North Atlantic Treaty Organization

NATO

Handbook A

Progress of NATO’s Implementation of the Resolution of the Security Council about the Promotion of Women’s Roles in Peace and Security. (UNSCR 1325)

Chairman
Carlos Fernández

Moderator
Montserrat Alcaraz

Conference Officer
Valeria Gómez

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Dear delegates:

It is a pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you as you join TAEMUN 2014, a space dedicated to dialogue based on tolerance, respect, equity, union and innovation. Particularly, we would like to welcome you to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a committee that expects an environment of active participation from each one of you, complying with the guidelines and standards established in the protocol in order to reach a diplomatic resolution respecting your foreign policy.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is an alliance of countries from Europe and North America. It provides a unique link between these two continents for consultation and cooperation in the fields of defense and security, and the conduct of multinational crisis-management operations by promoting democratic values and encourages consultation and cooperation on defense. NATO is committed to the principle that an attack against one or several members is considered as an attack against all.

Throughout TAEMUN 2014, both of the following topics will be addressed: Topic A: Progress of NATO’s Implementation of the Resolutions of the Security Council about the Promotion of Women’s Roles in Peace and Security (UNSCR 1325), and Topic B: NATO and Libya: Operation United Protector. We encourage you to get deeply involved and inquire about these topics in order to find a successful solution to the problems involved in the latters.

We expect your experience in TAEMUN 2014 to be pleasant, and to give you a wider vision of what is happening worldwide so as to raise awareness that these situations may be solved if all nations work together and simultaneously.

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A. Progress of NATO’s Implementation of the Resolution of the Security Council about the Promotion of Women’s Roles in Peace and Security. (UNSCR 1325)

This resolution adopted by the Security Council, reaffirms the important role of women in different aspects such as: prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace-building, humanitarian response and peacekeeping between others simultaneously stressing the importance of full involvement and equal participation to maintain and promote peace and security.

This resolution implicates a number of important operational mandates, Member States and the entities of the United Nations system taking in consideration the special measures required to protect women and girls from gender-based violence during armed conflicts; working with other organizations specialized on these issues. The work with partner’s countries focuses on the enhancement of political dialogue and on practical cooperation in the security field. For this end, partner’s nations are encouraged to place specific goals that are related to the UNSCR 1325.

NATO is willing to commit the role women can play in building, consolidating and maintain peace and security as an integral part of their everyday activities including political, military and civil structures, enclosing their missions and operations. This committee acts as a partner with the Security Council to support the implementation of UNSCR 1325 adopted in October 2000. The main theme this Resolution focuses on is the disproportionate impact that conflicts and war have in children and women (around 90% of casualties in conflict are civilians and some 70% of this percentage are women and children), pointing out the fact that women have not been taken in account during the peace processes and stabilization efforts.

The lack of institutional arrangements to protect women during gender-based violence in conflict situation and continued under-representation of women in peace-processes remain impediment to the improvement of sustainable peace around the world. Different countries, creating an important base to the solution of these problems, have made offers; an example is Norway that made an offer at the Chicago Summit. Reinforce and promote the implementation of this resolution, the mandates of the Norwegian diplomat included
raising the awareness of NATO’s policies and activities in this area and with this ensuring their cooperation and coronation with the United Nations and other relevant organizations. They need to focus their efforts in the following key areas that are consider to be the main worries and point out where countries may improve.

“The further development of gender training capacity and programmes notably in the context of pre-deployment to operations; the further development of gender adviser capacity within NATO military structures; the further integration of the gender perspective in NATO’s existing operational planning and assessment tools; and the further improvement of reporting mechanisms on gender-related issues. (NATO, 2013, p.2) ”

There also have been some field trip researches to NATO’s theatres of operation in Afghanistan and Kosovo with the purpose of seeing how gender equality has been implemented. This Review is organized with the objective of helping the Alliance refine its policies, military guidelines and action plans for a better efficiency. This will also provide support with the process of monitoring, evaluating and reporting the effect of operations for women, peace and security issues.

