

## **UN Women contribution to the SG's report on Women, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control**

The Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) encourages all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to take the diverse needs of females and males ex-combatants and their dependents into account. The first General Assembly resolution (65/69) recognizes the significant contributions of women to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control. Both resolutions have helped raise awareness on the importance of engaging women in peace, security and disarmament efforts.

As a double-edged sword, women have been peacebuilders and spoilers of peace. They perform a critical role as back end support to the male combatants, as frontline active combatants, as dependents and as peacebuilders advocating for their sons, husbands and fathers to silence the guns. However, women and girls have not equally benefited from services, cash incentives, health care, training, travel remittance, small business grants or housing support that flow to their male counterparts—males with guns—as part of DDR packages. Leaving women and girls outside the DDR undermines the sustainability and equitable development.

Pursuant to the implementation of these resolutions, UN Women and women's CSOs have been instrumental in advocating and lobbying for gender responsive disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control.

In Latin America and Caribbean region, women and women organizations played a prominent role in the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) which resulted in a Nobel Peace Prize in 2017 and the achievement of treaty-based prohibition of nuclear weapons. The treaty negotiations were chaired by a woman president, Ambassador Elayne Whyte Gómez of Costa Rica. UN Women Office in the Latin American and Caribbean region collaborated with UNLIREC in a symposium to engage over 40 women working on security, disarmament, and/or development from 26 countries in the region to bolster the momentum created by UNLIREC's Forces of Change publications and to strengthen the emerging network of female professionals working for a safer future for the region.

In Sudan, UN Women Sudan and UNDP are implementing a joint DDR project in the Darfur region. The project is strengthening community stabilization through the reintegration of male and female ex-combatants including the provision of livelihood support. Technical support has also been extended to law enforcement officers through trainings on human rights and international conventions on the protection of women. A total of fifty Police Officers have been trained to-date covering the five states in Darfur.

As an active member of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (IAWG DDR), UN Women is leading the revision of the gender module and

mainstreaming gender in the other modules of the of the Integrated DDR Standards that will be launched in 2018.