

Security Council Resolution 1325:
Civil Society Monitoring Report
2011

Democratic Republic of Congo

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A project of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders

Democratic Republic of Congo

REFED	Women for Development
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNSC	United Nations Security Council

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Acronyms

CAFCO	Cadre permanent de Concertation des Femmes Congolaises (Permanent Framework of Congolese Women)
CRC	Convention on the Right of the Child
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEI	Independent Electoral Commission
CJR 1325	Center of studies on Justice and Resolution 1325
CNDP	Congrès National pour la Défense du Peuple
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CORDAID	Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid
DIC	Inter- Congolese Dialogue
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
FARDC	Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo
FDRL	Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda
GAPS	Gender Action for Peace and Security
GNWP	Global Network of Women Peacebuilders
ICAN	International Civil society Action Network
LRA	Lord's Resistance Army
MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
RECIC	Civic Education in Congo

I. Women, Peace and Security Profile

Introduction

Monitoring the implementation of Resolution 1325 is an essential process, which allows for promoting the implementation of the resolution by the Member States of the United Nations. Additionally, it serves as a mechanism that allows various actors to assess their degree of implication in regards to the efforts of implementation, as well as the impact of actions carried out on the ground.

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is in its second phase of monitoring. The first phase was carried out in 2010 by the Permanent Framework of Congolese Woman (CAFCO), the Network of Women for the Development (REFED) with the support of Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP).¹ Using the 16 indicators developed by members of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) the researchers assessed implementation of SCR 1325 in the DRC. This second phase was carried out by a consortium of three Congolese organizations: CAFCO, Center of studies on Justice and the Resolution of 1325 (CJR1325) and the Network of Civic Education in Congo (RECIC) with the financial support of Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (CORDAID) and the technical assistance of GNWP covers two pillars of Resolution 1325: Participation; and Prevention and Protection. It focuses on three indicators (1, 3 and 7) adapted to the context of the DRC and taking into account the constraints of the upcoming elections and the recrudescence of sexual violence in DRC. It is the result of the reflection and work of Congolese women from all 11 provinces who gathered in a national workshop in Kinshasa.²

A. Nature of the Conflict

The DRC is a large country in Central Africa and the influence that the country has is crucial for the stability of the sub-region. The geographical configurations of the DRC - its miscellaneous resources (fauna, flora, raw material, etc.) - are major factors both from a regional and international point of view. This regional and international context is very important and explains the climate in which the conflicts take place. The ongoing conflicts can be read as a struggle for political positioning by the elites. All actors - both the majority and the opposition - have sought to ensure ethnic and provincial support. Laxness and complicity of the state in regards to the management of Congolese rebel groups (CNDP), are factors that promote national and international persistence of impunity.

The cyclical conflicts that have plagued DRC since the 1990s have deeply affected the population, particularly women and children. The complexity of the conflict is due to the multiple actors involved. Because of the scale of the atrocities, of which civilians have suffered the most, many researchers have called the conflict in DRC "the World War of Africa."³ Many pockets of conflict still exist in the East of DRC, including less known areas such as Bas-Congo, Kasai-Oriental, Kasai-Occidental, Equateur and North Katanga.

¹ Women Count – Security Council Resolution 1325: Civil Society Monitoring DRC Report p 69, 2010.
² Workshop on the 2nd phase of monitoring UNSCR 1325 in DRC, Kinshasa; 27-29th Sept, 2011.
³ Hew Strachan; "The First World War in Africa, Oxford University, 2004.

The negotiations in Sun City, South Africa in 2002 were an attempt to address the conflict and a number of principles to enable the country to take off on a new foundation were adopted. These include: elections as a way of accession to power; reform of the security sector for peace consolidation and the effective establishment of the rule of law throughout the country; and joint management of power to ensure gender equity in institutions of the country, etc.

In 2006, the DRC held elections that enabled it to establish legitimate institutions. Currently, DRC is in its second electoral process, which will allow citizens to elect new leaders. It is a decisive phase especially for the political impetus in regards to the representation of women in decision-making bodies, particularly in the area of peace and security.

