (1956-70) was limited. Starting in the 1980s, however, women's participation in guerrilla movements accelerated and reached levels of up to one-third of the fighting forces in several countries. El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala were particularly known for the high levels of female participation reported during the armed conflicts prevailing in their societies.⁸

El Salvador

52. In the case of El Salvador, ONUSAL, the United Nations Mission overseeing the disarmament process compiled excellent data from the demobilization records. Of the 8,552 combatants of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional, FMLN) that were registered by the United Nations, 2,485 or 29.1 percent were women. In terms of the total FMLN membership of 15,009 (including political personnel and wounded non-combatants), about one-third were women.

Guatemala

53. The Guatemalan data in regard to the gender composition of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca, URNG) was not as complete as that from El Salvador. This situation reflected the continued climate of fear within the country at the time of demobilization and the extremely secretive nature of the URNG. Nevertheless, a European Union-sponsored study of the socio-economic background of the URNG membership gave a reasonably accurate picture of the URNG's gender composition. Women made up 410 (15 percent) of the 2,778 combatants surveyed and 356 (about 25 percent) of the 1,410 political cadres. ¹⁰ These data demonstrated that compared to their involvement in El Salvador and Nicaragua, women's participation in Guatemala's revolutionary struggle was more limited. Among combatants, the percentage of women in URNG was only half as many as the number of armed female fighters in the Salvadoran guerrilla movement.

⁸ Whereas earlier reports on women's participation were generally based on estimates, we have now precise information for several countries because United Nations <u>entities</u> overseeing disarmament processes, such as MINUGUA in Guatemala or ONUSAL in El Salvador, have collected gender-specific data

⁹ ONUSAL, Proceso de desmovilización d<u>el personal del FMLN</u> (San Salvador: Imprenta El Estudiante, no date).

¹⁰ URNG, <u>Personal Incorporado</u>, pp.2-4.

Colombia

- 54. In 2005, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, FARC) claimed that "women constituted approximately 30 percent of guerrilla units.¹¹" Independent estimates also suggested that women represented about one third of the FARC's 18,000 fighters.¹² As in most other revolutionary movements, however, the top leadership was all male.
- 55. Left-wing insurgencies tended to have higher participation of women in their forces than counter-revolutionary or paramilitary forces. It was commonly believed that this was due to the more traditional view of gender relations held by such forces. For example, the demobilization process of the Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia (AUC) showed 29,036 male and 1,873 female combatants (6 percent).¹³

Chile

56. Chile set the following priority areas within the agenda of the Ministry of Defense to be carried out between 2006-2010: strengthening the Committee for the Integration of Women in the Armed Forces; guaranteeing equal access to educational institutions of the armed forces; and expanding the space for women's access to military services and to programmes for professional soldiers. In order to reach these goals, the Ministry would follow-up and continue implementing: SERNAM's 2000 Council of Ministers plan on equal opportunities for 2000-2010; the 2002-2004 policy on the participation and integration of women in the armed forces. Such actions have lead to increased women's participation in the army, navy and air forces.

Peru

57. Since 1997, women have increasingly been incorporated into military activities. The law approved by the Congress allows the admission of women into official and sub-official police and armed forces schools and entitles them to the same opportunities and benefits that men have.

Women in formal and informal peace processes

58. The participants discussed issues related to peace processes that occur both at a formal and an informal level. It was emphasized that, in general, more women than men become active in informal processes. Governments can play an active role in encouraging civil society's contributions to advancing a peace agenda by providing a public forum for such efforts. Women's inclusion in formal peace negotiations and attention to incorporating a gender perspective into an accord have often emanated from pressure generated by civil society in an informal context. These activities, "invisible" from a formal point of view, prepare the terrain for subsequent formal negotiations. Furthermore, participation in these activities is an important learning experience and gives women the opportunity to enter the public and political arenas.

¹¹ FARC-EP, "Las FARC saludan a las mujeres." http://www.frso.org/espanol/docs/2005/farcmujer.htm

¹² Rojas, In the Midst of War: Women's Contributions to Peace in Colombia, p. 8.

¹³ Buriticá Céspedes, "El papel de las mujeres en el proceso de construcción de la pas en Colombia," p. 4.

