



## **National Action Plan for the Implementation of Resolution 1325 (2000)**

# Contents

## Preface

	Profile of Guinea-Bissau .....	
<b>(I).</b>	.....	5
	Women, Peace and security .....	
<b>II.</b>	.....	6
	Regulatory Framework .....	
<b>III.</b>	.....	8
	A vision, two words: Peace and security .....	1
<b>IV.</b>	.....	0
	Strategic Guidance .....	1
<b>V.</b>	.....	1
	Guinean action plan for the implementation da Resolução 1325	1
	.....	2
	<b>1</b>	
	. Prevention	
	<b>2</b>	
	. Participation	
	<b>3</b>	
	. Protection	
	<b>4</b>	
	. Help and community relocation	
	<b>5</b>	
	. Monitoring and evaluation plan	

<b>Annex: Resolution 1325</b> .....	
.....	21

## **Factsheet**

**Editor** : Women's and child Institute (BMI)

**Support** : United Nations Integrated Office for the  
consolidation of peace in Guinea-Bissau  
(UNIOGBIS)

**Circulation** : 250 copies

Bissau, March 2010

The Republic of Guinea-Bissau is situated on the West coast of Africa, being flanked by Senegal to the North and Guinea Conakry, in the East and South, while the West Coast is bathed by the Atlantic Ocean. The country has an area of 36,125 Km<sup>2</sup> and a population of around 1,500,000 inhabitants, 52% of which are women. The fertility rate is 6.8 children per woman. The rates of infant mortality and infant-juvenile are 138 about 1000 and mortality is about 233 1000 respectively (MICS 2006). The maternal mortality rate is of 405 killed by 100,000 live births (MICS 2006).

At the economic level, Guinea-Bissau is part of the Group of least developed Countries (LDCS). Political and institutional instability of recent years explains about the constant degradation of the main macroeconomic indicators. The rise in poverty is accentuated in the country, according to the result of the survey Quick to assess poverty: almost 64% of the Guinean population live with less than two (2) US dollars a day and 20% with less than one (1) US dollar per day. with regard to education, the illiteracy rate is 73% (85.5% of women and 59.4% of men) and the gross schooling rate of 69% (53% of men and 38% of girls).

At the political level, the country met an armed struggle of national liberation which lasted 11 years against the then Portuguese colonialists to which Guinean women participated actively. This fight has cost thousands of lives. After the unilateral declaration of independence of September 24, 1973, the country was ruled by a single party under the reins of PAIGC. A military coup culminated in the overthrow of the regime of Luís Cabral independent Guinea's first President. In 1994 first pluralist elections were held, having general João Bernardo Vieira was elected President of the Republic. After this period, the country entered a cycle of successive crises culminating in the political-military conflict of the June 7, 1998, which lasted 11 months, having cost the lives of thousands of people, mostly women and children. During this conflict, were perpetrated serious violations of the fundamental rights of women and international humanitarian law. Women were exposed to sexual abuse, physical and psychological assaults, looting carried out by the troops of the warring parties. These acts were never punished. As a result of the overthrow of President Nino Vieira, general elections were held in late 1999 and early 2000, won by the Kumba lala and the PRS, also overturned in 2003. Other legislative elections were organized in 2004 having won the PAIGC.

From 2005 to 2009, three elections were held, two presidential and legislative, being the first one won by the General João Bernardo Vieira and the 2008 legislative won again by the PAIGC. As a result of the double murder of the President of the Republic João Bernardo Vieira and Chief of staff armed forces Gen. Baptista Tagme Na Way, on 1 and 2 March 2009, the country was forced to hold early presidential elections which Malam Bacai Sanhá was the winner.

The international community, through the United Nations gives the people and Government of Guinea-Bissau, the necessary support for the consolidation of peace. Women's participation in this process is crucial and crucial.

An environment that ensures the national peacekeeping, the promotion and defence of human rights, democracy and the peaceful resolution of disputes is an important element to facilitate the improvement of the status of women in Guinea-Bissau. Guinea-Bissau met in recent years successive political crises and armed conflict which constitute a threat to peace in the country and in the subregion. This situation creates a climate conducive to the flagrant and systematic violations of human rights and in particular of women and children.

