

**REPORT
ON
NGO STRATEGIES
TO
IMPLEMENT UNSCR 1820**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACORD	The Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development
APF	Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions
AU	African Union
CAT	Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DPKO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ECOWAS	Economic Organization of West African States
FAS	Femmes Africa Solidarité
GBSV	Gender-Based Sexual Violence
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICHRP	International Council on Human Rights Policy
ICTR	International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IFOR	International Fellowship Of Reconciliation
IWTC	International Women’s Tribune Center
MONUC	United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MWCSW	The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Nepal
NANHRI	The Network of African National Human Rights Institutions
NAPs	National Action Plans
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
NHRIs	National Human Rights Institutions
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PBC	Peacebuilding Commission
PCCs	Police Contributing Countries
PKO	Peacekeeping Operation
POC	Protection of Civilians
R2P	Responsibility to Protect
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SRSG	Special Representative of the Secretary-General
SSR	Security Sector Reform
SV	Sexual Violence
SVC	Sexual Violence in Conflict
TCCs	Troop-Contributing Countries
UN	United Nations
UN Action	United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
UNSG	United Nations Secretary-General
WANEP	West Africa Network for Peacebuilding
WG	Working Group
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPNET	Women in Peacebuilding Network
WPAs	Women's Protection Advisors
WPJP	Women's Partnership for Justice and Peace

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE REPORT

The aim of the current report is to suggest collective strategies for the more effective implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1820, and of related resolutions dealing with sexual violence (SV) in conflict (SVC) and post-conflict settings.¹ It is based on the deliberations of a strategy session that took place during the week of September 21-25 2009 among members of the Women Peace Builders' Community of Practice, as well as other NGOs and stakeholders under the auspices of the International Women's Tribune Centre (IWTC). The current report is divided into the following sections: (1) A brief overview of the UN context within which the issue of sexual violence is to be addressed; (2) the key issue areas that a strategy of implementation will have to address and the corresponding recommendations; and (3) identification of the main challenges that lie ahead. In addition, the report includes two appendixes: one on the key points of all the relevant UNSC resolutions on women and security (broadly defined), and the second is a matrix of the key recommendations under the triptych of *prevention, participation and protection*.

II. UNITED NATIONS CONTEXT

During the last decade, the United Nations has adopted a series of resolutions to address issues pertaining to sexual violence. Beginning with UNSCR 1325 (2000), which was the first ever resolution to link women's issues to the United Nations Security Council's (UNSC) peace and security agenda and to address the impact of conflict situations on women and their participation at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes, the UNSC has also adopted resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009) and 1889 (2009). UNSCR 1820 explicitly recognized sexual violence as a self-standing security issue; UNSCR 1888 provided, among other things, for the creation of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) to lead and coordinate the UN's response to SV, while UNSCR 1889 provided for the development of a strategy to increase women's participation in UN political, peacebuilding and peacekeeping missions. In addition to these resolutions, there are several others which address overlapping concerns. In particular, a reference should be made to UNSCR 1612 (2005) with its provision for a monitoring and reporting mechanism on the recruitment and use of child soldiers and on other violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict and, more recently, UNSCR 1882 (2009) which expanded the triggers for inclusion in the annex of the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG)'s reports on children and armed conflict by adding the killing and maiming of children and the commission of rape and other sexual violence against children (see appendix A for a list of the relevant resolutions on women and security, as well as their main elements and provisions).

¹ For the purposes of this report, we are focusing on sexual violence (SV) perpetrated in conflict (SVC) and post-conflict situations. SVC is a subset of the broader concept of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). Needless to say, many of our observations are relevant for addressing more broadly situations of SGBV.

Moreover, the two ad hoc international tribunals—International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)—established by UNSC’s resolutions adopted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, have been increasingly attentive to issues of sexual violence. Rape, for example, is now widely recognized as a war crime, as a crime against humanity and also as an underlying offence in the commission of the crime of genocide. In addition, the essence of rape as an international crime seems to consist in the non-voluntary or non-consensual aspect of the act, a noticeable shift from the earlier emphasis on the threat or use of force, or other means of coercion (*Kunarac* case).² Last, but not least, the monitoring organs of the main human rights treaties are increasingly addressing issues of sexual violence, as well as some of the thematic mandates assumed by the Human Rights Council. Concerning the latter, the work of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women is of particular relevance here. The Rapporteur has drawn attention to the responsibility of armed groups in connection with the commission of acts of sexual violence in conflict situations.

In conclusion, the growing convergence among the UNSC’s increasing attention to situations of sexual violence, the evolving jurisprudence of the international tribunals, the concluding comments and recommendations issued by monitoring organs of the human rights treaties, and the reports produced by the holders of thematic mandates, provide multiple entry points for civil society engagement with all the relevant stakeholders in the promotion of the anti-sexual violence agenda.

III. KEY ISSUE AREAS

Any discussion about strategies of implementation should take into consideration the need to distinguish, whenever feasible, between short and long-term goals and to prioritize objectives within them. The key issue areas for the furthering of the implementation of UNSCR 1820 include increasing the knowledge base; making effective connections between the global and the local; capacity building and partnerships within and among the different levels (local, national, international); and addressing the issue of resources.

1. Increasing the Knowledge Base

A recurring theme during the IWTC-sponsored deliberations was the lack of basic knowledge about UNSCR 1820, but also more generally about the women, peace and security agenda (which was officially launched with UNSCR 1325). Part of the problem lies with the respective governments for either not having National Action Plans (NAPs), or not taking the appropriate steps for the implementation of the adopted NAPs and part of the problem derives from a failure of NGOs to engage in effective advocacy.

In the short-term, increasing the knowledge base in the countries concerned (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ghana, Liberia, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sierra

² *Prosecutor v. Dragoljub Kunarac, Radomir Kovac and Zoran Vukovic* (Trial Judgment), IT-96-23-T&IT-96-23/1-T (22 February 2001), Para. 460.