The socioeconomic conditions of the country are always difficult. The infrastructures were destroyed by the conflicts. In spite of some progress these past five years, numerous communities live in precarious conditions, without access to basic social services. The income and the indicators of human development remain the weakest in DRC.⁴

The United Nations estimates the number of displaced persons and refugees in DRC at 2.3 million, with 323,000 Congolese living in refugee camps outside the country because of the numerous armed conflicts.⁵ Humanitarian urgencies persist in all the territories. Additionally, the conflicts exacerbate the rate of sexual violence.⁶

In terms of the electoral process, there is no mechanism to implement parity and the electoral law on the representation of women is non-binding.

At present, DRC is relatively calm despite reports of violence including sexual violence in some provinces. Certain positive steps have been taken in the political arena, notably in the diplomatic relations between the countries in the Great Lakes Region. For instance, Rwanda has reopened its embassy in Kinshasa.

B. Impact of Conflict on Women

Because the conflict has extended to several provinces, the displaced persons are exposed to numerous forms of violence, in particular sexual and gender-based violence committed by armed groups. Some areas remain inaccessible and the presence of UN institutions and development agencies are limited.

The women in DRC suffer and deserve particular protection.

The women in DRC suffer and deserve particular protection. For example, more than 387 persons in 13 villages on the axis of Kibua-Mpofi were raped by a coalition of armed groups, between July 30th and August 2nd, 2010. 116 persons were kidnapped and 965 houses plundered. Of the 387 rape victims, 200 were women, 23 men, 55 girls and 9 boys.⁷ Another incident of mass rapes occurred in February 2011 when 121 women were raped in Fizi, in the province of North Kivu.⁸

Since these violations were committed, MONUSCO has increased the number of operational bases in the affected areas and has significantly improved its logistics and interaction with the civilian

4 As evidenced by the adoption of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and Millennium Development Goals (MDG), 2006.

5 OCHA Report; Fact Sheet Movements, Populations, 2011.

6 Analysis: Rethinking sexual violence in DRC, humanitarian news and analysis, <http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?reprt=90081>

7 Sexual Violence in African Conflicts, Alexis Arieff, Analyst in African Affairs, November 30, 2010.

8 Radio Okapi, 6 juin 2011.

population. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, has said that, "The Congolese government has the primary responsibility to protect its own people, but I also have an obligation to call on the international community to recognize the insecurity prevailing in the region and better equip United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) to enable it to effectively discharge its mandate to protect."

Women living in rural areas of conflict and who have been raped, struggle to reintegrate socially and economically in their communities of origin. In addition, continuing discriminatory practices and customs regarding women, the slow process of reforming the justice sector and ensuring security, and the challenges of creating a republican army and a police force that respect human rights remain a challenge.

Because of the conflict women have become heads of households and they have carried out the role very well. Women have become all the more conscious of their capacity and interested in the life of the country and are demanding to be involved in decision making. Women's associations have invested themselves into peace building activities. They have carried out activities aimed at bringing association closer to one another. Women activists have mobilized themselves into advocacy groups to advocate for the protection of women and prevention of incidences that expose women and girls to sexual violence and abuse. Women in DRC have said:

Now it is enough and it has to change. «Stop the rape» of our most precious resource: the Woman.⁹

C. Relevant Policies

The National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 was adopted by the Government in June 2010.

In addition, several mechanisms have been set up to accompany the implementation of Resolution 1325:

- Agency to fight against Violence against Women, and the girl child "AVIFEM";
- National Fund for the Promotion of Women and the Protection of the Child "FONAFEM";
- Unit of Study and Planning;
- Regional Centre of Investigation and Research on Women and Gender and Peace building in the Great Lakes Region.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has ratified several international legal instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on October 6th 1985. Provisions of CEDAW are integrated in the prescription-law No 85/040. DRC as asserted clearly and stated its commitments to the fundamental rights of women, in all the stages of life, as well as to the universal rights of the person.