Like all armed conflicts, the civilian populations of Guinea-Bissau, in particular women, children, the elderly and the disabled, have paid a heavy toll of the war and the successive political crises. Women were exposed to systematic violations, physical assaults and other forms of inhuman and degrading treatment. These acts of violence and insecurity, brought about a massive exodus of refugees and displaced persons, mostly women and children. To these facts are the social, economic and psychological effects irreversible character of the armed conflict in Guinea Bissau.

In order to consolidate peace and turn firmly to the development, the Government of Guinea-Bissau he enrolled in a logic of peace, with the support of the international community, particularly the United Nations. Conscious of the effects of peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau are inseparable from the gender and development and the need to fend off the effects of war and political crises on women and children, the Government is committed to actively supporting the implementation of the international instruments concerning the protection of women in conflict and post-conflict situations, particularly Security Council resolution 1325.

The Institute of woman and child in cooperation with women's organisations, civil society organisations and the United Nations

Mission in Guinea-Bissau, begin planning work for the next three years. This plan comprises actions, repair, protection, prevention, material and psychological support to women victims of atrocities during the recent years of conflicts that the country met, within the framework of the implementation of resolution 1325.

The journey (January 29, 2010) evaluation of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) of the Security Council allowed the following diagnoses:

**1** . Although the Guineans begin to play an important role in the process of peace currently underway in the country, women are always represented in smaller dimension in positions of responsibility.

**2** . To date, no woman has been appointed representative of Guinea, submitted or special agent of missions of good services on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, not as an observer member of the civilian police and military. In fact, Guinea-Bissau has not yet sent to the SG of the United Nations a list of women who can be named to these various stations.

**3** . Guinea-Bissau has a Peacebuilding Commission, Director of surveillance for the prevention of conflicts, supports among other things, security sector reform, judicial reform and public administration reform. The representation of women in this Commission is much smaller.

**4 .** Guinean women are systematically excluded in negotiations for peace and the political negotiations. Your experience however proved in the prevention and the peaceful resolution of conflicts (Adja Satu Camara example, former Governor of Gabu etc.) is an example that should be enjoyed by the country.

**5 .** War crimes against women and girls remain unpunished. The authors of violations as tactics of war, forced displacement, looting, torture, disappearances, remain at liberty and no serious investigation has been carried out so far to pursue the alleged responsible and repair to the victims.

**6 .** Guinea-Bissau has a Executive Secretariat of refugees. No woman has accent in this structure, a fact that limits the measures taking into account the specific needs of women in refugee aid operations.

**7 .** The insufficiency of mechanisms which favour the access of victims of war to justice and judicial services. This appears as one of the biggest challenges from the point of view of the protection of the fundamental rights of women. The rate of cases concerning sexual abuse against women translated into justice is insignificant.

**8 .** The proportion of women in the sectors of defence and security are less than 20% national will, in addition to this fact, the absence of women in decision-making spheres of the national army and police, which makes it unlikely the taking of measures that take into account the specific needs of them and girls in these sectors.

**9 .** The contents of the formations of the bodies of national security, integrates the issues relating to the security of women in times of peace as well as war, limiting considerably its capacity for action.

**10** . The system of collection, processing and exploitation of statistics not integrates aspect linked to violence against women and their respective security. As a result, no reliable official information is not available to assess the extent of violence against women in Guinea-Bissau. The available information are collected from empirical way by local NGOs of human rights of the human person and of some governmental structures.

**11** . Building national policies of gender equality and the fight against gender-based violence are in preparation. The resources devoted to women's promotion structures are insufficient and considerably limits the production and implementation of these policies.

**12** . Guinea-Bissau produced in 2009, its first report on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, in accordance with CEDAW. The inadequacy of national mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of international commitments regarding the protection of women's human rights represents a bigger challenge.

**13** . With regard to the education sector, noted the absence of the culture of peace and human rights in the school curriculum, and this is a concern for the country. The initiatives undertaken by local NGOs have results mitigated and human rights particularly the rights of women remain largely ignored.

The Constitution of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau ensures the protection of physical integrity and morale of all citizens themselves in conflict situations. I.e. no one shall be subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, or cruel. This law also enshrines the principle of magna equality between citizens as a fundamental vector for the achievement of progress and social welfare goods.