- 59. The **Guatemalan peace process** was a good example of the impact informal processes can have on official peace negotiations. The Assembly of Civil Society (ASC) played a central role in advocating for the necessity of incorporating women's rights into the agenda of the formal peace process. A highly visible group within the ASC was the Women's Sector. Once the 1996 accords were signed, the Women's Sector fought to ensure the implementation of the accords, particularly in regard to those provisions concerning women's rights. One of its key achievements was to promote the establishment of the *Foro Nacional de la Mujer* (National Women's Forum), which organised Guatemalan women in defense of the accords. Also in 1999, the Ombudsman for indigenous women was created through the commitment of the peace agreements, specifically the agreement on Identity and Rights of the Indigenous people. Its creation was significant as it represented the success of indigenous women's fight for their rights.
- 60. It was reported that, in **Colombia**, women have organised for several years in an effort to play an active role in the peace process. For example, in June 2001, the five main women's organizations planned a major national peace march, which succeeded in bringing women's peace efforts to the public's attention. In 2002, the movement also formulated a "Women's Peace Agenda," containing 12 concrete proposals to achieve peace. Women's efforts to organise and advocate for peace continue today.
- 61. The participants agreed that the strong participation of women in armed movements had led to increased attention on women's role in conflict and in the ensuing peace processes. It was emphasized that a more balanced gender composition of the negotiating teams could be an important initial signal that the gender dimensions of a conflict would be taken into account during the negotiation process and that a gender perspective would inform the ensuing peace agreements. Women's participation would enrich the process, since women were likely to make a different contribution to the peace process. When compared to men, women were more likely to put gender issues on the agenda, introduce other conflict experiences, and set different priorities for peace building and rehabilitation. Furthermore, women might bridge political divides better as well. However, participants acknowledged that inclusive negotiating teams were definitely not the norm, and overall, few women had participated in formal peace processes.
- 62. In **Latin America**, women have been part of several high profile **peace negotiations**, most notably the ones in Guatemala and El Salvador. Yet, despite women's presence at the peace table in **El Salvador**, women's issues received scant to no attention in the peace negotiations. Only during the implementation phase of the accords did gender concerns receive appropriate attention. Two of the most important institutions Institute for Development of Women and the National Politics of Women were created as a result of the Peace Accords. During the period 2002-2007, the Institute for the Development of Women carried out 12,782 activities, benefiting the lives of 553,071 women. Among these women, 29 percent or 3,703 women were from the northern zone, where the impact and suffering during the period of armed conflict was the greatest.
- 63. In **Guatemala** on the other hand, a vocal women's movement supported the efforts of a few high-ranking female officials in URNG to put gender equality on the agenda of peace

negotiations. In general, the necessity to incorporate a gender perspective into the accords did not resonate with either government or guerrilla negotiators. This made it imperative for the advocates for women's rights to be supported from sectors within society at large and to have their demands reinforced by the international community.

64. **Colombia**, with its long history of peace negotiations, provided an example of the continued challenge of achieving enhanced gender balance in peace negotiations. Recent processes included the negotiation process President Andrés Pastrana initiated in 1998 with the FARC, which broke down in 2001. On the part of the government, only one woman, Liberal Party leader María Emma Mejía, served on any of the four negotiating teams. Similarly, with one exception, the FARC teams were exclusively male.

Constitutional and Electoral Reform

- 65. Participants also discussed constitutional and electoral reform. It was mentioned that in order to strengthen gender equality as part of a constitution-writing process, it was important to focus efforts on the adoption of the existing international instruments. The incorporation of the provisions of international treaties and conventions that protect women's rights, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), into national constitutions would be an important indication that issues of gender equality and the empowerment of women were being taken seriously.
- 66. It was noted, however, that constitutions can have the same inherent weaknesses as peace agreements. They can remain lofty documents with provisions that formulate an ideal vision of society instead of stating concrete principles that can be translated into new societal practices that improve people's lives. Thus, constitutional principles must be implemented through specific laws. In the area of political decision-making, electoral laws were seen as essential in translating constitutional gender equality provisions into practice.
- 67. **El Salvador** demonstrated the importance of anchoring women's political participation in the constitution, but had made little progress in the area of electoral law. For example, no constitutional quotas guaranteeing women's political representation were passed. In **Guatemala in 1991,** a referendum on the constitutional reforms failed to gain the necessary support and thus raised serious questions regarding the viability of the accords. Although the core of the reform measures entailed recognition of the rights of Guatemala's indigenous communities, the failed referendum was also a setback for women's rights.
- 68. **The 1991 Colombian constitution** was also a result of a peace process. Between February and July 1991, the government of César Gaviria brought together demobilized guerrilla leaders and civil society groups to draft a new constitution. The process "catalyzed more extensive engagement by women on issues pertaining to peace and security." For example, the National Network of Women (Red Nacional de Mujeres, RNM), which emerged around this constitutional process, was credited with achieving "a positive normative reality concerning women's rights" (una normatividad favorable con los derechos de las mujeres). ¹⁴

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 $^{^{14}}$ Buriticá Céspedes, "El papel de las mujeres en el proceso de construcción de la paz en Colombia," p. 6.

