



PRIO

‘Women’s Inclusion Has Become a Global Security Imperative’

The UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security

PRIO Gender, Peace
and Security Update

Oct-Nov Issue 2010

The PRIO Gender Peace and Security Update is an electronic newsletter launched by PRIO’s Gender Team in response to growing interest among the public for information about women, peace and security issues. The newsletter will keep readers informed of the latest developments both internationally and in Norway in relation to UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security and subsequent resolutions.

Resolution 1325
10 years 2000 - 2010



US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton delivers her statement to the UN Security Council at the Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security. Photo: United Nations.

The UN Security Council held its open debate to mark the 10th anniversary of Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000) on 26 October. The Security Council chamber was buzzing with excitement, but slight scepticism could be felt from scores of non-governmental organisations present in the chamber. What was striking was how the NGOs, which generally can’t participate in Security Council meetings, managed to get their voices heard by raucous clapping in support of the NGO representative’s statement and particular governments’ pledges. This was quite unprecedented, and you could see diplomats looking surprised when they initially heard this raucous clapping. However, soon the diplomats joined in.

A record number of 86 statements were delivered during the Open Debate, which lasted from 10:10 am until 10:25 pm. The Minister of Defence, Grete Faremo, delivered Norway’s statement at the Council. Among Norwegian pledges were one million US dollars to a new and strategic partnership between UN Wom-

en and the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) aimed at increasing women’s participation in peace processes and peace mediations.

The Secretary-General, via a pre-recorded video message, stated that the past decade has been marred by widespread rape as seen in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and there is a lack of adequate methods for monitoring progress on fighting such violence. Thus, Ban Ki-moon urged the Security Council to endorse and implement the comprehensive set of indicators developed in his Report. He also urged member states to ensure women’s participation in all phases of peace processes. He ended his remark by stating that there are now 11 women Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General. He also referred to the consultations being fostered by UNIFEM between heads of UN missions and women’s organisations in conflict and post-conflict areas during the UN Open Days which were held from June to August this year.

Michelle Bachelet addressed the Security Council for the first time in her capacity as Under Secretary-General for the newly established UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, to be known as UN Women. Bachelet stated that there were a number of 'sobering messages' that called for concerted and urgent action. Implementation activities had lacked a clear direction or time-bound goals and targets. She recommended that the Security Council consider a range of initiatives such as convening a review or summit at the ministerial level every five years to assess progress on implementation. Bachelet also emphasised the importance of coordinated and determined leadership and pledged that UN Women would support efforts to improve the environment for women during and after armed conflict, to engage women in conflict prevention and to ensure that peace-building processes were guided by women's perspectives and addressed their needs.

The President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Hamidon Ali stated that violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations was a challenge both to development and to security, and affected not only the health and safety of women, but also the political, economic and social stability of their nations. Ali pledged that ECOSOC could ensure follow-up and monitoring of the indicators developed by its Statistical Commission on violence against women. He further stated that the ECOSOC would focus on the further mainstreaming of gender in the work of the system at large and that it would address the programmatic aspect of the work of UN Women.

Thelma Awori of the Civil Society Advisory Group to the United Nations on Women, Peace and Security emphasised that it's time for action, not words. Awori stated that women were still excluded from many of the forums that would determine their future, which is not only costly for women but also to the sustainability of peace. She welcomed the indicators provided by the Secretariat and the creation of UN Women and urged the Security Council to commit itself to laying out good practice on women, peace and security in all of its daily work.

The statement of the United States of America was delivered by the Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. She was among those who were applauded the most. The U.S. pledged US\$ 44 million to programmes designed to empower women, which included civil society and women's rights in Afghanistan, UN activities especially on sexual violence and job training for refugees. She also announced that

the U.S. would develop its National Action Plan on Resolution 1325, focusing on adopting indicators and measures to ensure that women are protected against sexual violence and included in peace processes. According to Clinton, the inclusion of women in peace processes "is not a 'nice thing to do'. It's not as though we are doing a favor to ourselves and them by including women in the work for peace. This is a necessary global security imperative".

A Presidential Statement (S/PRST/ 2010/22) was issued at the end of the debate to reaffirm the Security Council's commitment to implement Resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions 1820, 1888 and 1889. The transcript of the Open Debate is available from the UN Website at http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2010/s_c10071.doc.htm.

'The Friends Group should be agile and strategic'

Meeting with Chantale Walker, Coordinator of the Friends of Women Peace and Security Group, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations, New York.



Chantale Walker, Coordinator of the Friends of Women, Peace and Security. Photo: PRIO.