NATO has already made significant progress in implementing the goals articulated in UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions. These goals settled must include the use of training and educational activities developed by Allies Command Transformation and by individual NATO Allies. The Alliance will continue to advance the women, peace and security agenda at every level, including through its policies and activities, by making greater use of the potential that women offer in the political and military ranks; and, by improving cooperation with partner countries and other international organizations. Women, peace and security are also regular raised during talks held between the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union and NATO. (NATO, 2013) Additionally through the chain of command, gender perspective has been incorporated in operational planning documents outlining the gender perspective, men and women that must be included as part of an overall campaign given the historical and cultural positions of some women. The efforts to ensure this are being integrated, especially with future partnerships like Afghanistan, in terms of the respect of human rights, focusing on women rights.
Regional General Positions

Africa

In Africa women have been fighting for gender equality, especially in Mali, Niger Central African Republic, Ghana and Chad, women are active members in civil and armed conflicts, trying to achieve recognition from their country as citizens that can participate as a weapon to ensure peace; also to lobby towards gender-sensitive approaches to peace and security issues, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) supported the creation of African networks that search for peace in women and children that are usually left-behind during warfare, formed by thirteen women organizations from countries affected by armed conflicts, this point of fact is crucial knowing that the presence of this gender is undervalued. In 1998 the Women African Committee for peace and Developments was created in order to continue the previous objectives.

Asia

Due to the Action Platform approved in Beijing, inside of the system of United Nations, forums are powered in order to praise women efforts to preserve peace and give voice to the proposals that this part of population raises because women are an impulse of stability and reconciliation, their contributions can improve the effectiveness of decisions given the fact that more than a half of the population of Asia are women, so this contributions serve as an added value to satisfy the needs of a part of the folk that men are unable to convey for one main reason: their reality in most of Asian countries is completely different because of the rights that they joy.

One of the main problems that organizations for women face is the lack of financial support, the fund do not reach these organizations because their transcendence is considered to be none. “In Afghanistan is often heard that peace issues are matter of men, that we are not politicians” said Jamila (President of an ONG for women); in her organization, with the contribution of others, are trying to establish a quota of 30% of participation in every process of peace and the institutions that create peace treaties. Nowadays is highly recommended to apply the previous participation in Afghanistan,
Iraq, Palestine-Israel and Democratic Republic of Congo. In Cambodia, for example, women gather together to negotiate equality without the protection of a direct organization after an armed conflict, which clearly emphasizes the raising voice of women.

**Europe**

Europe is having great advances with this resolution, dealing with problems that affect multiple delegations. Kosovo is now nominated to be at the Strategic Commands for Operations and Transformation, they are advised on how to conduct operations in order to reduce their impact on women and children and make them more successful; a proof of this is the research sent to Kosovo to control de operation management. Kosovo’s great development has already allowed gender advisers in place placing Gender Focal Points to help the development of a gender perspective along with female personnel on the ground for having a positive effect during the implementation. Croatia is also a country that is having a massive growth with the revelation of women about their culture to generate a more effective response from the government and military forces assuring their security during armed conflicts or war. Bosnia Herzegovina is dealing with a trauma of wartime violence against women; women are already promoting gender equality and awareness in society at large and country’s security institutions.

**Specific Actions:**

- United Nations Joint Protection Teams in the Congo: Increased female personnel strengthen protection of civilian efforts.
- Dutch Military in Kabul: Outreach activities with women create a foundation of confidence between community and troops. NATO is piloting a successful initiative to enable Afghan women to set up small business in a secure environment (NATO).
- European Union Force (EUFOR) in Chad: Visible presence of women in the military and dialogue with local women increases force acceptance.
Guide Questions

- What has your country done to promote security and peace for women based on UNSCR 1325?
- What are the proposals of your country in order to promote women participation in the birth of peace during a civil or armed conflict?
- Are there non-governmental organizations that support directly the voice of women during armed conflicts?
- With which other countries has your delegation worked with in order to promote active participation for women during armed conflicts? How have they worked?
- Why does your delegation think that that participation of women is important at the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace-building, humanitarian response and peacekeeping among nations?

References