



**NATO/EAPC UNCLASSIFIED**

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To: EAPC Ambassadors

From: Secretary General

**IMPLEMENTING UNSCR 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY**

**Note by the Chairman**

1. Please find attached a paper which outlines a NATO/EAPC policy to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. This paper will guide NATO's efforts, with its Partners, to implement the provisions of the resolution.
2. The paper has been revised following discussion at the EAPC meeting in Political Committee format on 4 December 2007.
3. I intend to place this paper on the agenda of our meeting scheduled for 12 December 2007, when I will ask NATO Ambassadors to approve the document and task the NATO Military Authorities to begin work on how to best implement the objectives of the resolution. Partners will be invited to associate themselves with the paper.
4. Alongside efforts to implement UNSCR 1325 on the basis of this tasking, interested Allies and Partners will commence work on a study to identify best practices and lessons learned on how gender issues can be better taken into account to assist the efforts of the Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Afghanistan. This work can provide an input into the overall implementation effort.
5. The text of UNSCR 1325 is annexed to this paper

(Signed) Jaap de Hoop Scheffer

Enclosure 1: United Nations, Security Council, Resolution 1325 (2000), dd 31/10/2000

1 Annex  
1 Enclosure

Original: English



**NATO/EAPC UNCLASSIFIED**

## **IMPLEMENTING UNSCR 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY**

### **Purpose of the resolution**

1. On 31 October 2000 the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.
2. It highlights the disproportionate effect that armed conflict has on women and children in particular, as civilians, refugees or internally displaced persons who are increasingly targeted by combatants. It also reaffirms the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts. The resolution underlines the important role that women can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building and development. It stresses the importance of promoting gender equality and women's full involvement in efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution.
3. Based on this, the resolution aims to increase understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women, the importance of arrangements to guarantee their protection and to increase women's participation in the various phases before, during and after armed conflicts. It urges action by member states as well as by the United Nations. Specific measures urged include the need to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, increase the representation of women at all decision-making levels and to increase training on the rights and particular needs of women and children. When negotiating and implementing peace agreements, it calls for the adoption of a gender perspective as well as special measures to protect against gender-based violence.

### **Why is the resolution relevant to NATO and its Partners?**

4. From Afghanistan to the Balkans and from the Mediterranean Sea to Darfur, over 50,000 NATO and Partner personnel are advancing peace and security in six challenging missions and operations in three geographic regions. Through their actions, NATO and its Partners seek to promote democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law, and to be faithful to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.
5. In recognising the important and distinctive role that women can play in conflict resolution, NATO and its Partners seek to improve the effectiveness of NATO-led Operations and Missions to ensure overall mission success. The complexity of peace building efforts argues for an approach that addresses the specific needs of all groups in a conflict zone. Gender issues are an important component of such efforts, and a tailored approach will be needed in each situation to ensure that maximum effect can be drawn from incorporating gender perspectives into NATO's approach. While initial efforts based on this paper to implement the resolution will focus on operational issues, further work should take a wider perspective in addressing issues raised by UNSCR 1325.

## Implementation

6. To achieve these objectives, the implementation of the policy must be relevant to the day-to-day conduct of NATO-led Operations and Missions. For that reason, the NATO Military Authorities should be asked to take the lead in developing practical proposals. The overall implementation of the resolution will be kept under constant review by the North Atlantic Council and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, including through an annual progress report. Measures taken should be fully applicable to civilians serving with the military on NATO-led Operations and Missions.

7. Measures to be put into place should cover all issues mentioned here, but should not be limited only to them. The NATO Military Authorities should place priority upon measures that will:

- Serve to better protect the rights of women and girls in conflict zones, including through the setting of generic standards of behaviour expected of NATO-led forces;
- Benefit from the unique contribution that women can make to conflict resolution, including by ensuring their participation at all levels of decision-making;
- Mainstream gender issues in all phases of NATO's missions and operations, ensuring gender sensitivity throughout the chain of command;
- Enhance NATO's crisis management capacities, including contributing to successful force generation by mobilizing additional resources and making best use of those available;
- Encourage the participation of women in peace support operations, as their participation may be particularly valuable due to cultural factors;
- Ensure the effective monitoring of measures taken by including gender issues in lessons learned exercises, which should contribute to refining NATO's policy and the generation of training and education recommendations for NATO and Partner member states;
- Place an emphasis on mission specific cultural gender awareness training, including through pre-deployment training at the national level.