In 2000, under a Canadian initiative, the *Friends of Women, Peace and Security* (Friends of WPS) group was formed primarily by UN member states from the 'Western European States and Other Group' (WEOG) at the UN. Today the group has become much more cross-regional and includes states such as Bangladesh, Chile, Morocco, South Africa and Tanzania. The purpose of the Friends of WPS is to promote the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security; share relevant information; and initiate concrete actions on women, peace and security.

Ever since it was founded, Friends of WPS has been led and coordinated by Canada. The GPS editors recently met the current coordinator, Chantale Walker, at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN to learn more about the work of the Friends of WPS. While the membership of the Friends of WPS had been relatively stable for a long time, its membership expanded by ten to twelve members in the period leading up to the 10th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. The number of members now stands at forty-three, and more UN member states would like to become members. The criteria to become a member is a strong commitment to the women, peace and security agenda. According to Chantale Walker, it is great that more and more countries are coming along. Still, too many members might make it difficult for the group to function effectively. It is both a practical issue (being able to gather the group on short notice) and an issue of substance. The more members, the more time one would have to spend on discussing and agreeing on various initiatives and policies. The Friends of WPS should be agile and strategic in the way it operates, thus it should not become too big.

The Friends of WPS has been particularly active over the last year on initiatives leading up to the 10th anniversary of Resolution 1325. The group generally works closely together with different UN entities, the NGO community, research institutions and think tanks. For example, the Permanent Mission of Canada, together with the permanent mission of Denmark and the International Peace Institute (IPI), hosted one of the first discussions on women and peacebuilding in preparation of the then upcoming report of the Secretary-General on the subject matter. Seven indicators came out of this process, and these are now included in the final report of the Secretary-General. Some elements in the recommendations were also added at the last minute. Though some member states have expressed reservations over the report by

stating that more consultations are needed and that hasty conclusions might be unwarranted, Walker believed that the recommendations are good and strong. The UN system has indicated its readiness to implement. The Secretary-General has committed himself to ensuring that at least 15 per cent of the United Nations' Management Fund in support of peacebuilding should address the special needs of women, the advancement of gender equality or empowerment of women.

The Friends of WPS group has also been heavily involved in the process of mobilising UN member states to make the most out of the open debate at the Security Council marking the 10th anniversary of Resolution 1325. The UN Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG) hosted a 1325 + 10 in New York, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiros, Bineta Diop of *Femme Africa Solidarité* (FAS), and Mary Robinson of CSAG. When *Commitment to Action* came out in April, the Friends of WPS picked the agenda up. What the Friends did, under Canadian leadership, was to initiate and organise a high level conference, chaired by the Secretary-General. The event took place September 25 and was titled *1325 Call To Action*. Thirty-five countries gave statements, and 15 ministers attended, together with other leaders of national governments. The purpose of the conference was to raise awareness among UN member states and to have them prepare stronger commitments at the open debate of the Security Council in October.

At the Open debate, Canada delivered for the first time a statement on behalf of the Friends of WPS. It emphasised the accountability of the Security Council to be in check, and to maintain the Security Council's commitment to the women, peace and security agenda, to the development of indicators of implementation, and to the newly established UN Women.

The Statement of Canada at the Security Council Open Debate is available at http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/prmny-mponu/canada_un-canada_onu/statements-declarations/security_council-con-seil_securite/261010_SC_WPS_FPS_ODA.aspx



Reception at the International Peace Institute, New York.
Photo: Preston Merchant/IPI.

‘We need more leadership and accountability’

Reception at the International Peace Institute, New York

On the eve of the Security Council Open Debate on Resolution 1325, the Permanent Missions to the UN of Norway and Uganda, together with the International Peace Institute (IPI) hosted a reception to mark the 10th anniversary of Resolution 1325 on 25 October. Deputy Prime Minister for East African Affairs of Uganda Eriya Kategaya, Minister of Defence of Norway Grete Faremo, Executive Director and Under-Secretary-General for UN Women Michelle Bachelet spoke on the theme of ‘Women, Peace and Security’. The event was concluded with the world premier screening of the trailer of the forthcoming documentary ‘Women, War and Peace’ by Abigail Disney.

The President of IPI Terje Rød-Larsen set the tone of the reception by stating that much more needs to be done to recognize the central role played by women in conflict prevention and resolution, peacekeeping and peace-

building. He raised his concern over the low numbers of female staff, including military and civilian personnel in UN Peacekeeping Operations and at the senior levels such as special envoys and special representatives of the Secretary-General and other staff at UN headquarters.

