

## **WILPF Resolution on National Action Plans**

*The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,*

*Recalling* WILPF's mission and work challenging the status quo, ending conflict, and promoting women's rights and dignity for all, and its role in advocating for the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000),

*Reaffirming* the spirit of UNSCR 1325 as a holistic and meaningful policy for women affected by conflict,

*Upholding* the fundamental intent of UNSCR 1325 in the prevention of all conflict,

*Asserting*, in this context, that National Action Plans (NAPs) must focus on the prevention of conflict, including regulation of arms trade and disarmament to fully remedy violations of women's human rights in conflict,

*Recognizing* the potential of international policy, but also that implementation of the women, peace and security agenda must ultimately take place at the national and local level,

*Recalling* that UNSCR 1325 urges member states to take action at the national level in the key areas of women's participation in decision-making and peace processes, the protection of women and girls, and gender training<sup>1</sup>.

*Reiterating* that NAPs have the potential of being an effective tool for the implementation of the spirit of UNSCR 1325 only if a comprehensive process is undertaken and that NAPs must be recognized as a means to an end rather than an end in and of themselves,

*Emphasizing* the vital importance of the participation of civil society and women's organizations in making international policy and law work for women and that the process of developing a NAP serves to promote awareness about the role of gender equality to peaceful nations,

*Noting* that to date, 26 NAPs have been adopted and that WILPF has and continues to participate in many of these process,

1. *Urges* all member states, not just states experiencing armed conflict or states recently emerged from conflict, to prioritize the women, peace and security agenda through the development and implementation of NAPs and *urges* the committee developing NAP to include 50% women;

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<sup>1</sup> Presidential Statements S/PRST/2004/40 and S/PRST/2005/52, and resolution 1889, whereby the Security Council called on Member States to continue implementing resolution 1325 (2000), including through the development of national action plans (NAPs) or other national level strategies

2. *Demands* the application of a human security framework in the development of any NAP, specifying that under a human security framework, NAPs must reflect the holistic spirit of SCR 1325 and include obligations articulated in Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Beijing Platform for Action, Critical Area E, calling for the control of excessive arms expenditure, and the UN Charter which calls for the “least diversion for armaments of the world’s human and economic resources” (Article 26);
3. *Demands* early, extensive, and genuine consultation in the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation stages with civil society organizations including women’s groups, and a broad constituency, in developing NAPs and regional action plans to make them the most effective;
4. *Calls for* NAP to be developed and adopted using a participatory, transparent process and for NAPs implementation to include mechanisms for accountability including indicators and specifically allocated budgets and resources;
5. *Calls for* NAPs to address all forms of conflict and the states’ role in other violent conflicts outside its own borders, including the particular situation of occupation, political violence, and protracted violence, including transfer of arms;
6. *Urges* that NAPs recognize and incorporate issues of violence experienced and articulated by women with their own borders and regions;
7. *Demands that* states ensure that existing domestic policies, including immigration and asylum, do not adversely affect women who have fled conflict zones and all women who have been forcibly displaced within or outside their own states, and that these elements are included in NAPs;
8. *Demands* that all actors respect in their policies and actions the fact that gender based violence is a human rights violation and often constitutes a violation of international humanitarian law and is used as a form of torture;
9. *Advocates for* funding to be made available to civil society organizations, including women’s organizations, to participate in developing and monitoring NAPs;
10. *Encourages* innovative processes, such as “twinning” or “cross-learning” with one or more countries to exchange ideas, experiences and resources to develop and implement NAPs; and
11. *Urges* states to present their annual reports to their parliament or government.