Leone) would involve cooperation between the relevant ministries and women's NGOs (for example, between the Ministry of Gender and Development and WIPNET in Liberia) to engage in a series of initiatives that would make the relevant UNSC resolutions (1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889) easily accessible, as well as to reaffirm the obligations that their respective governments have undertaken as a result of having ratified the relevant international instruments (for example, the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the 1984 Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) and the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)). Such initiatives could include the production of pamphlets, radio programs, visual aids (for example, Saathi's use of the comic book format in Nepal) and artwork—street theater—in public spaces, as well as the co-sponsorship of public lectures and community debates on issues relating to women's security and well-being. In addition, NGOs can develop electoral campaign or peace talk information tool kits, so citizens can be prepared to ask tough questions and demand action from candidates during election campaigns and peace talks. SGBV has to be emphasized as a subject worthy of discussion.

A long-term strategy on increasing the knowledge base will have to focus on the development of educational modules aimed at increasing awareness among schoolchildren at all levels about human dignity and women's rights. In addition, more targeted/specialized training modules need to be developed for the police and the military (including those who may be assigned to peacekeeping missions), judges, lawyers, and prosecutors. NGOs' input in these efforts will be of vital importance to ensure that the structure and content of these training modules reflect a knowledge of and sensitivity to local experiences and concerns. More specifically, targeted training for the police and the military will benefit civilian populations in two ways: (1) it will contribute to more humane conduct on the part of the police and the military in their interaction with local communities; and (2) render them more sensitive to the protection and participatory needs of civilian populations abroad when local police and military personnel are assigned to peace support operations.³ In developing these initiatives, NGOs will have to work closely not only with national/local government, but also with the respective United Nations missions.

2. Interaction between the “Global” and the “Local” and the Challenge of Legal Pluralism

NGOs can play a crucial role in unpacking international norms and rendering them relevant in the local context. This is a two way process: international norms—in this context norms prohibiting sexual and gender-based violence—are “translated” by local NGOs into terms that are meaningful in the local context by devising entry points to

³ The Windhoek Declaration adopted on May 31, 2000 noted, among other things, that “in order to ensure the effectiveness of peace support operations, the principles of gender equality must permeate the entire mission, at all levels, thus ensuring the participation of women and men as equal partners and beneficiaries in all aspects of the peace process -- from peacekeeping, reconciliation and peace-building, towards a situation of political stability in which women and men play an equal part in the political, economic and social development of their country,”

http://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/wps/windhoek_declaration.pdf (Accessed: November 8, 2009).

highlight their potential correspondence with local laws, customs and practices. One such entry point would be the development of domestic legislation to implement international human rights treaties, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) to which Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Liberia, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sierra Leone are parties. Another entry point would be NAPs to advance the agenda of UNSCR 1325. This process of translating international human rights norms into local narratives of social justice and human protection contributes to a better understanding of the meaning and applicability of these norms and is helpful in overcoming barriers to the implementation of UNSCRs on women, peace and security due to archaic legal conceptions of SV, especially of rape and of gender roles. Local NGOs know that beyond the approval of new laws, implementation of international standards is only effective when those standards are framed in a way that allows the local law enforcement (broadly considered to include judges and prosecutors) community and traditional leaders to internalize their content as dispositions that they have the duty to uphold.

Conversely, NGOs often transmit local understandings to the global level and thus enrich the ongoing conversation by providing much needed contextualization and by facilitating the prospects for identifying converging normative expectations, as well as common applications. A major challenge in the ongoing interplay between the global and the local is legal pluralism. Issues of legal pluralism arise when a specific dispute or issue under consideration “may be governed by multiple norms, laws or forums that co-exist within a particular jurisdiction or country.”⁴ In advancing anti-sexual violence norms, NGOs need to adopt a synthetic orientation towards the different legal orders in their respective countries, an orientation that reflects knowledge of and ability to deal with public authority and formal law, as well as knowledge of and ability to deal with the community and with community-oriented tools and processes. A good example in this context is the NGO Timap for Justice in Sierra Leone.⁵ Timap works primarily through community-based paralegals who, in the pursuit of justice, use both mediation and litigation. More specifically, they use the threat of litigation to pursue extra-judicial mediation, but draw the line and opt for the state system in cases of rape and domestic violence, if the client so wishes.⁶ The main advantages to this approach are the in-built flexibility based on the interplay among advocacy, mediation and litigation initiatives and the prioritization of certain issue areas, a prioritization primarily determined by the cultivation of communal agency which the aforementioned flexibility encourages.

In a similar vein, domestic NGOs, knowledgeable about local contexts can advance implementation by relating key participation and protection-related provisions in UNSCR 1325/1820 and relevant international conventions to communal expectations concerning security and well-being. The work of WIPNET-Liberia is instructive here. This

⁴ International Council on Human Rights Policy (ICHRP), *When Legal Worlds Overlap: Human Rights, State and Non-State Law* (Geneva: 2009), p. 2.

⁵ “Timap for Justice,” <http://www.timapforjustice.org/work/> (Accessed: November 18, 2009).

⁶ ICHR, *When Legal Worlds Overlap*, *ibid*, p. 56; see also Vivek Maru, “Between Law and Society: Paralegals and the Provision of Justice Services in Sierra Leone and Worldwide,” *Yale Journal of International Law* vol. 31 (2006).

organization sought to implement WIPNET's goal of using women's peace activism to promote social justice by focusing on the "deconstruction of structural forms of violence" that exist in everyday society.⁷ In advancing their agenda, WIPNET-Liberia made use of UNSCR 1325 provisions relating to the involvement of women in the implementation of peace agreements and DDR processes to ensure that both local leaders and the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) acknowledged the importance of drawing "on the expertise of local women's groups" and building "on their on-going initiatives."⁸

Last, but not least, local NGOs should place more emphasis on shadow reports to UN treaty-based monitoring bodies in which their data collection and analysis are informed by the perspective of the victims. The scope of SVC and the level of impunity is more accurately described in these reports because they include testimony from victims. Governmental reports, on the other hand, emphasize legal changes and address only cases that have reached the courts but not cases in which law enforcement officials discouraged individuals from lodging complaints. For example, the shadow report on Burundi explains why it is so difficult to have accurate data on SVC. Not only are the identities of the perpetrators unknown, but the widespread atmosphere of fear and corruption prevents witnesses from coming forward.⁹

3. Partnerships and capacity building

Partnerships are a necessary vehicle for capacity building purposes. Among other things, partnerships enable NGOs to access relevant information, resources and increase operational effectiveness (eliminate duplication, benefit from "lessons learned"). There should be ongoing exchanges via the internet with periodic meetings to strengthen bonds and assess current strategies, explore the need for new strategies, and transmit information that can be more effectively conveyed through face to face interaction.

