



**Women for Peace and Security
Regional consultation in the frame of the Open Day
25-26 June 2010, Dushanbe, Tajikistan**

Appeal to the UN Secretary General and the Security Council

We, participants of the cross-regional consultation Open Day on 1325, held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on 25-26 June, representing Afghanistan, Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan and Tajikistan, are determined to bring our voice to support the comprehensive implementation of the Resolution 1325 at the global, regional and national levels.

We witness and suffer from on-going, unresolved or unrecognized conflicts and wars in our countries, feel and analyze fragileness of the peace. We are excluded and deprived of opportunities to fully and equally contribute to and participate in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace-building, especially at the decision-making level. In some of our countries, we witness increasing trend of using killing, rape, and kidnapping of women and girls as a tactic for promotion of radical fundamentalist values and denial of women's human rights. We are witnessing an escalation of terrorism, criminalization, militarization and violence against women and children. These trends, along with poverty and deprivation, are also contributing to the growing recruitment of women and children for the execution of violent crimes.

We are deeply concerned with impermissibly low representation of women in the UN peace missions and dialogues. We are concerned with the lack of decisive steps made by the UN and member states to ensure women's quality participation in the formal peace processes. We believe that our potential and contribution to peace and security goals of our countries are not recognized and valued.

The commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the UN SCR 1325 should be used for capitalizing on positive achievements in the area of women, peace and security at the highest political level and to give well deserved recognition to the role and contributions of women from our countries in promoting sustainable peace and security.



The experience accumulated in the past ten years convinced us that the UN SCR 1325 will not be implemented unless **a clear accountability mechanism in the form of a mandatory reporting on the implementation of the UN SCR 1325 is introduced by the UN Security Council for the member states**. Therefore, we call the UN Security Council to be responsive to the obvious failure in the implementation of the UN SCR1325 in our countries and be persistent in its strive of linking women and girls' human rights concerns to global peace and security agenda. Such an accountability mechanism is crucial for bridging the gap between international norms and standards, including global political commitments and realities and actual implementation of the resolution and experiences of women on the ground. Mandatory reporting will foster the creation of an enabling environment and institutional mechanisms to acknowledge and utilize women's potential. It is highly important to continue the work on indicators as tangible tools for measuring our achievements and failures.



Below are our vision and recommendations for the improved implementation of the UN SCR 1325:

1. We call for the accelerated implementation of global policy commitments to promote women, peace and security agenda at the regional and national levels, and in particular, **for taking urgent measures to address the issues of violence against women and girls during conflict and post-conflict situations**. In this regard, we call for **increasing funding and other needed support to establish relevant mechanisms** aimed at improving women's contributions to peace and security issues;
2. We call for intensifying the efforts to prevent potential conflicts, using all possible means, including people-to-people diplomacy, and urge governments to elaborate **National Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security in cooperation with the civil society**. We support the **indicators suggested by the Secretary General** in his *Report on Women, Peace and Security* submitted to the Security Council in April 2010, and request the **Security Council to endorse these indicators**. We **urge member States to introduce the indicators into planning and programming at the national level**;
3. We call for accountability in the **implementation of International Humanitarian Law** in the situations of conflict to protect civilians, particularly women and children, from all types of violence, including sexual, and for **increased prosecution of war crimes through national and international judicial mechanisms, including the International Criminal Court**;

4. We call for enhanced application **of existing international norms, standards and commitments** (CEDAW, CRC, BPfA, MDGs, etc.) at the regional and national levels for protection of human rights of women and children in the times of peace and war;
5. We call for **supporting women's dialogues in our countries and region, including through women's people-to-people diplomacy initiatives, involving women** from conflicting sides and reaching out to women in conflict areas across the ceasefire lines;
6. We call for to an immediate establishment of **special women's advisory bodies within existing cross-regional international organizations** such as Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, EuraZES, OSCE, GUAM, etc., to ensure women's equal participation and contribution to all policy related negotiations and consultations at the regional and global levels;
7. We call for the establishment of the regional and possibly also international **Women's Peace Corps** to promote the inclusion of women-peace activists in the groups of immediate response to conflict situations and deployment to the conflict-affected countries to share the best practices for mitigating the conflicts from a gender perspective. We support the creation and maintenance of a comprehensive roster of women-peace negotiators, psychologist, health and social workers and other relevant professionals.
8. We call for strengthening and expanding of the **capacity-development initiatives directed, in particular, towards the most vulnerable and excluded groups of women** to ensure the quantity and quality of their participation in all peace and security-related processes. We call for addressing the needs and concerns of **disabled people, single women and female-headed households in all relief and recovery efforts** and ensuring their full and equal participation in all peace processes;
9. We call for providing comprehensive awareness-raising and **capacity development for young girls and boys** in the areas of peace, security and gender equality, and for investing in promotion of peace culture among them;
10. We recommend to consider the **Special Rapporteur mechanism on the UN SCR 1325** to interact meaningfully with member states on an ongoing basis regarding the progress in the implementation of the resolution. We request the new UN Gender Entity to follow up on this recommendation.
11. We urge to **widely disseminate, and utilize the knowledge and experience of relevant countries in our region on peace keeping, peace building and conflict prevention;**
12. We suggest **to introduce a special prize for those peace activists** that have made an exceptional contribution to the implementation of the UN SCR 1325.





Fragment of the quilt by women from Gori, Georgia
(produced with a support of Active Art and UNIFEM, 2010)