The DRC also included "the principle of parity Man / Woman" in its article 14 of the current Constitution. In addition to this there are the following laws:

- The law No 87-010 of August 1st, 1987 relative to the Code of the family which ended the disparity of the rules which applied before, during and after the colonization;
- The law N 04-024 of November 12th, 2004 relative to the Congolese nationality which modified the first book of the Code of the family;
- No 015-2002 of October 16th, 2002 relative to the Labor code;

9 Day, Stop au viol de notre la plus précieuse, Pouvoir aux femmes et filles de la RDC; UNICEF, 2010

- The law No 06-018 of July 20th, 2006 modifying and completing the Decree of January 30th, 1940 relative to the Penal code;
- The law No. 06-019 of July 20th, 2006 relative to modification of the Code of procedure;
- DRC constitution of February 18th, 26 reviewed in March 2011.

Some important laws were adopted and promulgated in August 2011 by the President of the Republic in the domain of security sector. This may allow for an acceleration of a reform process in these sectors. The laws are:

- The organic law n°11/012 relative to organization and functioning of the armed forces of the DRC;
- The organic law No. 11/013 relative to organization and functioning of the national police force.

Resolution 1960, adopted on December 16, 2010, by the United Nations Security Council which calls for the establishment of monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence, including rape in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict situations can potentially improve the situation in DRC. It calls on the Secretary-General to include in its annual reports a list of perpetrators that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for acts of rape or other forms of sexual violence. Resolution 1960 as well as the previous Security Council resolutions on women and peace and security (SCR 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889), are all legally binding and therefore the DRC is obliged to implement them.

II. Data Presentation and Analysis

The data below were collected from all 11 provinces. They are presented in three tables; the first and second table concerns the Participation pillar and represent indicator 1: Index of women's participation in governance, and Indicator 3: Index of Women's Participation in the Justice & Security Sector. The third table concerns Pillar 2 Protection and Prevention and includes only indicator 7 Percentage of SGBV cases reported; investigated; referred; prosecuted and penalized.

A. Participation

Indicator 1 - Index of women's participation in governance (% of women in senior positions (cabinet/Council of ministers, parliament, local governance))

Level of intervention or Province	Institution or Process	Quantitative Data	
		% Men	%Women
Central Power/ Authorities	President of the Republic: -Council of Ministers -Board of Advisors	66.7 82.4	33.3 17.6
	Parliament 1.Senate (staff) - Office of the Senate - Presidency of Senate - Chair of Senatorial committees	94 100 90	6 0 10
	2.National Assembly (staff) - Office of National Assembly - Presidency of eight commissions: --Political, Administrative and Judicial --Socio-cultural	90 70	10 30
	--Defence and Security --International Relations and Cooperation --Economic and Financial --Environmental --Infrastructure --Decentralisation		
Government:	-Office of the Prime	100	0
	-Minister	100	0
	-Deputy Prime Minister	90	10
	-Ministers	80	20

Provincial level	Governorate:		
	-Incumbent Governor	11	0
	-Vice Governor	11	0
	Provincial Assemblies		
	-Plenary Session staff	91.2	8.8
	-Office staff	92.3	7.7
	Provincial Government:		
	-Minister	81.4	18.6
	Independent Electoral Commission		
		57.1	42.9
	High Council of the audiovisual and communication:	80	20

Sources: - President of the Republic: Official Newspapers; 2010
- Parliament: National service of the parliamentary and governmental Institutions, 2011
- Government: National service of the parliamentary and governmental Institutions, 2011
- National office Independent Electoral National Commission, 2011
- High Council of the audiovisual and communication

Observations:

The decrease in the number of women in the Congolese government in comparison to year 2010 as well as a generally weak female representation at all levels of decision-making is notable. Moreover despite their competence, women rarely are in command. Often, they only take up positions that are secondary in rank. The purpose for appointing women is only to comply with international standards. All this reflects the socio-cultural conservatism and the customs at the highest level of the Republic. This signifies a lack of political will to respect national and international commitments related to gender equality in governance. The lack of political will also shows in the non-implementation of the Parity Law. The Law has yet to be adopted by the Parliament.

In addition, the DRC shows a big recession in women's representation compared to the situation of the transition period of 2003 where women were vice-governors in provinces under governmental occupation. However, it is necessary to point out that these female deputy governors of the provinces had been involved in the government of Kinshasa in the Inter-Congolese Dialogue (DIC). It can be concluded that the fundamental reason of their appointment to these posts was more connected to the improvement of the image of the government in relation to the other belligerent parties of the period.