One of the most critical functions of local NGOs is the compilation of data (for example, number of individuals affected by SGBV, circumstances conducive to the occurrence of SGBV, the type and function of accountability mechanisms, the range of support

⁷ Thelma Aremiebi Ekiyor and Leymah Roberta Gbowee, *Women's Peace Activism in West Africa. The WIPNET Experience* "People Building Peace,

<http://www.peoplebuildingpeace.org/thestories/print.php?id=80&typ=theme>

⁸ United Nations Security Council. "Arria Formula Meeting on the Role of Women in Peace Consolidation," *Speaker*: Leymah Gbowee, WIPNET, Liberia (25 October 2006),

http://www.peacewomen.org/un/6thAnniversary/Arria_Statements/Leymah_gbowee.pdf

⁹ Rapport alternatif soumis par l'ACAT Burundi et l'OMCT "Les Violences contre les Femmes au Burundi," *Comité pour l'élimination de la discrimination à l'égard des femmes*, 40e session (Bujumbura-Genève: January 2008), 14-5,

http://www.omct.org/pdf/VAW/2008/CEDAW40th_Rep_alt_Burundi_fr.pdf?PHPSESSID=801032dd60a62de73901688e80add78b

Je n'ai pas déposé plainte parce que j'étais terrorisée. Qui plus est, personne n'aurait accepté de témoigner en ma faveur parce qu'à ce moment-là tout le monde avait peur des représailles.

Pendant la crise, c'était une pratique courante – des gens m'ont dit que j'avais eu de la chance d'en sortir vivante. J'ai eu un enfant à la suite de ce viol et nous avons beaucoup de problèmes.'

D'autres victimes ignorent l'identité de l'agresseur et celles qui portent plainte sont souvent découragées par les services de police.

mechanisms available to victims) in a manner which is non-adversarial, and sensitive to the protective needs of the victim and her/his family. However, partnerships with international agencies are necessary to ensure the application of standardized methods in data collection.

Since local as well as transnational partnerships among NGOs have received considerable attention,¹⁰ this section will place emphasis on the short and long-term benefits that can derive from NGO partnerships with their respective governments. It is important to emphasize that this type of partnership is especially relevant when a country has established a specific ministry to deal with women's issues and a national human rights institution (NHRI).

Partnerships between public sector entities and civil society can advance long-term knowledge goals such as changing attitudes toward women throughout society. The creation of specific mechanisms at the national level to deal with women's issues is an entry point to work with NGOs. For example, Ghana in its combined 3rd, 4th and 5th reports to the CEDAW Committee mentioned the establishment in 2001 of the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs (MOWAC), which "[s]ince its inception . . . is collaborating with stakeholders, sector ministries, members of Civil Society Organisations and NGOs to sensitise the public (both men and women) **with the hope of changing attitudes and ensuring gender balance** in all spheres, for optimum development." [Emphasis added].¹¹

To achieve the mentioned goal, governments and NGOs can partner with media outlets, which can play a crucial role in changing attitudes toward women and furthering gender mainstreaming. For example, in Nepal, the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MWCSW) is embarking on a campaign to change stereotypes that are demeaning to women, and public media outlets are beginning to address women's concerns.

The MWCSW has been organizing workshops and interaction programmes on gender sensitizing senior media persons. As a result, prototypes reflecting the real contribution of women have been developed for both print and electronic media. Nepal Television has taken some steps for promoting women's participation in its work force. . . . On the other hand, Radio Nepal, the state-

¹⁰ However, an interesting initiative that deals with women's representation at the local level should be mentioned. In Burundi, "[a]n initiative by the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD) . . . focuses on reconciliation and conflict prevention through community negotiations," in which women participate. In: Annalise Moser, "Women Building Peace and Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict-Affected Contexts: A Review of Community-Based Approaches" (UNIFEM, October 2007), 8, http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/WomensBuildingPeaceAndPreventingSexualViolence_eng.pdf (Accessed: November 24, 2009).

¹¹ CEDAW, "Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: Combined Third, Fourth and Fifth Periodic Reports of States Parties: Ghana," CEDAW/C/GHA/3-5 (18 April 2005), Para. 210, <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/317/55/PDF/N0531755.pdf?OpenElement> (Accessed: November 8, 2009).

owned radio broadcasting service, includes special programmes focused on women.¹²

Similarly, NGOs in Nepal are placing increasing attention to the media and their transformation into a mechanism more receptive to women's issues.

NGOs are also organizing seminars, workshops, and interaction programmes on gender and the media. Two monthly journals are being published. Other initiatives include special training for women in basic journalism, media monitoring for the coverage of women's issues with provisions for special rewards, media advocacy on women's rights, women's magazine programme over FM radio, and establishment of Women's Community Listening Centres in rural areas. They have contributed to an increased coverage of women's issues by the media.¹³

Likewise, in Burundi, members of the parliament co-sponsored with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) an "awareness workshop on sexual violence aimed at local leaders from" five provinces.¹⁴ The workshop took place on November 20-21, 2008 and included among its participants "the UNFPA Representative in Burundi . . . ; parliamentarians . . . ; members of communal council bureaux . . . ; the army and police command; religious confessions; women's associations as well as magistrates. . . ."¹⁵

The existence of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) or independent monitoring mechanisms¹⁶ in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Liberia, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sierra Leone is a positive development for the furthering of the anti-SGBV agenda, because NHRIs have a variety of human rights-related functions, including the monitoring of the government's actions and responses regarding the protection of human rights, whether the source of the violation is a state or a non-state entity. Moreover, NHRIs increasingly engage in networking initiatives. For example, the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF), of which the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal is a member, "provides a framework for national

¹² In: CEDAW, "Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: Combined Second and Third Periodic Report of States Parties: Nepal," CEDAW/C/NPL/2-3 (7 April 2003), Para. 174, <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N03/316/45/PDF/N0331645.pdf?OpenElement> (Accessed: November 8, 2009).

