



Linking Women, Peace and Security with Thematic Issues
January 21, 2011 Security Council Open Debate “Post-Conflict Peacebuilding: Institution Building”

“Convinced that the full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and the cause of peace require the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields” (CEDAW Preamble).

“The General Assembly and the Security Council... Call[s] upon the Commission to integrate a gender perspective into all of its work” (GA Resolution A/RES/60/180, op20).

“The connections between peacebuilding, security and the involvement of local women’s organizations seems a rather direct and self-evident link. However, despite the rhetoric and calls by governments, international agencies and international NGOs, women’s organizations and their networks at the local level are still systematically left out of peacebuilding negotiations, processes and reconstruction efforts” (SCR1325 and the Peacebuilding Commission, October 2006, NGOWG).

To prevent relapse into conflict and work towards sustainable peace, there must be development of equitable and effective institutions. The legitimacy and sustainability of these institutions cannot be achieved without *gender inclusiveness and gender equality* as they form a central aspect of post-conflict reconstruction. Therefore the process of institution building and the outcome - institutions themselves - must ensure that policies and programmes are gender equitable in their creation and operations.

Member States should underline the need for gender mainstreaming throughout post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery efforts, including and in particular in institution building. Points to include:

- Reinforce the importance of women’s leadership, engagement and *full, equal, and meaningful* participation at all levels and stages of peacebuilding (SCR 1325; SCR 1889; S/PRST/2010/18; S/PRST/2010/20; S/PRST/2010/22, CEDAW Article 7), including in institution building and operations.
- In those ‘priority’ institutions named in the *January 21 2011 Open Debate Concept Note* (political, security and rule of law, finance, and economic recovery institutions) the *full, equal, and meaningful participation and*

engagement of women at all levels and stages of the building, planning and operations is essential (SCR 1325; SCR 1889; S/PRST/2010/18; S/PRST/2010/20; S/PRST/2010/22, CEDAW Article 7). For instance, the participation of women in shaping security sector reform and justice systems is critical to addressing violations of their human rights, tackling impunity, punishing sexual and gender-based violence, and reforming discriminatory laws.

- Recall and support the important Secretary-General's 2010 report and the related recommendations (Report reference A/65/354-S/2010/466; request 1889, OP19). The Secretary-General provided (at the request of the Council) a detailed action plan, which addresses institutional arrangements to guarantee women's full and equal participation in the peacebuilding process. The report outlines seven areas: enhanced women's roles at all levels of peace talks, post-conflict planning (as mediators, negotiators and civil society), post-conflict planning, post-conflict governance, rule of law initiatives, the rebuilding of state institutions, economic recovery, and financing geared towards women's specific needs. In regards to this last point, the SG committed a 15% allocation of funds for women's programs.
- Support for women's organisations and civil society to engage in the formation and building of institutions and call for systematic promotion and guarantee of women's inclusion.
- Underline the need to assess budget gaps and priorities of these new institutions and transitional funding to ensure women benefit adequately and justly from available resources. In addition, support funding and economic empowerment of women for political capacity building.
- In addition to participation, take into consideration the unique needs and concerns of women during post-conflict peacebuilding across a range of areas including democratic governance, security reforms, land tenure, justice and the protection of human rights
- Recall the Security Council invitation to UN Women to regularly contribute to its work on women and peace and security and notes the valuable role it will play in supporting women's roles in peacebuilding

[..], including through coordination and coherence in policy and programming for women and girls. (S/PRST/2010/22).

See further: [PeaceWomen Security Council Monitor](#)

Statements and analysis from [October 13, 2010 Debate “Peacebuilding in the Immediate Aftermath of Conflict”](#).