Minister Faremo stated that deeply-rooted impediments such as conservative and archaic attitudes still leave women at the margins of society, depriving them of human rights to health, to education, to formal ownership of land, inheritance and other economic assets. Faremo expressed that the absence and abuse of women contribute to the level of tension and conflict in any society. The international community needs to do things better immediately. She expressed the need to hold peace accords to a higher standard to ensure that a peace deal will enhance protection mechanism for women. On participation, she stated that we could no longer accept that women are left at the margins of economic, social and political life and called for an increased number of women to UN peacekeeping and participation of women in peace processes. On behalf of the Norwegian government, Faremo announced the government's commitment to fund one million US dollars to a new strategic partnership between UN Women and the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA) to increase women's participation in peace processes and improve the gender balance at all levels of mediation.

Michelle Bachelet emphasized the need for more leadership and accountability on the

1325 agenda. She stated that more is needed to improve monitoring and accountability via use of the UN, especially UN Security Council Resolution 1325 indicators. She also emphasized that the membership support for UN Women is critical at this juncture to enable it to build capacity to be the system guide on women, peace and security. Furthermore, membership support is also needed for innovative and gap filling programmes on the ground in conflict affected countries. The transcript of the reception is available online at <http://www.ipinst.org/events/panel-discussions/details/243-women-peace-and-security.html>

PRIO Conference 'Research Challenges on Women, Peace and Security'

Conference Summary

The PRIO Gender Team, in co-operation with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, hosted a two-day conference on 'Research Challenges on Women, Peace and Security' from 11-12 November. The team chose to explore research challenges because we believe the level of precise knowledge and reliable information on the gender dimension of today's conflict is still limited. Little is known about the effectiveness of national and international programmes, as well as the strategies and policies which are aimed at ameliorating the suffering of women and children in armed conflicts. Moreover, the effects of increasing participation of women in peace-keeping operations and decision-making in peacebuilding are still unknown.

The research conference was divided into three sessions focusing in the following ques-

tions: (i) sexual violence in war: what are the most important research questions? (ii) post-conflict peacebuilding: what is the added value by applying a gender perspective? and (iii) decision-making: what is the influence of women?

Former Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Afghanistan (2008-2010) Kai Eide and Bineta Diop, Director of Femme Africa Solidarite, gave keynote speeches at the conference. Eide, reflecting on his experience from Afghanistan, stated that the UN has not championed women, peace and security (WPS) issues as well as it should. He stated that implementation of WPS is still project oriented and not strategically implemented. Although Afghanistan has signed onto international conventions, it has not fully ratified these conventions into its national laws. Eide added that Afghan women still face hurdles which prevent them from fulfilling their potential as agents of change – and those hurdles were poverty, traditional practices and cultural norms. Eide added that it is not only Taliban that is keeping women down. Men with close links to warlords, powerbrokers and clergy are just as oppressive. Eide suggested that in order to ensure full implementation of WPS, the UN should consider how best to coordinate and cooperate with other UN agencies on gender issues. Moreover, he stated that peace processes should involve everyone, including women.

Diop gave an overview of the work the UN Civil Society Group for Women, Peace and Security has done over the years and chronologically followed the implementation of Resolution 1325 in an African context. Diop highlighted that precise knowledge on how, when and how much has been done in relation to Resolution 1325 is missing, and accountability is largely absent. She stated that there is a need for a stronger collaboration between women's NGOs and academia when it comes to the WPS agenda.

The papers presented at the conferences, as well as PowerPoint presentation materials, will be available shortly on the PRIO Gender Team's website at

<http://www.prio.no/Research-and-Publications/Gender/> ■

International News

A report on the Cross-Learning Initiative on Women, Peace and Security co-drafted by Ireland, Liberia and Timor-Leste was presented at the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN on 25 October. Hon. Nuala O'Loan of Ireland stated that there are few women at the decision making level, and that it is important to put women at the centre of peace processes. Ms. Vabah Gayflor of Liberia highlighted the challenges of implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda, such as the lack of harmonization with the regional instruments with the national law and the limited access to resources for women. Gayflor further stated that there is a strong political will and willingness in Liberia to work with all levels of society, especially in terms of participation. The report was presented to Michelle Bachelet of UN Women. The brief overview of the report can be accessed from Mary White TD's website at <http://marywhitetd.com/?p=379>