¹³ Ibid, Para. 175.

¹⁴ Burundi Senate, "Awareness Workshop Aimed at Local Leaders to Fight against Violence Done to Women," <http://www.senat.bi/spip.php?article1076> (Accessed: November 24, 2009).

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ In order to be accredited before the United Nations, NHRI have to adhere to the "Paris Principles." See: <http://www.nhri.net/default.asp?pid=312&did=0> (Accessed: November 24, 2009). Only NHRIs that obtain an A in the review process are accredited. Ghana's NHRI has obtained that A and so has Nepal's as of 2 June 2009. See: "Chart of the Status of National Institutions Accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights: Accreditation Status as of 2 June 2009," http://www.nhri.net/2009/chart%20of%20the%20status%20of%20nis%20_2%20june%202009_final.pdf (Accessed: November 24, 2009).

human rights institutions to work together and cooperate on a regional basis through a wide range of services, including training, capacity building, networks and staff exchanges”¹⁷ A similar role to that of APF in Asia is assumed in Africa by the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI): DRC, Ghana and Sierra Leone’s NHRIs are members of NANHRI.¹⁸ Moreover, there are indications of growing interactions between these two networks.¹⁹ NGOs should actively engage with these institutions and exchange information.

4. Resources

Monetary and human resources available to local NGOs are usually insufficient. This situation has been exacerbated as a result of the most recent financial crisis. In this context, it is vitally important for NGOs to prioritize the more effective use of already existing resources. In the meantime, however, state parties, UN bodies, civil society actors and private donors should adopt measures to ensure that women’s empowerment is taken into account during post-conflict needs assessment and planning as per UNSCR 1889 (2009).²⁰

One way to address the challenge of resources is for international agencies to establish mechanisms that would provide small grants to grassroots civil society organizations. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), for example, has developed a Small Grants Mechanism aimed at providing grants to women’s community-based organizations.²¹ Through this program, UNIFEM would provide grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 to, among others, “community-based efforts to increase security and conflict prevention” in Haiti, and to civil society organizations in Afghanistan in their efforts that include the promotion of “community reconciliation, including

¹⁷ <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/about> (Accessed: November 24, 2009).

Training NHRIs in human rights standards is of great importance and thus APF conducts workshops on these issues every year. See: APF, “RWI-APF Regional Human Rights Workshop,” <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/news/rwi-apf-regional-human-rights-workshop.html> (Accessed: November 24, 2009).

¹⁸ http://www.nanhri.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=8&Itemid=3 (Accessed: November 24, 2009).

NANHRI was called until October 2007 the Coordinating Committee of African National Human Rights Institutions.

¹⁹ “APF Shares Ideas, Skills with African Colleagues,” <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/news/apf-shares-ideas-skills-with-african-colleagues.html> (Accessed: November 24, 2009).

The Secretariat of NANHRI went on a study tour of APF from 5 to 14 March 2008, in: “Report of the Study Tour of the Secretariat of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions to the Asia Pacific Forum in Sydney, Australia,”

http://www.Nanhri.Org/Index2.Php?Option=Com_Docman&Task=Doc_View&Gid=7&Itemid=28 (Accessed: November 24, 2009).

²⁰ Operative Paragraph 9 of UNSCR 1889 “Urges Member States, United Nations Bodies, Donors and civil society to ensure that women’s empowerment is taken into account during post-conflict needs assessments and planning, and factored into subsequent funding disbursements and programme activities, including through developing transparent analysis and tracking of funds allocated for addressing women’s needs in the post-conflict phase.” And operative paragraph 19 (d) of Ibid. charges the UNSG with the duty of reporting on “the development of effective financial and institutional arrangements to guarantee women’s full and equal participation in the peacebuilding process.”

²¹ Moser, “Women Building Peace and Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict-Affected Contexts.”

participation in the peace zircas,” and the prevention of “sexual and gender based violence.”²² In a similar vein, peace support operations can establish mechanisms to support NGO activities in the area of rehabilitation and reintegration. For example, “MONUC financed NGO projects relating to rehabilitation for liberated child soldiers.”²³ This can include psychological support for those sexually abused.

Moreover, NGOs can provide valuable resources in addressing access to justice challenges. Here, the record of the aforementioned TIMAP for Justice in Sierra Leone is instructive.²⁴ TIMAP’s website reports three relatively successful cases in which the good offices of the paralegals were able to obtain some degree of relief for their clients. In one of the cases, involving allegations of mistreatment and beatings of a female street vendor by a police officer, the plaintiff received an apology and compensation despite the fact that the case did not proceed to the trial phase. The work of entities such as TIMAP constitutes a valuable resource for NGOs involved in access to justice issues. It provides paralegals and also trains them with the help of two experienced lawyers and a group of volunteer law students.

In addition, NGOs should make use of resources provided by government-led initiatives. For example, Sierra Leone’s only report so far to the CEDAW Committee made specific references to the targeting of women and girls during the conflict and, subsequently, at the hands of the peacekeeping forces.²⁵ In addressing the growing concern for effective protection, the police in Sierra Leone established a Family Support Unit (FSU) “to specifically handle cases of rape, other sexual offences and domestic violence” with branches spread throughout the country.²⁶ Due to the specialized task and training of the members of the FSU,²⁷ NGOs can forward SGBV cases to these units which will save them time and money in fostering accountability for SGBV. In addition, the activities of the different branches of the FSU can provide relevant data regarding patterns of violence and ways in which violence can be deterred more effectively, which could assist NGOs in designing valuable strategies to combat SGBV.