There are at the level of ordinary laws, several laws that implement the constitutional command giving greater protection to citizens. By way of example, the Guinean penal code considers the practice of crime acts of torture and other cruel and degrading treatment against people. However, there is no specific legislation that protects women against violence in its various dimensions, especially in armed conflicts. In this context, some cultural practices such as female genital mutilation, despite constituting a serious problem for the health and physical integrity of women continues to be encouraged.

At regional level, the country is a member of the economic community of West African States (ECOWAS), a regional space cooperation on matters of common interest. In this context, the references concerning the protection of women in armed conflict are remote, however one can mention the multilateral cooperation agreement to combat the trafficking of people in West Africa with a particular focus on women and children.

The United Nations Charter enshrines the dignity of the human being as the Foundation for the achievement of peace and progress in the world. In this respect, the respect for human rights must constitute one of the priorities of all sovereign States.

On the other hand, Guinea-Bissau is also a signatory to several international conventions on fundamental rights of the human person, in particular the Universal Declaration of human rights,

the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), the Optional Protocol of CEDAW, the Protocol on the African Charter on human and peoples ' rights on the rights of Women, the International Covenant on Civil and political rights, the UN Convention on children's rights, the UN Convention on the rights of refugees and its additional protocols, the Convention on Consent to marriage (minimum age of marriage, and your registration), the Convention on the political rights of women, the Convention on all forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on economic, social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment etc.

The country participated in 1995, at the World Conference on human rights of women, held in Beijing, China, where they were drawn lines masters and targets regarding the promotion and protection of women's rights. The Declaration and the programme of action of Beijing are two strategic documents that challenge the conscience of all world leaders and civil society in General, to mobilize around the issue of gender and its observance in all aspects of social, political and economic life throughout the world.

*National action plan 1325 (2000)*

All these conventions, protocols and declarations, contribute to strengthening the protection of women in national legal systems and are important instruments of Guinean support for national legislation on women's human rights with a view to ensuring the exercise of their rights and freedoms on equal conditions with men.

It was in this context of better respond to major problems which arise with regard to the protection of women's rights, the Government of Guinea-Bissau has created under the tutelage of the Ministry of women, family and Social Cohesion, the Institute of woman and child while operating structure and articulator of policies of the Government, with ability to develop programmes for the protection of the rights of women to gender equality.

Human rights violations committed in situations of armed conflict and military occupation infringe the fundamental principles of human rights to which adhered to Guinea-Bissau, as are included in international instruments. With this purpose, this action plan aims to:

Create conditions for security, peace and sustainable development in Guinea-Bissau, implementing the approaches to peace and security founded on cooperation, dialogue and respect for fundamental human rights, in particular the principles of equality and equity between men and women. For this, it is necessary to support the equal access and full participation of women in power structures and their contribution to all efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts, as an indispensable condition for the maintenance, the promotion of peace and security in the country.

**1 .** Guinean women do benefit from the advantage of being represented at all levels of the decision-making sphere within the institutions and national, regional and international mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts and know their roles and contributions in United Nations operations on the ground, in particular on the quality of military observers, members of cops, human rights experts and members of the humanitarian operations.

**2 .** Ensure the effective participation of women in peace negotiations and policies so that the country withdraw the proceeds of "know-how" of Guinean women in preventing and resolving conflicts non-violently.

**3 .** Ensure the protection and respect of the fundamental rights of women and small girls, in particular in the areas of the Constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judiciary, and take specific measures to protect them against acts of sexual violence, and other forms of sexual atrocities, in situations of armed conflict in accordance with international humanitarian law.

**4 .** Put an end to impunity, initiating comprehensive investigations war crimes against women and girls and that it undertakes to proceed with legal actions against people accused of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, including all forms of sexual and other violence against women and small girls, and in this respect delete them from the benefit of amnesty measures.

**5 .** Institutionalize and increase financial support to the peace initiatives taken by local women's groups, local procedures for the settlement of disputes, the participation of women in all of the implementation mechanisms of the peace agreements.

**6 .** Collaborate with the United Nations Mission in Guinea-Bissau for the formation of the personnel of the military forces and the

police on the protection, women's rights, the security needs of women and girls, as well as the importance of their participation in all peace-keeping measures and its consolidation. Ensure that the United Nations Mission in Guinea-Bissau incorporates indeed a stagecoach that concern, fairness between the sexes in the implementation of its mandate.

**7 .** Produce knowledge on the impact of armed conflicts and political crises on the populations, especially women and children, in order to better take into account your specific needs on security sector reform.