- 69. Since 1991, eleven countries in **Latin America** had adopted quotas for parliamentary elections. For example, **Columbia's** law on quotas was compulsory at the national level and regulated the adequate and effective participation of women in decision-making positions in the different branches and sectors of government organizations. At present, women constitute 46 percent of the Ministerial Cabinet.
- 70. In addition to the introduction of electoral quotas, an important consideration for governments seeking to strengthen women's role in decision-making concerned the type of electoral system being used. It was acknowledged that under a system of proportional representation, female candidates were more likely to get elected than in single member district systems.

Barbados

- 71. Although **Barbados** had not been engaged in any large scale armed conflict, it had witnessed spasmodic internal revolts, primarily as a slave society and in its post-emancipation period. It represented itself as an island that "has achieved a state of gender equality that is comparable to that of developed countries," as it was ranked 29th on the gender development index and 30th in the Human Development Index. Barbados had a good record of women's enrollment in tertiary level institutions. Several strategic positions in the area of peace and security were held by women, although these women might display limited gender concern and analysis when applying their technical roles.
- 72. It was also acknowledged that not enough attention had been given to peace and security from a gender perspective and that SCR 1325 (2000) was not seriously considered before this event. With its awareness raised by this meeting for the need to be proactive, **Barbados** committed to put systems in place, including cooperation with relevant institutions such as the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Response Agency, in order to integrate gender analysis in regional disaster management, and to carry out gender training in public service, especially on mainstreaming gender in disaster management and post-conflict reconstruction. Priority would be given to ensuring women's representation in strategic positions in management and coordination of disaster mitigation, post-conflict reconstruction and peacekeeping efforts.

The Gendered Needs of Refugees

- 73. The participants noted that protection of refugee populations and the reintegration of excombatants and displaced persons -whether internally displaced persons or refugees- remained key challenges for many governments. The Central American wars created a flood of refugees. **El Salvador's** civil war created 1.5 million refugees and as a result of the conflict in **Guatemala**, an estimated 1.5 million people were internally displaced or sought refuge in Mexico. ¹⁵ Women were estimated to represent 80 percent of internally displaced persons and refugees and faced particular gender-based challenges.
- 74. The Guatemalan peace accords were exemplary in considering the gendered needs of the returning refugees and the population in general. Women's rights were specifically addressed in

¹⁵ Historical Clarification Commission, *Guatemala: Memory of Silence*; See also, Spence et al. "Promise and Reality: Implementation of the Guatemalan Peace Accords," p.4.

four of the seven substantive agreements that were reached between July 1991 and September 1996. In the accord establishing procedures for the resettlement of populations uprooted during the war, the parties agreed "to emphasize in particular the protection of families headed by women, as well as the widows and orphans who [had] been most affected."16 Further, the Guatemalan government was committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination, factual or legal, against women, and to making it easier for women to access land, housing, and credit and to participate in development projects.¹⁷ In the important agreement on the rights of Guatemala's indigenous peoples, indigenous women were given special protection; for example, sexual harassment of an indigenous woman was to be punished particularly severely under Guatemalan law.¹⁸ Women's political rights were also addressed. The accord concerning the strengthening of civil society advocated the introduction of measures of positive discrimination to increase female participation. The agreement required the signatory parties "to take the corresponding measures in order to ensure that organizations of political and social character adopt specific policies tending to encourage and favor women's participation as part of the process of strengthening civilian power." The Guatemalan accords were remarkable in terms of addressing the role of women in society and advocating change toward greater gender equality.

- 75. Recent estimates for **Colombia** reported that up to 3 million people had been displaced due to the violent conflict.²⁰ Women represented more than 50 percent of this population of internally displaced persons.²¹ It was argued that "among the millions of Colombian IDPs one group is particularly invisible women and girls associated with illegal armed groups."
- 76. Recognizing the need to bring a gender perspective into government programmes dealing with displaced populations, the Colombian government proposed the inclusion of at least one female representative in the departmental, municipal and district committees that would attend to the needs of this population. Government officials also developed action plans for "preventing and attending to gender-based sexual violence in the context of forced displacements."
- 77. **Ecuador** and **Venezuela**, which share borders with Colombia, were also greatly impacted by the refugees seeking to escape the violent conflict. For example, a 2007 study on **Ecuador's** northern frontier reported that, according to official data, more that 44,000 Colombian refugees sought shelter by crossing the border between 2000 and 2006.²² The surge

¹⁶ United Nations, "Acuerdo para el reasentamiento de las poblaciones desarraigadas por el enfrentamiento armado," 1994, chapter II, article 2.

