

Bullets NL interventie "Women's participation in conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peacebuilding ".

Mr Chairman,

If we are really serious about promoting peace and security we cannot afford to miss a single opportunity to promote women's rights and increase women's participation in conflict prevention, peace processes and peacebuilding. In this respect the UN Security Council took a big step forward when it adopted resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. But there is still a long way to go to implement the resolution. In this regard, I would like to reiterate our strong support for the SG's call last Monday to establish a dedicated monitoring mechanism on violence against women and girls in armed conflict.

With regard to the implementation of resolution 1325, I would like to share with you the progress we have made in the Netherlands. About two months ago, the Dutch National Action Plan 1325 has been launched. The 2008-2011 Dutch Action Plan focuses on five key aspects; 1) The legal framework 2) Conflict prevention, mediation and reconstruction, 3) International cooperation, 4) Peace missions; and 5) Harmonisation and coordination.

After having heard today's speakers on the role of civil society/women's organisations, I am pleased to be able to tell you that the process leading up to the drafting of the National Action Plan on 1325 was in itself a rewarding experience. It is the result of a unique collaborative effort between the Dutch government, civil society and academic institutions. In the end the action plan was signed by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Home Affairs, as well as by 15 NGOs.

After this constructive process we are confident that we have established a good basis for further cooperation to actually implement the Plan. As our Minister for Development Cooperation has said it in last years Open Debate in the Security Council; we will ensure you that it will not remain another piece of paper.

In this respect, I call on all Member States present today to draft their own National Action Plan on Res 1323 and ensure that the resolution is implemented worldwide.

In conclusion, I am pleased to share with you one example of concrete implementation on our side namely that the Dutch Provincial Reconstruction Teams that work in Afghanistan have been trained on gender issues and that specific attention is paid to include female officers. I look forward to hearing other practices and policies to implement resolution 1325 at the national level.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.