

MONTHLY ACTION POINTS

ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL: JULY 2010

NGO | WORKING GROUP
ON WOMEN, PEACE
AND SECURITY

PRESIDENCY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR JULY: NIGERIA

NIGERIA'S SUPPORT FOR WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Nigeria's stated priorities for its 2010-2011 Security Council Membership include: conflict prevention and settlement of disputes, particularly through preventative diplomacy; the protection of civilians in armed conflict; and achieving the full realization of Resolution 1325, including indicator pilot programs.

Nigeria's relevant international commitments include: Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (*Ratified 27th September 2001*); Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (*Ratified 13th June 1985*); Optional Protocol (*Ratified 22nd November 2004*).

RECOMMENDED SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION POINTS ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Action Previously Requested by the Security Council

In Presidential Statement PRST/2010/8, the Council indicated its intent to take action on the proposed indicators on SCR 1325 (as requested in OP17 of SCR 1889) on the 10th Anniversary of SCR 1325. The **final set of indicators must be comprehensive and meaningful**, and the Council must ensure it institutes an effective system of monitoring and implementation.

Country Situations

Preliminary analysis of the **NGOWG Monthly Action Points** project indicates that **country reporting** on women, peace and security matters is inconsistent and incomplete, and that information specifically requested by the Council in mission mandates is often absent from these reports. This absence of up-to-date information and analysis makes appropriate action by the Security Council and UN actors even more difficult. In addition to these mandate-specific calls for information, the Security Council has determined that all mandate renewals and country reports must address the protection and promotion of women's human rights (SCRs 1325; 1820, OP 9; 1888, OP 11; 1889, OP 5; SCR 1894, OP 32; and PRSTs 2009/1 and 2010/8). The absence of specific reporting on women does not necessarily signify that there are no women, peace and security concerns. Member States should inquire as to any such lack of information.

Protection of Civilians

The forthcoming **debate** on this issue will follow-up on the implementation of SCR 1894 (2009). The Council should regularly employ the Aide-Memoire on the protection of civilians (PRST 2009/1), which highlights objectives for Council action specifically to protect women, and to ensure their participation in the prevention and resolution of armed conflict. Specific entry points for the Council on women, peace and security include:

- Where women and girls are reported to be at risk of widespread or systematic violence in countries not regularly on the Council's agenda, the Council should follow the situation closely, request relevant briefings and consider appropriate measures to protect.
- When establishing and renewing state-specific sanctions regimes, the Council should consider measures against parties to armed conflict who commit rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls (1820 OP5).

Conflict prevention and settlement of disputes

The **open debate** to be held in July will focus on challenges and opportunities for preventative diplomacy. Council Members should support the systematic inclusion of women's rights in all efforts for the maintenance of peace, and women's equal participation and full involvement in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution. Specific entry points for the Council include:

- Strongly support women's engagement in all levels of decision-making within key national processes, regional and sub-regional organizations;
- In advance of the upcoming African Union Peace and Security Council meeting, the Security Council should discuss how to strengthen its collaboration with regional efforts to meet women, peace and security obligations.

Burundi

In the forthcoming **elections**, continuing reports of violence raise concerns that these elections will not further consolidate peace in the country. Any support given to Burundi and monitoring of the security situation surrounding the elections should include specific information and analysis on the particular risks and dangers faced by women seeking to assert their electoral prerogatives. Special attention should be given to ensuring access to justice for victims of political violence.

Darfur

The forthcoming **report** and **mandate renewal** for the UN Hybrid Operation mission in Darfur (UNAMID) should follow up on several outstanding requests from the Council, and on information requested in previous reports. In line with SCR 1881 (OP 14), the **report** should: articulate a comprehensive strategy regarding sexual violence, including progress on the UNAMID workplan's call to work with the security sector to improve its response to sexual and gender-based violence; detail how and to what extent women have been consulted in the civil society consultation process (SCR 1881, OP 8); continue to report on concrete progress and remaining challenges faced by the Gender Crimes Special Investigation Unit. In the upcoming **mandate renewal** for UNAMID, action by the Security Council could include:

- Strengthen the intent of OP 8 of SCR 1881 by calling on the AU High Level Implementation Panel to ensure that women and women-led organizations are placed at the forefront of their efforts to secure peace in Darfur;
- Prioritize the call for all parties to the conflict to protect civilians, including women and children, from sexual violence, and continue the request to the Secretary General to report on progress made in creating and implementing a strategy to protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence, as currently requested in SCR 1881, OP 14;
- Underscore the need for UNAMID to make full use of its capabilities to protect women and children in particular.

Kyrgyzstan

The ongoing crisis in Kyrgyzstan should be immediately addressed in order to prevent further widespread violence, including sexual violence, and address the ongoing internal displacement crisis. There is a need for an international inquiry into the recent violence, particularly in light of the potential risk the situation poses to international peace and security.

Somalia

The forthcoming **report** on Somalia will likely reflect the difficulty in gathering accurate and reliable information from the country. As noted in the May MAP, the inaccessibility in the region for humanitarian workers must not be taken as an indication that women's human rights are being respected. Any forthcoming technical assessments of the situation must include gender expertise.

NGOWG ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY RESOURCES

- Human Rights Watch, *Burundi: Violence, Rights Violations Mar Elections*, July 1, 2010, <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/07/01/burundi-violence-rights-violations-mar-elections>
- Human Rights Watch, *Burundi: "We'll Tie You Up and Shoot You,"* May 2010, <http://www.hrw.org/node/90456>
- Human Rights Watch, *Kyrgyzstan: New Evidence Emerges on Brutality of Attacks*, June 2010. <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/06/25/kyrgyzstan-new-evidence-emerges-brutality-attacks>
- Amnesty International, *Somalia: International Military and Policing Assistance Should be Reviewed*, 2010. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/AFR52/001/2010/en/86225a8e-1db3-427c-a2ca-03adbf632e87/afr520012010en.pdf>
- Amnesty International, *Somalia, Routinely Targeted: Attacks on Civilians in Somalia*, May 2008, <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/AFR52/009/2008/en/31f9f60b-363e-11dd-9db5-cb00b5aed8dc/afr520092008eng.pdf>
- Women's Refugee Commission, *Sudan: Too Little for Too Few: Meeting the needs of youth in Darfur*, December 2008, http://www.womensrefugeecommission.org/docs/df_youth.pdf
- Human Rights Watch, *Sudan: The Way Forward: Ending Human Rights Abuses and Repression across Sudan*, October 2009, <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2009/10/06/way-forward-0>
- *PeaceWomen Security Council Monitor*: http://www.peacewomen.org/security_council_monitor/