¹⁷ Ibid., chapter III, Article 8.

¹⁸ United Nations, "Acuerdo sobre identidad y derechos de los pueblos indígenas." 1995, chapter II, article 1.

¹⁹ United Nations, "Acuerdo sobre fortalecimiento del poder civil y función del ejército en una sociedad democrática." 1996, article 59.

²⁰ See Amnesty International, "2002 in Focus: Spiraling Political Violence in Colombia," cited in Women Waging Peace, "Preparing for Peace: The Critical Role of Women in Colombia," 4; Buriticá Céspedes, "El papel de las mujeres en el proceso de construcción de la paz en Colombia," 2; Rojas, *In the Midst of War: Women's Contributions to Peace in Colombia*, 9.

²¹ Women Waging Peace, "Preparing for Peace: The Critical Role of Women in Colombia," 3.

²² Carmen de la Cruz, *Género y Frontera Norte: Programa de Desarrollo y Paz en la Frontera Norte de Ecuador*, 34.

of refugees resulted in increased demand for basic services that had already been under severe strain in this impoverished area.

78. Whereas the Colombian reality emphasized the importance of considering the gendered needs of refugees and internally displaced people in situations of conflict, Guatemala highlighted the significance of focusing on the implementation of policies and laws as opposed to their formal content.

Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration of Combatants

- Participants noted that the resolution of violent conflict often entailed disarming and demobilizing combatant forces, and that disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) processes across the world have demonstrated the high price of neglecting to institutionalize a gender perspective during the process of reintegrating former combatants into society.
- 80. In El Salvador, the lack of a gender perspective in the design of the reintegration programmes translated into discrimination when female combatants initially did not receive equal treatment in the allocation of crucial resources such as land. Colombia had experienced several demobilization processes. As of October 2006, 29,036 male and 1,873 female combatants had been demobilized.²³ In recognition of the gendered needs of demobilized fighters and their families, the Colombian government was designing an intervention model for the prevention of violence against women in the families of demobilized fighters. Further, under the 2006 presidential decree governing the reintegration of persons that have taken up arms, "humanitarian assistance was provided for more than 2,600 women that were companions of excombatants."

D. Topic II: Gender and Security Priority Concerns at the National Level, Including **Gender and Peacekeeping**

81. The presentations and discussion on topic II evolved around the following issues: genderbased violence, security sector reform, and gender issues in peacekeeping.

Gender-based Violence in War and Peace

82. Participants acknowledged that gender-based violence was present in everyday life and that its intensity increased during conflict. However, gender-based violence tended to be greatly underreported, particularly in conflict situations. Also, gender-based violence tended not only to increase during war, but also to persist in post-conflict situations. Central America, in particular, was suffering from the transformation of war-related violence into a crime wave that affected both the public and private spheres. Whereas political violence subsided in the wake of the peace accords, criminal violence rose. Increasingly, women became victims. Of particular

 $^{^{23}}$ Buriticá Céspedes, "El papel de las mujeres en el proceso de construcción de la paz en Colombia," p. 4.

concern was the significant number of women that were murdered. Guatemala registered the murder of 383 women in 2003, an increase of 135 percent compared with 2002. In 2004, 527 women were murdered. During the first eight months of 2005, the death toll amounted to 427, evidence that the rate of killings continued to increase.²⁴ The violence directed against women was part of a general crime wave affecting the country. However, the rate at which women were being killed was outpacing that for men. Between 2002 and 2004, the percentage of murdered women increased from less than 9 to over 11 percent of the total number of homicides.²⁵

- 83. Due to the high level of violence affecting women in the region, the United Nations sent the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women to report on the situation. The report highlighted that these crimes were committed with impunity and were directed against the most marginalized women and girls in the affected societies.
- Haiti, for example, was experiencing high levels of violence, much of which was gang-84. related. The UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) was working with the Haitian National Police to restore basic security. In a recent crackdown, more than 750 gang members were arrested.²⁶ According to a 2007 OXFAM report, an estimated 90 percent of the victims of violence were women.²⁷
- 85. Participants noted, however, that although women suffered greatly under conditions of post-war violence, it was important to recognize that violence in war-torn societies affected men in disproportionate numbers. In general, men constituted the vast majority of gun and gang violence victims while also being the main perpetrators of violence. Parliamentarians in Central America and other regions of the world were increasingly concerned with the proliferation of small arms, which were used in the commission of the majority of these murders. Recently, members of the Guatemalan Congress had commissioned a study on the scourge of "femicide" in Guatemala. The study had been presented in a number of public for highlighting the problem of male gun violence and its victims.
- It was acknowledged by the participants that the administration of justice often suffered when a country was embroiled in conflict, but that public accounting of crimes committed during conflict, including those that were gender-based, was essential for social reconstruction to succeed. The transition from war to peace frequently required the creation of temporary judicial bodies and processes to establish a record of human rights abuses and hold perpetrators accountable. The participants shared experiences of achievements and difficulties in creating transitional justice mechanisms in order to establish the right balance between ending impunity and facilitating reconciliation in their respective countries.