Among the factors that prevent women from getting involved in political institutions, we can quote the lack of role models at the political level. Another factor that prevents women from entering politics may be that in Congolese society, politics is associated with negative conduct, such as embezzlement, lack of moral and ethical behaviors. The strongly male chauvinist context of Congolese society strengthened by reactionary customs and discriminatory practices towards women and girls prevent women from studying, which would make them competitive. The lack of access to education keeps them in a state of inferiority compared to their male counterparts. Following are some observations that explains low political participation among women:

1. There is a weak female participation in the Management Boards of the political parties due to the conservatism of the heads of the political parties, the low interest and the late enrollment of women in political parties.
2. There is low participation of women in Parliament because of their lack of involvement in political parties, moderate financial means and traditional beliefs and customs that

discourage women's leadership.

3. Appointments to public enterprises, the military, and the police are made by the Head of State who has discretionary power.
4. In spite of statements of intentions and the numerous principles, Article 14 of the Constitution on the principle of parity between man and women have not been put in practice.
5. Participants at the civil society monitoring of SCR 1325 workshop that was held in Kinshasa of September 27-28th, 2011, estimate that only 10 % of women in Parliament actively participated in plenary debates and in the commissions of the national and provincial Assemblies.

Indicator 3 - Index of women's participation in the Justice and Security Sector (%of women in the military, police, judiciary at all levels)

Level of intervention	Institution or Process	Quantitative Data	
		% Men	%Women
National	Security Forces:		
	- Police disciplinary body	93.3	6.7
	-Top management of the Congolese armed forces	97	3
	Judiciary power		
	- Tribunals and Courts	76	24

Sources:
Ministry of National Defense; High Council of Magistrates
Judiciary power: Secretarial Department of the Council for the Judiciary
Security Forces
Police disciplinary body and the Congolese Armed forces

Observations

There are several factors that explain the low female representation in the security sector. The population has a bad perception of this sector and considers it as exclusively reserved for the men. Therefore, women and girls do not identify themselves with these jobs.

The poor living conditions in military camps (poor facilities, over-crowding, difficult access to health care, lack of access to education for children, etc.) moderate and irregular pay are also among the reasons for low female representation in the police and the army.

Women in the military and police are not guaranteed any protection. The authorities rarely recognize marriage and it is difficult to obtain authorization [to marry] from the Head of State. As far as the Law is concerned, there is no discrimination, but in practice women are considered to be at the disposal of their superiors.

There is an absence of debates on the issue of gender in the army and the police in spite of the national and international commitments related to the promotion of gender in all the domains, of which one is the security sector. However, it is necessary to note that since 2004, the DRC is in the process of reforming the security sector. This is an opportunity to develop debates on certain major questions including gender issues within the army and the police.

The current laws on the army and the police, promulgated by the Head of State, contain some progress with regard to recruitment, which require consideration of gender as one of the criteria. As for the justice sector, we can note some progress in the last recruitment concerning women, but we see in practice discrimination in access to positions of responsibility (Supreme Courts of Justice - 6 % women, the department of the Public Prosecutor of the Republic - 0 % women, Supreme Council of the Judiciary - 0 % women).

B. Prevention and Protection

Indicator 7 - Number of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence reported, percentage investigated, referred, prosecuted and penalized (out of number reported)

Province	Period	Reported Cases	Sensitive Laws to be adopted	Gender-sensitive programs and politics adopted and in force
Kinshasa	1st half-year 2011	57 cases of which 20 prosecuted 37 are in preparation 2011	No directive was passed during the current legislative session	None
Bandundu	1st half-year 2011	92 cases of rapes among which 90 women and 2 men	No directive was passed during the current legislative session	None
Equateur	January to September 2011	2244 cases registered for all province 454 cases registered by the Synergy of Gemena of which 127 prosecuted 245 cases registered by the Synergy of Gbadolite of which 58 cases passed on to court	A project of amendment of decree proposed by the NGO at the local level on sexual violence	None
Kasaï-Oriental	January-May, 2011	400 cases of which 169 are in court	No edit during the legislation	The provincial Order N 01 / 0102 / CABPROGOUV / KOR / 2009 of 16 Nov. 2009 forbidding early marriages
Bas-Congo	First half year 2011	450 cases registered by the synergy of Bas Congo	Edit voted in 2008 establishing the provincial day of the woman (1st week in March)	None
Kasaï-Occidental	January to August 2011	1462 listed cases of which 80 cases are in court	No edict during the legislature	None