²² Moser, “Women Building Peace and Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict-Affected Contexts.”

²³ IWTC, “Strategic Session on UNSCR 1820, September 21-25, 2009: Day 2” (22 September 2009).

²⁴ See supra, note 5.

²⁵ CEDAW, “Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: Combined Initial, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Periodic Reports of States Parties: Sierra Leone,” CEDAW/C/SLE/5 (14 December 2006), Subsection 4.6,

[http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/e595770b1dfbbee1c125729c004c4d84/\\$FILE/N0668770.pdf](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/e595770b1dfbbee1c125729c004c4d84/$FILE/N0668770.pdf)

(Accessed: November 8, 2009).

Similarly, in Ghana, the police established a Domestic Violence Victim Support Unit. See: CEDAW, “Concluding Observations: Ghana” CEDAW/C/GHA/CO/5 (25 August 2008), Section 11,

<http://sim.law.uu.nl/SIM/CaseLaw/uncom.nsf/fe005fcb50d8277cc12569d5003e4aaa/75fbeb4f99d1d5bac12571df0040860d?OpenDocument> (Accessed: December 2, 2009).

²⁶ Ibid, Subsection 6.8.1. Ibid, Subsection 12.13.2. In this last subsection it is stated that “Family Support Unit Personnel benefited from a series of trainings on gender and Human Rights organized by the UN Country Team,” Ibid.

²⁷ “Family Support Unit Personnel benefited from a series of trainings on gender and Human Rights organized by the UN Country Team,” Ibid, Subsection 12.13.2.

Last, but not least, active monitoring of national budgetary allocations and of their adverse impact on the protective needs of the civilian population is a useful tool to ensure that needed projects are not deprived of public funds. Educational and justice programs, already insufficient to cover the needs of the most vulnerable sectors of the population are trimmed in times of crisis as inefficient. On the other hand, the acquisition of weapons, which, in a crisis situation, can exacerbate internal tensions is usually not affected by budgetary cuts. Taking into consideration that the principle of non-discrimination has been adhered to by the countries represented in the workshop (all are parties to the ICCPR, CEDAW and CRC), community-based organizations must be at the forefront of efforts to ensure that the protective needs of women and children are not disproportionately affected by budgetary cuts. In this context, UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN Action)²⁸ has launched a letter campaign to end SVC in which it underscores the need for “the use of gender-responsive budgeting tools that assess the impact of public expenditure and revenue from a gender perspective” in order to assist survivors of sexual violence.²⁹ In such a campaign, local NGOs can play a major role in facilitating communal involvement in lobbying efforts aimed at their elected representatives. This is a means to guarantee that women’s issues regarding SVC are met in the budget. Since insufficient resources are funneled in this area, any increase would constitute a positive step.³⁰

IV. MAIN CHALLENGES

At a more general level, NGOs committed to combating SGBV will need to pay particular attention to the following issues (1) identify the appropriate entry points for advocacy campaigns and partnerships; (2) advance claims for a gender-responsive allocation of resources during post-conflict needs assessment/planning, and advocate for a better use of already existing resources; and (3) introduce proper quality control mechanisms, so that they can build on the successes of promising initiatives, address ongoing constraints, and avoid those initiatives whose impact is marginal, or simply counterproductive. Moreover, NGOs need to address these challenges within an overall context that often places formidable barriers to women’s empowerment. Whether one looks at family and community attitudes, cultural traditions and practices, or at the role of formal, as well as informal institutions, the space for rights-enabling advocacy is often

²⁸ UN Action “unites the work of 12 UN entities with the goal of ending sexual violence in conflict [and is] a concerted effort by the UN system to improve coordination and accountability, amplify programming and advocacy, and support national efforts to prevent sexual violence and respond effectively to the needs of survivors,” In: Stop Rape Now, “About UN Action,” <http://www.stoprapenow.org/about.html> (Last Accessed: November 30, 2009).

²⁹ In: <http://www.stoprapenow.org/docs/letter.doc> (Last Accessed: November 30, 2009).

The UN Action’s website provides a link to PARLINE, a Database on National Parliaments, so it is easy to find out who is an individual’s representative. It also has data on female/male composition, which is useful to demand more female representation when it is less than the target of 30%. See: <http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/parlinesearch.asp> (Last Accessed: November 30, 2009).

³⁰ One of the issues NGOs were worried about in the Strategy Session was “psychosocial and medical support at the ministerial level.” See: “Strategy Session on UNSCR 1820, September 21-25, 2009” (22 September 2009), Day 2, Presentations by Indai Sajor (on Sudan and IDPs camps) and Lindora Howard-Diawara (on Liberia).

severely restricted. The dynamic interplay between the constraints imposed by the overall context and the openings provided by strategies seeking to address the specific challenges can influence the range and impact of any transformative action.

The above mentioned challenges are clearly interrelated. For example, identification of appropriate entry points for advocacy and partnerships cannot properly materialize without an effective use of already existing resources. Likewise, a better use of already existing resources can contribute to the identification of realistic benchmarks for assessing performance and to the prioritization of issue areas in need of improvement. Conversely, appropriate entry points for advocacy and partnerships can incentivize the actors involved to “play on their strengths” and thus maximize the contribution of their existing resources. In a similar vein, advocacy and partnerships can lead to critical self-evaluations with implications for the conceptual and strategic/tactical tools deployed and the concomitant “lessons learned.”

A few additional words about the issue of quality control mechanisms, which in many ways poses one of the biggest challenges, are in order. While the Strategy Session and additional research have identified several interesting initiatives launched or supported by NGOs and international agencies, there was very little in terms of effective monitoring and assessment mechanisms for these initiatives, let alone of ways for overcoming the existing constraints. A brief reference to the Women’s Peace Huts in Liberia is instructive in this context.³¹

The women’s Peace Huts, established by WIPNET with the support of UNIFEM, “are community-led peace building groups”³² which focus on community mediation. Among other things, they provide space for information sharing, for planning actions to resolve disputes, and for addressing critical issues such as rape, as well as issues related to tribalism and religious differences. Moreover, Peace Huts provide refuge for women experiencing domestic violence.

