Mr. Anshor (Indonesia): I would first like to thank Spain for convening this important open debate. I would also like to thank the Secretary-General for his report (S/2015/716) and to express my gratitude to all the briefers for their constructive insights into the progress made over the past 15 years and the challenges that remain in implementing the agenda on women and peace and security.

I would like to associate my remarks with the statement to be delivered tomorrow by the representative of Viet Nam on behalf of the member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

It is a long-established fact that gender issues cut across many sectors and that focusing on them can help us to attain our peace, development and human rights objectives. Since the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000), 15 years ago, many thematic discussions and resolutions on gender have evolved from it, such as those on small arms, counter-terrorism, peacekeeping and the protection of civilians. It is particularly noteworthy that peacekeeping missions have integrated gender perspectives into their training, operations and reporting. Nevertheless, the fact remains that women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict situations are still unduly affected and underrepresented, even with the addition of all the resolutions on women and peace and security adopted subsequently and aimed at strengthening action on resolution 1325 (2000), as well as the creation of relevant mechanisms within the United Nations. Ultimately, the best measure of progress is when policy gains are more meaningfully and tangibly translated into action on the ground.

Moving forward, and building on the momentum created by the high-level review of the past 15 years, I would like to suggest that the Council focus on five areas. First, it should ensure that women have the access and the capacity they need to participate meaningfully in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacebuilding and decision-making processes in public life generally. Secondly, it should support advocacy campaigns aimed at reaching out and empowering society to protect women and girls and address their specific needs. All actors and stakeholders, especially at the community level, should be able to translate international frameworks on protecting women and girls in conflict- and post-conflict-related situations into action on the ground.

Thirdly, it should empower women and girls to be agents for change and peace rather than merely focusing on their vulnerability as victims. Fourthly, it should put monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in place in the United Nations system designed to provide an integrated perspective on implementing resolution 1325 (2000), with the aim of supporting implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action.
Fifthly, it should continue to encourage synergy with various relevant initiatives, including any developed outside the United Nations framework, and to galvanize support from diverse actors, including those working in the field, in order to promote gender equality and strengthen the protection of women and girls in armed conflict.

As a major peacekeeping contributor, Indonesia remains a strong supporter of the Security Council resolutions that protect and empower women and girls in situations of armed conflict. Indonesian military and police units are currently deployed in nine United Nations operations, totalling more than 1,600 personnel. The Government of Indonesia eventually aims to contribute 4,000 Indonesian peacekeepers, including females, and has established a peacekeeping training centre to serve as a national and regional hub for integrated peacekeeping training and a centre of excellence. Gender perspectives have already been embedded in their training curriculums and syllabuses.

Indonesia will continue to support the Council’s deliberations on this agenda item and remains resolved to work with the Council, the United Nations, Member States and all actors in order to empower women and girls as agents for change and peace.