



Permanent Mission of Portugal

to the United Nations

“Portugal, fully committed to prevent and eliminate all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, aligns itself with the objectives of the High-Level Meeting on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, held on the 18th September 2017, in New York, under the auspices of the Secretary General of the United Nations.

United Nations operations on the ground are essential to ensure the protection of those affected by conflicts and humanitarian crisis. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that States cooperate with the United Nations in its efforts and activities to protect people from sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations personnel and non-United Nations personnel deployed under a Security Council Mandate.

Portugal’s second National Action Plan for the Implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security already provides for training programs on gender equality and violence against women and girls, including sexual violence and gender-based violence for personnel in the fields of justice, armed forces and security forces assigned to international missions for the promotion and maintenance of peace and security.

Portugal considers that the role played by civil society organizations, in conflict and post-conflict settings and in situations of emergency, is essential to prevent and report crimes and to alert the international community to such situations.

Fully committed with the Secretary-General’s efforts, Portugal has signed the Voluntary Compact to end impunity and strengthen measures to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, has joined the Circle of Leadership and contributed to the United Nations Trust Fund for Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.”