While this is a promising undertaking, it has faced numerous challenges and constraints; challenges and constraints that have been acknowledged by UNIFEM, its main sponsor.³³ Some of them relate to the more general obstacles facing women’s empowerment (for example, failure of local leaders to attend Peace Hut weekly meetings), while others relate to the specific challenges identified earlier (resources) which can accentuate the negative impact of the above mentioned general obstacles (for example, limited financial resources “create resistance within the women’s own families because they work without getting paid, and go home without food for their children”).³⁴ Given this situation it is difficult to identify with precision what constitutes success for the Peace Huts initiative, especially in the absence of clearly identifiable benchmarks. Is, for example, success the fact that women fleeing from situations of

³¹ The information on Peace Huts is drawn from Moser, “Women Building Peace and Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict-Affected Contexts.”

³² Ibid, 6, Box 2.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ Ibid.

domestic violence go to the Peace Huts? One plausible answer would be yes, at least in the beginning. If however, women continue to 'run' to the Peace Huts, then a plausible counterargument is that, at best, the refuge should be considered as a partial success, since the ultimate goal, i.e. the decline in incidents of domestic violence, is not being met. Needless to say, these observations do not mean to detract from the importance of this initiative in broadening the protective space for battered women.

In a nutshell, the main point here is that any discussion of successes and failures is not very constructive in the absence of specific benchmarks and effective mechanisms for monitoring and assessing performance measured against such benchmarks. This problem plagues many potentially promising initiatives and merits urgent attention.

The challenge of SGBV is not new and will not disappear anytime soon. However, its recent prominence in the United Nations agenda is reflective of a growing realization that structural and lasting initiatives are urgently needed; initiatives that can have a positive impact on the lives of those who have been victimized by sexual violence. NGOs are and will remain at the forefront of many of these efforts. The key task here is to harness their considerable energy, skills, and commitment towards viable initiatives, so as to become effective advocates of their transformative vision.

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VI. APPENDICES

APPENDIX A. United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) Relevant to Women, Peace and Security

APPENDIX B. Recommendations on Prevention, Participation and Protection

APPENDIX A
United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) Relevant to
Women, Peace and Security

	1325 “Women, Peace and Security” 31 October 2000	1820 “Sexual Violence in Conflict” 19 June 2008	1888 “Women and Peace and Security” 30 September 2009	1889 “Women and Peace and Security” 5 October 2009
PURPOSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First resolution to link women’s issues to the maintenance of international peace and security. • Seeks “[I]ncreased representation of women at all decision-making levels” (op. para. 1). • Focuses on Gender mainstreaming and special protection of women and girls with an emphasis on preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict (SVC) (op. paras. 10 and 17). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasizes prevention and accountability re SVC in general (op. para. 1). • It links SVC to peace and security (op. para. 1). As a result, the UNSC “<i>expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to, where necessary, adopt appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence</i>” (op. para. 1) [Emphasis added]. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reaffirms the connection between SVC and international peace and security (op. para. 1). • Creation of the post of the Special Representative of the UNSG (SRSG) “to address, at both headquarters and country level, sexual violence in armed conflict” (op. para. 4). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focuses on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009) with an emphasis on peacebuilding efforts.
MAIN POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including a gender perspective in all the steps of peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations including assessment of conflict, pre-deployment of troops, action in the field, peace accords, post-conflict (op. paras. 5-8). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underlining the Importance of education: debunking myths, training troops and police officers, educating the society at large (op. paras. 2 and 6) • Defining SVC as possible war crimes, crimes against humanity and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including “[h]ealth care, psychosocial support, legal assistance and socioeconomic reintegration services for victims of sexual violence, in particular in rural areas” (op. para. 13). • Promoting “interactive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing women’s participation “during all stages of peace processes;” in leadership positions and providing “support [to] women’s organizations,” and countering negative stereotypes. It applies also to the UN

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting respect for international law (op. para. 9) • Including especial protection of women (op. paras. 13-15). • Protecting against SV (op. para. 10) and promoting accountability against perpetrators of SV (op. para. 11). 	<p>constitutive of genocide (op. para. 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ending impunity for SVC (op. paras. 6-7). 	<p><u>meetings with the local women and women's organizations in the field about the concerns and needs of women in areas of armed conflict</u>" (op. para. 14) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Encourag[ing] leaders at the national and local level, including traditional leaders where they exist and religious leaders, to play a more active role in sensitizing communities on sexual violence to avoid marginalization and stigmatization of victims, to assist with their social reintegration, and to combat a culture of impunity for these crimes" (op. para. 15). • Emphasizing "zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse In United Nations peacekeeping operations" (op. para. 21). 	<p>system (op. paras. 1 and 4).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upholding international law especially regarding women and girls' rights (op. para. 2) • Preventing SVC and impunity for these crimes (op. para. 3) • Increasing the role of women and the protection of their rights during postconflict situations (op. paras. 5-11). • Encouraging gender mainstreaming (op. para. 8). • Protecting refugees (op. para. 12).
KEY ACTORS (UN SYSTEM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member States (op. paras. 1, 3, 6 and 7). • UNSG (op. paras. 2, 3, 4, 5, 16 and 17). • UNSC (op. paras. 5, 14, 15, and 18). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member States (op. paras. 4 and 13). • UNSG (op. paras. 3, 6-10 and 12). • Special envoys of the UNSG (op. para. 12). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member States (op. paras. 6, 16, 19 and 23). • UNSG (op. paras. 4, 8, 12, 16, 20-22 and 24-27). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRSG (op. paras. 4, 8 (d) and 23-24). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member States (op. paras. 1, 6 and 8-11). • International organisations (op. para. 1). • UNSG (op. paras. 4-7