A report on 'Costing and Financing UNSCR 1325' co-commissioned by Cordaid and the Global Network of Women Peace-builders (GNWP) was launched on 27 October. The Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the UN and UN-INSTRAW co-sponsored the study. The lack of funding was the focus of the presentation of the study, examining the resources needed to implement women, peace and security resolutions at the national level. The report also examines the complicated funding landscape for women and peace and security programmes and presents recommendations on how to make resource allocation efficient and effective. The report is available online at <http://www.gnwp.org/gnwp-press-release-on-costing-and-financing-1325>

The report titled 'SCR 1325 and Women's Participation: Operational Guidelines for Conflict Resolution and Peace Processes' drafted by the Initiative on Quiet Diplomacy was launched on 28 October. The report was the product of ensuring effective implementation of SCR 1325, and explores the persistent question of 'how' best to implement UNSCR 1325 by looking at operationalization of the resolution. The report is available online at http://iqdiplomacy.org/images/stories/handbook/pdf/scr1325_iqd.pdf

The Kroc Institute and Cordaid in Partnership with GNWP and the Fourth Freedom Forum launched their research report titled 'Afghan Women Speak' at the UN Church Center on 28 October. The report addresses the potential challenges to women's rights posed by future government agree-

ments with insurgent forces. It presents arguments on why the international community must use whatever leverage it has with the Karzai Government to ensure that the gains that women have achieved legislatively and constitutionally are not traded in any peace deal. It further argues that the international community has an obligation to grant asylum to vulnerable women who have come under attack for their perceived association with Western interests. The report is available online at

<http://www.nd.edu/~jfallon2/WomenAfghanistanReport.pdf>

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) hosted a three day conference on 'Women and War' to commemorate the 10th anniversary of UNSCR 1325. The conference was divided into four parts, looking at gender-based violence, women's participation in peace processes, women and war and the situation in DR Congo. The event featured US national and international participants, including UN and US government officials, the international diplomatic communities, military personnel, academics, civil society leaders and practitioners in the field of security, development and conflict resolution. The outcome of the conference can be accessed online at <http://www.usip.org/events/woman-and-war> ■

News from Norway

The World Bank and NORAD held a discussion with representatives from non-governmental organizations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Norway on the preliminary outlines for the 2012 World Development Report on Gender Equality and Development at NORAD on 2 November. The purpose of the report is to explore the links between gender equality and development, and specifically how gender contributes to development. The report will analyse both quantitative and qualitative data available, and the structure of the report will be divided into three: cross country and country specific reports, how the decisions of individuals and households interact with economic policy and growth, and the coordination of policy. The report will undergo review by the executive board sometime next year for the September-October launch.

The Norwegian Atlantic Committee and the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on 4 November organized a seminar on *International Operations, UN Resolution 1325 and Afghanistan* to commemorate the 10th anniversary of UN SCR 1325. Among the speakers were Afghan ambassador Manizha Bakhtari and Asila Wardak, director of Human Rights and Women's Affairs in the MFA of Afghanistan. ■

News from PRIO

Helga Hernes

was invited as a panel discussant under the topic of 'Building Civilian Capacity through Increased Female Participation' at the *Role of Women in Global Security Conference*. The conference was co-hosted by the US Embassy in Copenhagen and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 29 – 30 October. The conference speeches and outcomes can be accessed online at

<http://denmark.usembassy.gov/news-events/rwgs.html>

Torunn L. Tryggestad

Chaired the seminar on *International Operations, UN Resolution 1325 and Afghanistan* organized by the Norwegian Atlantic Committee and the Afghan Embassy in Oslo, 4 November.

Torunn L. Tryggestad also gave a presentation on the relevance of UNSCR 1325 to policy making at an internal seminar organized by the Norwegian MFA on 10 November. ■

Recent PRIO Publications

Suk Chun & Torunn L. Tryggestad (2010)

Ten Years of Women, Peace and Security: Observing the 10th Anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), *PRIO Policy Brief*, No.6. The Policy Brief can be accessed online at

<http://www.prio.no/Research-and-Publications/Publication/?oid=60287090> ■

Other Recent Publications

Angela Ndinga-Muvumba (2010) *Who said it was simple? Implementing 1325*, Policy & Practice Brief, The African Centre for the



UN Open Day on Women, Peace and Security.
Photo: United Nations.

Constructive resolution of Disputes, Issue, 2, October.

Center on International Cooperation (2010) Review of Political Missions 2010, NYU CIC.

