



THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement by H.E. Ambassador KIM Bong-hyun

Deputy Permanent Representative

Agenda Item: Women, Peace and Security

Security Council Open Debate

16 December 2010

New York

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Madame President,

1. At the outset, allow me to thank you, Madame President, for convening an open debate on this important issue. My appreciation also goes to Ms. Margot Wallstrom, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, for her detailed presentation on the Secretary-General's report on this issue.
2. As the Secretary-General's report states, over the past year, there has been much progress on the implementation of Resolutions 1820 and 1888 at the policy level. In particular, we would like to commend the measures it outlines to improve the collection of information on sexual violence that would lead to better monitoring, deeper analysis, and more systematic reporting. Despite this progress, the impact of Resolutions 1820 and 1888 has yet to be fully realized on the ground. Women and children continue to suffer disproportionately in the areas of armed conflict, and the use of sexual violence and brutality as a weapon of war still prevails. The horrifying mass rapes that occurred in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo in August were a stark reminder of how much remains to be done.
3. We must redouble our efforts to combat sexual violence in conflict. In this regard, the Republic of Korea supports the strong leadership of the Security Council and welcomes the package of measures that the

Secretary-General suggests to accelerate the full implementation of Resolutions 1820 and 1888. Among others, my delegation would like to highlight the following three points.

4. First, it is essential to grasp the reality of the sexual violence committed in armed conflict through reliable, timely, and objective information, and to ensure that the perpetrators are, in turn, identified and brought to justice. In this respect, we strongly support the Secretary-General's call for the Security Council to mandate that the Secretary-General's annual reports list those parties that have engaged in patterns of sexual violence in armed conflict. We believe this measure contributes to halting impunity by providing a basis for more focused approaches and targeted measures toward those parties.
5. Second, preventing and responding to sexual violence requires a more coherent and coordinated approach within the UN system. For example, a more integrated strategic framework between peacekeeping missions and UN country teams should be established to formulate mission objectives targeting women, peace, and security, and to evaluate their implementation. We hope that UN Women, which will come into operation in January 2011, will play a leading role in coordinating various activities related to the work on women, peace, and security among the UN entities.
6. Third, we need to increase the participation of women in peace processes and to strengthen their capacity. The full participation of women, particularly local women, in these efforts is essential to creating inclusive and sustainable peace. Research conducted by UNIFEM demonstrates that since 1992, women have, on average, made up less than 8 percent of the participants in official delegations to peace processes. Where women have participated in the peace negotiations, the resulting peace agreement is more likely to reflect women's experiences of conflict and to contain elements of judicial, economic, social, and political remedies for the abuses they have suffered.

Madame President,

7. The Republic of Korea, on its part, has been active in implementing Resolutions 1325 and 1820 by mainstreaming a gender sensitive approach in all of its policies and activities, and increasing women's participation at all levels. In this regard, we recently deployed a gender adviser as a member of the Afghanistan Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT). We will remain committed to the complete and successful implementation of the resolutions.
8. Finally, I would like to close by expressing my sincere hope that today's open discussion will guide us further by resulting in a clearer direction and concrete measures that will advance our noble endeavours for women, peace, and security. I thank you.