**8 .** Pursue the disarmament and the reduction of excessive military expenditure so as to give priority to the social sectors such as education, health, wealth creation etc.

# PURPOSE

Contribute to the establishment of a lasting peace in Guinea-Bissau, equal participation of women and men for the peace process and for taking the measures taking into account the specific needs of women in negotiating and implementing peace agreements.

## Objectives

The objectives of this action plan boil down into four groups that represent the four pillars of resolution 1325 (2000), the Security Council in particular:

1. for the prevention of violence against women in conflict situations;

**Integrate a gender perspective in all actions and conflict prevention strategies, and strengthen efforts to fight against all forms of violence against women;**

2. The participation of women in all the mechanisms of conflict prevention and resolution;

**Perform the recruitment and appointment of Guinean women in decision-making posts in United Nations peace missions as well as their active participation in all peace processes;**

3. the protection of women and girls in situations of conflict.

**Ensure the strengthening and expansion of efforts for the safety, physical and mental health, welfare, economic security and the dignity of women and girls by the promotion and safeguarding of their fundamental human rights.**

4. Measures taking into account the specific needs of women and girls in the distribution of humanitarian aid and relocation.

**Perform the equal access of men and women to aid distribution mechanisms, services and actions of humanitarian aid and of national and international aid to relocation.**

# 1. Prevention

Integrate a gender perspective in all actions and conflict prevention strategies, and strengthen efforts to fight against all forms of violence against women.

## 1.1. Specific Objectives

1.1. Ensure the presence of at least 40% of women in the Steering Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission in Guinea-Bissau, until December 2010.

.1.2. To introduce into the agenda of the Steering Committee of the statutory Commission of peace-building in Guinea-Bissau, the problematic issues of women, peace and security, until December 2010.

.1.3. Enter in the process of national planning and budgeting, the elements of issues relating to the safety of women and the fight against gender-based violence in order to ensure its financing.

.1.4. Introduce the process of reforms in the areas of Defense, security and judicial system, the provisions of international law that protect women against all forms of violence and providing compensation and reparation of the damages to the victims. Continue the program of collection of small arms in circulation in the country, as well as excessive military expenditure, to strengthen the feeling of security of populations, in particular women and children.

.1.5. Introduce the training programme of the national police

and the forces of law and order, the problem man woman and the fight against violence against women, until December 2011.

.1.6. Establish training courses for judges and other legal professionals in the use of international standards in the fight against violence towards women in their work, until December 2011.

.1.7. Introduce in the national judicial system, measures to give competence to the national judges to address issues relating to war crimes against women and girls in Guinea-Bissau.

.1.8. Finalize the elaboration, adoption and funding of national policies for the protection of fundamental human rights of women, in particular, the national policy for the construction of gender equality and the national policy to combat violence against women in Guinea-Bissau, until December 2010.

.1.9. Institutionalize national mechanisms to establish mandatory reports on the implementation of the various international conventions on protection of rights of women and girls (CEDAW. CDE, resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2009) ...), until December 2010.

.1.10. Institutionalize mechanisms for women's organizations support of Guinea-Bissau who work on issues of elimination of gender-based violence, as well as the culture of non-violence and peace.

.1.11. Institutionalize the collection of data disaggregated by sex and gender-based violence, the official system of collection and processing of data in all fields.

## **1.2.preventive action**

1. Realization of lobbying with the Government of Guinea-Bissau and the international community, with a view to strengthening the presence of women in the Peacebuilding Commission, and include on its agenda the issues specific to women;

2. Creation of a special fund which aims to ensure the concrete actions intended for the fight against gender-based violence;

3. Realization of lobbying the Government and the NPA, with a view of national legal framework adequacy with the international instruments that protect women against the various types of violence;

4. Preparation of a training programme for the defence and security forces with content faces the problem of gender and violence against women;

5. Realization of lobbying of the various actors in the judicial system to within the framework of the policy of permanent training of judges and magistrates, the introduction of international standards component relating to gender-based violence;

5. Realization of lobbying from the different political actors in order to amend the Guinean penal legislation allowing the punishment of war crimes against women and girls;
6. Realization of lobby for the creation of national committees to monitor the implementation of the various conventions and international resolutions as well as the fulfilment of the obligations underlying them;
7. Awareness of the Government and the competent authorities, on the necessity of the introduction in the national statistical system, disaggregated data by gender of gender-based violence.
8. Creation of mechanisms for collection of small arms (guns for food).
9. Integration of the theme "Women, peace and security" in the continuous training of teachers.
10. Promote the integration of the theme "Women, peace and security" in the context of the education for citizenship in a prospect of Peace.
11. Establishment and management of a *site* on the internet about the national action plan 1325.