Cynthia Dehesa and Sarah Masters (2010) Joined-Up Thinking: International Measures for Women's Security and SALW Control, IANSA Women's Network. The report is available online at http://www.iansa-wom-en.org/sites/default/files/newsviews/en_iansa_1325_anniversary_paper_2010_final.pdf

David Cortright and Sarah Smiles Persinger (2010) *Afghan Women Speak: Enhancing Security and Human Rights in Afghanistan*, research report, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, October. The report is available online at <http://www.nd.edu/~jfallon2/WomenAfghanistanReport.pdf>

Initiative on Quiet Diplomacy (2010) SCR 1325 and Women's Participation: Operational Guidelines for Conflict Resolution and Peace Processes, October. The report is available online at www.iqdiplomacy.org

Kari Fasting and Trond Svela Sand (2010) *Gender and Military Issues – A Categorized Research Bibliography*, The Norwegian Defence University College and Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Defence Institute, 01/2010.

Joyce P. Kaufman and Kristen P. Williams (2010) *Women and War: Gender Identity and Activism in times of Conflict*. Kumarian Press.

Laura Perez (2010) National Outrage: Violence Against Internationally Displaced Women and Girls in Eastern Chad, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre and Norwegian Refugee Council, November.

Natalie Florea Hudson (2009) *Gender, Human Security and the United Nations: Security language as a political framework for Women*, Routledge.

NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (2010) *Mapping Women, Peace and Security in the UN Security Council: Report of the NGOWG Monthly Action Points 2009-2010*. The report is available online at http://womenpeacesecurity.org/media/pdf-NGOWG_MAPReport_2009-2010.pdf

Nicola Popovic (2010) *Costing and Financing 1325: Examining the Resources Needed to Implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325 at the National Level as well as the Gains, Gaps and Glitches on Financing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda*, Cordaid and the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP), October. The report is available online at <http://www.gnwp.org/gnwp-press-release-on-costing-and-financing-1325>

Olumide Abimbola Ajayi and Monica Kathina Juma, *Gender Mainstreaming in Africa (2000-2008): Lessons Learnt and Opportunities for Future Engagement*, report commissioned by Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) on behalf of the Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC)

Rawwade Baksh, Linda Etchart, Elsie Onubogu and Tina Johnson (2010) *Gender Mainstreaming in Conflict Transformation: Building Sustainable Peace*, Commonwealth Secretariat.

Sanam Naraghi Anderlini (principal author) (2010) *What the Women Say: Participation and UNSCR 1325. A Case Study Assessment*, International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN) and MIT Center for International Studies, October. The report is available online at http://web.mit.edu/cis/pdf/WomenReport_10_2010.pdf

Security Council Report (2010) *Cross-Cutting Report on Women, Peace and Security*, October. The report is available online at <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org>

Sidse E. Aas (2010) "Nothing About Us Without Us" Sexual Violence in Conflict- How To End Impunity? A Qualitative Mapping Study to Identify Good Practices in the International Response to Sexual Violence in Conflict, Noref Report, Norwegian Peacebuilding

Centre, November.

UNIFEM (2010) *Executive Summary: Women Count for Peace, The 2010 Open Days on Women, Peace and Security*. The report is available online at http://www.peacewomen.org/portal_resources_resource.php?id=1031

The UN General Assembly (2010) *Report of the Secretary-General on Women's Participation in Peacebuilding (A/65/354-S/2010/466)*. The report is available online at <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/sgrep10.htm>

The UN Security Council (2010) *The Secretary-General's Report on Women, Peace and Security (S/2010/498)*. The report is available online at <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/sgrep10.htm>

The UN Security Council (2010) *Statement by the President of the Security Council on Women, Peace and Security (S/PRST/2010/22)*. The Presidential Statement is available online at http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unscc_pres_statements10.htm

The UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) (2010) *Different Needs, Equal Opportunities: Increasing Effectiveness of Humanitarian Action for Women, Girls, Boys and Men*, E-Learning Course & Learn-In-A-Group Facilitator Guidelines. The guideline is available online at <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc>

The UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) (2010) *Global Review of Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by UN, NGO, IOM and IFRC Personnel*, July.

United Nations Population Fund (2010) *From Conflict and Crisis to Renewal: Generations of Change, State of World Population 2010*. The report is available online at http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/publications/2010/EN_SOWP10.pdf



Editors: Torunn L. Tryggstad & Suk Chun
Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)

Hausmanns gate 7
PO Box 9229 Grønland
NO-0134 Oslo Norway
Tel +47 22 54 77 00
www.prio.no/gender

The PRIO Gender, Peace and Security Update is published by the PRIO Gender Team with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway. If you wish to find out more about PRIO Gender Team's current research projects, please visit our website www.prio.no/gender. If you have any comments or inquiries regarding the newsletter, please contact the editors: sukchun@prio.no