

Mr. Liu Jieyi (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): The Chinese delegation welcomes Spain's initiative in convening this open debate. We welcome Prime Minister Rajoy Brey to preside over today's meeting. I wish to thank Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his briefing, and the Executive Director of UN-Women, Ms. Mlambo-Ngucka, for hers as well. China has also listened attentively to the briefings by the representatives of civil society.

This year coincides with the twentieth anniversary of the holding of the fourth World Conference on Women, and also with the fifteenth anniversary of the Security Council's adoption of resolution 1325 (2000).

On 27 September, China and the United Nations jointly sponsored a global summit on women: the Global Leaders' Meeting on Gender Equality and Empowerment. The President of China Xi Jinping and representatives from over 140 countries, including more than 80 Heads of State and Government, attended the meeting. The summit was the first of its kind in which commitments on women were made at the State leadership level. It is another milestone of the international cause of women following the Beijing Conference and is of trailblazing significance. The leaders of countries committed to further implement the outcome of the Beijing Conference. That is of great and far-reaching significance for the development of the global cause of women. Resolution 2242 (2015), which was just adopted, also acknowledged the global summit on women. With the efforts of the broad membership, of United Nations bodies and of regional and subregional organizations, the international community in recent years has made progress in implementing resolution 1325 (2000), with major achievements in promoting a greater role for women in peace and security. On the other hand, the present international security situation remains complex and grave. Regional conflicts crop up here and there. Women often bear the brunt of rampant terrorism and violent extremism. The international community has a long way to go in protecting women's rights in conflict. In that regard, I would like to stress the following points.

First, we need to step up efforts to find political solutions to hotspot issues and foster an international environment favourable to women's development. The international community should stand firmly by the values of peace, development and win-win cooperation; vigorously take forward the political process of the relevant conflict-affected countries to promote national reconciliation and resolve differences through dialogue and consultations; and provide security protection and humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected women. At the same time, effective measures must be taken to ensure that women have full rights to participate in every stage of peace processes and that their voice and demands are heard.

Secondly, we need to tackle both symptoms and root causes in order to promote the simultaneous development of various issues in conflict-ridden countries, including women's issues and economic and social development. The international community should help conflict-affected countries to actively carry out post-conflict reconstruction, and in the affected countries the focus should be on capacity-building and socioeconomic development in order to remove the root causes of conflict and ensure that women and the population as a whole will have a fair share of the dividends of development. The international community should provide development assistance and technical support to developing countries in their efforts to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment, and attention should be paid to providing guidance to women's organizations and civil society in playing a positive and constructive role.

Thirdly, efforts should be made to shape a harmonious and inclusive social culture. In their rebuilding efforts, post-conflict countries should strengthen the rule of law, eliminate discrimination, bias and acts of violence against women; to vigorously promote gender equality; to remove the roots and soil in people's mindsets that inhibit women's peace and development; and to facilitate harmonious social development in post-conflict countries so that society will be more inclusive and dynamic.

Fourthly, the existing mechanisms of the United Nations should be fully enabled to act so that each can play its own role, creating synergy. The Security Council should fully perform its primary role of maintaining international peace and security, with a focus on properly addressing women and peace and security. It should strengthen coordination with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and UN-Women, among others, in line with their respective responsibilities. With respect to addressing issues of women and peace and security, United Nations agencies should give full play to the existing mechanisms, tapping their potential to improve their effectiveness. They should be cautious about setting up new mechanisms.

At the Global Leaders' Meeting on Women that was held on last month, President Xi Jinping announced new commitments in support of the global cause of women. First, with respect to funds, China will donate \$10 million to UN-Women to support the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Programme of Action, as well as the relevant Goal of the post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda. Secondly, as a project commitment, within the next five years China will take a series of measures to help developing countries address the challenges facing women and girls in the areas of health and education and will strengthen the training of local women. It will jointly set up with the United Nations, under the relevant fund, a project to support capacity-building for women in developing countries.

Those commitments fully embody China's firm determination and concrete action to promote the sound development of the global cause of women. China will fully implement the new commitments made by President Xi Jinping at the Global Leaders' Meeting on Women and is ready to work with all parties in our continued, unremitting efforts to promote the implementation of the goals of women and peace and security and to push for greater development of the global cause of women.