## **2. Participation**

Perform the recruitment and appointment of Guinean women in decision-making posts in United Nations peace missions, as well as their active participation in all peace processes.

### **2.1. Specific Objectives**

2.1.1. Support the participation of at least 40% of women in peace negotiations and in the implementation of the agreements resulting from the negotiations, until December 2010.

2.1.2. Prepare and transmit to the Secretary General of the United Nations, a list of women to be nominated for the functions of special sent UN Secretary-General, head of the civilian police and military observers, of judges and all organisms, international judicial and other competent bodies in the field of peaceful settlement of disputes until June 2010.

2.1.3. Continue with the spirit of collaboration that exists between the United Nations peace mission in Guinea-Bissau, seeking their support for the participation of national women's organizations in different forums and conferences on women, peace and security at the regional and global level.

2.1.4. Revise the electoral law and framework law of political parties, with the purpose to establish quotas based on gender in electoral lists for the eligible positions.

## 2.2. Actions for participation

1. Realization of lobbying with the Government and the competent authorities for the adoption and approval of a legal framework that establishes quotas for the recruitment of women in defence and security forces, in the framework of the ongoing reform in the sector.

2. National authorities ' Awareness of the need for institutionalization of mechanisms with a view to participation of women in all stages of peace talks;

3. Awareness of national political authorities with a view to amending the electoral law and the framework law of political parties, allowing the establishment of quotas based on gender in electoral lists to eligible political organs;

4. Awareness with a view to preparing and sending to the Secretary General of the United Nations, a list of Guinean women to the various international posts;

5. Conducting awareness-raising campaigns and dissemination in different media, about the content of resolution 1325 and the importance of women's participation in the processes of prevention, management and resolution of conflicts.

6. Approval and adoption of a legal framework which establishes compulsory quotas for women in all recruitments to admit new permanent staff in the sectors of defence and security.

7. Setting quotas for women police officers and military personnel in peacekeeping missions to the regional and international level.

8. Creation of the conditions that promote the participation of Guinean women in different forums and regional and international conferences on women, peace and security.

## **3. protection**

Ensure the strengthening and expansion of efforts for the safety, physical and mental health, welfare, economic security and the dignity of women and girls by the promotion and safeguarding of their fundamental human rights.

### **3.1. Specific Objectives**

3.1.1. Support the production of knowledge on the impact of political crises and armed conflict on women and girls in Guinea-Bissau, until January 2011.

3.1.2. Development and funding of specific programmes and policies to mitigate the consequences of armed conflict on the health, economic security, social and political situation of women, until June 2011.

3.1.3. Establish national and regional institutional mechanisms to support the complaint and the condemnation of the systematic resort to rape and other forms of inhuman and degrading treatment of women as an instrument of war and ethnic cleansing, until December 2011.

3.1.4. Creation and financing of structures *ad oc* to provide all required assistance to victims of rape and other forms of inhuman and degrading treatment of women deliberately used as instruments of war and ethnic cleansing, until

December 2011.

3.1.5. Follow up with thorough investigations on all acts of violence perpetrated against women in times of war, in particular, violations and any other form of indecent exposure, and documentation of these acts as war crimes, crimes against humanity, acts of genocide, as defined in the Convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide.

## **3.2. Protective Actions**

1. Conduct of studies and research on the impact of armed conflict on women and children, for the purposes of concrete policy-making in the sector.

2. Lobby on the establishment of a Fund for repairing the damage to victims of armed conflicts;

3. Institutionalization of appropriate mechanisms that ensure security and protection of witnesses who denounce the reports of violence against women;

4. Creating a green SOS telephone line for complaints of cases of violence against women.

5. Creation of a Council of elderly women to resolve the cases of domestic violence.

6. Creation of specific structures, criminal investigation authorities to address the cases of violence against women.

7. Establishment of permanent mechanisms of formations to members of women's organizations on citizenship, human

rights, peace and security.

