



**Permanent Mission of Germany
to the United Nations**

Security Council Open Debate

**Report of the Secretary General on
women and peace and security (S/2008/622)**

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Thomas Matussek

**Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic
of Germany to the United Nations**

New York, 29 October 2008

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Mr. President,

Germany welcomes this year's Security Council debate on women, peace and security, marking the eighth anniversary of Resolution 1325. Germany associates itself with the statement just made by the Presidency of the European Union and would like to add the following remarks:

We welcome the **particular emphasis of this year's debate on the issue of women's equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security**. Resolution 1325 has given us a very clear mandate in this regard. Unfortunately, as today's debate and the report of the Secretary General have shown, many structural and institutional impediments remain. We call upon the UN system and us, the member states, to step up efforts that would lead to concrete advancements in the equal inclusion of women in peace talks, justice processes and peacekeeping.

Let me emphasize that Germany firmly believes that the **creation of a strong and effective UN gender entity has to be part of these efforts**. We hope that the Secretariat will soon provide the Membership with the requested detailed modalities paper so that substantive action can be taken before the end of the current session of the General Assembly.

Mr. President,

Resolution 1325 and the Secretary General's report rightly emphasize the essential role of training of UN staff, peacekeeping personnel and civil society as a means to ensuring equal participation of women. Let me therefore highlight some examples and best practices of how Germany actively contributes to the effective implementation of resolution 1325 in the field of training:

- The **Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF)** was established by the German Federal Government in June 2002 with the aim of enhancing Germany's civilian crisis prevention capacities. ZIF's core mandate is the training, recruitment, and support of German civilian personnel for peace operations and election observation missions, conducted in particular by the OSCE, the EU, and the UN. ZIF cooperates closely with international and other European training centers, such as the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Ghana, and is a founding member of the EU Group on Training. Gender aspects, and in particular the role of women in conflict resolution, are consistently taken into account in the design of training modules. Overall, since 2002, a total of 416 women from Germany and 129 women from abroad have participated in ZIF training courses. In 2007, 52 % of participants in such training courses were women.

- The German government also funds a pilot project called "**Mobile Peace Academy OMNIBUS 1325**". This "bus line" has since toured several countries in the northern and southern Caucasus region. On each of its stops, it has conducted "train-the-trainer" sessions with local NGOs, public officials, teachers and journalists on the relevance of resolution 1325 and on the integration of a gender perspective into their work for peace in the region. Just last week, the bus returned to Berlin and was greeted with a high-profile press conference.

Mr. President,

the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1820 on "Women, Peace and Security: Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict" in June this year was a landmark achievement. It strengthened and further developed our commitment to the protection of women in situations of conflict and to their active participation in the promotion of peace and security. Resolution 1820 created many new obligations for the UN, the Security Council and the member states. Inter alia, the UN Secretariat was asked to submit a comprehensive and operational report on the implementation of resolution 1820 by June 2009.

Mr. President,

I am pleased to announce today that Germany **has decided to provide the necessary funds - to the amount of 250.000 € - for the recruitment of an additional policy specialist in DPKO's Best Practices Section whose task it will be to oversee coordination of this report.** In addition, he or she will be tasked with designing a global strategy for the implementation of resolution 1820 and with developing and elaborating key training messages and an outreach and partnership strategy, including with troop and police contributing countries. We are confident that Germany's financial contribution will significantly facilitate the submission of a report that will be substantive and operational and will allow us to further develop the vision of resolution 1820.

We take this contribution as proof that **Germany, as a "Friend of Resolution 1325"**, is deeply committed to the vision of both landmark resolutions - 1325 AND 1820 - and will continue to undertake concrete efforts for their implementation.

Thank you very much.