²⁴ Congreso de la República, Bancada de la Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca, Feminicidio en Guatemala: Crimenes contra la humanidad (Guatemala City: URNG, 2005) pp. 54-56.

²⁵ Ibid., p. 56.

²⁶ International Crisis Group, Consolidating Stability in Haiti *Latin America/Caribbean Report No.21*18 July 2007. Brussels: 2007

²⁷ Oxfam, Denouncing Violence and Promoting Change. London: Oxfam, 2007. Cited in Conaway, Camille Pampell. Toward a Critical Mass: A Mapping and Rapid Review of Training for Women Political Leaders in Haiti. Unpublished document for the United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2007.

- 87. Latin America had several truth commissions over the past twenty years, including: the Comisión Nacional para la Investigación sobre la Desaparición de Personas (CONADEP) in Argentina, established by Executive decree in December 1983; the Comisión Nacional de Verdad y Reconciliación in Chile, also created by executive decree in April 1990; El Salvador's Comisión de la Verdad, created by the peace agreement of April 1991; and Guatemala's Comisión de Esclarecimiento Histórico, created by the Oslo Agreement in June 1994. In all these commissions, however, women's representation was either absent or minimal.
- 88. In **Colombia**, the Comisión Nacional de Reparación y Reconciliación (CNRR) was created in October 2005 and consisted of 13 members, two of whom were women. The commission elaborated recommendations that would facilitate integral reparations with the premise of using a gender perspective to develop special measures to help women and girls who had been victims of violence. A great challenge confronting the CNRR was facilitating women's access to its proceedings. Female victims were often poor women either from displaced populations or from conflict zones. Ignorant of their rights, they were afraid to denounce their aggressors. There was general concern that a system of impunity continued to prevail.
- 89. In **Chile**, the National Commission for amendments and reconciliation, which was created within the framework of the Law on Justice and Peace, elaborated specific recommendations for compensating women and girls who were victims of various forms of violence.
- 90. In **Peru**, the Commission on Truth and Reconciliation (CVR) identified three categories of women affected by armed conflict: women who themselves were victims of crime, human rights violations or other deeds; women whose family members had disappeared, died, or had offenses inflicted on them; and women situated in areas affected by violence who required collective compensation and national reconciliation. The CVR also created special programmes to address the needs and concerns of women victims of sexual and gender-based violence.
- 91. In **El Salvador**, the Healthy Family Relations Program, implemented in 1995, was another measure put into effect to protect the human rights of women and their families, especially those that had been victims of gender based violence. This programme acknowledged the fact that armed conflict had contributed to gender-based violence in the country. Efforts were made to sensitize and train public officials to address gender-based violence.
- 92. **Jamaica** was one of several countries in the region that had recognized the need to change societal culture by helping people to identify and understand gender-based violence. Jamaica's Bureau of Women's Affairs headed an effort by government agencies, non-governmental organizations and community-based groups to conduct gender-based violence workshops in a number of organizations, schools, communities and churches across the island.

Security Sector Reform

93. The participants specifically emphasized the importance of security sector reform in order to mainstream a gender perspective into the work of military and police forces. It was

noted that those responsible for the provision of security should not themselves constitute a threat to the security of individuals or communities. The concern extended beyond the national level to the composition of personnel that a Member State commits to peacekeeping operations. Such personnel required appropriate training before deployment.