8. Creation of mechanisms for the dissemination of this action plan in all spheres of society, aiming at their domestication and national ownership.

9. Creation of mechanisms for follow-up of the cases of complaints of violations of women's human rights, as well as the support funds for access to justice.

# **4. Humanitarian Aid and Community Relocation**

Perform the equal access of men and women to aid distribution mechanisms, the services of the actions of humanitarian aid and national aid to international relocation.

## **4.1. Specific Objectives**

4.1.1. Create follow-up mechanisms and support for bilateral and multilateral cooperation to realize the equal access of men and women to aid and post-conflict relocation services until June 2010.

4.1.2. Create a National Fund for the support of women and women's organizations in their social and economic initiatives related to community relocation until December 2011.

4.1.3. Take measures that take into account effectively the specific needs of women displaced in the process of planning of refugee assistance programmes.

# **Actions of humanitarian aid and Community Relocation**

1. Awareness of national authorities (PNA, ministries of finance, Interior, Territorial Administration) on the need to establish a national emergency fund that meets the specific needs of women;
2. Realization of lobby national authorities with a view to changing the composition of the National Secretariat for refugees, allowing a significant presence of women;
3. Realization of lobbying of political actors for the elaboration of a programme of assistance to refugees, taking into account the specific needs of women.
4. Awareness about the need to set up a Civil protection service that meets the specific needs of women.

# 6. monitoring and evaluation plan

To better monitor the practical implementation of this action plan, it is necessary to create a solid structure that covers all the political and social awareness in the country. In fact, a good implementation of the PNA 1325 requires an effective system of monitoring and evaluation, responsible for its implementation .

It is in this context that State institutions were selected, women's organisations and civil society to be part of the structure called Steering Committee.

The members of the Steering Committee shall be appointed by an act of the Government.

1. National  
Steering  
Committee  
composition:

- a. A representative of the Prime Minister
- (b). A representative of Parliament
- c. The Ministry of national defence
- (d). Ministry of family, women and Social Cohesion
- and. The Ministry of the Interior
- f. National Police
- g. Civil society organizations
- h. Political parties
- (i). Women's Organizations
- j. Steering Committee of the Peacebuilding

Commission  
k. Institute of woman and child  
l. Three representatives of international  
organisations

2. Executive Secretariat of the National Steering Committee  
(IMC)

3. Executive Secretary (IMC)

4. A Consolidated National report on women, peace and  
security will be presented annually by the Government in  
Parliament

*National action plan 1325 (2000)*

## ANNEX

# Resolution 1325 (2000)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4213<sup>a</sup> meeting, on  
October 31, 2000

*The Security Council,*

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions 1261 (1999) of 25 August 1999, 1265 (1999) of September 17, 1999, 1296 (2000) of April 19, 2000 and 1314 (2000) of August 11, 2000, as well as the important statements of its President,

*And bearing in mind also* the statement of its President to the press on the occasion of the day dedicated by the United Nations on women's rights and international peace (international women's day) to March 8, 2000 (SC/6816);

*Bearing in mind also* the commitments of the Declaration and Platform for action of Beijing (A/52/231) as well as those contained in document originating from the twenty-third special session of the United Nations General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (A/S-23/10/Rev. 1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict;

*Taking into attention* the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter regarding the maintenance of international peace and security;

*Expressing concern* with the fact that civilian populations, particularly women and children, constitute the vast majority of which are drastically affected by armed conflict, including refugees and displaced persons in their own territory, and which are increasingly being used as targets of combatants and armed elements 2, and *recognizing* the consequent impact this has for peace and lasting reconciliation;

*Reaffirming* the important role of women in conflict prevention and resolution and in peace-building, and *stressing* the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, as well as the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution;

*Reaffirming also* the need to implement in their entirety the humanitarian law and international human rights that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts;

*National action plan 1325 (2000)*

*Enhancing* the need for all stakeholders to ensure that the mine clearance programs and knowledge of its existence

should take into account the special needs of women and girls;

*Recognizing* the urgent need to include as a general principle a perspective of gender mainstreaming in peacekeeping operations, and in this respect;

*Taking into attention* the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of action for the inclusion of gender mainstreaming as a general principle in Multidimensional peace support Operations (S/2000/693);