8. In putting into place a set of measures to implement UNSCR 1325, the NATO Military Authorities should:

- Draw upon national action plans already developed by some Allies and Partners;
- Draw upon the work conducted by the UN, the OSCE and the EU on gender mainstreaming in peace-support operations, with the objective of ensuring, to the

- extent possible, compatibility of efforts undertaken; leading eventually to regular exchanges of experience and best practices;
- Consult with NGOs active in the field, both in drawing up an overall policy but also to build links with NGOs with specific expertise in areas where NATO operates;
  - Take into account the implementation of NATO's policy on combating trafficking in human beings and identify how best to ensure that the two policies reinforce each other;
  - Build upon the valuable work of the Committee on Women in NATO Forces (CWINF) which advises NATO leadership and member nations on critical issues affecting women in the Alliance's Armed Forces;
  - Take into account progress on development and implementation of NATO's contribution to a Comprehensive Approach;
  - Consider the need for a dedicated gender adviser for NATO-led Operations and Missions, as well as at NATO HQ;
  - Consider how best, for individual missions, to collect gender specific information, for example, on local women's role as actors or on gender specific violence issues which will be critical to successfully incorporating gender perspectives in missions.

### **Way Ahead**

9. On the basis of this paper, the NATO Military Authorities will be tasked to draw up a Military Concept to implement UNSCR 1325, involving Partners in their work to the maximum possible extent. Further steps which may be necessary will be considered on the basis of that Military Concept.

**DRAFT COUNCIL TASKING (to be approved by Allies only)**

In order to implement the provisions of UNSCR 1325, the North Atlantic Council in Permanent Session approves this paper and agrees that:

- The implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security is an important measure, which has the potential to make a significant contribution to achieving the objectives of NATO-led Operations and Missions, as well as making a contribution to NATO's wider policy objectives of enhancing security and stability;
- The NATO Military Authorities be tasked to develop a Military Concept for approval by the NAC to mainstream gender issues in the work of the military and in all phases of NATO-led Operations and Missions;
- This work should be based upon the guidance provided in this framework document;
- Given the important contributions of Partner nations to NATO-led Operations and Missions, Partners should be involved in the development of the Military Concept to the maximum possible extent;
- Initial findings should be submitted to the NAC by early March 2008, with a view to discussing these findings with Partners before the Bucharest Summit.

United Nations

S/RES/1325 (2000)

**Security Council**Distr.: General  
31 October 2000

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**Resolution 1325 (2000)****Adopted by the Security Council at its 4213th meeting, on  
31 October 2000***The Security Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1261 (1999) of 25 August 1999, 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999, 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and 1314 (2000) of 11 August 2000, as well as relevant statements of its President, and *recalling also* the statement of its President to the press on the occasion of the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace (International Women's Day) of 8 March 2000 (SC/6816),

*Recalling also* the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of 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,

*Bearing in mind* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Expressing* concern that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and increasingly are targeted by combatants and armed elements, and *recognizing* the consequent impact this has on durable peace and reconciliation,

*Reaffirming* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts 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, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

*Reaffirming also* the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts,

*Emphasizing* the need for all parties to ensure that mine clearance and mine awareness programmes take into account the special needs of women and girls,

*Recognizing* the urgent need to mainstream a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and in this regard *noting* the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of Action on Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective 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 of 8 March 2000 for specialized training for all peacekeeping personnel on the protection, special needs and human rights of women and children in conflict situations,

*Recognizing* that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

*Noting* the need to consolidate data on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls,

1. *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;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to implement his strategic plan of action (A/49/587) calling for an increase in the participation of women at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, and in this regard *calls on* Member States to provide candidates to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in a regularly updated centralized roster;

4. *Further urges* the Secretary-General to seek to expand the role and contribution of women in United Nations field-based operations, and especially among military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel;

5. *Expresses* its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and *urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that, where appropriate, field operations include a gender component;

6. *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;

7. *Urges* Member States to increase their voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for gender-sensitive training efforts, including those undertaken by relevant funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Fund for Women and United Nations Children's Fund, and by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant bodies;

8. *Calls on* all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing 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, 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;

9. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians, in particular the obligations applicable to them under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977, the Refugee Convention of 1951 and the Protocol thereto of 1967, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 and the Optional Protocol thereto of 1999 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 and the two Optional Protocols thereto of 25 May 2000, and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

10. *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;

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

12. *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, and recalls its resolutions 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000;

13. *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;

14. *Reaffirms* its readiness, whenever measures are adopted under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to give consideration to their potential impact on the civilian population, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls, in order to consider appropriate humanitarian exemptions;

15. *Expresses* its willingness to ensure that Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women, including through consultation with local and international women's groups;

16. *Invites* the Secretary-General to carry out a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peace-building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution, and *further invites* him to



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submit a report to the Security Council on the results of this study and to make this available to all Member States of the United Nations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to include in his reporting to the Security Council progress on gender mainstreaming throughout peacekeeping missions and all other aspects relating to women and girls;

18. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

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