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPKO (op. para. 7). • UN field-based operations (military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel) (op. paras. 4 and 6). • UNICEF (op. para. 7). • UNIFEM (op. para. 7). • UNHCR (op. para. 7). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSC (op. paras. 1, 5, 6 and 16). • State-specific sanctions regimes (op. para. 5). • DPKO (op. paras. 6-8 and 15). • The Peacebuilding Commission (op. para. 11). • The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group (WG) (op. para. 6). • PKOs (op. para. 9) • Country Teams (op. para. 15). • Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) and Police Contributing Countries (PCCs) (op. paras. 7-8). • UNHCR in and around UN- managed refugee and internally displaced persons (IDPs) camps (op. para. 10). • DDR and in justice and SSR efforts assisted by the UN (op. para. 10). • Financial institutions (op. para. 13). • UN Agencies (op. para. 10). • UN sources, personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emergency Relief Coordinator (op. paras. 23-24) • UNSC (op. paras. 10-12 and 14). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Targeted sanctions (op. para. 10). • The Peacebuilding Commission (op. para. 18). • UN Action Against Sexual violence in Conflict (op. paras. 4-5 and 23). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chairperson (s) (op. para. 24). • UN Mission, Country Team (op. para. 8 (d)). • PK Missions and other relevant UN missions (op. paras. 10 and 12) • PKOs (op. paras. 19 and 21). • DDR and SSR arrangements, UN-sponsored peace negotiations agendas (op. para. 17). • TCC and PCCs (op. para. 21). • Relevant UN agencies (op. paras. 5 and 22) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WG on children and Armed Conflict. ○ UNSC sanctions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> and 15-19). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Special envoys (op. para. 4). ○ SRSG on Children and Armed Conflict (UNSCR 1612) and on sexual violence and armed conflict (UNSCR 1888) (2009) (op. para. 16). • Gender advisors and/or women-protection advisors to UN missions (op. para. 7). • UN Country Teams (op. para. 7) • UNSC (op. paras. 7 and 20). • UNHCR (op. para. 12). • DDR (op. para. 13). • The Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Support Office (op. para. 14).
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		(op. para. 15).	committees and their monitoring groups and groups of experts (op. para. 10). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Women's Protection Advisors (WPAs) (op. para. 12). ○ HCHR (op. para. 24). ○ Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women (op. para. 24). 	
OTHER KEY ACTORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those involved in peace talks (op. para. 8). • Parties to armed conflict (op. paras. 9 and 10). • All States (op. para. 11). • Women's organizations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local women's peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution (op. para. 8). ○ Local and International women's groups (op. para. 15). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties to armed conflict (op. paras. 2-3 and 15). • All parties (op. paras. 12-13). • Regional and subregional bodies (op. para. 14). • Women's organizations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Women's civil society (op. para. 11). ○ Women and women-led organizations (op. para. 10). ○ Women affected by the conflict (op. para. 3). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties to armed conflict (op. paras. 2-4 and 7). • Civil society (op. paras. 4 and 9). • Expertise from outside the UN (op. para. 8). • States (op. paras. 9 and 13). • Leaders of Regional organizations (op. para. 16). • "Leaders at the national and local level, including traditional . . . and religious leaders. (op. para. 15). • Women's organizations and local women (op. para. 14). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties to armed conflict (op. paras. 2, 3, and 12), • Regional organisations (op. para. 1), • All States (op. para. 3). • Civil society (op. paras. 6 and 10-11). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NGOs (op. para. 11). • Women's organizations (op. para. 10). • UN Donors (op. para. 9).
MONITORING, REPORTING & REVIEW MECHANISMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The UNSG's report to the UNSC</u> based on "a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNSC "[r]equests the <u>Secretary-General to develop effective guidelines and strategies</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>All relevant reports of the UNSG to the UNSC</u> should "ensure more systematic reporting on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The UNSG's Country Reports to the UNSC</u> should "provide information on the impact