- 94. It was noted that women were greatly underrepresented in the security forces even in countries that had high rates of gender equality. The situation was not different in Latin America. The defense committees in both houses of the Chilean parliament were still exclusively male. Argentina, on the other hand, pointed to its Senate Defense Committee with almost 27 percent women, and its House Defense Commission with three women (10 percent) among its thirty-one members. **Peru** had made even more progress; in 2007, a woman presided over the Defense Committee of the country's Congress and the committee itself had almost achieved gender parity.
- 95. Significantly, out of the 12 Latin American nations, three (25 percent) currently had a female Minister of Defense; **Argentina, Uruguay, and Ecuador** all had female leaders in this key position. In the case of **Chile**, Michelle Bachelet, the current President, had previously held the portfolio of Minister of Defense. Until October 2003, **Colombia** also had a woman heading the defense ministry.
- 96. Women defense ministers were likely to effect change toward greater gender equality in the armed forces. The creation of the Observatory on Women's Integration in the Armed Forces in Argentina was a concrete example of this commitment. This office examined the gender implications of the increasing feminization of the military, whose membership had now reached 15 percent women. Also, the Ministry's Council on Gender Policies had identified a number of rules and traditions that discriminated against women and had called for their derogation.
- 97. Similarly, in Chile, Michelle Bachelet, holding the position of Minster of Defense during 2002-2004, implemented a policy of actively integrating Chilean women into the armed forces.
- 98. In general, the composition of Latin America's armed forces reflected a worldwide reality of women representing a small minority of the service. According to 2006 data from the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the composition of the armed forces and police in **Brazil** was a total of 279,822 men and 10,267 women (3.54 percent). **Peru**, on the other hand, had 103,506 men and 5,053 (4.65 percent) women in its armed forces. Concerning the police, **El Salvador** reported 15,409 men in its police forces and 1,152 women (6.96 percent), whereas **Peru** had 94,775 men and 14,557 women (13.31 percent) in its police force.²⁸
- 99. Throughout the region, there had been efforts to increase women's participation in the police force and to conduct gender training programmes. **Haiti** presented evidence for the challenges ahead in changing current realities. The Haitian police force was comprised of 411 women out of a total of 8,032 officers (about 5 percent of the total force). In August 2007, based on an initiative led by the national police service and backed by the United Nations to encourage the recruitment of more female officers, thousands of Haitian women registered to join their country's police academy. Despite this massive interest, only five women were among the 400

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²⁸ DPKO, "Policy Dialogue to Review Strategies for Enhancing Gender Balance Among Uniformed Personnel in Peacekeeping Missions," Page 29, Table 2.

candidates retained for the incoming class. Nevertheless, the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) considered the drive an important effort to change gender stereotypes about policing.

100. Participants were presented with the successful efforts of **Honduras** that had enabled progress in the training of its police forces. In 1998, the country had passed a law against domestic violence. With the assistance of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), police officers had been trained on gender issues and on assisting victims of domestic violence. "The training, focused on processing cases of domestic violence first by taking complaints seriously, informing victims of their rights and sometimes providing protection. Domestic violence [represented] 65 percent of calls received by the police. The training programme was implemented in cooperation with the National Women's Institute, the Ministry of Security and the General Directorate for Police Education." By mid-2007, almost 4,000 police officers had been trained, with the expectation that in the next 10 years, the entire police force (about 10,000) would have undergone training. Significantly, women represented only six percent of police officers with only two percent holding top-ranking positions.³¹

101. Several police forces in the region were seeking to replicate the Honduran success story. At the present time, however, most of these countries provided training "primarily on domestic and sexual violence" but lacked fully developed gender training.³² In an effort to strengthen women's security, women's police stations had been established in **Argentina**, **Brazil**, **Colombia**, **Costa Rica**, **Ecuador**, **Nicaragua**, **Peru and Uruguay**.³³ These stations were staffed mostly by women officers and were essential in providing an environment that permitted women in the region to bring their concerns to the attention of law enforcement.

Gender in Peacekeeping

102. The challenge to make peacekeeping more gender balanced was considered by participants as formidable. As of July 2007, only 90 out of 2,584 U.N. military observers were women. Further, out of 1,072 staff officers, 29 were women, and among 70,525 deployed troops, a mere 1,292 were women. Thus, in current United Nations peacekeeping operations, less than 2 percent of military peacekeepers deployed were female.³⁴ Similarly, women represented about 5 percent of the police forces engaged in peace keeping.³⁵

²⁹ Denham and Marks, "Police Reform and Gender," 19, citing UNFPA, "Through the Eyes of the Victim: Police Training and Domestic Violence in Honduras," http://www.unfpa.org/news/news.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.," p. 29.

³² Ibid.," p. 18.

³³ Ibid.," p. 20.

³⁴ UN - DPKO, Gender Statistics – 31 July 2007, www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko/contributors/index.htm.

³⁵ Guéhenno, "Statement to the Security Council Open Debate on the Implementation of Resolution 1325 (2000)"; Paul Higate and Marsha Henry, "Engendering (In) security in Peace Support Operations, *Security Dialogue* 35.4 (2004): See footnote 2.