Source of data	Observation
Action Women Network (RAF) and Christian Democratic Women for the Development (FCDD) Report	There are cases where families prefer the amicable arrangement rather than to go to court
Urban service of Gender, Family and Child	The law on sexual violence is not applied and impunity continues
OHCHR, Equateur	The court orders that are issued are not executed due to the dilapidated state of prisons and the insolvency of the State in cases of rape by the military. This leads to distrust by the population toward the legal system which lead people to prefer the 'amicable' arrangement. People are not willing to talk and it is difficult to collect information on the offenses. It is also difficult to investigate.
Monusco Human Right section by means of the Project Legal aid of the victims of sexual violence	These figures are estimate. The synergy (coalition) against sexual violence is in the process of validating the data. The provincial order is not popularized and is not enforced.
Provincial Synergy to fight Sexual Violence	Most of the cases of violence are caused by the movement of repatriation of Congolese living in Angola. There is a lack of popularization of the laws due to lack of planning and lack of budget.
Provincial Division of Gender Family and Child	Concerned about dignity of girls and women, people prefer amicable arrangements to avoid stigmatization.

Province Oriental	January-August, 2011	Several cases are reported of which the majority on women and girls	Resolution 1325, Article 14 of the constitution, January 2009 Law providing for Child Protection	Family Code, Convention on the Right of the Child
Sud Kivu	January-September, 2011	154 Cases		No policy but we organize awareness campaigns on the law on sexual violence
Katanga	Before 2011 January-August, 2011	We observed several cases a month 15 cases per month	No edict during the legislature	Law on sexual violence, the law on the protection of the child
Maniema	2009-2011	2543 cases	Relative law 2006	The training of people is important to change attitudes and behaviors toward women from rejection to empathy to promote peace, tolerance, non-violence and respect of women's and people's rights.
Nord Kivu	2011	103 cases	Law on sexual violence, the law on the protection of the child	None

Private Clinic	The cases of sexual violence increase because of the attacks of the LRA in the districts of Low and High Uele.
Conseil des Organisations des Femmes Agissant en Synergie (COFAS) Association des Personnes en Action pour le Changement Intégral (APACI) and Project to fight violence against women and girls in the Great Lakes region (PLUVIF)	All the cases were reported in the territory of Walungu, Kabare and Bukavu, including a case referred where the culprit was arrested.
Police	These cases often occur at night time
UWAKI Asefa Akizawa mama Report	The women do not denounce the crimes to avoid being stigmatized.

Sources:
International and local NGO
Denis Mukengere Mukwege, Cathy Nangini (2009). Rape with Extreme Violence: The New Pathology in South Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo. PLoS Medicine, <http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info:doi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1000204>
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United Nations Human Rights Rape: Weapon of War

Observations

The difficulty encountered in the application of the sexual violence law is due to the lack of understanding among judges and law enforcers themselves. The new law also requires a new strategy in addressing sexual violence at the national level. Cultural traditions such as early marriage and forced marriage, amicable settlement makes it all the more difficult to implement the sexual violence law.

As a result, sexual violence has increased throughout the country and in particular in areas of conflict exacerbated by poverty, over population, lack of water and electricity among other factors.

Moreover, there are challenges with regards to victims' access to health services. The belief that having sex with children or girls who are virgins cures HIV/ AIDS has also increased sexual violence against minors including infants. This is the consequence of the lack of effort to popularize the law on sexual violence due to the lack of resource and unavailability of the texts of the law in local languages.

III. Conclusions and Recommendations

The women of DRC have been disproportionately affected by the consequences of war and insecurity. All of this has had devastating consequences for families and communities in general, while contributing to feminization of poverty. Women still struggle to gain positions of equality and sometimes, it is the law that prevents the women from achieving equal positions in society. The victims of sexual violence are still waiting for justice and reparation to be rendered.

