

The Institute for Inclusive Security

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations to increase the capacity for women's leadership in peace building were developed by a coalition of women convened by The Institute for Inclusive Security in January 2009. They include women from Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, Israel, Kashmir, Lebanon, Liberia, Palestine, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, and Uganda.

TO IMPROVE CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNSCR 1325:

Participants examined progress in implementing United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and in acknowledging the contributions of women in peace-building processes. They recognized that parties to the resolution must be held accountable for its implementation and that sufficient attention and resources should be devoted to capacity building and education programs in order to increase awareness and understanding of its provisions. Participants emphasized the need for benchmarks with specific targets and timetables; they called upon relevant parties to provide support and funding for oversight and monitoring systems.

Many of the recommendations, therefore, focus on how actors from the highest levels of the United Nations to the grassroots can design and implement concrete mechanisms and actions to give life to UNSCR 1325. Recommendations are aimed at governments, whether donors or countries affected by crisis, or in their capacity as member states of the UN; at the UN system and other key organizations; at non-governmental organizations, both local and international, working individually or in collaboration; and at non-governmental entities such as academic institutions, the media, and the private sector. It is intended that these recommendations also be applied for successful implementation of the provisions of UNSCR 1820.

ALL PARTIES SHOULD

Cooperate in the implementation of UNSCR 1325, providing meaningful financial and technical support for training. International parties should collaborate with civil society and governments to facilitate the creation of related national actions plans, budgets, and monitoring and evaluation systems.

GOVERNMENTS SHOULD

1. Develop national action plans for implementation of UNSCR 1325 that provide for necessary trainings of both men and women and identify timelines and benchmarks. National actions plans should involve all levels of government and all sectors of society.
2. Create a department within the concerned ministry to increase women's participation in all aspects of peace processes, with a special focus on UNSCR 1325 and other relevant legal instruments.

3. Work with civil society and international partners to provide training for men and women male and female parliamentary members that would mainstream gender perspectives, including the provisions of UNSCR 1325. Attendees and trainers should be men and women with the goal of passing legislation to increase women's participation.

DONORS AND MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD

1. Work with governments to fund, push for, and monitor the implementation of UNSCR 1325 training programs and the creation of national action plans.
2. Include in the next "Report of the UN Secretary-General on Women, Peace, and Security" proposals for specific mechanisms to ensure full implementation of UNSCR 1325, including capacity-building and education programs, financing, benchmarks, and compliance by governments with national action plans. Civil society and government should contribute to the report. UN country reports should reflect progress on the implementation of UNSCR 1325.
3. Ensure that country missions involved in peacekeeping operations educate military and civilian police prior to their deployment on UNSCR 1325 and provide training materials on the importance of involving women in all peacekeeping and peace-building efforts.

CONTRACTORS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD

1. Work with governments to adapt UNSCR 1325 to the local context for use as a resource in training.
2. Use community-level training programs to encourage men and women to build coalitions with local media, the private sector, political parties, and all other stakeholders to publicize and facilitate understanding of UNSCR 1325.
3. Partner with governments to monitor impact and contribute to evaluation of UNSCR 1325 capacity-building programs at the grassroots level.

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS AND THINK TANKS SHOULD

1. Draft civic education programs for all levels of education—primary, secondary, and university—on inclusive peace building, including UNSCR 1325, for integration into national curricula by the Ministry of Education.
2. Research UNSCR 1325, write books, and develop needs assessments and training materials relevant to the local context to advance the resolution's implementation.
3. Encourage students, especially female students, to intern and work at local governmental and non-governmental organizations working on issues of peace and security. This will improve the pipeline of qualified women candidates for high-level positions and increase understanding of human rights and women's rights.