*Recognizing also* the importance of the recommendation contained in the statement of its President to the press, March 8, 2000, on the special training, for all elements of peacekeeping, protection, special needs and human rights of women and children emsituações of conflict;

*Recognizing* that knowledge of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional measures to ensure their protection, and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of peace and security;

*Taking into attention* the need to consolidate data on the impact of armed conflict on women and young people;

1. *Appeals urgently* the Member States to ensure an increasing representation of women in all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions, as well as on mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts;
2. *Encourages* the Secretary-general to implement his strategic plan of action (A/49/587) that points to the increased participation of women in decision-making

levels in conflict resolution and peace processes;

3. *Appeals urgently* the Secretary-general to appoint more women as special representatives and sent to the achievement of good offices instead, and in this regard *requests* the Member States to provide candidates to the Secretary-general, in order to be included on a list updated regularly;
4. *Calls for urgent action* the Secretary General for seeking to increase the role and contribution of women in UN field operations, especially among military observers, civilian police, and staff in services related to human rights and humanitarian services;
5. *Expresses* its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective in peacekeeping, and *appeals urgently* to the Secretary-general to ensure that, where appropriate, the gender component is included in field operations;

*National action plan 1325 (2000)*

6. *Requests* the Secretary General to put at the disposal of Member States regulations and training materials on the protection, rights and the special needs of women as well as the importance of the involvement of women in peace-building and maintenance, *convida* Member States to include these elements as well as the awareness training on HIV/AIDS in their national training programmes for military forces and elements of developing civil police mobilisation,

*still calls for* the Secretary-general to ensure that the civilian personnel of peacekeeping operations receive similar training;

7. *Appeals urgently* the Member States to increase their aid voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for training activities to raise awareness about the genus, including those that are the responsibility of important funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Fund for women and the United Nations Fund for children, and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for refugees and other relevant organizations;
8. *Appeals* all the parties concerned, in the course of the negotiations and implementation of peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia:
  - (a) The special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, and reconstruction in post-conflict reintergração;
  - (b) Adopt measures to support local peace initiatives undertaken by women and the procedures for the settlement of disputes organized by native populations, and that involve women in all of the implementation mechanisms of the peace agreements;
  - (c) Adopt measures to ensure the protection and respect of human rights of women and girls, particularly those relating to the Constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judicial system;
9. *Appeals* to all parties involved in armed conflict to respect fully international law that applies to the rights and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians, in particular the

obligations that they apply under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the additional protocols in 1977, derived from the Convention on refugees of 1951 and the resulting Protocol in 1967, the Convention for the Eradication of all forms of discrimination against women of 1979 and the resulting Option Protocol in 1999, the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child of 1989 and the two protocols resulting option of May 25, 2000, as well as take into account the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

10. *Appeals* to all parties involved in armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls against violence based on gender difference, in particular rape and other forms of sexual abuse,

*National action plan 1325 (2000)*

as well as all other forms of violence that occur in situations of armed conflict;

11. *Highlights* the responsibility that all States must put an end to impunity and prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes including those relating to sex and any other type of violence against women and girls, and, in this regard, stresses the need to, whenever possible, exclude such crimes amnesty provisions;
12. *Appeals* to all parties involved in armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and

settlements, and take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including the way they are designed, for such reminding its resolutions 1208 (1998) of November 19, 1998 and 1296 (2000) of April 19, 2000;

13. *Encourages* all those who are involved in the planning of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to take into account the different needs of female and male ex-combatants, and to take into account the needs of their dependants;
14. *Reaffirms* its purpose of, where they adopted measures under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, pay special attention to its potential impact on the civilian population, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls, in order to assess appropriate measures of humanitarian relief;
15. *Expresses* their willingness to ensure that Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women, including consultation with such women's groups at local and international level;
16. *Invites* the Secretary-general to undertake a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, on the role of women in peacebuilding and the representativeness of the genus in the processes of peace and conflict resolution, *and further inviteshim* to submit to the Security Council a report on the results of such a studyby placing it at the disposal of all States Members of the United Nations;
17. *Requests* the Secretary-general, where appropriate, include in the reports it submits to the Security Council, progress in gender mainstreaming inclusion as a general principle in peacekeeping missions and all other aspects relating to women and girls;

18. *Makes the decision* to remain actively involved with this matter.

*National action plan 1325 (2000)*