Adequate protection and security should be a way to reduce the rates of sexual violence. We need global strategies, government commitments, public and private partnerships and the continued work of non-governmental organizations to tackle the challenges that local communities still face. The existing tools, such as UNSCR 1325 need to be used to bring about change at all levels - from the grassroots level to national level.

We call upon the United Nations and the African Union Member States to adopt and use the indicators developed by the United Nations to monitor the implementation of the UNSCR 1325.

To the Government of DRC:

- Make all efforts to improve the peace and security situation in eastern DRC where local and foreign armed groups are still perpetrating violence against civilians, mainly women and children;
- Increase understanding of the importance of a gender perspective to enhance technical capacities in analyzing peace and conflict;
- Increasing the number of women at all level of decisions-making processes;
- Create a plan that builds on the concerns of women's organizations that have been working for decades to end impunity for violence against women in our society;
- Popularize Resolution 1325 at central and provincial government level;
- Use Resolution 1325 and 1820 to promote women's political participation;
- Accelerate the adoption of the Law on the implementation of Male/Female parity;
- Revise the Electoral Law and Family Code; and
- Respect and make operational the national and international legal instruments that promote and protect women's rights.

To DRC Civil Society Actors:

- Appeal to the international community to put in place sanctions against those who support armed groups and those who exploit DRC's natural resources;
- Hold the government to account on addressing women's particular needs and concerns in Women Peace and Security processes, including the implementation of UNSCR 1325;
- Explore partnerships with non-traditional stakeholders such as the private sector to solicit their financial and other forms of support to promote peacebuilding and reconstruction processes;
- Collect and share data on indicators, which allows for promoting the implementation and conduct assessments on how SCR 1325 is implemented in DRC;
- Carry on the advocacy and lobbying with the government to solicit their support including material and financial support towards the effective implementation of Resolution 1325;
- Continue to lobby and advocate at the UN and other policymaking bodies at the regional and national levels and use SCR 1325 and its subsequent related resolutions

1820 and 1888, 1989, 1960 as policy frameworks to ensure women's representation and participation in all levels of decision-making on peace and security; protection of women and girls' rights; prevention of conflict; and prevention of sexual violence; and

- Cultivate sustained collaboration based on mutual respect and equality with women's CSOs and women politicians to encourage and support, and to inform the work of women in decision-making positions, to keep the women's agenda on the table of all institutions.

To the UN:

- Help the Democratic Republic of Congo to have lasting peace and to end the sexual violence against women;
- Include a gender component in peacekeeping operation mandates, both in peacekeeping and peacebuilding;
- Ensure pre-deployment training for UN peacekeeping troops as well as national security sector institutions and should include specific sessions on SCR 1325 and 1820;
- Enhance capacity building efforts in all aspects of peacekeeping, peacemaking and peacebuilding particularly on women's protection and participation;
- UN Women must ensure that the voices and perspectives of women who have long worked for peace are heard in all peace processes at all levels and that they are given support and the opportunity to lead;
- Support DRC civil society and women activists in particular by pressing the DRC government to include their voices in policies, participation at the decision-making table, and key concerns regarding peace, reintegration, and reconciliation processes; and
- Support and strengthen programs that provide capacity building and technical assistance to the justice and security sector towards better implementation of protection and sexual violence prevention programs.

To the International Community and Donors:

- Partner with women's organizations to provide them with financial and technical assistance to expand participation on Women, Peace and Security programming in peace processes in the provinces;
- Insist that financial incentives to communities to support the reintegration of victims of sexual violence also support the empowerment and development of women in the communities;
- Support NGOs working to systematize and regularize the collection of sex-disaggregated data on Women, Peace and Security by providing funding and technical assistance;
- Allocate adequate financial resources for the implementation of the National Action Plan on SCR 1325 and Women, Peace and Security programming over all;
- Allocate specific funds to civil society organizations to monitor SCR 1325 implementation including coordination with statistics offices and ministries of finance to track budget allocations and spending on Women, Peace and Security;
- Make funding for Security Council Resolution 1325 more transparent, to enable other stakeholders to access those funds and to be able to make sound recommendations on priorities for implementation; and
- Support NGOs working to systematize and regularize the collection of sex-disaggregated data on Women, Peace and Security by providing funding and technical assistance.

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