	<p>girls, the role of women in peace-building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution” (op. para. 16) and “to include . . . progress on gender mainstreaming throughout peacekeeping missions and all other aspects relating to women and girls” (op. para. 17) [Emphasis added].</p>	<p>to enhance the ability of relevant UN peacekeeping operations, consistent with their mandates, <u>to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence</u> (op. para. 9) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNSC “requests” the UNSG to “<u>systematically include in his written reports to the Council on conflict situations</u> his observations concerning the protection of women and girls and recommendations in this regard” (op. para. 9) [Emphasis added]. • The UNSC “[r]equests <u>the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations agencies, inter alia, through consultation with women and women-led organizations as appropriate, to develop effective mechanisms for providing protection from violence, including in particular sexual violence, to women and girls in and around UN</u> 	<p>incidents of trends, emerging patterns of attack, and early warning indicators of the use of sexual violence in conflict” (op. para. 24) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNSC “requests the <u>Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, and the Chairperson(s) of UN Action to provide, in coordination with the aforementioned Special Representative, additional briefings and documentation on sexual violence in armed conflict to the Council</u>” (op. para. 24) [Emphasis added]. • The UNSG’s “regular reports on individual peacekeeping” should “include, where appropriate . . . information on steps taken to implement measures to protect civilians, particularly 	<p>of situations of armed conflict on women and girls, their particular needs in post-conflict situations and obstacles to attaining those needs” (op. para. 5) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The UNSG should “submit to the UNSC within 6 months, for consideration, a set of indicators for use at the global level to track implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000), which could serve as a common basis for reporting by relevant United Nations entities, other international and regional organizations, and Member States, on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in 2010 and beyond”</u> (op. para. 17) [Emphasis added]. • <u>The UNSG’s report on situations of armed conflict “requested in S/PRST/2007/40”</u> should “include a review of progress in the implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000),
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		<p>managed refugee and internally displaced persons camps, as well as in all disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes, and in justice and security sector reform efforts assisted by the United Nations (op. para. 10) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “[t]he <u>Peacebuilding Commission can . . . include</u> in its advice and recommendations for post-conflict <u>peacebuilding strategies</u>, where appropriate, <u>ways to address sexual violence committed during and in the aftermath of armed conflict</u>” (op. para. 11) [Emphasis added]. • The UNSC “<u>requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council by 30 June 2009 on the implementation of this resolution in the context of situations which are on the agenda of the Council</u>, utilizing . . . UN sources, including country teams, peacekeeping 	<p>women and children, against sexual violence” (op. para. 25) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNSG should “<u>devise</u> urgently and preferably within three months, <u>specific proposals on ways to ensure monitoring and reporting in a more effective and efficient way</u> within the existing United Nations system on the protection of women and children from rape and other sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, utilizing expertise from [within and outside] the UN system [including] NGOs in their advisory capacity and various civil society actors, in order to provide timely, objective, accurate and reliable information on gaps in UN entities response” (op. para. 26) [Emphasis added]. • UNSG’s submission of “<u>annual reports to the UNSC on the implementation of</u> 	<p>an assessment of the processes by which the Security Council receives, analyses and takes action on information pertinent to resolution 1325 (2000), recommendations on further measures to improve coordination across the United Nations system, and with Member States and civil society to deliver implementation, and data on women’s participation in United Nations missions” (op. para. 18) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNSC “[r]equests the <u>Secretary-General to submit [to it] a report . . . within 12 months on addressing women’s participation and inclusion in peacebuilding and planning in the aftermath of conflict, taking into consideration the views of the Peacebuilding Commission and to include, inter alia:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Analysis on the particular needs of women and girls in post-
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		<p>operations, and other UN personnel, which would include, inter alia, information on situations of armed conflict in which sexual violence has been widely or systematically employed against civilians; analysis of the prevalence and trends of sexual violence in . . . armed conflict; . . . strategies to minimize the susceptibility of women and girls to such violence; benchmarks for measuring progress in preventing . . . sexual violence; appropriate input from UN implementing partners in the field; information on his plans for facilitating the collection of [data] . . . on . . . sexual violence in . . . conflict” (op. para. 15) [Emphasis added].</p>	<p><u>Resolution 1820 (2008)</u>. . . [The] next report [is due] by Sept. of 2010 [and should] include, inter alia: (a) a detailed coordination and strategy plan on the timely and ethical collection of information; (b) updates on efforts by UN Mission focal points on sexual violence to work closely with the Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), the UN Country Team, and, where appropriate, the aforementioned Special Representative and/or the Team of Experts, to address sexual violence; (c) information regarding parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing patterns of rape or other forms of sexual violence, in situations that are on the Council’s agenda” (op. para. 27) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNSC will “review, 	<p>conflict situations, b. Challenges to women’s participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding and gender mainstreaming in all early post-conflict planning, financing and recovery processes, c. Measures to support national capacity in planning for and financing responses to the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, d. Recommendations for improving international and national responses to the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including the development of effective financial and institutional arrangements to guarantee women’s full and equal participation in the peacebuilding process” (op. para.19) [Emphasis added].</p>
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			<p>taking into account the process established by General Assembly resolution 63/311 regarding a UN composite gender entity, <u>the mandates of the Special Representative requested in operative paragraph 4 and the Team of Experts in operative paragraph 8 within two years</u>, and as appropriate” (op. para. 28) [Emphasis added].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNSC “[u]rges <u>relevant Special Representatives and the Emergency Relief Coordinator of the Secretary-General</u>, with strategic and technical support from the UN Action network, to work with Member States <u>to develop joint Government-United Nations Comprehensive Strategies to Combat Sexual Violence</u>, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, and to regularly <u>provide updates on this in their standard reporting to Headquarters</u> (op. para. 23) [Emphasis added]. 	
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APPENDIX B
Recommendations on Prevention, Participation and Protection*

PREVENTION	PARTICIPATION	PROTECTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with specialized ministries and NHRIs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Workshops. ○ Resources (examine the budget allocations). • Developing educational programs on sexual equality, women’s issues and their contributions to society, GBSV as a serious crime and the necessity of accountability for perpetrators of GBSV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of the media: Radio programs. ○ Pamphlets. ○ Visual aids. ○ Artwork—street theater—in public spaces. ○ Role play. ○ Educational modules for school children and all levels of society. • Co-sponsorship, with the government (including schools and universities) and the private sector, of public lectures and community debates on issues relating to women’s security and well-being. • Partnering with other local NGOs and with international NGOs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase resources. ○ Advocacy. ○ Data collection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobbying for a quota system that will guarantee a minimum of 30% of women representation in the different branches of the government, including law enforcement, armed forces and education from primary to higher education and for its implementation. • Engaging with Peacekeeping operations/Mission with gender advisors. • Putting pressure (using demonstrations and sit-ins as in Liberia) on governments, NHRIs and international organizations to, at a minimum, consult with women’s civil society in any peace talk, mediation, DDR, SSR processes and before, during and after the deployment of PKOs. • Developing electoral campaign or peace talk information tool kits with the goal of increasing women’s participation in the government and electing representatives responsive to the anti-GBSV agenda. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping DPKO to design specific clauses for missions with Protection of Civilians (POC) mandates in a way that would effectively address the particular needs of women. For example, establish patrols at specific times and places to protect women during daily chores. • Developing targeted/ specialized training modules for the police and the military (including those who may be assigned to peacekeeping missions), judges, lawyers, and prosecutors. • Facilitating access to justice for women by contextualizing international norms banning SGBV so they are framed in a language that local populations can relate to more easily and by providing paralegal and lawyer support/ representation in formal and traditional courts. • Preparing authoritative “shadow” reports (to complement governmental reports) to UN treaty-based human rights monitoring mechanisms such as the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Torture or the CEDAW’s Committee. • Engage with NHRIs so they incorporate in their reports to their respective governments any needed legal and criminal justice system changes.

* Although every strategy is included as part of either the prevention or participation or protection categories, it is understood that these strategies are for the most part overlapping.