- 103. In 2007, the first all-female UN peacekeeping unit was deployed when the Indian government sent 103 women police officers to Liberia. According to early assessments, their presence helped to get Liberian women to register complaints. Also, more women came to see the police as a potential source for employment. Similarly, evidence from Bosnia and Herzegovina suggested that gender-balanced peacekeeping led to better results on the ground.
- 104. It was noted that several **Latin American** countries contributed troops to UN peace missions all over the world. **Bolivia** and **Guatemala** were among the countries that contributed the greatest number of women to UN peace missions. In **Chile**, twenty-seven women were participating in the country's peace missions at the end of 2007, a significant increase from 2005. For the same period, **Peru** reported an increase in women's participation in the country's peace missions from less than one percent to seven percent, and emphasized that the country's positive experience would lead the armed forces to take measures to increase the participation of female military personnel in peace operations. It was noted that contributing countries that had a national action plan for the implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) tended to include more women in their forces (Canada led with almost 22 percent of its peacekeeping forces comprising women; Denmark with 10 percent; and Norway with close to 7 percent). However, the participants confirmed that very few countries had taken even the most basic steps such as incorporating a gender perspective into training modules for military personnel or actively encouraging women to serve in peace missions.
- 105. For **Latin America**, the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) was one of the most important experiences to date. Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay all contributed personnel to the 7,200 military troops and/or the 1,951 police officers. The work of MINUSTAH, however, was not without controversy. A number of complaints had been made concerning sexual abuse committed by individuals from the mission. These incidents highlighted the importance of mainstreaming gender into the training of peacekeeping forces.

IV. Training Workshop on Development of National Action Plans for the Implementation of SCR 1325 (2000)

106. The purpose of the workshop was to raise awareness about Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and to build national capacity to develop a national action plans/strategies for its implementation. The draft of an online training course on national implementation of the resolution was presented for discussion. The course was still in the process of being developed by OSAGI/ECLAC in collaboration with UNITAR POCI, which has vast experience in developing such self-paced distance training courses. The course would include six lessons (see Box 2 below for a course index), the first three of which would provide an overview of the United Nations and its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women, explain the gender dimensions of armed conflict, and present the conceptual framework of the resolution. The remaining lessons would then focus on women, peace and security issues in Latin America and the Caribbean and provide concrete guidelines for developing a national action plan. The course would be offered in English, French, and Spanish, and would be primarily distributed as an online download. This had proven to be the most effective and efficient method of course

distribution, allowing for outreach to a large number of students world-wide (e.g., approximately 87,000 course enrolments in a recent 12-month period).

- 107. UNITAR POCI would provide a website customized for the target audience of the training course on the national implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through the website, students would be able to enroll in the course and immediately download their course materials as a PDF file. The course would be divided into lessons that would contain learning objectives, study materials, and a self-scoring quiz with the answers provided. After completion of the self-paced course, students would then return to the website to access and submit their 50-question End-of-Course Examination. Upon passing with a score of 75 percent or greater, students would receive a Certificate of Completion, which they could download and print.
- 108. After completing the End-of-Course Examination, students would have the opportunity to submit feedback on the course. This could include any corrections, concerns, or comments that they might have, including suggestions for improvement. UNITAR POCI would collect this data and take it into consideration when revising courses in order to further improve and update the training materials.

Box 2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 (2000) IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

ONLINE TRAINING COURSE

FORWORD INTRODUCTION FORMAT OF STUDY METHOD OF STUDY

LESSON 1 – THE UNITED NATIONS AND GENDER EQUALITY

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Overview of the United Nations System
- 1.3 Promoting Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- 1.4 The Security Council and Peacekeeping Operations

LESSON 2 – GENDER DIMENSION OF ARMED CONFLICT AND PEACE

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Girls
- 2.3 Sexual and Gender Based Violence (GBV)
- 2.4 Displacement: Women and Girls as Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Returnees
- 2.5. Gender Perspective of Peace Process, Transition Post Conflict and Recovery Processes
- 2.6 Gender Perspective in Peacekeeping Operations
- 2.7 Humanitarian Operations
- 2.8 DDR and the Reconstruction Process

LESSON 3 - SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 (2000) ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Peace, Security and Human Security Concepts
- 3.3 SCR1325 (2000)

- 3.4 Strengths and Challenges of SCR1325 (2000)
- 3.5 Implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) by the United Nations System
- 3.6 Implementation of SCR1325 (2000) at the National Level

LESSON 4 – WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY: CHALLENGES FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Contemporary Armed Conflict in LA and CC
- 4.3 Roots and Structural Causes of CAC in LA and CC
- 4.4 Impact of CAC on Women and Girls
- 4.5 Peace Process, Transition Post Conflict and Recovery Process
- 4.6 DDR Process
- 4.7 Reconstruction Process

LESSON 5 – WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY: PRIORITIES FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Prevention
- 5.3 Participation and Representation
- 5.4 Protection

LESSON 6 – GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF SCR 1325 (2000) IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

- 6.1 Advocacy and Awareness Raising
- 6.2. Understanding of Women, Peace and Security Issues
- 6.3 Building Alliance with the Major Stakeholders
- 6.4 Developing of National Strategy/Action Plan: Key Elements and Tools
- 6.5 Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism
- 6.6 Resource Mobilization
- 6.7 Collaboration with the UN System and Regional Organizations

APPENDIX A – SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 (2000)

APPENDIX B - PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENTS ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

APPENDIX C – UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

APPENDIX D - 2008-2009 UN SYSTEM-WIDE ACTION PLAN FOR THE

IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 (2000)

APPENDIX E – SAMPLES OF NATIONAL ACTION PLANS: NORWAY

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

END-OF-COURSE EXAMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

ANNEX I

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ANNEX II

PROGRAMME OF WORK

Monday, 19 November 2007

8:30 – 9:30 am	Registration of participants
9:30 – 11:00 am	Opening Session
	Opening Statement by Mr. José Luis Machinea, ECLAC Executive Secretary (video) Opening Statement by Ms. Rachel Mayanja, ASG, Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women Ms. Laura Albornoz, Minister, Women Affairs (Chile) Ms. Ximena Abarca, President of the Board of Directors of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and Executive Director, National Council of Women in Ecuador (CONAMU)
11:00 – 11:30 am	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:00 pm	Needs Assessment Report: Gender dimension in war and peace in Latin America and the Caribbean- Presentation by Prof. Ilja Luciak (30 – 40 minutes)
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Questions & Answers
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Lunch
2:30 – 4:00 pm	Presentations by representatives from national machineries (5 -7 min) Topic I: Mainstreaming gender into area of peace and security: national perspectives and priorities: prevention, participation and protection Ms. Sabrina Frederic (Argentina)
	Mr. John Hollingsworth (Barbados) Ms. Milena Bessa Medeiros (Brazil) Ms. Luz Alba Vanegas Cubillos (Colombia)
3.30 – 4.00 pm	Discussion
4:00 – 4:30 pm	Coffee Break
4:30 – 5:30 pm	Presentations by representatives from national machineries (5 -7 min)

Topic I: Mainstreaming gender into area of peace and security: national perspectives and priorities: prevention, participation and protection

Ms. Ximena Abarca (Ecuador)

Ms. Zoila de Innocenti (El Salvador)

Ms. Jennifer Williams (Jamaica)

Ms. Zoila Zegarra (Peru)

5.30 -6.00 pm Discussion

6:30- 7.30 pm Reception hosted by OSAGI and ECLAC

Tuesday, 20 November 2007

9:30 – 10:30 am Presentations by representatives from various Ministries and Members of

Parliament

 $(5 - 7 \min)$

Topic II: Gender and security priority concerns at the national level, including

gender and peacekeeping

Ms. Maria Cristina Perceval (Argentina)

Ms. Maria Teresa Zapeta Mendoza (Guatemala)

Ms. Myriam Merlet (Haiti)

Ms. Laura Albornoz (Chile)

10.30 – 11.00 am Discussion

11:00 – 11:30 am Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 pm Presentations by representatives from various Ministries and Members of

Parliament

 $(5 - 7 \min)$

Topic II: Gender and security priority concerns at the national level, including

gender and peacekeeping

Ms. Claudia Donoso (Ecuador)

Ms. Concepción Figueroa Castro (El Salvador)

Ms. Nuria del Rocío Esparch Fernandez (Peru)

Mr. Adolfo Zaldivar Larrain (Chile)

1:00 - 2:30 pm Lunch

2:30 – 4:00 pm An online training course - Presentation and demonstration by Michelle

Minaskanian, United Nations Institute for Training and Research Programme

of Correspondence Instruction in Peacekeeping Operations (UNITAR-POCI) (10 min);

A training course on 1325- Presentation by Prof. Ximena Jimenez (15)

Key principles of a model action plan - Presentation by Prof. Ilja Luciak (15 min);

Questions & Answers

4:00 – 4:30 pm Coffee Break

4:30 – 6:00 pm Two working groups on national implementation of SCR 1325 (2000)

Working group 1- moderator Prof. Ximena Jimenez Working group 2- moderator Prof. Ilja Luciak

Wednesday, 21 November 2007

9:30 – 1:00 pm Discussion: on the way forward for coherent and full implementation of SCR

1325 at the national level in Latin America and the Caribbean?

Recommendations

Closing Remarks by Ms. Rachel Mayanja, ASG, Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women